



# East Gate Edition

U.S. Army Corps  
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Far East District

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## Revolutionizing effectiveness

### FED hosts a Korea-Wide JOC Partnering Workshop

by Gloria Stanley

Job Order Contracts (JOC) are not unusual in Korea, but the Far East District has just awarded its first peninsula-wide JOC.

As a partnering effort, the District invited DPWs, BCEs, and other potential customers to a two-day workshop.

"The purpose of the workshop is to familiarize our customers and users with the KW-JOC process and how it works," said CPT Steve Walker, Programs and Project Management Division, Far East District.

"We want to make them aware the KW-JOC is another tool available to them for their construction needs," Walker added.

To help achieve this, Mr. Bill Alsop, facilitated the workshop.

Developed by the Far East District, the KW-JOC provides an effective means of reducing the total lead-time for real property maintenance and repair or minor construction required on military



A group of 50 participated in FED's Korea-Wide Job Order Contract workshop at Dragon Hill Lodge on November 23-24, 1998.

installations. Its principle value is its ability to eliminate time-consuming, costly aspects of the traditional design and construction process which uses separate contracting actions.

The contract divides the Peninsula into eight geographical areas and includes 103 military installations and training sites encompassing nearly 10,000

buildings with more than 41.5 million square feet.

Benefits to the installation commander and engineers include reduced design costs; increased responsiveness and flexibility; and reduced overall acquisition costs and lead-time. However, initiation, use, and administration of JOC, in general, involve significant up-front and recurring costs.



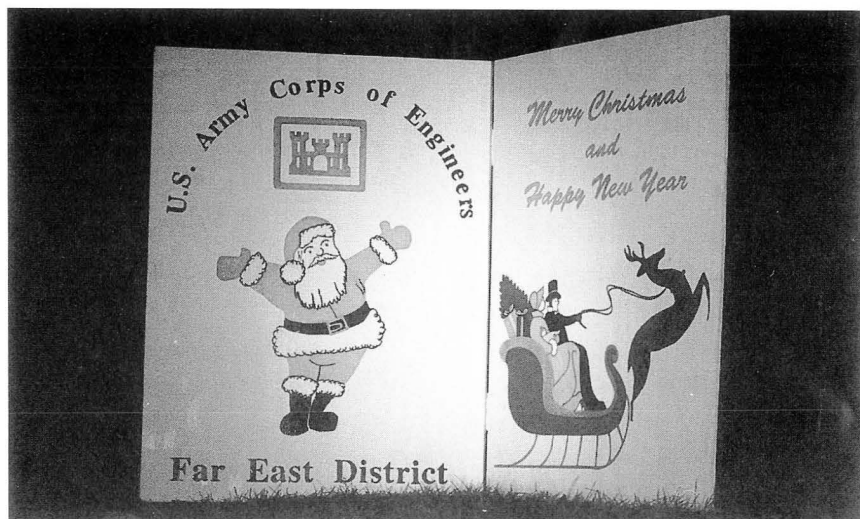
#### Inside

ACS Groundbreaking at Yongsan  
..... see page 5

FED participates in ribbon cutting - Repair  
Taxiway Alpha - Osan Air Base  
..... see page 6

FarEast District conducts 5th Contractor  
Construction Certification Course  
..... see page 7

FED conducts H&H study of areas flooded  
in August  
..... see page 8



The District sends holiday greetings to the community with a Christmas card created by Mr. Yo, Kyong-II, Reprographics, and Mr. Ken Pickler, LMO. The wooden greeting card (4ft. high x 8ft. wide) is displayed with others outside the self-help center at Yongsan.

# From the Commander



COL David J. Rehbein

## The most important things

It seems only a few days ago that the holiday season was a far off, wistfully anticipated event during which we could all pause and recuperate a bit from the busy summer and fall. Well, now it's upon us and . . . we seem to be as busy as ever.

As the holiday season unfolds here in Korea, we can all be proud of the past year. I can report to you that we are fully - and successfully - engaged in addressing the flood recovery construction missions we have received. My thanks to all of you who are working so hard on this unprecedented surge in our workload. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed. During his recent trip here, BG Strock passed on to me his pleasure with our progress and the positive spirit here in the

District.

But, this month in this short column, rather than talk to you about the work going on in the District I'd like to take the opportunity to talk about more important things. Sometimes in the midst of working so hard we forget to reflect on those things which make us what we are and give us lasting satisfaction.

We've all heard that near the end of their life, most people aren't concerned about how long they worked, how much money they made, or which projects were done ahead of schedule. Almost universally, the most important memories are those of relationships with family and friends.

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*"Sometimes in the midst of working so hard we forget to reflect on those things which make us what we are and give us lasting satisfaction."*

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In the final analysis, we will all wish we'd spent more time with our children. We will all regret not having spent a few more days with

our parents. We will all wish we'd paid more attention to how and why we did things. . . not what and how much work we did.

Take the opportunity of this holiday season to make sure you are doing the right things.

For my family and me our December holidays consist of celebrating Christmas. For us it is a very special time that allows us to reinforce family bonds and renew our commitment to less earthly concerns.

To us, the Christmas season . . . as indicated by its very name . . . celebrates the special arrival, in human form, of grace, mercy, and peace.

Those are very important ideas for each of us to hold dear whether in our personal lives or in how we work with each other here in the District.

No matter what your personal or family traditions at this time of year, please reflect on the special significance of those concepts as we look across the border to the north. Think of them as you conduct business in the workplace. But most especially, take the time to act upon them at home.

A blessed holiday to all.

COL David Rehbein

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Check out the Far East District web site at [Http://www.pof.usace.army.mil](http://www.pof.usace.army.mil)

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# Safety

## Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

*With the upcoming cold weather, the safety office wishes to remind you of the hazards of fuel burning appliances, to include furnaces, stoves, fireplaces, clothes dryers and space heaters. All of which give off the byproduct of "carbon monoxide" (CO).*

### What is it?

Carbon monoxide - a colorless, odorless, tasteless gas - is one of the most common industrial hazards. Mild poisoning can cause nausea, dizziness or headaches, while severe poisoning can result in brain or heart damage or even death.

This poisonous gas is produced by the incomplete burning of any material containing carbon, such as gasoline, natural gas, oil, propane, coal or wood. Forges, blast furnaces and coke ovens in addition to the above listed items found in the home, all produce carbon monoxide, but one of the most common sources of exposure in the workplace is the internal combustion engine.

Be suspicious of carbon monoxide poisoning if you develop a headache, flushed face, dizziness or weakness. Bear in mind that although carbon monoxide has no telltale odor, it may mix with gases which do have an odor. Thus, the smell of other gases doesn't mean an absence of carbon monoxide.

### Are you likely to be poisoned?

If you have a heart condition, your condition may be aggravated by carbon monoxide. Ingestion of barbiturates and alcohol may increase the gas health effects. Further, smokers will have higher carboxyhemoglobin than non-smokers, and therefore face higher risk from carbon monoxide exposure on the job.

Harmful levels of carbon monoxide are a potential danger to: acetylene workers, blast furnace workers, boiler room workers, diesel engine operators, dock workers, garage mechanics, petroleum refinery workers, pulp and paper workers, steel workers, toll booth and tunnel attendants, and warehouse workers.

### How does carbon monoxide harm you?

Large amounts of carbon monoxide can kill in minutes. The more carbon monoxide in the air and the longer you are exposed to it, the greater the danger. Any one or more of the following symptoms can signal carbon monoxide poisoning: headaches, tightness across the chest, nausea, drowsiness, inattention or fatigue. As the amount of carbon monoxide in the air increases, more serious symptoms develop such as lack of coordination, weakness and confusion.

The poisoning can be reversed if caught in time. But even if you recover, acute poisoning may result in permanent damage to the parts of your body which require a lot of oxygen, such as the heart and brain.

There is a significant reproductive risk involved with carbon monoxide. An American Journal of Industrial Medicine article quotes two studies showing that acute carbon monoxide exposures non-lethal to the mother were associated with fetal loss.

### What can you do about carbon monoxide?

If you suspect carbon

monoxide, get out of the area and into the open fresh air. Remove anyone overcome by the gas immediately and give the person artificial respiration until the doctor arrives or the person recovers. Prompt action can make the difference between life and death.

### How can poisoning be prevented?

1. Install an effective ventilation system to remove poisonous carbon monoxide from the area.
2. Maintain appliance and equipment in good order, adjusting flames, burners and drafts to reduce the formation of carbon monoxide.
3. Consider switching from fossil fuel powered equipment to battery-powered machinery when possible.
4. Install carbon monoxide monitors or regularly test air in areas where carbon monoxide is generated or used.
5. Instruct family members and workers on the hazards of carbon monoxide.
6. Have a professional inspect all vents to furnaces, water heaters, boilers and other fuel-burning appliances to make sure they are not loose or disconnected.

### Suggestions for you

1. Be alert to ventilation problems, especially in enclosed areas where gases of burning fuels may be released.
2. Inspect your appliances and heating systems accordingly and get rid of questionable equipment.
3. Do not sleep in a parked vehicle with the engine or heater running.
4. If you get sick, don't forget to tell your doctor about the possibility of exposure to carbon monoxide.
5. Think carefully about your smoking habits. Tobacco, when burned, releases carbon monoxide, which reduces the oxygen-carrying ability of the blood, even before any industrial exposure is added.

*CO is a killer and will attack without you knowing it. You cannot see, taste, or smell it. Don't think for a second it can't happen to you.*

## December Safety Slogan:

*"A minute for safety  
beats a month for repairs."*

## The 2IC's Corner



by LTC Mark Cain  
Deputy Commander

### Thanksgiving and Christmas - *a time for reflection*

I hope you all enjoyed your Thanksgiving and took some time to reflect on the many things for which we should all be thankful.

My family chose to spend some time on the east coast over the Thanksgiving weekend. We enjoyed two Korean hot springs at Duk-ku in Kyongsan-do and O-sek in Kwangwondo. The hot mineral water and wonderful food of the east coast (fresh fish, mountain vegetables, and so on) made for a very relaxing and stress-relieving weekend. For those of you who have not traveled in-country, I'd highly recommend a weekend at a hot spring. Or, in Engineer terms, a given inequality - *hot mineral water does not equal stress*.

As many of you know, COL Rehbein has returned. I'd like to personally thank each one of you for your help over the last seven weeks. My tenure as the Acting Commander was made very easy through your dedicated efforts. You all responded quickly and professionally to every requirement and I really appreciate your support.

I am very pleased with our progress in the EED and MED arena. The AVIP, issue of chemical protective gear and TA-50 (field gear) is going

well. Mr. Crays is working the EED physical requirements. You should be seeing some paperwork on physicals shortly which we will forward to the respective CPACs for their "chop". Required training will be the next hurdle. Our assigned military will be contacting each Division and Resident Office in the near future to arrange times and dates for this training. Fortunately, some of the required medical training overlaps into the safety/first-aid area and will do double duty.

The Reception, Staging, Onward Movement, and Integration (RSO&I) exercise will occur in the April timeframe. Our involvement in this exercise will be more than just our active duty military, IMAs, and selected EECs. We will have more involvement from the District as a whole. The USFK Engineer is looking to the District for many wartime requirements. We will be exercising some of these requirements during RSO&I.

Flood Damage Restoration is moving out. In addition to our "normal" program, we have 11 MILCON projects and a to-be-announced portion of the EUSA OMA projects. We can anticipate some flood mitigation projects, construction management (networking/scheduling) services, transition period facilities, infrastructure repairs, and probably

some conventional renovations. These allocations of OMA work will be approved in the near future. The point is that will be doing more than just MILCON work.

It is clear that once again we will be executing two or three major programs simultaneously depending on the timeframe. In August, we executed three programs simultaneously and to standard. I know we can do the same again. FED has always risen to the challenge and executed. FY99 will be no different.

The Christmas and New Year holidays are approaching. On the peninsula, which is still technically at war, a season of peace may seem out of place. One only needs to look north to the DMZ and beyond to recognize that a restart of hostilities could occur at any moment and with little warning. However, despite this environment, my hope and prayer is that each of you find that special peace of Christmas and really enjoy the holidays with friends and family.

I must end with a Christmas greeting. For this month's edition and although we are at armistice. . . Think Peace! . . . It is what this world needs.

God bless you and yours!







The Hyundai Project Staff executes the traditional Kosa ceremony wishing the project good luck and the honored guests receive "makuli" to splash on the ground to wish the project additional good luck.

## ACS groundbreaking

by Gloria Stanley

At 10:30a.m., December 4, 1998, officials participated in a groundbreaking for a 27,444 square feet, two-story, pre-engineered Army Community Services Building (ACS) on Yongsan Garrison.

With an anticipated occupancy date of April 2000, it is a \$3.9 million project which will improve the quality of life for members of the Yongsan Community.

The new building will replace one destroyed by fire in 1997 which housed services relocated to various locations on Yongsan after the fire. These services included the Red Cross, One-Stop Information Center, the Director of Public Works Housing Division, the Career and Alumni Program and the Adolescent Substance Abuse Counseling Services.

After master of ceremonies for the event, CPT Shelley Berry-Hodne, welcomed everyone, Mr. Han, Moo Seung, Vice President, Hyundai Engineering and Construction Co.; COL David Rehbein, Commander, Far East District; and COL David Osborn,



Participating in the shovel ceremony were (l-r): Mr. Paul Robinson, Director of Community Activities; COL David Osborn, Commander, 34th Support Group; Mr. Han, Moo Seung, Vice President, Hyundai Engineering and Construction Co.; COL David Rehbein, Commander, Far East District; LTG Daniel Petrosky, Commanding General, Eighth United States Army; and General John Tilelli, Commander in Chief, UNC/CFC and Commander, U.S. Forces Korea.

Commander, 34th Support Group, made remarks.

"It takes strong cooperation and partnerships to move a project along such a schedule," said COL Rehbein.

"Thanks to Hyundai, the Director of Public Works, and the Director of Community Activities for your efforts in helping reach this stage of the project," Rehbein said.

Next on the program was something special, particularly for those who had not been to one. The Hyundai Project Staff and the honored participants

(General John Tilelli, LTG Daniel Petrosky, COL David Osborn, COL David Rehbein, Mr. Han, Moo Seung, and Mr. Paul Robinson) participated in the traditional Kosa Ceremony to wish the project good luck, including the splashing of a cup of "makuli" on the ground for additional good luck.

Concluding the program, the honored guests participated in the shovel ceremony signifying the beginning of excavation and the beginning of the project.



## -- Far East District participates in ribbon cutting

by CPT Raphael Lopez

A ribbon cutting ceremony for a \$11.8 million CDIP project, Repair Taxiway Alpha, at Osan Air Base, took place on November 13, 1998. It started with great panache, as an A-10 Thunderbolt taxied to the ribbon and idled. The ceremony was

conducted by BG Robert Dierker, Commander of the 51st Air Fighter Wing.

During the ceremony, Dierker recognized the efforts of Pum Yang Construction Co. Ltd. and the Republic of Korea, Ministry of National Defense, in completing this project 17 days ahead of schedule.

The Far East District's Central Resident Office took great pride in

this event as it celebrated the four-year partnered effort to upgrade the effectiveness of Osan Air Base in its major role in the defense of the Republic of Korea.

The management team at the Central Resident Office (CRO) took great care to ensure the

timely completion of the project due to its overall importance in maintaining the operational readiness of the Air Base.

The Resident Engineer, Mr. Fred T. Davis, Jr., considers this project one of the crowning jewels in CRO's collection.

Mr. Hyon, Chong Tuk, a quality assurance representative at the Central Resident Office,

provided surveillance for the replacement of over 30,000 cubic yards of asphalt, base course and concrete pavement. The new pavement consists of 19,800 cubic yards of base course and 24,244 cubic yards of class "P" concrete.

Throughout the project Mr. Hyon provided technical expertise and guidance. As a 28-year veteran of the Central Resident Office, primarily in airfield and other pavement work, Mr. Hyon's knowledge and experience more than any other factor, contributed to the successful and early completion of the taxiway.

Originally started in September 1994, the two-phase project replaced the entire 8,688 feet of the old taxiway. The new 21-inch thick taxiway gives the command the ability to better serve all forces in Korea, regardless of aircraft size. The seven-inch increase in thickness will allow it to better sustain the weight of the larger aircraft landing regularly at Osan.

The ceremonial ribbon cutting took place as BG Dierker used a bayonet to slice the crimson ribbon, officially opening the taxiway for business.

The ceremony ended with the inaugural aircraft rolling down the taxiway as the pilot, COL Tom Poulos, 51st Operations Group Commander, saluted BG Dierker.



BG Robert Dierker (left), Commander, 51st Fighter Wing, thanks Mr. Hyon, C. T. (center), Quality Assurance Representative, and CPT Rafael Lopez (right), Project Engineer, Far East District, for a job well done.

## for Taxiway Alpha, Osan Air Base -- November 13, 1998



BG Robert R. Dierker (right), Commander, 51st Fighter Wing, and LTC Yi, Sung Kil, Project Engineer for the 91st BGG, ROKAF (MND representative), cut the ribbon while Mr. Na, Che-Ho (left), Executive Director of Pum Yang Construction Co. Ltd., also participates in the ceremony.

## Far East District conducts 5th Contractor Certification Course

by Sam Barnes

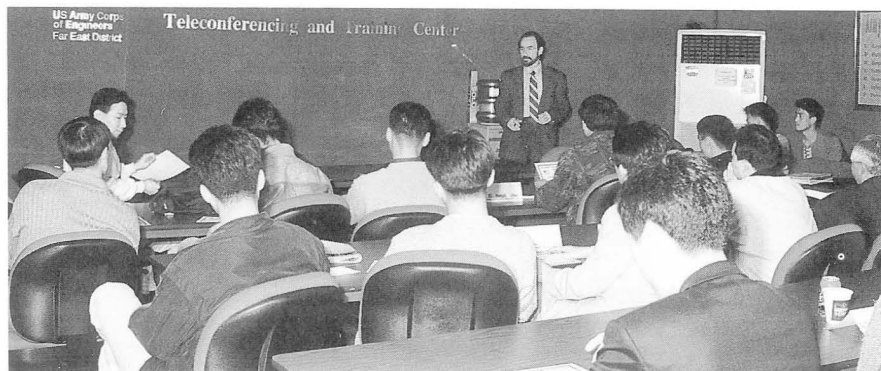
For the fifth time, the Far East District (FED) held a Contractor Construction Safety Certification Course for its Korean construction contractors. The course content was increased with slings and riggings, and heavy equipment sections and required three days of instruction, rather than the previous two-day curriculum. The course, held November 4-6, 1998, represents FED's desire to revolutionize effectiveness, seek growth opportunities, and invest in people. Instruction was provided by Mr. Sam Barnes and Mr. David McCracken of the District's Safety and Occupational Health Office.

Thirty-two students representing 15 different Korean construction firms, attended this class. LTC Mark Cain, Deputy District

Commander, gave the opening remarks reemphasizing the priority of safety.

Students were tested at the completion of the training and LTC Cain presented Certificates of Completion to all 32 graduates. Mr. Ji, Yung Woo, Hyundai Engineering & Construction Co. and Mr. Lee,

Jeong Seok, Samsung Corporation received safety coins #16 and #17 for achieving 100% on the exam. The District has taught 168 Korean construction representatives and 24 U.S. government employees since the inception of this initiative. The next class is scheduled for January 1999.



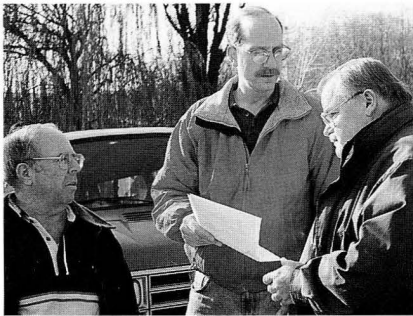
Mr. Sam Barnes (standing), Chief, Safety and Occupational Health Office, FED, provides instruction for the fifth Construction Safety Certification Course. Two attendees of this class received 100% on the course exam.



## FED conducts H&H study

by Gloria Stanley

The flood recovery effort continues even several months after the torrential August rain. The Far East District is conducting a hydrology and hydraulics (H&H) study of the flood-damaged areas at Camps Casey, Hovey, and Red Cloud,



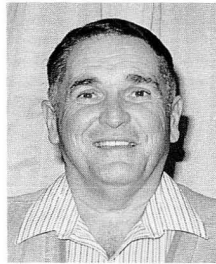
**Howard Blood, Kenneth Eisses and John Oliver discuss survey findings during a site visit to Camp Red Cloud.**

at the request of the 19th TAACOM. Mr. Howard Blood, Mr. Larry Grant, and Mr. Richard Byron of the Far East Districts' Programs and Project Management Division, along with Mr. Kenneth Eisses, Chief, H&H Section, Alaska District; Mr. John Oliver, consultant under contract with Alaska District; and Mr. Steven Yamamoto, civil engineer, Honolulu District, completed a week-long H&H survey of the areas. The team will prepare a report of their recommendations for reducing the chance of such damage reoccurring.

"This is a key piece of the overall flood recovery program because it provides assurance we are protecting the investment in new facilities from future flood events," said Blood.

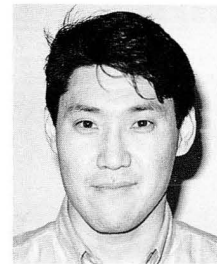
## New Team Members

Mr. Chris J. Vaia, Jr. arrived at the Far East District on August 31, 1998, to assume responsibilities as an environmental



engineer technician. Retired after a 30-year Army career as a career counselor, with over 18 years in the Far East, Vaia is pursuing an advanced degree in East Asian Studies. He enjoys traveling, hiking, orphanage and nursing home visitations, and Christian Bible study. Vaia has a goal of a Korean/Vietnamese/American Habitat for Humanity project in Vietnam by July 8, 1999. Vaia and his wife, Su, have a son, Jason, who is a mechanical engineer in Atlanta, and their daughter-in-law, Siley Vaia, is an industrial engineer.

Mr. John D. Ghim arrived at the Far East District on September 17, 1998, to assume duties as a mechanical engineer in the



Quality Assurance Branch. His home town is Portland, Oregon, and he has mechanical engineering degrees from Florida State and Florida Technical Universities. Ghim's previous position was as a project engineer at Ft. Carson. Prior to that he worked as a mechanical engineer for the Air Force Academy and for the Omaha District at the Rocky Mountain Area Office. He also served five years active duty in the Army. Ghim and his wife, Minsu, have a daughter, Jessica.

## Chili/Soup cookoff raises \$226



**Cooks on the left. Tasters on the right. It was a tough competition and lots of good chili and soup. COL David Rehbein (western clothes), District Commander, deserves the award for gettin' in the spirit, but the congratulations go to the winner, Doug Bliss, Chief, F&M Branch. (photo by H.D. Dougherty)**