21st Annual Army Ten Miler

(See Page 5 to read the full story.)
From the Commander

Mother Nature continues to give us a harsh reminder of her true power. Thankfully the tsunami, hurricanes, and earthquakes that brought suffering to thousands of people during the past year have not physically touched the Far East District. Although we are thousands of miles away, as members of USACE, we have been touched by the tragedies as we deploy volunteers to use their talents and skills to help others.

I appreciate the amazing teamwork this district uses to answer the call to service and thank each of you for your personal contributions. I know fulfilling the requirements of our taskings has not been easy for our staff sections to plan, and our divisions and resident offices to support. I appreciate the great teamwork you all have demonstrated to make this current relief mission possible. The “firefighters” in the district are too numerous to name here but I will pass along the comments from a couple of the deploying volunteers to illustrate the cohesiveness of the group. I try to have office calls with each person before they depart Korea for hurricane relief. Everyone I talked to had the same comments—praise for the people in emergency management, logistics management, and resource management that helped to coordinate hundreds of tasks to make a short notice deployment possible. The numerous medical issues ranging from doctors appointments to hospital payments, equipment issue, government credit cards, drivers licenses, financial, and personnel appointments were all handled professionally and with a great sense of team spirit. The seven deploying members were proud to be part of the team.

The technical sections once again rallied to meet the added taskings. I do understand some Resident Offices and divisions are already strained from the absence of teammates supporting our number one priority, the Global War on Terrorism. The hurricanes hit while we have 13 people proudly deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq. The district was also working all of the normal business issues while we had numerous ground breakings and of course end of year close-out. The team remaining in Korea must continue to complete their own work, complete the work of their deployed colleagues, and in many cases prepare to deploy on the next rotation.

Thank you for taking care of our deploying volunteers and picking up the slack during their absence, all the while doing your missions safely. Please keep our GWOT volunteers in mind. I know they enjoy receiving notes occasionally. We will once again send care packages over the holidays, to our teammates in Iraq and Afghanistan. And as always we still need volunteers to deploy to Iraq and Afghanistan. If you volunteer,

Continued on Page 11
Safety & Occupational Health

Silica dust hazards on the construction site

What is Silica?
Silica occurs as a natural component of many materials used or encountered in construction activities. This article deals with crystalline silica which can cause lung disease. Crystalline silica is present in substantial quantities in sand, sandstone and granite, and often forms a significant proportion of clay, shale and slate. Products such as concrete and mortar also contain crystalline silica. Labels on materials and product analysis sheets (e.g., Material Safety Data Sheets) must be read and instructions for use followed carefully.

The Problem. At least 1.7 million U.S. workers are exposed to respirable crystalline silica in a variety of industries and occupations, including construction, sandblasting, and mining. Silicosis, an irreversible but preventable disease, is the illness most closely associated with occupational exposure to the material, which also is known as silica dust. Occupational exposures to respirable crystalline silica are associated with the development of silicosis, lung cancer, pulmonary tuberculosis, and airways diseases.

Exposure During Construction. The most severe worker exposures to crystalline silica result from sandblasting. In the construction industry, sandblasting may be used to remove paint and rust from stone buildings, metal bridges, tanks, and other surfaces. Other construction activities that may produce crystalline silica dust include jack-hammer operations, rock/well drilling, concrete mixing, concrete tunneling, and brick and concrete block cutting and sawing.

Suggested Measures To Control Exposures. Employers are required to provide and ensure the use of appropriate controls or crystalline silica-containing dust. Elements which may be included in an effective program include:

* Dust control program
* Medical surveillance program/disease reporting
* Training and information to workers on crystalline silica
* Availability of air and medical surveillance data to workers
* Equipment maintenance program
* Respiratory protection program
* Isolated personal hygiene facilities, eating facilities, and a clothing change area
* Record keeping
* Housekeeping program
* Regulated areas/warning signs

Research information obtained from Occupational Safety and Health Association and National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health. For any other information on Silica Dust hazard, or related training, contact Jerry Cummings at 721-7114.
Happy new year to the entire FED Team!

First of all, thank you for your tireless efforts during all of FY 05 and for your extraordinary performance during the year-end close out period. The District executed all contracts, whether it was a large construction contract, smaller Job Order Contracts or construction IDIQ task orders, year-end sensitive modifications, Architect-Engineer contracts, environmental IDIQ projects and supply/services contracts. Let us also not forget the hard work by the Program Analysts and Resource Management Office personnel who worked until midnight to ensure the Far East District’s “financial books” were properly closed. Without the support and attention to detail by everyone in the District, we would not have had a successful year-end program.

In case you missed the 20 October monthly awards ceremony and birthday celebration in the VTC room, COL Dombi kicked off the gathering by giving an inspiring talk about the status of the Camp Humphreys Relocation program and FED’s master planning effort. It was great to see so many FED personnel in attendance. Perhaps for the first time ever for this monthly event, it was standing room only. [Hint: Don’t miss the next one!]

Let me give you an idea of what else is coming down the road for FED in FY 06. I believe the relocation and beddown of the 2nd Multi-Function Aviation Brigade (MFAB) to Kunsan Air Base will see plenty of activity during this FY and it will be a great opportunity for the District to excel. The Army is going through a transformation and I just read somewhere that the Army might nix the MFAB name and go back to the 6th Combat Aviation Brigade (CAB). Whether it’s the MFAB or CAB, the mission is to provide facilities at Kunsan Air Base to support the Brigade headquarters and two AH-64 Apache Attack Helicopter Battalions. This will be a significant challenge because we have just under 3 years to execute the design and construction work based on direction from the top, the USFK Commander. FED has already prepared a master plan for this beddown program and 115 facilities have been identified in a 1-N list of projects. Some of these facilities are long-term projects (such as a library expansion) and are not immediately required to support the move. Short term, we will need to build barracks, a dining facility, brigade and battalion headquarters, hangars, company operations areas, vehicle maintenance facility, aircraft parking aprons, taxiways and twin 1,600 foot runways to name a few. The total program might be as much as $500 million.

To expedite actions, we will use standard designs as much as possible but we will also need some innovative ideas and teamwork to meet this tight timeline. USFK, 7th Air Force and 8th Fighter Wing are looking at us to go design-build on some of the projects, so we need to dust off the Yongsan Burke Towers design-build contract package as we move forward. Engineering Division recently completed a small design-build RFP package to support the Interim Elementary School project at Camp Humphreys, so I know the team can pull together on this program as well.

I look forward to another exciting year in support of USFK, service components, service members, civilians and family members.

Essayons!
This is why I run

By Maj. Samuel L. Volkman
Far East District Central Resident Office

The 21st Annual Army Ten Miler was held October 2, 2005 at Washington, D.C. Unfortunately, the original race route had to be diverted due to security reasons during the actual running of the race and official times and places were not available. While disappointing to some of the individuals and teams who had hopes of winning (The Eight Army Korea Team would have won), the event only proved to strengthened my answer to the constant question of “Why do you run?”

Indoctrinated into the U.S. Army, we run for physical fitness. Yes, there are many physical benefits to running. Along with the 10 Miler, I’m preparing for a marathon (26.2 miles or 42.195 km.) in November, which has me running over 60 miles a week. This type of regiment pretty much allows me to eat anything and everything all the time and still not gain weight. Surely, running provides a great cardio respiratory and muscle endurance exercise. It increases the volume of oxygen that my body can process which allows me to perform longer without fatigue.

Leaders tell us, we run for esprit de corps and unit cohesion. Yes, there is something motivational about a large group of people moving in the same direction. The energy level of 1000s of people standing eagerly at a start line or a company of soldiers singing cadence sends a chill down most anyone’s spine. Individually, it is a lot harder to slow down when your peers to the front, left, right, and rear are counting on you. Definitely, a sense of accomplishment is felt when completing a race or run.

Others will tell us, we run to relieve stress. True, I have my best thoughts while running, and I have often been told by friends and peers not to run because of those thoughts. Yet, runners like dogs behave much better after they run. Scientists have proven the human body produces certain endorphins during extended exercise, which may or may not reduce stress.

My answer to why do I run is simply “I enjoy running; it pleases me.”

(My unofficial 2005 Army 11.3 Mile Fun Run time was 1:00:28 which comes out to a 5:21 min/mile pace, and I unofficially 22nd overall.)

My answer to why do I run is simply “I enjoy running; it pleases me.”
Site visit to Good Morning City Shopping Mall

By Kim Chong-yun
Far East District Public Affairs

Employees of the Far East District visited the site of the Good Morning City Shopping Mall which is currently under construction by the Poong Lim Construction Co. at Ulchiro 6-Ga located approximately several hundred feet east of the FED’s front gate. The tour was initiated by the Geotech Branch of the Engineering Division.

More than 30 employees donned hard-hats and safety shoes and assembled at the FED flag pole early October 14 and walked to the construction site. After a very informative briefing by Kim Dong-hwan, the superintendent of the project, attendees looked around the site where the 19-story (seven below ground) 938,000 square foot multi complex shopping mall will be built. The construction started June 20 and is scheduled to be completed April 2008. This project drew the attendee’s interest with its unique construction technique called ‘Top-Down Method’: building the underground floors top to bottom while simultaneously building the ground floors. Kim said it is very efficient in areas where the underground floors are deep and space is limited like in Seoul.

“This is my first time visiting a construction site. Though I don’t have much professional knowledge of construction or engineering, it is quite an experience looking around the site which is similar to where my co-workers spend most of their days,” said Sin Mi-son, a Geotech Branch engineer support assistant.

Kim said the Poong Lim Construction Co. will offer FED employees more opportunities to tour the site in the future as the construction progresses.

The Poong Lim Construction Co. has worked with FED in projects such as Yongsan Commissary and Dragon Hill Lodge.
By Kim Chong-yun
Far East District Public Affairs

On July 1, 1957 the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District was activated. In commemoration of the District’s ‘birthday,’ and to recognize its support and dedication to the Global War on Terrorism an American flag was raised at the USACE, headquarters in Kabul, Afghanistan July 1.

This same flag was presented to Col. Janice L. Dombi, District commander, during the September Recognition and Birthday Party by Jorge Rosa, a project manager in the Programs and Project Management Division. Rosa, who recently returned from a voluntary six-month deployment to Afghanistan, took the initiative to have the flag flown in Kabul.

Holding back tears of pride, Dombi spoke of how important the teams’ commitment is to Operation Iraqi Freedom and the efforts in Afghanistan. She went on to say that words alone cannot express the gratitude she has for those FED employees who have stepped forward to contribute to the nation’s and Corps’ mission at home and overseas.

“I wanted to do something for the District, especially for my co-workers who picked up the slack while I and others were deployed,” said Rosa. “Hoisting the American flag in the face of the enemy epitomized the dedication and commitment of all Corps employees to the Global War on Terrorism.”

Of special significance is the accompanying certificate attesting to actual location where the flag was flown. “The Commander of the Afghanistan Engineer District, Col. John B. O’Dowd who signed the certificate, was the commander of the New York District during the 9-11, said Rosa. “He saw the planes hit the World Trade Center and he was there in the beginning stages of the recovery efforts. That makes this flag more meaningful and special.”

“Having the flag displayed here at FED serves to remind all of us that we are one team with the same goal which is to support USACE worldwide efforts,” Rosa said.

The flag is currently displayed in the FED command suite.
Osan Air Base has new Vehicle Maintenance Facility

By Sandra Yoshikawa
Summer Hire, Far East District Public Affairs

Construction of a new $8.8 million vehicle maintenance facility at Osan Air Base was completed ahead of schedule.

The new vehicle maintenance facility’s most unique feature is that all functions of maintenance could be done in one building unlike the previous facility which consisted of seven separate facilities. The vehicle maintenance facility is an 87,876 square-foot two-story building. It is the largest at any Air Force installation and includes office and storage spaces, maintenance bays, a body shop, a paint booth, and a maintenance shop.

Far East District team members who played a key role in this construction project are Steve Cho the project manager, Larry Grant who became the Project Manager when Cho deployed to Iraq, I-Yong Kim the Project Engineer, Curtis J. Lypek the Resident Engineer, Riki Rice the Quality Assurance Representative and the other members of the Central Resident Office, Engineering Staff.

“The effort from day one was the most gratifying accomplishment of this challenging task to construct a facility as large as the one at Osan Air Base and the most rewarding moment was when I saw the happy faces of our customers who were ecstatic about moving into their new facility,” says Rice.

Senior Master Sgt. Douglas Strasser, the Maintenance Superintendent said, “Mr. Rice this facility is great. Thank you for all you did to make it happen.”

(Above) Brig. Gen. Joseph Reynes, 51st Fighter Wing commander, takes control while other dignitaries look on during a tour of the new vehicle maintenance facility in Osan Air Base (left).
Yojin Construction was the construction contractor for the building and AMKOR, architect and engineering firm, designed it.

“The only challenge during this project has been the removal of rubble and asphalt because there was more than what was written on the contract, and the improper size of power supply during the construction,” added Rice.

Another part of this project is a 9,000 square-foot vehicle operations building to be constructed at an estimated cost of $1.2 million with the planned completion date of March 2006.

To commemorate the opening of the facility a ribbon cutting ceremony was held. After the ceremony there was a tour of the new facility for dignitaries, which included Brig. Gen. Joseph Reynes, 51st Fighter Wing Commander, Col. Maria Dowling 51st Support Group Commander, Maj. James Wilkie 51st Logistics Readiness Squadron Commander, Bong Sung Choi, President of Hyosung Construction Company, and Jon Iwata, Deputy for Programs and Project Management.

---

Meeting with Area II Civilian Personnel Specialist

by Kim Chong-yun
Far East District Public Affairs

Area II CPAC began providing weekly counseling for FED employees starting Sept. 21. Song Un-kyong, a human resource specialist is available every Wednesday morning at the In-processing Center, Room 200, building S-68.

“The primary reason for having our CPAC personnel here at FED on a weekly basis is to have them imbedded as a part of the FED team to provide better customer service to our Area II employees in the area of human resources and personnel,” said Rob Lau, the Resource Management Division chief.

“Mr. Song has been engaged in providing his on-site human resource service to our FED team members. The managers and employees liked the one-on-one attention and the professional approach of Song in the privacy of our RM In-processing room. Our on-site CPAC face-to-face engagement appears to a win-win success story for both organizations!” continued Lau.

This service is open to both Korean National and U.S. employees. “Questions from local national and U.S. employees are different. Koreans have questions related with promotion, performance appraisals and hiring freezes. American employees ask about the benefits, Priority Placement Program and family dependency,” said Song.

“Through this service I hope I can help FED employees and if there’s anything I can not answer right away I will go back to my office and come back with the answer from my co-workers or any person who has good knowledge on the related issue. And I guarantee privacy,” added Song.

Anyone who needs this service can just stop by or set up an appointment with a RM receptionist at 721-7362.

Song Un-kyong, Area II CPAC human resource specialist, gives counsel to Choe Kyong-mi, a RM management assistant.
‘Virtual Commissary’ opens for business

By Bonnie Powell
AR News

FORT LEE, Va. — Commissary shoppers looking for a different kind of gift for friends or family at home or abroad can let their “fingers do the clicking” at the new Virtual Commissary.

Located under the shopping link at http://www.commissaries.com, Virtual Commissary will open up a whole new world of Internet shopping for authorized users of the commissary benefit.

“We’re excited about DeCA’s first adventure into the world of Internet shopping,” said Patrick B. Nixon, chief executive officer and acting director for the Defense Commissary Agency.

Initially, one of DeCA’s business partners, Kraft Foods, Inc., is kicking off Internet shopping with a selection of gift baskets. “But the number of vendors and manufacturers participating will continue to increase - along with the variety of products,” Nixon said.

All of the products in the gift baskets at Virtual Commissary can be found on the shelves of “brick and mortar” commissaries, but the unique packaging of products into gift and special occasion baskets adds a new twist. With titles like “Camouflage,” “Drill Sergeant” and “Touch of Home,” the baskets offer assortments of crackers, canned cheeses, cookies, candies and even beverages and coffee packs.

Secure portal for safe access

To access the extended commissary, shoppers must pass through a secure portal found under the shopping link at www.commissaries.com. Personal information entered by the customer is validated to ensure they are an authorized shopper. Access is dependent on whether the customer is entered in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS). Military exchanges use a similar method to check for authorization before permitting access to exchange Web sites or online shopping.

DoD civilians stationed overseas who are otherwise authorized to shop at commissaries may not be able to access Virtual Commissary until changes are made to the DEERS database by the Defense Manpower Data Center, said DeCA officials. DMDC is targeting completion of the changes for late November.

Virtual Commissary customers can make selections and fill in their payment and shipping information in one easy and secure step, before being transferred to the manufacturer’s site where they can get total cost for the product (including the shipping) and finalize their purchase.

Shipping and handling charges are paid by the customer, just as at most other Internet shopping sites, and charges will vary depending on the method of shipping selected, location, and the speed of delivery requested. Customers can check for availability of delivery to APO and FPO addresses as well as get more information on what’s in the gift baskets by clicking on the image of the gift basket at Virtual Commissary. Payment for orders can be made with any credit card accepted in “real” commissaries and customer information is not archived by DeCA.

Down the road, Virtual Commissary expansion could include making a wide variety of commissary products available, a feature that would allow deployed military service members, retirees, and other authorized shoppers to order items they want and need at commissary savings.
USFK announces changes to TRICARE

By USFK Public Affairs Office

YONGSAN GARRISON, Seoul, Republic of Korea —Effective October 1, 2005, family members not on a service member’s permanent change of station/temporary change of station orders authorizing them to be in Korea are no longer eligible for TRICARE Prime.

Family members obtained in Korea by either marriage or adoption after the Oct. 1, 05 deadline, are also not authorized for TRICARE Prime, unless they are command sponsored. All current TRICARE Prime beneficiaries and those enrolled prior to Oct. 1, 05 will be “Grandfathered” until their sponsor’s DEROS from Korea.

Four exceptions to the policy include:

* If the sponsor receives PCS/TCS orders from Korea to an unaccompanied location, and the family members remaining in Korea are command sponsored, they are eligible for TRICARE Prime. Since the family members are already command sponsored, they will already be on their sponsor’s PCS orders.

* If the family members are allowed to relocate to Korea on the sponsor’s PCS orders in accordance with one of the unique circumstances outlined in Joint Federal Travel Regulation U522, they will be eligible for TRICARE Prime. As with the situation above, these family members will be on PCS orders.

* If the family members are currently enrolled in TRICARE Prime, regardless of command sponsorship status, and they have a newborn or adopt a child, that new family member is also eligible for TRICARE Prime.

* If the family member is a transitional survivor, they are eligible for TRICARE Prime for the duration specified transitional survivor benefits.

Military beneficiaries will continue to be covered by TRICARE Standard and may seek care at military treatment facilities on a space-available basis.

For more information, individuals may contact their local TRICARE offices.

OSAN 784-2488
KUNSAN 782-5502
AREA I 730-3324
AREA II 736-8071/8070
AREA III 753-7666
AREA IV 764-4683

From the Commander

Continued from Page 2

Finally, I wanted to share with you a few notes from the USACE public affairs office. As I mentioned earlier, being on the USACE team ties us to disaster recovery and easing the pain for thousands of people.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is continuing to work primarily in support of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, carrying out a wide variety of missions in response to Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita. In addition to our efforts to get the water out of New Orleans we are also providing services throughout Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama to include providing ice, water and temporary power; as well as debris removal and temporary roofing. There are currently more than 3,222 people deployed in support of the Army Corps of Engineers missions for Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Corps employees are empowered to make decisions regarding hurricane relief support on the spot as long as the decision is lawful, ethical and the employee is willing to be accountable for the action. This has helped keep things moving in a time of difficult communication.

Other Mission Statistics:

* More than 34,550 temporary roofs installed. It is estimated that more than 70,000 structures will need temporary roofs installed from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita damage.

* More than 7.2 million cubic yards of debris has been removed. It is estimated that the Corp’s debris removal mission for Hurricanes Katrina and Rita will be more than 45.4 million cubic yards of debris. The debris total does not include demolition debris (debris from houses and buildings that are torn down).
Security engineering class at the Dragon Hill Lodge

By Gloria Stanley
For East District Public Affairs

Far East District employees attended a pre-exercise security engineering class at the Dragon Hill Lodge on Yongsan Garrison as part of their training effort. The main objective of this class was to heighten employees' skills for determining protective measures against terrorism at military installations.

Gordon D. Hussey, a former Omaha District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers employee, now a structural engineer, and James M. Rea, a security engineer at the Omaha District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, facilitated this course about designing protective measures at military sites. The facilitators divided the 20-person class, including the 11 employees from the Far East District and others from Installation Management Agency—Korea Region Office, contractors, 18th Medical Command, 19th Theater Support Command, and 8th U.S. Army, into three groups, mixing engineering and security expertise in each group. During the four and a half day course these groups learned about tactics, defense, and installation design against terrorist attacks such as airborne and water contamination, a variety of bombs, and forced entry.

"The groups are developing a security protection plan for defending their assigned project site," said Hussey.

Half of the attendees stayed an extra two hours each night to participate in the Blast Effect Estimation Model training, a course for learning how to estimate physical damage to facilities and personnel. These attendees worked on the same scenario to compare plans with each other and pursue other ideas.

Civil Works facilities are often more accessible as they are not located inside military installations.

Mortar defense is also important for safety and protection from standoff weapons, ballistic weapons, and rocket propelled grenades.

Learning to communicate well

Far East District team members from the Engineering and Mechanical and Engineering divisions recently attended a Consideration of Others, also known as CO2, training seminar. This annual training is designed to enhance overall communication skills while simultaneously giving attendees an opportunity to ‘self-examine’ how they communicate with others. The special session was conducted by Kim Bun-sik a professional communications instructor at the Korea Human Nature Development Center. Kim, the wife of FED employee, Na U-kyun, volunteered to share her expertise with the FED team.
Officials take part in the groundbreaking ceremony. Work on the 14.5 million construction project started October and will finish in spring 2007. On the left is a rendering of the 45,000 square-foot two-story gyms.

Grand Reopening
Osan Air Base Commissary
October 14, 2005

Marking completion of a two-year renovation project, the commissary at Osan Air Base held its official “Grand Reopening”. The renovation includes an increase of the store’s square footage from 98,691 square feet to 103,467 square feet, construction of a perishable foods storage center inside the commissary building, addition of aisles, new administrative offices and 18 parking spaces. Officials kicked off the shopping day with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and numerous customers enjoyed the special promotions celebrating the reopening.
Question of Ethics

Each U.S. government employee is given the authority to act on behalf of the United States in his or her official capacity, and therefore holds that position in trust for the benefit of the public. There should be no exercise of that authority for the personal gain of either one’s self or others. The following are examples of individuals who abused their discretion for which they will be justly punished:

Army Master Sergeant Bobby Gilchrist pled guilty to bribery and other charges. Gilchrist was a supply sergeant in the DoD Office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff when he accepted $200,000 to participate in an IMPAC card scheme of fraudulent transactions. He was sentenced to 41 months in prison followed by three years probation, and ordered to pay $400,000 in restitution jointly and severally with a co-defendant.

Immigration and Naturalization Service Supervisory Inspector Gustavo Ramirez pled guilty to bribery charges. He was sentenced to 30 months incarceration followed by five years probation and ordered to pay $12,500 for bribery by allowing two vehicles through his entry lane carrying a total of 582 lbs. of marijuana.

Jimmy Todd, a manager for the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, pled guilty to downloading onto a federal government computer 29 graphic images and videos depicting minors engaging in sexual acts, a federal crime. He faces up to five years imprisonment and a $250,000 fine.

Carl Stewart, formerly a supervisor in the US Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida, pled guilty to accepting bribes for the purpose of recommending certain businesses to the Court for equipment purchases. He was sentenced to 27 months in prison followed by 3 years probation, and pay $260,431 in restitution.

Promotion

Maj. Samuel L. Volkman was promoted in Washington D.C. October 2. Col. Janice L. Dombi, Commander of the Far East District, presided over the ceremony. In attendance was Maj. Volkman’s mother, Maxime, who was celebrating her birthday the same day.

Farewell and Good Luck

Mr. Gloria Stanley leaves the Far East District to open a new chapter of her life in Seattle. Gloria has dedicated herself to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for 30 years and worked as the FED public affairs officer for eight years. We wish her good luck and Godspeed.
사령관 메세지

자연은 우리에게 큰 시련으로 그 힘을 계속 상기시키고 있습니다. 고립계도 4년 수천 명의 사람들에게 고통을 안겨주었던 쓰나미나 러시아인은 FED에 적합한 영향을 주는 것입니다. 하지만 USACE의 일원으로서, 비록 우리가 수천 마일 떨어진 곳에 있지만, 우리가 가진 재능과 기술로 해야 할 일은 사람들을 돕기 위해 지원자들을 보내고 있습니다.

도움의 손길에 담당하는 FED의 놀라운 팀워크와 여러분 모두의 공헌에 감사드립니다. 우리의 임무를 완수하는 일이 계획하는 도박이나 지원하는 각각의 및 지역사회에 신지 않다는 것을 잊습니다. 현재 진행 중인 재해 복구 임무에 여러분이 보여주신 훌륭한 팀워크에 정말 감사드립니다. 지금 일선 현장에서 일하고 계신 분들의 이름을 하나하나 열거하기에는 너무 많지만 지원자들이 그들의 결심력에 대해 한 발 앞 몇 가지를 같이 나낼 수 있습니다. 저는 러시아인 복구 지원자들이 한국을 머니기 전에 한 분석 모두 만나고 있는데, 제가 만나는 모든 분들의 희망은 말들을 하십시오 - 바로EM, LM, RM의 도움으로 모든 준비를 빠른 시간에 마칠 수 있다는 것입니다. 의사 예약부터 자원에 이르기까지 병원 진단, 장비 지급, 정부 신용, 카드, 운전 면허증 발급, 재정 및 인사 업무 등이 모두 훌륭한 팀 의식으로 빠르고 전문적으로 이루어지고 있습니다. 일곱 명의 지원자들 모두 팀의 일원인 것을 자랑스럽게 생각했습니다.

기술 분야 역시 이르지 않는 임무를 완수하기 위해 다시 한 번 힘을 풀고 있습니다. 저는 범세일 지역 사무소나 부서들이 우리의 가장 우선 과업인 테러와의 전쟁을 지원하여 나간 직원들 때문에 엄두상 어려움을 겪고 있다는 것을 이해합니다. 13명의 직원이 아프가니스탄이나 아프가니스탄에서 복무하고 있는 가운데, 우리는 러시아인 피해를 겪었습니다. 평상시 업무를 계속하면서도 많은 기금을 편, 또한 화재와 노동 낙마했습니다. 한국에 내어있는 팀들은 자신의 업무도 해야하고, 지원자간 동료의 업무도 해야하며, 또한 다음에 배치 준비도 계속 해야 합니다.

여러분의 임무를 안전히 수행할지 총동역시에 지원자간 동료의 일까지 처리해주고 계신 것에 깊은 감사를 드립니다. 테러와의 전쟁에 나가 계신 분들을 꼭 기억해 주시기 바랍니다. 저는 그분들이 여러분들로부터 소식을 듣는 것을 기쁘게 생각한다는 것을 알고 있습니다. 연말 연시를 맞아 우리는 아프가니스탄이나 아프가니스탄에 나가있는 동료들에게 선물을 보내는 것입니다. 그 이유로 이러한 우림의 아프가니스탄으로 가는 많은 지원자들이 필요합니다. 자원하신다면 놀decay의 면목 아래 일하면서 개인적으로도 놀라운 경험을 하실 수 있을 것입니다.

마지막으로, USACE 공보부에서 보내온 몇 가지 사항을 여러분과 나누고 싶습니다. 제가 앞에서 말한 것처럼 USACE 팀의 일원으로서 우리는 재해복구와 수많은 사람들의 고통을 겪고 있는 일에 하고 있습니다.

미 육군 공병단은 허리케인 카트리나와 허리케인 라타 피해에 따른 여러가지 임무를 수행하면서 연방재난관리청을 지원하는 업무를 계속하고 있습니다. 뉴올리언즈에서 물을 빼내는 일을 하면서, 무기자와, 미시시피와 앨러배다 지역에서 진행 해제 및 임시 지붕 설치 업무와 함께 잔고, 물 및 임시전력도 제공하고 있습니다. 현재 러시아인 카트리나와 라타 업무를 위해 미 육군 공병단에서 3,222명 이상의 지원자들이 나가있습니다.

미 육군 공병단 지원자들은 허리케인 복구 지원 업무에 있어서 현장에서 바로 결정을 내릴 권한을 부여 받았습니다. 물론 그 결정들은 모두 합법적이고 윤리적이어야 하며 결정에 대해 결정권자가 책임을 져야 합니다. 이는 의사소통의 어려움 속에서도 업무를 빠르게 진행할 수 있도록 도와주고 있습니다.

- 기타 임무 통계 -

34,550개 이상의 임시 지붕 설치, 허리케인 카트리나와 라타로 인해 70,000개 이상의 임시 지붕이 필요할 것으로 추정됨.

720만 임명 아드 이상의 재해가 발생, 허리케인 카트리나와 라타로 인한 미 육군 공병단의 임시 해제 임무는 4540만 임명 아드 이상일 것으로 추정됨. 전체 해제는 해체 전해제 주택이나 건물 해체로 인한 해체는 포함하지 않음.
매년 10월 31일은 미국의 할로윈 날이다. 미국 뿐 아니라
우리 나라에서도 젊은이들 사이에 할로윈 문화가 소개되어
영어 화원이나 슬립 같은 곳에서 할로윈 파티가 열리기도 하고,
기업들이 마케팅 목적으로 행사를 열기도 하는데, 마치
할로윈이라는 날이 어떻게 유래되었는지, 미국에서 할로윈을
어떻게 지내는지는 잘 모르는 것 같다.

할로윈이라는 말은 중세 시대부터 유래된 것이라고 한다.
중세 켈트족들은 밤에 마녀와 악령들이 모여 내려와서
인간들에게 장난을 친다고 생각했다. 그들을 피하기 위해
사악한 괴물이 곳곳에 모여 도망가도록 해꿀. 귀신 으로 집
앞을 무섭게 꾸미고 귀신 분장을 하는 풍습이 생겼다고 한다.

미국에서 할로윈은 어른들보다는 아이들이 좋아하는 날이다.
아이들은 여러가지 마녀, 악마나 헐리비천이나 영화에 나오는
인물들의 복장 등으로 차려 입는데, 남자 아이들의 경우
스파이더맨, 여자 아이들은 마녀와 공주 복장이 인기를 끌다.
밤이 오면 삼삼오오 아이들이 짐을 지어 집집마다 사탕과
초콜릿 등을 잡으러 다니는데, 집주인들은 집을 거미줄과 해골
등으로 무섭게 꾸미기도 하고 집 주위에 호박등 (a jack-o’-
lantern)을 둘러놓기도 한다. 집주인이 뜻을 알면 아이들이
“Trick or Treat”이라고 외치고, 그러면 집주인이 아이들
주머니에 준비해 놓은 사탕과 초콜릿을 내어준다. “Trick or
Treat”이란 사탕(treat)을 주지 않으면 장난(trick)을 치겠다는
귀여운 협박의 뜻이다.

할로윈이 마녀와 악마를 숭배한다고 해서 이를 지키지 않는
사람들도 많아서, 미국에서는 더 이상 공립학교에서
공식적으로 할로윈을 기념하거나 “Happy Halloween”같은
말은 할 수 없다고 한다. 대신 이 날은 가을 축제(a fall
celebration)나 추수 파티(a harvest party)등으로 불린다. 물론
이 날 학교에 갈 때는 마녀나 악마 옷을 입을 수도 없다. 이는
미국내 여러 종교계의 의견이 수용된 결과로 종교적인 간섭을
막기 위한 것인데, 크리스마스 역시 마찬가지라고 한다.

하지만 할로윈은 아이들에게 일년에 몇 안되는 신나는
날임에는 틀림없다.