



East Gate Edition

Far East District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

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Photograph by Yo, Kyong Il

FED employees shared their artistic talents during the 1994 FED Christmas party held at the East Gate Club on December 16. L to R: Ms. Sin, Hui-Pok, RMO; Ms. Kwon, O-Sun on guitar from ED; Ms. Mi Song, RMO; and Ms Yu, Kwi-Ran, also from RMO.



FED Christmas party 1994

The FED MWR Committee, chaired by Capt. Jay Long, PPM, sponsored the 1994 FED Christmas party December 16 at the compounds' East Gate Club. "Bringing FED together at Christmas," served at the committee's party theme as well as goal. District personnel volunteered their considerable singing and theatrial talent to provide the entertainment for the best Christmas party attendance in several years.

The committee wanted to do something different that would appeal to the employees from both, Korean and American cultures. Bringing the annual Christmas party "home" to the East Gate Club after being held at various Yongsan and local locations for several years, the dinner-theater, featuring only FED

employees drew a full house the night of the party. All 140 tickets were sold out a week before the event.

Long opened the dinner-theater with a welcome to all those who attended and a brief explanation of the evenings events. Mr. Tim Phillips, PPM, offered the invocation.

Following the buffet dinner, Col. Martin, District commander offered his holiday wishes to everyone and turned the stage over to, Mr. Yi, Kon-U, NRO, and Mr. Ken Pickler, LO-T, who co-hosted the bi-lingual "theater" portion of the party.

Dressed in traditional Korean Hanbok, the co-hosts ran the show and even took part in the entertainment. Mr. Pickler surprised much of the audience with his introductions and singing in near perfect hangul.

Audience participation activities opened the show that included a one-act skit, a singing quartet from the RMO, several karaoke singers, a comedy routine by the co-host, Yi, and the "MWR Members Choir," who sang Christmas carols, one in Hangul. The evenings entertainment ended with the audience standing, holding hands and singing together, Arirang, a traditional Korean folk song that, at one time, served as the FED unofficial song. Some guests even left with gifts. The table centerpieces, Korean celadon pencil holders with candles, were won by the "secret chair" holder.

Party goes finished the evening with karaoke and dancing in the Club lounge.

See pages 8-9 for photographs



Col. R. N. Martin

In the next month and a half, we will celebrate several holidays. They are all important days in both the culture of the East and/or the culture of the West.

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDER

Each of these events is typically celebrated with parties, usually where alcoholic beverages are served. Remember, again, that alcohol and driving simply do not mix. Travel on the Korean highways in the winter is especially dangerous and this danger is compounded by icy roads and heavy congestion. In addition, during school vacation periods small children and many pedestrians will be crossing streets at all possible locations. To add to all of these, carbon monoxide may be present from faulty heating or motor vehicle exhaust systems.

The point of my message is this; my family, the whole FED family, wish each and every one of you a very SAFE, and Happy New Year! It will be difficult to be happy if any of us are involved in an accident.

Please continue to be careful and remind your family to do the same. I look forward to a very good year for the District and I truly hope that yours is too!

*R. N. Martin
Commander*

The Chaplain's Corner on Spiritual Fitness

1995: More than time on your hands

I just received 2000 calendar cards from my church body, and I started passing them out. Rather than stuffing them into mail boxes as "just another piece of distribution," I give them out one at a time. I like peoples' reactions when I give them a whole year.

People normally look to see if their date is on the calendar. "Yep!" they say, "here it is!" I chuckle because it's as if they expect their date to be omitted from this year's 365

days, but yes, they're all there. Our dates too. Again.

'Although most people look first at the "calendar side," the other side contains a biblical promise, "Never will I leave you: never will I forsake you."

I wonder if anybody thinks about which gift is more important, the gift of days or the promise. The word "never" in this promise means that none of our time is irrelevant to God. He manages to be with us wherever we are. Korea? Yes, here too. Family back

the states? Yes, there too. Tough problems? (Undoubtedly there will be some of those in the 365 days ahead!) Yes, them too.

1995 is more than a blank check to be spent one day at a time, for the gift of time also carries God's promise that He will NEVER leave us or forsake us. That too is good for 365 days.

Tom Decker is the FED Chaplain. He may be reached at Yongsan, 737-4335 or 7917-4335.

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District Commander: Col. R. N. Martin

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Program offers fifteen \$1,000 scholarships to college-bound students

Yongsan Army Garrison, ROK- Family members of active-duty military personnel who have graduated from high school within the last four years and graduating high school seniors are eligible to apply for the Budweiser/United Service Organization Scholarship Program sponsored by World USO and Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc.

Fifteen \$1,000 scholarships are awarded to college-bound students on the basis of scholastic records, test scores

and extracurricular activities. Applicants must also submit a narrative describing how living in the military environment has contributed to the applicant's personal development. The scholarship program is made possible through an endowment to USO by Anheuser-Busch Companies.

The increased number of applications indicates that USO is helping to fulfill an important need, said Hal Hessler, director of Affiliate Support and Headquarters Programs. The scholar-

ships program is a great example of the many programs that USO offers military personnel and their families.

Applications are available through USO and must be completed and returned to USO World Headquarters by March 1. Spouses are encouraged to apply. Scholarships are awarded by members of the Budweiser/USO Scholarship Selection Committee. Recipients will be announced in May. For applications and details about the scholarship program, contact your local USO.

Electronic mail may be considered official records

By SFC Stephen Barrett, USA
American Forces Information Service

A recent court decision on electronic mail is forcing federal archivists and computer users into reviewing their records management procedures.

The courts ruled electronic mail documents used in conducting government business are official federal records and obtainable under the Freedom of Information Act. With this ruling, government records managers have been busy documenting both hard copy and electronic files for proper disposition. They are also warning co-workers about deleting e-mail documents.

Jeryl Gegan, archives and records management chief for the National Security Agency at Fort Meade, Md., published an article in the agency's June newsletter about Scott Armstrong, an archivist with the National Security Archive. On Jan. 19, 1989, he wrote, Armstrong filed several Freedom of Information Act requests for electronic data stored

in backup files belonging to the Executive Office of the President and the National Security Council under the Reagan administration.

According to Gegan's article, the system enabled employees to share appointment calendars, as well as transfer and edit correspondence. However, it allowed 1,300 federal employees to exchange e-mail messages - including some classified information.

Paper backups to this system did not recreate a complete record of the e-mail traffic, wrote Gegan. However, backup tapes did contain all relevant communications data, including detailed distribution lists that would appear on screen and on the paper printout. Armstrong and the National Security Archive sued to obtain these tapes.

The president office and National Security Council argued e-mail isn't a record as defined by the Federal Records Act.

However, both the trial and appellate courts ruled in favor of Armstrong.

What this means to an agency like NSA is that any e-mail message not properly scheduled becomes a permanent record, said Gegan. It is subject to release under FOIA once the classified material is removed. Therefore, people should determine whether messages generated through e-mail channels are official records and use disposition schedules accordingly.

By scheduling, records managers follow set government guidelines for maintaining documents. Some scheduling requires managers to keep active files for a predetermined period, followed by an inactive period and eventual records destruction. Other records are kept for permanent file.

Gegan is now trying to educate his colleagues about

Looking back-FED a decade ago

November 1984

Col. Larry B. Fulton, commanding November 1984

Headlines read:

New Sung Ae Won Orphanage Opens -About 50 FED employees and family members helped the district-sponsored Sung Ae Won orphanage celebrate its new facilities in I Chon City on Oct. 13...The orphanage had moved from its former location in Seoul the month before. The orphanage is home to 82 children. A bar-b-que is planned, but someone forgot the briquettes! Jump rope and hula hoop competitions end with the children clear winners. FED employees wanting to spend a few hours at the orphanage are encouraged and welcome to do so.

Two new 2ID dining halls completed ...In recent years, the mainstays of the FED construction program for the Army has been barracks, maintenance shops and physical fitness centers. But now work will benefit the soldier's stomach as the completion of two new dining halls at Camps Casey and Howze are completed. These two projects, the first of an \$18 million program for such facilities. Shin Il Engineering, Ltd. build the new dining halls. Originally scheduled for completion in April 1985, they were turned over to the installations more than six months early. FED will be working throughout the eastern and western corridors to build these facilities in the next two fiscal years. Camps Hovey, Pelham, Kitty Hawk, Edwards, 4P3, Liberty Bell, Stanley and Hovey will all receive new dining facilities. Kunsan Air base also got a 1,000 person dining hall and two others are scheduled for Osan in FY 85 and one in FY 86.

The dining hall construction program is an important addition to FED's effort to improve the quality of

life for servicemembers in Korea.



Who arrived 10 years ago??

New faces in FED - Nov 84

Michael Lockamy, a Civil Engineer at F&M from Mobile District, Miami, FL; Samuel Yang, Civil Engineer at the Combined Defense Construction Management Section from the Bureau of Reclamation, Denver, CO; and Ms. So, Su Ok, a clerk typist at the Combined Defense Construction Management Section from the Recreation Services Operation Korea.

December 1984

Pak, Kye Un (Motor Pool) played Santa Claus to over 80 orphaned children at the FED Christmas party Dec 15, 1984.

"Camp Page Project office hard at work" ...one of our newer Project offices, located at Camp Page in Chun Chon falls under the Area III Resident Office, and was established in April 1984 with Capt. Karl Fears at its first project officer. Major projects, started in May 1984 are \$3.3 million worth of construction that includes and aircraft maintenance hangar, three-story unaccompanied personnel housing and a company administration office. All are scheduled to be completed by June 1985. The program will be increased to \$14

million in FY 85 that will include a health and dental clinic and personnel housing. Mr. Son, Ki Sang is the Project Inspector and Ms. Cho, Chong Chu is the clerk typist.

"What is TPICK?" TPICK stands for Telecommunication Plan for the Implementation of Communication in Korea. This is a unique cost sharing project requiring the team effort of two Area Offices, four Resident Offices, three Project Offices and newly established Combined Defense Construction Branch, Construction Division to provide construction surveillances technical assistance, coordination and management of the installation of 444 kilometers of fiber optic duct from Seoul to Pusan.

"Barracks dedicated to fallen ROK soldier" Three bachelor enlisted quarters at Camp Kitty Hawk were dedicated in a special ceremony Nov 29 to honor Cpl. Jang, Myung Ki who was killed during a Nov 23 firefight in the DMZ after a Soviet national fled to the South across the military demarcation line. These new quarters are called "Jang Barracks" in memory of the KATUSA soldier. The project was completed two and a half months ahead of schedule.

New faces in FED - Dec 84 Mr. Joseph Matthieu is the Chief of Program Support Section, Military Branch. He has come from the 74th maintenance battalion, camp Market. Ms. Sharon Mumper is the Executive Secretary to the commander. She has come from the Status of Forces Agreement Office. CW3 Scott Wilson is a Rotary Wing Aviator at the Aviation Office. He has come from Fort Ord, CA. Mr. O, Sung Sik from the Western Corridor Resident Offices receives the Commander's Award for Civilian Service. Lt. Col. Birchfield, deputy commander makes the presentation.

Federal hiring process made more direct

By Evelyn D. Harris
American Forces Information Service

The federal government lifted two barriers to federal entry-level hiring for professional and administrative occupations Nov. 20.

One action eliminates registers - the Office of Personnel Management's central lists used to refer job candidates to agencies needing to fill entry-level jobs. The other eliminates reliance on a written test as a single examining method and provides agencies with more examining options based on their specific needs.

The changes fulfill a recommendation of the Clinton administration's National Performance Review, said OPM Director Jim King. He said he expects the changes to the Administrative Careers with America exams to result in a skilled, committed and diverse work force.

These exams replaced the old Professional and Administrative Career Examination four years ago, after court plaintiffs claimed the old test adversely

affected minority hiring. The current exams cover 110 occupations, such as economist, criminal investigator and contract specialist. The exams are separated into six broad occupational groups. For example, one exam tests potential personnel, administrative and computer specialists, while another tests applicants for a wide variety of jobs in law enforcement and investigation.

Under the modified examination, applicants will apply for specific job openings rather than broad occupational groups. Taking a test will no longer be the compulsory first step in the examination process. Instead, applicants will complete surveys detailing their qualifications and experience and send these to OPM with a resume.

OPM will score the questionnaires to determine the most highly qualified candidates and then send hiring agencies a list of the best qualified applicants. In addition, agencies may require

applicants to take a written test for specific occupations. Agencies can still choose to use the Administrative Careers with America test or a test of their own design.

Job seekers can find out about available job openings by calling 1-912-757-3000 or contacting their nearest OPM service center. The application questionnaires are straightforward and easy to complete, said officials. Applicants apply for specific job openings of interest to them in locations they wish to work.

People who already have taken the test and whose names are on the central lists will receive a letter explaining they will have to apply for specific jobs in the future. Rosalie Cameron, Deputy director of OPM's Office of Communications, stressed the government's if hiring fewer people these days - only 21,489 employees came into the system in 1992 and fewer than those will

"Mail" from pg. 3

treating e-mail traffic and other computerized records the same as paper files.

Obviously, there are e-mail messages that won't apply to this, said Gegan. There are too many people out there flicking keyboards and sending e-mail for the sake of sending e-mail. What we're trying to do is get these people to think about what they're putting on the board.

Gegan suggests e-mail users take caution in deleting their traffic and recommends printing messages before deleting. By printing, you have a hard copy of

the message, said Gegan. It can be used for follow-up reports, allowing you to delete the e-mail.

He added that if it's obvious an e-mail message is just a quick note - go ahead and delete it. But if you're not sure, print a hard copy first.

Gegan said NSA has been talking about electronic archives and archives management for a long time, but just recently started compiling, reformatting and duplicating records into electronic form. There is a lot to be done, said Gegan.

Meanwhile, he encour-

ages office managers to review their records disposition schedules. Part of our education process (at his agency) is to put our office phone number everywhere a person can find it, said Gegan. It's done so our people can call, get their questions answered and schedule their records, brochures and exhibits for proper disposition.

Fact: On December 6, 1884, the Army Corps of Engineers completed construction of the Washington Monument.

Civilian Health Insurance Improves

American Forces Information Service

The Office of Personnel Management issued regulations that immediately change and improve the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program.

For Example, annuitants can now alter their health benefits coverage over the phone during Open Season.

The new system will allow annuitants to make changes quickly, and that is a step toward making the government work more efficiently through automation, said OPM director Jim King.

The new rules also allow legally separated employees and annuitants covered as family members under a spouse's enrollment coverage to enroll in self-only coverage.

During Desert Storm many civil service employees lost their health benefits enrollment when they were called to active duty by their reserve units. Under the new rules, there individuals will have the option of reinstating their civilian health benefits if they retire from their civilian position while on active duty.

A retiree whose annuity has been waived or suspended for any period of three months or more will now have the option of paying Federal Employees Health Benefits Program premiums directly to their retirement system of the Office of Workers Compensation Programs.

Finally, agencies must counsel employees whose pay is

insufficient to cover premium payments of their options about continuing or ending their health benefits coverage.

Changes appeared in the Nov. 23 *Federal Register*.

Former nonappropriated fund employees may get credit for time

American Forces Information Service

DoD civilian personnel offices are surveying former nonappropriated fund employees to determine how many would be eligible for civil service retirement credit if Congress were to pass new rules.

Congress is considering giving civil service retirement credit for nonappropriated fund service between 1966 and 1986, and directed DoD to determine the number who might be eligible for such credit. DoD officials stress Congress is merely studying the issue. No legislation on retirement

credit is currently pending.

Only current DoD employees participating in the Civil Service Retirement System or the Federal Employees Retirement System with at least one year's nonappropriated fund experience during 1966 to 1986 should complete the survey. The questionnaire is due Jan. 20.

Former nonappropriated fund employees can pick them up at local civilian personnel offices.

Worth Repeating

"Nature teaches beasts to know their friends."

-William Shakespeare
(1564-1616)
English author

"Beauty in things exists in the mind which contemplates them."

-David Hume
(1711-1776)
Scottish philosopher

Do you know?

1. How many permanent residents inhabit Wake Island?
2. What was the original name of the National basketball Association?
3. How many yards are in a bolt of cloth?
4. Who was the first man in space?
5. In what U.S. national park are the world's largest known caves found?

Answers: 1. 0 (temporary population of 189 in 1990). 2. Basketball Association of America; 3. 40; 4. Yuri A. Gagarin (April 12, 1961); 5. Carlsbad Caverns, N.M.

News briefs

Hail and Farewell

Living with change and seeing friends come and go seems to be coming to be a "business as usual" thing in the district. As our military personnel depart after one or two years, they are being replaced with civilian employees. Such is the case with **SSgt. Sixto Delgado**, the district's quality assurance representative at Chinhae for the past year.

"Del" left December 14, enroute to his home in Virginia where he will spend a month with his wife and daughter. "Del" is going to a new assignment at Fort Hood, Tx.

Delgado's replacement at the Southern Resident Office is **Mr. Steven R. Holcombe**. **Steve** arrived Dec. 12 and will be working at the Pusan Project Office as the Quality Assurance Representative for projects at Chinhae. **Steve** is a recently retired SFC (51H40) and for the last few years has worked as a QAR at Camps Hialeah and Casey DEH's.

One of FED's long-time family members is leaving Jan 11. **Ms. Karen Steinbeck** will report to her new position as Chief of Logistics Management Office at POD. Karen is leaving after 10 years with the District. **Karens'** presence, expertise and extensive "corporate memory" will be missed.

Capt. Keith Stubbs, the District Detachment Commander and Provost Marshall left Nov. 8 after a quick one year assignment. Capt. Stubbs went to a CID assignment at Fort Hood, Tx. Capt. Stubb's position will not be filled on his departure.

Sadly, a final farewell was



made to a former FED employee in August, 1994.

Stephan

Olschner, who worked in Office of Consul in 1986-89, was killed in a traffic accident August 6 in San Francisco, CA. He was there TDY.

Welcome! to several new employees.

SSgt. (P), Michael St.

Onge is the new Quality Assurance Rep at the Kunsan Project Office. This isn't **Mike's** first tour in Korea. He was at Camp Humphrey in 1983. Mike arrived in Korea on Nov. 9 from Fort Benning, GA. where he worked as a Construction Operations Sergeant. **Mike's** from Biddeford, Maine.

Mr. Kim, Hyong-Il joined the District Finance Branch. **Kim** is a graduate of Seoul City University with a major in tax accounting and law. After two years as a KATUSA working for 17th Aviation, Camp Humphreys, he worked as a dispatcher at the motor pool. Congratulations are in order for **Kim**, also, as he was married Dec. 18! He is currently honeymooning in Thailand. Welcome and congratulations, **Mr. Kim**.

If you see **Sam Han**, around the compound, welcome him back to FED! **Sam** started

working at the Host Nation Section Dec. 4 as a Technical Manager after serving the LA District as a Resident Engineer from 1991 to 1994. **Sam** worked in the District in the Construction Division from 1986 to 1991. **Sam's** family arrived Dec. 18.

John Del Ferro, Project Engineer at the Southern Resident Office has been down there awhile, but hasn't been officially welcomed here. A belated welcome to you, **John!**

Maj. Bobby Rakes at the Osan Office announced the Oct. 3 arrival of **Simon Saucedo**. **Simon** manages the 17 active delivery orders under SABER, DISS and a number of other projects at Osan. He's retired from 26 years in the Army, and is from Brownsville, Tx. **Simon's** wife, Suk Chwa is from Cheju-do. They have a four-year old son, **Abel**. Before joining FED, **Simon** worked at Camp Casey.

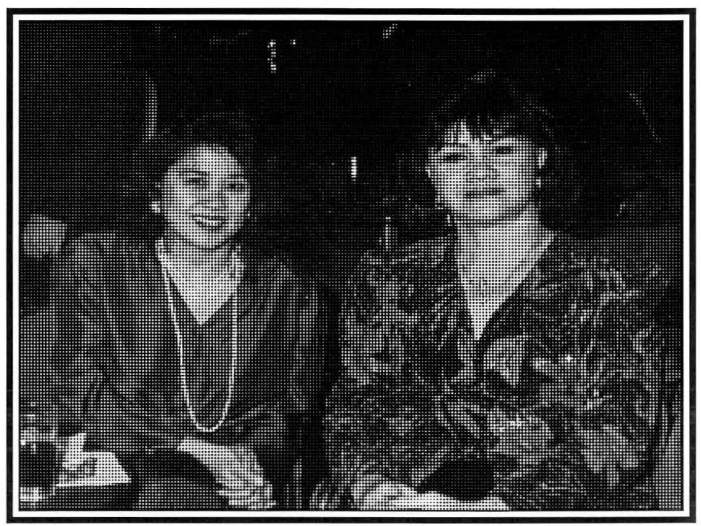
Promotion!

More good news! **Capt. John Woodard**, Southern Resident Office Engineer put on his **Major's gold leaves** on Dec. 1. **Col. Martin** conducted the promotion ceremony and offered congratulations on behalf of the entire District.

Future Engineers!

Congratulations to **Mr. and Mrs. Steve Kim** who are the new parents of a baby daughter born on Nov 15. Mom and our new future engineer are just fine. Dad? He stayed home to rest after the arrival!

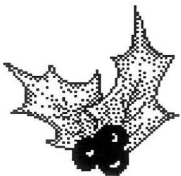
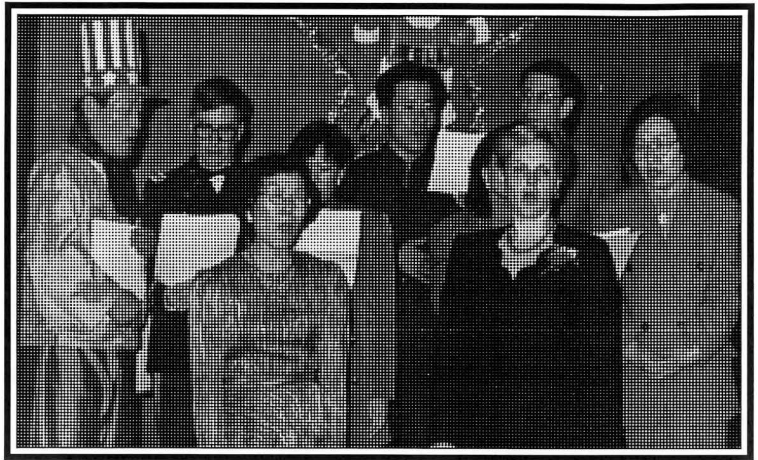
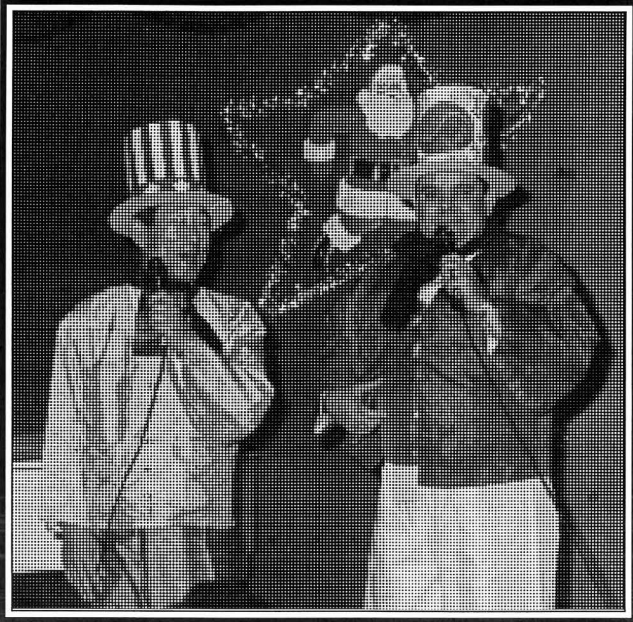
FED Christmas 1994 at the East Gate Club



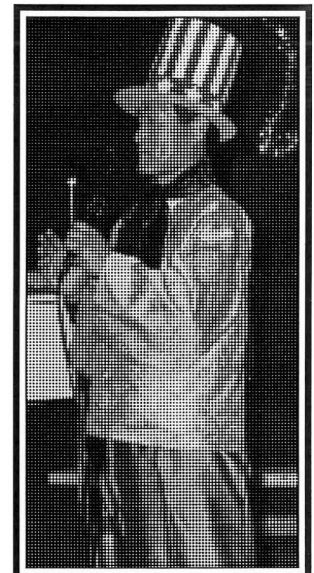
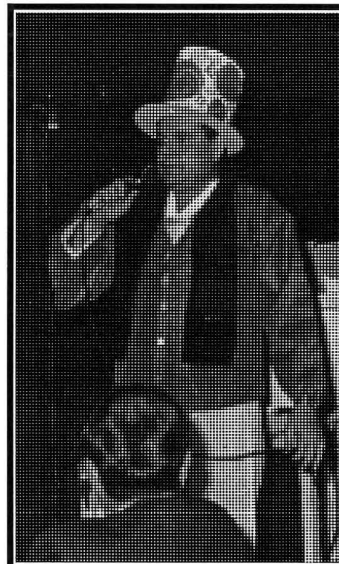
Top left: Col. Martin extends holiday wishes to District employees.

Top right: Julie Tolentino and Anita Alcantara socializing in the lounge. Center Left and right: "Sing for your supper." Employees sang Christmas carols for everyone before going to the buffet line! Bottom: A one-act skit written, produced, directed and starred in by FED employees. Ms. Maeng, Hui Yong, LO-S, second from right, wrote the skit.

Photographs by Yo, Kyong Il



Top left: Co-hosts Yi, Kon-U, NRO; and Ken Pickler, LO-T. **Top right:** The "MWR Choir" featuring l to r: Yi, Kon-U; Capt. Jay Long; Maeng, Hui-Yong; Donna Katsura; Wang, Hui-Chan, Debbie Sullivan, Mi Song; Larry Drape and Kim, Tong Ae. **Center:** The co-hosts, Ken Pickler, left, and Yi, Kon-U, right. **Bottom:** Ending the evening together, members of the District Motor Pool and their guests relax in the club lounge. L to R are: Yi, Koeng-No; Chang, Tok-Chu; Pak, Chol -Su; Kang, Pyong-Ho; Choi, Tae-Chin; Mun, Kap-Chu; Sgt. First Class Art Emerson, and John Sullivan.



Photographs by Yo, Kyong II

