



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Far East District

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Momentous Ground Breaking!

First YRP vertical construction project underway

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of Engineers®
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On the cover



Gen. James Thurman (left), United States Forces Korea Commander and Kim Kwan-jin, Korean Minister of National Defense break ground on a new elementary and high school at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys Sept. 2. (U.S. Army Photo)



Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr.

Commander's Corner

To the Great Team of the Far East District and our entire Team of Teams,

The month of September marks quite a few milestones for our District. Distinguished visitors Brig. Gen. Richard Stevens, Pacific Ocean Division Commander, and Gene Ban, Program Management SES, visited the District and many of our projects. To the entire Team, thank you again for providing them with a warm reception and wonderful update of the Pacific's premier program. Additionally, as we "Build Culturally Strong," we congratulated Brig. Gen. Stevens for receiving his honorary Korean name, Shin Taek-su.

Another great milestone recently was achieved with the District's participation in the annual Pacific Command and U.S. Forces Korea Ulchi Freedom Guardian exercise. Thanks to the great work of our Service Members, Emergency Essential Civilians, and Mission Essential Civilians, the exercise was a tremendous success. Your efforts have made this annual exercise a success for the District. With this year's success we identified areas to build upon our Greatness. I urge you to help build our workforce management bench in support of crisis and contingency operations. For more information about being an emergency essential or mission essential civilian, please visit your Division and Branch Chief and our Workforce Management Office.

This month, as we "Build Customer Strong," I want to highlight the importance of our Customers. As we conduct our daily business, please consider our Customer's needs first and foremost. Whether you are working an operations and maintenance project or the large and highly visible Korea Command (KO-RCOM) Headquarters project, please remember that we are fulfilling our Customer's requirements here in Korea. It was great to recently support Gen. North and the Pacific Air Force during a ground breaking ceremony held at Kunsan Air Base and Gen. Thurman during a ribbon cutting ceremony at Camp Casey and the historic Yongsan Relocation Program ground breaking ceremony for the schools projects at Garrison Humphreys.

Building People Strong - Happy Chuseok to our wonderful Families and Friends. As the autumn months approach, we are reminded of the wonderful culture and country we see and reside in everyday.

To our great Alliance – Katchi Kapsida!

To our great Corps – Essayons!

One Team Building Strong® in Korea!

One Team Building Strong for a successful fiscal year-end

By Robert Lau
FED Resource Management

It's fiscal year-end and the "One Team Building Strong in Korea" is positioned for success!

Our annual fiscal year-end financial ritual is upon us again. The district team is shifting gears and planning for a successful fiscal year-end process.

Fiscal year-end is a special time for the Far East District as many of the Department of Defense activities on the peninsula rely on the Corps for our ability to execute their year-end requirements. Generally speaking, when other contracting organizations close their doors for acceptance of 4th quarter projects, FED always "steps up to the plate" for acceptance, execution, and obligation of expiring funds by Sept. 30.

The "One Team Building Strong in Korea" is ready! Resource Management has issued the closeout guidance and is positioned to certify all year ending funding, Program Project Management has activated Year-end Acquisition Strategy Meetings and proactively engaged our customers, Office of Counsel is providing timely legal review of contract packages, Contracting and Engineering Divisions are completing reviews and negotiations on numerous fiscal year-end sensitive packages, and Contracting has the final task awarding all contracts with expiring funds by midnight Sept. 30.

The District is projecting a fiscal year-end workload of 118 potential awards totaling roughly \$77 million with expiring operation and maintenance funding from various DoD organizations. Additionally, three Military Construction projects with program amounts of \$26.8 million are also in the must award category. These time sensitive actions are already working their way through our quality business processes and well-seasoned financial team of experts is positioned and ready for the receipt of funds from our customers. In addition, the tri-annual joint review reflected over \$1.5 billion of 5,118 accounts to be reviewed and validated by our financial managers in order to ensure proper financial management of the account balances.

During fiscal year-end, we normally expect the unexpected and this year is no exception. Reimbursement environmental work for the well-publicized Agent Orange



investigation has added to the workload. This unexpected workload included approximately \$2.2 million of lab analysis, soil sampling, and drilling work obligated for contractor and in-house efforts. This work required bi-weekly conference calls and weekly Resource Management financial reporting of the status to all involved parties.

The fiscal year-end process is an enormous undertaking and will require the "One Team Building Strong" approach to ensure a successful fiscal year-end closeout.

Esprit De Corps



Fire Safety Tips for the Home

By FED Safety Office

“Protect your Family from Fire!” is this year’s campaign for Fire Prevention Week (Oct. 9-15) according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

This special week is the oldest recorded U.S. public health and safety observance and always includes Oct. 9, the day of the Great Chicago Fire of 1871. The fire killed more than 200 people, destroyed nearly four square miles of the city, left 100,000 homeless and destroyed more than 17,400 structures.

The leading causes of home fires are from cooking, heating and electrical equipment and the use of candles and smoking materials. A few simple precautions such as recognizing and anticipating the hazards, checking smoke alarms, keeping things that burn away from the stove or blowing out a candle before going to sleep can help protect your family.

The following tips will help keep your home and family safe:

- Install smoke alarms inside each bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on each level of the home. Maintain and test smoke detectors periodically. Replace smoke alarm batteries. Most detectors signal when batteries are low. Make sure everyone in the home knows how to respond if the smoke alarm sounds.
- Gather household members and make a plan. Walk through your home and inspect all possible ways out. Households with children may consider drawing a floor plan and, if possible, marking two ways out of each room including windows and doors.
- Repair frayed or torn electrical cords on devices such as stereos, lamps or computers.
- Consider unplugging all electronic devices and appliances after use. Plugged-in appliances and electronic devices are fire hazards.
- Watch out that space heaters are not too close to flammable items such as clothing, cardboard, fabric, books, magazines or old newspapers.
- Keep match boxes and lighters out of reach of children. Better still, lock them away. Teach children about the hazards of fire and ensure they are aware of fire safety rules.



Kitchen cooking oil fire (File Photo)

- Many home fires begin in the kitchen. Stay in the kitchen when using the cooking range. Unattended cooking is a leading cause of kitchen fires. Even if you have to leave for a minute, turn off all the burners on the range. If you are simmering, baking, roasting or boiling food, check it regularly and remain in the home while food is cooking. Keep anything that can catch fire such as oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging and towels away from the stove top.
- Always exercise caution when using, placing or lighting candles. Candles can easily allow other things to catch fire if you are not careful. Have proper candle holders, protective covers and extinguishers for candles. Blow out candles when you leave a room or go to bed. Avoid the use of candles in the bedroom or other areas where people may fall asleep. (More than 40 percent of candle fires start in the bedroom!). Keep candle 12 inches away from anything that can burn.
- Limit yourself to smoking outside, if you must, or stand up when smoking as it will prevent you from falling asleep with a lit cigarette and risking a fire.

For further information on Fire Prevention Week activities for you and your family please contact your local installation’s fire department or visit their website.

Far East District opens two school projects

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District turned over two school projects this month; each with its similarities and differences. Both school projects were completed on time to be opened on the first day of school.

The first one to hold a grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony was the new Daegu High School at Camp Walker Sept. 7. FED converted an existing three-story barracks and dining facility into a school. This \$8 million project broke ground in July 2010 and was turned over to the garrison in July 2011.

“The project got done on time because of the contractor,” said Darold Sanderson, the project manager. “They were very organized and begun modification work as soon as they

knew we were going for a modification.”

Throughout the year, the project was modified over 20 times to meet the requests of the customer: the Department of Defense Dependent Schools.

“In general the mods and negotiating process went smooth and fast,” said Sanderson.

The school will relieve the one on Camp George which was shared by elementary, middle, and high school students. “As for me it was not a strenuous project at all,” said Sanderson. “It was great working with Yuil Engineering and Construction.”

Converting an existing barracks helped save on time. Once complete, the building did not even resemble a barracks



Children from Casey Elementary School hold up stars after singing “America the Beautiful” during the grand opening ceremony Sept. 8. The school was expanded by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District to accommodate more students for this school year. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

any longer. The only clue that was left behind was a mural of the Soldier's Creed left uncovered in the stairwell.

"We decided that we wanted to keep that because we here at Daegu High School are the Warriors," said Kristopher Kwiatek, the principal.

In a similar success story, FED expanded a school at Camp Casey in Dongducheon. Casey Elementary School held its grand opening for the expansion project Sept. 8.

The school opened last year serving all of Area I. Still, some of the kindergarten through eighth grade students in this area had to commute to Seoul or attend a local school. FED expanded the school to accommodate 250 more pupils.

This quick project had also only broken ground last year.

"We did it quickly, but we also did it safely," said Cheung, Jin-young, Project Administrator from Yuil Engineering and Construction Co., Ltd.

Casey Elementary School supports Phase 1 of relocation. This made it a priority project for U.S. Forces Korea. In attendance at the ceremony was Gen. James Thurman, Commander, United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command, United States Forces Korea, along with Maj. Gen. Michael Tucker, 2nd Infantry Division Commander.

Thurman is a strong supporter of education initiatives and shared some statistics about education during his remarks at the ceremony.

"We must invest in our children," said Thurman.

He continued by mentioning that the investment must also include facilities.



Col. Craig Cutter, Deputy Commander, 19th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, looks over the Soldiers Creed in the stairwell of Daegu High School. The creed was originally painted on the wall by Soldiers when the building was used as a barracks. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District renovated the barracks to be used as a school. The mural was intentionally left uncovered to reflect the history of the building and as a symbol of the school's mascot: the Warriors. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



A ribbon cutting ceremony was held Sept. 8 at Casey Elementary School to officially open the expansion project by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District. The project allows the kindergarten through eighth grade school to accommodate up to 250 more students. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Daegu High School was completed in July 2011 and opened a month later for the school year. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

Far East District breaks ground on two schools at USAG Humphreys

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

Construction of a new elementary and high school at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys officially began after a groundbreaking ceremony Sept. 2.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District will construct the projects on Parcel K of the newly expanded land which in the future will be a part of the downtown area of the garrison. These schools will be the first vertical construction projects as part of the Yongsan Relocation Program and are expected to be complete by summer 2013.

“These schools are a big deal to the Humphreys community,” said Keysha Cutts, FED Project Manager for the schools. “Currently students have to be bused to Osan.”

From USAG Humphreys to Osan Air Base by bus can sometimes take up to 45 minutes due to heavy traffic congestion on the roadways. The garrison is excited about having these schools as they will greatly improve quality of life.

“These schools are based on Department of Defense Dependent Schools specifications and will be very much comparable to U.S. schools,” said Cutts.

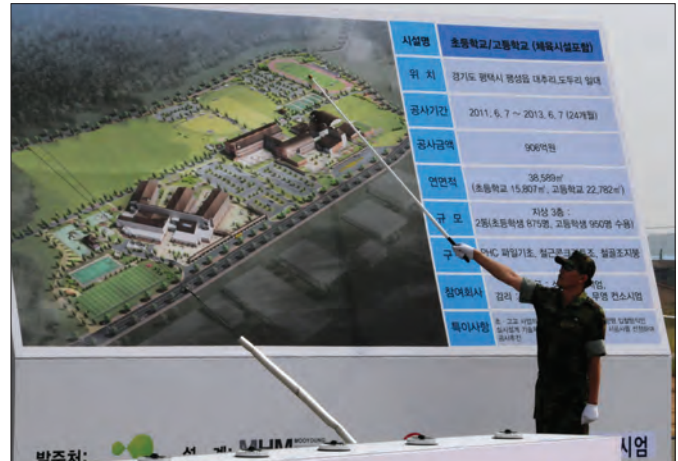
An exciting feature about the new high school will be its full sized stadium with artificial turf, announcer box, and scoreboards. This type of stadium will be a first for DoDDS schools in Korea.

Both schools together will accommodate 1,800 students, but the high school will be able to be expanded to accommodate up to 1,600 students as tour normalization approaches completion. The cafeteria, gym, and stadium will already be built to that capacity.

The groundbreaking ceremony was attended by Gen. James Thurman, Commander, United Nations Comand, Combined Forces Command, United States Forces Korea, Kim Kwan-jin, Korean Minister of National Defense, and other distinguished guests.

Kim remembers Camp Humphreys when he was a general in the Korean Army. That was before FED and MND began shaping the ground in the area and the camp had just a few units stationed there.

Today, Kim is very pleased with the progress at USAG Humphreys.



A Korean soldier points to the location of a new stadium to be built at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys. The stadium will be a part of a high school which broke ground Sept. 2. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Gen. James Thurman, Commander, United Nations Comand, Combined Forces Command, United States Forces Korea, and Kim Kwan-jin (second from right), Korean Minister of National Defense propose a toast to celebrate the groundbreaking for a new elementary and high school at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys Sept. 2. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

“This groundbreaking has three significant meanings for me,” said Kim. “First it shows the robustness of the ROK-US

Alliance. The second meaning lies in the improvement of the quality of lives for U.S. service members stationed in Korea through tour normalization. The third is the development of Pyongtaek into an international city.”

Kim believes that these two schools will open the doorway for more vertical construction under YRP. Thurman agreed that the groundbreaking is a historic milestone in relocation and tour normalization and further explained that it showed the commitment of the ROK-US Alliance.

“On behalf of all the men and women who serve in USFK and the United States of America we want to say thanks to the Republic of Korea for the genuine care and concern that you demonstrate so graciously every single day as we serve side-by-side in this wonderful alliance: the ROK-US Alliance,” said Thurman.

Although the schools are a big step for YRP, at Humphreys they show a dedication to improving the quality of education.

“Most importantly it shows our commitment to our children and our families who come to reside with us here in this wonderful country,” said Thurman.



Fireworks go off at Parcel K, U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys Sept. 2 to celebrate the groundbreaking of a new elementary and high school. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Gen. James Thurman (ninth from left), United States Forces Korea Commander, Kim Kwan-jin (tenth from left), Korean Minister of National Defense, and other distinguished guests break ground on a new elementary and high school at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys Sept. 2. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District will construct the projects which will be the first vertical construction projects as part of the Yongsan Relocation Program and are expected to be complete by summer 2013. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

Far East District helps bring global training to Kunsan

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District and the U.S. Air Force broke ground on a facility that will house four flight simulators at Kunsan Air Base Aug. 22.

The Distributive Mission Training Flight Simulation Facility will allow pilots at Kunsan to be able to train with other U.S. Air Force pilots across the globe. This could also be utilized to incorporate allied and friendly forces into the training mission.

“The DMT flight simulator housed in this facility for the first time ever on the Korean peninsula will allow the Wolf Pack pilots to train with their brothers all across the world,” said Col. Scott L. Pleus, Commander of the 8th Fighter Wing.

The facility in which the simulator is housed will be built by FED. In attendance at the groundbreaking ceremony to recognize the importance of the project was Gen. Gary L. North, Commander of the Pacific Air Forces.

In 1973, the first F-16 fighter jet rolled off the assembly line as a multi-platform fighter aircraft. Since then a quantum leap in its capabilities has been realized.

“The jump in complexity of this aircraft has opened a gap in our ability to train pilots,” said Pleus. “The bottom line is no matter how complex an airplane is unless you have the proper training for the pilots it is completely useless.”

The DMT Flight Simulation Facility will provide high-tech training for today’s modern Air Force. At an estimated construction cost of about \$7 million, the state-of-the-art facility will also be an economical way to bring 21st century training to Kunsan.

“In today’s budget constrained environment this technology will provide a cost effective way to train for combat at a fraction of the cost of actually flying this airplane,” said Pleus.

Remaining mission ready is critical in the Republic of Korea. Therefore, the simulator will allow pilots to train at anytime regardless of weather or airspace.

“The ultimate success for this project rests in the great partnership between Kunsan Air Base, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District, and Kumsung Construction Co.,” said Pleus. “Today’s groundbreaking is not only a commitment to Kunsan Air Base but also to the Korea- U.S. Alliance.”



Col. Don Degidio (second from left), Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District, Gen. Gary L. North (third from left), Commander of the Pacific Air Forces, and Col. Scott L. Pleus (fourth from left), Commander of the 8th Fighter Wing, along with Air Force personnel and FED’s contractor break ground on the Distributive Mission Training Flight Simulation Facility Aug. 22 at Kunsan Air Bbase. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Gen. Gary L. North (left), Commander of the Pacific Air Forces, listens to Kim U-kon (right), Deputy Resident Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District Kunsan Resident Office, who gives details about a new maintenance facility currently under construction by FED at Kunsan Air Base Aug. 22. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

Remembering 9/11 ten years later

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

With the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon now a decade behind us, many have reflected where they were on that fateful day. For Sang Lee, an electrical engineer with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District Construction Division, on 9/11 he knew that he wanted to help.

Lee, who was working at the USACE Walla Walla District in 2001, answered the call for volunteers from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

For four weeks after 9/11, USACE operated a disaster field office and operations center on the four streets surrounding the World Trade Center complex, which was then known as the “pit.” These field offices provided an operation center for FEMA and the New York Fire Department 24-hours in their efforts of search and rescue at Ground Zero.

“Walking around Manhattan during the day before my evening shift, I would pass fire stations with memorials in remembrance of their firemen perished,” said Lee. “Although, I never knew those firemen, it brought tears to my eyes and I was deeply moved by the sacrifices they’ve made in efforts save lives.”



Sang Lee (right), an electrical engineer with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District Construction Division, looks over a project at Fleet Activities Chinhae. Ten years before, he was a USACE volunteer at the former World Trade Center site just weeks after the terrorist attacks. (FED File Photo)

As a USACE volunteer, Lee made sure that the operations center and disaster field office was operational and available 24-hours a day. He also made daily reports of all findings by the fire department and reported them up to the fire chief and New York’s mayor’s office.

The fire at the “pit” continued to burn even as the Corps of Engineers pulled out four weeks after 9/11 and the Department of the Interior’s Forest Service moved in when the search and rescue mission moved on to a recovery mission.

“Seeing such destruction and loss of so many lives, made me appreciate my family, friends and coworkers more and the simplest things in life,” said Lee. “Having volunteered to serve in Iraq and Afghanistan, it still does not make sense to me as to what were the purposes of such destruction and so many losses of lives.”



Pictures of Sang Lee while he was serving in Iraq. (FED File Photos)

Brig. Gen. Stevens visits Far East District

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

Brig. Gen. Richard Stevens, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pacific Ocean Division Commander, assumed command in July and made his official visit to the Far East District Sept. 7-10.

Although he came to the recent FED Change of Command Ceremony, Stevens wanted to give Col. Don Degidio plenty of time to settle in before touring projects in Korea.

On his first full day, Stevens traveled by helicopter to U.S. Army Garrison Casey, Humphreys, and Osan Air Base escorted by Degidio.

At USAG Casey, Stevens attended the grand opening of the expansion of Casey Elementary School, an FED project which converted an old barracks into a school to accommodate 250 additional students. For their hard work in completing this project in a timely manner, Stevens presented Larry Shockley and Randall Midomaru a POD coin for their quality assurance and oversight of the project.

Also at the Casey Elementary School, Stevens met Gen. James Thurman, Commander, United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command, United States Forces Korea, and Brig. Gen. Charles L. Taylor, 2nd Infantry Division, Assistant Division Commander for Maneuver. Taylor thanked Stevens for recent work completed by FED at Rodriguez Live Fire Complex.

After a 45-minute helicopter flight, Stevens arrived at USAG Humphreys where he was briefed on the Korea Relocation Program by Sharon Garay-Rodriguez, acting Chief of the Korea Program Relocation Office. Garay-Rodriguez was able to answer Stevens' questions about the massive construction projects at USAG Humphreys.

Gregg Reiff, Resident Engineer, FED Humphreys Area Office, took Stevens to the overlook where much of the new construction can be seen. Reiff pointed out the numerous large scale projects underway such as the three Army Family Housing Towers, six new barracks, four Senior Leader's Quarters, two Vehicle Maintenance Facilities, and the location of the new elementary and high schools. Further out, Reiff pointed to land still being filled by a long chain of dump trucks.

Stevens was able to tour the new Army Family Housing Towers which are expected to open next year. He looked at a mock-up five-bedroom unit which showcases how future families at USAG Humphreys will live.

To conclude such an eventful and busy day, Stevens had dinner with all of FED's military members at the Mustang Club on Osan Air Base. Degidio presented Stevens with three St. Louis Cardinals jerseys: one for him, his wife, and his daughter.



David Talbot (left), Resident Engineer, Army Family Housing Resident Office, describes the three Army Family Housing Towers under construction at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys to Brig. Gen. Richard Stevens, USACE Pacific Ocean Division Commander. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Brig. Gen. Richard Stevens, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pacific Ocean Division Commander, examines the craftsmanship of kitchen cabinets inside the Army Family Housing Towers under construction at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys Sept. 8. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Gregg Reiff (left), Resident Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District Humphreys Area Office, briefs Brig. Gen. Richard Stevens, USACE Pacific Ocean Division Commander, during Stevens' visit to U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys Sept. 8. Reiff took Stevens to the overlook where most of the new construction can be seen. Reiff pointed out the three Army Family Housing Towers, six new barracks, Senior Leader's Quarters, Vehicle Maintenance Facility, and the location of the new elementary and high schools. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

The following day, Stevens addressed the employees of FED in the drill rig shelter. Stevens talked about the diversity of the Pacific Ocean Division and the direction he wants us all to go together. Afterwards he was given an Indianapolis Colts jersey by Degidio, because at FED Friday is "Show Your Colors Day."

To conclude his visit, Stevens was given a Korean name by the ROK-US Friendship Association during a ceremony held at the Ministry of National Defense in Seoul Sept. 9. Chairman Suh Jin-sup bestowed the name "Shin Taek-su," which translates as "comfortable house," on Stevens.



Brig. Gen. Richard Stevens (left), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pacific Ocean Division Commander, shares a laugh with Gen. James Thurman, U.S. Forces Korea Commander, at the grand opening of the Casey Elementary School expansion project Sept. 8. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Brig. Gen. Richard Stevens (left), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pacific Ocean Division Commander, receives a St. Louis Cardinals jersey from Col. Don Degidio, USACE, Far East District Commander, at the Mustang Club on Osan Air Base Sept. 8. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

Brig. Gen. Stevens receives Korean name

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

Brig. Gen. Richard Stevens, commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pacific Ocean Division, was conferred with a Korean name Sept. 9 during his initial tour of the Far East District.

In a ceremony held at the Ministry of National Defense in Seoul, Stevens was given the name, “Shin Taek-su.” The name translates as “comfortable house” and considers his title as POD Commander with oversight of the construction of comfortable buildings at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys.

The bestowal of a Korean name is an important part of Korea’s history and dynamic cultural heritage. Stevens expressed his gratitude for his Korean name and was humbled to be included in this tradition.

“Taek-su, which translates literally to ‘Comfortable House,’ seems very appropriate for the Commander of the Pacific Ocean Division whose largest program is building the houses that are part of the \$10 billion Korea Transformation Program at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys,” said Stevens.

The new name was bestowed by Chairman Suh Jin-sup

of the ROK-US Alliance Friendship Society for recognition of Stevens’ leadership over the engineering and construction projects at USAG Humphreys.

“Today, a Korean name is given to Brig. Gen. Stevens with a hope of his support and contribution to the success of USFK Base Relocation to Pyongtaek,” said Suh.

Suh presented Stevens with a scroll with “Shin Taek-su,” written in Chinese characters, traditional Korean characters. The family name “Shin” is derived from the Korean pronunciation of the letter “S” in Stevens. Suh also presented Stevens with an honorary taekwondo license from the World Taekwondo Headquarters.

In the past, many American leaders were given Korean names such as U.S. President, Barack Hussein Obama, who was given the name “O Han-Ma.” U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton was named “Han Hui-Sook.”

Gen. Walton H. Walker, former Eight U.S. Army Commander, who died during the Korean War, was named “Gu Wung-Su.”



Chairman Suh Jin-sup (left) of the ROK-US Alliance Friendship Society and Brig. Gen. Richard Stevens, commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pacific Ocean Division hold up a scroll with the Korean name “Shin Taek-su.” Suh bestowed the name on Stevens during a ceremony held at the Ministry of National Defense in Seoul Sept. 9. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Chairman Suh Jin-sup (second from left) of the ROK-US Alliance Friendship Society bestowed a Korean name on Brig. Gen. Richard Stevens (third from left), commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pacific Ocean Division. Stevens was given the name “Shin Taek-su” in a ceremony held at the Ministry of National Defense in Seoul Sept. 9. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Far East District participates in Ulchi Freedom Guardian exercise

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District participated in the Ulchi Freedom Guardian exercise Aug. 16-26. The annual UFG exercise is designed to improve the ability of the Republic of Korea-U.S. Alliance to defend the peninsula by allowing joint and combined forces to evaluate mission essential and critical supporting tasks.

“Your dedication, professionalism, and ‘can do’ attitude showed strong throughout the entire exercise,” said Col. Don Degidio, FED Commander.

Members of FED spread across the peninsula to various locations in support of the exercise. They worked as liaisons between FED and the service commands, worked with Forward Engineer Support Teams, and manned the emergency operations centers.



(Clockwise) Members of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District pose for a photograph with their protective masks.

Members of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District man their workstations during the Ulchi Freedom Guardian exercise Aug 16-26. The annual UFG exercise is designed to improve the ability of the Republic of Korea-U.S. Alliance to defend the peninsula.

Members of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District remove their masks afterwards. (Photos by Yu Chi-nam)



Far East District's FEST-K recognized for outstanding performance

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

All of the team members from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District Forward Engineer Support Team-Korea (FEST-K) were presented with a Certificate of Achievement on behalf of Lt. Gen. John D. Johnson, Commander of the Eighth U.S. Army, for a job well done during the Ulchi Freedom Guardian exercise Aug. 16-26.

Furthermore, the team as a whole received a shadow box with a certificate and coins inside thanking the FEST-K team for the work performed.

"The work that the FEST-K team has been doing for the Second Infantry Division and now Eighth Army these last two exercises has been very rewarding to me," said Chief Master Sgt. Raymond Riel, FEST-K's Non-Commissioned

Officer in Charge (NCOIC). Just knowing that our products we developed are being used by U.S. Forces Korea for their mission is a great feeling."

The annual UFG exercise is designed to improve the ability of the Republic of Korea-U.S. Alliance to defend the peninsula.

The District's FEST-K supported this mission by conducting an initial infrastructure assessment at the Eundaeri railhead in Area I near Rodriguez Live Fire Complex.

"We have the talent right here in the Far East District to produce quality products for our USFK customers during these exercises that will have long term benefits to the security of Korea," said Riel.



Maj. John Burescia (left), FED's FEST-K team leader, listens to suggestions from Pak Chong-pin during an assessment at the Eundaeri railhead in Area I near Rodriguez Live Fire Complex Aug. 16. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

The team is lead by a military team leader, Maj. John Burescia, and consists of military members from FED. In addition, geo-technical specialists and civil and electrical engineers enhance the capabilities of the team.

In order to get the best assessment for FEST-K's customer, the team also incorporated elements from FED Engineering Division and sought guidance from representatives of the Korea Ministry of National Defense and the Korean National Railroad.



Nam Hui-ku (left) and Kim Kyong-hwan, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District Geotechnical and Environmental Engineering Branch, set up equipment to measure elevation at the Eundaeri railhead in Area I near Rodriguez Live Fire Complex Aug. 16. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Chief Master Sgt. Raymond Riel, FED's FEST-K non-commissioned officer in charge, tests a section switch track at the Eundaeri railhead in Area I near Rodriguez Live Fire Complex Aug. 16. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Staff Sgt. David Kotas, member of FED's FEST-K, uses a laser to measure the width of a road leading into Eundaeri railhead in Area I near Rodriguez Live Fire Complex Aug. 16. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Staff Sgt. James Park, member of FED's FEST-K, looks through survey equipment at the Eundaeri railhead in Area I near Rodriguez Live Fire Complex Aug. 16. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

UNION SPOT LIGHT

Dear Korean National Employees Union Members,

After a summer of heavy rain, we expected clear, cool fall skies, but instead we are having late summer heat in September. We hope everyone is doing well.

While most of us are enjoying our healthy everyday life, sadly two FED team members remain hospitalized following separate accidents. We would like to give you a brief update on their conditions.

Chang Sok-wan from the Logistics Management Office is still undergoing rehabilitation following a severe neck injury last December. He will need more time to recover but he's in good spirits and sincerely thanks everyone for their visits, concern and leave donations.

Yi Won-yong from the Engineering Division is currently recovering from injuries sustained while rock climbing. As many of you know, he is the leader of the Ridge Climb Working Club and unfortunately while climbing Dobong Mountain recently he fell about ten meters. His injuries are not life threatening however he will have to begin extensive rehabilitation in the near future.

We hope for their fast recovery. It will be encouraging to Yi and Chang if the FED team members send out warm remarks to wish them luck on their rehabilitation. Those members who wish to send out consolation messages please contact Song Un-ho, the General Affairs Manager of the KN Union.

분회원 여러분 안녕하십니까.

유난히 비가 많았던 여름이 지나고, 청명한 가을이 오려나 기대했지만 9월 늦더위에 힘드시지는 아니하신지요?

모든 직원분들께서 건강히 일상생활을 잘 하고 계신 가운데, 불행히도 아래 두 분께서 사고로 병상에 계시기에 근황을 알려드립니다.

먼저 장석완 (Logistics Management Office)님께서는 작년 12월 목을 다쳐 현재 집중적으로 재활훈련을 하고 계십니다. 현재 장석완님의 건강은 많이 회복되었지만 앞으로도 많은 날들을 병원에서 재활훈련을 하셔야 할 것 같습니다. 한편, 장석완님께서는 여러분들의 관심과 적극적인 휴가기부에 대하여 감사하다는 말씀을 여러번 하셨습니다.

또 다른 한 분은 이원용 (Engineering Division)님입니다. 이원용님은 Ridge Climb Working에서 암벽 산악대장으로 계십니다. 도봉산 인수봉에서 회원들과 암벽을 오르다가 10미터 아래로 떨어지셨습니다. 다행히 생명을 위협하는 부상은 아니지만 집중적인 재활치료를 곧 시작해야 하는 상황입니다.

아무췌록 두 분의 빠른 완치를 기대하면서, 직원 여러분의 따뜻한 위로의 한 마디가 두 분에게 큰 힘이 되지않을까 생각을 합니다. 두 분께 연락을 원하시는 분들은 노조 총무이신 송은호님께 문의 바랍니다.

Far East District recruiting at local job fairs



David Flynn (left), from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District, speaks with a job seeker about opportunities with FED during the U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan Mini Information-Job Fair Aug. 25. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Dae-jin Yoon (left), from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District Workforce Management Office, speaks with job seekers at U.S. Army Garrison Casey about opportunities with FED during the USAG Red Cloud Employment Information and Mini Job Fair Aug. 31. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



EEO CORNER

Special Emphasis Program Managers Training

The Far East District Equal Employment Opportunity Special Emphasis Program Managers joined together for their Annual Training Event at the FED Compound on Sept. 6-7.

The SEP Managers received briefs and guidance on Emotional Intelligence, the ABCs on Disability Program Management, POF Trend Analysis and Workforce Climate, and more. EEO Officer, Tamara Watts-Stephens, who directed the training, stated, "Diversity and training are essential in building the team here at FED. Insuring the SEP Managers are trained is key in setting the standard for an effective EEO Program."

POF Special Emphasis Program Managers assist the EEO Officer by identifying possible EEO problems and developing solutions as well as helping achieve a diverse work environment at all levels and occupations. SEPM training is essential in assisting the SEP Managers in identifying how to recognize and resolve real and perceived system inequalities which adversely affect women, minorities and people with disabilities and how to identify



Far East District Equal Employment Opportunity Special Emphasis Program Managers and EEO Officer, Tamara Watts-Stephens(center) pose for a group picture. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

and correct underrepresentation and underutilization of women, minorities and people with disabilities.

Hispanic Heritage Month History in the United States

By Shawn Washington
FED Special Emphasis Program Manager

This year the Far East District celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15. As we celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, we celebrate the legacy and contributions of these great Americans. Hispanic Heritage Month was established in September 1968 when Congress authorized President Lyndon B. Johnson to proclaim National Hispanic Heritage Week. The observance was extended in 1988 to a month long celebration (Sept. 15 - Oct. 15). America celebrates the culture and traditions of U.S. residents who trace their roots to Spain, Mexico, and the Spanish-speaking nations of Central America, South America, and the Caribbean.

Sept. 15 was chosen as the starting point for the celebration because it is the anniversary of the independence of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on Sept. 16 and Sept. 18, respectively.

The Far East District will celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month this year on Oct. 14. The theme for Hispanic Heritage Month this year is Many Backgrounds, Many Stories...One American Spirit/Renewing the American Dream."

Benjamin Mahaffay

Korea Program

My Plan



I help the Corps Build Strong in Korea by...

- Fulfilling the job requirements of my current position, while seeking out opportunities for growth
- Building my leadership and communication skills for the success of the organization
- Working towards continuous training and professional certifications to increase my technical competence
- Building a strong network of good relationships for future success

My Face



I am a key person in the Corps by...

- Getting out and traveling the country to share my experiences with the new friends I meet
- Taking part in the Humphreys Team Building activities (FED Block Builders Softball, Basketball, Night out)
- Trying to play more golf (Email me, lets go!)
- Enjoying the experiences and learning the language

Cho Yong-ho Engineering

My Plan



I help the Corps Build Strong in Korea by...

- As a Design Manager for Area I and II, providing services for improvement in product quality
- Developing professional skills through online, class-room, and on-the-job training
- Seeking training opportunities and professional certifications to increase my technical competence

My Face



I am a key person in the Corps by...

- Fun things I do: Travelling around traditional hous-ings and old temples in Korea
- People and Family: Like to meet with friends
- Hobbies: Playing golf and outdoor activities

Chris Cormier Executive Office

My Plan



I help the Corps Build Strong in Korea by...

- Developing my professional skills through online, classroom, and on-the-job training
- Completing my Individual Development Plan (IDP) on time so my chain of command can budget training for the next fiscal year
- Contributing ideas to other agencies – IMCOM, Department of Energy, and others – to increase productivity and decrease costsfuture success

My Face



I am a key person in the Corps by...

- Visiting sites of cultural value
- Calling my friends and family every week, and making new friends every day
- Playing guitar, golf, and any other sports that cross my path
- Cooking for my beautiful girlfriend

Kim Ha-na Engineering



My Plan

I help the Corps Build Strong in Korea by...

- Performing good administrative support and clerical work
- Assisting Cost Engineering Branch engineers
- Maintaining office files and reference materials
- Being fast and accurate on my jobs



My Face



I am a key person in the Corps by...

- Going to Catholic Church every Tuesday and Sunday
- Keeping in touch with my family and friends in Daegu
- Going to the movies with my friends / Listening to music / Cooking for my friends



Show your colors!

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

As we gear up for an exciting NFL season, it is time for Far East District to “show your colors.” During football season, feel free to support your favorite NFL or collegiate football team by wearing your favorite jersey to work on Fridays. Friday is football jersey game day. If you are a sports fan

in general, but not necessarily a NFL or college football fan, wear a sports jersey of your choosing such as soccer, baseball, rugby, bowling, racing, and the list goes on.



(Clockwise) Col. Don Degidio, Commander of the Far East District is wearing a New England Patriots jersey while Brig. Gen. Stevens, Commander of the Pacific Ocean Division wears an Indianapolis Colts jersey. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

Staff Sgt. Edward Forbes, Logistics Management Office sports a Philadelphia Eagles jersey. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

Mike Feighny, Office of Counsel is supporting Texas A&M University, his alma mater. (Photo by Joe Campbell)



*Chu Kyong-chin
Information Management*



*Ferrall, Jon
Korea Program Relocation*



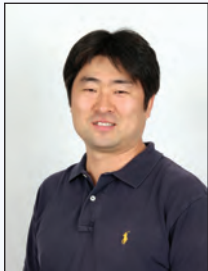
*Gaither, Charles
Korea Program Relocation*



*Lessard, Michael
Korea Program Relocation*



*Morisaki, Danny
Engineering*



*Mun Sang-pon
Engineering*



*Shin, Daniel
Contracting*



*Swofford, Troy
Construction*



*Yi Yong-un
Public Affairs*



*Brady, Earnetta
Construction*



*Cho Yong-sop
Engineering*



*Flynn, Donald
Safety*



*Ketchum, Tiernan
Resource Management*



*West, Marcus
Construction*

From the Commander

Thank you for doing GREAT things:



Chong Song-ho, Kunsan Resident Office (FED File Photo)



Yu Chang-il, Kunsan Resident Office (FED File Photo)



Steve Cho, Programs & Project Management Division (FED File Photo)



Kunsan Resident Office (FED File Photo)



Randall Midomaru, Northern Resident Office (FED File Photo)



Larry Shockley, Northern Resident Office (FED File Photo)



Adrian DeVillasee, Parcel II Resident Office (FED File Photo)



사령관 코너

Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr.

최고의 극동 공병단 팀과 모든 팀들에게

이번 9 월은 우리 공병단에 몇 가지 중요한 사건들이 일어난 달입니다. 태평양 사단 사령관 리차드 스티븐스 준장과 SES 진 반씨께서 공병단과 현재 진행되고 있는 건설현장들을 방문하셨습니다. 모든 팀원들이 스티븐스 준장과 진 반씨를 반갑게 환영해 주셔서 감사드리며, 태평양 지역 최고의 프로그램의 현재 진행 상황을 잘 보여주셔서 감사드립니다. 또한 우리 공병단의 “문화 교류 강화”를 위해 스티븐스 준장께서는 이번 방문 동안 “신택수”라는 한국이름을 수여받았습니다.

최근에 태평양 사령부, 주한미군과 그리고 우리 공병단이 함께 참여하여 마친 을지 자유 수호 훈련 역시 우리 공병단의 또 다른 중요한 사건이라 할 수 있습니다. 훈련에 참여한 군인들과 EEC/MEC 멤버들에게 감사의 말씀을 드립니다. 여러분의 노력 덕분에 매년 실시되는 훈련을 성공적으로 마칠 수 있었습니다. 올 해의 성공적인 훈련을 통해 우리 공병단이 더 성장할 수 있었던 것 같습니다. 공병단의 많은 분들이 참여하여 위기사항 지원 및 비상사태 작전 지원 수행을 도와주시기를 부탁드립니다. EEC/MEC 멤버가 되는데 관심이 있으신 분들은 Workforce Management Office 로 문의해 주시기 바랍니다.

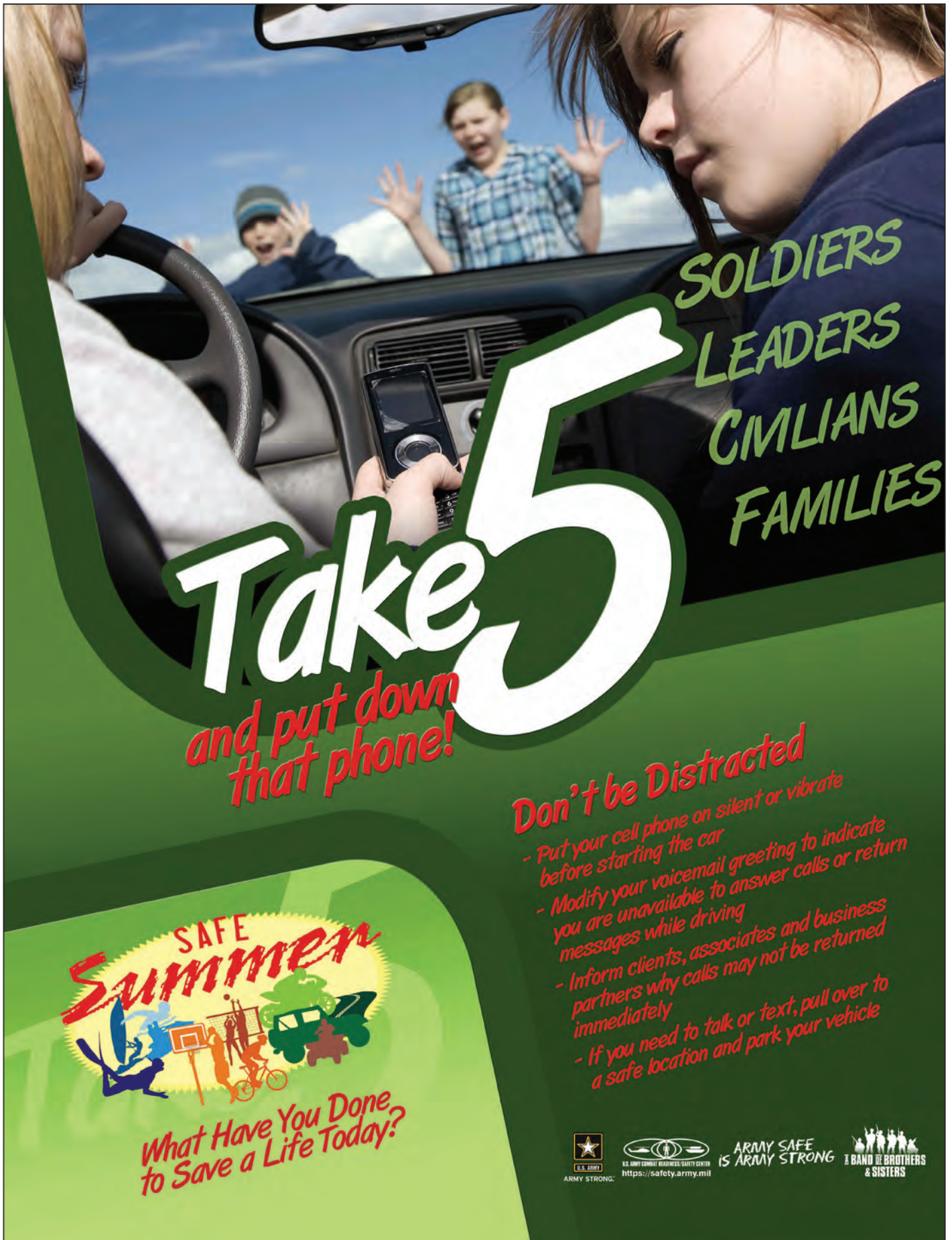
이번 달은 고객의 중요성과 “고객 관리 강화”에 대해 말씀드리고 싶습니다. 일상 업무를 수행할 때에도 항상 고객의 요구 사항이 가장 우선시 되어야 합니다. 운용 및 관리 프로젝트를 맡고 있든, 한반도 사단(KORCOM) 사령부 같은 크고 보여지는 프로젝트를 맡고 있든지 우리는 고객의 요구사항을 수행해야 하는 의무가 있다는 것을 잊지 마시기 바랍니다. 최근에 군산 기지에서 열린 기공식에서 노쓰 대장과 미 태평양 공군을 지원할 수 있어서 기뻐했습니다. 털먼 대장께서 참석한 캠프 케이시와 평택 용산 마군기차 이전 지역의 학교 건설 기공식의 지원 역시 매우 훌륭했습니다.

“사람이 우선인 조직”- 공병단 가족 그리고 동료 여러분, 즐거운 추석 보내셨기를 바랍니다. 가을이 다가오고 있습니다. 우리가 매일 보고 또 살고 있는 한국이라는 나라와 그 아름다운 문화를 만끽하시기 바랍니다.

우리의 최고의 동맹에게 - 같이 갑시다!

우리의 최고의 공병단에게 - 에세이온

한반도의 강한 건설을 수행하는 하나의 팀!



SOLDIERS
LEADERS
CIVILIANS
FAMILIES

Take 5

and put down
that phone!

Don't be Distracted

- Put your cell phone on silent or vibrate before starting the car
- Modify your voicemail greeting to indicate you are unavailable to answer calls or return messages while driving
- Inform clients, associates and business partners why calls may not be returned immediately
- If you need to talk or text, pull over to a safe location and park your vehicle



What Have You Done
to Save a Life Today?



ARMY STRONG



U.S. ARMY COMBAT READINESS SAFETY CENTER
<https://safety.army.mil>

ARMY SAFE
IS ARMY STRONG

