



U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers
Far East District

East Gate Edition

May 1999

Volume 9, Number 4

FED team participates in Safety Day Activities on May 13

Activities ranged from blood pressure checks, cholesterol checks, and fitness classes to a fire extinguisher demonstration, health classes, and recognition of this year's safety slogan winner during Safety Day on May 13, 1998.

Safety is a District priority and as the winner of this year's slogan, Megan Stockhausen, a student at Seoul American Elementary School said, "Safety is the first rule." Megan said that was one of



ROK Army nurse, Lt. Kim, 18th MEDCOM Health Education Team, checks the cholesterol level of Mr. Kim, Yong S.



FED team members practice using a fire extinguisher as part of the Safety Day activities. Yongsan Fire Department put on the demonstration.

the things she learned during a tour of the Army Community Services Center project site with the rest of her 3rd grade class last month.

During an award ceremony, COL David Rehbie, District Commander, presented Megan with a plaque and a \$50.00 gift certificate for her contribution to the District safety program.

Others thanked for their contributions to safety this year included Mr. Ed Nam, Logistics Management Office, and members of the 18th MEDCOM Health Education Team. They each received safety coins from Mr. Sam Barnes, Chief, Safety and Occupational Health Office.

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FED Spring Picnic sponsored by PPMD and Construction Division

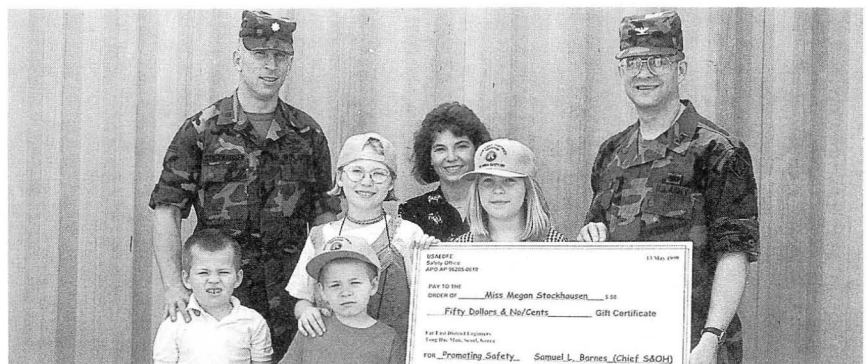
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COL David Rehbie, District Commander, presents safety slogan winner, Ms. Megan Stockhausen, a gift certificate for \$50.00. Her mother, Diana, her father, Rick, her sister Erin, and her brothers Robert and Thomas were also at the ceremony to share the occasion with Megan.

From the Commander



COL David J. Rehbein

I wish I knew where to start. There's a lot going on in our U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Let me try to fill you in a little bit on what I saw during my most recent TDY.

Now, I don't like traveling more than I have to, but going to Fort Leonard Wood always makes it more palatable. Fort Wood is a growing and vibrant post set in the beautiful forests of the Ozarks. As one of the Army's enduring installations it's been blessed with many new facilities and construction is springing out of the ground everywhere you turn. This year's ENFORCE conference at Fort Wood was the biggest on record. It brought all parts of the Engineer Family together in one place with overlapping conferences: DPWs, MACOM Engineers, USACE Division and District Commanders, and Battalion, Brigade, and Group Commanders.

Some important themes! First, the troop unit side of the engineer team is decisively engaged in every place that U.S. forces are deployed . . . and that's a lot of places these days. USACE stands behind them in many ways with both District and Lab expertise.

" . . . USACE is making great progress in reshaping itself to respond to the needs of the deployed uniformed military, the Army's installations and the many unexpected missions stemming from natural disaster relief."

The next major theme was that DPW work is tough tough business - and not likely to get easier soon. Budgets are tight and the DPW and USACE community will see more and more partnering to accomplish the mission of supporting soldiers on installations.

And finally, despite many challenges of being a project funded organization trying to interact with a predominantly direct funded military world, USACE is making great progress in reshaping itself to respond to the needs of the deployed uniformed military, the Army's installations, and the many unexpected missions stemming from natural disaster relief.

The message on the District sign in front of Building 62 says:

"Far and away the best prize that life offers is the chance to work hard at work worth doing."

Teddy Roosevelt had it right. As a soldier, statesman, explorer, and president, he would certainly recognize that the work USACE does is worth doing. We're working hard at it here in the District and throughout the Corps.

**Keep up the pace...and
thank you for all you do.**

**ESSAYONS!
COL Rehbein**



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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District Commander: COL David J. Rehbein Public Affairs Officer: Gloria Stanley Photographer: Yo, Kyong-il

Safety

by Sam Barnes

Over the past few years, laser pointers have appeared on consumer markets around the world, selling for not much more than US \$20.

Use of such laser pointers by untrained people, who typically are unaware of their potential hazards, occasionally results in the flash-blinding of a student or audience member. Exposure above the Threshold Limit Value (TLV) for lasers is possible, depending primarily on the power of the laser diode and the duration of exposure and could result in a slight retinal lesion.

The power output of the laser diodes in most pointers typically is in the 3-5 milliwatt (mW) range, although some units are advertised with power greater than 5 mW. By comparison, the TLV for exposure to lasers of this wavelength range is 2.5 mW/cm² at the cornea, at a limited exposure duration of 0.25 second.

This is equivalent to a 1 mW beam entering the eye, so an exposure to one of these beams may exceed the TLV. Under most

circumstances, when the beam is accidentally swept across the face and enters the eye only momentarily, the exposure would usually fall below the TLV and should not result in a retinal injury for most people. But, it must be remembered that even if there is no injury, exposure above the TLV can create liability problems.

Class 2 lasers bear a "Caution" label and have an output of greater than 1mW. Lasers in the range from 1mW to 5mW are Class 3a and carry a "Danger" label. It is important to remember that ANSI Z136.1 requires that classrooms, auditoriums and areas where Class 3 lasers (>1mW) are used, to be posted with a DANGER sign. The ANSI standard strongly recommends that users of Class 3a lasers have laser safety training and requires such training for users of Class 3b lasers (>5mW).

The safer laser pointers (Class 2) are those which do not exceed 1 mW output and therefore will not produce exposures above the TLV unless the viewer overcomes his or her blink reflex and purposely stares into the laser. However, you will find many of the more hazardous Class 3a laser pointers within the District offices.

A non-occupational concern is that these pointers seem to be gaining popularity as gift items for children to use as toys. When children are involved, a brief accidental exposure is not the only likely scenario. One can envision a group of adolescents staring into a laser pointer to see who can do it longer. Permanent retinal

lesions almost certainly would result from such a practice.

It is difficult for many people to believe that something which looks like an ordinary penlight and runs on a couple of AAA batteries can be dangerous. However, it is important to realize that the hazard from laser pointers, although low, is not zero, particularly for Class 3 pointers which may cause exposure above the TLV. Exercise caution when using these pointers.

THEY ARE NOT TOYS!

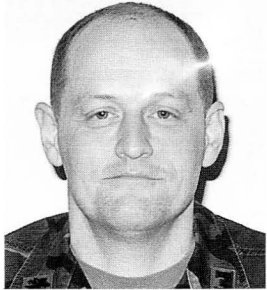


May 13, 1999
The Safety and
Occupational Health
Office is sponsoring
SAFETY DAY!

Everyone is
encouraged to
participate!

May Safety Slogan:
*Luck runs out, but
Safety is good for life!*

The 2IC's Corner



by LTC Mark Cain
Deputy Commander

Take time to enjoy the "villages"

April was a very busy month with preparations for RSOI and the actual exercise. The RSOI exercise was, in my judgment, a great success. Instead of a primarily military involvement, a significant number of Emergency Essential Civilians participated from our new Emergency Operations Center in Bldg S-81. The District and Pacific Ocean Division worked a number of significant issues that have not been exercised or explored in the past. We are starting to make real progress in the warfighting business!

We gave the Theater Construction Management System (TCMS) a preliminary workout and learned a lot about the procedures necessary to produce Theater of Operations design in a contingency environment. This is important because TCMS is the tool that the District will use in contingency.

However, most importantly, we all have a number of fresh, new lessons learned from the exercise participants that will help us improve our warfighting capabilities and readiness for future contingency operations. Enough said on that.

About a month ago, a very old friend sent me the following story. I've shared this story with a few folks, but would like you all to enjoy it as well. I think it is applicable to all of us at one time or the other.

Sometimes we search very hard for some "high speed, low drag" way to get things done when what we have is good enough to get the job done and still enjoy God, family, friends, and our office mates. The title of this story is, "The Fisherman."

An American businessman was at the pier of a small coastal Mexican village when a small boat with just one fisherman docked. Inside the small boat were several large yellowfin tuna. The American complimented the Mexican on the quality of his fish and asked how long it took to catch them.

The Mexican replied, "Only a little while". The American then asked why he didn't stay out longer and catch more fish? The Mexican said he had enough to support his family's immediate needs. The American then asked, "But what do you do with the rest of your time?" The Mexican fisherman said, "I sleep late, fish a little, play with my children, take a siesta with my wife, Maria, stroll into the village each evening where I sip wine and play guitar with my amigos. I have a full and busy life, senior."

The American scoffed, "I am a Harvard MBA and could help you. You should spend more time fishing and with the proceeds buy a bigger boat. With the proceeds from the bigger boat you could buy several

fleets of fishing boats. Instead of selling your catch to a middleman you would sell directly to the processor, eventually opening your own cannery. You would control the product, processing, and distribution. You would need to leave this small coastal fishing village and move to Mexico City, then LA and eventually NYC where you will run your expanding enterprise."

The Mexican fisherman asked, "But senior, how long will this all take?" To which the American replied, "15-20 years."

"But what then, senior?"

The American laughed and said, "That's the best part. When the time is right you would sell your company stock to the public and become very rich, you would make millions."

"Millions, senior? Then what?"

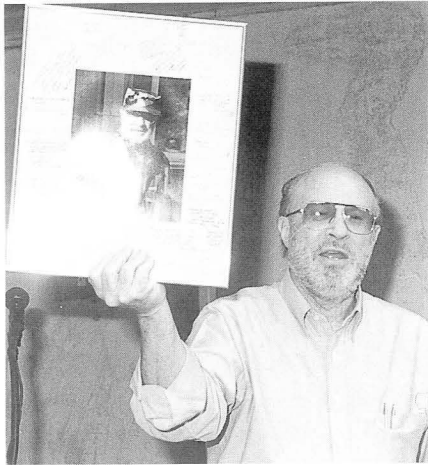
The American said, "Then you would retire, move to a small coastal fishing village where you would sleep late, fish a little, play with your kids, take siestas with your wife, stroll to the village in the evenings where you could sip wine and play your guitar with your amigos."

I know we are all very busy. The month of May will be no different. However, we all need to take time to enjoy the "villages" that we live and work in. During the day, take a stroll around the District. It is worth millions!

PPMD and Construction Division sponsor the FED spring picnic

photos by Mr. Yo, Kyong-il

On Friday, April 30 1999, the Far East District team enjoyed a spring picnic, complete with hamburgers and hot dogs. The picnic was sponsored by Mr. Jack Church, Chief, Construction Division, and Mr. Howard Blood, Acting Chief, Programs and Project Management Division, in celebration of their recent promotions.



The formal part of the picnic included the presentation to Jack Church of a framed photograph of him in military BDUs taken during recent training for emergency essential civilians. The matting around the photograph was signed by FED team members.



Mr. Yim, Chang-su receives a prize for winning 1st place in the dart throwing contest from Mr. Harry Kim, Chief, Contracting Division.



The Far East District team members feasted on hamburgers, hot dogs, kim bop, and other great food and drinks at the spring picnic. Mr. Choe, Kwang-Kyu, Mr. Yi, Won-son, and Mr. Pak, Hong-chae (below l-r) did an excellent job of grilling the hamburgers.



Mr. Howard Blood, Acting Chief, Programs and Project Management took a moment during the picnic to pose for a family portrait with his wife, Unhee (center), daughter, Elizabeth Im Blood, and his wife's two sisters, Im, Chun-ho, (left), and Chong-hui Gregory.

FED team member, Steve Kim, runs in 26-mile, 2nd Seoul City Marathon

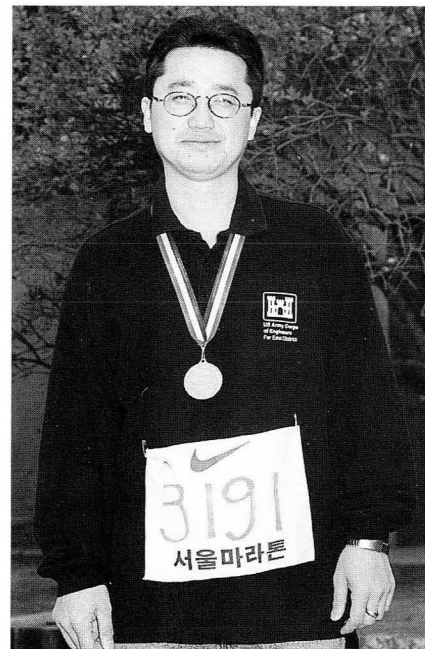
by Gloria Stanley

It was Sunday, March 7, 1999, and many of us were enjoying a chance to sleep late, attending church, or participating in other weekend activities. But one Far East District team member, Steve Kim, of the Northern Resident Office, was running in the full 26-mile, 2nd Seoul Marathon.

The marathon began at 10a.m. at the Yeoido Han River Citizen Park and continued along the Han River. Other District team members ran the half marathon, including Mr. Glenn Matsuyama, Mr. David Wilson, Mr. Chai, Yeong M., Mr. Pete Perez, Mr. Norman Boeman, Mr. Mike Burke, Mr. Larry Grant, Ms. Sheila Bergeron, CPT Raphael Lopez, and SSG Tae K. Kwon. Also, Ms. Carol Hawkins ran in the 5K fun run. Hats off to all!

Kim has run in many marathons. He completed the 26-miles in 4 hours and 29 minutes which is his personal best time. He doesn't know where he placed in the race.

"I attribute running my personal best time to the flatness of the course and the fact that I began training in January," said Kim. "I challenge other FEDsters to compete along with me next year."



Mr. Steve Kim, electrical engineer, Northern Resident Office, shows the medal he won for completing the 26-mile, 2nd Seoul Marathon Race, organized and conducted with the Seoul Marathon Club.

Special thanks from the Executive Office

by Larry Drape

The Executive Office would like to extend its personal thanks to the following ladies for their superb administrative and secretarial support over the last 8 months.

They each played a key role in maintaining the continuity of the Executive Office while handling a myriad of taskings simultaneously without missing a single commitment.



(Pictured l-r): (front row) Ms. Sim, Sang Yim, Ms. Kang, Myong-suk, Ms. Yun, Sun-han, (back row) Ms. Paek, Chong-won, Ms. Pak, In-myong, Ms. Kim, Tok-kyong, Ms. Pak, Chu-cha, and Ms. Pak, Che-kyong. The Executive Office would also like to thank Ms. Carolyn Hawkins who is not in the photograph.

Top 10 Driving Rules

1. You are never in the wrong lane to make a turn, as long as you use a signal when you start the turn.
2. A parking lot is never full, regardless of the number of cars already parked.
3. The painted lines on the roads are only for decoration, much like tinsel on a Christmas tree.
4. Busses and taxis are not required to stop at red lights.
5. Motor scooters can act as pedestrians and use the sidewalks or go against traffic.
6. It is OK to cut someone off, if you follow it up with a friendly, "I'm stupid" wave.
7. You will never be the last one to run a red light.
8. Letting a driver cut in line is only required if eye contact is made, and a hand-out-the-window wave is provided.
9. Stopping at red lights is entirely optional, and at your own risk, between the hours of 2400-0600.
10. Holding a clenched fist above the head allows pedestrians, especially small children to cross traffic anywhere, anytime.

(submitted by Woody Barger, TRO)

New Team Members

Mr. Pak, Song-hyon joined FED on March 2, 1999, to serve as a geologist in the Foundations and Materials Branch. He received a Bachelor of



Science degree in Geology from Yonsei University in 1996. After graduation from Yonsei University with a Master of Science degree in Earth System Science in 1998, he worked as a researcher in Natural Science Research Center in Yonsei University for six months. His hobbies include reading and driving.

Mr. Gerald "Jerry" Hepner joined FED on March 14, as a Quality Assurance Representative (QAR) at the Tongduchon Resident Office.



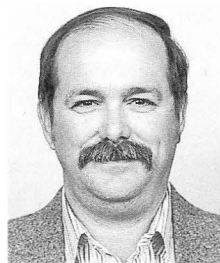
He laterally reassigned to FED from the Corps' Transatlantic Programs Center where he was working as a QAR in the Qatar Resident Office. He has also worked at the Corps' Los Angeles District and the U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground. Jerry and his wife, Yong-suk, have been trying to return to Korea for a number of years and are happy to have finally arrived "home" where they have several relatives living in the Seoul area.

Mr. Dennis Gier, P.E. joined FED on March 14, 1999, to assume a civil engineering position in the Tongduchon Resident



Office Quality Assurance Branch. He was previously with the Engineering-Special Projects Group at CalPolytechnical Institute in San Luis Obispo, California. He served in the Military Branch of the Corps in the early '70s and was the Deputy Facilities Engineer in Taegu, Korea during that time. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering and a Master of Science degree in Engineering from the University of Dayton, Ohio. He enjoys hiking, skiing, camping and computers. He is glad to be back with the Corps.

Mr. James "Ronnie" Trower joined FED on March 14, 1999, as a QAR at the Tongduchon Resident Office. He comes to FED



from the DPW at Ft. Hood, Texas, where former TRO team member, MSG Ridgle is now assigned. MSG Ridgle convinced Ronnie that a tour at TRO would be worth the

experience. Ronnie and his wife both enjoy fishing. They have entered, and won, many major fishing tournaments.

Mr. Gus Lum arrived at FED on March 15, 1999, to assume the position of Chief, Contracts Branch, Contracting



Division. He came to FED from the Directorate of Contracting, U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Shafter, Hawaii, where he served as Supervisory Procurement Analyst and held a contracting officer warrant with unlimited monetary authority. He served at the U.S. Army Contracting Command Korea (CCK) from 1989 through 1993 and various contracting activities since 1974. He has a degree from the University of Hawaii in Business Administration and his hometown is Pear City, Hawaii.

Ms. Kathleen "Katie" Shore joined FED on March 30, 1999, as a QAR at the Tongduchon Resident Office. She comes to FED



from the Huntington District where she was a civil engineering technician in Engineering/Specifications Section. Delays in

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New Team Members

(continued from page 7)

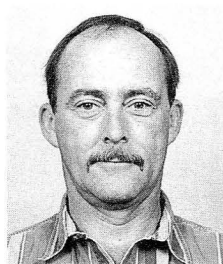
getting her PCS'd from Huntington District allowed her to see her granddaughter born just prior to her traveling to Korea.

Mr. Gordon Staab arrived at FED on April 12, 1999, to serve as an office engineer at Camp Humphreys. He has both



Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees from Purdue University and has 32 years of experience with the Corps. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and his hometown is Louisville, Kentucky. His interests outside work include guns and running.

Mr. Daryl Jackson arrived at FED on April 14, 1999, to serve as a QAR at the Seoul Project Office. He comes to FED from



Savannah District, Ft. Bragg Area Office. Prior to that he served as a project manager on Continuing Authorities Projects in the Programs & Project Management of Vicksburg District for 20 years. He also served 22 years in the Army Reserve, 412th Engineer Command, from which he retired in 1995. He graduated

from Hinds Jr. College with an Industrial Drafting degree in 1982. His other interests include hunting, fishing, NASCAR, and traveling.

Ms. Jones, So-yon "Lee"

arrived at FED on April 14, 1999, to serve as executive secretary to the District Commander.



Prior to coming to FED she was the secretary for the Fighter Pilot Training Wing Commander. She has a total of 13 years of civil service with the U.S. Air Force. She has one year at Enterprise Jr. College at Enterprise, Alabama. Her hometown is Wichita Falls, Texas. Her hobbies include reading, hiking, sightseeing and cooking. She is also involved in church-related volunteer work. She has two sons who are grown and married. One lives in Texas and the other in Alaska.



Congratulations

... to **Mr. David McCracken, Safety Office, and his wife, Tammy**, on the birth of their son, Connor David McCracken on April 23, 1999. He weighed in at 8lbs. 8oz. and 21 inches long. Connor also has an older brother, Tyler.

... to **Ms. Kim, Yong-Son**, Information Management Office, on her marriage, April 24, 1999.

... to **Mr. Jack Church** on his selection as Chief, Construction Division.

... to **Mr. Howard Blood**, Programs and Project Management Division, on his recent promotion.



A Fond Farewell

... to **Robbie Roberts**, Programs and Project Management Division.

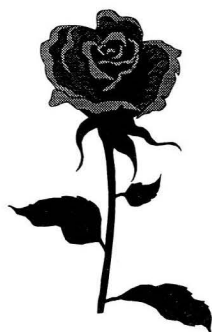
... to **Robert and Jean Williams**, Programs and Project Management Division.

... to **Bill and Sheila Bergeron**, Information Management Office and Programs and Project Management Office, who departed for a tour in Germany.

... to **CPT Donald Payne**, Programs and Project Management Division.



Memorial Day



May 31