



District celebrates 35 years

District personnel and their families turned out in full force June 26 for fun, food and fellowship to celebrate the anniversary of the founding of U.S. Army Engineer District, Far East, on July 1, 1957.

The day-long activities included chess and baduk matches, a kick-volleyball tournament, karaoke singing and a cook out.

Contracting Division ran one of the day's most popular attractions - a full scale karaoke singing set up complete with songs in Hangul and English. Countless district songbirds sang their favorite tunes, and Contracting folks kept the laser discs spinning all day long.

Kim, Hwa Yong, Engineering Division, won the baduk match, and Sgt. 1st Class Mike Covey bested all other chess players.

Members of the winning kick-volleyball team were Kim, Do Ki; Kim, Se Kwon; Pak, Chung Su; Kim, Hui Kyu; and So, To Suk.

Many people contributed to the day's success. Among those deserving special mention are: Capt. Dave Goddard, project officer; Simon Rosa, ticket sales; Tom Knipper and the Construction Division team, food; and Sam Yang and the Combined Defense Projects Management Office team, beverages.

FED's history actually began in June of 1956 when Congress appropriated \$6 million for military construction to improve the living standards of American troops in Korea. The magnitude of this program necessitated a construction agency with resources and experience unavailable in the district's predecessors - the U.S. Army Construction Agency-Korea and the Korea Construction Agency.

FED's mission was to "supervise and prosecute such work relating to military construction in Korea



The sound of music

Music was in the air throughout FED's Organization Day. Simon Rosa, Emergency Management Office, and Capt. Carrie Johnson, Construction Division, sing a karaoke duet. More photos, page 6. (Photos: Yo, Kyong II)

and Japan as directed by the Pacific Ocean Division Engineer." District strength was 105 military, 190 DA civilians, and 631 Korean nationals. There was an Area Office in Japan and Resident Engineer Offices were set up for Seoul, Taegu, and 7th and 24th Infantry Divisions.

In the early years of its existence, the district not only supported improved living conditions for American servicemen and women, but also contributed significantly to fostering local construction industry development and to boosting the recovering Korean economy.

District awards to local firms fueled the emerging war-devastated Republic of Korea economy. FED also encouraged the establishment of Korean factories to produce materials meeting district standards; this often involved actually teaching the industries how to manufacture their products. These district actions saved the expense and delay associated with off-shore procurement for FED customers, supplied more goods for local development and created a base for Korea's entry into the competitive international arena.

(History of the United States Army Engineer District Far East, 1957 to 1975)

News briefs



Petersen's farewell

Departing deputy district engineer, Lt. Col. Robert P. Petersen and his wife, DeeDee were farewelled at a luncheon June 19 at the East Gate Club.

Petersen was presented the Meritorious Service Medal in recognition of his service to the district over the past year.

Farewell gifts included a framed, colorfully embroidered USACE crest, carved wooden desk nameplate with the engineer castle, a celadon vase and Korean drum.

Lt. Col. and Mrs. Petersen, and daughters Karen and Laura, departed June 29 for Vicksburg (Mississippi) District.

Barracks reshape

The \$190 million-a-year Whole Barracks Renewal Program is making barracks more of a home, rather than just a place where soldiers sleep.

Over the next 15 years, soldiers' barracks will be upgraded to the "two plus two" standard—two separated rooms with a shared bathroom. Living space will increase from 85 to 90 square feet for junior enlisted. Also on tap are improvements to recreation, laundry and day rooms, parking lots and landscaping. However, renovations are not scheduled for

barracks on bases earmarked for closing.

Army officials say nearly half of all soldiers live in barracks. (ARNEWS)

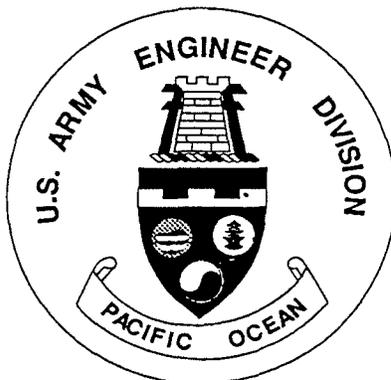
Contract overview

FED Contracting Division chief Harry Kim conducted a three day Contract Overview Course June 16-18 at Camp Walker.

Seven Southern Resident Office employees and four members of the 19th Support Command attended the course, which was developed by the Corps' Training Center for Professional Development in Huntsville, Ala.

K.D. Kim, chief of the district's Combined Defense Projects Management Office, provided an orientation on host nation funded construction projects.

Designed to provide a "big picture" of federal acquisition, the course focused on what and why, rather than how, the acquisition process works. (Contracting Division)



POD chief of staff

Colonel Robert A. Mentell became deputy commander and chief of staff of Pacific Ocean Division July 1.

He was reassigned to Hawaii from Heidelberg, Germany where he served as assistant deputy chief of staff, Engineer, at Headquarters, U.S. Army, Europe.

A 1966 West Point graduate, Mentell earned a master's degree in civil engineering from the University of Texas and is a Registered Professional Engineer in Texas.

He served as a platoon leader and company commander in the 97th Engineer Battalion, first in Verdun, France, and then in Pirmasens, Germany. In Vietnam, he served in the 525th and 526th Engineer Battalions, and returned to the U.S. and was assigned to the Sacramento District as a project engineer.

Other assignments include the Military Personnel Center, Alexandria, Va., and successive tours in Germany as 9th Engineer Battalion executive officer, director of engineering and housing and the Corps' Europe Division area engineer for Aschaffenburg.

Mr. Hatch--to Atlanta

Former chief of engineers, Lt. Gen. H. J. Hatch (Retired), has accepted a position with an Atlanta based multinational engineering and environmental firm, LAW Companies Group, Inc. He will serve as vice chairman and CEO of international operations.

Emergency training

Seventeen district soldiers and civilians completed two days of Emergency Operations training June 18-19 on the FED compound. Purpose of the training was to familiarize students with Corps' disaster operations performed in support of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Presented by POD Emergency Management chief Jimmy Lee and emergency planner, Phil Kim, the course featured classroom instruction as well as practical exercises. (Emergency Management Office)

Personality profile

Who ya gonna call?

District HTW-buster Rick Hoff—a kid at heart, motivated by love of chemistry, teaching

So cold that it boils at room temperature, liquid nitrogen bubbles out of its container, slurping greedily onto the chemist's ungloved hand. The audience of school kids is amazed it doesn't hurt.

"Chemistry is like magic," says Maj. Rick Hoff, fulltime deputy Northern resident engineer, part-time district "HTW-buster," and round-the-clock chemistry guru.

"Everybody likes demonstrations and wonders why certain reactions occur; so they're a great way to make chemistry easier to understand." (Hoff's hand is unscathed by brief exposure to liquid nitrogen because the heat from his hand causes the gas to vaporize.) "But, I really think that what keeps me doing it is that I'm a kid at heart, and I love to play."

Learning to solve problems

"It's not just learning chemistry, it's learning how to solve problems," says Hoff of his life-long affinity for the science. "I try to break concepts down into palatable thoughts, and then encourage the students to put it all together until they start thinking for themselves."

Although he has fulltime responsibilities as project manager on one of the district's most visible projects - Dragon Hill Lodge Annex - he has **made** time to bring chemistry into the minds and hearts of area youngsters. From high school career days to brownie troop meetings, and second graders to special needs students, Hoff has willingly sought out opportunities to take the mystery out of chemistry through hands on demonstrations and tours of construction sites.

It's not just a love of chemistry



Maj. Rick Hoff captures the attention of elementary school students with a demonstration of the magic of chemistry. (Photo by Yo, Kyong II)

that motivates Hoff, but a love of teaching as well. He's "always been a teacher" beginning in high school when he tutored younger students, and as a cadet at West Point he tutored his roommates. Duty as a platoon leader in the 9th Engineer Battalion, Aschaffenburg, Germany, and as a company commander in the 14th Engineer Battalion at Fort Ord offered additional opportunities to mentor and teach.

Hoff came to FED in June after having taught chemistry at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point for three years. He specialized in teaching freshmen students for whom chemistry was difficult. "They needed someone to take extra effort, and I found it easy to help them improve," he said. "And when you got them to see the light, it was really bright."

Intermolecular forces

Using practical demonstrations of chemistry in everyday life was key to Hoff's teaching success. Did you know, for example, that it's intermolecular forces which cause you to have to

shake the bottle of Italian salad dressing before you use it?

Hoff's goal for his first ten years in the Army was returning to West Point (He's a 1979 graduate.) to teach chemistry. His father was head of the Chemistry Department there for 30 years. And, Hoff had planned to follow his father's path and become a permanent chemistry professor at West Point.

Environmental engineering

However, his goals changed when he chose to pursue a Masters Degree in Environmental Engineering. Selection of such a specialized field for his masters negated his chances of a permanent professorship. Hoff chose an environmental engineering major because there's lots of hands on work still to be done in this field and because you get to work outdoors.

Here at FED he's found equally satisfying work not only as a deputy resident engineer, but as the district's resident expert on evaluating and managing FED's hazardous waste

See Hoff, page 4

Maj. Hoff manages district HTW sampling

From page 3

sampling and analysis contract. He's "on call" to travel to problem sites throughout Korea in his HTW-busters van loaded with sampling jars, protective clothing and other tools of the trade. Business is so brisk that plans are underway to transfer Hoff to full time environmental duties.

"I enjoy going to a site, evaluating the hazardous waste problem, and recommending how to dispose of it safely and at the least cost," he said.

His responsibilities also include sample collection and

delivery to one of two host nation laboratories for analysis. All substance analysis was previously done in the United States. But Hoff's chemistry background and environmental engineering expertise allow the district to perform services which save FED customers' time and preclude the possibility of breakage or loss during shipping.

Demands for his expertise have steadily increased so that plans now call for Hoff to transfer to a fulltime assignment in the districts' environmental branch. There's a question popularized in "Ghostbusters", "Who ya gonna call?". On HTW issues, the district answers: Rick Hoff.

Commentary

Nixing nicotine

by Larry W. Bryant
Army News Service

Run through a litany of smoking-related disease, and you begin to wonder if there's any disorder or organ failure that can't be traced to regular use of tobacco products.

One such list, compiled recently by Col. (Dr.) Byron C. Gwinn II of Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu, ought to be enough to persuade the average smoker to quit immediately — and to convince the prospective smoker to abandon the fantasy that only the "other guy" incurs the high human cost of addiction to nicotine.

For samplers, Gwen's list starts out with **CANCER** of the —

- Lungs
- Larynx
- Pharynx
- Esophagus
- Cervix
- Bladder
- Stomach
- Pancreas
- Kidney

....then cites such conditions as....

- Chronic bronchitis
- Coronary artery disease
- Arteriosclerotic peripheral vascular disease ("smoker's leg")
- Stroke

....and brings it all home with....

- Increased infant mortality
- Birth defects
- Unsuccessful pregnancy
- Peptic ulcer
- Chronic lung disease (emphysema).

Comings & goings

Sergeant Rick Breedlove and his wife became the proud parents of a baby girl, born June 30. Their new daughter was unnamed at press time. The Breedlove's have a 2-year-old son, Glenn.

Sergeant Carlos Rodriguez, district mail clerk for the past seven months, has departed Korea and returned to his wife and two daughters in Florida. Rodriguez decided to take advantage of the Selective Separation Bonus and leave Army service with a lump sum cash payment. He received the Army Commen-

dation Medal upon his departure.

Departing from the Seoul Project Office was **Sergeant First Class David Mullins**. He has been reassigned to Fort Hood, Texas. Mullins earned the Meritorious Service Medal for his contributions to the district over the past two years.

Sergeant First Class Peter Campbell departs Central Resident Office this month for Dallas, Texas, where he will serve as an advisor to an Army Reserve engineer unit. Campbell has been nominated for the Meritorious Service Medal.

Two new captains arrived in the district in the past month. **Captain Tyrone J. Brumfield** earned a Masters Degree in Building Construction at the University of Florida before coming to Korea. He has been assigned to Northern Resident Office.

Captain James Avants comes to the district from the 588th Engineer Battalion at Fort Polk, La. He is assigned to Combined Defense Projects Management Office.

Did you know?

In what city are three of the five tallest buildings in the United States located? **Chicago**

What city and three territories elect a nonvoting delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives? **Washington, D.C.; American Samoa; Guam; Virgin Islands**

How many members make up the Electoral College? **538**

How many Electoral College votes are needed to win the U.S. presidential election? **270**

Who is the FED voting officer? **Capt. John Handy, 738-8933**. Call him for absentee voting applications.

What are the International System of Units' seven basic units of measure? **meter, kilogram, second, ampere, kelvin, candela, mole**

What is the only one of the ancient seven wonders of the world that still exists? **Egyptian pyramids**

(American Forces Information Service)

Baseball All-Star trivia

Where was the first baseball All-Star game played? **Chicago** (1933)

Which league won the first baseball All-Star game? **American League** (4-2)

In what year was there no baseball All-Star game? **1945**

During what years were there two baseball All-Star games? **1959-1962**

How many baseball All-Star games have been canceled because of rain? **One** (1961)

How many innings was the longest baseball All-Star game? **15** (1967)

When was the first nighttime baseball All-Star game played? **1943**

Where will the 1992 baseball All-Star game be played? **San Diego** (July 14)

(American Forces Info Service)



A glance at FED's Organization Day

