



# East Gate Edition

U.S. Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Far East District

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## FED participates in AMIE Program

by Gloria Stanley

FED is participating in the Advancing Minorities' Interest in Engineering (AMIE) Program for the first time this year, by sponsoring four engineering college students as interns this summer. The AMIE program provides students attending historically black colleges and universities an opportunity to experience what working in the engineering profession is like and also eased the workload of some district team members. *(Historically black colleges and universities graduate nearly 30 per cent of all African-American engineers in the U.S.)*

AMIE seeks to expand corporate/academic alliances and implement and support programs to attract, educate, graduate, and place underrepresented minority students in engineering careers. It is a non-profit organization created  
*(continued on page 11)*

### Inside

*Quality of life incentives for the Korean experience*  
..... see page 5

*Dennis Gier: civil engineer and award winning photographer*  
..... see page 6

*Korean War - Dates in History*  
..... see page 9



Mr. Keenan Haywood (left), an AMIE student intern working at the Seoul Project Office, reviews some of the electrical upgrade work the district is doing on Yongsan Garrison. During his internship, Haywood is obtaining field experience accompanying engineers and construction representatives out to projects as well as getting office experience.

## From the Commander



**COL Gregory Kuhr**

As I continue to travel the country visiting our resident and project offices, every Director of Public Works or Base Civil Engineer I encounter is grateful for the tremendous support the District provides. Most importantly they tell me that the District is part of their installation TEAM. Whether represented by the Resident Engineer or Project Manager, the District has a reputation for being responsive, dedicated and committed to providing a quality product. When in a bind or facing a complex engineering problem, the DPW/BCEs know they can rely on FED to develop practical solutions. I recognize that our RE or PM is the only face our customers see; however, that person is backed up by the entire District, including LM providing all the logistics, RM assisting with the financial management, OC reviewing the contractual documents, and so forth. I want to discuss a few other observations I have made during these trips.

First, there is recognition by all of our customers that FED costs significantly more than the DPW/BCE's in-house workforce. As we all know, all Corps Districts operate on a project reimbursable basis. What makes us different from the installation staff is that we receive no funding for our workforce. For every project or study we must charge our customers for our labor costs. Additionally, we add our overhead expenses to each hour of labor. This rate is commonly called the total labor multiplier and is usually around 2.5. When you begin to multiply the salary of each person supporting that particular job by 2.5, many find the Corps too expensive, especially for smaller jobs. We must be zealots when it comes to controlling costs and minimizing our overhead rates. That is our professional responsibility as stewards of taxpayer funds.

At every project site I am briefed on the safety record for that particular job. Safety must remain our top priority. There is nothing that we do that is worth the loss of a person's sight or limb or even life. Our safety record is remarkable given the number of man-days worked and the type of work we do. My congratulations to the superb efforts of our Construction Division and their field offices for

this achievement. There is risk involved in just about everything we do – whether it is construction, well drilling, moving office furniture or pulling maintenance. Every employee should be conducting the 5-step Risk Management process, whether mentally or formally: Identify Hazards – Assess Hazards – Make risk decisions – Implement Controls – Supervise (& watch for changes). *Try to apply this methodology in everything you do and it will become a habit.* The key is to **implement controls** to minimize the risk and **reassess your controls** if the situation changes. **MAKE IT A HABIT!**

My last observation is the wonderful success we are realizing due to project management. Our project managers (PM) have been charged to interface with our customers and oversee the project from cradle-to-grave. They are responsible for forming the project delivery team (PDT) that includes all of the expertise needed to meet the project's requirements. Our PMs have been very successful in pulling together their teams, developing project plans and working intimately with customers to ensure the project fully satisfies his/her needs. However, no single person can

*(continued on page 9)*

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 Gregory S. Kuhr Public Affairs Officer: Gloria Stanley Photographer: Yo, Kyong-il

# Safety

In a continuing effort to promote safety and occupational health the Far East District Safety & Occupational Health Office submits documents providing education to the work force. This article identifies safety and occupational health responsibilities and is meant to promote employee understanding of those responsibilities. Keep in mind that the safety office has no authority to modify, revise or otherwise change contracts, regulations, policies or other mandated requirements. The safety staff personnel are empowered by the District Commander to carry out his or her command safety program. Safety office recommendations or advice are based on the immediate and long-term effects of safety and occupational health issues confronted by the work force. Although not all-inclusive, the following is a list of safety office responsibilities.

1. Serves as staff advisor to the District Commander, consultant and coordinator to command and staff elements and Korean Military Contracting Association Officials, concerning accident prevention management.
2. Plans, develops and directs District Safety and Health Policies.
3. Administers (designs, develops, supervises, and monitors) the District Safety and Health Program IAW policies and objectives established under ARs 385-10 and 40-5, Engineer Regulations, and Engineer Manual 385-1-1.
4. Develops programs to identify and control hazards to the safety and health of personnel, property, and efficient continuation of operations.
5. Develops safety and health policies, procedures and reviews implementing provisions and field application to assure conformity.
6. Interprets safety and health policies, procedures and requirements.
7. Develops, recommends and instructs programs related to safety and health awareness, education, training, and promotional activities.
8. Conducts field and office surveys to determine degree of compliance with safety and health program policies and procedures. Measures effectiveness of supervisors in controlling hazards.
9. Supervises accident investigation and reporting procedures, analyzes, compiles, and disseminates data to identify trends and the need for new or revised procedures.
10. Provides staff supervision of program, such as equipment operator licensing, radiological safety, industrial hygiene, and occupational health.
11. Conducts progressive research into accident problems and corrective controls.
12. Reviews and analyzes supervisory programs related to fire protection, fire-fighting, job and activity hazard analyses, job observation, etc.

*(continued on page 10)*

# The Deputy's Word



by LTC Charles Markham  
Deputy Commander

This month I want to write about some of the happenings around the District. As usual, we remain busy providing the best service we can to the US forces in Korea and our other customers. I am constantly amazed at the work we accomplish every day. As we close this fiscal year out we need to remain focused and ensure we do everything possible to accomplish our part, whatever that may be, in support of the District mission.

COL Kuhr's family recently arrived from the United States and is getting moved into their new quarters on South Post. I know we all welcome them and hope they enjoy living here in Korea.

The commander is also busy visiting the Resident and Project Offices to meet all of our field personnel and look at the projects. Expect to see him at your office or project in the near future!

The Central Resident Office at Osan AB sustained flood damage during a heavy downpour over a weekend in July. The office personnel banded together and were able to be back up and running within a few days. Information Management and Logistics people also helped out in the recovery operations. Great effort

by all!

The annual JCS Exercise, Ulchi Focus Lens (UFL), is scheduled for late August. The District will again participate, but with mainly an Active Duty and Reserve Component military force. Some key Emergency Essential and Mission Essential civilians will participate too. The District's main command post will remain at the FED Compound, with liaison officers (LNO) working with the different components: Army, Air Force, Navy and Marines. In addition we'll have LNOs working with the USFK and Second ROK Army headquarters.

We are evaluating the option of maintaining our vehicles through local maintenance shops at the Resident or Project Office locations. Our test bed is with TRO.

The contract for construction of a new motor pool facility was awarded in July. The building will provide our mechanics a safe, modern facility to perform their work.

Facility upgrades on the compound are scheduled for buildings S-15, S-56, S-62 and S-61. These range from electrical and

bathroom upgrades to minor space improvements. The Facility Council recommended other potential facility upgrades be considered with year-end funds, if available. Some of the projects include the upgrade of P-1 first floor for future ED expansion or a third A/E Firm, expand/upgrade the PPMO office and entry areas, design the expansion of the S-62 second floor, renovate S-55, create additional parking next to P-46, and pave graveled parking areas.

We have a new Resource Manager, Ms. Regina Adams. Regina is joining FED from Germany, where she served as the former Resource Manager for V Corps. Welcome Regina!

A new Logistics Manager has been hired, Mr. Bill Yerabek. Bill and his wife will join FED in September. Bill is currently the Logistics Manager for the Detroit District.

Everyone must continue to be safe on and off of the job! An issue of safety shoes has been brought out lately. The use of safety shoes on a job site must be enforced. Remember, "Safety is an Everyday Affair!"

*Serving the District and you!*

## Quality of Life Incentives for the Korean Experience

The Commander, U.S. Forces Korea (USFK), has launched a major campaign engineered to improve the quality of life (QOL) for our military communities. The objective is to make Korea an assignment of choice for military members and spouses.

To reach out to each military and Department of Defense civilian member throughout the peninsula, a questionnaire was developed which solicits information and ideas. Units are distributing it to individuals via DoDe-mail. The Korean Tour Image Enhancement Working Group will go through the results and forward ideas to the Commander, USFK, for consideration and possible inclusion as QOL enhancement initiatives.

The questionnaire is designed to obtain first-hand information from service members' experiences since being assigned to Korea and capture those "first impressions" of the assignment in Korea and look at ways that could possibly improve the transition to living in a foreign land.

"We plan to saturate the command and get everyone's opinion, regardless of how long they've been in country," says Mr. Casimir Nitkowski, working group chairperson.

In an effort to make Korea a more appealing tour of duty, Gen. Thomas Schwartz, CINC, created the working group and started staffing several initiatives.

These initiatives include the possible creation of Hardship Duty Pay entitlements, revitalizing a Korea-wide cost of living allowance, tax incentives, free (letter) mail privileges and paid round-trip airfare to the United States. Because of the nature of several of the initiatives, it may be a long-term process getting funding proposals through legislation.

"The six-question questionnaire is designed to get the troops' (at all levels) perspective," Nitkowski said. "Their input will help improve the quality of life in Korea for themselves and future members." Questions include type of assignment, type of quarters and likes and dislikes about being assigned in Korea.

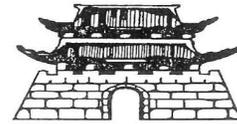
The group will meet again September 7 to discuss the results of the questionnaire.

Another effort to help increase the benefits for service members in Korea is the upcoming cost of living allowance survey. The survey results will be used to help determine the level of COLA benefits given to service members assigned to Korea.

"The more people who fill out this survey, the better. We will be conducting workshops to help members fill out the surveys to maximize the benefit," Nitkowski said. "We also want to get spouses involved."

Accompanied members can expect to see the COLA survey in early September. It

will be distributed to five areas: Seoul, Osan/Camp Humphreys, Taegu, Pusan and Chinhae. Watch your local publications and normal administrative channels for more information.




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### New Team Member

**Mr. Lawrence Wesley Vogan** joined FED on July 17, 2000, to serve as a general attorney in the Office of Counsel. Vogan holds a



Jurisprudence Doctorate from Vanderbilt University, Nashville Tennessee, and is a member of the Tennessee Bar. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting from Brigham Young University. Prior to joining FED, he worked as a private attorney in Nashville serving the needs of small businesses. Vogan speaks Korean fluently and about half of his practice was with Korean clients. His hometown is Manteca, California, and his hobbies include hiking, camping, boy scouts, and computers. Vogan and his wife, Sook-kyung, have a son, David, and four daughters: Sarah, Ariel, Jennifer, and Emily.

## Dennis Gier: Civil Engineer and award winning photographer

by Gloria Stanley

Talented Dennis Gier, a civil engineer, is Chief, Quality Assurance Branch, at the Tongduchon Resident Office, Far East District, and also an award winning photographer. He has entered half a dozen photography competitions, but this year he outdid himself when he entered the Eighth U.S. Army (EUSA) Photography Contest and won four awards – including Best of Show.

In addition to **BEST OF SHOW**, Gier also placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the PEOPLE category for his best of show entry; placed 2<sup>nd</sup> for his NATURE SCENES category entry; and an Honorable Mention in the PEOPLE category for a second photograph he entered in that category.

The winners were announced in June and 40 out of the 108 entries in this year's competition were displayed during the month of July in the Moyer Recreation Center at Yongsan Garrison in Seoul. Gier's Best of Show entry "This is why I trek", his other entries "Curious" and "Shangri-la", and the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and Honorable Mention winners in each category will be the EUSA entries in the Army-wide competition which will be judged this fall.

Gier, who grew up in Ohio, became interested in photography when he was a young teenager. His grandfather, after he retired, introduced Gier to Nikon F 35-mm camera photography and took him out on shoots. Gier was 15 years old.



**Dennis Gier, Chief, Quality Assurance Branch, Tongduchon Resident Office, gives a "thumbs up" at winning "Best of Show" and 1st place in the People Category for his Eighth U.S. Army Photography Competition entry "This is why I trek". Gier's winning photograph was one of 40 entries displayed at the Moyer Recreation Center during July. "This is why I trek" and his other winning entries, "Shangri-la" and "Curious" will be entered in the Army-wide photo competition which will be judged this fall in Washington, D.C.**

"I bought my first Nikon here in Korea at the Taegu PX when I arrived in 1972," said Gier. "I was the deputy facility engineer in Taegu with Area Facilities Engineer."

Gier was regular army then and had selected Engineers as his branch after completing his full ROTC scholarship at the University of Dayton.

"I was much more conservative when I was younger and

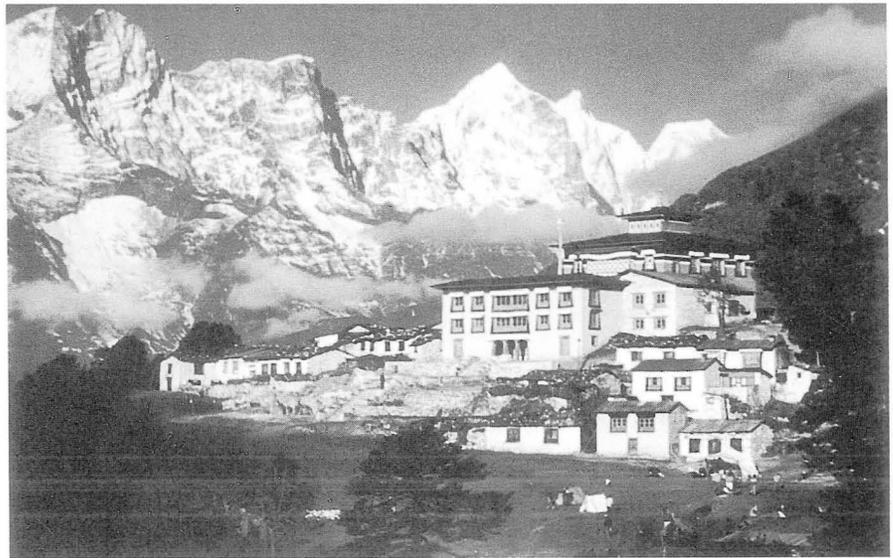
wasn't focused," Gier said. "I was happy to have one great frame out of 1,000. Now I burn a lot of film and listen to what people say when they look at my photographs."

Although he has been involved with photography for many years, he learns from talking to other photographers, but he hasn't taken any formal photography classes. Gier says he has learned a lot at the Moyer Recre-

ation Center photo lab.

“Mr. Cho has been real helpful this past year,” Gier said. “He is the photo lab director. I’ve learned by doing and I read photography magazines. I also have photography books. I am an artist at heart and I have books on design and composition and I have read and studied a lot. I observe other masters and try to put my spin on it through my mind’s eye.”

According to Gier there are more photography competitions to enter in Korea than in the States, where there are many more painting competitions. Gier attributes any success to his experiences and the techniques he is learning from talking to other photographers and studying the masters.



**"Shangri-La" - 2nd Place - Nature Scenes Category**

take the top off for use as a monopod. Gier likes natural lighting and likes the photograph to look as close to what he saw as he can make it.

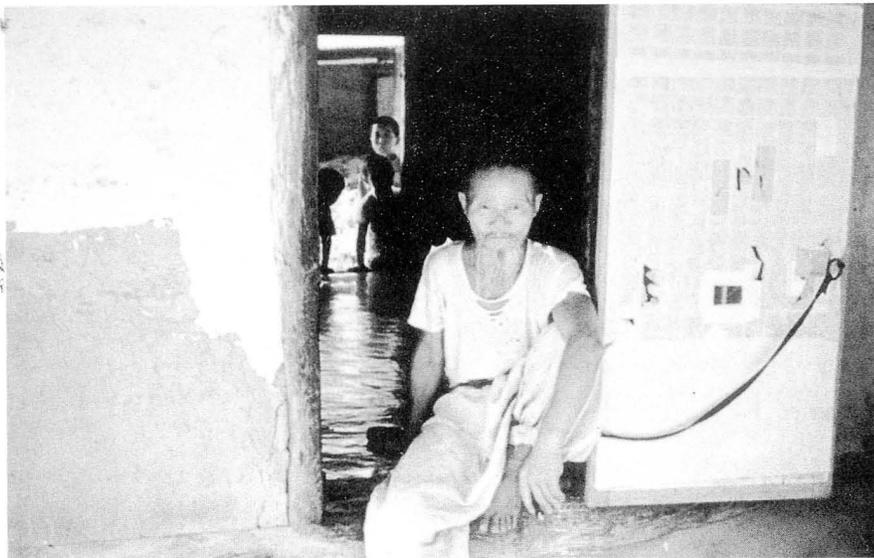
photo lab said you have to try it, so I did and I like it. The colors are great and the grain size is great. Greens and reds are a little better. People’s skin tones are really nice. Kodak tends to have a bluish cast. I was using Fuji RDP II 100f. Then they just came out with an RDP III 100f, so I switched to that and it’s really great.”

Gier’s winning photographs were all shot with Fuji slide film.

“I think slides give the best original,” said Gier. “They can print the photos (Cibachrome prints) directly from the slide. I don’t have negatives. There was a time when I couldn’t get a good print from my slides so I went to negative film because I wanted to print something. Every time I wanted to print a slide they were terrible because they did an internegative and it looks terrible. I switched to negatives for a couple of years – but was never totally satisfied with that so I switched back to color slides.”

Gier said in Korea he gets high quality cibachrome prints at an economical cost so he has had

*(continued on page 8)*



**"Curious" - Honorable Mention - People Category**

A Nikon FM2 is his main camera. He has had his present FM2 for 15 years and it’s fully manual – no auto focus. He sets the speed and aperture for every photograph. He also uses a monopod a lot. His is his walking stick – for trekking – and he can

“I look for that situation where the natural light gets my message across,” Gier said. “I used Kodachrome 64 until about a year ago, but this year I have used almost exclusively Fuji slide film. One of the guys here (Moyer Recreation Center) at the

## Dennis Gier: Civil Engineer and Award Winning Photographer

(continued from page 7)

many of his slides printed for the first time. He says it is too expensive in the States to do very many.

There are periods when Gier is more competitive, but it's not every year all the time. It comes and goes. He says the competitions give you affirmation and recognition.

"What you want is the affirmation that you're on track," Gier said. "I want some kind of affirmation that my eye is seeing stuff. How do mine compare with other people's photographs. I use it as sort of a feedback tool for gauging my own progress. The other thing is when you put your stuff out you hear what other people say about it."

Gier has 10,000 slides. His son, who told Gier he had a body of work, is the reason Gier decided not too long ago to pick out his best 1,000 slides and put them in a safety deposit box. He says his favorite subject category used to be landscapes, but looking back over the years he says he has always enjoyed capturing people shots.

"The pictures that endure, do not look dated, the message is as fresh today as it was 20 years ago – those are people shots," says Gier. "Hair style and clothes don't matter – I mean dated in terms of what I'm trying to express – it doesn't get stale. The glimmer in the eye, expressions, are the same now as they were years ago. The pictures I enjoy looking at are people shots. I do like landscapes, the lighting.

When I shoot landscapes, I'm not shooting the landscape per se. I'm shooting the lighting effect."

His photograph, "Shangri-la", which won 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Scenic Nature category, was taken in Nepal in April. It is a photograph of the Tengboche Monastery, built about 1200 AD, with the Himalaya Mountains in the background. Gier scoped out the scene the day before, then starting about 5a.m. the next morning when he knew the lighting would be right took photographs (using a roll or two of film) for about two hours. In addition to the lighting, the dark frame of trees and the snow covered mountains give it depth and there is also the interplay of the manmade monastery and the natural environment. You can also notice several small trekkers' tents if you look closely.

"A good photograph has something to initially attract you, but also the longer you look at it the more you see," Gier says. "It should have various levels of understanding or interest."

His Best of Show and 1<sup>st</sup> place in the People category photograph, "This is why I trek" was also taken in Nepal. Gier says people are naturally attracted to children. Adults realize the display of honest emotions in children. Emotions are much closer to the surface in children. They are also fleeting – fighting one second – laughing the next.

"In this photograph, you first notice the scale of the hiking boots to the size of the children," Gier says. "Something must

immediately attract your attention. The children are silhouetted in the doorway. No distractions – you see the big boots – you see the children's faces."

Gier says you know when you've taken a good photograph. He says a good photograph is timeless and complete in itself. For example, you don't have to know whose boots they are or who the children are, or what time of day it was taken. It wouldn't make the photograph better. His definition of a classic photograph is one you can't take anything away from and you can't add anything to it to make it better.

This photograph answers a question Gier is asked by many people. "Why do you trek?"

"It is to capture these moments," says Gier. "It's about meeting people. It's about capturing the moment that passes quickly in a very beautiful setting. Moments you don't capture at home watching television. You have to be out exploring your world. When you're out exploring your world you capture these moments and that is reason enough."

His third photograph, which won Honorable Mention in the People category, is entitled, "Curious". This photograph is much more monochromatic than the other two photographs. It has sort of a warm glow to it. One similarity you notice between his two people photographs is the framing of a person in the dark doorway. In "Curious" an older man is silhouetted by the dark doorway. At first glance you think he is the subject of the photograph.

At second glance, you see two children peeking into the picture from the back doorway. It is also a study in contrast between young and old.

Gier says his short term goal is to try to get close to his subject and his long term goal is to create a body of work both in photography and painting. He says photography and painting complement each other. He sometimes shoots photographs as a basis for a painting – called reference photographs – but he doesn't make a distinction between an image. It could live as a photograph or a painting. He tries to do paintings of things that can't be photographed. The difference between painting and photography, Gier says, is that painting is additive – you start with a blank canvas. You have an image in your mind and you must add everything to the canvas needed to create that image. When you put a camera in front of reality you see everything – pimples, gray hair – and your job as photographer is to subtract from the image whatever is not necessary to convey your message.

"In our fast paced everyday world, everything vies for our attention. Photography allows you to stop along the way," says Gier. "It forces you to stop and see the here and now. Probably the greatest thing for me is that it makes me stop along the way when I'm trekking. Photography allows me to get more out of life. Even when I don't have my camera, I see things I wouldn't see if I hadn't trained my mind. I wish I could paint as fast as I can snap a picture."

## Commander's Column

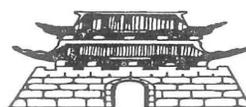
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effectively manage a project – it takes teamwork and the full cooperation of the entire District. The District's PDTs are our strength and I expect them to take responsibility for the project's success. My confidence and trust in their decision-making grows each and every time I visit our customers.

That is my message to you in this Commander's Column – control costs, safety is number one, and project management teams are the core of our success. I will close by mentioning the obvious – the world around us is changing and if we don't change with it, we will become obsolete. The North-South Summit, the changing nature of the U.S.-South Korean relations, the growing environmental awareness and many other factors are influencing our mission accomplishment. I am committed to moving this District forward so that we remain relevant and vital members of the U.S. forces in Korea. In a future article I intend to discuss these in more detail. Otherwise, keep up the great work – I am proud to serve as your Commander.

By the way, when does it stop raining?

**ESSAYONS!  
COL GREG KUHR**



## Korean War Dates in History 1950

### August 4-September 16

1,684, 478 U.S. troops participate in the defense of the Pusan Perimeter, including the U.S. Army's 1st Cavalry Division, 2nd, 24th, and 25th Infantry Division of the 1st Provisional Marine Brigade.

### September 15

Inchon Landing (Operation CHROMITE). U.S. and allied forces land U.S. Marines and U.S. Army troops at Inchon.

### September 15-30

Inchon Operation and Liberation of Seoul. U.S. and allies re-capture Seoul on Sept. 27 after a week of fighting.

### September 16-27

Pusan Perimeter breakout. Eighth U.S. Army (EUSA) breaks out of the Pusan Perimeter. Four U.S. divisions (1st Cavalry Division, 2nd, 24th and 25th Infantry Divisions) participate.

### October 20

War's first airborne operation. Seventy-one C-119s and 40 C-47s of the Far East Air Force's Combat Cargo Command drop 2,860 paratroopers of the 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team (RCT) at Sukch'on and Sunch'on north of Pyongyang. Only one trooper killed and 36 injured in jump. Paratroopers, in association with ground forces driving north, kill or capture about 6,000 North Koreans during this operation.

# Safety

(continued from page 3)

13. Supports and assists USACE Safety and Occupational Health Division in development and conduct of safety projects and studies.
14. Actively participates in the engineering design process, overseeing incorporation of industrial, systems, and explosive safety, Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA), DOD Explosive Safety Board (DODESB), fire protection, industrial hygiene, and human engineering considerations and requirements.
15. Interprets safety, fire and health codes, standards, procedures and requirements.
16. Monitors requests for waivers of OSHA, DODESB and National Safety Standards requirements.
17. Provides input for, and participates in, advanced planning, criteria and final design conferences to provide safety insight and technical guidance.
18. Reviews accident prevention programs and activity hazard analysis for content and action.
19. Surveys construction projects to assure that safety features essential and pertinent to the project are properly implemented and enforced.
20. Serves as Technical Advisor on Boards of Investigation.
21. Administers the District OSHA Program, as mandated by 29 CFR 1960 and Executive Order 12196.
22. Processes District OSHA complaints IAW AR 385-10.
23. Ensures completion of annual FED OSHA inspections.
24. Assures annual Hazardous Material Inventory Update is completed and result sent to HQ POD.
25. Administers the District Occupational Health Program.
26. Monitors the District Medical Surveillance Program.
27. Serves as the District Commanders liaison to the Korean Occupational Health Agency.

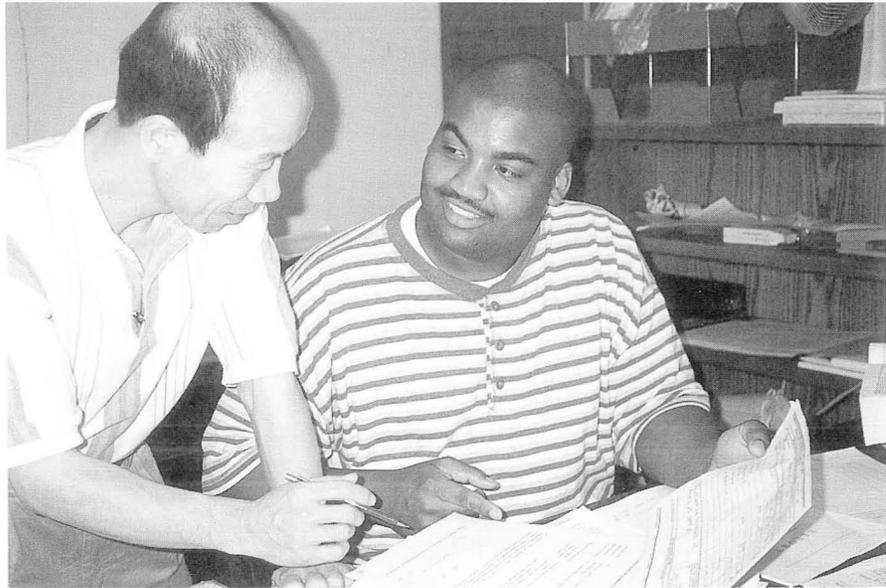
In summary, the FED Safety Office ensures the safety policies of USACE and FED are instituted and carried out within the District and at our project sites. We are the District Commander's direct representatives for safety, however, every one of you are a safety officer in your own right. Remember, if you see an unsafe act or potential hazard make the correction. *Safety is an everyday affair!*

## FED participates in AMIE Program

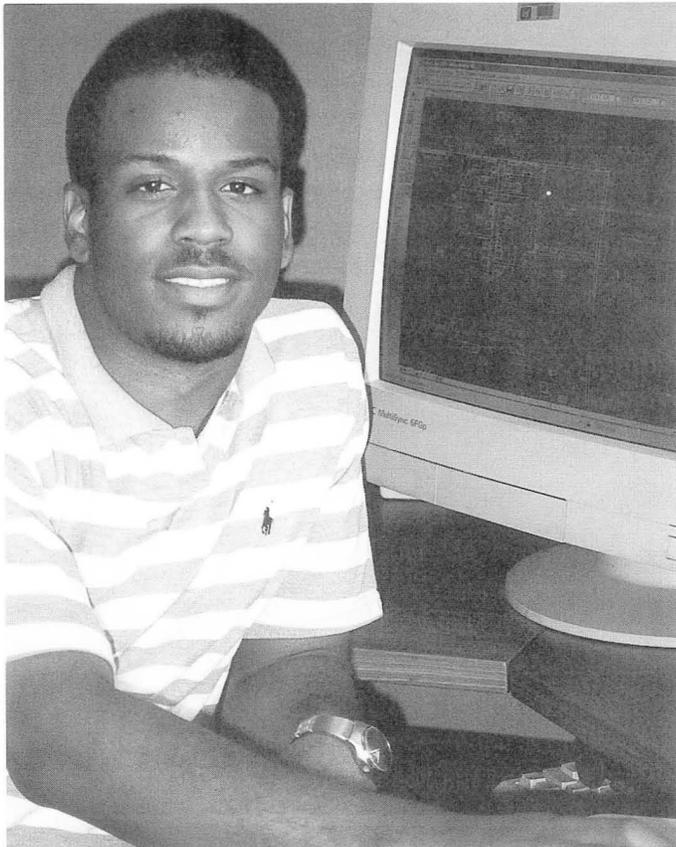
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to provide a proactive approach to fostering diversity as an essential business strategy. Student internship opportunities, faculty fellowships, scholarship programs, and campus relations are a few ways AMIE participants work together to add value to American institutions and industries. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and AMIE became partners in September 1996.

Mr. Martin Cruise III, Mr. Adrian Devillase, Mr. Keenan Haywood, and Mr. Gary Washington are the four students the Far East District is proud to help obtain technical experience this summer.



**Mr. Adrian Devillase (right), AMIE intern, and Mr. Yi, Won-son, Quality Assurance Branch, Construction Division, discuss some contract submittals.**



**Mr. Martin Cruise III, AMIE intern, who attends Morgan State University, Baltimore Maryland, is focusing on civil engineering and worked in the Engineering Division's Design Branch this summer.**

Cruise is a student at Morgan State University, Baltimore, Maryland, focusing on civil engineering. Working in FED's Design Branch in the Engineering Division, he has received hands-on experience in design and cost engineering and training in scheduling. Among other projects, he helped with design work for a U.S. Air Force administration building and for a barracks upgrade at Yongsan Garrison. He traveled to Osan Air Base to work side by side with Mr. Lynn Ray to receive some scheduling training. What Cruise liked best was getting to see a lot of aspects of engineering all together in the same building. He said one of the things that did surprise him was that civil and structural engineering were separate at FED.

While it usually takes five years to get an engineering degree, Cruise says he is trying to complete the program in four and the whole purpose of the internships for him is to help him to determine which area of engineering he wants to specialize in. He says he got into engineering because he is good at mathematics.

"Mr. Choe, Chong-hun; Mr. Sun, Yong-taek; and Mr. Yun, Pyong-chol helped me a lot,"

(continued on page 12)

## FED participates in AMIE Program

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said Cruise. "I haven't decided yet but I'm leaning toward specializing in structural engineering."

"I did a geotech internship last year with the Maryland State Highway Administration and spent a lot of time in the field, learned a lot and started from the bottom, got dirty; this year I got to work on design and saw the project on paper," Cruise said.

Although he thinks the internship is good, Cruise can't stand the roads, and while he was intimidated by the drivers and motorcycles at first, he is used to them now.

Devillasse, who is also a student in civil engineering at Morgan State University, has spent his internship working in FED's Quality Assurance Branch in the Construction Division. Unlike for Cruise, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is not new to Devillasse, who is on his third Corps internship. He worked in the Environmental Branch of the Corps' Weisbaden, Germany, office in '98 and in the Japan District's Design Branch last year.

In Weisbaden, Devillasse worked on renovations, using Microstation for measuring rooms and their uses in a study to let commanders know how space was being used. In Japan, at Camp Zama he used Microstation, helped design a child development center, and redesign concrete structures. Now at FED, Devillasse is working as assistant to Mr. Yi, Wonson, reviewing contract submittals to make sure everything submitted

is within U.S. Government regulations. With all three internships, he found the people he worked with very willing to help and mentor interns. He was one of 14 AMIE interns in Europe and was one of two in Japan. Devillasse says FED has been the busiest for him.

"The internships have helped me become a more well-rounded person because of the exposure to different cultures," Devillasse said. "It has been a very good experience and I have turned a lot of people on to the AMIE Program."

He says engineering is universal and he believes anybody who has the opportunity should try the AMIE Program so they can see other cultures. Outside of work, one of the biggest challenges for Devillasse during his internships overseas has been the language barrier in the three countries, but he hasn't let that deter him. He says in Korea he has been to the DMZ and done lots of shopping. As far as shopping, for him it seemed Japan was expensive, Korea less expensive and about the same as Germany.

Keenan Haywood, from Hampton, Virginia, is majoring in electrical engineering at Hampton University. He is doing his internship at Construction Division's Seoul Project Office, where he is obtaining field experience accompanying engineers and construction representatives out to projects in addition to office experience. Haywood also had the opportunity

to represent FED and the other AMIE students when he was interviewed by an American Forces Korea Network television crew for the nightly news.

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***"It's been a very good experience and I have turned a lot of people on to the AMIE Program," said Adrian Devillasse.***

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Gary Washington, from Tuskegee, Alabama, is a student at Tuskegee University also majoring in electrical engineering, and was persistent in wanting to work here in Korea. He met Mr. James Dalton, Deputy for Programs and Project Development, Far East District, at a Black Engineers Conference and expressed his interest in working for FED. He is now working in Construction Division's Central Resident Office in Osan, Korea.

Young people like these four AMIE engineering students are the future of the engineering profession and the Far East District is proud to be a part of securing that future.

