



East Gate Edition

U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers
Far East District

February 1998

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FED hosts distinguished visitors from HQUSACE and POD

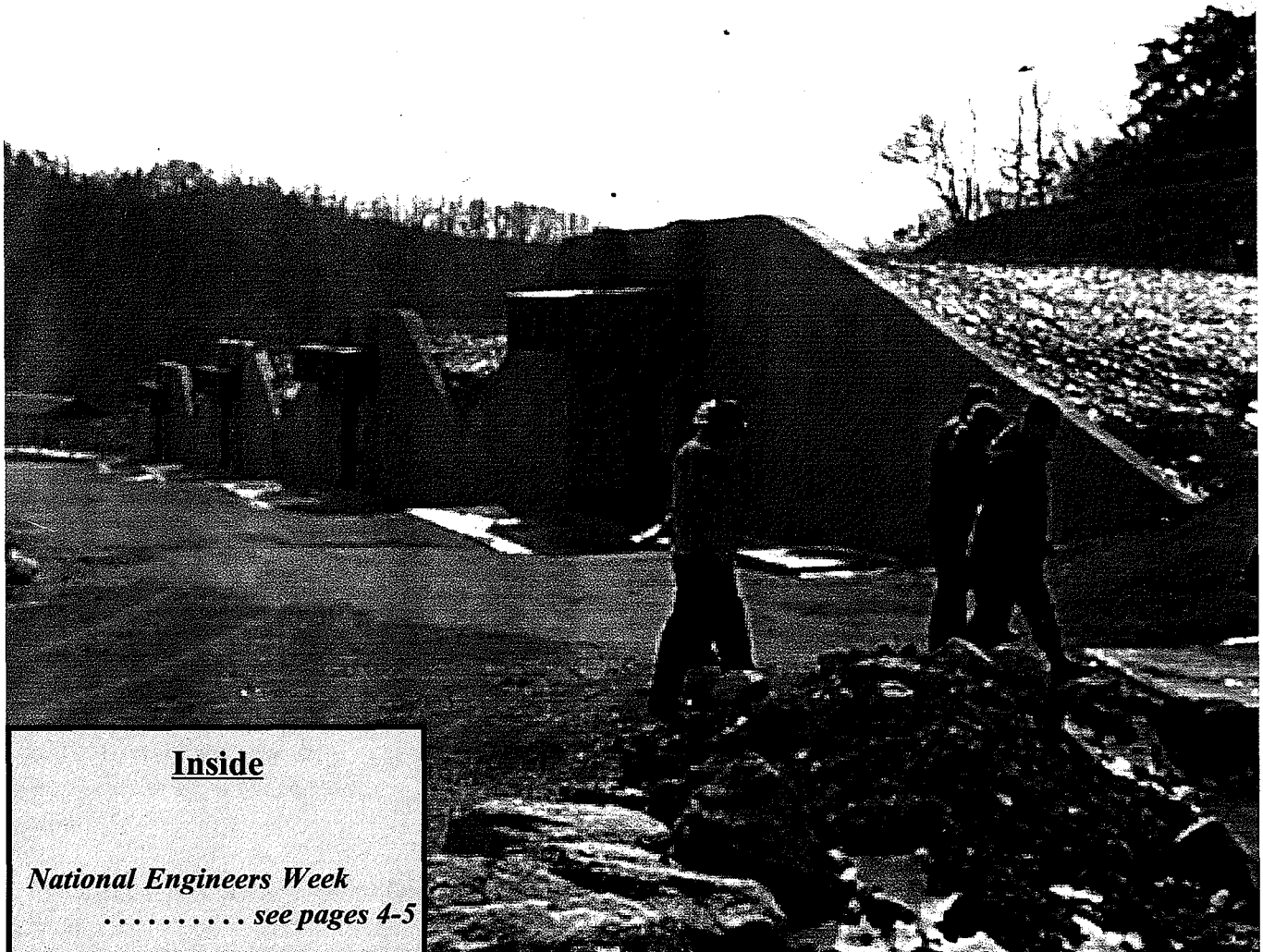


photo by CPT Steve Walker

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During a recent trip to FED, Mr. Phil Hunt, Chief, Army Branch, Directorate of Military Programs, Programs Management Division, HQ, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Mr. Adrian Au, Deputy Director, Programs Management, POD; and Mr. Richard Torres, Program Manager, POD, toured construction sites at Camp Casey. Projects included a dining facility, barracks and a ready magazine (ammo storage). Pictured above is the \$7.6 million ready magazine (ammo storage) site.

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From the Commander



Customer satisfaction created by you will allow us to make dramatic inroads in our goals of revolutionizing effectiveness and seeking growth opportunities. You are the first line of contact with our customer. Your attitude and approach, as well as your technical skills flawlessly executed, result in a relationship in which the customer will have certain expectations. Meeting these expectations is the single most important item in creating and sustaining customer satisfaction.

But **how** to achieve customer satisfaction is an important question. Many members of our team appear to have an inborn ability to create and manage our customer's expectations. These skills, whether natural or acquired, have their basis in four words: anticipate, simplify, coordinate, and recommend.

Anticipate. No one knows your job better than you. Invest time in thinking through the future from our customer's point of view. Identify potential points of misunderstanding and dedicate yourself to eliminating them before they occur.

Simplify. Our business is complicated and complex. Insure you have a thorough understanding of our processes as well as the technical aspects of the job. Then develop an approach that can be understood by a third grader. Talk **to** our customers, not down to our customers.

Coordinate. Knowledge is power. Share that power with our customers. Go out of your way to keep our customers informed. Include our customers in all that you do.

Recommend. Provide options to our customers as there are many solutions to the challenges we face. Avoid presenting the customer-frustrating "done deals". If you prefer a specific option, then recommend it.

Barbara and I are proud of you and all that you do each day for the alliance between the Republic of Korea and the United States.

Building for peace on the frontiers of freedom!

COL James L. Hickey

Looking for information on the 1998 "Reunion in Korea Program?" Look no further than your internet browser. Just bookmark <http://www.korea.army.mil/usfk/pao/reunion/reunion.htm> for all the information you need to bring family members to Korea for a tour they'll never forget.

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District Commander: COL James L. Hickey Public Affairs Officer: Gloria Stanley Photographer: Yo, Kyong-il

Safety

Beware of drowsiness brought on by allergy and cold medications.

The cold and flu season is here again. Now is a good time for our annual warning about using over-the-counter cold and flu medications during working hours. Sometimes cold remedies and work are not a good mix.

The most common side effect of over-the-counter cold and flu medicine is drowsiness, which lowers one's alertness and reaction time. From 10 to 25 percent of people taking these medications report daytime drowsiness. This can be more than just an annoyance. Approximately 200,000 vehicle collisions are attributed to sleepiness every year. Fatigue is a factor in nearly one-third of truck incidents in which the driver is killed. Taking medications then coming to work and using machinery or sharp tools can be dangerous. So, when you are ill, what should you do?

In many cases your employer may not want you to show up for work when you have a bad cold or the flu. Not only does your risk of injury increase if you are drowsy, but your productivity is likely to be poor as well. In addition, you may pass a virus to co-workers so that they too become ill. Finally, your own recovery may be delayed if you are not getting enough rest to

fight the ailment. But sometimes you must come to work and you need to take medications. If this is the case, remember the following:

Let your supervisor know.

It may be possible to change your work assignments or temporarily arrange for less-hazardous work. You probably shouldn't do tasks that require the use of a respirator or that are highly demanding physically. Another reason for speaking to your supervisor is to acknowledge that your performance may not be quite up to par for a few days. Also, should you be injured, your supervisor and emergency responders will need to know what medications you are taking if you are unable to recall.

Do not mix medications

Remember that these pills, capsules, or tonics are chemicals. They may be incompatible when mixed, causing more harm than good. A mixture of medicines, or medicine mixed with alcohol, may intensify a side effect or even be dangerous.

Read the label.

This is where you will find information about dosage and

side effects. If you can't read or don't fully understand the label, ask or phone the pharmacist.

Don't try new remedies during work hours.

If you feel like experimenting with something new or different, do it over the weekend. Everyone reacts differently to cold and flu medication. Find the one that works best and gives you the fewest side effects, and stay with it.

Wash your hands often.

We give this advice to kids, but everyone should remember it during cold and flu season. More cold viruses are transmitted from hand to hand, from doorknob to hand, or from hand to mouth than in any other way. The best cold and flu solution is prevention.

*Re-printed from the Construction Newsletter
September/October Edition.*

February Safety Slogan:

**INSURANCE is good,
PROTECTION is better,
PREVENTION is best.**



Military Corner

by LTC Dale Knieriemen



Humor: Teenagers God's punishment for enjoying sex

Since last month, Sergeant First Class Steven Turley has joined us and is working at the Seoul Project Office. Captain Sheldon Kauffman was supposed to go TDY to Bosnia for 179 days, but has been diverted to spend the same amount of time in Heidelberg, Germany. ROUGH DUTY!! I hope he gets his fill of beer and bratwurst. If you would like to email him, look for his name in the email address

book and use the one that has the little globe in front of it.

This month, it looks like we will be having Captain John Parrott join us for a one-year tour. He will be assigned to the Kunsan Project Office and Sergeant First Class St. Onge gets to break in another officer.

Now the big news! We will be getting a new District Engineer in July. Colonel David J. Rehbein will take command of the district

on 16 July. Mark your calendars! His wife Leila and three sons, Christopher, Matthew and Timothy will join Colonel Rehbein. More details to follow.

One final note. Property accountability is something we all are responsible for each and every day. Please make sure that if you are signed for property you do a good job of maintaining accountability for that property.



Schedule of Events for National Engineers Week, 22-28 Feb 98

Preliminary event, Saturday, 21 Feb 98

0930-1030 5-K Fun Run,
Yonsan

Monday, 23 Feb 98

0800-1000 Bake/Poster/Mug
sale at FED,
proceeds go
toward SAME's
Seoul American
High School
student
scholarships.

1100-1200 Kickoff ceremony
Dragon Hill Lodge

*Displays will be set up for public
viewing at the DHL and the Post
Library all week.*

Tuesday, 24 Feb 98

1530-1700 SAHS student tour
of FED.

Wednesday, 25 Feb 98

1000-1100 Bechtol
presentation at FED,
"High Speed Rail
Project, Korea".

1130-1230 Chili Cookoff
Competition/lunch

at FED, proceeds
going toward the
SAHS student
scholarships.

Thursday, 26 Feb 98

1400-1500 Water Well Drill Rig
Demonstration,
ACS Site, Yongsan.

Friday, 27 Feb 98

0800-1200 Visit to Nanji-Do
Landfill Site (cutoff
wall), hosted by
Soletanche.



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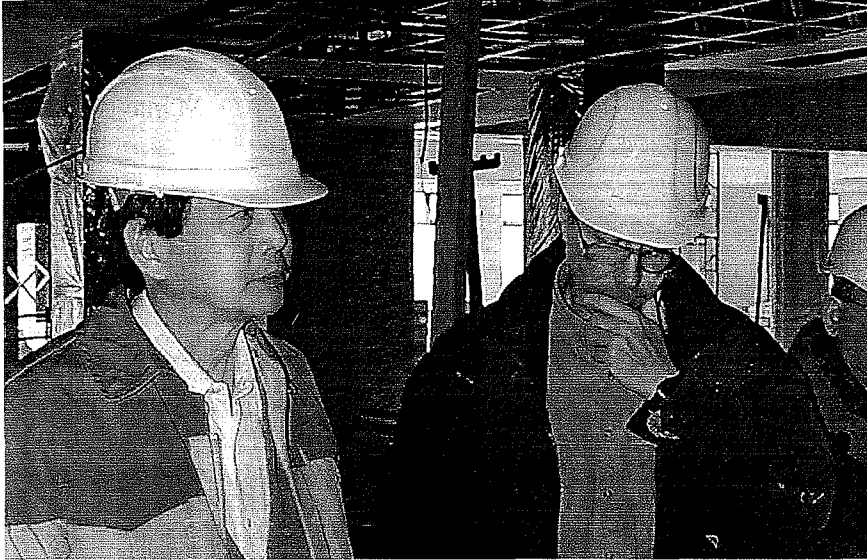


photo by CPT Steve Walker

Adrian Au (left) and Phil Hunt are briefed on the construction site of a \$4.5 million dollar dining facility at Camp Casey.

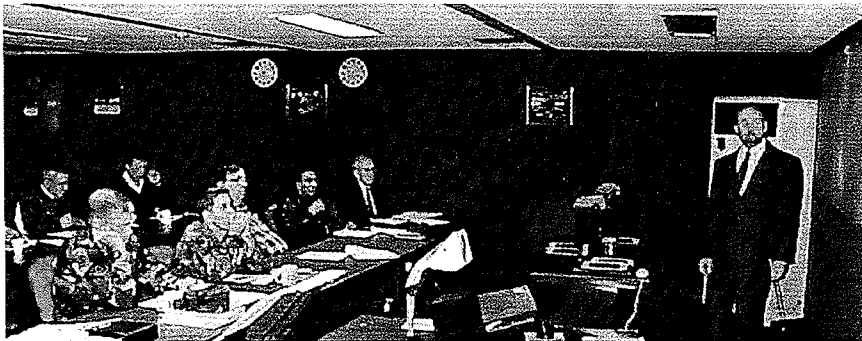


photo by CPT Steve Walker

Mr. Bob Losey, PPM, FED, briefs COL (P) Carl A. Strock, POD Commander, COL James L. Hickey, FED Commander, and members of Eighth U.S. Army on contracting in Korea under the current economic conditions.

National Engineers Week 22-28 February 1998

Everyone is invited to participate in the many events scheduled.

Bake Sale, FED, 8-10 a.m.-23 Feb Chili Cookoff, FED, 11:30 a.m.-25 Feb

Kickoff Ceremony, Dragon Hill Lodge - 11a.m. - 23 Feb

Water Well Drill Rig Demonstration - ACS site, Yongsan, 2:00p.m.-26 Feb

Won fluctuations affect contracts

by Bob Losey

FED began using "all dollar" contracts in FY97 because the CEFMS system and the DoD worldwide contract monitoring system used by all DoD agencies were not compatible. It is difficult to track both won and dollar amounts in one contract.

"This change added the benefit of awarding contracts at lower cost as the won exchange rate has been higher than the DoD established budget rate," said Bob Losey, PPM at FED.

The Korean contractors agreed to this change because the won value was relatively stable, and as the strength of the dollar increased in relation to the won, the dollars they receive in progress payments could buy more won.

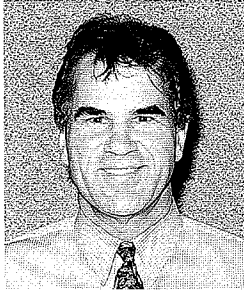
However, the situation has changed because the won suddenly decreased in value by over 50% in two months and is now fluctuating. At this time, future value of the won relative to dollars is very unpredictable.

The Korean economy is facing increased inflation. Because of International Monetary Fund regulations in the structuring of Korea's financial institutions and new ROK government regulations, construction companies have challenges. They have difficulty in opening Letters of Credit for off-shore procurement, as well as establishing lines of credit to mobilize for new contracts.



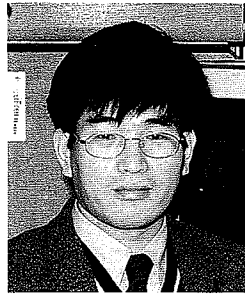
New Team Members

Patrick Clancy joined FED in January to serve as Acting Chief, IMO on a 120-day temporary assignment from the



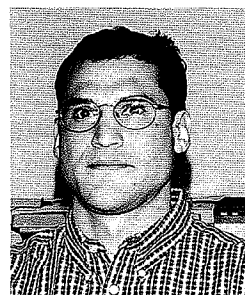
Pittsburgh District where he serves as their Chief, IMO. His home town is Pittsburgh and his interests include being a project coordinator for "Pittsburgh Cares", a volunteer clearinghouse for western Pennsylvania. He is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh with a Bachelor's degree in Biology and Master's degrees in Civil Engineering and Information Sciences. He has served the Pittsburgh district in various assignments since beginning his career there, in 1977, as a temporary hire in their Water Quality Section. He also served Pittsburgh District as an environmental engineer, Chief of the Mapping Section, CADD Systems Administrator, and Chief of their IMO Planning Branch before becoming Chief of their IMO in 1996. He claims he learned about this vacancy by e-mail from POD's Director of Information Management, Jim Ligh, who promised Seoul winters were balmy. Pat decided the change would be good. Pat says his daughter, Katie, age 7-1/2, is known as "the cutest little girl East of the Mississippi."

O, Song-Hun joined FED in January to serve as an architect. His interests include table tennis and classical



music. His home town is Inchon and he graduated from Chung-Buk University with a degree in Architectural Engineering. Prior to arriving at FED, he worked for the 34th DPW in the Estimating Inspection Branch as an engineering technician and before that as an engineering technician for KOAX Engineering. He wants to learn the American work style and system. He is married to Kim, Sun-Tok and they have one child, O, Ki-Ppum.

Pete G. Perez joined the FED team in January to serve as a civil engineer in the Quality Assurance Branch. His home town is San



Antonio, Texas. His interests include physical fitness, home restoration, and reading. He holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Texas A&M University and a Master's degree in Environmental Science from the University of Texas at San

Antonio. Prior to joining FED he worked at Ft. Worth District's Construction Division's San Antonio Area Office. His first assignment for FED was to attend the Army Management Staff College. Pete and his wife, Grace, have two daughters, Michelle, age 9, and Victoria, age 4.



Do You Know?

Onetime Yugoslavia President Josep Broz (or Brozovich) was better known by what name?
Tito

Who was the Greek goddess of discord?
Eris

Around what body of land was the first America's Cup yachting race held in 1851?
Isle of Wight, England

The Liberty Bell in Philadelphia was tolling the death of what prominent American when it cracked on July 8, 1835?
Chief Justice John Marshall

Who was the last president of the Continental Congress, sworn in on Jan. 22, 1788?
Cyrus Griffin (Virginia)

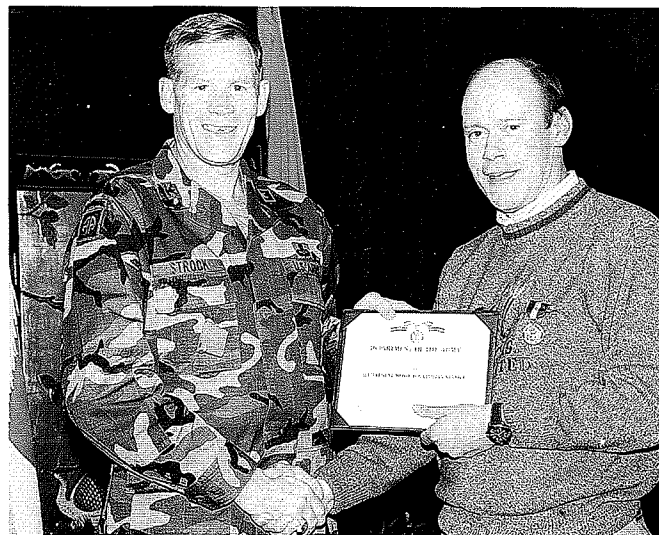


Awards



(Above) Mr. Ed Nam, LMO, receives the Korean Service Medal.

(Below) Mr. Richard Byron receives the Army Achievement Medal for Civilian Service.



Colonel(P) Carl A. Strock, POD Commander, presents awards at February Town Meeting

(Below) Mr. Yi, Chang-Su, Engineering Division, receives an award for 20 years of Federal service.



(Above) Mr. Pete Perez receives promotion to GS12. Mr. Perez was also congratulated for completing the Army Management Staff College course.

February Events

February 1

Black History Month begins.

American Heart Month begins.

Black students sit down at a Woolworth's lunch counter in Greensboro, N.C., to protest local practice of serving blacks only if they stand, 1960.

First moving picture studio completed -- on Thomas Edison's compound in West Orange, N.J., 1893.

President Abraham Lincoln signed the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, abolishing slavery, 1865.

February 2

Groundhog Day

President Harry S. Truman issued a message to Congress ending segregation in the military, 1948.

Treaty of Guadalupe Hildago was signed, ending the Mexican War, 1841.

February 3

Sixteenth Amendment to the Constitution, authority to levy income taxes, was ratified, 1913.

American artist, illustrator, Norman Rockwell, was born in New York City, 1878.

February 4

American pioneer aviator, Charles Lindbergh, was born in

Detroit, 1902.

USO founded in 1941.

February 6

Ronald Reagan was born in Tampico, Ill., 1911.

Twentieth Amendment to Constitution, changing date of presidential inauguration to January was adopted, 1933.

February 7

Eleventh Amendment to Constitution, curbing powers of the judiciary, was ratified, 1795.

Shoe rationing begins in the U.S. as part of the war effort, 1943.

February 8

Boy Scouts of America was established, 1910.

Seven Southern states form Confederate States of America, with Jefferson Davis as president, 1861.

February 9

Organized Japanese resistance ends of Guadalcanal; more than 25,000 Japanese and 1,500 Americans died during first U.S. offensive of World War II, begun several months earlier, 1943.

February 10

Twenty-fifth Amendment to the Constitution, clarifying presidential succession, was ratified, 1967.

February 11

Nelson Mandela was released from South African prison after 27-1/2 years, 1990.

February 12

Abraham Lincoln's birthday, Hardin County, Ky., 1809.

U.S. Army General Omar N. Bradley was born in Clark, Mo., 1893.

February 13

First U.S. public school opens in Boston, 1635.

February 14

Valentines Day.

February 16

Presidents Day.

February 22

George Washington's birthday, Westmoreland County, Va., 1732.

February 23

National Engineers Week begins with kickoff ceremony at 1100 at Dragon Hill Lodge.

February 24

Fleet ADM Chester William Nimitz was born, 1885.

February 26

U.S. Congress established Grand Canyon National Park, 1919.