



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
Far East District

# EAST GATE EDITION

OCTOBER 2014 VOL. 23, NO. 12

## FED Leadership Workshop: “Let’s Keep Talking”

By Maria Lee

FED Corporate Communication Specialist

If there is one take away from the FED Leadership Workshop, it is to get employees to talk to each other more. If you are reading this, I hope when you finish you will tell your co-workers about it. Or better yet, go find someone you met at the workshop and continue one of the discussions you had in your small groups.

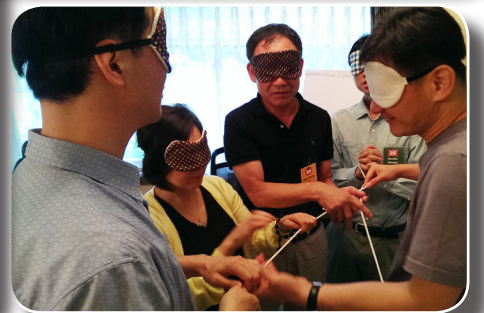
We discussed our district vision quite a bit throughout the workshop and the values nested within it. We talked about what it means to be

trusted, forthright, focused, professional and proud. We also shared with each other some challenges we face with those values. In some sessions, our values developed into intense discussions on areas we need serious improvement at the district.

To be completely transparent, there were a lot of challenges that were addressed by our employees. On the forefront of our list included poor management, fear

of retaliation for being forthright, lack of training, poor work ethics, inequalities, broken communication, and cultural differences. Our employees were courageous to share with us these challenges at the workshop and discuss in detail their hardships.

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# Training mission provides career broadening perspective into Corps mission

**By Mark Daniels**

FED Safety and Occupational Health

**A**s an intern in the safety office specializing in construction safety at the Far East District, getting the opportunity to visit another district in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers provided the opportunity to learn more about my profession and the Corps varied responsibilities around the world.

My developmental training at the Portland District was very enlightening. During my two weeks there I visited four hydroelectric dams: Foster, Green Peter, Bonneville, and The Dalles. I also visited a hopper dredger, a seagoing ship that is designed to dredge out rivers and harbors. Named the ESSAYONS, the ship is designed to operate anywhere in the world. It dredges and transports dredged material to open water areas. The dredge acts like a giant vacuum cleaner that sucks out sand and sediment materials in the river for the commercial vessels safe passage. This gave me an appreciation into how vital the Corps is to the nation's rivers, harbors, and seaports.

Lock and Dam operations are not part of the Far East District mission but it is a part of the Corps mission in the United States. There are more than 650 dams and levees in the Corps program. All four dams that I visited generated millions of kilowatts of hydroelectric power. Behind the scenes, inside in each dam,

the workers make sure all the components keep the turbines and generators properly functioning. These workers are electricians, welders, carpenters, fish counters, mechanist and other support personnel. This provided me with a better understanding of the dam safety program and the hazardous area inside the dams.

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*Mark Daniels, safety and occupational health specialist in the district safety office, on a recent training mission to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Portland District. (Photo courtesy of Mark Daniels)*



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## **FED Leadership Workshop: “Let’s Keep Talking”**

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From those discussions we also talked about solutions. Applying some critical thinking skills, our employees explored the challenges from different angles together. They brought lessons learned from past experiences and some out-of-the-box thinking to resolve age old problems.

It wasn’t easy. And honestly, we were not able to come up with fixes for a lot of the challenges presented. There was not enough time within the day and some of the challenges were deeply rooted in other problems.

As with the “to see the forest from the trees” analogy used during the workshop, our discussions were just a peak into managerial and operational challenges of running a district. And until we take a longer analytical look of the whole forest and each of the trees including their roots, it is hard to understand our weaknesses so that we can turn them into our strengths.

Turning our back on the forest and the trees will not solve anything.

Turning our back on the problems we have at work will not solve anything.

The workshop is our district’s call to action and where we began our discussions about how to improve our district. The key is to keep talking about our challenges and confront them together so we can develop realistic and effective solutions.

On a brighter note, we did discover a lot of pride in our district. There is a certain kind of camaraderie amongst our colleagues that shined through as we conducted our teambuilding exercises. As our people cheered each other on and sought vision together even when blindfolded, sparks of pride and professionalism flourished.

Let’s keep talking, okay? The workshop was not meant to be just a one-day thing. Our mission and vision is enduring and everyone has a part in making it happen. Almost everyone has made individual and personal pledges to help improve our district. Let’s keep up the good work!





# ADOS program critical part of Far East District mission

By Stephen Satkowski  
FED Public Affairs

**F**or every 47 civilians in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers there's just one Soldier. It's no different at the Far East District which has a comparable ratio. Apart from the commander and deputy commander, there are approximately 20 Soldiers with the district. Despite being small in number their tasks and mission are critical to the district's success.

"We cannot live without these Soldiers," said district engineer and commander Col. Bryan S. Green. "They are keeping us on track, on time, on schedule and on budget."

A majority of these Soldiers are on Active Duty for Operational Support (ADOS) orders. These Reserve and National Guard Soldiers are used in varied positions including where the active army has a mission requirement for which no active duty Soldier can readily fill.

"I was able to resolve reserve component Soldier's pay issues," said Staff Sgt. Diomedes Tuazon, senior financial management analyst with the district. "Since I've been here I was able to solve these issues and train active duty Soldiers in handling reserve pay issues."

Soldiers come from units across the United States filling key positions as project engineers, construction representatives as well as in the administrative, logistical and operations field. The experience they receive here often has a huge impact in their career progression as a Soldier.

"Because of all the training and new skills I've learned I was able to receive more points toward my promotion," said Sgt. Luisa Capobianco, unit armorer and chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear noncommissioned officer in charge. "I got qualified in different skill sets, sent to different schools. It's given me the opportunity to train further and expand my military knowledge."

Both commissioned and noncommissioned officers can utilize the program with unique benefits for each.

*Continued on the next page*

*Capt. Joseph Claros (foreground), project engineer at the Pyeongtaek resident office and ADOS Soldier gives a briefing to Lt. Gen. David D. Halverson, Commander, U.S. Army Installation Management Command and Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management. (FED file photo)*





## **ADOS program critical part of FED mission**

*Continued from the previous page*

“It’s made me a stronger leader, a more well-rounded officer who is able to perform multifunctional tasks,” said Capt. Joseph Claros, project engineer at the Pyeongtaek resident office. “We talk about diversity in the officer corps and noncommissioned officer corps. What better way to do that than to bring experienced Reserve and National Guard Soldiers to enhance the Army and the direction it’s heading.”

Soldiers in the program bring distinctive civilian skill sets to the district and at the same time learn Soldier skills from the active component.

“They have technical capabilities that, in some cases, our civilians don’t have so they get to bring their expertise and knowledge into the system,” said Green. “At the same time, we’re transferring active duty ideas, concepts and needs back to them which they can take back to their unit.”

As of October 2014 Soldiers from the program are at three different resident offices on the peninsula contributing to the Far East District mission.

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## **District employee takes part in NEO exercise**



*Cheon-Joo Lee, civil engineer in the Architect-Engineer Contract Support Unit, participates in the annual noncombatant evacuation operation exercise Oct. 2-4 at U.S Army Garrison Yongsan. The exercise, known as Courageous Channel enabled district employees who are non-emergency essential, U.S. military dependents and contractors to walk step-by-step through the process that would be used in a real-world evacuation in the Republic of Korea. (Photo by Bob Lamoureux)*



# District engineers ensure water keeps flowing at Madison Site

**By Stephen Satkowski**  
FED Public Affairs

**T**he Madison Site, a small communications facility near the city of Suwon and about 40 kilometers south of Seoul, has an abundant supply of water thanks to the work of Far East District engineers at the northern resident office.

A new water line installed over the spring and summer of 2014 connected the bottom of the base camp to the operations area, high atop Gwang-Gyo Mountain, some 700 meters high in elevation.

“Before the start of [construction] on this water line, the K-16 Air Base Department of Public Works had to deliver water in trucks to the operations area,” said Nathan Han, northern resident office project engineer. “The base camp received minimal potable water from the existing wells, but not enough to meet the daily needs of those serving at Madison Site. Installing this new water line solved that issue.”

The geography of the area made the project particularly challenging.

“Excavating and installing a water line on a mountain means minimal use of heavy equipment,” said Han. “Most of the excavation had to be done by hand and the installation had to be done at the proper depth to prevent freezing during the winter.”

During the summertime Gwang-Gyo Mountain attracts many hikers and safety was a primary concern.

“Han Chong-hyon, our northern resident office quality assurance representative, ensured the work was done safely and with quality, visiting the site three to four times a week,” said Han. “With the teamwork of all involved the project was completed

ahead of schedule.”

After a pressure and disinfection test in August, a final inspection was conducted on Sept. 23 and no deficiencies were found.

Madison Site consists of a lower base camp with a dining facility and barracks and an upper site with antennas and microwave relays. Soldiers from the 1st Signal Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division call the site home.





# District's Golf Scramble

The Far East District held their annual golf scramble Oct. 6 at Sung Nam golf club. More than 100 members of the district participated in this year's outing. Prizes were awarded for best score, closest to the pin and longest drive. (Photos by Stephen Satkowski)





## Training mission provides career broadening perspective into Corps mission

*Continued from Page 2*

This training also gave me more insight into the Corps commitment to the environment. As the nation's environmental engineer, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers manages one of the largest federal environmental missions. I observed the fish management program where fish ladders go up to 80 feet in elevation so that adult fish can return to their spawning grounds. The Corps operates a series of eight dams on the lower Columbia and Snake rivers that help the migration of fish, most in the salmon family. At the fish hatchery biologists monitor the fish population ensuring they are in good condition during their migration to and from the ocean. Although the Far East District doesn't have fish management our safety program has the same mission to be responsible and accountable for the environment in our host nation by training and communicating to Korean contractors on the project sites.

Overall, it was a great learning experience and I am proud to be a part of an organization that provides opportunities for the workforce to grow professionally and personally. This training taught me that the Corps mission will be different in every district and there will always be challenges that help me develop and grow within the Corps. Working for the Corps has made me realize they are making a big impact: economically, environmentally and to our nation's security.



**Mark Daniels, safety and occupational health specialist in the district safety office, on a recent training mission to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Portland District. (Photo courtesy of Mark Daniels)**

## *Auditor General visits the district*



**Randall L. Exley, The Auditor General, Headquarters, Department of the Army (right), Kevin F. Kelly, Deputy Auditor General (Financial Management & Comptroller Audits), US Army Audit Agency (left), pose for a picture with Col. Bryan S. Green, district engineer and commander after a briefing at the district compound Oct. 3. (Photo by Stephen Satkowski)**



# Maj. Gen. Chung visits Kunsan

On Sept. 16 Maj. Gen. Chung Joo-kyo, commander of the Korean Ministry of National Defense Defense Installations Agency visited U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District Kunsan resident office where he met with engineers and visited ongoing construction projects. (FED file photo)



(above) Kim U-kon (left), deputy resident engineer, Far East District Kunsan resident office receives a coin from Maj. Gen. Chung Joo-kyo, commander of the Korean Ministry of National Defense Defense Installations Agency. (FED file photo)

## *AFN interviews Col. Green*

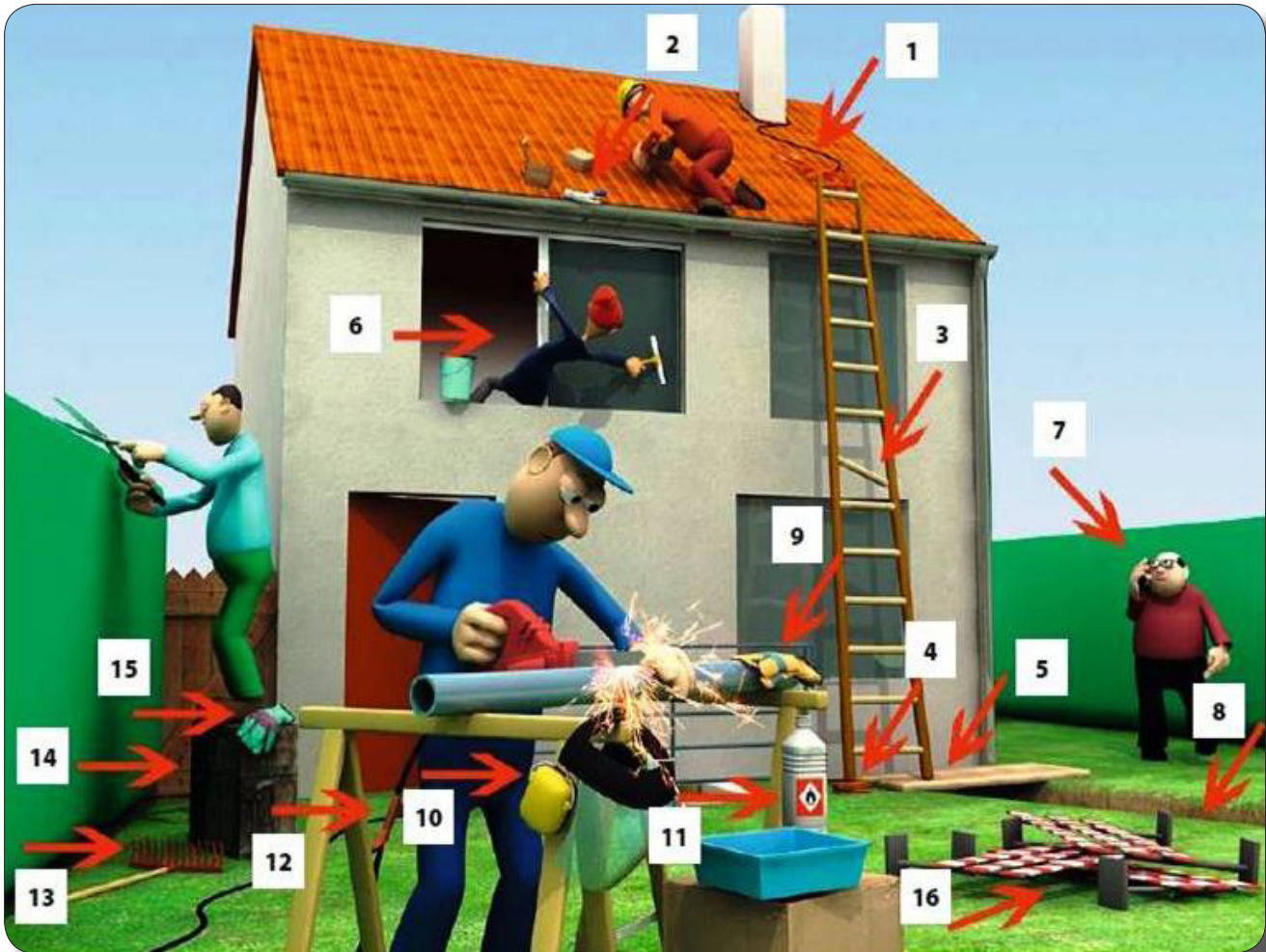


American Forces Network Pacific interviewed Col. Bryan S. Green, district engineer and commander, Oct. 1 at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys. AFN is showcasing the enormous construction as part of a series of stories on the Yongsan Relocation Plan, highlighting the move of most U.S. forces out of Seoul and north of the Han river to USAG Humphreys, located about 40 miles south of Seoul. (Photo by Seukhwan Son)





# Building *Safety* Strong ARMY SAFE IS ARMY STRONG



## Hazard Identification

*Did you identify all the hazards?*

*Do you understand why?*

*Not all of us work on the jobsites, but we all contribute. Simply walking by and paying attention can save a life. Also, think safety during design and planning. Many accidents can be prevented before the work takes place.*

- 1) Worker on roof (not harnessed), harness tied to the chimney which is not a proper anchor point.
- 2) Tools balancing on roof – likely to fall.
- 3) Rung broken on ladder – risk of falling.
- 4) Ladder balanced on uneven surface – risk of falling.
- 5) Ladder propped across another uneven surface – risk of falling.
- 6) Napette (not harnessed) leaning out of window to clean it – risk of falling.
- 7) Boss on phone on construction site. His attention is diverted and he will not identify hazards as easily.
- 8) Ditch (trip hazard) not marked.
- 9) Napo not wearing the available protective gloves.
- 10) Napo not using the protective hearing equipment available.
- 11) Sparks near to flammable liquid – risk of fire.
- 12) Cable is a trip hazard (repaired with adhesive tape).
- 13) Trip hazard with the tool (rake) left on floor.
- 14) Balancing on wooden box instead of using a proper leader – risk of falling.
- 15) Not wearing the available protective gloves.
- 16) Trip hazard left in middle of lawn.

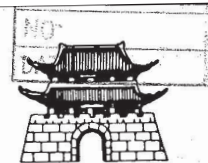


# This month in FED History



US Army Corps  
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Far East District

## EAST GATE EDITION



SEOUL KOREA VOL. 1 NO. 8 OCTOBER 1983

### Osan Air Base runway finished early

One of the biggest challenges FED has faced in recent years has been met head on and overcome with ease. The critical 100-day renovation and improvement of the runway, taxiways and associated buildings at Osan Air Base is now virtually completed with more than



The newly renovated control tower at Osan Air Base.

a week to spare. This has been done despite the occurrence of more inclement weather than had been anticipated.

Since August 1st, the entire runway has been repaired and overruns added to both ends, the main taxiway has been extended and a new high-speed taxiway constructed, several other taxiways and the runway lighting system have been repaired and the control tower, and two Strategic Air Command hangars have been rehabilitated. Concurrent with this work has been the repair and improvement of the Military Airlift Command (MAC) terminal, which is about 80 percent complete. When that building is done in January, incoming personnel will see a brand-new Korean-style entrance and both incoming and outgoing personnel will enjoy the new baggage conveyer system.

All the work, exclusive of the MAC terminal project, totals more than \$4 million and is being performed by the Pum Yang Company, limited under five separate FED contracts. The Korea Development Corporation is doing the MAC terminal work. Work has proceeded well despite less than ideal conditions. Captain Gregory Bergeret, project officer for the job, says "We had 20 down days programmed into this effort but because of bad weather in late September and October, we've had 23 down days."

A ribbon-cutting for this runway

closure work has been scheduled for November 4th at the air base. Although most of the job is done, there is still much activity at the east end of the runway as Pum Yang workers put the finishing touches on the overrun there. A few workers can still be found at the west end, also, but the overrun there is virtually complete. Everything should be in good order by the time of the ribboncutting.

Of course, all the work at Osan, runway closure work included, is under the stewardship of Howard Elliot's Osan Resident Office. It is he and his staff that deserve the credit for this accomplishment. Several on the staff, however, deserve particular acknowledgement for their part in this effort. Captain Bergeret was the project officer and Kim, I Yong was the general engineer who handled many of the technical problems as they arose. Hyon, Chong Tok was the construction inspector who oversaw all the Pum Yang Company work. Yim, Kwang Chun is inspecting the Korea Development Company project.

The people mentioned above are only the most closely involved. Many FED employees participated in the planning, designing, and procurement process that made the various projects possible. Everyone in the district can count this one as a success.

(Photos on page 4 and 5)

### New Casey med center started

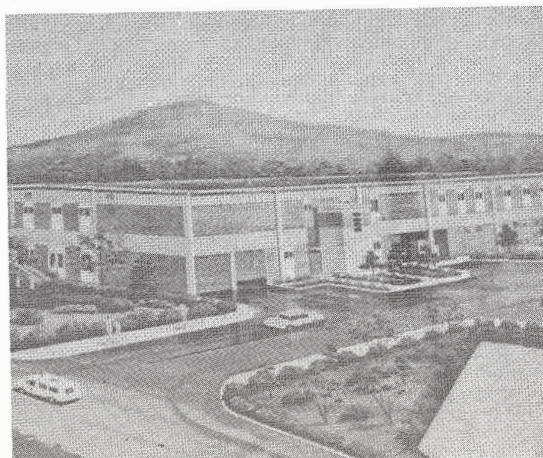
FED's health facility program took another step forward October 12th when a ground-breaking ceremony marked the start of construction of a troop medical facility for Camp Casey. The \$2.3 million, 23,000 square-foot building, being constructed by the Ssangyong Construction Company, limited, is scheduled for completion by April 1985.

Maj. Gen. Henry Doctor, Jr., 2nd Infantry Division Commander, Colonel Perrenot and Mr. S. J. Kim, President of Ssangyong, all spoke at the ceremony. Many people connected with the project then participated in a symbolic turning of the soil. The project has actually been underway since July as the ceremony was held on a helicopter landing area already prepared by the com-

pany, but work on the building has not yet begun. When it is finished, the building will provide Camp Casey medical personnel with excellent facilities for preliminary treatment.

The Camp Casey is the third major health facility to be constructed by FED in recent years. In March of this year, Yongsan welcomed the dedication of a new 18-chair, \$1.37 million dental clinic on South Post. Just three months later, work was completed on a new OB/Gyn clinic at the 121st Evacuation Hospital on Yongsan. Neither is the program complete now. By the end of this year it is expected that a contract will be awarded for an \$18 million, 103,000 square-foot medical and dental facility at Osan air base.

(Photos on page 3)



This artist's rendition shows what the new medical facility will look like when it is finished in 1985.





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