



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Far East District

East Gate Edition

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Gen. Sharp Visits FED

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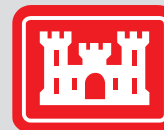
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**US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Far East District**

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On the cover



Gen. Walter L. Sharp, Commander United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command, United States Forces Korea visits the Far East District compound, June 29. Pat Crays(right), Chief of Security, Plans and Operations explains field force engineering. (Photo by Yo Kyong-il)

From the Commander



Col. Clarence D. Turner

As I look back on the past twenty-three months as your commander I can say that it has truly been an absolute honor and privilege serving the most professional team of men and women I have ever had the opportunity to serve.

THANK YOU ALL.

Thanks for embracing our three strategic priorities: Design Management, Building the Bench, and Improving Quality – Quality Counts! By implementing design management, building the bench (this is more than hiring, it is maintaining and training our current workforce), and improving quality, we are aggressively moving the Far East District from Good to Great. We currently have a historic program amount of \$3 billion under design – we must get the design right the first time! It is imperative that we continue to build the bench so that we can expertly execute the Yongsan Relocation Plan and the Land Partnership Plan, a massive multi-year and multi-billion dollar program as well as our other important workload. We have made tremendous progress in Quality...“Quality Counts”... but cannot rest on our laurels. Continue to take the necessary steps to ensure that our supported commanders and customers are getting superior quality. I ask that each of you continue to do the hard checks and hold the contractors accountable for delivering superior quality. Together, we have truly taken a giant step towards moving the District from Good to Great - keep up the great work.

Over the last two years, FED has executed environmental, design, and construction projects to the highest standards. This year, the Far East District awarded the largest construction project in its history, the land development and utility infrastructure project(LDUI). LDUI will set the foundation for the Yongsan Relocation Plan and Land Partnership Plan. The District awarded the 1st and 2nd quarter Calendar Year 2009 Project Initiation Memorandums that consists of several projects that are vital to the overall execution of the Korea Transformation Program. At YRP and LPP end state, the District will execute more than 600 projects, demolish more than 400 facilities, and develop more than 2,200 acres of new land that will consist of 11 million cubic meters of net fill. And know that each of you will be a very much a part of this historic event for years to come.

Our contingency mission here on the Korean Peninsula and your support of Overseas Contingency Operations in Afghanistan and Iraq along with deployments

to hurricane relief operations in the United States, and superb support for UFL-07/UFG-08/Key Resolve Foal Eagle 08/09, Makani Pahili 08/09, and NEO exercises, Courageous Channel 09-1/08-1 reinforces our deployment mindset and commitment to our Nation.

The District has continued to enhance the Republic of Korea-United States Alliance with its partnering sessions, Ministry of National Defense Exchange Training, Good Neighbor Program, and Quality Control Off-sites. I recently attended an MND Quality Control Off-site, which gave me a great opportunity to partner with our alliance.

Our Good Neighbor Program is solid. We have opened up our doors and shared our cultures and experiences with our neighbors. This relationship will be vital in the years to come.

I owe a special debt of gratitude to our Korean National workforce for its dedication to the District. Many of our Korean Nationals are long term employees who have been here for 20, 30, 40 years. They provide great continuity and technical expertise. I have truly enjoyed my time, to include the time spent with the Korean Labor Union. Likewise, our Department of Army civilians are the best. They come here on tour assignments and bring in a wealth of opportunities and fresh eyes.

Unfortunately, two of our family members are no longer with us, Roger Floyd and Kim Chang-yon's passing was tough on us all. Please keep their family in your thoughts and prayers.

In closing, it has been an absolute pleasure commanding the finest Soldiers and civilians in the Army.

Next month, Col. Blair Schantz will take command. Blair is a very capable leader who will take the District to new heights. We are very fortunate to have an opportunity to turnover the command to such a quality leader, you will embrace his leadership.

We must never take our eyes off safety – we are only as good as our last second!

I hope that I have an opportunity to serve with each of you in the near future.

Quality Counts!

Quality Assurance or Construction Surveillance?

By George Ward
FED Construction Division

As most of you know, we have a huge construction program ahead of us at Humphreys Garrison to support the Korea Relocation Program. What you might not be as familiar with is the role the District's Construction Division will play in this program. If you thought Construction Division would have a traditional construction management and quality assurance role, you would only be partly correct.

Since the majority of the construction that will occur at Humphreys Garrison will be in support of the Yongsan Relocation Program, the Republic of Korea Ministry of Defense will have the primary responsibility for constructing the majority of the facilities that will be built at Humphreys Garrison. However, as the U.S. Department of Defense's Design and Construction Agent, the Far East District is tasked with surveillance and inspection of any Host Nation constructed projects to ensure they meet U.S. MILCON program criteria and standards for reliability, maintainability, functionality, force protection, health and safety, and environmental protection. The ROK MND office that will have the direct oversight responsibility of the construction contractors under YRP is called the MND USFK Base Relocation Office or MURO for short.

It should be noted that MURO contracted with a firm generically called the Program Management Consortium, or PMC, to provide them with program and project management assistance to include quality assurance on the YRP projects. Subsequently, MURO has turned the PMC contract over to another entity to manage called the Korea National Housing Corporation. While the roles and responsibilities of the PMC, the U.S. DCA, and the ROK DCA are detailed in the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the US and the ROK, the role of KNHC is not. In our role as the U.S. DCA, and as spelled out in the MOA, we will be working closely with both MURO and PMC on the YRP projects. It is unclear at this time what our interaction, if any, with KNHC will be. As the ROK DCA, MURO is our counterpart in the KRP.

So what is surveillance and how is it different from our normal quality assurance role? Construction surveillance is the periodic review, testing, and inspection of the on-going Host Nation construction work with qualified and experienced personnel to verify compliance with design documents and specifications. From a technical perspective, there is no dif-

ference between a QA inspection and a surveillance inspection. When performing surveillance inspections we perform the same basic technical review, inspection, and testing that we would for a quality assurance inspection, just fewer of them. The purpose of both is to determine if the project quality and safety is under control and will result in a completed project that complies with requirements. The primary difference between a QA inspection and surveillance is in the action we take when our inspection finds deficiencies.

If deficiencies are found during a QA inspection we contact the contractor's quality control and project manager to have the deficiencies corrected as well as the failures in the contractor's QC process that allowed them to occur in the first place. We do this because, as the contracting agency, we have a contractual relationship with the contractor. However, on contracts managed by MURO we have no contractual relationship with the construction contractor and cannot go directly to the construction contractor to resolve the problems. Instead, we must work with our MURO counterpart and have them direct the construction contractor to correct the deficiencies since they are the contracting agency on those contracts.

Ensuring quality on a construction contract is always a challenging assignment. It is especially challenging when we have no contractual authority over the construction contractor. To be successful in our role as the U.S. DCA on the YRP it will be very important that we develop a professional partnership with our counterparts at MURO since we will be dependent upon them to follow through on correcting any deficiencies that we may note during our surveillance inspections and to ensure the end product complies with our requirements. A good partnership will allow early resolution of issues and prevent FED from being placed in the position of having to refuse to accept a completed facility from MURO because of significant quality or safety concerns.

In summary, there are no technical differences between a quality assurance inspection and a surveillance inspection and the purpose of both is the same; to ensure the end product meets the specified requirements. However, our job under surveillance is much harder than quality assurance because success will depend much more on our ability to develop personal relationships with our MURO counterparts and less on being technically or contractually correct.

Waging war on water dangers

By Mollie Miller

U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center

The cool, blue water of oceans, pools, lakes and rivers, so inviting on a hot summer day, often harbors more than a simple respite from the heat.

The dangers lurking in the deep blue depths are many but every one of the risks can be mitigated with the right planning and preparation, according to U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center Safety Specialist Richard Scott.

“Water safety is about using common sense,” Scott said recently. “Understanding the risks associated with pools, oceans, lakes and rivers can help you avoid many of the situations that put our Soldiers and their Family members in danger every year.”

Last summer, the Army lost three Soldiers to water-related accidents. This year, officials are urging all Soldiers, civilians and their Family members to do their research so they can stay water safe.

“We have recorded deaths and injuries that have occurred in pools, lakes, oceans and rivers,” Scott said. “To be safe, you have to know the threats, know your limitations and

know how to keep yourself and your friends and family out of harm’s way at all times when you are around water.”

The American Red Crosses’ “Too List” is a good place for people to start when educating themselves about things they can do to mitigate risks associated with water fun.

“The list reminds people to never get ‘too tired, too cold, too far away from safety, too much sun or too much strenuous activity,’” Scott said.

Two activities associated with summer water fun are swimming and diving. Swimming and diving both offer opportunities to cool off in a fun, safe way on hot summer days as long as some simple safety procedures are followed first.

When swimming, it is important to always swim with a buddy and never try to swim farther than your ability or fitness level can take you.

“Remember, even good swimmers get tired,” Scott said.

Recognize symptoms, prevent heat injury

By Sam Reynolds

U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center

The weather forecasters are predicting another hot summer. We already know that July, August and September are the hottest months of the year, so it’s best that everyone prepare for the summer’s heat.

Each year, heat illness and injury pose a significant threat to Army personnel, both on and off duty. Soldiers are exposed to hot environments during deployments and training events and, when off duty, they and their Families are exposed to the summer heat during outdoor activities. Between 2004 and 2008, heat-related injuries were diagnosed at more than 300 medical facilities worldwide. However, 14 facilities treated at least 200 cases each and accounted for approximately 60 percent of all cases. Since 2005, rates of heat stroke have been fairly stable, and rates

of heat exhaustion have slightly declined. In recent years, annual numbers of hospitalized cases of both heat stroke and heat exhaustion have been stable.

Military activities in hot and humid environments are persistent, significant threats to the health and operational effectiveness of service members. Of all service members, the youngest and most inexperienced are at highest risk of heat related injuries. It is especially important for Soldiers to remember how to protect themselves, their battle buddies and their Families from heat-related injuries. Early recognition of heat injuries is critical to prevent progression to more serious heat injury and death, according to Col. John Campbell, U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center command surgeon.

Minor heat illnesses such as heat cramps are the first sign of heat injury and can lead heat exhaustion which can in turn lead to a major heat injury like heat stroke. Heat cramps are painful muscle spasms that occur in the abdomen, arms or legs. They affect those who sweat profusely in the heat and drink large quantities of water, but fail to adequately replace the body’s salt loss.

Col. Duncan Inductee to the Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame

By Kim Chong-yun
FED Public Affairs

Col. Jerry D. Duncan, Korea Relocation Project Office of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District has been inducted into the Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame Class of 2009 in a ceremony held on March 27.

The Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame honors those graduates of all active Army Officer Candidate Schools who have distinguished themselves in military or civilian pursuit. OCS graduates eligible for induction are those who have attained the rank of colonel, Medal of Honor recipients or those who have distinguished themselves in civilian occupations. Induction into the OCS Hall of Fame is the highest honor that OCS can bestow on a graduate.

“What I remember most about the HALL OF FAME while I was a candidate at OCS was cleaning all of the pictures and trophies that were on display. To say the least I never would have thought that I would ever be a part of the OCS HALL OF FAME institution,” said Duncan. “In addition, it was a very proud moment to have all of my Family there to share the induction with me.”

“Going back to OCS as a HALL OF FAME recipient was something I thought I would never be able to do. I really feel honored to be placed among other great Soldiers who have gone before me and I am humbled to say the least.”

Col. Duncan, currently working as military deputy director of the Korean Relocation Program was commissioned an Engineer Officer upon graduation from Officer Candidate School Class 2-79, October 1979. He has served in the military for 39 years.

“Our family is so proud of Jerry and his exemplary service to our country. He has shown great leadership and military skills to the U.S. Army, and has also been a great leader for me and our family,” said Janice, Duncan’s wife.

“I am so glad Jerry is in the OCS Hall of Fame so present and future generations of our family and friends will get to know the great work he has done for our country. They will always be able to remember him. He will certainly never be forgotten. I am so proud of him for being a wonderful husband and father and for serving our great country. I am also proud to be an Army wife.”

The Hall of Fame recognizes leadership excellence in both military and civilian public service and inductees are chosen by a committee composed of the OCS battalion commander, the 11th Infantry Regiment commander, the chief of



Col. Jerry D. Duncan, Inductee to the Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame and his grandson, Cade pointing to Col. Duncan’s picture displayed at the U.S. Army Engineer School.

Col. Duncan, Inductee to the Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame receives the certificate from Maj. Gen. Michael D. Barbero, Commanding General of U. S. Army Infantry Center. (Photos provided by Col. Jerry D. Duncan)

staff of the U.S. Army Infantry School, the chief of staff of the U. S. Army Infantry Center and the assistant commandant of the Infantry School.

“Col. Duncan is a very easy going person but he gets things done,” said Curtis A. Heckelman who has been working with Col. Duncan at the Korea Relocation Program Office.

“He just has a way of getting to the bottom of the issues and getting results. He does it in a way that is extremely conciliatory and people feel good about the outcomes. He is a huge asset to our program.”

Col. Duncan’s name is engraved on a special plaque, along with other inductees, and displayed for the many visitors and Engineer students passing through the U.S. Army Engineer School at the home of Army Engineers at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.

“Col. Duncan is a consummate professional and seasoned officer who has brought a measured approach to program execution and project delivery,” said Col. Clarence D. Turner, FED Commander.

“It is an absolute pleasure to have him on our FED team!”

Partnering Workshop for the Land Development/Utility Infrastructure Contract

By Fred Davis

FED Korea Relocation Programs Office

On 27 and 28 April 2009 approximately 50 representatives from the Far East District, SK Engineering and Construction, US Army Garrison Humphreys Department of Public Works, Installation Management Command – Korea and various other agencies participated in a Partnering Workshop at the Enterprise Hotel just outside USAG Humphreys. The purpose of the workshop was to build relationships, discuss ways of improving communications, and delineate processes for resolving issues that will come up during the execution of the Parcel 2A and existing Humphreys Land Development and Utility Infrastructure contract.

Col. Clarence D. Turner, FED Commander; Yoon, Taek Jin, Vice-President of SKEC, and Bill O'Bar, Deputy Program Manager from SKEC's sub-contractor, Parsons/Brinckerhoff made opening comments. Turner reminded everyone that at \$479 million, this is the largest single contract ever awarded by the Far East District. As a design-build contract it is also outside the norm for FED and our contractors. This huge undertaking is actually 5 projects rolled into one contract. One project will prepare 570 acres of rice paddies and farm land for new facility construction, including roads and storm drainage. A second project is for the installation of utility infrastructure in 912 acres of new land, including 342 acres currently being prepared by two other contractors. The final 3 projects rebuild the antiquated transportation and utility systems on the existing 1210 acres of Garrison Humphreys.

Gary Bates of Roenker Bates Group facilitated the workshop. He led a discussion on the benefits and principles of "partnering." Bates defined partnering as "a process based on trust and open, honest attitude in which all participants in a project recognize both common and individual objectives, and work to achieve those objective through improved communications and cooperation." Through this workshop the group sought to create a partnership built on common goals and purpose with all members holding themselves mutually accountable toward the unified accomplishment. Bates shared thoughts on the importance of regular communications and understanding of conflict and how to manage conflict. He asked each attendee to dedicate their time and energy to meet and to learn to appreciate the dedication of the people

who will be sitting "across the table" when working through these future challenging issues.

One of the first activities was to create a group name through a brainstorming activity. The group has chosen to be known as "The TEAM of 'FIRSTS'" which embodies the realization that this project establishes many "first" actions related to the expansion of USAG Humphreys. The following Partnership mission statement was developed by consensus of all team members.

We, The Team of "Firsts", are committed to the high quality design and construction for the transformation of Garrison Humphreys in a safe, timely and cost effective manner through teamwork, open and honest communication, and co-operation. This will be accomplished with a special emphasis on safety and a special sensitivity to the human, cultural, and natural environments, as well as the City of Pyeongtaek. We pledge to use teamwork, trust, and effective communication to deliver a quality project and minimize inconvenience to our customers, the Installation and the mission. We will establish a standard of excellence for future projects and deliver one of which we can all be proud.

In addition, twenty-six partnership goals were developed. Bates reminded the group that a huge contract such as this will require extensive coordination, especially on existing Humphreys, to work through a myriad of impacting issues. These issues will be far greater than something which can be resolved with a few emails, but rather will need numerous face-to-face discussions to find the best solutions. Toward this end the group used breakout sessions to begin development of action plans for the eighteen most critical identified project issues.

The workshop ended with plans to have a monthly evaluation – feedback survey and agreement to meet again in approximately three months to review progress of the project and our partnership. This monumental undertaking will set the stage for well over 600 projects that will end in the relocation of the US Force south of the Han River.

Ministry of National Defense Exchange Training strengthens ROK and U.S. alliances

By Kim Chong-yun
FED Public Affairs

SEOUL-The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District hosted a Republic of Korea Ministry of National Defense Exchange Training course at the FED compound, February 9-March 2. This annual training program began in 1985 recognizing the need for understanding between the FED and the ROK engineers and has served to strengthen the enduring relationship between the two.

During this year's training a total of 14 students, four military personnel and ten civilians from various ROK military and government agencies spent three weeks learning about the District's organization, business procedures and processes.

"I really enjoyed this great chance to learn about FED. I think having this kind of training and not having one is very different. My understanding of FED and its business procedures has greatly improved," said ROK Air Force Capt. Kim Sung-woo. "I really want to recommend my co-workers attend this training in the future."

Starting from the orientation and overview on the first day of the training, the instruction covered almost all aspects of FED business such as programs and project management, design reviews, laboratories and field work observation, quality assurance, construction services and safety. The attendees also visited the FED's Humphreys Area Office in Pyongtaek and learned the roles and responsibilities of resident offices.

"This training is serving well its purpose to strengthen understanding between MND and FED engineers. This is

the third year that I instructed this training and it is a good chance for me personally to meet a lot of MND folks, some of whom I still keep in touch with," said Ha, Chae-un, Pyongtaek Resident Office. Ha briefed the attendees about the field office business processes and showed them various construction sites at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys.

"FED always puts safety and quality first. That really impressed me," said ROK Army Maj. Jeong Baek-seon,

MND Defense Installations Agency. "FED delivers quality products with an incredible safety record. I learned how important safety regulations and keeping them helps building quality products. What I learned in this training will be very helpful as I work the relocation program with our U.S. counterparts."

Training attendees visited Whole Barracks Renewal, Education Center, Parcel K and Parcel

1 sites at Humphreys. During the site visit, attendees met with contractors and quality assurance representatives, and discussed how to solve pending problems such as using local Korean construction materials and building access roads to the relocation sites.

"Many MND military members and civilian employees have gone through this training for decades and they've been foundations of the ROK-US alliance. I think it's even more important in the current day that the training and the alliance are stronger than ever," said ROK Army Col. Jeon Tae-jin, Chief of USFK Construction Management Team, MND DIA in his remarks at the graduation ceremony.

"Many Ministry of National Defense military members and civilian employees have gone through this training for decades and they've been foundations of the Republic of Korea-US alliance."

ROK Army Col. Jeon Tae-jin, Chief of USFK Construction Management Team, MND DIA

Col. Jeon went on to say that this MND Exchange training is very important to give customers satisfaction with quality construction and products.

“For a better ROK-US alliance, construction and trust, hopefully we will have this training with more attendees in the future,” said Jeon.

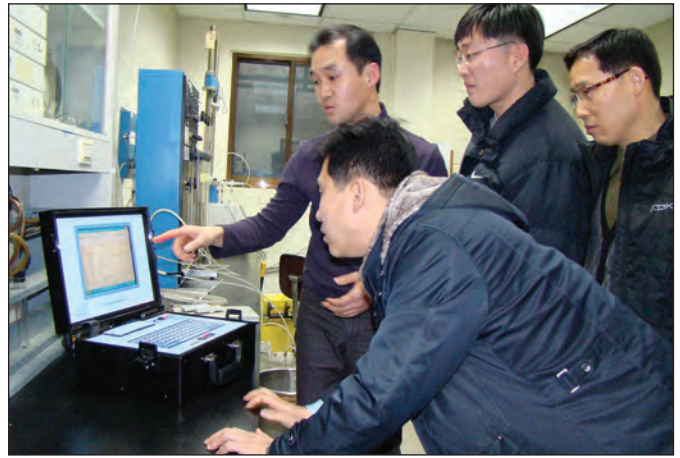
“This exchange training will be even more important in the future as our host nation funded construction programs move into in-kind programs,” said Col. Clarence D. Turner, FED Commander at the graduation ceremony.

“It is indeed an honor and a privilege for us to have an opportunity to have a close relationship with our allies. And what we are doing is strengthening our alliance because throughout partnership we are going to provide quality facilities for the U.S. Forces here in Korea and civilians and family members.”

(Upper right) Yun, Yong-han, Engineering Division shows and explains about the Pile Driving Analyzer to the Republic of Korean Ministry of National Defense Exchange trainees. (Photo by Kim Chong-yun)

(Lower right) Graduation ceremony of 2009 MND Exchange Training, March 2. (Photo by Yo Kyong-il)

(Below) MND Exchange trainees checks a settlement plate at Parcel 1, U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys. (Photo by Kim Chong-yun)



FED donates English books to local Pyongtaek elementary school



Gyeseong Elementary School kids and teachers pose for a group picture holding English books that the US Army Corps of Engineers Far East District donated as part of its Good Neighbor Program, December 10. (Photo by Kim Chong-yun)

By Kim Chong-yun
FED Public Affairs

SEOUL— The US Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District conducted book drives and delivered English books to the Gyeseong Elementary School located nearby US Army Garrison Humphreys, December 10. This book drive was the second outreach program between FED and the school since FED established its good neighbor relationship with the local community in July when FED invited about 50 students to USAG-Humphreys and showed them the relocation area under construction.

“I really appreciate the support from the US Forces Korea. Especially your great support for English education helps my students a lot and the school’s English program was certified by Kyonggi Province,” said Choi, Chong-reok, the principal of the school.

“While the school is making a new library this book donation will help us a lot build a mini library for English books.”

The book donation to the school is FED’s second book drive since it donated nearly 200 books to the Seoul Hyeje Elementary School in September. A wide variety of books was collected from a lot of FED employees and the Seoul American High School and 450 books were handed over to

the Gyeseong Elementary School along with snacks, cookies and drinks to add up the holiday atmosphere.

“When I was at your age, I read lots and lots of books and that really helped my study. So read!” said Cpt. Ramon Brigantti, FED’s Pyongtaek Area Office when he showed books to the students.

Brigantti said it was a pleasure to do something for the school because it only reinforces the strong alliance FED has with the local community. “Just browsing some of the donated book titles give these children access to the same literary classics that I read as a child.”

Brigantti also met with kids at the kindergarten attached to the school and sat down and read part of a story for the kids.

“I am very happy to have so many English books... and also holiday goodies,” said Lee Hye-jin, 6th grader of the school.

The school said books will be placed in the library and food will be given to the school students and kindergarten kids, total of about 100.

“It will be very helpful for my students to have many English books. They got more interest in English since they

have met Americans from USFK and learnt English from them,” said Chong Bo-gyung, school’s English teachers.

“I am very grateful to those who donated books and hope this isn’t just one time event. I really hope my school

and FED continue the good relationship and give the students more chance to have more contacts with military members in the future.”



Clockwise from upper left:

Cpt. Ramon Brigantti, the US Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District’s Pyongtaek Area Office read a story to kids at the Gyeseong Kindergarten. (Photo by Kim Chong-yun)

Joe Campbell, FED’s Public Affairs Office shows one of the books donated to the Gyeseong Elementary School to school students. (Photo by Kim Chong-yun)

The Gyeseong Elementary School students receive books donated by the US Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District as part of its Good Neighbor Program. (Photo by Kim Chong-yun)

Far East District Book Drive Reaches out to a local middle school in Pyongtaek



The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District donated English books to Dogok Middle School located nearby U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys, April 17. This was the third book drive since FED started its Good Neighbor Program last year. Maj. Charles B. Dowdle, Korea Relocation Programs Office visited the school’s English classroom and passed the books to the school’s principal, Im Myong-gyun and students. (Photos by USAG Humphreys Public Affairs)

A Soldier comes home

By Bob McElroy

USAG Humphreys Public Affairs

HUMPHREYS GARRISON--Sgt. 1st Class Ruth Wong doesn't know when she was born and who her real parents are but she knows Korea was her first home.

Abandoned as an infant in February 1963 she has grown-up to become a senior noncommissioned officer in the Army, mother of three and grandmother of one.

Her life's journey has brought her from the steps of a Chechon City municipal building to the Headquarters of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Washington, D.C. and now back to Korea to participate in exercise Key Resolve.

On Saturday Wong had the chance to visit Chechon where she spent her first seven years and regain a piece of her past.

Wong, a fulltime Army Reservist, was born in South Korea in February 1963 but orphaned soon after birth.

Although she doesn't know for sure, she believes her mother wrapped her in a blanket and left her on the steps of a municipal building in Chechon, south of Wonju.

A police officer found her and brought her to an orphanage run by a young American missionary named Jane White. White took her in, cared for her and named her Ruth after the biblical Ruth. She gave Ruth the surname Baik, which means White in Korean.

Life at the orphanage in 1963 was austere. Money was scarce and the orphanage depended on donations from individuals and churches in America and whatever donations of money or supplies White could obtain from either the Korean government or nearby American military units.

White did not have formula for the babies she took in so she fed them powdered milk the Army gave her. She put a little bit of oil in it to give it a bit more taste and nutritional value.

The orphanage was a single mud and stick building with no running water or indoor plumbing. White said that in the winter she could scrape the frost off of the inside walls and, when it rained, the ceiling would sometimes turn to mud and pieces would fall from it.

While they didn't have the plushest accommodations what the orphans had was love, from the woman they still call their mother, Jane White.

White believes that God called her to open and run the orphanage in part because of "a special love" that He placed in her heart.

"She was my first mother, before I was adopted," Wong said.

Wong found a home and a family at the Chechon orphanage and, when she was seven years old, an American couple, the Strauchs from Grand Island, Neb. adopted her and another girl, Candace.

Wong and Candace flew to Nebraska and found themselves in a place which was a world apart from Chechon. They had beds of their own, indoor plumbing and hot and cold running water.

The first night there we slept on the floor because our beds were uncomfortable, Wong said. My American mom said that Candace and I used to spend hours playing with



(Left) When Sgt. 1st Class Ruth Wong returned to the Chechon Children's Home she got a big hug from Mrs. Kim who took care of her when she was a baby. "You look just the same as you did then," Kim said with a smile. (U.S. Army photo by Bob McElroy)

(Right) Sgt. 1st Class Ruth Wong is reunited with her first mother, Jane White, at the Chechon Children's Home. (U.S. Army photo by Bob McElroy)



(Picture on the left) Sgt. 1st Class Ruth Wong as a young girl about the time of her adoption by an American couple. (Photo courtesy of Ruth Wong and Jane White) (Picture on the right) Sgt. 1st Class Ruth Wong (center), Jane White (right) and Mrs. Kim (left) look over some of Wong's baby photos. (U.S. Army photo by Bob McElroy)

the bathroom faucets. We'd never seen such a thing and were amazed that you could turn them on and get hot water or cold water.

Wong had a normal American upbringing, attended school and church and learned to play the piano and guitar. But as she assimilated into American life she lost a part of her heritage—the ability to speak Korean.

I wanted to speak Korean with Candace but she didn't want to, Wong said. Candace said '...we're in America now, we should speak English.'

Although she lost the ability to speak her native language Wong never lost her identity as a Korean or the connection she felt to the country of her birth. When she was in the 11th grade she signed up for the Army's delayed entry program. Her goal: to return to Korea as a Soldier.

Following high school graduation she entered the Army and, after completing basic training and advanced individual training, she returned to Korea as a personnel specialist in the 2nd Infantry Division in 1983. One of her visits was to Chechon and Jane White.

The years had been good to Jane White and the orphans in her care as well. The Chechon Orphanage had grown from a single mud and stick building to a modern three-story brick building that housed 40 children and a small staff.

Wong enjoyed her visit to the orphanage in 1983 and had the opportunity to see photos of her and her sister Candace before they were adopted. Unfortunately she was unable to obtain copies of the photos then.

En route to Chechon Saturday Wong expressed concern about getting copies of her photos. She said that White had experienced health problems and she was worried for her and the connection to her past.

"I don't want the memories of my past to go with her," Wong said.

When she arrived at the Chechon Children's Home White greeted Wong with a long hug and a huge smile. The two chatted about Wong's time at the orphanage and life in Korea in 1963. Then came a surprise, White had photos and negatives of Ruth and Candace.

As they sat together on a sofa in White's modest quarters Wong gazed at the black and white photos, smiling.

"Every time I write to her I say I need my pictures," Wong said, still smiling.

"Well, I know but I take care of kids, sometimes I'm too tired to work on pictures," White replied.

"I know, I know," Wong said.

White turned to Wong, stroked her hair and smiled.

"Now you can sleep tonight," she said.

"Oh, thank you, I'm so happy," Wong said as she hugged White. "These are such wonderful pictures. I never thought I'd get to see my baby pictures again."

Editor's note: Ken Hall, USAG-Humphreys Public Affairs Office and Joe Campbell, Public Affairs Officer for the US Army Corps of Engineers Far East District contributed to this article.

FED Commander named Black Engineer of the Year

By Joe Campbell
FED Public Affairs

Seoul - Colonel Clarence Dave Turner, Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District was named Black Engineer of the Year and received the prestigious Professional Achievement in Government Award Feb. 21.

The award, presented at the BEYA Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Global Competitiveness Conference in Baltimore recognizes the achievements of African-American leaders and their accomplishments in engineering and technology.

Colonel Turner, a combat veteran, is a native of St. Louis, Mo. and is the first African-American to serve as the Army's District Engineer in the Asia-Pacific region. He is responsible for planning, engineering, design and construction management services for U.S. Forces in Korea across the full spectrum of operations from peace to war - in direct support of U.S. Forces Korea in Armistice and contingency operations in Korea.

"The contributions he [Colonel Turner] makes focus on quality of life issues through improving the living, working and training conditions of America's sons and daughters serving our nation overseas, which are very impressive," said Lt. Gen. Van Antwerp, Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

For more than twenty-seven years Turner has served on active duty in a variety of command and staff positions to include; Assistant Deputy Director for Operations, J-3, at the Pentagon and commander of the 14th Engineer Battalion, Fort Lewis, Wash., where he deployed and redeployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom. Colonel Turner has also been assigned to The Federal Republic of Germany, Bosnia, and served in the Gulf War as a company commander.

In his current assignment, Turner works hand-in-hand with the Republic of Korea Ministry of Defense toward strengthening the ROK-US Alliance through engineering. He also directs a multi-ethnic, multi-cultural and multi-national workforce of approximately 400 military (active, reserve and ARNG), Department of Army civilians, and Korean Nationals along with thousands of local Korean contractors located at various sites and installations throughout Korea.



Col. Clarence D. Turner receives a Black Engineer of the Year Award from Lt. Gen. Robert VanAntwerp during the BEYA Awards Ceremony in Baltimore Feb 21.

"He is an outstanding engineer and leader who sets the example for all to follow," said Van Antwerp. "Most impressive is that he still finds time to serve as a positive role model, relationship builder and caring leader who makes a great effort to mentor and guide the soldiers, civilian engineers and foreign nationals with whom he comes into contact."

Colonel Turner graduated from Central Missouri State University with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Mathematical Sciences and holds two Master's Degrees; one in Industrial Engineering and the other in Strategic Studies. He is also a graduate of the U.S. Command and General Staff College and the U.S. Army War College.

His military awards include; the Bronze Star Medal with "Valor" Device, two Bronze Star Medals, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, two National Defense Service Medals, the Bronze de Fleury Medal and many other personal and unit decorations.

FED Project Manager receives Modern Day Technology Leader Award

By Joe Campbell
FED Public Affairs

Seoul - Keysha Cutts, a project officer with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District received the Modern Day Technology Leader Award and was honored at the Black Engineer of the Year conference Feb. 21.

The award, presented at the BEYA Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Global Competitiveness Conference in Baltimore recognizes the achievements of African-American leaders and their accomplishments in engineering and technology.

Cutts, who grew up in Baltimore began working with the US Army Corps of Engineers' Alaska District October 2000 and has also served with the Baltimore and Savanna Districts prior to her assignment here in 2008. She currently serves as a project manager with the Korea Relocation Project Office where she directs engineer planning, design, and construction for several projects totaling over \$50 million. Prior to working for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Cutts was a project manager with the Maryland Department of Transportation.

"It is always a humbling experience when someone takes the time to publically recognize your career efforts and achievements in a positive light," said Cutts.

As one of the project engineers for the largest project in the history of the Far East District, Cutts's personal and professional commitment have been instrumental in building strong relationships with her customers and stakeholders, said Colonel Clarence D. Turner, Commander of the Far East District.

"Keysha's passion for everything she does is contagious and her positive attitude and cheerful outlook have energized and motivated the Korean Relocation Program Office to make considerable achievements in the design and construction of the \$10 billion Yongsan Relocation and Land Partnership Plans,"

Turner went on to say; "Her thoughtfulness, diplomatic nature, and technical grasp of the elementary school and high school projects exemplify her as an effective leader for superbly executing the challenging YRP/LPP that includes bi-lateral negotiations with the Republic of Korea Ministry of National Defense."

Cutts talked about the experience of being named Black Engineer of the Year and being amongst the many talented professionals at the conference.

"Being recognized as a Modern day Technology Leader is an honor I do not take for granted," she said. "It is an irreplaceable motivating experience to be surrounded by the diverse pool of professional men and women in the math, science and engineering industry."

A graduate of Morgan State University she holds a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering and is currently working on a Masters in Business Administration at the University of Phoenix.

"I could not have asked for a better leader," said Turner. "It is an absolute privilege to serve with such a dedicated professional."



AMIE Interns

The Far East District welcomes Advancing Minorities' Interest in Engineering (AMIE) interns, Aaron T. Williams and Charles L. Johnson. Williams (right in the picture) from Ann Arbor, Michigan majors in Architectural and Civil Engineering at Tennessee State University. Johnson (left in the picture) attends Alabama A&M University and majors in Civil Engineering. Both will be working on the Vehicle Maintenance Facility, Troop Housing projects and Education center at the U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys until Aug. 15. (Photo by Joe Campbell)

Engineers dazzle teens with technology

By Sgt. Lee Min-hwi
USAG Yongsan Public Affairs

YONGSAN GARRISON, Republic of Korea -- The Far East District Corps of Engineers held an Engineers Day at Seoul American High School May 15, bringing more than a dozen engineering experts to introduce students to the changing impact of new technology and science.

First observed in 1997, Engineers Day gives students a unique opportunity to talk face-to-face with practicing engineers and scientists. This year, students and teachers interacted with subject matter experts in eleven technical demonstration booths in the school library.

"The purpose is to raise awareness of the contributions engineers make to our nation, as well as generate excitement and motivation to students who may be thinking about a career in math, engineering, and science," said Doug Bliss, FED Corps of Engineers Chief of Geotechnical and Environmental Engineering Branch.

The underlying theme of this year's program was the Korea Relocation Program, which involves the massive relocation of Yongsan Garrison's facilities to the expanding Humphreys Garrison.

"The Corps of Engineers and other military organizations are very busy with the Korea Relocation Program, so the demonstrations we are giving today have an underlying theme of how engineers are going to accomplish it," Bliss said. "It involves master planning, design and construction that involves all aspects of engineering."

Two of the engineers who demonstrated real-world engineering techniques were Jennifer Yoon and Matthew Curran.

They recently became part of the FED Corps of Engineers working on the relocation project in Humphreys Garrison.

"I showed the students how civil, environmental and electrical engineering disciplines are collaborating and involved in designing the relocation project for numerous facilities like elementary and high schools," Yoon said. Before coming to Korea, she designed roadways in Los Angeles.

Curran, one of the youngest engineers from Geotechnical Engineering Branch, explained to students how engineers work on drainage issues. "We are adding about 11 million cubic meters of fill to raise the elevation to protect it from flooding. That is going to cause consolidation of the soil below," Curran explained.

"It was great to learn about how these engineering technologies are going to affect us," said 11th grader Natalie McKiernan. "I really appreciate that they put on this program for us."

"What caught my attention was the 3-D Computer Aided Design and Drafting," said 12th grader Christopher McCormick. "It showed us how to use computers to design structural bases and the design process. It really helped me to know about possible careers in engineering and that there is more to engineering than I initially thought."

"This is a great opportunity for us to interact with the students and get them interested in math and science," said FED Corps of Engineers Commander Col. Dave Turner. "This will also give them some idea about the transformation and construction plans in U.S. Forces in Korean peninsula."



Mathew Curran, FED Engineering Division explains Seoul American High School students Geotechnical Engineering for Humphreys Land Development.



Muhammad Irfan, FED Engineering explains students Environmental Site Investigations.
(Photos by Yu Yon-chun)

Far East District awards largest contract in its 52-year history

By FED Public Affairs

Seoul— The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District awarded the largest single contract in its 52-year history to SK Engineering and Construction Co. Ltd. for the new land development, new and existing, utilities, and infrastructure for US Army Garrison-Humphreys Jan. 16.

This \$479 million Design-Build contract was awarded for land development and utility systems in accordance with the Land Partnership Plan. Not only is this the largest single contract in the District's history; this project serves as a strong commitment to the ROK-US Alliance, according to Col. Dave Turner, Commander of the Far East District.

The contract requires construction work to include: hauling and placing compacted fill in approximately 480 acres in the land area adjacent to USAG- Humphreys designated as Parcel 2A; constructing roads and storm water drainage systems; installing utility collection/distribution networks for water supply, sewer, electrical, natural gas and communications systems.



S.K. Yoon, CEO & Vice Chairman of SK E & C, affixes his signature stamp to the contract for land development at Parcel 2A, USAG Humphreys. (From Left to right: Col. Jerry Duncan, Korea Relocation Programs Office, Yoon, Harry Kim, Contracting Officer, standing in the background are Jinsoo Oh, Senior Manager Civil Business Development Team, SK E & C, contracting team leader Chun Tucker, and contract specialist Yi, Tong-Hui. (Photo by Joe Campbell)

Scroll of Appreciation from Gen. Sharp



Col. Clarence D. Turner, the Commander of the Far East District presented Second Hand Rose Gift Shop and Seoul American High School National Honor Society Scrolls of Appreciation signed by Gen. Walter Sharp, commander of U.S. Forces Korea in recognition of significant contributions to the United States Forces Korea Good Neighbor Program. FED Public Affairs Office started its book drive in 2008 as part of the Good Neighbor Program and to date has established two mini-libraries at elementary schools and one at a middle school. About 1,000 books were also sent to Afghanistan Engineer District and Gulf Region Division for civilians and troops. (Photos by Kim Chong-yun)

Gen. Sharp Visits the Far East District



Gen. Walter L. Sharp, Commander United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command, United States Forces Korea visited the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District June 29. During the visit, Sharp was briefed on the District's mission, Field Force Engineering, and toured the Geotechnical Environmental laboratories. Gen. Sharp is briefed on the capabilities of one of the district's water well drill rigs (left). Col. Clarence D. Turner, FED Commander walks with Gen. Sharp during the visit (right). (FED File Photos)

Eighth United States Army Recognizes Heroes of the Far East District



Commander of the Eighth United States Army, Lt. Gen. Joseph F. Fil Jr. presents a certificate of appreciation to employees of the Far East District for their heroic actions in putting out the fire that broke out on March 11 in a building adjacent to the FED compound. Employees quickly responded to a fire and worked professionally and in a corporative manner with the Jung-bu Fire Department. (Jung-bu Fire Department File Photos)

Talon Cafe Dining Facility opens its doors

The 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade's dining facility, known as the "Talon Cafe" opened its doors for the Soldiers, June 15.

"This state of the art dining facility is the prototype for the new and improved Korea as the assignment of choice," said Chief Warrant Officer Roberta Sheffield in her opening remarks.

The ground was broken for this spectacular quality of life project on MP Hill, U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys, July 26, 2006 and the construction is completed as planned. The cost of this dining facility estimates well over \$35 million and it will accommodate 1300 Warriors. It features a large kitchen area, spacious dining area, high ceiling and many food serving stations.

"It is a standing commitment for the future of Korea and its transformation," said 2nd CAB Commander, Col. Joseph A. Bassani.

This dining facility in 8-story barracks building is part of the USAG-Humphreys transformation project for the base relocation of the U.S. Forces Korea in the recent future.



(FED File Photos)

FED Snack Bar Food Service Manager retires



Col. Clarence D. Turner, Commander of the Far East District presents a Commander's Award for Civilian Service to Kim Hyong-sik, Army and Air Force Exchange Service Food Service Manager who retires after serving 42 years. Kim served in numerous food service management positions for AAFES throughout the Korea peninsula from December 1967 to June 2009. Since 1978, Kim has worked on the Far East District Compound as the AAFES Food Service Manager and for over 32 years, he has served in support of the District with distinction and a genuine concern for all its employees.

(FED File Photos)

Welcome to FED: New Members



Alvarez, Young
Logistics Management



An, Ki Yon
Engineering Division



Baker, Wonmi
Resource
Management



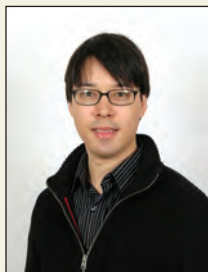
Bharat, Angelica
Programs & Project
Management



Bryant, Annetta
Information
Management



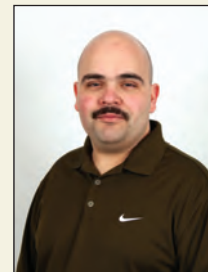
Chu, Connie
Resource
Management



Curran, Mathew
Engineering Division



Fontanilla, Richard
Construction Division



Garcia, Gabriel
Information
Management



Ho, Chun
Logistics
Management



Hogle, Richard
Information
Management



Hovinga, Jaymes
Safety Office



Johnson, Samantha
Office of Counsel



Kim, Sun-Ho
Safety Office



Kim, Yun Su
Resource Management



Ko, Pyong Su
Engineering Division



Lee, Peter
Information
Management



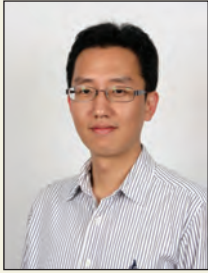
Martin, Raymond
Engineering Division



Miller, Hye
Workforce
Management



Nam, Chai-hui
Executive Office



O, Ho Yon
Engineering
Division



Pak, Son-Hui
Korea Relocation



Pastrana, Lourdes
Resource
Management



Scott, Ryelanda
Information
Management



Stroganoff, Peter
Engineering
Division



Stubbett, Carl
Contracting Division



Sung, Michele
Programs & Project
Management



Watts, Tamara
Equal Employment
Opportunity



Woo, Sarah
Engineering Division



Yang, Chong-hui
Engineering
Division



Yared, Beshara
Korea Relocation



Yi, Son-U
Engineering
Division



Yoon, Jennifer
Engineering
Division



Yu, Tae
Construction
Division



Maj. Dowdle, Charles
Deputy District
Commander

In Memory of Kim Chang-yon



The Far East District lost one of our family members, Kim, Chang-yon, Quality Assurance Representative at the Pyongtaek Resident Office, May 29. Kim was born June 3, 1951, in Youngcheon, Kyongsangbukdo, Korea and began his career with the Far East District in January 1977 as an Electrical Engineer in the Design Branch at the District's headquarters in Seoul. For over 32 years, Kim worked at a variety of locations in a myriad of positions for FED. He is survived by his wife and two daughters. Pictured is the memorial service held on June 4. (FED File Photos)

Farewell: See you again...



Cho, Un-chong
Safety Office



Chon, Jim
Information
Management



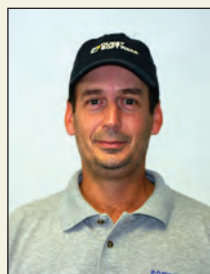
Kim, Yong
Korea Relocation



Knowles, Scott
Saftey Office



Lum, Gus
Contracting Division



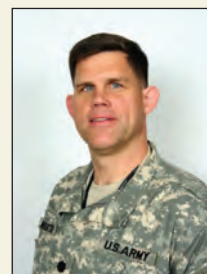
McDaniel, William
Information
Management



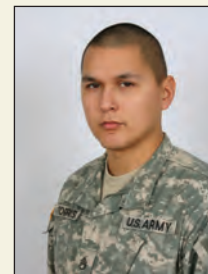
Newcomer, David
Programs & Project
Management



Oby, Tony
Construction
Division



Lt. Col. Michael Neaverth
Deputy District
Commander



**Staff Sgt. Anthony
Torres**
Construction Division

사령관 메세지



Col. Clarence D. Turner

FED 사령관으로써의 지난 23 개월을 뒤돌아 볼 때, 지금까지 제가 일해본 곳 중 가장 프로다운 직원들로 구성된 팀을 위해 일한 것을 진심으로 영광으로 생각한다라는 말씀을 드리고 싶습니다.

여러분 모두에게 감사드립니다.

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지난 2 년간 FED 는 환경, 설계, 건설 프로젝트들을 최상 수준으로 이행 했습니다. 올해 FED 는 FED 역사상 가장 큰 건설 프로젝트인 토지 개발 및 설비 시설 사업(LDUI)을 어워드했습니다. LDUI 는 YRP 와 LPP 사업의 기초를 세울 것입니다. 2009 년도 1, 2 분기 프로젝트 시행 메모랜덤이 완성됐는데, 여기에는 Korea Transformation Program 이행에 있어 매우 중요한 프로젝트들이 포함되어 있습니다. YRP 와 LPP 사업을 마무리할 때 즈음이면 우리는 600 개이상의 프로젝트를 수행하고, 400 개이상의 시설을 해체할 것입니다. 또한 1100 만 큐빅 미터의 토지를 성토해야 하는 2,200 에이커에 달하는 땅을 새로 개발할 것입니다. 그리고 여러분 모두는 앞으로 펼쳐질 이 역사적인 사업의 한 부분이 될 것입니다.

한반도에서의 우발사태 임무, 미국의 허리케인 구호 작전 및 이라크와 아프가니스탄의 해외 우발사태 작전, UFL-07/UFG-08/Key Resolve Foal Eagle 08/09, Makani Pahili 08/09 및 NEO exercises, Courageous Channel 09-1/08-1 훈련 등의 참여는 FED 의 파병에 대한 사고방식과 의무를 강화했습니다.

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한시라도 안전을 소홀히 하셔서선 안됩니다-매초 항상 안전에 신경 쓰십시오.

다시 여러분과 함께 일할 날이 있기를 바랍니다.

품질 중시!

FED celebrates its 52nd Organization Day



The Far East District held its 52nd Organization Day picnic at the command's headquarters, June 12. FED employees and their family members and friends celebrated the day with various games, eating contests, sports, fun events and a Taekwondo demonstration. (Photo by Yo Kyong-il)