

# East Gate Edition

U.S. Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Far East District

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## Chief's visit to Korea

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### On the cover



**Lt. Gen. Carl A. Strock (right) receives a briefing from Mark J. Cain about the relocation to Camp Humphreys.**

*Editor's Note: The East Gate Edition was not published in April.*

*Correction: Information accompanying Feb/March East Gate Edition's flu shot photo was incorrect. The employee getting an injection is No Yong-hye.*

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Email:  
Joseph.A.Campbell@pof02.usace.army.mil  
chongyunkim@pof02.usace.army.mil

District Commander: Col. Janice L. Dombi  
Public Affairs Officer: Joe Campbell  
Editor: Kim Chong-yun

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# From the Commander



**Col. Janice L. Dombi**

It is time once again to gear up for our summer safety campaign. Your FED Safety Day shirts from last year are probably faded, giving you a visual hint that Safety Day is around the corner. In my estimate, we need to re-focus on risk management both on and off duty. Of all the things we do in peacetime, nothing is more important than safety. We have had a number of accidents in the past few weeks which truly concern me as it should you. It is really a misnomer to call these mishaps "accidents" because in all cases with more attention to the situation, the action could have been prevented. In all cases, each person's behavior was too risky for the environment.

Imagine you are sitting in a safety class and view a tape where the following events occur:

- Construction site A was icy, employee fell and broke wrist. Resulted in requiring surgery and lost duty days.
- Contractor at construction site B bent down to coil a wire while a fork lift was unloading a truck nearby. Forklift backed into worker breaking his leg requiring hospitalization and almost 2 months of missed work.
- Employee failed to negotiate a road way, drove into rice paddy and struck head on windshield sustaining a concussion and requiring stitches. The seat belt was not fastened properly.
- Contractor tried to lift power line with pole to move a crane mounted conex under a wire without proper overhead clearance. Employee sustained electrical burns to hands, wrist and ear. Required hospitalization and a missed day of work.
- Contractor failed to negotiate a turn on a road and ran head -on into a concrete utility pole. Employee was wearing seatbelt and walked away from accident.

At the end of the tape you are required to do a hazard analysis of each of the incidents listed above. You need to evaluate the danger and write your steps to mitigate the hazard. Take your time to think of each answer. Don't worry, spelling does not count. Done? OK. How did you do? You probably all received an "A" for your work. If we can recognize the potential hazards and proper mitigation for each incident on paper, we can do it in real life.

Luckily in each case listed, no one was killed. A good safety analysis however, does not depend on luck. It depends on adopting a safety culture both on and off duty. It is interesting to see the value of a safety culture ingrained in some activities. You automatically look both ways before crossing a street. With proper repetition and commitment, you could act automatically about wearing your seatbelt too— no matter how short the trip or quiet the road. You can develop a safety culture not to drink and drive. Just as you believe failing to look both ways before crossing the road is outrageous, you should feel the same way about failing to wear your seat belt.

**See Commander Page 15**



# Chief's 2006 Engineer Day Message



The proud heritage of the Engineer Regiment began when Col. Richard Gridley became the first Chief of Engineers June 16, 1775. Since then, generations of Army engineers, both Soldiers and Civilians, have answered the call to duty around the world during peace and war.

Today is no different. Throughout the past year the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has made many significant contributions on behalf of our nation and the armed forces. Our workload increased dramatically as we met the demands to support hurricane recovery, while continuing our ongoing work in Iraq and Afghanistan. Additionally, great work continued along waterways, at recreation areas, in research facilities and at armed forces installations around the world.

We have been stressed and stretched in the past year, but you have responded to those increased demands with great commitment and competence.

One of the most demanding missions this year has been our hurricane recovery efforts, and it is immensely gratifying to see how the team responded.

In the first hours after Hurricane Katrina hit last August, Col. Richard Wagenaar and his team from New Orleans District assessed the situation on the ground. And in a very short period of time, 3,000 people deployed to the Gulf Coast states. Only one week before, they had been working on other missions, but they quickly redirected their efforts. That response clearly shows the great agility of an outstanding workforce.

Eventually, more than 8,000 volunteers answered the call to help in the Gulf Coast states. They continue to do a tremendous job.

The team supported the Federal Emergency Management Agency by providing ice and water, temporary power and housing, installing temporary roofing and moving mountains of debris.

The team also accomplished the Herculean tasks of pumping the flood water out of New Orleans, and repairing the hurricane protection system in time for the 2006 hurricane season. Perhaps the most remarkable aspect of this achievement is that so many employees in the region suffered substantial personal losses and hardships, yet they summoned the courage to focus on the needs of others.

A strong public service ethic and willingness to ride to the sound of the guns has allowed the Corps to meet the demands of hurricane recovery while also accomplishing our other important missions.

The pace of work to support the growth of democracy in Afghanistan and Iraq has not lessened. We have made great strides on completing thousands of projects in Iraq, and continue to help improve conditions in Afghanistan with construction of facilities and improvements to roads and bridges.

And while those efforts have garnered headlines, every day there is a great deal more being accomplished around the world. For example, we are supporting our armed forces with quality military construction and real estate services — a vitally important mission during this time of transformation.

This past year we have destroyed old landmines and ordnance in Iraq while cleaning up old ordnance here at home, continued efforts to restore the Everglades, and improved homeland security. Also, our outstanding research and development efforts were honored when the Engineering Research and Development Center was selected as the Army's Laboratory of the Year.

I have mentioned only a very few of the many contributions made by the Corps team. I have enormous pride and confidence in you. Thank you for accomplishing so many difficult missions under demanding circumstances. Thanks to your work the past year, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers added a page to the long, proud history of service to our nation.

ESSAYONS!

Carl A. Strock  
Lieutenant General, USA  
Commanding

## SUMMER SAFETY

### FED Safety Office

Summer on the Korean peninsula is a great time for hiking, camping, water recreation and other outdoor activities. Unfortunately, each year hundreds of people are injured or die as a result of unsafe acts. The following summer safety tips can help prevent you and your family from becoming a statistic.

### Monsoon Season

The term monsoon comes from the Arabic word “mausim” meaning season or wind shift. South Korea, which lies in the East-Asian monsoon belt, is currently at the beginning of its monsoon season. The summer monsoon, which runs from June to September brings with it abundant moisture from the ocean, producing heavy rains that account for about 70 percent of the peninsula’s annual rainfall. During this period, thunder and lightning, heavy showers and flooding are common. To reduce your chances of injury during the monsoon season:

- Listen to local radio and television for the latest weather forecasts.
- If driving through a flooded area – do not try to cross washes with water in them and if your vehicle becomes stuck or flooded, abandon it and move to higher ground.
- Do not camp close to rivers, streams or creeks. Flash flooding is sudden and has resulted in many deaths here in Korea.
- If you are in a flood prone area and you are told to evacuate, do so as soon as possible. **Act quickly!**

### Lightning Safety

The summer months are the most dangerous time for being injured by lightning. Outdoor activities such as golf, picnics and swimming put us at a greater risk of being injured by lightning. Most persons take some protection action when thunder storms approach. However, lightning can strike up to 10 miles from the storm. If you hear thunder you can possibly be struck by lightning.

To reduce your chance of becoming a victim of lightning plan ahead. If thunderstorms are predicted, postpone or cancel the outdoor segments of your plans.

Monitor the weather conditions. Watch the sky for any signs of developing or approaching storms and leave before the storm arrives at your location. If the sky looks threatening seek shelter indoors. Remain indoors for at least 30 minutes after the last lightning flash or the last thunder is heard. If you are caught outdoors, minimize your risk, by staying away from tall objects such as trees and poles.

Finally, in the event a person is struck by lightning, call for immediate medical care and, if able, administer Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation.

### Heat Injuries

Most heat injuries are preventable with proper hydration and minimum exposure and activity out of doors when temperatures and humidity are high. Here are a few tips to prevent you from becoming a heat related casualty.

- Drink plenty of fluids. In hot environments, the body can lose one liter of fluids per hour.
- Be aware of your environment.
- Take frequent breaks as temperatures rise.
- Wear loose, lightweight fabrics that encourage heat release.
- Acclimatize. It takes at least 7-10 days to get used to working in a hot environment.
- Stay in shape. A healthy heart and good muscle tone work more efficiently and generate less heat.
- Be aware of special heat stress risk. Caffeine, alcohol, diabetes, or medications for high blood pressure and allergies can increase the risk of heat stress.

By following these safety tips and using common sense you and your family can enjoy all the wonderful out of doors activities offered here in Korea. Stay safe. Your family needs you ~ We need you.

# Super Bowl hero shows compassion for Koreans of mixed-race

Story by Kim Chong-yun

FED Public Affairs

After Hines Ward of the Pittsburgh Steelers won the 2006 Super Bowl's most valuable player award in February, this Korean-American's sudden fame drew an enormous amount of attention to South Koreans of mixed race.

Ward made a visit to the country of his birth in early April, the first since he left at the age of two with his parents. While here, he was honored at many public events and met with Korean children of mixed race. South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun and First Lady hosted a dinner in his honor at the Presidential Palace and the U.S. Embassy held a formal reception for Ward. He was also made an honorary citizen of Seoul.

Recently Ward made another visit to Korea to establish a non-profit organization to help Koreans of mixed race have more educational and recreational opportunities. It will provide computers, books and other needed items to children of mixed race as well as working with other organizations such as the Pearl S. Buck International Foundation. It will also offer scholarships to help students who have shown their devotion to service in the community. The scholarship fund is named for the athlete's mother, Kim Young-hee.

Ward's sincere respect for his mother and her sacrifices to raise him as a single parent, without help from anyone, has touched a chord in the hearts of Koreans. However, there are doubts about whether Ward could have been as successful if he lived in Korea. Many voices have said it was best that he grew up in the States because a mixed-race child would have had a harsh life facing the deeply entrenched discrimination in South Korea, a society where pure-blood ties are extremely important.

For decades after the Korean War, the number of Korean-American children gradually increased as districts around U.S. military bases thrived. Some of them moved to the States and some were abandoned when American soldiers left Korea.

Today, the majority of the mixed-race residents in the country are called "Kosians" which is a newly coined word for a child from the marriage of a Korean and another Asian national, mainly South Asian migrant workers or South Asian women married to Korean men. The Kosian population is on the rise with the increase of immigrant workers coming into the country and because many farmers who have been facing difficulty finding Korean brides marry South Asian women.

Nowadays, a few celebrities of mixed origin such as Daniel Henney and Dennis O are gaining popularity for their acting roles in Korean dramas. The media is making a great fuss about the gradual disappearance of racial prejudices. This is a good change in Korean society and is keeping pace with Globalization in 21st century. However, what is overlooked is that most of these half-Korean celebrities in stardom are attractive Korean-Caucasians and were raised in a well-off family with the ability to speak fluent English.

In contrast, the general population's view of those who come from a poor single mother, especially those of African-American decent, is quite different. Many Koreans look down upon them because of their dark skin and socio-economic status.

In 2000, a South Korean government human rights body recommended domestic crayon manufacturers change the standardized name of a crayon labeled "skin color" on the grounds that it discriminated against people from different racial backgrounds. The label was later changed to "light orange," but that was not enough to change society's attitude toward people with a different skin color, especially toward the ones with darker skin than Koreans.

Most interracial Koreans tend to face social discrimination, but children of African-American origin or with dark-skinned parents face harsher discrimination largely because they are the most physically different. If anyone tries a "skin color" crayon, he will see that it is not Korean skin color at all: Ironically the color which used to be called as a skin color is more of Caucasian porcelain skin than yellow Asian skin.

The increasing attention to the success story of Hines Ward can provide Koreans one more good opportunity to change society's entrenched prejudice of mixed race citizens when this fascination is not just curiosity but a true intention for a better understanding of them and the pure integrity is more valued than the pure blood.





# Ground is broken for Camp Humphreys' Transient Lodging Wellness expansion

Story, photos by Kim Chong-yun

FED Public Affairs

**PYEONGTAEK, South Korea** — With the thrust of shovels, U.S. Army officials, local contractors and invited guests celebrated the beginning of a project that will double the size of Camp Humphreys' Army Lodge here April 18.

The new 55,843 square foot, 85-unit facility will be located adjacent to the existing lodge and will serve Soldiers and families who need temporary lodging while changing duty stations.

"It is great to be here at Camp Humphreys to take another big step toward the growth and overall improve-

ment of this camp as a great place for Soldiers and their families to live and serve in the Republic of Korea," said Lt. Col. John F. Lofstedt, U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's Far East District deputy commander.

Work on the nearly \$12.5 million expansion is scheduled for completion January 2008 by Yojin Industrial Company Ltd.

Under a U.S.-South Korean agreement, the size of Camp Humphreys will be tripled by 2008 and the population will also increase tremendously.



“Today’s grounding breaking ceremony sets yet another milestone in the accomplishment of the Theater’s Master Plan for the transformation of Camp Humphreys,” said Col. Michael J. Taliento, Jr., Area III Support Activity commander. “The senior leadership on peninsula remains committed to improving the quality of life for those serving with the Republic of Korea-U.S. Alliance.”

“Army Lodges are an installation’s centerpiece and welcome mat for PCSing (permanent change of station) Soldiers, families and civilians. Getting that mission accomplished starts with taking care of the Soldiers and families when they arrive into country and when they depart. This complex, when completed will do just that,” said Taliento.

The new addition will have 45 extended-stay guest rooms with a kitchenette, microwave oven, refrigerator and sink, and 40 suites.

Another part of this project is the renovation of the first floor of the existing lodge, according to Greg Reiff, the Far East District’s Pyeongtaek resident engineer and master of ceremonies for the groundbreaking.

“Nine of the rooms on the first floor will be demolished to make room for conference rooms, a digital business center and the additional space is for maintenance and housekeeping functions of the combined lodge,” said Reiff.

The new lodge will be five stories of a similar architectural design to the one which is already on the site. The two structures will be connected by an enclosed walkway.

“This is one more of the great changes that the command has committed to making, as we provide for our Soldiers and families as they come here to serve. I really look forward to coming back myself and seeing this facilities finished,” said Loefstedt.



(Page 6) Kim, Chom-su, Acting President of Yojin Industrial Company Ltd. bows in front of a table in a traditional Korean ceremonial offering to spirits for the safe and successful completion of the project.

(Left) An artist’s rendering shows the Camp Humphreys’ Transient Army Lodge with a new wing to open January 2008.

(Below) Lt. Col. John L. Loefstedt, Far East District Deputy Commander (second from right), Col. Michael J. Taliento Jr., Area III Support Activity commander (center), Korean contractors and other dignitaries break ground for the Transient Lodging Wellness expansion project at Camp Humphreys, April 19.





# Army Engineers demonstrate contingency capabilities

Story, photos by Joe Campbell

FED Public Affairs

**SEOUL** – Nearly one hundred Soldiers and civilians from throughout the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers took part in this year's Reception, Staging and Onward Integration exercise held across the Korean peninsula during the last week of March.

The participants demonstrated the full complement of the Far East District and USACE contingency engineering capabilities. Team members served as liaison officers with major United States Forces Korea commands and the Republic of Korea Field Armistice. They conducted field engineering assessments using two established Forward Engineering Support Teams (FEST) and responded to

multiple requests for information using in-house and stateside reach-back engineering expertise.

"The Far East District received and responded to more than 30 requests for information from Combined Forces Command and USFK supported units. These requests provided the District the opportunity to demonstrate our in-house technical expertise in a wide range of disciplines," said Lt. Col John F. Loefstedt, FED deputy commander.

Loefstedt went on to explain several of the critical aspects that led to the overwhelming success of the exercise.

"Our Base Development Team prepared detailed facility designs, our contracting staff identified local sources for construction materials, the Geographic Information System staff provided updated commercial imagery and map data, and the two FEST teams conducted on-sight assessments and analysis in support of contingency operations," said Loefstedt.

"We also showcased our ability to reach into the various USACE labs and centers of expertise to get detailed analysis and reports on key facilities and terrain throughout the peninsula."

Eight of the nine worldwide USACE Divisions sent personnel to partake in RSOI, one of the largest annual training exercises in Korea. Among them were experts from the Engineering, Research and Development Center and specialists from within the Corps.

"It was definitely rewarding to see that we can actually pull together multiple agencies and make this exercise happen, especially in a foreign country where there are sometimes language barriers," said operations specialist Marsha Schreiber, Alaska District. "It really proves that indeed we are a learning organization."

Throughout the exercise the strength of the Republic of Korea – United States Alliance was seen through the mobilization of the host nation support assets who would execute required contingency construction projects.

"Command engineer teams from both the Republic of Korea and United States worked together to gather the status of damaged infrastructures and monitored repairs being completed by host nation engineering forces composed of military governmental and civilian engineering teams," said Lenny Kim, an FED team leader. "Dam-



**William McDaniel (far right), a Far East District Information Management Technician removes camouflage netting from around the FED Emergency Operations Center.**



aged roads and railways were quickly restored to operational condition to support onward movement of combined ROK and US forces. The ROK Army was very effective and efficient in the execution of contingency operations. I was impressed with their ability and willingness to work together as a team.”

Preplanning for the exercise began months in advance. One of the key players was Lt. Col. George Shott, a retired Army engineer who was recently recalled to active duty and assigned to the Far East District for a one year tour.

“Coming from an engineer war-fighter background, this was my first opportunity working for a USACE organization,” said Shott. “The experience has been exciting and rewarding particularly with this current exercise. The FED people, individually and within their staff elements, exhibited a high degree of team spirit and grasp of engineer war-fighting operations. The level of expertise and capabilities brought to the exercise in support of the MACOMS was outstanding.

Also playing a vital role with the preparation and execution of the exercise was the FED Information Management Office. For several months the IMO team worked diligently upgrading, installing and testing the automation

and communication equipment for on and off peninsula reach-back requirements during contingency operations.

“I am pleased with all of the hard work that was accomplished by the IMO staff in preparation of RSOI,” said Ricky Bashor, Chief of Information Management. “The IMO team encountered many obstacles during the reconstruction of the command, control, communications, computers and intelligence (C4I) infrastructure at the newly renovated Emergency Operations Center, however they were able to have all systems up and running prior to and throughout the exercise.”

“Not only are they maintaining operations for our Armistice mission, they are working into the future to support the contingency requirements as well.”

“This exercise was an experience of a lifetime,” said Debbie Fletcher an operations specialist assigned to the Alaska District. “The camaraderie, sense of accomplishment as team members, and overall team success made this year’s exercise a very positive event to remember.”

Fletcher’s sentiments were echoed by James Fields, an administration officer at Southwestern District. “People rarely succeed at anything unless they are happy and have fun doing it.”



Exercise participants pose for a group photo.





# Osan Mustang Indoor Pool Complex opens

*Excellent health and leisure activity year-round*

**Story by Ana Farrulla**  
FED Public Affairs

**OSAN AIR BASE, South Korea** — With summer now here and the monsoon season quickly approaching, Team Osan introduces a solution to swimming in the rain: an indoor pool.

On May 22, the 51st Fighter Wing officially opened its award winning Mustang Indoor Pool Complex with speeches and a ribbon cutting ceremony.

“Another great day for Team Osan, another step forward,” said Brig. Gen. Joe Reynes, Commander, 51st Fighter Wing. “This pool is a giant step forward, not only for Team Osan but for our community.”



The \$3.5 million project was constructed by ISU Engineering and Construction Company under contract to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District.

“We are very proud of this project,” said Yoon, Shin-pak, ISU’s vice chairman, Yoon also praised the combined team for its supports and hopes that the facility will be greatly enjoyed by the Osan community for many years.

The pool is a part of a \$100 million family housing complex being constructed at Mustang Village on Osan Air Base. The complex also includes three modern nine to 13-story apartment towers, a soccer field and playground adjacent to the pool and a four-story parking garage.

“Now when it rains, the pool will not have to close,” said 12-year-old Yolanda Soli, a resident of Mustang Village.



(Left) Auston Werner, a Team Osan family member, enjoys the water slide while two life guards supervise.

(Below) Families of the Osan community enjoy the baby pool at Mustang Indoor Pool Complex.

(Photos by Kim Chong-yun)



# Jeju Island

**Discover its natural wonders**



*Pristine beaches* and peaceful fishing villages adorn the shoreline with brightly colored rooftops, open fish markets and endless rows of squid drying in the mid-day sun.



## Story, photos by Joe Campbell

FED Public Affairs

**SEOUL** – Located just off the southern coast of the Korean peninsula sits the island paradise of Jeju, an affordable vacation getaway that offers an exotic and relaxing escape from the inner-city atmosphere of concrete and traffic.

Pristine beaches and peaceful fishing villages adorn the shoreline with brightly colored rooftops, open fish markets and endless rows of squid drying in the mid-day sun. Its many waterfalls, intriguing caves and sprawling vegetation all lie in natural harmony with Mount Halla, South Korea's highest peak.

This semitropical island, much like the state of Hawaii, was created by volcanic eruptions thousands of years ago. Along the shoreline and throughout its interior, black stones formed by cooling lava can be found. Small figurines of Harubang, the god of Jeju, are made from the stones and sold at roadside markets.

Jeju is revered as one of the most popular vacation spots by Koreans because of its natural splendor and close proximity to the mainland. The island offers year-round recreation to include swimming, hiking, skiing, golf and rock climbing.

Located at the foot of Mount Halla is Seongeup Folk village. A centuries old parish that has been restored to its original state and provides an in-depth look at the unique native culture of Korea, especially of the islanders. Many ancient cultural properties such as residences, Confucian shrines and schools, government offices and stone statues are open to the public. Several hundred-year-old zelkova and nettle trees continue to flourish within the village and

are designated as natural monuments. Local residents perform folk plays while artisans demonstrate ancient skills such as calligraphy and ironworks.

At the southern tip of the island is the city of Seogwipo. This coastal city is famous for its majestic coastline, towering waterfalls and rock formations. It was also one of the venues for the 2002 World Cup Games.

Not far from Seogwipo is the Teddy Bear Museum which has an unusual collection of more than 800 bears preciously displayed, some even dating back to the early 1900s.

Just a short walk from the Teddy Bear Museum is the Yeomiji Botanical Garden. The greenhouse has more than 2,000 varieties of flowering plants and trees inside and about 1,700 kinds of semi-tropical plants growing outside.

Rounding out this great vacation spot are more than a dozen 18-hole world-class golf courses.

Additional information about touring Jeju Island is available through peninsula-wide Moral, Welfare and Recreation Tour and Travel Offices, United Services Organization (USO) in Yongsan at 723-4130, the Korean National Tourism Organization, <http://english.tour2korea.com> and an official JeJu Island site at <http://jejueco.com/eng.htm>.



(Above) A traditional hut, restored to its original condition, sits peacefully in a grove of trees at the Jeju Folk Village.



(Left) Hong Young-sik, 70, a calligrapher, explains family precepts to visitors at the Jeju Folk Village.

(Page 12) A buck seems to stand watch over a sacred burial ground on Jeju Island.

# U.S. Army Corps of Engineers updates progress on the New Orleans-area Hurricane Protection System

## USACE Public Affairs

**WASHINGTON (April 28, 2006)** – With the official start of the 2006 hurricane season little more than a month away, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers continues to make significant progress toward its initial goals of repairing and strengthening those segments of the hurricane protection system that were damaged by hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

“There is a great deal of work yet to be completed and inspected to meet the 1 June goal,” said Maj. Gen. Don T. Riley, USACE director of Civil Works. “The Corps continues to work aggressively with our many contractor partners to keep this work on schedule.

“We will also work to ensure the citizens of the New Orleans area are kept fully informed of the progress of our work, and to assure them that the Corps is committed to the highest quality of design and construction.”

Restoration of the damaged hurricane protection system is more than 70 percent complete and progressing rapidly. It includes:

- Orleans East Bank, 54 percent
- Inner Harbor Navigation Channel, 84 percent
- New Orleans East, 77 percent
- St. Bernard, 88 percent
- Plaquemines, 83 percent

The ongoing Orleans East Bank completion percentage also reflects works being done to install temporary pumps and gate closures at the mouths of the three outfall canals.

The Corps continues to conduct both surface and subsurface inspections of the remaining New Orleans-area levee system that was not visibly damaged by last year’s hurricanes. In April, four contractors began walking the entire hurricane protection system in the New Orleans metropolitan area to perform surveys and do geotechnical analyses in levee and floodwall reaches that show signs of distress. The contractors will also recommend remedial action for those reaches that do not meet design criteria. By June 1, they will prepare a report to document the results of the inspection and analysis of the hurricane protection features.

The effort to inspect the entire levee and floodwall system has been ongoing since September 2005.

A large portion of the 56 miles of floodwalls in the system are topped by I-walls similar to those that were breached along the three outfall canals during Hurricane Katrina. The Corps is using several approaches to quickly minimize possible I-wall deficiencies by 1 June:

- Thoroughly inspect those that were not damaged
- Replace damaged I-walls with stronger walls (2.4 miles)
- Isolate the I-walls along the interior drainage canals from any storm surge (12 miles)
- Replace I-wall with levee enlargement in Plaquemines Parish (6 miles)

All levee inspections, particularly along the I-wall portions, are enhanced by the tremendously detailed information and analysis that has been provided to the Corps by the Interagency Performance Evaluation Task Force (IPEPT). IPET, chartered by USACE commander Lt. Gen. Carl A. Strock to take a thorough look at the performance of the hurricane protection system during hurricanes Katrina and Rita, is comprised of more than 150 engineers and, scientists and other experts from government, academia and industry. The recently released IPET Report 2 detailed the failure mechanisms of the I-wall breach along the 17<sup>th</sup> Street Canal. The draft final IPET report will be released June 1.

Another IPET contribution was the accelerated completion of work that had been under way to establish reliable vertical reference datum for the region. The vertical reference datum, previously being done by the Corps’ New Orleans District and the National Geodetic Survey, is critical to the Corps’ ability to accurately benchmark and measure the height of vertical protective structures, like levees, in the New Orleans area.



The recently established vertical reference datum will enable the Corps to accurately restore damaged and other sections of the levees to their authorized design heights, and to track subsidence and compaction in the future.

The fabrication and installation of interim gated closure structures at the mouths of the three outfall drainage canals continues to progress toward restoring hurricane protection prior to the start of the hurricane season. These massive structures, once installed, will isolate the outfall canals and their levee walls from potential Lake Pontchartrain storm surge. The gates will only be closed when the canals are potentially threatened by Lake Pontchartrain surge.

A significant milestone in this effort occurred Sunday when two 75-ton jackets that will house the 17<sup>th</sup> Street Canal gates were set in place.

The Corps' projected timeline for the restoration and improvement of the New Orleans-area levee system is as follows:

- June 1, 2006 – Damaged portions of the system restored to pre-Katrina level of protection
- September 2007 - Completion of restoration of undamaged and subsided areas; completion of previously unconstructed portions of authorized projects to originally authorized design heights
- December 2007 - Completion of final technical report that analyzes higher levels of protection (Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Report)
- 2010 - Certify the levees' flood protection as meeting National Flood Insurance Programs' 100-year protection level, as well as additional improvements (subject to congressional authorization and appropriation) such as:
  - Permanent closure and pumping stations at the outfall canals
  - Navigable floodgates to protect the Industrial Canal
  - Storm proofing of existing pump stations
  - Selective armoring of levees
  - Incorporating a portion of non-federal levee in Plaquemines Parish
  - Ecosystem restoration.

For the latest information and images on the Corps' hurricane recovery efforts, visit the website at <http://www.mvd.usace.army.mil/hurricane/chr.php>.

For more information about the New Orleans-area hurricane protection system call:

- New Orleans District (504) 862-2126 or
- Task Force Guardian (504) 862-2076

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## Commander

**Continued from Page 2**

Everyone needs to be a leader and assess the risk of each situation. Instructing a contractor to “be safe” in not a safety session. What does it mean to “be safe?” We have several new contractors working projects now. How are we teaching them to ingrain a safety culture so they police themselves and do not depend on our QARs and project engineers to chance across their path during an unsafe act? Each resident office should have a summer safety campaign. Maybe it is a number of simple acts. Asking a contractor what they plan to do on the weekend and ask to see their hazard analysis before taking your well deserved time off on the weekend.

Well drillers and mechanics, you conduct potentially hazardous activities every day. How do you keep fresh eyes so you do not become complacent to risks? Do you quiz each other? Conduct surprise inspections on each other? What is your sections' summer safety plan? Yes this is a test.

After 2.5 years of not having a lost time accident, our district has had several in the past month involving people both on and off duty. Just as any family would, I need you to look out for each other. Help ingrain the safety culture in our FED immediately family as well as our extended contractor family. Please talk in your sections and offices to determine what you can do in your small group to heighten safety awareness and make sure everyone has a great safe summer. Remember-Your Family needs you, we need you, Be safe.



## 2006 Korean National Union Picnic



The Far East District's Korean National Union went for an outing to the suburbs May 13. About 100 Korean National employees and their family members enjoyed a beautiful spring day along with games and foods. FED Commander Col. Janice L. Dombi and many U.S. employees also participated.





# Chief's visit to Korea

Lt. Gen. Carl E. Strock, Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers visited the Far East District in May. During his stay Strock hosted a Town Hall meeting, met with commanders, stakeholders, customers and District employees from throughout the peninsula. Strock also visited the Ministry of National Defense, Defense Installation Agency. (FED file photos)





# Carroll breaks ground on \$10.1 million project

Story, photo by Steven Hoover  
Area IV Public Affairs

**CAMP CARROLL, Waegwan, Republic of Korea** – Groundbreaking ceremonies for a \$10.1 million project that includes a new bowling center, casual dining facility, swimming pool and multi-purpose field upgrade, were held here May 4.

Personnel from Corps of Engineers Far East District, various Area IV Support Activity organizations and construction contractor Samkye Construction Company, Ltd., cut the ribbon and dug the first ceremonial shovel of earth.

“This is significant,” said Col. Donald J. Hendrix, Area IV Support Activity commander. “When you look around at the changes at Camp Carroll you can get a feel for it ... great things continue to happen at Camp Carroll.”

The new bowling center will have 12 lanes, as compared to four lanes previously, two game rooms and a casual dining facility with both indoor and outdoor seating. Total cost for the project is \$5.2 million.

The multi-purpose field renovation, costing about \$2.7 million, will add a synthetic turf system featuring a baseball and softball field, dugouts and a combination football/soccer field.

The new pool will include six 25-meter lanes, a bath house, slide and a sand volleyball court. The pools’ depths will range from 3.5 to 12 feet. Overall cost for this part of the project is \$2.2 million.

“This project is one more tangible step in the transformation of Camp Carroll into an assignment of choice in Korea and Army-wide,” said Lt. Col. John F. Loefstedt, deputy commander, USACE-FED. “The Far East District is committed to working with Samkye Construction, the installation and the Area IV staff, and our MWR customer to deliver the soldiers of Camp Carroll the quality project they deserve.”

Loefstedt went on to say that when viewed in conjunction with the soon to be completed lodge, completed Crown Jewel Fitness Center, numerous barracks upgrade projects either completed or on-going, it results in a Camp Carroll where soldiers can work, live and recreate in some of the finest facilities the Army has to offer.

“The completion of this project will be a great step forward along the path of planned and ongoing quality of life construction projects at Camp Carroll,” said Kevin Jung, director of Camp Carroll’s Directorate of Public Works, “at a time when we see ever-expanding need for a modern facility infrastructure.”

The entire project, funded by Non-Appropriated Fund dollars, is expected to be completed in April 2007. NAF dollars are generated through local Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs, outside sources such as Army and Air Force Exchange Service and Army Recreation Machines and donations.



(Left) An artist's rendering shows the exterior of Camp Carroll's bowling center to open April 2007.  
(Right) Dignitaries break ground for the new bowling center at Camp Carroll, May 4.



# Medical foundations

Story, photos by Claude D. McKinney  
Gulf Region North

**Sulaymaniyah, Iraq** - Growth. Industry. Commerce. Life. Capital investment. These are just some of the words to describe the feelings when driving through Sulaymaniyah, the capital city of Iraq's most northeastern province of the same name. Sulaymaniyah Province shares borders with Iran for hundreds of miles. It is one of the often spoken about Kurdish populated areas of Iraq. The streets are alive with shoppers, and the shops are full of goods. Rush hour offers grid lock as is common to any western city of a similar size.

Lost within the tremendous growth and construction activity of this thriving city is the start of a new Primary Health Center. This 1,385 square meter building is being built in a busy part of town. It is adjacent to a mosque and is accessible from a main thoroughfare. When completed, it will provide outpatient care to an estimated 40,000 residents of Sulaymaniyah.

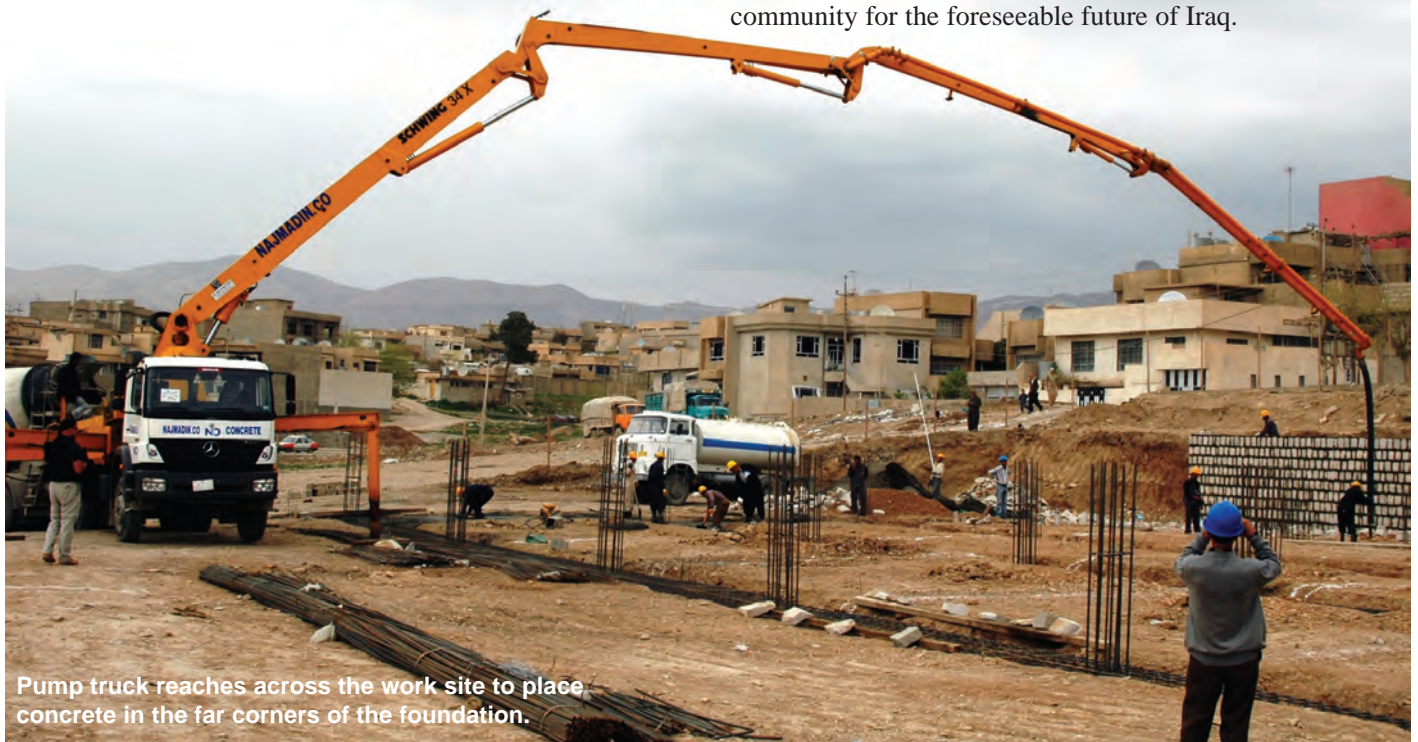
Plans call for two patient treatment rooms, six medical examination rooms, two dental examination rooms, seven doctor's offices, an X-ray lab, and a diagnostic and testing lab for blood work and other related medical procedures, classrooms for training, a pharmacy, and a cafeteria. When completed it is expected to employ 10 doctors, and 20 nurses and other hospital staff and administrators.

On this day, the concrete for the foundation was being placed. All 305 cubic meters were poured without a break. This activity was being over-watched by Eman Dawood an Iraqi engineer working for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Gulf Region North District. Her task is to assure the requirements of the contract are being followed and that construction meets all the right quality standards.

"One of the principles of construction is that a proper foundation will pave the way for stable walls," said David Crumpton, the Sulaymaniyah resident engineer for the Corps. "That is important to the future of this medical center. It is going to be built on a traditional mid-eastern concrete post and beam frame. So if the foundation is not right, the posts and beams could move and the walls would crack," he said.

To avoid that, the foundation concrete is 0.75 meters thick and 1.6 wide. It is all tied together with steel reinforcement bar which is tied to the future post rebar. "The quality of the concrete is tested throughout the pour by taking samples of mix and performing certain tests. It's my job to ensure those tests are being done," said Eman.

This foundation is good and will provide a stable base for the rest of the medical center. And in turn this medical center will be a stabilizer within this vibrant and growing community for the foreseeable future of Iraq.



Pump truck reaches across the work site to place concrete in the far corners of the foundation.

# Around the Corps



On May 17, Dr. Chwae Uee-chan of the Korea Institute of Geology and Mineral Resources (KIGAM) presented a seminar at FED on "Hydrogeologic Investigation at the DRMO Relocation Site, A'Po Korea. KIGAM performed the hydrogeologic investigation in support of planned water well development at the newly-acquired DRMO site. (Photo by Kim Chong-yun)



Commemorating the U.S. Arbor Day, Lt. Col. John Loefstedt, FED Deputy Commander, and employees wield their shovels to plant young trees at the FED compound on April 18. (Photos by Yo Kyung-il)



The Area II Directorate of Information Management set-up its portable Common Access Cards PIN Reset Station at the Far East District compound and offered pin reset service to the FED employees, April 13.

As all U.S. Forces Korea personnel face an upcoming deadline to ensure they are able to use their identification cards on military computer networks, this timely service helped the FED employees to save their time.

By October 1, all personnel will be required to use their CAC Cards to access the systems and send e-mail. (Photo by Kim Chong-yun)





The Far East District Engineering Division hosted a seminar May 26 to provide a general background of Direct Digital Controls & Utility Monitoring and Controls System with the intent of establishing a standard for the planned U. S. Forces Korea relocation and consolidation plans. This provided a unique opportunity for the affected installations to establish a “common” strategy to apply an open, multi-vendor base-wide DDC&UMCS system. Attendees included representatives from Korea Regional Office, Area IV Directorate of Public Works, 8th Civil Engineer Squadron (Kunsan Air Base), 51st Civil Engineer Squadron (Osan AB), Pacific Air Forces Headquarter and Pacific Ocean Division. Yu, Chae-hwang, a FED mechanical engineer is making presentation in the picture. (Photo by Kim Chong-yun)



The Far East District' Contracting Division sponsored 2006 Pre-qualified Contractors Orientation, June 2, to provide contractors with a total overview of how FED processes business to improve the quality of work. (Photo by Yo Kyung-il)



Lenny Kim, Area IV and Uijongbu Team Leader, Programs and Project Management departed the Far East District for his new job at Commander Naval Forces Korea as a facility engineer in April after 9 years service. Republic of Korea Army Maj. Gen. Kim Young-man from the Ministry of National Defense, Defense Installation Agency presented Kim with an appreciation plaque for his outstanding support to Combined Defense Improvement Projects construction program. (Photos by Kim Chong-yun)

# 사령관 메시지



Col. Janice L. Dombi

여름철 안전 대비를 해야 할 때가 다시 왔습니다. 작년에 받으신 FED Safety Day 티셔츠가 아마도 낡아가고 있을테고, 다시 Safety Day가 다가오고 있다는 것을 말해 주고 있을 것입니다. 업무 중이나 업무외 상황에서의 위험 관리에 대해 다시 한번 주의를 집중할 필요가 있는 것 같습니다. 평상시 우리가 하는 모든 일들 중 안전보다 더 중요한 것은 없습니다. 지난 몇 주 동안 몇몇 사고가 있었는데, 이는 저를 매우 걱정스럽게 했고 여러분들도 그러실겁니다. 이런 불상사를 “사고”라고 부르는 것은 잘못된 것 같은데, 조금만 주의를 기울였다면 막을 수 있었던 일들이기 때문입니다. 모든 경우들이 해당 당사자들이 상황상 너무 위험한 행동을 한 것들이었습니다.

여러분이 안전 교육에 들어가서 다음과 같은 상황이 일어나는 비디오를 보고 있다고 가정 해봅시다:

- 공사 현장 A는 매우 미끄럽습니다. 직원이 넘어져서 팔목이 부러졌습니다. 수술이 필요했고, 수일간 업무를 할 수 없었습니다.
- 공사 현장 B에서 계약직원이 철선을 감기 위해 구부리고 있었는데, 옆에서는 포크리프트가 짐을 내리고 있었습니다. 포크리프트가 후진을 하면서 계약업자의 다리를 부러뜨렸고 이 사람은 입원을 해서 거의 2달 동안 일을 할 수 없었습니다.
- 한 직원이 운전 중 도로를 벗어나 논길에 차가 빠지고 앞 유리에 머리를 부딪쳤습니다. 뇌진탕을 일으켰고 상처가 나 꼬매기도 했습니다. 그 직원은 안전띠를 제대로 매고 있지 않았습니다.
- 계약직원이 코넥스를 쌓아올린 크레인을 옮기기 위해 막대로 전깃줄을 들어 올리려고 했습니다. 결국 손과 팔목, 귀에 전기로 인한 화상을 입었고 입원을 했으며 업무를 할 수 없었습니다.
- 계약직원이 도로의 급커브를 미처 따라가지 못해 콘크리트 기둥에 부딪치고 말았습니다. 하지만 안전벨트를 잘 매고 있었던 덕에 사고 현장에서 무사히 일어나올 수 있었습니다.

비디오의 마지막에 여러분은 위의 각 사건들의 위험을 분석해야 합니다. 위험을 평가하고 위험을 최소화 하기위한 조치도 강구해야 합니다. 한 번 각 상황에 대한 답을 생각해 보십시오. 철자는 중요하지 않으니까 걱정하지 마시고... 다 하셨나요? 어떤 답을 내셨나요? 아마 여러분 모두 A를 받으셨을 겁니다. 잠재된 위험과 사고를 최소화할 수 있는 적절한 방법을 알고 계시다면, 실제 상황에서도 그렇게 행동하실 수 있을 것입니다.

다행히도 위의 각 상황에서 사망사고가 발생하지는 않았습니다. 그러나 안전은 운에 맡길 수 없습니다. 업무 중이나 업무 외 상황에서 안전을 생활화해야 합니다. 흥미롭게도 실제 우리가 하는 행동들에 안전에 대한 인식이 깊게 배어있는 것들이 있습니다. 길을 건너기 전에 우리는 자동적으로 양쪽 길을 살핍니다. 적절한 반복과 다짐으로 안전모 착용도 이렇게 자동적으로 하게 될 수 있을 것입니다. 음주 운전은 절대 안된다는 안전 인식도 함양할 수 있습니다. 길을 건너기 전에 양쪽을 모두 살피지 않는 것이 매우 위험한 것이라는 것을 아시는 것처럼, 안전띠 미착용도 똑같다는 것을 아셔야 합니다.

모든 사람들이 리더가 되서 각 상황의 위험도를 평가해야 합니다. 계약직원들에게 안전교육이 아닐 때에도 안전에 유념하라고 지도하는 것. “안전”하라는 것은 무슨 의미일까요? 새로 계약직원이 되서 프로젝트를 하고 있는 사람들이 있습니다. 어떻게 하면 이들이 QAR이나 프로젝트 엔지니어들에 의존하지 않고 스스로 안전을 지키도록 안전 문화를 마음에 깊이 새겨줄 수 있을까요? 각 지역 사무소에는 여름 안전 캠페인이 있습니다. 아마도 이것들은 몇 가지 간단한 행동들일 것입니다. 주말을 맞기 전에 계약직원에게 주말계획이 뭔지 물어보시고 그 계획에 대한 위험 분석도 잘 하고 있는지 물어 보십시오.

우물tip이나 기계공 여러분들은 매일 위험에 노출될 수 있는 일들을 하고 계십니다. 위험에 무관심해 지거나 익숙해 지지 않도록 어떤 노력을 하고 계신지요? 서로 질문을 하고 계십니까? 예고하지 않은 안전 점검은 하고 계신지요? 여러분 부서의 여름 안전 계획은 무엇입니까?

2년 반동안 무사고를 지켜왔는데, 지난 달에 우리 공병단에서 직무와 관련되거나 직무 외의 상황에서 몇몇 사고가 있었습니다. 모든 가족들이 그렇듯, 우리는 서로 돌보아야 합니다. FED가족 뿐 아니라 계약직 가족들에게도 안전 문화를 심어 줄 수 있도록 해야 합니다. 부서나 사무실 별로 안전 인식을 강화하고 모두 안전한 여름을 보낼 수 있도록 각자 할 일들을 정하도록 합시다. 기억하십시오: 당신의 가족은 당신이 필요합니다. 우리도 당신이 필요합니다. 안전하십시오.



## 한국의 현충일과 미국의 Memorial Day

글쓴이: 김정윤, PAO

미국에서는 매년 5월 마지막 월요일을 연방 공휴일인 메모리얼 데이로 정해 놓고 전몰 장병들을 기리는 행사에 참여하거나 그들의 묘지에 헌화하면서 하루를 보낸다.

메모리얼 데이의 유래는 남북전쟁으로 일컬어지는 시민전쟁(The Civil War, 1861~ 1865)으로 거슬러 올라가는데, 이 전쟁은 노예제도에 대한 남북의 대립으로 인한 나라 안의 분쟁이었던 만큼 희생 또한 더 없이 컸다. 전쟁의 참화를 겪은 사람들은 너나 할 것 없이 그 참담한 기억과 공포에 시달리며 슬픔에서 오래도록 헤어 나오지 못하게 되었다.

이런 사회적 배경 속에 1868년 5월 5일 육군 대장 John Logan은 ‘육군대장 명령 11 (General Order No. 11)’을 선포하고 전쟁으로 목숨을 잃은 장병들을 애도하며 그들의 무덤에 헌화할 것을 공식 선언해 5월 30일에 전국적으로 기념식을 거행하면서 그 날을 ‘Decoration Day’라고 명명하였다. 그 첫 번째 기념 행사는 2만 여명의 장병들이 묻힌 알링턴 국립묘지에서 거행되었고 전쟁 중 가족과 형제, 자매, 이웃을 잃은 사람들이 모여 전쟁의 의미를 되새기는 계기가 되었다.

그러다가 메모리얼 데이(Memorial Day)로 명칭이 바뀌게 된 것은 1882년이며 5월 마지막 주 월요일이 연방 공휴일로 공식 선언된 것은 1971년의 일이다. 이후 30 여년이 지났지만 여전히 메모리얼 데이가 되면 미 전역 곳곳에서 나라를 위해 목숨을 잃은 장병들의 넋을 기리는 기념행사가 열리고 화려한 퍼레이드가 이어진다.

하지만 요즘의 메모리얼 데이는 본격적인 여름의 시작으로 받아들여지고 있으며 가족들이 한 자리에 모여 피크닉을 가고 공놀이 등을 통해 여름을 즐기기 시작하는 것으로 인식되어져 가고 있다고 한다.

우리 나라의 경우는 매년 6월 6일이 호국영령의 명복을 빌고 순국선열 및 전몰장병의 숭고한 호국정신과 위훈을 추모하는 현충일로 지정되어 있다.

대한민국은 1948년 8월 정부 수립 후 2년도 채 못 되어 6·25동란을 맞았고 이에 40만명 이상의 국군이 사망하였다. 1953년 휴전이 성립된 뒤 3년이 지나 어느 정도 안정을 찾아가자 정부는 1956년 4월 대통령령 제1145호로 ‘관공서 공휴일에 관한 건’을 개정하여 매년 6월 6일을 현충기념일로 지정하여 공휴일로 하고 기념행사를 가지도록 하였다. 현충기념일은 통상적으로 현충일로 불리다가 1975년 12월에 공식적으로 현충일로 개칭되었다.

매년 현충일에는 국가보훈처가 주관이 되어 기념행사를 하는데 서울에서는 국립묘지에서 행해진다. 추모대상은 6·25동란에 전사한 국군뿐만 아니라, 우리나라를 지키기 위하여 목숨을 바친 모든 선열의 넋을 기리고 있다.

(이 글은 인터넷 자료에서 도움을 받았음.)

### 한국인직원 해외출장 시 여행자보험 환급 가능

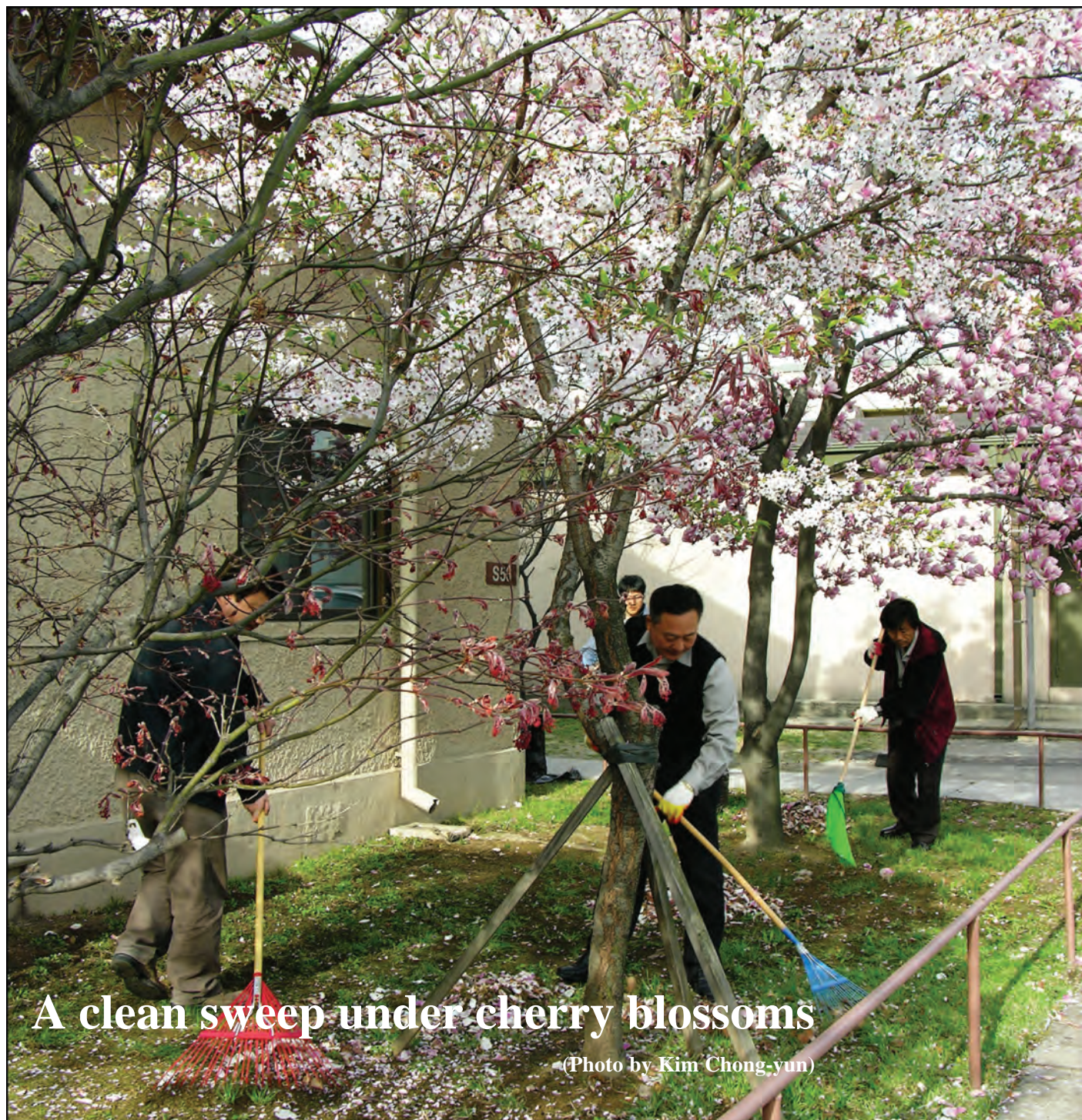
2006년 5월 17일자로 승인된 메모(SUBJECT: Authorizing Korean Employees on TDY Status Outside Korea to Purchase “Traveler’s Medical Insurance”)에 의하면 한국인직원들이 외국으로 출장을 나가는 경우 가입한 여행자보험을 환급받을 수 있게 되었다.

의료보험의 경우 국내에서 발생한 질병이나 사고에 대해서만 적용이 되기 때문에 그 동안 해외로 출장을 나가는 한국인직원들이 개인적으로 여행자보험에 가입하는 경우가 많았다. 하지만 이를 회사에서 환급받지 못했는데, 이번 결정으로 많은 직원들이 환급 혜택을 받을 수 있게 되었다.

출장을 위해 여행자보험에 가입할 경우 최소비용을 선택해야 하며, 휴가 등을 겸해 가는 경우 업무 이외의 추가비용은 개인이 부담해야 한다.

FED직원들의 경우는 CEFMS에서 TDY Order를 작성할 때 기타 remarks란에 여행자보험에 대한 환급 내용을 추가해야하며, 출장에서 돌아온 후 TDY Voucher 작성 시 기타 환급 경비에 여행자보험 가입 경비를 적어 제출하면 된다.





DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
USAEDFE  
UNIT 15546  
ATTN: CEPOF-PA  
APO 96205-5546

**OFFICIAL BUSINESS**