



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Far East District

EAST GATE EDITION

MARCH 2013
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"One Team Building Strong"

Far East District

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Far East District
committed to
STEM education

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**US Army Corps
of Engineers
Far East District**

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On the cover



The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Defense Dependent Schools Korea District signed an education partnership agreement at Seoul American High School March 7. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr.

Commander's Corner

To the Great Team of the Far East District and our entire Team of Teams,

March was another fantastic and productive month, as is evidenced by this month's East Gate Edition.

We began the month with a visit from Maj. Gen. Ken Cox, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Deputy Commanding General for International and Military Operations. This was his fourth visit to the District in the past year, and he was here this month for a couple of very important reasons: attend the senior leader seminar at U.S. Forces Korea for the Key Resolve exercise, review the great efforts of the Yongsan Relocation and Land Partnership Plans, and reward our great People within the District.

As you will read, he also spent time with the District, holding a Castle Call at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys and helping us kick off our Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) partnership with the Department of Defense Dependent Schools here in Korea.

Having him here to sign the agreement with Dr. Irby Miller, the school district superintendent, really helped to reinforce the importance of this program. We will continue support STEM and this great program.

STEM is an investment in our nation's future. Lt. Gen. Bostick, our chief of engineers, sent out some sobering statistics on engineering in the United States. In his e-mail, he highlights that in 2008, only four out of every 100 U.S. college graduates was an engineer. This is among the lowest in the world – only 14 countries graduate a lower percentage of engineers – countries like: Bangladesh, Cambodia and Cuba. In Russia, 10 out of 100 graduates is an engineer. In China, 31 out of 100 graduates is an engineer.

The gap of U.S. students interested in STEM fields has previously been filled by non-U.S. citizens, however, based on emerging economies in India and other countries, the U.S. is no longer the premier destination for these STEM professionals resulting in a shortage and, therefore, a need to "grow our own."

To our great Alliance – Katchi Kapsida!

To our great Corps – Essayons!

One Team Building Strong® in Korea!



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Far East District commits to support STEM

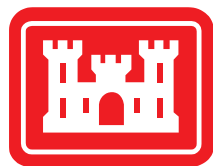
By Doug Bliss
FED Engineering

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Defense Dependent Schools - Korea District signed an educational partnership agreement in a ceremony at Seoul American High School on March 7.

This agreement formally establishes a commitment by the Far East District to support through volunteer efforts the school district's science, technology, engineering, and mathematics program initiative, better known as STEM.

The Far East District - DoDDS Korea educational partnership agreement was formally signed by Maj. Gen. Kendall Cox, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers deputy commanding general for military and international operations; Col. Donald Degidio, commander of the Far East District; Dr. Irby Miller, superintendent of the DoDDS Korea District; and Dr. Richard Schlenker, STEM coordinator for the DoDDS Korea District.

The signing ceremony took place in the Seoul American High School media center and was attended by school administrators, teachers, and interested students. The four cosigners spoke to the audience of the importance of STEM education and how the partnership with the Far East District would greatly enhance the school's STEM initiative.



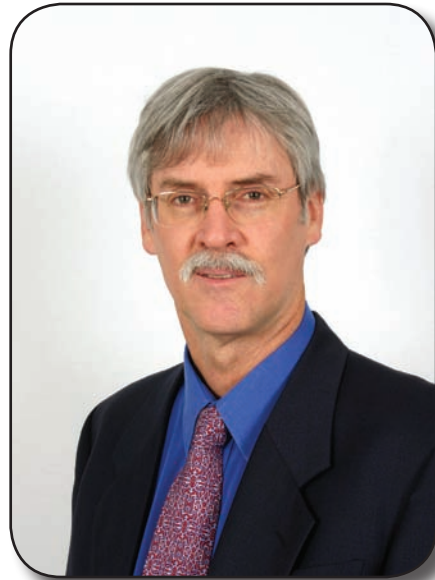
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AFN news covered the event, interviewing cosigners as well as members of the SAHS Extreme Engineering Club who demonstrated an underwater robotically-controlled vehicle built by the students.

As spelled out in the partnership agreement, the Far East District will provide the following support to DoDDS Korea:

(1) Actively participate in planned STEM events (e.g. 22-26 April STEM Week) at the elementary, middle, and high school levels, providing subject matter experts to present and demonstrate STEM-related topics of interest to the students and school faculty.

(2) Provide monthly opportunities for selected high school juniors or seniors to shadow Far East District STEM professionals for a day as part of the Korea



district's STEM shadow program.

(3) Provide field trip opportunities for students to visit Far East District facilities (e.g. chemistry and materials testing laboratories), project designers, field investigations (e.g. geologic surveys, environmental cleanup), and construction sites (e.g. new high school facilities at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys) for a close up view and appreciation of on-going STEM-related work activities.

(4) Provide mentors to motivate students to pursue careers in STEM-related disciplines.

(5) Closely collaborate with Korea district STEM points of contact and attend periodic Korea district STEM committee meetings to refine and further develop areas of Corps of Engineers support during the school year.

The first STEM shadow event at the Far East District is planned for April. A student from the high school will shadow environmental chemist Dr. Chon Son-chu. Chon is with the environmental section and manages the district's environmental testing laboratory.

The student will observe and participate in chemistry testing of soil samples and will listen in on discussions with other environmental professionals concerning possible soil treatment methods.

As a school requirement, the student will be required to take notes and ask questions during the shadowing event, and will write a report and present an oral briefing to Seoul American High School students upon return to school.

The objective of the school's STEM program is to raise awareness and encourage high school seniors to pursue higher education and ultimately careers in one of many STEM disciplines.

A continuing decline in the number of U.S. students who follow a STEM career path is of great concern to our nation's future sustainability and leadership position in technological innovation. This STEM crisis was recognized by President Barack Obama in his 2012 State of the Union message, when he made several references to the importance of STEM education to the nation's well-being.

The Department of Defense has issued a STEM Strategic Plan for fiscal year 2013 to 2017 with the vision to create "A diverse, world-class STEM talent pool and workforce with the creativity and agility to meet national defense needs."

Responding to the STEM challenge, the Corps of Engineers recently developed the National STEM Awareness Program with an objective to foster and motivate increased awareness and interest in STEM among underrepresented student populations (Grades 5 to 12).



Dr. Chon Son-chu from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District's geotechnical and environmental engineering branch shows a student from Seoul American High School a soil sample Feb. 21. The students visited the laboratories at the district as part of the district's science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) program. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

Far East District and DoD schools sign STEM partnership agreement

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Defense Schools Korea District signed an education partnership agreement at Seoul American High School. The partnership will center on support for the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics initiative, better known as STEM.

About 50 students and teachers gathered to witness the signing at the high school media center March 7.

Superintendent Dr. Irby Miller, spoke about the school district's responsibilities under the partnership.

"The bottom line is it is all of you (students) who will benefit from what we are doing in terms of putting together a partnership," said Miller. "This opportunity to consummate

a partnership agreement between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and our schools is very significant."

Maj. Gen. Kendall Cox, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers deputy commanding general for military and international operations, stressed the importance of STEM to the students.

"Those four fields fundamentally deal with solutions and our ability to solve very difficult problems that other people might not want to deal with, let alone attempt to solve," said Cox. "So your challenge is not that you just want to take an interest in those fields, but to solve those problems for the next generation."

Cox emphasized that his role as an engineer officer is to ensure that there will always be an abundance of future engineers emerging from the younger generation. This commitment will be fulfilled in Korea by the Corps of Engineers

Far East District which will collaborate with the DoD schools and provide STEM opportunities for students.

"We are going to provide you with the assistance and the support that you need to gain that passion – to gain that desire – to want to be someone that's involved in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics," said Cox.

Cox further emphasized the critical role that STEM education plays in enabling the U.S. to remain economically and technologically competitive in the global marketplace.

"In the year 2020 there is going to be a requirement in the U.S. for 2.6 million engineer or STEM background graduates from our universities," said Cox. "If things don't change from the way they are today, we will have a shortfall of over 1 million STEM graduates."

The Corps of Engineers also recognizes the importance of ensuring a diverse and highly competent STEM workforce. Cox talked about the current demographic situation of the STEM fields which often sees minorities and women underrepresented.

(Right) Col. Donald Degidio, commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District, watches as Dr. Richard Schlenker, Department of Defense Dependent Schools Korea District science, technology, engineering, and mathematics coordinator, signs an education partnership agreement March 7. The partnership between USACE and DoDDS Korea District will center on support for the STEM initiative. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

"I'm excited to see the audience that's here today because you break all those barriers," said Cox to the diverse group of students. "You far exceed the dynamics that I just described, but more importantly I am excited to see that you are here today."

Some of the opportunities that the Far East District will provide include field trips to the district's chemistry and materials testing laboratories and mentoring by the district's many STEM experts.



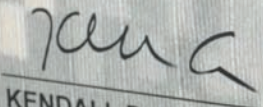
Maj. Gen. Kendall Cox, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers deputy commanding general for military and international operations, speaks at Seoul American High School March 7. An education partnership between USACE and the Department of Defense Dependent Schools Korea District was signed at the high school. The partnership will center on support for the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics initiative, better known as STEM. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

ACE volunteers by providing va
faculty sponsorship, and coordinating transportation and required parent notification
visits to USACE facilities.


(Below) Signees of the agreement are Maj. Gen. Kendall Cox, USACE deputy commanding general for military and international operations; Dr. Irby Miller, superintendent of the DoDDS Korea District; Col. Donald Degidio, commander of the Far East District; and Dr. Richard Schlenker, DoDDS Korea District STEM coordinator. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

Effective Date: This agreement is effective 7 March 2013 and will be reviewed periodically
commitment and to consider needed changes.


DONALD E. DEGIDIO, JR.
COL, EN
Commanding


KENDALL P. COX
Major General, USA
Deputy Commanding General
for Military and International Operations


DR. RICHARD M. SCHLENKER
STEM Coordinator
DoDDS, Korea District


DR. IRBY L. MILLER
Superintendent
DoDDS, Korea District

"BUILDING STRONG IN KOREA"

MARCH 2013

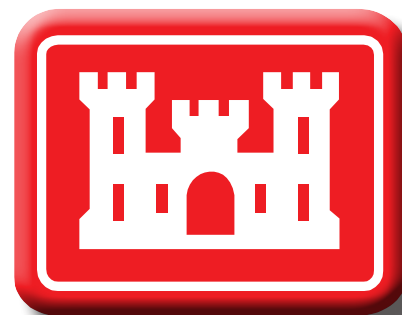
Deputy commanding general visits Far East District

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

Maj. Gen. Kendall Cox, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers deputy commanding general for military and international operations, visited the Republic of Korea March 4-7.

During the trip, Cox met with U.S. military officials, students from Seoul American High School, members of the Far East District staff, and toured construction projects at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys.

During his tour of the new elementary school construction project at Humphreys, Cox met Joyce Diggs, the school principal. Diggs has already developed a comprehensive plan to move into the school, and explained how the new school would benefit the students.



"This is going to be fantastic. This makes me wish that I could go back to elementary school," said Cox.

Cox spoke with district personnel concerning the current economic and political climate and the impact on their work in Korea as part of the larger Corps of Engineers mission.

The Far East District has about 500 employees on U.S. military facilities over the Republic of Korea. Responsible for billions of dollars worth of construction projects, the district has been, and will be, working on \$10.7 billion worth of projects in the U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys area alone

over the coming few years.

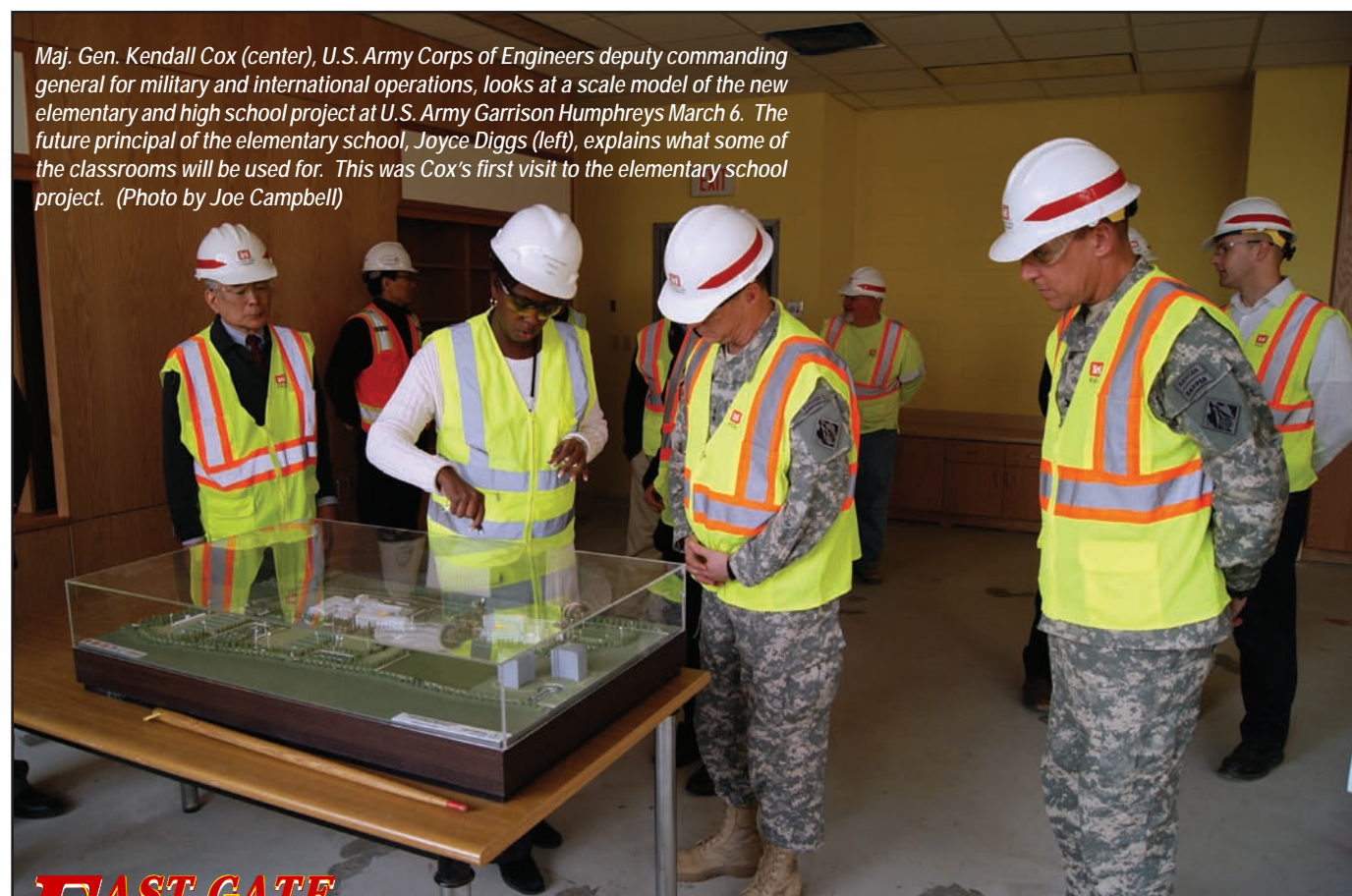
Only two other Corps of Engineers districts are permanently headquartered outside of the United States, with another in Afghanistan.



(Left) Maj. Gen. Kendall Cox (left), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers deputy commanding general for military and international operations, and Greg Reiff, Far East District Humphreys area engineer, look at a graphic of the future U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys during an aerial tour of the garrison March 6. This was Cox's fourth visit to Korea and the district. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

(Below) The new elementary school is under construction at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys with the recently completed Army Family Housing towers in the background. The school will be conveniently located to the towers for easy access for families. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

Maj. Gen. Kendall Cox (center), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers deputy commanding general for military and international operations, looks at a scale model of the new elementary and high school project at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys March 6. The future principal of the elementary school, Joyce Diggs (left), explains what some of the classrooms will be used for. This was Cox's first visit to the elementary school project. (Photo by Joe Campbell)



Team Building East Gate Style

By Ryan Clark
FED Construction

Editor's Note: Far East District employees Vincent Pecchia, Louis Gud, and Ryan Clark are former Department of the Army interns who arrived in the district in September 2010. Since then, they have arranged many team-building activities together.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District has had general team building exercises for some time now, but to my knowledge, the East Gate Edition has not formally documented one of these great outings.

Given, I am not an avid reader and my subscription is somewhat mandatory, but regardless this team building exercise was certainly one for the ages: Vincent (Vinny) Pecchia, Scott Turygan, Louis Gud, and I all went on a ski trip to Niseko, Japan, for a team building exercise and cultural experience.

Before I continue, let it be known that neither the district's Construction Division, Corps of Engineers, nor the Department of the Army formally endorsed our trip [editor's note: or paid for it], so we used approved annual leave like responsible civil servants. By obtaining our supervisors' signatures, we were effectively letting the world know that four young engineers were abandoning their life of numbers to experience chest-deep powder (snow) in the great Japanese wild.

The trip began normal enough. After a short rebuttal from the lovely flight attendant – “No sir, we don't serve soju on this flight” – we soon found ourselves at the New Chitose International Airport. Being a mechanical engineer and doing things “differently,” Vinny had already arrived and provided us with wonderful news.

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(Top: from left to right) Vincent Pecchia, Louis Gud, Scott Turygan, and Ryan Clark stop for a photo op after their last run of the day in Hokkaido, Japan. (Below) The inside of a capsule hotel in Hokkaido, Japan. (Photos provided by Ryan Clark)



“Um, we missed the last bus,” said Vinny.

But our resolve was formidable and we soon found a willing taxi to take us along snowy roads to our destination. Of course, with four grown men and bags abound, the real estate inside the taxi became a precious commodity, but we managed to fit. Vinny and Louis might disagree as one end of my skis was firmly lodged in Louis's inner ear and the other pinning Vinny's over-sized foot. The do-loop conversation of the taxi ride went as follows:

“Dude, (sob) I can't feel my foot. (sob) I'm serious,” said Vinny.

“What?” said Louis.

We arrived, all in one piece, and directly to our beds we went.

And so the day we had zealously awaited had finally come. After strapping up, everything came to this point – our first run. It was glorious. The brochures and popup internet ads were right. The powder was indeed chest-deep and the runs were just fantastic. The entire time, from the moment we hit the mountain to the time we left, it snowed and snowed

and snowed. To put the snowfall in perspective, the Far East District compound would be completely under snow. But for mountain dwellers, this was a dream come true; at least ones with a snowboard.

After a hard, onerous day of earning sweat-stained garments, which helped to perpetrate ripe gym-locker odors seep into our two-by-four meter room, we abandoned our formal resolves and bathed Japanese style. Of course, just like the flight, they seem to also have rules.

“Sirs, you may not document this part of your ‘adventure.’ Cameras go in the lockers,” said the staff member.

Tip: After a rough day of physical activity, go to the local hot-spring. The particular one we visited was outdoors, which from Japanese to English roughly translates as “this is awesome.” Of course we strictly observed the Army's buddy system so each night we made sure to bring our ‘bathing’ buddy.

After our muscles were relaxed to the point of “Vicodin” status we gorged ourselves on great Japanese style food and romped around the town to help with digestion. Rinse and repeat.

Our last night in Hokkaido was spent in the capital, Sapporo. However, being cultural savants, we decided to spend our sleeping hours in a rather Japanese style abode: capsules. Yes, you're thinking correctly: Apollo program. Inside one of these capsules are clean sheets, a pillow, radio, and a TV, all

in a two meter long and half-meter-by-half-meter enclosure.

Next tip: Make sure to examine the local TV listing. Just to list facts, some of our group members—no, not me, sorry ladies—were too tall for the type of average height for which the capsule was designed. This is perhaps the only time in my life I was happy I wasn't taller.

After taking our bathing buddies for one last night of Japanese style bath house fun, we all fell blissfully asleep in our enclosures—some diagonally, while others curled in the fetal position. The next day, after doing my souvenir shopping in the airport (please don't judge), back to Korea we went, thus ending a very memorable trip of great bonding experiences.

Let us recap. While this article has certainly varied from one topic to another, the theme has remained constant: take some friends or coworkers and go some place fun. You never know what you'll see and the experience will bring us all closer together as a district community. Better yet, stay active. A healthy workforce is a happy workforce. And, most importantly, flight attendants protect the soju, so bring your own.



(From left to right) Louis Gud, Vincent Pecchia, and Scott Turygan pose in the snow after completing one of their best runs of their trip: a double black diamond in knee-deep powder (Photo provided by Ryan Clark)

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'Heading south'

The Far East District's Southern Resident Office

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

About 140 miles south of Seoul lay Korea's fourth largest city: Daegu, which translates into English as the "big hill." As the name implies, Daegu is surrounded by several mountains. Because of these natural barriers, Korean and U.S. forces were able to hold off advancing North Korean forces near here during the Korean War. Thus the invading forces were never able to push any further south and Daegu remained relatively

untouched by the war.

Today Daegu has grown into a fast-paced community home to industry, universities, and a vibrant art and cultural scene. Daegu has hosted a number of international conventions and sporting events such as the International Association of Athletics' 2011 track and field championships.

A rendering shows what a new barracks and dining facility project at Camp Henry will look like once completed. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District is improving quality of life at Daegu through this and many other projects. (FED file photo)

Because of its location and the logistical role that it played in the Korean War, Daegu is also home to supporting units of the Eighth U.S. Army and 19th Expeditionary Sustainment Command. These units are based at U.S. Army Garrison Daegu – an enduring hub in the southeastern portion of the peninsula under U.S. Forces Korea's master plan. Once this plan is complete, Daegu will be the second largest home for U.S. troops within USFK.

U.S. Army Garrison Daegu consists of camps Walker, Henry, and George in the city of Daegu as well as nearby Camp Carroll in Waegwan. Its area of responsibility also includes the Defense Logistics Agency Disposition Services Field Activity at Gimcheon and the logistics pier and storage facility in Busan. One of the garrison's goals is to develop a sustainable enduring hub that emphasizes safety, energy efficiency, and environmental stewardship in all its operations.

Although the Far East District is currently undertaking one of the largest construction projects in the Corps of Engineers history at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys in Pyeongyang, it is also involved in a smaller-scale transformation for U.S. Army Garrison Daegu.



FED supports the garrison's goals through design and construction of efficient and sustainable projects and is currently involved in 27 projects for U.S. Army Garrison Daegu. With all of this construction, FED's Southern Resident Office is an important part of the Daegu community, with responsibility for about a quarter of a billion dollars in current projects on the garrison alone.

“I’m excited that I’m working for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Daegu,” said Chad McLeod, resident engineer at the Southern Resident Office. “It brings me a great sense of pride and satisfaction to know that these projects are directly helping the Soldiers and families I see here every day.”

Some of the district’s current major projects include electrical systems and gas upgrades on Camp Walker, a troop medical and dental clinic at Camp Carroll and barracks projects at Camp Carroll and Henry.

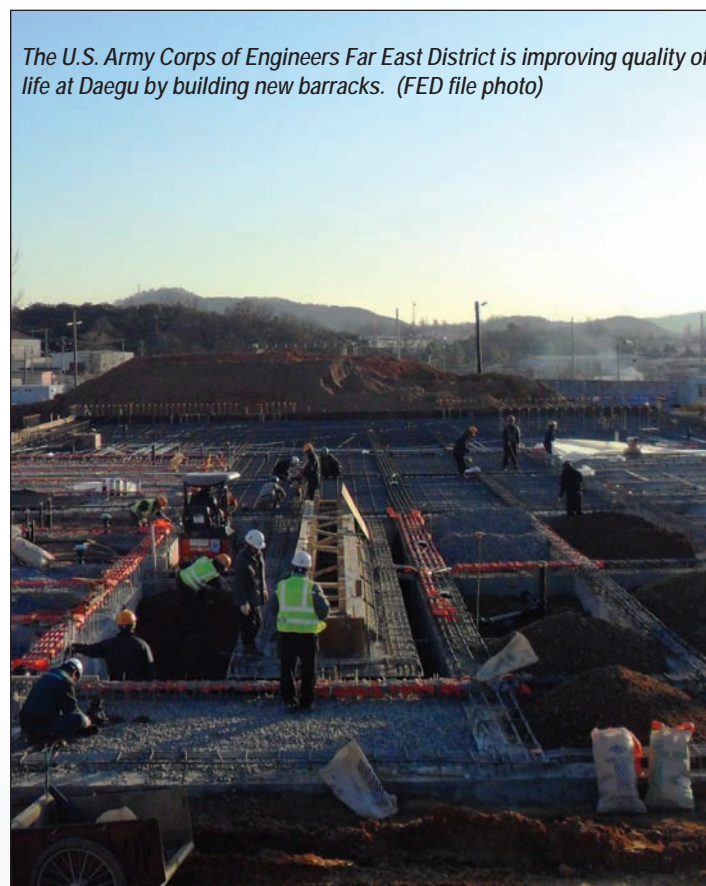
The district is removing all the overhead power lines at Camp Walker and placing them underground and increasing the voltage to 22,900 volts. This will help accommodate future buildings on Camp Walker. Engineers are also converting heating equipment in major buildings from fuel systems to natural gas to save energy and help the garrison cut its heating costs. These upgrades will be completed this year.

The combined troop medical and dental clinic at Camp Carroll has been a long-awaited project. This project will replace the out-dated, existing troop medical clinic and the existing dental clinic which the Camp Walker community has outgrown and were not up to current U.S. Army standards. The current troop medical clinic is a converted barracks and still retains that appearance.

The new barracks on Camp Henry and Camp Carroll follow the U.S. Army 1+1 standard barracks design. This means that one Soldier will have one bedroom while sharing living space with another Soldier. As part of the 10-story barracks project at Camp Henry, the district will also build an adjacent 500-person dining facility. At Camp Carroll, the eight-story barracks project will also include a nearby tactical vehicle maintenance facility.

“The Army’s commitment to this area is evident by the projects we are currently constructing and we’re excited about what’s coming next,” said McLeod. “The southeast hub (Daegu) has a bright future and I’m happy to be a part of it.”

Several installations under the Land Partnership Plan, an agreement that returns some land used by U.S. forces to the Republic of Korea, have already been reconsolidated in or around Daegu. The district accommodated the relocation of the Defense Logistics Agency Disposition Services from two locations at Incheon and Busan into one facility at Gimcheon. The new site is conveniently located between U.S. Forces Korea’s two enduring hubs at Pyeongtaek and Daegu.



The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District is improving quality of life at Daegu by building new barracks. (FED file photo)



Col. Kathleen Gavle, commander of U.S. Army Garrison Daegu, tries out building demolition at an old barracks on Camp Henry. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District is improving quality of life at Daegu by building new barracks. (FED file photo)



By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District installed a roof-top garden on the new health and dental clinic at Camp Carroll, making it the first green roof on a U.S. military facility in Korea.

According to the district’s subcontractor, Urban Jungles, the roof will host about 40,000 plants, all of which are native to the Daegu area. This follows new trends in medical-facility design in which plants and gardens are incorporated into healthcare facilities.

Besides from being aesthetically pleasing, the green roof will offer many other benefits to the building.

The green roof will lessen the environmental impact of the building. During the summer months the insulative qualities of the roof-top vegetation will reduce the need for air conditioning and in the winter it will also keep the building warm, reducing energy costs year round. Also, during the rainy season, runoff water re-entering the environment will be much cleaner after passing through the green roof.

Another major cost-saving feature is the waterproofing material beneath the green roof will not have to be replaced. On other facilities this material is often damaged by the effects of ultraviolet radiation and has to be periodically repaired.

While construction progressed on the health and dental clinic the green roof was already growing on an off-site farm. Urban Jungles delivered the vegetated tiles as soon as construction on the roof was completed. The plants will have a chance to mature over the summer and when the project is delivered later this year the user can enjoy the green roof from day one without having to wait for seeds to grow.

To ensure that the green roof becomes self sustaining, the district will replace any plants that do not survive a two-year warranty period. After this, the garden will be well established and be able to survive on its own.

Far East District installs its first green roof

(Below) The green roof of the health and dental clinic at Camp Carroll is the first green roof on a U.S. military facility in Korea. The roof will host about 40,000 plants, all of which are native to the Daegu area. (Photos provided by Urban Jungles)





FED FAMILY MEMBER SELECTED FOR UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM

EDUCATION • LEADERSHIP • PUBLIC SERVICE

FED Public Affairs

Danari White, the daughter of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers employee Mark White, has done many things throughout her high school career. She recently was selected a delegate to the 51st Annual U.S. Senate Youth Program in Washington, D.C.; won first place in the Far East Junior Science and Humanities Symposium in Tokyo; participates in several extra-curricular activities, and still finds time to volunteer. She does all of this on top

of a heavy academic schedule.

White, a Jacksonville, Fla., native is a junior at Seoul American High School. She is a member of the National Honor Society, serves as the director of the economic and social council in the Model United Nations, and is the junior class representative.

White's enthusiasm about leadership and government led her to apply to the Senate Youth Program. Each year this

competitive merit-based program brings 104 outstanding high school students to Washington for an intensive week-long study of the federal government and the people who lead it. White was one of only two delegates selected worldwide from the Department of Defense Education Activity.

The program, held March 9-16, is established for the purpose of increasing young Americans' understanding of the interrelationships of the three branches of government, the caliber and responsibilities of federally elected and appointed officials, and the vital importance of democratic decision making not only for the U.S. but for people around the world.

The Hearst Foundation sponsors their week-long trip to Washington and provides each of the 104 student delegates with a \$5,000 undergraduate college scholarship.

Another of White's recent accomplishments is taking first place in the Far East Junior Science and Humanities Symposium held in Tokyo March 4-7. Her first place finish came with a \$2,000 undergraduate college scholarship. White will compete in the national final in Dayton, Ohio, in May of this year.

The symposium is designed to challenge and engage high school students in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics subjects. Individual students compete for scholarships and recognition by presenting the results of their original research efforts before a panel of judges and an audience of their peers.

For her volunteerism, White received a certificate of appreciation from the U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan commander and nominated for volunteer of the quarter. Some of the things she does are tutor at Seoul American High School on a weekly basis. She appeared on AFN as the spokesperson for the Girl Scouts of America in an anti-smoking commercial. The Girl Scouts also asked White to co-lead a discussion about environmental protection.

White plans to use her Senate Youth Program and Junior Science and Humanities Symposium scholarships to begin her undergraduate study in political science and language studies before continuing on to law school. Her future plans are to work in a field associated with international relations.



Seoul American High School student Danari White is presented with a certificate of achievement by SAHS Principal Kathleen Reiss. White was recently selected as one of only two DoDEA delegates for the 2013 United States Senate Youth Program. (Photo by Grace Kim, Seoul American High School/Released)



EEO CORNER

Women inspiring innovation through imagination

FED Equal Employment Opportunity Office

7he U.S. Army Corps of Engineers commends women during the month of March for Women's History Month. This year, March is dedicated to honoring the generations of women who used their intelligence, imagination, and tenacity to make extraordinary contributions to the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields. In honor of these historical women, this year's theme is "Women Inspiring Innovation through Imagination: Celebrating Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics." Here are a few of the women who have inspired innovation through science, technology, engineering, or mathematics.

Mary G. Ross was the first female engineer at Lockheed's Missiles Systems Division where she designed

missiles and rockets, as well as developed systems for human space flight and interplanetary missions to Mars and Venus.

Susan Solomon researched the effects of chloro-fluorocarbons on the Antarctic ozone hole. Her research became the basis for the international treaty that effectively regulated ozone-depleting chemicals.

Stephanie Kwolek created Kevlar, a high-strength material commonly used in protective armor. She received the National Medal of Technology and the Perkin Medal in addition to being inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame as the fourth woman member.

Remarkable women such as these have and continue to achieve great things in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics.

Jisun Kang, a great example of the “American Dream”

By Joe Campbell
FED Korea Program Relocation

It wouldn't be hard to say that Jisun Kang is a great example of someone living the “American Dream.”

Leaving Seoul 11 years ago as a Korean college student, she returned to the city in late 2009 as an American citizen and a U.S. Air Force veteran.

She now serves as the district contracting division's purchasing branch chief, holding the position since late 2012. Kang was also the district's 2012 emerging leader.

“Jisun Kang is the future of contracting,” said Kurtis Kikkawa, contracting division chief. “She is young, bright, and has the perseverance to accomplish what she sets out to do.”

In 2002, Kang joined her family in Seattle, where her father was a visiting professor at the University of Washington. Shortly after arriving in the Pacific Northwest, she decided to join the Air Force – not the Republic of Korea Air Force, her home country, but that of her new country, the U.S. Air Force.

“I wanted to become independent,” said Kang. “I was 19 years old, and a college student at that time.”

During Kang's four years of service she served as a contract specialist at Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., and earned her U.S. citizenship.

It was while in the military when she began to pull ahead of her peers, taking many honor graduate and airmen of the quarter and year honors, and earning an associate's degree.

Kang also realized that the contracting field was something she wanted to remain with after her discharge.

“Although this job was not from my will or choice, I quickly learned that it suits me well and there's no other job that I liked more,” said Kang.

After her discharge, Kang went to work for Lockheed Martin as a procurement analyst/systems administrator. There, she continued to shine, earning selection as employee



Jisun Kang, a contracting officer with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District recently earned her Master's degree in business administration from Yonsei University School of Business. (Photo provided by Jisun Kang)

of the quarter and was chosen for the company's “fast track to senior management program.”

In 2008, Kang moved over to government service, taking a contracting position with the Defense Media Agency. While there, she finished a bachelor's degree in business administration, and in 2009 applied, and was selected, to return to Seoul.

“Being at the Far East District, I get to be intimately

Ms. Jisun Kang is truly a superb district employee and an excellent member of the team; motivated, mission-oriented, and highly sought after.... [Kang] is one of our truly best with remarkable talent to reach the very top of her profession.”

Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr., Far East District Commander

involved with the world's largest U.S. Army Corps of Engineers project - the Yongsan Relocation Program and the Land Partnership Program,” said Kang. “It's very exciting and rewarding.”

The multi-billion plans are the centerpoint of the U.S. Forces Korea move from Seoul, and areas north of Seoul, to two centralized hubs near Pyeongtaek, about 40 miles south of Seoul, and Daegu, in the southeastern corner of the peninsula.

As a warranted contracting officer, and now the chief of the purchase branch, Kang is responsible for supporting construction contracting needs for both plans, and for other U.S. military construction on the peninsula.

“Ms. Jisun Kang is truly a superb district employee and an excellent member of the team; motivated, mission-

oriented, and highly sought after,” said Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr., Far East District commander. “Ms. Kang provides outstanding contracting support for our district and our valued customers.”

In addition to her recent promotion to branch chief, Kang just completed her master's degree in business administration from Yonsei University, one of the country's top universities.

“[Kang] is one of our truly best with remarkable talent to reach the very top of her profession,” said Degidio.

“She will grow into a tremendous leader,” added Kikkawa, “and will be an asset to any organization she is with.”

UNION SPOTLIGHT

Gwangjang Market

By Ho Yong-song
FED Construction

Most people these days prefer shopping in department stores or big supermarkets because of their convenient location and variety of products, which is why big business is more prosperous. But as the department stores and supermarkets are growing, the traditional market which provided household necessities and food for the family is slowly dying. The department stores and supermarkets have their advantages, but the traditional market makes its appeal with its friendly atmosphere and local features blended well with the Korean culture.

There are many traditional market areas in Seoul, but the Gwangjang market is the closest one to the Far East District. The market was named after the Gwang and Jang bridges located on Chonggye Third and Second streets where the market area was originally planned to be located. The market has been around for over 100 years, which in itself carries historical meaning. It was first established in 1905, during times when markets were set up on the streets rotating every three or five days. Gwangjang market was the first permanent market establishment, where the market was operated every day.

Gwangjang market sells products such as silk fabric, Korean traditional dress, fabrics, clothing, beddings, home appliances, fruits, dried fish, ritual ornaments, fish, meat, vegetables, and more. The fabric section of the market is always crowded with people who are looking for vintage wear, and couples who are planning their wedding visit the market to buy Korean traditional clothing, beddings, and other necessities.

Another attraction of the traditional market is the variety of foods. The Gwangjang market is especially famous for foods such as bindaetteok (mung-bean pancake) which is a fried pancake soaked with water and ground mung beans, vegetables, and pork. Also popular is freshly marinated Korean-style raw beef and something referred to as

“drug”kimbap. “Drug” kimbap is a seaweed roll with rice, vegetables, and beef and it is called a “drug” because you can never have enough once you have eaten it. Other foods include codfish soup, a variety of sashimi, porridge, soon-dae (a dish made of pig intestine) soup, sorghum pancake, bibimbap, ddokbokgi (rice cake mixed with red pepper paste) and they are all very reasonably priced.



Silk fabric stores at Gwangjang market.
광장시장내에 있는 주단가게들. (Web image)

The traditional market offers an opportunity to get out and enjoy the food, the view, and culture in the neighborhood surround the Far East District headquarters.

Additional information on Gwangjang market:

Location: Seoul Jongrogu Yejidong 293-1 (Subway Line 1 Jongro 5-ga Station exit number 8, Line 2 or 4 Euljiro 4-ga Station exit number 4)

Telephone : 02-2269-8855

As of Feb. 22 the Seoul City Tour Bus will have a Korean traditional market tour package with stops at the Gwangjang market as well as other traditional markets located throughout Seoul. Visit www.seoulcitybus.com for more information.

UNION SPOTLIGHT

광장 시장 (도심 속 전통시장)

By 허영성
FED Construction

요즘은 쇼핑을 위해 대부분의 사람들이 많은 물건들을 한번에 둘러볼 수 있고 접근성도 좋은 백화점이나 대형 마트를 선호하기에 날이 갈수록 대형마트와 백화점이 더욱 더 번성하고 있습니다. 그에 반해 오랜동안 우리의 살림살이와 먹거리를 제공해 주던 전통시장은 점점 퇴색해져 가고 있습니다. 대형마트와 백화점도 그들만의 장점이 있지만, 북적이는 서민들로 사람 냄새가 그득하고 그 지역의 특색과 문화가 잘 녹아있는 전통시장은 또 다른 매력을 갖고 있습니다.

한국에 있는 많은 전통시장 중 FED와 가까운 곳에 위치한 광장시장을 소개할까 합니다. 광장시장은 100 여년의 역사를 자랑하는 역사깊은 시장입니다. 1905년 개설된 시장으로 당시에는 3일장, 5일장 등 정기시장 방식이 있었는데, 광장시장은 최초로 상설시장 방식으로 개설되었습니다. 광장시장의 이름은 최초 시장 후보지였던 곳이 청계3,4가의 광고와 장교 사이의 일대였기 때문에 광고와 장교의 앞 글자를 따서 이름지었다고 합니다.

광장시장의 거래 품목은 주단, 한복, 직물, 의류, 침구, 주방용품, 청과, 건어물, 제수용품, 생선, 정육, 야채 등입니다. 특히 독특한 아이템을 구매하려는 손님들로 구제의류시장은 항상 북적이며, 결혼을 앞둔 신혼부부들도 한복이나 침구 같은 혼수품을 준비하기위해 많이 찾습니다.

전통시장의 또 하나의 매력은 바로 다양한 먹거리인데 광장시장의 먹자골목은 특히 유명합니다. 녹두를 물에 불린 후 겹질을 벗겨 맷돌에 갈아 나물, 고기 등을 넣고 기름을 넉넉히 두른 팬에 부쳐서 만든 빈대떡, 푸짐하고 신선한 육회, 그 맛이 한번 먹으면 중독이 된다는 마약김밥을 비롯해, 대구탕, 모듬회, 족, 순대국, 수수부꾸미, 비빔밥,

떡볶이 등 다양한 음식들을 저렴한 가격으로 맛볼 수 있습니다.

이처럼 오랜 전통을 갖고 있고 볼거리와 먹거리도 풍부한 광장시장을 찾아 전통시장의 매력을 느껴 보시는 건 어떨까요?

광장시장 정보

위치 : 서울시 종로구 예지동 293-1 (지하철 1호선 종로5가역 8번 출구, 지하철 2,4호선 을지로4가역 4번출구)

전화번호 : 02-2269-8855

* 2013년 2월22일부터 서울시티투어버스에서 서울 전통시장 투어 상품을 통해 광장시장을 비롯한 서울 시내의 전통시장을 둘러 볼 수도 있습니다. (www.seoulcitybus.com)



Food stands serving a variety of food at Gwangjang market.
광장시장내에 있는 다양한 음식점들. (Web image)



Building **Safety** Strong ARMY SAFE IS ARMY STRONG



Office Safety



Office Hazards

Offices are the scene of a large percentage of workplace accidents and injuries. Common causes include slipping, tripping, and falling hazards; burning, cutting, and pinching hazards; improper lifting and handling techniques; unobservant and inattentive employees; improper office layout and arrangement; dangerous electrical wiring; exposure to toxic substances; and horseplay.



Office Accident Prevention



Good Housekeeping Practices: Keep the floor neat and clean to eliminate most slipping, tripping, and falling hazards. Ensure that office lighting is adequate and available by replacing burned out light bulbs and having additional lighting installed as necessary. Install motion sensors to turn lights on and off and save money. Ensure electrical and phone cords do not cross walkways or create other tripping hazards. Install new outlets or secure the cord to the floor with cord cover strips. Do not staple or tape cords and do not run cords under carpets. Keep stairs, steps, flooring, and carpeting well maintained. Report or repair defective tiles, boards or carpeting immediately. Secure throw rugs and mats. Clean spills and pick up fallen debris immediately. Store items in an approved storage space. Ensure that boxes are clearly labeled with their contents and are not stacked too high or too tightly. Arrange office furnishings in a manner that provides unobstructed areas for movement. Clearly mark any difference in floor elevation. Be aware of added risk of falls if outside weather is rain or snow.

Preventing Cuts and Punctures: When sealing envelopes, use a liquid dispenser instead of your tongue. Use tools such as knives, scissors, staplers, letter openers and box cutters correctly and only for their intended purpose. Wear gloves and use a broom and dust pan to clean up broken glass instead of your hands. Place used blades or broken glass in a rigid container, such as a box, before placing in trash. Ensure that glass doors have some type of marking to keep people from walking through them.

Preventing Machine Accidents: Avoid wearing jewelry, loose clothing, loose long hair, scarves or ties around machines with exposed moving parts that are not guarded. Install guards on exposed moving parts. Replace defective guards. Secure machines that tend to move during operation. Keep machines away from table or desk edges. Do not use any machine that smokes, sparks, shocks, or appears defective in any way. Unplug defective machines, tag, and have them repaired immediately. Close hand-operated paper cutters after each use and activate the guard. Unplug paper shredders before conducting maintenance, repair, or troubleshooting. Remember that some internal parts of copiers, printers, scanners and faxes may be hot when attempting to maintain, repair, or troubleshoot.



Insung Park
Engineering Division



Jared McCormick
Construction Division



Kenneth Bright
Korea Program Relocation



Kim Kyong-a
Korea Program Relocation



Mia Dukuly
Engineering Division



Nancy Tajjioui
Korea Program Relocation



Robert Sauntry
Korea Program Relocation



Thomas Rackliff
Construction Division



Stanley Young
Construction Division

Bryan Williams

Construction

My Plan

I help the Corps Build Strong in Korea by...

- Ensure safety is top priority while delivering facilities ahead of schedule and within budget!
- Safety is always utmost in my mind and using agency needs are utmost important!
- Responding to our nation's natural disasters, delivering quality products to our armed forces, their dependents and DoD civilians.



My Plan,

My Face

My Plan

I help the corps build strong in Korea by (What piece of the puzzle do I provide to ensure the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers goes from good to great?)...

- Which Far East District operations plan actions and tasks do I support?
- Which Pacific Ocean Division implementation plan action do I support?
- Which Corps of Engineers command plan goals and objectives do I support?
- What unique contributions do I make to FED, POD, USACE, and our nation?

My Face

I am Building Strong in Korea by...

- Fun things I do
- People and family
- Hobbies
- What else?



My Face

I am a key person in the Corps by...

- I do golfing, swimming, running, bar hopping, traveling.
- Holiday dinners together, vacationing together and studying together.
- Pickup-basketball, weight training, distance running and baseball.
- What else? God and country is always first!

Nathan Han

Construction

I help the Corps Build Strong in Korea by...

- Customer satisfaction.
- Teamwork, communication, and coordination between the users and contractors.
- Finishing projects on time.
- Supporting the district as much as I can.



My Face

I am a key person in the Corps by...

- Meeting new people.
- Spending as much time as I can with my family.
- Random acts of kindness to the community.

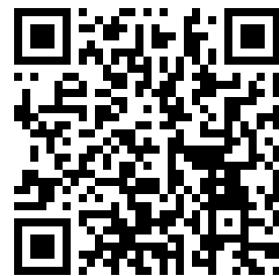
Would you like to share your "My Plan, My Face?"

If you are a Far East District civilian or Soldier, simply send yours into the Public Affairs Office and you could be featured in the next East Gate Edition!

“Click” us out on YouTube

Did you know that the Far East District's YouTube page is a great way to keep up with what the district is doing? What's new this month are spots on the Osan second runway project, Maj. Gen. Kendall Cox's visit to Korea, and the district's new STEM partnership with Seoul American High School. Plus, all of our previous posts are still there too. Visit the FED homepage and follow the link to YouTube or just scan the QR code below.

Scan me to connect with the Far East District's social media sites!



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YouTube



flickr



Have a question?
Have some feedback?
Want to share your ideas?

Please visit our Interactive Customer Evaluation (ICE) website at www.pof.usace.army.mil/home/ice and share your thoughts with us.

- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District, wants to hear from you.
- We value our customers and employees so we are always looking for more innovative ways to improve our business processes and services.
- As a customer you can provide feedback or ask a question to any of our divisions and offices.
- We will follow-up on your comments within five business days or sooner.



Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr.

사령관 코너

최고의 극동 공병단 팀과 모든 팀들에게,

이번 달 East Gate Edition을 읽어보시면 알 수 있듯이 3월 역시 전반적으로 매우 좋고 결실이 많은 한달이었습니다.

이 달에는 미 육군 공병대의 군사 및 국제 작전 부사령관이신 캔 콕스 소장님께서 한국을 방문하셨습니다. 이번이 소장님의 4번째 방문이며 다음과 같은 중요한 이유로 한국을 방문했습니다. 키리졸브 훈련을 위한 주한미군 상급 지휘관 세미나 참석, 미군기지이전계획 및 연합토지관리계획의 엄청난 노력을 검토, 최고의 공병단에 근무하는 직원들 포상 등입니다.

또한 소장님께서 공병단 직원들과도 시간을 보냈습니다. 험프리즈 부대에서 전체 직원 회의를 가졌으며 미 국방군 자녀 교육부-한국지부와 과학, 기술, 공학, 수학 (STEM) 파트너십을 맺었습니다.

소장님이 한국을 방문하여 교육감인 밀러 박사와 파트너십을 체결했다는 것은 프로그램의 중요성을 나타내고 있습니다. 우리 공병단은 지속적으로 STEM 프로그램을 지원하도록 하겠습니다.

STEM은 국가의 미래를 위한 투자입니다. 미 육군 공병감이신 보스틱 중장님께서 미국내 공학에 관해 놀라운 통계 수치에 대해 말씀하셨습니다. 중장님이 보내신 이메일에는 2008년 미국 대학 졸업생 100명 중 단 4명이 공학을 전공했다고 했습니다. 이 수치는 세계 최저이며 방글라데시, 캄보디아, 쿠바와 같은 14개의 나라만이 더 낮은 수치를 기록하고 있습니다. 러시아는 졸업생 100명 중 10명이 공학자입니다. 중국은 100명 중 31명이 공학자입니다.

과거에는 STEM분야에 부족한 인원을 미국 학생들이 아닌 외국 학생들이 채워 나갔지만, 인도 및 기타 국가의 경제성장을 볼 때 STEM전문가들이 더 이상 미국을 최고의 근무지로 생각하지 않고 있으므로 이제부터 우리도 우리들의 전문가들을 양성해야 합니다.

우리의 최고의 동맹에게 - 같이 갑시다!

우리의 최고의 공병단에게 - 에세이온!

한반도에 강한 건설을 수행하는 하나의 팀!



ATV

*You know how to
operate an ATV
safely, but does
your battle buddy?*



STANDARDS



TRAINING



DISCIPLINE

Training, Discipline and Standards

Training, discipline and standards are the bedrock of our Army, and as Soldiers, you've been taught what right looks like. As leaders, you have a duty and a responsibility to maintain standards in your formations. You also have an obligation to your Soldiers and their Families to manage risk and take action to correct problems. In our fight against accidental injuries and fatalities, knowledge is the weapon of choice.



ARMY STRONG:



<https://safety.army.mil>

