



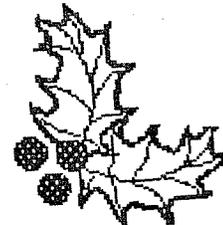
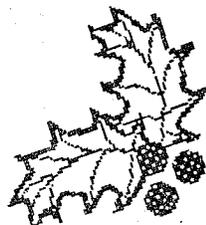
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Far East District Employee Newsletter

--Building for Peace--

December 1990



Holiday Greetings 25 December 1990

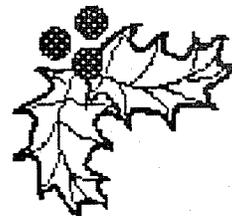
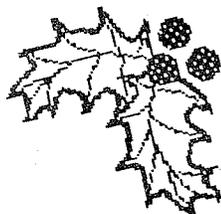
Season's Greetings to all members of the Far East District and their families..

As we close out this year, let's reflect on the many fine accomplishments we have achieved over the past twelve months. Although this year has been a year of many changes, you have done your best to maintain our goal of quality service, safely completed, on time.

I wish to thank all of you for your contribution in helping to keep the Far East District one of the finest districts in the Corps of Engineers.

The Potter family wishes all of you the very best holidays and a prosperous, safe and Happy New Year. Merry Christmas!

MARK W. POTTER
Colonel, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Commanding



Lenhart selected as Sturgis Award nominee

By Maj. Henderson
Osan AB Resident Office

SFC Curtis E. Lenhart has been selected to represent the U.S. Army Engineer District, Far East, as the district's 1990 Sturgis Award nominee.

SFC Lenhart currently serves as a quality assurance representative in the Central Resident Office at Osan Air Base. During 1990 he assumed direct responsibility for the timely and safe construction of eight separate projects having an aggregate placement value in excess of \$20 million.

A leader in construction...

Lenhart delivered timely, accident free, high-quality construction on all of his projects. This impressive accomplishment is particularly inspiring when it is realized that he worked through (or around) an Asian language, using contractors who are unfamiliar with United States standards of quality and construction practice, and who are used to performing work in an atmosphere totally devoid of life safety requirements.

Lenhart's largest major military construction project in 1990 was "Survivable Collective Protective Shelters," known as SCUPS. This project, valued at over \$15 million, consisted of the construction of ten separate hardened shelters at Osan AB for use in Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical (NBC) warfare.

The SCUPS shelters were procured as weapons systems rather than as buildings. Therefore, unusually rigorous standards and tolerances applied to their construction. Assuring compliance with these tough standards required extraordinary planning, coordination and leadership on Lenhart's part.

Because of his proven performance capability, Lenhart was also chosen to perform quality assurance duties on the second phase of a \$2.6 million Non-Appropriated Fund golf course project. This project, which is still underway, receives an exceptionally high level of community and

command interest, as well as considerable scrutiny from visiting VIPs.

Phase II of the golf course project consists of renovating nine holes of Osan's 18-hole course, and includes reshaping terrain, constructing tees and greens, installing watering systems, ponds, and vegetation, and reseeding the entire nine-hole area. Special soil mixes, unique seeding plans, restricted drainage, seasonal working demands and dozens of buried utility lines (potable water, sewage, power, telephone, and secure communications) add to the complexity of the project.

Other projects on which Lenhart worked during 1990 include repairing and replacing one-half mile of main water line; installing a sprinkler system in an ammunition storage warehouse; renovation of three office buildings (which involved completely gutting the existing buildings and installing new walls, ceilings, plumbing systems and mechanical and electrical systems); repair of three office buildings; installation of a cold storage facility; and 100% design review of allied support systems for an Air Force tactical facility.

A value engineering suggestion submitted by Lenhart on his main water line project resulted in a savings to the U.S. Government of thousands of dollars. His contribution in this area was recognized by a cash award.

As a soldier...

Lenhart's expertise and career ambitions are not limited to construction management. His physical toughness, superb bearing, and sensitivity to a soldier's needs



SFC Curtis E. Lenhart

Lenhart (cont'd)

make him a troop leader in every sense of the word. His APFT score of 300 and SGT score of 97 prove beyond doubt that he is physically fit and technically proficient. His leadership skills are tested daily as, without the benefit of the UCMJ or command authority, he motivates civilian contractors to perform.

The Eighth Army Deputy Chief of Staff for Engineering personally recognized Lenhart for excellence in training on combat engineering tasks at the 1990 Sapper Stakes competition, which involved all engineer soldiers in the U.S. Forces Korea.

At Sapper Stakes, Lenhart evaluated the APFT, the 12-mile road march with combat load, and road cratering and bangalore torpedo demolitions tasks. He motivated soldiers at this competition through personal example, and demonstrated his combat engineering skills through detailed evaluations and thorough after-action reviews.

And as a community member.

Lenhart also contributes much of his off-duty time to the Osan AB community. He believes that he has a responsibility to help shape society through grass roots action, and demonstrates this belief by volunteering his time as a den leader for eight Webelos Cub Scouts. As the leader for these youths, he provides a clean, moral role model. As their coach and mentor, he helps them achieve goals and teaches them solid values. His time and talent truly make a difference in the lives of these young men, and in the future fabric of our society.

Lenhart and his wife, Susan, live in Song Tan, Korea, with their three children. Susan works as a secretary in the 7th Air Force Engineer Office at Osan AB.

Lenhart epitomizes the professional engineer soldier. He represents this command, the Corps of Engineers, and the U.S. Army as an outstanding noncommissioned officer and engineer.

FED Christmas Party held at Dragon Hill



Mrs. Debbie Johnson, wife of CPT Darrel Johnson, FED Headquarters Detachment commander, is introduced to POD Commander, BG Clair F. Gill, by COL and Mrs. Mark Potter at the FED Christmas Party.

The night of December 6, 1990, will be one not soon forgotten by 150 employees and guests of the Far East District.

That was the night of FED's Christmas Party, which is sponsored every year by the District's Morale and Welfare Committee.

Held in and catered by Dragon Hill Lodge, the evening held something for everyone. After a satisfying dinner, the POD Soldier of the Year award and Army Achievement Medal was presented to SFC Michael J. Hooper by a very welcome guest, BG Clair F. Gill, POD commander.

Also on hand for the evening's festivities were CSM Billy Spearman, from Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Charlie Cheung, POD director of Engineering; and Dick Hanson, POD director of Construction & Operations.

After dinner, Yo Kyong-II, our superb photographer and graphics artist from the Information Management Office, played a few familiar carols on a miniature keyboard while those who could remember the words sang along.

For those who liked to dance, the rest of the evening was spent dancing and listening to good ol' rock 'n' roll music provided by a local DJ.

Kunsan soldier takes dual honors as Soldier of the Year for 1990

SFC Michael J. Hooper has been named the Pacific Ocean Division (POD) Soldier of the Year for 1990.

Hooper, a quality assurance representative (QAR) for the Kunsan Resident Office, is a member of the U.S. Army Engineer District, Far East (FED), headquartered in Seoul, Korea.

Hooper received his awards during the FED Christmas Party on Dec. 6.

As Kunsan's QAR, Hooper is responsible for overseeing various Air Force construction projects, working closely with Korean contractors. He describes the assignment as a challenge which he enjoys. According to Hooper, the Air Force is a very demanding customer with many complex construction projects. Also challenging is working directly with the Korean contractors on their rigorous construction schedule of seven days a week.

The road to the top started for Hooper when he took top honors as FED's Soldier of the Year in August. From there, it was on to Okinawa to compete with U.S. Army Corps of Engineer soldiers from throughout the Pacific region.

Hooper has been in the service for almost 12 years and has had a wide range of assignments. His initial training and first assignment was at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, where he served as a general engineer with the 515th Engineer Company.

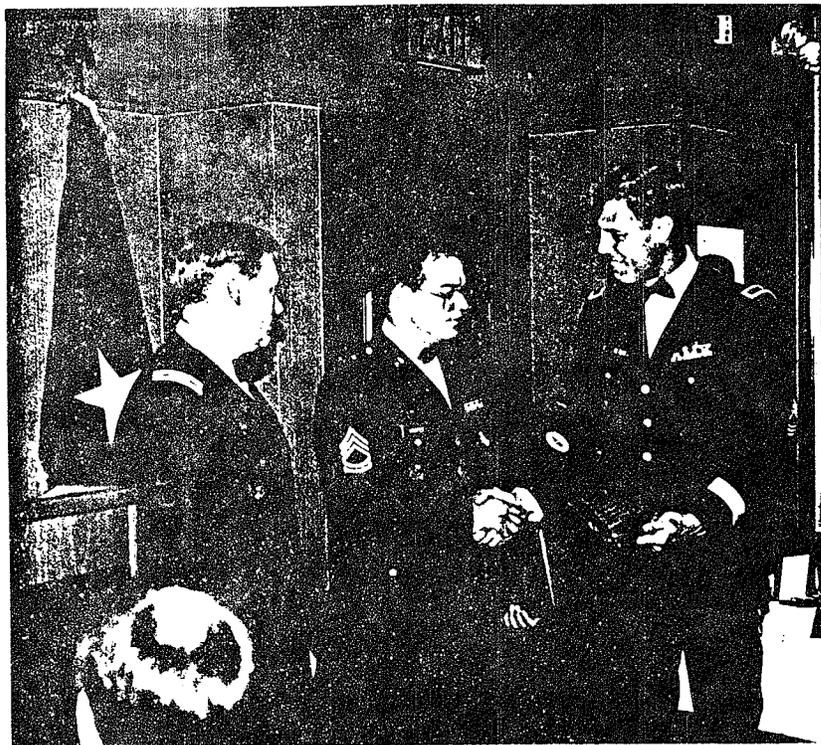
Following a break in service, he was assigned to the 62nd Engineer Battalion at Fort Hood, Texas, as a construction supervisor. He returned to Fort Leonard Wood as a drill instructor.

Hooper then was assigned to the Northern Warfare Training Center at Fort Greeley, Alaska,

where he was chief of the installation's facility renovation and repair shop. Prior to his assignment with FED, Hooper was assigned to the 43rd Engineer Battalion at Fort Benning, Georgia, where he had the experience of deploying with the battalion to Costa Rica.

Hooper holds an associate degree in general studies from Central Texas College. His military awards include the Army Commendation Medal with three Oak Leaf clusters and the Army Achievement Medal, also with three Oak Leaf clusters.

He is a native of Flint, Michigan, as is his wife, the former Dee Wilson. The Hooper's have three children: Damian, Douglas and Valerie.



SFC Michael J. Hooper (c) receives the 1990 Soldier of the Year plaque and the Army Achievement Medal from POD Commander BG Clair F. Gill as COL Mark W. Potter, FED commander, looks on during the FED Christmas Party.

Japan's PR&A produces mixed results

A Program Review and Analysis (PR&A) conference attended by many of the senior managers in the Pacific Ocean Division (POD) was held at Camp Zama, Japan, on Nov. 28 - 30, 1990. The ambitious three-day agenda covered presentations and discussions on Contracting Officer Authority (COA), FY91 Most Efficient Organization (MEO) and Program and Project Management (PPM) initiatives.

Six members of FED -- COL Mark W. Potter, LTC Phillip Smith, Ed Tohill, Larry Muroaka, Richard Torres, and Adham Hemdan-participated in the conference.

Moving towards a more efficient Corps

The POD Commander, BG Clair F. Gill, opened the conference. Gill had recently returned from a two-month odyssey that had taken him throughout much of the Western Hemisphere. After welcoming the attendees, he challenged them to work together as a team and to critically examine their respective organizations with an eye towards making those organizations more efficient.

He passed along remarks made recently by the Army Chief of Staff, Gen. Vuono, in characterizing the environment in which we operate. Vuono stated that there are three "vectors" currently at work in the Army: 1) support to Desert Shield; 2) maintaining readiness; and 3) building down the force.

He recognized that these vectors were not mutually supportive, but that each was having a significant impact on Army management decisions.

Kudos...

Gill also mentioned the Division had received some kudos during the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Command Management Review. Our recent performance in construction contract closeouts was one area singled out.

During the PR&A portion of the conference, each district commander reviewed his organization's FY90 year-end status and presented projections and challenges for FY91. The effects of the military construction (MILCON) moratorium imposed by the Secretary of Defense and the reduced level of overseas MILCON were readily apparent in the presentations.

Each commander was also afforded the opportunity to present topics of special interest during the portion of the conference.

Reorganization

COL Potter gave an overview of a proposal to consolidate certain engineer functions in the Republic of Korea, and he provided an update of progress made towards reaching agreement with the ROK Ministry of National Defense regarding management of the Yongsan relocation.

Both issues COL Potter presented could have a major effect on staffing levels

within FED during the years to come.

Most Efficient Organization (MEO)

The presentations on the MEO for the districts as proposed by POD's staff contrasted with what FED and JED felt were staffing levels required to perform their respective missions. In regards to FED, COL Potter convincingly stated the case for our version of the MEO.

The data compiled by FED's divisions and offices during the month before the conference was extremely valuable in making that case, and the hard work paid off. Gill announced that he would continue to allow the district commanders to make their own staffing decisions.

Contracting Officer Authority issue

Unlike the MEO issue, the COA matter was not brought to closure. Both FED and JED examined the feasibility of consolidating COA at POD headquarters. While each district's approach to the issue was different, the same recommendation resulted. LTC Smith's presentation lead up to the following bottom line: there are no personnel savings to be gained by consolidation, there are increased administrative costs involved, and the efficiency/effectiveness of the districts would be diminished. Therefore, FED recommended that COA be retained in the districts. BG Gill will have the POD staff

PR&A (cont'd)

take another look at the COA issue before making a decision regarding the consolidation of COA.

Program & Project Management

The final conference agenda item was PPM. Richard Torres related that the FED approach focused on the intent of PPM as opposed to trying to emulate a particular organizational structure. COL Potter stressed the importance of developing a sound project management plan as key to starting a project off on the right foot, and he addressed affordability as an important consideration in implementing PPM.

Despite the compelling arguments in favor of the approach offered by the FED team, our decision regarding the organizational structure was remanded for further refinement.

The packed agenda of the conference was made palatable by the graciousness of the hosts. The folks of the Japan Engineer District went to great lengths to make the evenings enjoyable, and they were extremely successful.

Special thanks are due COL Yourtee, Tom Ushijima, Jimmy Cox, and Chuck Frew and their spouses for hosting the after-duty-hours activities.

CSM Spearman visits FED

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Command Sergeant Major, Billy Spearman, arrived in Korea to visit EHSC.

SGM Ferguson invited him to the annual FED Christmas Party which was held this year at Dragon Hill Lodge. He was seated at the same table with this year's FED/POD Soldier of the Year, SFC Michael J. Hooper, who (rumor has it) made quite an impression on the Corp's CSM.

Spearman departed Korea on 7 December. He wished everyone at FED a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Hail & Farewell gives a boost to Far East Orphanage Committee

The Resource Management Office helped boost the treasury of the Far East Orphanage Committee during November's Hail & Farewell held at the East Gate Club on Dec. 7.

As part of the evening's festivities, a 50/50 pot was held with the proceeds donated to the Orphanage Committee.

The winner, Pak, Kye-Un, a member of the Motorpool, graciously declined to accept his portion of the pot, donating \$82.00 to the committee. Pak, also known to the children at St. Vincent's Home as Santa Claus, is very familiar with the plight of these children.

Sgt. Rick Breedlove, chairperson of the committee, then made an appeal to those present that any donation was always appreciated. Those answering the call included Charlie Cheung (POD), Jack Church, Adham Hemdan and CPT Chuck Hollingsworth.

In all, a total of \$344 was donated. The Orphanage Committee would like to thank all those who contributed. Those wishing to make contributions of any kind can contact Rick at 721-7400 or Christine Potter at 737-5014.