



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
Far East District

# EAST GATE EDITION

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## Far East District participates in Ulchi-Freedom Guardian 2017

By Antwaun J. Parrish  
FED Public Affairs

**T**he Ulchi Freedom-Guardian (UFG) 2017 military exercise transpired Aug. 21-31 in the Republic of Korea with components of both the US Army and ROK military directly supporting our long-standing alliance. The Far East District took part in this year's exercise by supporting Forward Engineer Support Teams (FEST) currently deployed here.

Mitchel Glen, the field force engineering program manager and military planner for Pacific Ocean Division (POD), explained in detail the work that the FEST teams have been conducting thus far.

“This year each of the FEST teams have a Republic of Korea-Defense Installation Agency (ROK-DIA) FEST leader working with them,” said Glen. “The FEST leader will alternate which one of his civilians from his office that he brings.”

Glen stated that this situation is good for both parties as it helps them to learn how to work with an engineer that operates differently.

“So they’re exposed to what we do and how our FEST teams work and the type of questions we ask,” said Glen.

Cpt. Wayne Brown, district plans officer, explained in more detail how the district and the FEST team participation



*Far East District military and civilian employees participating in the Ulchi Freedom Guardian (UFG) exercise gathered around FED headquarters flag pole for a group photo. Building strong in Korea! (Photo by Stephen Satkowski)*

contributes to the overall success of the exercise.

“Each exercise grows and the fidelity of it gets a lot clearer because in a contingency or wartime the engineers are responsible for an endless amount of things,” said Brown.

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*(above) Maj. Gen. James T. "Jim" Walton, Director of Restationing with U.S. Forces Korea (second from left), Col. Thomas Tickner, Pacific Ocean Division commander (far left), Col. Teresa Schlosser, Far East District commander and Command Sgt. Maj. Yolanda Tate, Pacific Ocean Division command sergeant major (third from left) review construction progress at Camp Humphreys one stop processing center facility Aug. 23. The Far East District is overseeing construction on the facility as well as numerous other projects on U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys. USAG Humphreys is currently home to one of the largest transformation, re-stationing and construction projects in Department of Defense history. (Photos by Stephen Satkowski)*



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## **Far East District participates in Ulchi-Freedom Guardian 2017**

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“The Far East District is in a unique role because it’s responsible for a lot of construction on the peninsula. During a contingency that role will completely change to a wartime mission. So it’s like being prepared on two fronts, having two missions at the same time.”

According to Brown, there’s a lot of coordination that takes place prior to the exercise within the district operations. “What makes this district unique is the combination of US Army service members working closely with our civilian counterparts. Each bringing a unique skill-set to the table, thus making our agency that much more effective.”

“It’s a lot of coordination that takes place and we’re such a small staff that we’re always doing something,” said Brown. “We’re always trying to support somebody or asking for support from the various divisions.”

Brown states that the biggest take away is that it takes a lot of people and pieces to make it a successful exercise.

The 62nd FEST-A from Anchorage, Alaska, is one of the FEST teams supporting the district during the exercise. Maj. John Hammett, 62nd FEST-A team officer in charge (OIC), said he is proud of all the Soldiers and their contributions to the mission here.

“I think that right now we are well ahead of where we need to be and as OIC it makes me a little less stressed,” said Hammett. “We had an in progress review with the customer this morning and they are pleased with what we have done so far and now we have to finalize our product and present it to the customer and that will be a wrap.”

Hammett expressed his gratitude to the district and stated that its assistance has been instrumental to his team’s success.

“When we arrived, they welcomed us with open arms,” said Hammett. “Without them we would have had to work a lot harder in order to be successful. I think the Far East District has been great.”



**Members of the Far East District Korea Program Relocation Office, Medical Resident Office, Ministry of National Defense U.S. Forces Korea Relocation Office (MURO), Health Facility Planning Organization, and Samsung gathered to celebrate the firing of the boilers to celebrate the achievement of an important milestone for the Camp Humphreys hospital project, Aug. 10. This milestone is significant because the operational boilers are necessary to be able to continue with the work on the interior of the hospital and the Acute Care Center throughout the winter. (FED file photo)**

# Daegu Middle High School open for business

**By Sgt. 1st Class Norman Llamas**

19th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, Public Affairs

It's not often that you get to witness the grand opening of a brand new school. As one can imagine, it's an exciting occasion, for everyone. This was the case with the Daegu Middle High School which celebrated its grand opening with a ribbon cutting ceremony that was appropriately held inside the brand new building, August 24. The school is located in Camp Walker, Daegu, Korea.

"Today we continue the rich tradition that has been Taegu American School, Daegu American School, and now Daegu Middle High School," said

Altorn Grade, DMHS principal. "This school has been in many locations and in many configurations. At one time we were the TAS Tigers. We are now the Warriors and we carry the name with pride, from posthumous Medal of Honor recipient, Charles George. We are developing future warriors to be college and career ready, socially responsible, and to flourish in a global community."

The new school is a split level two story, DoDEA 21st Century Middle/High School that encompasses 142,583 square feet. DMHS' construction began

almost three years ago, September 2014 and was completed June 26, 2017.

"This day has been eagerly anticipated by our entire community," said Maj. Gen. John P. Sullivan, the 19th Expeditionary Sustainment Command's commanding general. "I would submit that, as you look around this tremendous facility, it was well worth the wait. The completion of this project is the result of much vision, planning, and hard work."

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**Col. Teresa Schlosser, Far East District commander (center) and Jared McCormick, project engineer at district's southern resident office help cut the ribbon marking the opening of the new Daegu middle school/high school at Camp Walker Aug. 24. The school will provide adequate academic facilities for 525 students in grades six to 12. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Norman Llamas)**



## Daegu Middle High School open for business

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DMHS will provide adequate academic facilities for 525 students in grades six to 12. The school includes site improvements such as visitor's and staff parking, bus drop-off with covered walkway, landscaping, bicycle racks, artificial turf playing field, marquee board, flagpoles, exterior lighting, and utility service connections. Additionally, it has common areas with multipurpose gathering spaces, food service dining hall, and a dedicated performance space.

"As you look around Area IV, you can see a transformation taking place with the ongoing construction of the first two of what will be four housing towers here at Camp Walker," said Sullivan. "New barracks and headquarters facilities at Camp Carroll, Waegwan, this new Middle/High School, and a

new elementary School that is in the planning stages. All these new projects represent vast improvements in our quality of life here in area IV, as well as our strong commitment to the ROK-U.S. alliance."

"Next week about 300 hundred students will begin walking our halls," said Grade. "If needed, over 500 students can easily fit into this new 21st Century Facility. Classrooms are now studios and neighborhoods that are places where students take their learning to higher levels. Trust, respect and responsibility are themes that will permeate our focus and vision."

Both Sullivan and Grade expressed their most sincere gratefulness to all those who were involved in making this project come to fruition.

They both also thanked the many distinguished visitors who made the trip to be present during the ceremony.

Among the many present at the ceremony were, DoDEA Pacific West Superintendent Dr. Judith Allen, United States Forces Korea Director for Re-Stationing Maj. Gen. James Walton, Daegu City Vice Mayor Mr. Yoo, Jun-ha, Namgu District Mayor Mr. Yim, Byung-heon and the 19th ESC Cultural Advisors, Dr. Kim, Ik-dong, Mr. Sammy Shin, Mr. Kim, Byung-chan, Mr. Seo, Sang-si, and Dr. Kim, Bum-dae.

After the official ceremony was over, Principal Grade took many of the distinguished visitors for a tour around the new school.



*James Lee (second from right), Chief Supply Branch, and Ho Choe (second from left), General Supply Specialist, achieved their Level II professional certification as Certified Acquisition Professionals in Life Cycle Logistics from the Department of the Army in Aug. 2017. Recognition by Lt. Col. Richard Collins (far right) occurred on Aug. 29. (Photo by Victor Jo)*



*James Greene (left), a supply technician, receives an Army Achievement Medal for Civilian Service from Lt. Col. Richard Collins (right), for his outstanding contributions to the district while being temporarily assigned here for two months, and assisting in the supply branch during a vacancy for a general supply specialist. (Photo by Victor Jo)*



# Home is where the heart is: From Helena to Seoul, Montanans never forget their roots

By Antwaun J. Parrish  
FED Public Affairs

**M**ore than 9,000 miles away from a city with a population of 31,000 people, two United States Army Colonels from the same hometown, working in the same technical field and similar positions, cross paths yet again.

Col. Teresa Schlosser, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District commander, and Col. Andrew “Andy” Liffing, Eighth Army assistant chief of staff engineer, are natives of Helena, Mont., and although they both are senior ranking officers their small town Montana roots keep them grounded.

“Helena is a town where you know everybody, and it’s pretty cool,” said Liffing. “It produces people with high values similar to those in the Army such as honesty, trust, and loyalty.”

After both attending high school in Helena and completing their college educations, they first reunited in the Engineer Officer Basic Course. More than a decade later they would eventually attend the U.S. Army War College together.

“When I saw her at Army War College, I knew exactly who she was,” said Liffing.

Liffing came to Korea this summer and succeeded Schlosser as Eighth Army assistant chief of staff engineer. So how did these two Montanans end up in the same country and same position? Well, it wasn’t by chance. Schlosser called Liffing to take over once she moved to the Far East District.

“She called and told me the challenges here at Eighth Army,” said Liffing. “This has been one of the most intellectually stimulating jobs I’ve ever held and one of the best in the Army.”

Liffing described their working relationship as cooperative. He also emphasized that the culture in Montana is to be thankful for each individual’s career success.



*(left) Col. Teresa A. Schlosser, 36th Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District. (right) Col. Andrew “Andy” Liffing, Eighth Army assistant chief of staff engineer. (FED file photos)*

“It’s a hard work culture state which fits in the military,” said Liffing. “Our career achievements are a great example of our school system, culture, values, and community of Montana.”

Recalling the reunion with Liffing at the U.S. Army War College, Schlosser said she initially failed to remember him after so much time had passed since the Basic Course.

“In Carlisle Barracks, Young Hall you have 26 colonel families living in this one building,” said Schlosser. “So Andy was there as a geographical bachelor and he moved in next door to us with another geographical bachelor. We went in to say hello and meet the new neighbors, and as I walk in the door, he says, ‘you’re Teresa Schlosser’. Then he said, we went to the basic course together. To some extent it’s easier for guys to remember the women, because there were only two or three of us at the basic course.”

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## Home is where the heart is: From Helena to Seoul, Montanans never forget their roots

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Schlosser knew that she would only be at Eighth Army for one year and would take command of the Far East District in her next assignment. She wanted input in who succeeded her and in no time she immediately knew that Andy was the right fit for the position.

“He has the right construction background, engineering background, disposition,” said Schlosser. “This is the job he’s built for.”

Schlosser said whenever she leaves she wants to ensure her subordinates are taken care of and she knew that Liffing would do just that and be a great battle buddy for her while

she’s in command at the District.

“Because Eighth Army is one of my biggest customers,” said Schlosser. “It benefits me and the district if I know I have this great guy over there who knows his stuff.”

The Army is the largest branch in the armed services with people stationed in locations all over the globe. The fact that two colonels from the same small hometown end up as close colleagues is extremely rare. Schlosser said the longer you stay in the Army you begin to realize one thing.

“The Army becomes a smaller place.”



**Col. Thomas Tickner, Pacific Ocean Division commander, Col. Teresa Schlosser, Far East District commander, Command Sgt. Maj. Yolanda Tate, Pacific Ocean Division command sergeant major and Cpt. Andrew Storey, aide-de-camp, enjoy a sightseeing tour around Seoul and a hike to Namsan Tower. (FED file photos)**





***Far East District Kunsan resident office engineers inspected concrete placement of a hardened aircraft flow through shelter Aug. 1. Concrete placement for this project requires 110 trucks of concrete which takes around 18-20 hours. A total of 10 shelters will be constructed at Kunsan Air Base. (FED file photos)***



***In continued support of the district's relocation efforts supply branch personnel are conducting inventory and affixing bar tags to all FED Compound furniture. The Supply Branch is expected to complete the inventory of all furniture before the motor pool begins the relocation to Camp Humphreys in early 2018. Additionally, in order to reduce the amount of materiel and documents during the relocation to Camp Humphreys, supply and facilities personnel are shredding unneeded documents. This effort is monumental in that there are decade's worth of documents to be shredded. Every division and office in FED will continue to coordinate with the supply branch to destroy outdated records prior to relocation to Camp Humphreys. (FED file photos)***



# Far East District participates in Women's Equality panel discussion

By Antwaun J. Parrish  
FED Public Affairs

**W**omen's Equality Day is a day set aside to mark the anniversary of the constitution's 19th amendment: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex."

This year marks the 97th anniversary of the 19th amendment. To mark the occasion Eighth Army and U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys hosted a Women's Equality Day Panel Discussion. The panel consisted of nine women, both service members and civilians from an array of various backgrounds. Four of the panelists represented the Far East District (FED), including FED commander Col. Teresa Schlosser, as well as FED employees Jisun Kang, Mia Dukuly and Eman Sundquist.

The panel was asked a series of questions about their careers including what challenges they faced along the way.

Dukuly, who has been a project engineer with the Corps of Engineers for the past 15 years, answered several questions and was praised by one of her colleagues in her ability to balance work and her five children. Dukuly said there aren't many women who work in the construction field and often times she's felt the need go above and beyond the call of duty.

"In society there has always been this idea of what a woman should be doing," said Dukuly. "As a woman I often feel that that pressure and I feel that I have to prove myself to my colleagues through training, education, and experience."

Dukuly's colleague, Eman Sun-



*Far East District commander Col. Teresa Schlosser (center), and FED employees Jisun Kang (2nd from left), Eman Sundquist (3rd from right), Mia Dukuly (right) sits amongst participants of the 2017 Women's Equality Day panel discussion held at Sitman Fitness Center, Camp Humphreys, Aug. 10. The participants discussed what attributes contributed to their successful careers. (Photo by Antwaun Parrish)*

dquist, shared with the group her admiration of Dukuly as she recently completed her master's degree while raising her five children. Dukuly emphasized to the audience the amount of time and effort it took her to complete this feat.

"When I married my husband in 2010 he was in the military at the time," said Dukuly. "Learning how to juggle our lives together and raise a family taught me the keys necessary to handle both my professional and personal life."

The panel aimed to empower those assembled and listening in the audience as the women highlighted how they work through hardships and faced adversity head on.

"The panel allowed me the chance to get a better idea of the Army side and the challenges women face in the military," said Dukuly. "There are many similarities between civilians and military women."

Dukuly said Women's Equality Day was a way to thank women of the past for their contributions.

"Women's Equality Day means celebrating the struggles and being grateful for the sacrifice women before me made in standing up for others," said Dukuly. "Because of their sacrifice I am able to participate in the workforce."



# Special Observances

## National Hispanic Heritage Month

By Valerie Bradley

FED Equal Employment Opportunities

**T**he observance recognizing National Hispanic Heritage Month was established by Title 36, U.S. Code, Section 126 and Public Law 100-402. Hispanic Heritage

Each year, Americans observe Hispanic Heritage Month 15 September – 15 October by celebrating the histories, cultures, and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America. The observance began in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 31-day period starting on September 15th and ending on October 15th. The observance is celebrated during this timeframe due to many significant events for various Hispanic communities which fall within the observance period.

Hispanics have had a profound and positive influence on our country through their strong commitment to family, faith, hard work, and service. They have enhanced and shaped our national character with centuries-old traditions that reflect the multiethnic and multicultural costumes of their community. The theme for this event changes each year.

The term Hispanic originates from the Latin word Hispania. It was first used by ancient Romans to describe the region of Spain they conquered in the second century B.C. (Leon, 2003). Today the term Hispanic or Latino, refers to a

person of Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race. On the 2010 Census, people of Spanish, Hispanic, and/or Latino origin could identify themselves as Mexican, Mexican American, Chicano, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or “another Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin.”

There are 16 states with at least a half-million Hispanic residents—Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, and Washington.

The Hispanic population of the United States is projected to grow to 119 million in 2060. According to this projection, the Hispanic population will constitute 28.6 percent of the nation’s population by that date. In 2014, there were 55 million U.S. Hispanics, accounting for 17 percent of the American population (Census.gov, 2015)

Sources:

<http://www.hispanicheritagemonth.gov/about/>

Radomile, Leon J. *Heritage Hispanic-American Style*. Novato, California: 2003.

<http://www.census.gov/newsroom/facts-for-features/2015/cb15-ff18.html>



*Far East District (FED) commander Col. Teresa Schlosser was presented a wooden name plaque from the FED Korean nationals employees union representatives Aug. 4. FED's total workforce numbers about 500, and over 250 are Korean nationals. Together we are building strong in Korea. (Photo by Richard Byrd)*



## *This month in FED History*

- **September** 1983: Three meeting and office buildings in Panmunjom completed.

- 1985: Construction of Rodriguez Range in Yongpyong began.

- 1985: Construction of health and dental clinic at Camp Humphreys began.

- 1987: US Navy Chief Petty Officers' Club named as "Turtle Cove" opened at Chinhae Naval Base.

- 1987: Yongsan South Post Chapel opened.

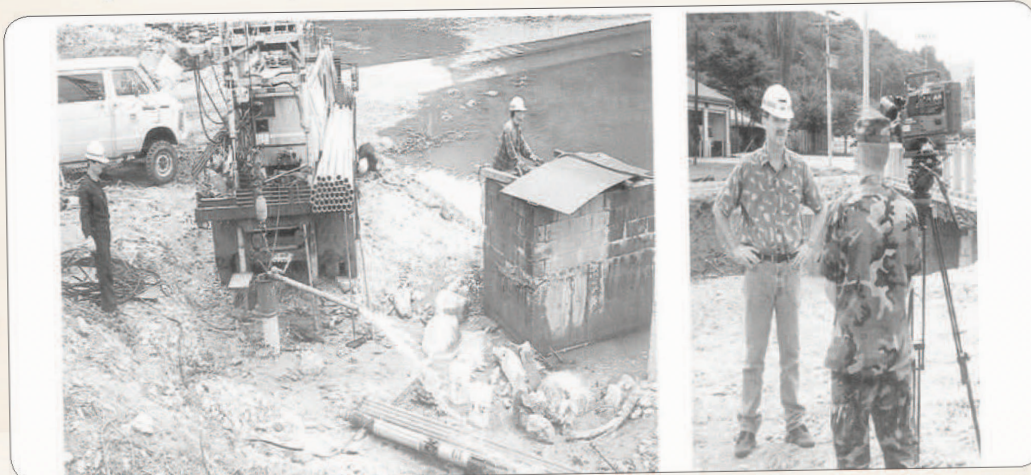
- 1997: The Loring Club at Kunsan Air Base completed.

- 1998: FED performed emergency repair of 80 groundwater-drinking wells.

- 2011: Daegu High School at Camp Walker and Camp Casey Elementary School opened.



US Navy Chief Petty Officers' Club at Chinhae Naval Base



(above left) FED's Foundation and Material Branch well maintenance team flushes water from well 24 at Camp Hovey and cleans the pipes from the well. (above right) Doug Bliss, Chief, Foundations and Materials Branch, is interviewed by AFKN television about the well maintenance and repairs.



# HERE IT COMES



## *Share the Road*

Your turn signal could save a life. Always use signals when changing lanes or merging into traffic. #MotorcycleSafety

# READY ...OR NOT?

May is **Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month**, and now is a great time to evaluate your personal risk for the year ahead.

The U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center has the tools to keep you and your Soldiers safe, both on and off duty. Visit us online at <https://safety.army.mil>.

So are **YOU** ready ... or not?



<https://safety.army.mil>