



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Far East District

EAST GATE **EDITION**



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Col. Green takes command of the Far East District

Story begins on page 4



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On the cover



Brig. Gen. Richard L. Stevens (left), Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pacific Ocean Division, passes the Engineer Colors to Col. Bryan Green, Far East District incoming Commander, during a ceremony July 11. (Photo by O Sang-song)



**Col. Green takes command
of the Far East District**



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Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr.

Commander's Corner

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

It is with a heavy heart that I pen my final column as the Commander of the Far East District! Changes of command are always bittersweet, and this one is no different. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time serving you as your commander, and this tour was the pinnacle of everything I've done in our U.S. Army.

When I was a junior captain, my mentor asked what I would choose as my perfect career path. I told him that it would be an honor to be able to command an airborne engineer company and battalion, and command an engineer district at the O-6 level. I am extremely honored to have accomplished this for our U.S. Army.

But I could not have accomplished any of these without the great Soldiers and Civilians working with me. The people who work with you, and for you, are so important, particularly here at the Far East District. If you take care of those People around you, those above you will recognize their hard work and concerns. Here in Korea we have a unique workforce, and a strong, capable, team here; a Great Team of Teams.

Our District offers everything of what it means to be part of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers team. Our Army Civilians, both American and Korean, and military personnel are the backbone of this District, and keep both of our countries' military forces in Korea standing tall and straight. It was truly an honor to command this great organization!

Donna and Dakota are already in New York City, but have said they already miss Korea. Having served here numerous tours now, I, too, will miss the warmth of the Korean people, the strength of our Alliance, and the importance of our mission here.

In closing, I hope and pray that you give Colonel Green the same great support you have given me. As you get ready to transition down to U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys in the next few years, I know that it will be a bittersweet time for everyone, but I hope to come back and see all of you in our brand new District Headquarters, still doing great things for our two nations!

To our great Alliance – Katchi Kapsida!

To our great Corps – Essayons!

One Team Building Strong® in Korea!



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Col. Green takes command of the Far East District

By Jason Chudy
FED Public Affairs

Col. Bryan S. Green relieved Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr., as commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District, July 11 on U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan, Republic of Korea.

The ceremony was presided over by Brig. Gen. Richard L. Stevens, commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Pacific Ocean Division.

Stevens spoke of the challenges and rewards of command, both to the incoming and outgoing commanders.

“Command remains perhaps the most significant achievement of an officer’s career,” said Stevens during his remarks. “It is the ultimate vote of confidence by one’s superior officers. It is a job of immense personal satisfaction, and at times unrelenting pressure.”

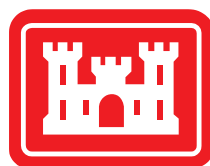


Col. Bryan S. Green

Stevens also spoke about the district’s history, and how the district is writing a new chapter. “The on-going construction in Pyeongtaek will result in the largest U.S. Army garrison in Asia, and will serve to powerfully shape the [Republic of Korea]-U.S. alliance of the future.

“Although concrete and rebar as the visible signs of this district’s hard work, it is the people who get the job done,” he explained. “All of this critical capability has been enabled by the expertise, the management skills, and passion of a highly skilled workforce of engineers, scientists and support staff who are the very heart and soul of the Far East District.”

Degidio, in his farewell remarks, also recognized the district’s personnel. “Our civilian corps, both American and Korean, and military personnel and contractors, are the backbone of this district, and keep both of our countries’ military forces in Korea standing tall and straight,” he said. “It was truly an honor to command this great organization.”



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

Degidio departs the district for New York City, where he will become deputy commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers North Atlantic Division.

Green arrived in Korea after commanding the 4th Engineer Battalion at Ft. Carson, Colo. During his remarks, he said the district’s work is another manifestation of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ role in building for both the U.S. military and the United States as a whole. “The history of the Corps of Engineers is the history of our nation,” he said. “This is an amazing legacy and we have an amazing crew to do it.”

The Far East District is one of four districts within the Pacific Ocean Division and one of 45 districts in the United

States Army Corps of Engineers.

With a multi-disciplined workforce of more than 750 Department of the Soldiers, Army Civilians, and Korean employees, the Far East District is the Department of Defense’s design and construction agent for the U.S. military in Korea.

The district is responsible for both U.S. and Republic of Korea funded projects on U.S. military installations throughout the peninsula, including an ongoing \$10.7 billion program at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys in Pyeongtaek. The district’s entire program budget is worth about \$15 billion.



Col. Bryan S. Green, Far East District incoming Commander makes remarks during a ceremony on U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan July 11. Brig. Gen. Richard L. Stevens, Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pacific Ocean Division; Col. Donald Degidio, outgoing Commander; Sgt. Maj. David Breitbart, and Jon Iwata, Deputy District Engineer, look on. (Photo by O Sang-song)

CONSTRUCTION DIVISION

Construction Division has been extremely busy since Col. Degidio took command. During his tenure, we saw many changes within the organization and changes to the landscape throughout Korea.

When Col. Degidio took command, we had 140 employees. Today we have almost 180 employees. When he took over, we were managing some 170 contracts worth \$1.9 billion. Today we are managing approximately 250 contracts worth in excess of \$2.6 billion. These are numbers that are all

tractor submittals, traveling thousands of miles, and inspecting jobsites.

We have completed and turned over to our customers many projects over the past two years, both large and small. At the Northern Resident Office, we completed the first ever elementary school at Camp Casey; a new commissary and a renovated aid station at K-16 Air Base.

At the Central Resident Office at Osan, we completed vital concrete launch facilities for the Patriot Battery stationed there. We also completed the new headquarters facility for the 35th

ground on the new hospital and dental clinic, and broke ground on the new elementary and high school. The new school will be available for use in August 2013.

At the Kunsan Resident Office we completed a new water treatment plant. Additionally we completed three phases of new maintenance facilities and a flight simulator building.

At the Southern Resident Office, we were able to complete a new high school. We also completed a motor pool facility and a bachelor enlisted quarters at Fleet Activities Chinhae; an adminis-



Yongpyong Vehicle Wash Facility (FED file photo)

time highs for construction in Korea.

The Quality Assurance Branch was able to increase its depth in civil, mechanical, and electrical engineers. Likewise, the Construction Services Branch maintained its strength levels during the past two years. During the past two years, the services branch has handled over 200 contract actions worth over \$125 million. The quality assurance branch provided value added by reviewing literally thousands of con-

Air Defense Artillery Brigade, a new hot cargo pad, and over \$10 million in noncommissioned officers dormitory improvements. We also completed the first phase of the hydrant refuel facilities and a new airfield management office and operations control tower for the air base.

At U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys, we continued to make progress on the Yongsan Relocation Plan. We completed a new aviation maintenance hangar and 210 units of family housing. We broke

trative building at Busan storage facility; and, a security forces building at the Marine Corps Camp Mujuk. At Camp Carroll, we completed a 300,000 square feet war reserve warehouse; a dining facility; a theater; and a health clinic.

The past two years under Col. Degidio's strong leadership have proved very productive. The entire Construction Division stands ready to tackle the challenges of the future as we "Build Korea Strong!"

PROGRAMS AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT

In the last two years, Programs and Project Management Division managed many significant design and construction projects. 222 construction projects worth over \$261 million were awarded. Breaking this down, \$91 million awards were Army, \$164 million were Air Force, \$3 million were Navy and \$3 million were Marine Corps projects. In addition, 189 projects were awarded for design with a programmed amount over \$800 million. The following are a few highlighted projects:

K-16 Commissary: At a cost of \$3.4 million, the construction was completed in April 2012. It provided

much needed relief and improved quality of life for the soldiers and the community who had to travel to Yongsan for their commissary needs.

Osan Radar Approach Control (RAPCON): The new Air Traffic Control Tower, Base Airfield Operations Facility and Radar Approach Control provide excellent visibility and control of the entire airfield to improve the air traffic safety and war

fighting capability.

Chinhae Fleet and Family Town Center: Chinhae will welcome the completion of the new facility in August 2013. This \$18 million facility included many essential community functions, such as bank, post office, exchange, commissary, family service center and training facility, for the sailors and their family stationed at this remote location.

Mujuk Security Forces Building: Completed in February 2012, this modern \$1.7 million facility provided much needed administrative space for the installation's security force.

Rodriguez Live Fire Complex Vehicle Wash Facility: Complete in July 2012, the \$7 million central vehicle wash facility provides heavy and light tracked and wheeled tactical vehicles for year round day and night use in all weather conditions immediately after completion of training exercises. Cleaned vehicles improve local community relationship as vehicles return to their home station.

Kunsan Distributed Mission Training Flight Simulator: The \$6.5 million project completed in February 2011 provides the Air Force a cost effective method to train their pilots and enhance war fighting capability.



K-16 Commissary (FED file photo)



Osan Radar Approach Control Airfield Operations and Air Traffic Control Tower (FED file photo)

Building Strong in Korea!

Col. Degidio takes command of the Far East District

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr. assumed command of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District from Col. Blair A. Schantz during a Change of Command Ceremony on U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan July 8.

Degidio is now the 32nd FED Commander and takes responsibility of a diverse workforce of nearly 500 employees. He will also command the U.S. design and construction agent for U.S. Forces Korea, serving all branches of the armed forces.

"It is truly an honor to assume the Engineer Colors and serve you," said Degidio. "The Far East District is here to serve and remain ready and relevant in a changing environment. If you can conceive it and believe it, the Far East

District can achieve it."

Previous to his assignment to FED, Degidio served as Deputy Garrison Commander for Transformation (Korea Region), Installation Management Command since 2010.

Degidio is from Providence, R. I. and received his commission as an engineer from The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina, in 1987. He holds a Master of Science Degree in Military and International Studies from the U.S. Marine Corps Command and General Staff College and a Masters in Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College.

Brig. Gen. Richard L. Stevens, Commander, USACE Pacific Ocean Division, hosted the ceremony during what was his first visit to Korea as he too had just recently



Emergency Essential and Mission Essential personnel stand in formation beside their military counterparts during a Change of Command ceremony for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan July 8. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Brig. Gen. Richard L. Stevens (center left), Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pacific Ocean Division, passes the Engineer Colors to Col. Donald E. Degidio, Far East District incoming Commander, during a ceremony on U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan July 8. Col. Blair A. Schantz (left), outgoing Commander, and Jon Iwata, Deputy District Engineer, look on. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

assumed command.

"Command is perhaps the most significant achievement of an officer's career," said Stevens. "It is the ultimate vote of confidence by one's superior officers. It is a job of immense personal satisfaction and, at times, unrelenting pressure."

Stevens welcomed Degidio as a commander and, at the same time, thanked Schantz for his unwavering commitment to FED and its mission.

"He (Schantz) leaves behind a legacy of service, dedication, and achievement few could equal," said Stevens. "But I can assure you he will never, never forget his pride in this organization and its people."

Schantz has overseen billions of dollars worth of construction projects during his time as commander, but beyond that monumental task he has lead USACE's only maneuver district through numerous contingency operations.

"The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has over 39,000 members in 45 districts around the world," said Schantz. "But there is only one maneuver district, only one enduring district that defends freedom, day in and day out, directly in harm's way."

During the change of command ceremony, for the first time ever, Emergency Essential and Mission Essential personnel stood in formation beside their military counterparts.

"We are unique," said Schantz. "We are one of the only organizations in Korea where U.S. civilians, Korean civilians, and U.S. military stand side by side to assist in the defense of the Korean Peninsula."

Stevens presented Schantz with the Meritorious Service Medal for his service as FED Commander from July 2009 to July 2011.

In closing, Schantz reminded all FED team members for one last time that "the most important project in the District is the one you're working on."



ENGINEERING DIVISION

The Far East District has designed and constructed military facilities on the Korean peninsula, partnering with local construction companies for 56 years. One of the biggest successes of the past few years was the establishment and growth of the use of local materials in the district's construction projects.

During most of the district's existence, construction was done using off-shore materials and equipment, as Korean products did not meet U.S. quality standards, U.S. life safety, and fire protection and anti-terrorism and force protection requirements.

In 2004, with acknowledgment of improvements in quality of local materials and equipment, both the Korean and U.S. governments agreed Korean materials and equipment should be used to the maximum extent possible on all base relocation projects.

With growing interest with the execution of Yongsan Relocation Plan, the Far East District established a joint local materials evaluation committee with the Ministry of National Defense U.S. Forces Korea Relocation Office.

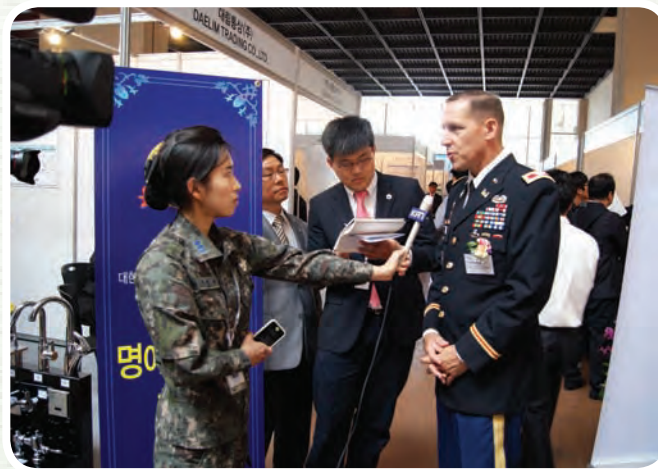
The committee reviews and validates local materials and equipment to ensure they meet U.S. quality standards and the district's specifications.

The local materials evaluation committee has been working closely with the MND Defense Installations Agency, district's construction contractors, and several local manufacturers to maximum the use of local materials.

Use of local construction materials and equipment reduces overall construction cost and tight project timelines. Readily-available local materials also make repair and maintenance easier, and much less expensive.

Since the establishment of the local material evaluation committee, more than 250 local construction materials have been reviewed, with 120 items validated and accepted by the committee.

Joint local materials conferences have been held since 2009, and the first local materials exhibit was held in conjunction with the conference first time on May 2012 and the second this May 7. There, 97 construction material items were displayed in 155 booths by 121 local construction material/equipment manufacturers.



The Far East District co-hosted local construction materials conferences with the Korea Ministry of National Defense. This conference helps local manufacturers improve their products to fit federal standards, saving construction costs, and reducing procurement time. (FED file photos)



KOREA PROGRAM RELOCATION

Since the summer of 2011 the Korea Programs Relocation Office team has been on the fast track with Land Partnership Plan and Yongsan Relocation Plan projects.

Twelve military construction projects were underway in early summer 2011. Nine were in construction, one was pending construction award and two were in design. By June 2013, construction had been completed and the facilities turned over for the nine projects valued at \$282 million and the remaining three were in construction (\$84 million). The completed projects included the 210 unit family housing towers, six 302 person barracks (each in four projects), and three vehicle maintenance facilities.

Also in mid-2011 the first phase of the senior leaders quarters was about 20 percent complete. These four structures consisting of 384 units valued at \$62 million were turned over to our customers in June and September 2012.

In June 2011, under the Yongsan Relocation Plan, there were only five projects in construction; three land development projects, the high school and elementary school at a total construction of \$425 million. There were also six projects for which the district was doing 100 percent design valued at over \$800

million. The design for the dental clinic had just been completed and the hospital was just past the 90 percent review stage.

During the same time, the district was working on 31 criteria packages and had recently turned over seven completed criteria packages, valued at about \$2.9 billion. One criteria package for the family housing towers had recently achieved 100 percent design. By June 2013 two projects, the parcel K land development and SPARTAN Site B, with total value of \$30 million were completed and turned over to our customer. There are 18 projects valued at \$1.38 billion in construction, including the elementary and high schools (\$82 million) which are nearing construction completion.

Of the remaining projects, six are in the construction acquisition stage (\$398 million), 29 are in detailed design stage valued at \$1.58 billion. Another four projects valued at \$146 million are with Ministry of U.S. Forces Korea Relocation Office for design acquisition, and four projects valued at \$228 million are in the criteria package development stage with the district. The Yongsan plan workload has grown for 50 packages/projects in 2011 to 63 in 2013.

Republic of Korea-funded construction and Republic of Korea-funded

construction in-kind which are generally considered part of the Land Partnership Plan, continued to move forward.

Under Republic of Korea-funded construction in June 2011 we had the following: eight projects under construction and one in design. Three of the projects in construction valued at \$76 million have been completed, including two vehicle maintenance facilities (complexes) and the parcel 1 land development. As of June 2013, there are six projects in construction valued at \$540 million and four in design valued at \$192 million.

Under Republic of Korea-funded construction in-kind in June 2011 there were six projects in construction and 16 projects in design. Of the projects in construction, two projects valued at \$75 million have been completed and turned over; an aircraft intermediate maintenance hangar and vehicle maintenance facility complex. As of June 2013 there are 18 projects valued at \$597 million in construction and 19 projects valued at \$583 million in design.

The Korea Programs Relocation office team continues to move forward with professionalism as we work toward completion of this bilateral \$12.3 billion construction effort.



Fly-over view of construction sites at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys June 2013. (U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys Flickr photo)

RENEWING OUR COMMITMENT TO OUR CUSTOMERS

In the month of February the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District has renewed its commitment to customers, stakeholders and the community. The District supports and takes care of customers by providing planning, technical engineering, design and construction management services in armistice, crisis, and contingency operations. The District's commitment to readiness

is paramount; FED stands ready to support our customers here within this theater of operations.

We are a Great Engineer District Team of Professional People who remain Transparent, Timely, and Trustful to our Great Customers while Building Strong in Korea.

Here are just a few of the great customers we serve.

Gen. James D. Thurman UNC/CFC/USFK

Gen. James D. Thurman is the Commander of the United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command, and U.S. Forces Korea. The overall mission of this successive command is to defend the Republic of Korea against external aggression and to maintain stability in East Asia.

Thurman leads trained and ready joint, combined forces capable of deterring external aggression and defending the Korean peninsula while strengthening the ROK-U.S. alliance, maintaining the Military Armistice in Korea, and conduct operations in accordance with Strategic Alliance 2015.

The Far East District supports UNC, CFC, USFK and



Gen. James D. Thurman

its subordinate elements by providing planning, technical engineering, design, and construction management services across the full spectrum of operations—Armistice, Crisis, and Contingency.

Maj. Gen. Brian Bishop Deputy Chief of Staff, United Nations Command

Maj. Gen. Brian T. Bishop is Deputy Chief of Staff for the United Nations Command and U.S. Forces Korea. He also serves as the U.S. member of the UNC Military Armistice Commission leading general officer talks between UNC and the North Korean Army.



Maj. Gen. Brian Bishop



Debra Zedalis

Debra Zedalis Director, IMCOM-P

Debra Zedalis was promoted to Senior Executive Service and assumed position of Director, Installation Management Command, Pacific Region (IMCOM-Pacific) in June 2007. As Director of IMCOM-Pacific, she is responsible for installation management activities in the Pacific Region which includes Korea.

IMCOM-Pacific operations include management of active and reserve component installations providing support for approximately 180,000 Soldiers, family members, retirees, and civilians.

Being that IMCOM-Pacific is responsible for all U.S. Army installations throughout Korea, FED works very close with our partners in IMCOM which constitutes the majority of our work.



Lt. Gen. John D. Johnson, 8th U.S. Army Commander

8th U.S. Army

The 8th U.S. Army deters aggression against the Republic of Korea. Should deterrence fail, Eighth Army leads Non-combatant Evacuation Operations, and generates combat power for USFK/UNC/CFC decisive operations in the Korea Theater of Operations.

The 8th Army will transition to be America's premier combat force on the land mass of Asia, prepared to Fight Tonight.



Col. Scott Pleus, 8th Fighter Wing Commander

8th Fighter Wing

The mission of 8th Fighter Wing is exciting, challenging and clear... deter, protect and defend the Republic of Korea. FED currently is engaged in active construction projects on Kunsan Air Base and stands ready to serve anywhere the 8th Fighter Wing may need our services.

EAST GATE EDITION

CONTRACTING DIVISION

In the fiscal year 2012 the Contracting Division was focused on Contract No. W912UM-07-D-0012 for the program management of the Yongsan Relocation Plan, and the 2nd Infantry Division Land Partnership Plan, which expired on November 6, 2012; continued services with the Kunwon-CH2M Hill Program Management Consortium (K-C PMC) were required to successfully execute the program.

K-C PMC is responsible for the full program scope of services on projects within the YRP and LPP to collectively manage and integrate both the United States and Republic

of Korea component requirements and fiscal obligations of the YRP/LPP relocation efforts. There would have been a tremendous impact to the program if the K-C PMC contract was not extended; the YRP/LPP program delay was estimated at \$1 million per day. After the sole source justification was approved by the director, National Contracting Organization, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, negotiations with the ROK government began to establish a mutual agreed upon position, before negotiating with K-C PMC. With the Far East District commander's assistance, the PMC contract extension was successfully executed.

Contract Award Data			
Contract Type	Dollar Value (Millions)		
	FY11	FY12	FY13 (3rd Quarter)
Construction	\$161	\$162	\$131
Architech-Engineer	\$48	\$64	\$15
Supply/Service	\$24	\$16	\$2
K-C PMC Cost Plus Fixed Fee Contract	\$16	\$18	\$19
Total	\$249	\$260	\$167

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

The Resource Management Office successfully directed the development of a balance Fiscal Year 2012 and Fiscal Year 2013 budgets with a workload/income of \$663.7 million/\$65.1 million and \$802.2 million/\$83.9 million respectively.

Our end strength increased 64 positions between September 30, 2011, and May 31, 2013, to meet the surge in Yongsan Relocation Plan workload.

The Resource Management continued to communicate with the commander and leaders on the importance of a balance budget, operating in an efficient, effective, and accounting manner, promoted efficient spending by publishing a commander policy on reasonable accommodation while on temporary quarters subsistence allowance and temporary duty, and maintaining or reducing general and administrative staffing level until workload increase.

The Resource Management implemented the corporate shareholder financial update to provide timely financial

information on program and budget execution to ensure stakeholder's commitment to enhance the command culture of fiscal integrity and revitalize financial responsibility throughout the organization on the execution of our limited resources.

The goal was to have each division/office chief engaged to ensure efficient and effective management of costs, execute appropriate cost controls, and manage costs to operating budget for fiscal stewardship, prudent spending, and accurate/proper accountability of the limited taxpayer and customer funds.

In addition, we provided timely and accurate information to the commander and district staff elements regarding chief financial officer monthly and quarterly status. We reviewed, analyzed, interpreted, and presented status and maintained emphasis on all chief financial office changes to ensure compliance.



Building Strong in Korea!

Col. Degidio receives a Korean name: Jeon Taek-Hee

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr., Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District, was conferred with a Korean name May 10 during a ceremony at the Korea Ministry of National Defense.

Suh Jin-Sup, Chairman of the ROK-U.S. Alliance Friendship Association, conferred Degidio with the name Jeon Taek-hee. The family name Jeon rhymes with Degidio's shortened first name, Don. Taek-Hee translates as "Shining House."

"As we move forward with the Yongsan and Korea Relocations Plans, I give you my personal assurance that all of our projects will be 'Shining Houses' that will stand strong just as our great Alliance has stood strong for over 60 years," said Degidio.

전
택
희



...all of our projects will be "Shining Houses."
-- Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr.

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The name is significant as the FED Commander has oversight of the relocation construction at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys which will be the new home for most of U.S. Forces Korea.

"Today, a Korean name is given to Col. Degidio with hopes of his support and contribution to the success of USFK relocation," said Suh. "I have no doubt that all of the attendees of this ceremony will take the lead on strengthening the Alliance between the Republic of Korea and the U.S."

Suh then presented Degidio with a scroll with "Jeon Taek-Hee" written in Hanja, traditional Korean characters similar to Chinese.

The bestowal of a Korean name is an important part of Korea's history and dynamic cultural heritage.

"Our country believes one's name serves as the indicator of life," said Brig. Gen. Kwon Tae-Hwan, Director General of MND USFK Relocation Office (MURO) Business Management Bureau. "From now on Col. Jeon Taek-Hee will contribute to the ROK-U.S. Alliance and to the

advancement and friendship of the engineers of both countries."

To strengthen the Alliance, the ROK-U.S. Alliance Friendship Association has bestowed Korean names on many American leaders. U.S. President, Barack Obama was given the name "O Han-Ma." U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton was named "Han Hui-Sook." Gen. Walton H. Walker, former Eight U.S. Army Commander, who died during the Korean War, was named "Gu Wung-Su."

Not only has the association conferred Korean names but also built statues of former U.S. commanders. To commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Korean War the association donated a statue of Gen. Walker for display outside of the Eighth U.S. Army Headquarters on USAG Yongsan.

Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr., Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District, and Suh Jin-Sup, Chairman of the Republic of Korea-U.S. Alliance Friendship Society hold a scroll with Degidio's new Korean name May 10. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



LOGISTICS MANAGEMENT

Over the past two years Logistics Management has supported many distinguished visitors, driven many miles, recovered broken vehicles, provided supplies, repaired facilities, assisted office moves and setting up for special events, and passed numerous inspections.

We have consistently received praise and accolades on the support we provide, and learn from an occasional mistake. But at the end of the day it is the people that make the Logistics Management Office successful, and these are some of those people.

We have welcomed Kwon, Po-song; Pak, Si-song; Christopher Shane; Daryl Woodfield; James Hightower and Sgt. Maria Capobianco to our team, and bid farewell to Chang, Sok-wan; Bill Baker; and Kim, Yong-kyun; as they retired from federal service and moved onto the next phase of their lives.

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Susan Bostick, Staff Sgt. Jason Robinson, and Staff Sgt. Edward Forbes completed their short tours with the district and moved on to other assignments in the U.S. Army. Yim, Yong-sik and Song, Chin-u saw well-deserved promotions and continue to improve the motor pool and transportation operations.

We celebrated births in the families of Pak, Si-song and Daryl Woodfield, and the children of Jason Choi, Young Choo, and Ed Minnerly graduated high school and pursued their dreams by going to colleges in the United States.

On the contingency side, LMO participated in Combined Forces Command/U.S. Forces Korea exercises Key Resolve and Ulchi Freedom Guardian, and supported numerous augmentees and participants.

Jason Choi deployed to Afghanistan and was involved in process design/re-engineering, lean six-sigma, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers quality management system, quality control, and logistics programs. Young Choo deployed to Afghanistan where she further deployed to forward operating bases to conduct 100 percent accountability of 10,000 line items and re-established accountability of \$1.4 million worth of property.

We continued to develop personally and professionally. Chong Hyong-kun completed a college degree and the motor pool partnered with Hyundai and General Motors of Korea to learn the latest information to maintain our new Sonata and Chevrolet Malibu sedans, and Carmen of Korea for our new test and diagnostic equipment.

Daryl Woodfield was accepted into the district's Leadership Development Program Level 2 program and Ed Minnerly into the Pacific Ocean Division Leadership Development Program Level 3 program.

Christopher Shane was accepted into a graduate school

in France and departs in August 2013 to follow his dreams and opportunities.

LMO continued to excel in inspections. The arms room received outstanding compliance ratings in safety and security and the Transportation Branch continued receiving outstanding reports for environmental compliance and their training in areas of emergency spill response, hazardous communications, material data safety sheets, and the environmental management system. In August 2011, the Corps of Engineers Director of Logistics rated Logistics Management outstanding during the command logistics review program visit in 2011 and noted several areas as models for others to follow.

LMO also received positive comments during international organization for standardization external audits.



INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

So much has happened in the Information Management Office over the last two years under the leadership and tutelage of Col. Degidio. Some of the major accomplishments were:

We stood-up a new data center for the district which increased our data storage capacity from 12 terabits to over 120 terabits while allowing true continuity of operation where none existed before.

Using the "state of the art" virtualization technology, the district was able to reduce our server count from 62 physical servers to ten virtual servers. The new configuration enabled the IMO to avoid costs by reducing the hardware/software footprint in the district and projects offices throughout the Korean area of responsibility. We enhanced our failover capability and were able to offer a much higher availability of our critical applications and information technology systems.

To increase security on our networks and systems, the district IMO successfully completed a defense information assurance capability. This action will provide increased situational awareness for the commander and allow us to monitor, detect and respond to information assurance incidents and actions.

Video teleconferencing – Upgraded the infrastructure technology and enabled the district to communicate with all districts and offices. In addition, this new video teleconferencing capability allowed the project managers to reach even

their remote sites via the personal computer.

With the help of our knowledge management expert, we were able to automate a few much needed enhancements to contracting division timesheets and calendaring applications. These initiatives were in line with the president of the United States order of paper reduction act.

By upgrading our SharePoint servers we were able to implement video sharing through SharePoint that allowed district employees to view training from any location within the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers network. In addition, we enhanced our information sharing and dissemination capability throughout the district and USACE with this upgrade.

Successfully supported Pacific Ocean Division and the district missions during multiple U.S. Forces Korea exercises (Key Resolve 11 and 12, and Ulchi Freedom Guardian 11 and 12) by installing secure, coalition and command and control networks and systems for the commander. He was able to provide engineering situation awareness to the battlefield commanders and ensured his command and control with the districts also.

Completed the International Organization for Standardization 9001 audit, laying the foundation for the district to integrate into the Army Corps of Engineers-Information Technology enterprise and enable a more effective quality management system for the district and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.



Far East District Welcomes 53RD CHIEF OF ENGINEERS

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

The Far East District welcomed Lt. Gen. Thomas P. Bostick, commanding general of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Chief of Engineers, on his first visit to Korea July 16-17.

Bostick became the 53rd U.S. Army Chief of Engineers when he assumed command May 22. Since then he has spent the past seven weeks on the road touring the various districts and their projects and meeting a workforce of about 600 Soldiers and more than 37,000 civilians.

Even though Korea was his next stop, Bostick prioritized this visit due to the multi-billion dollar Yongsan Relocation and Land Partnership Plans, currently USACE's largest project. The two plans are bilateral agreements between the Republic of Korea and the U.S. to consolidate U.S. Forces which are currently spread out over the peninsula. The majority of U.S. Forces will relocate to U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys in Pyeongtaek, about 40 miles south of Seoul, by 2016. He also focused on the U.S. strategic shift to the Asia-Pacific region.

"As we look to the future, this is going to continue to be a very important part of the world. We've already pulled out of Iraq, we're pulling out of Afghanistan, and we're already starting to see a lot of the focus to the Far East," said Bostick. "It is pivotal that we are successful in this region. So we are going to put all of our energy into this effort."

Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr., FED commander, escorted Bostick throughout his visit.

"Lt. Gen. Bostick recognized the superlative actions of the District and the strategic impact the engineers are having regarding the multi-billion dollar transformation effort," said Degidio. "The district is partaking in a tremendous transformation effort, especially within the YRP and LPP framework."

Bostick was given a helicopter July 17 of the expansion project at Humphreys. The aerial tour is the only way to fully understand first-hand the magnitude of the scope of work being done to improve and expand the existing installation.

During the tour Greg Reiff, area engineer for the district's Humphreys Area Office, briefed Bostick on the installation's expansion, the progress of some of the projects, and some of the challenges FED has overcome to get to where it is today.

Continued on page 10.



Lt. Gen. Thomas Bostick, Chief of U.S. Army Engineers and Commanding General of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, meets with Vice Minister of National Defense Lee Young-geol July 17 during Bostick's visit to the Republic of Korea July 16-17. During his two-day visit, Bostick met with U.S. and Korean military officials and toured the multi-billion dollar construction project at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys, about 40 miles south of Seoul. Bostick's visit to the Corps of Engineers Far East District in Korea was his first overseas district visit since assuming command May 22. The Corps of Engineers has about 37,600 military and civilian personnel providing project management and construction support in more than 100 countries. (Photo by Jason Chudy)

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Lt. Gen. Thomas Bostick, the Chief of U.S. Army Engineers and Commanding General of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, speaks to members of the Far East District in Seoul July 16. This was his first visit to the Republic of Korea since assuming command May 22. (Photos by Patrick Bray)

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SECURITY, PLANS AND OPERATIONS

The Far East District is designated as the design and construction agent in the Republic of Korea for the Department of Defense during armistice, crisis and contingency and is an integral part of the U.S. Forces Korea deterrence team as well as a force multiplier for the Pacific Ocean Division contingency response.

The last two years we continued to prepare to mobilize and deploy tailored district contingency response teams in support of U.S. Forces Korea, U.S. Pacific Command and/or the national response plan during civil, man-made, natural disaster, crisis, and full spectrum military contingencies operations.

Security, Plans and Operations, designated as the primary office of responsibility, ensured the district met and maintained a state of preparation and readiness.

Our current office and staffing are based on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers district crisis response organization model and consists of three functional areas: security/operations protection, current operations, and the plans and readiness section.

We executed continuous analysis of significant external and internal events that impacted operations, plans, and readiness. This current proven model is staffed with:

- Tough-resilient-capable and ready personnel
- Personnel who believe in what we do – even when others do not
- Personnel who can face tough challenges
- A supervisor who is proud of each staff member and is honored to have led them during Fiscal Year 2011 through Fiscal Year 2013!

“Fight Tonight” Readiness: Though we cannot be certain where or when our district employees and teams will deploy, or what impacts tomorrow’s enemies, terrorists or civil disasters will have on the district, understanding our readiness programs, being prepared, and managing customer expectations are fundamental in reducing risk and vulnerabilities.

We have trained on contingency tasks using Key Resolve, Ulchi Freedom Guardian, and non-combatant evacuation

exercises as tools to sustain and meet individual and collective training requirements. We integrated our ROK counterparts into our exercise and training programs. We are one team – one fight!

Our Workforce: The district expeditionary workforce is a 200-person, pre-identified, organized, trained, and equipped team of civilians who can provide a full spectrum of technical engineer services and support during contingency operations. Personnel and teams have trained and/or prepared to support the following contingency functions:

- District Engineer Mission Command
- Force Protection/Security Team
- Contingency Project Manage
- Technical Engineer C2 & Expeditionary Design Team
- Resource Management/Contracting Team
- Field Engineer Support Team
- Environment Support Team
- Logistics Support Team
- Intermediate Staging Base and Team
- CONOPS Resident/Project Offices
- General Civil Disaster Response Team



OFFICE OF COUNSEL

Under Col. Degidio’s leadership over the past two years, Office of Counsel provided important legal advice in support of the district’s mission. We appreciate his dedication to accomplishing our mission in the “right” way. He sought, considered, and followed legal advice. From a legal standpoint the most significant accomplishment of the past two years was the successful negotiation and award of the Program Management Consortium contract in November 2012. Counsel provided legal advice which resulted in approval by Director of the National Contracting Organization of a Justification and Authorization to extend the PMC contract. The award of this contract was a major factor in allowing the Yongsan Relocation Plan/Land Partnership Plan to proceed. Counsel was involved in several other significant legal actions during Col. Degidio’s command. We maintained close liaison with the U.S. Forces Korea Judge Advocate participating in USFK-Republic of Korea discussions on an Implementing Agreement for the ROK-funded construction in-kind program. Counsel also assisted in drafting procedures enabling the use of an Irrevocable Letter of Credit by the

ROK government in satisfying YRP funding requirements for U.S. constructed security facilities. The ILOC procedures have been approved and are contributing to the processing of procurement actions for several key YRP/LPP projects. Counsel also provided legal advice which enabled crucial contracts such as PMC and Land Development Utilities Infrastructure contracts implementing YRP and the LPP to continue forward.

Counsel gave legal advice which was instrumental in the successful construction of the Phase 2 Build-to-Lease Senior Leaders Quarters at Humphreys Garrison. Counsel also provided important fiscal law advice which ensured proper expenditure of Host Nation Planning and Design funds in support of LPP projects and the U.S. funding of SCIFS in YRP facilities. Counsel also provided legal advice on several significant personnel actions including Merit Systems Protection Board and Equal Employment Opportunity complaints and grievances. It has been a very successful two years and we thank Col. Degidio for his superb, energetic, and caring leadership as the FED commander.



Building Strong in Korea!

FAR EAST DISTRICT COMPLETES "SUPER HANGAR"

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs



"This hangar is a symbol of readiness in our ability to 'fight tonight,' which is our hallmark."

—Gen. James D. Thurman, Commander, United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command, U.S. Forces Korea



EAST GATE
EDITION



Gen. James D. Thurman, Commander, United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command, and U.S. Forces Korea addresses an audience at the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new "Super Hangar" at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys Nov. 19. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

The 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade cut the ribbon on a new aircraft hangar Nov. 19 recently completed at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District.

The facility houses the 3-2 General Support Aviation Battalion and the Aviation Intermediate Maintenance Company from the 602nd Aviation Support Battalion. Because of its size, the 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade nicknamed the 180,000 square-foot facility the "Super Hangar."

The ceremony was attended by Gen. James D. Thurman, Commander, United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command, and U.S. Forces Korea, along with Maj. Gen. Edward C. Cardon, commanding general of the 2nd Infantry Division.

"This hangar is a symbol of readiness in our ability to fight tonight which is our hallmark," said Thurman.

The 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade was relocated to USAG Humphreys in 2006 as part of the Land Partnership Plan which will consolidate elements of the 2nd Infantry Division at USAG Humphreys.

For the Korea relocation program, the completion of the hangar is a big step forward. The new facility cleared the way for six outdated hangars to be demolished making way for redevelopment of the existing garrison. These old hangars stand on the foot print of Humphreys' new downtown area. (Read more on page 11)

(Opposite page) Gen. James D. Thurman (second from right), Commander, United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command, and U.S. Forces Korea, along with Command Sgt. Maj. Anthony Mahoney (left), USFK Command Sgt. Maj., Maj. Gen. Edward C. Cardon (second from left), commanding general of the 2nd Infantry Division, Maj. Gen. Chung Ju-gyo (third from left), Ministry of National Defense - Defense Installations Agency, and Yoo Kwang-jae (far right), president of POSCO Engineering, cut the ribbon for the new "Super Hangar" at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys Nov. 19. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

NOVEMBER
N2012

SAFETY AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

In 1933 each division engineer was charged to “organize a safety section in his office and direct and supervise the establishment of a safety section in each district in his division.” The directive firmly established the mission of these safety sections was to advise the Commander and his staff in preventing employee accidents and sickness while placing the responsibility to identify hazards and unsafe practices on all leaders and workers.

The Army Readiness Assessment Program survey occurs twice during a commander’s tour, within 90 days of assuming command and at the tour midpoint. The ARAP focuses on five key areas of the command’s safety climate and culture: process auditing, reward systems, quality control, risk management, and command and control. The results of the ARAP assist the commander and the Safety Office in prioritizing safety tasks and efforts. The district’s ARAP results consistently show a high level of Soldier and Civilian confidence in the Command Safety Program and reinforce our commitment to Building Safety Strong in the Republic of Korea.

Staff Assistance. In keeping with the 1933 charter, safety assistance visits are designed to identify strengths, weaknesses, and “aid the employees in charge of work by

pointing out hazards and unsafe practices. Safety inspectors should give no direct orders.” As the command’s safety advisors, the Safety Office visits each resident office quarterly to review the incorporation of process safety management into contract administration and construction oversight and provide guidance on improving contractor safety performance. The Safety Office also annually visits each district facility to ensure each district Soldier and civilian employee has a safe and healthful working environment that is free from recognized hazards.

Safety and Occupational Health Training and Awareness. Education, coaching, and practice are the primary tools we have available to build safety awareness. To bridge the cultural and communication gap between the United States and the Republic of Korea, we give USACE-specific safety training to both the Ministry of Defense – Defense Installations Agency and host nation contractor leaders, managers, and supervisors. To keep our USACE team on the cutting edge, we sponsor and provide focused training and awareness opportunities and participate in district functions that spotlight both safety and health such as the annual district organization day.



Col. Donald E. Degidio, FED Commander gets a blood pressure check during the FED organization day 2012. (FED file photo)

UNION SPOTLIGHT

Memories of Col. Degidio

Two years have gone by so fast since the July 8th when we first welcomed Col. Degidio, and again we are preparing to welcome the new commander. The Korean National Employees Union has enjoyed our time with Col. Degidio, and regret that our time together was short, but will always be reminded of the things he had done during his time with us.

During his first day as a commander, after the change of command ceremony, he requested a face-to-face meeting with the union representative, which was surprising to me. During that meeting he talked about how 50 percent of Far East District’s workforce is Korean nationals, and are core members of the district team.

As such, he emphasized that our cooperation is the key to our district’s success, and as commander he believed that maintaining good relationships is the key for an organization to succeed. He also promised to show passion and support for the union, and if there were problems, we are always more than welcome to approach him and talk to him to find a solution. I still have vivid memories of this meeting. Thank you, Col. Degidio for putting your words into action.

For example,

1. On August 3, 2011, not even a month after he arrived, he was still busy getting adjusted in his office, but he requested all members of the union to meet in front of the flag pole. There he recognized union members and presenting command coins for their dedication.

2. He encouraged employees to always work hard and complete their mission, and as a token of appreciation, rewarded us with 59 minutes off on some special days.

3. He attended annual union representative meetings and team building events to converse with members, making an effort to be united with the employees through open communication.

4. Showed infinite trust to the union and fully supported issues that were raised.

5. To further develop labor relationship regular meetings were scheduled, and on May 28, 2013, during his farewell dinner, as he spoke of experiences he had while serving as commander in the district, there were tears in his eyes that moved us deeply, and even got us teary. Lastly he talked about the plans for the back gate turn style and how he tried to keep his word even until the last minute was very moving.

Col. Degidio always strongly emphasized consideration for others and said that through good relationship one organization as a team can fulfill our mission and satisfy customers. This not only applies to our district, but to every other district and division in the world.

Although he is leaving us after his short two-year tour, we will always cherish the time we had together with him, and which will remain in our memory, never to be forgotten.



Members of the Far East District Korean National Employees Union pose for a group picture with Col. Don Degidio, FED Commander, August 2011. (Photo by Yo Kyong-il)

U.S. Forces Korea Commander visits Far East District



By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

Gen. James D. Thurman, Commander, United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command, and U.S. Forces Korea, made his first visit to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District in Seoul Nov. 13 and an active FED construction project at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys Nov. 19.

Thurman visited the Far East District to learn more about the District's mission, Korea transformation, and to show the importance of the USFK commander visiting the U.S. military units in Korea.

One of the highlights of the visit was a briefing by Pat Crays, chief of FED Security, Plans, and Operations, where Crays showed Thurman some of the District's contingency capabilities and where FED stands in U.S. Forces Korea's "Fight Tonight" mission.

"Thank you to all the emergency essential and mission essential civilians," said Thurman. "The Corps of Engineers has been here to support contingency operations."

Thurman later recognized several District employees including Harry Kim during a Castle Call. Kim recently retired after 54 years of service to the U.S. Government.

"Every day I learn something and coming here to FED I've learned more about what you do. Thank you for all that you do," said Thurman.

Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr., commander of the Far East District, presented Thurman with the shovel which he used to break ground on the Humphreys elementary and high school, the first vertical project under the Yongsan Relocation Plan which began over a year ago.

The next week, Nov. 13, Degidio gave Thurman a briefing on the status of the school project along with a full construction update from the 12th floor of the new Army Family Housing towers. From there, Thurman had good visibility of the six barracks and the four senior leaders' quarters on the new land which have already been completed and handed over to the garrison.

This was also Thurman's first visit to the Army Family Housing towers which are near completion. He toured the completed dwellings, the underground parking garage, and the outdoor playground.

Gen. James D. Thurman, Commander, United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command, and U.S. Forces Korea addresses members of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District during his visit to the FED Compound. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Gen. James D. Thurman (left), Commander, United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command, and U.S. Forces Korea and Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr., Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District look at Field Force Engineering displays set up at the FED Compound. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



NOVEMBER
2012

UNION SPOTLIGHT

이임하시는 디지디오 단장님에 대한 추억

디지디오 극동공병단장님을 맞이한 2011년 7월 8일부터 2년이란 세월은 유수와 같이 흘러, 다시 신임 단장님을 맞게되었습니다. 한국인 노조 극동공병분회는 디지디오 단장님과 함께한 시간이 무척 편안하고 즐거웠으며 너무 짧았다는 아쉬움이 있고 다음과 같은 지난 일이 떠오릅니다.

취임 첫날 취임식 마치고 사무실로 오시어 바로 노조 분회장을 면담하시자는데 분회장인 저는 깜짝 놀랐습니다. 첫 대면에서 극동공병단은 한국인 직원이 50%가 넘게 구성되어 있으며 전반적인 실무를 담당하는 핵심 구성원이니 한국인 직원의 절대적 협조가 극동공병단 성공의 열쇠라는 것을 강조하시며 본인은 원만한 인간관계가 사업을 성공으로 이끄는 열쇠라고 확신한다고 강조하신 후, 앞으로 노조에 많은 애정과 지원을 하겠으니 어려움이 닥치면 언제든지 상의하고 해결방안을 찾아보시자고 말씀하신 것이 지금도 생생히 남아있으며, 또 실천하신 것에 대해 감사히 생각합니다.

예를 들자면,

1. 바쁜 업무과약 중 취임 한달도 되지 않은 2011년 8월 3일, 극동공병노조원 전원을 보시자는 요청에 국기 게양대 앞에서 모임을 가졌으며 노조활동에 헌신한 분회원들에게 코인을 직접 주시었던 것

2. 또한 직원들이 항상 성실히 일하며 맡은 임무를 성공적으로 완수함을 격려하시고 감사의 표시로 59분 휴식을 아낌없이 주신 것

3. 극동공병분회가 매년 주최하는 정기 대의원 대회와 야유회에 꼭 참석하시어 직접 노조 대의원 또는 분회원과 담소를 나누시며 격의없는 소통을 통해 직원들과 일체감을 이루시려고 노력하시는 모습

4. 노조에 무한한 신뢰를 주시며

노조에서 건의한 극동공병단 내의 여러 안전에 전폭적으로 지원해 주신 일들

5. 노사관계를 한층 더 발전시키기 위한 노조와의 정기적인 면담 등이 있으며, 지난 2013년 5월 28일 노조집행부와 송별회식에서 단장님 재임기간 중에 있었던 일화를 말씀하시며 눈물을 글썽이시는 모습이 저희들에게도 진한 감동과 함께 눈시울을 적시게 만드셨습니다. 그리고 말씀 끝부분에 후문 게이트에 대한 언급을 한번 더 하시고 약속을 반드시 지키려고 하는 모습이 너무도 좋았습니다.

디지디오 단장님이 늘 강조하신 인간 배려, 좋은 관계를 통하여 하나의 조직으로 임무를 성공적으로 완수하여 고객을 만족시킨다는 말씀은, 저희 극동공병단뿐만 아니라, 전세계 모든 분야에 해당된다고 사려됩니다.

비록 2년의 짧은 임기를 마치고 떠나시지만 훌륭한 단장님과 함께한 즐거운 시간은 영원히 저희 노조의 기억 속에서 사라지지 않을 것입니다.



The Far East District Korean National Employees Union members and their families go on a rafting trip to Naerincheon, Kangwondo for team building, June 15. (Photo by Yo Kyong-Il)



Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr.

사령관 코너

최고의 극동 공병단 팀과 모든 팀들에게,

미 육군 극동공병단 사령관으로써 무거운 마음으로 마지막 사령관 컬럼을 작성합니다. 이취임식 행사는 항상 시원섭섭하며 이번 이취임식 역시 다르지 않을거라 생각합니다. 극동공병단 사령관으로 매우 즐거운 시간을 보냈으며 이번 복무는 제가 지금까지 미 육군에서 수행했던 임무 중 절정이라고 할 수 있습니다.

대위로 복무하던 시절 저의 선임께서 제가 생각하는 완벽한 직업 경로에 대해 물었습니다. 저는 당시 공수 공병 부대와 대대 지휘 및 대령 신분으로 공병단 사령관으로 복무하게 된다면 영광이라고 했습니다.

하지만 이 모든 업적은 좋은 군인과 군무원 없이는 이루지 못했을 것입니다. 특히 우리 공병단에서는 여러분과 함께 일하는 직장 동료, 여러분을 위해서 일하시는 분들 모두 매우 중요합니다. 여러분 주변에 있는 사람들을 챙기신다면 관리자들은 그들의 노고와 근심을 알아줄 것입니다. 우리 공병단은 독특한 조직원들로 구성되어 있으며 강하고 능력있는 팀입니다; 팀들 중 최고의 팀입니다.

우리 공병단은 미 육군 공병대 팀의 일원으로 제공되는 모든 것을 누릴 수 있습니다. 공병단에 근무하시는 한국 또는 미국 군무원 및 군인은 모두 우리 공병단에서 중추적인 역할을 하고 있으며, 한국에 배치된 양국 군사들이 우뚝 설 수 있도록 해줍니다. 이렇게 위대한 조직을 지휘할 수 있어 큰 영광이었습니다.

저의 아내 도나와 아들 다코타는 뉴욕에 도착했지만 벌써 한국이 그리다고 합니다. 한국에서 몇 차례 복무를 한 저 역시 한국사람들의 따뜻함, 강한 동맹, 그리고 우리 임무의 중요성을 그리워할 것입니다.

끝으로 새로 부임하실 그린 사령관에게도 저에게 보내주셨던 것과 마찬가지로 큰 지원을 부탁드립니다. 앞으로 몇 년 간 이어질 험프리스 부대 이전 준비 기간은 모두에게 시원섭섭한 시간이 될 것이라 생각하지만, 제가 다시 여러분을 뵈었을 땐 여러분 모두 새로운 공병단 본부에서 양국을 위해 훌륭한 일을 계속 수행하고 계실 것이라 생각합니다!

우리의 최고의 동맹에게 - 같이 갑시다!

우리의 최고의 공병단에게 - 에세이온!

한반도에 강한 건설을 수행하는 하나의 팀!





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

COL DONALD E. DEGIDIO, JR.

8 JULY 2011 TO 11 JULY 2013

