



# EAST GATE EDITION

US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
Far East District

DECEMBER 2011  
VOL. 20, NO. 6



*Happy Holidays!*

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

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## On the cover



*Members of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District's Contracting Division enjoy Holiday party, Dec. 16. (Photo by Patrick Bray)*



**Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr.**

# Commander's Corner

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

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

As the Holiday Season is upon us, we find ourselves reflecting on the past year and on those who have helped to shape our business and our profession in a most significant way. We value these relationships and look forward to working with everyone in the year to come. We wish everyone a very happy Holiday Season and a New Year filled with peace and prosperity. As well, during this Holiday Season, we look forward to reconnecting with Family and Friends. What a great time to show our appreciation to our Co-workers, Customers, Stakeholders, Family, and Friends.

As we look back upon the 2011 calendar year, we have seen great success. Our programs are strong, and for that we are thankful. The District workforce continues to excel providing great leadership and management for all our projects and programs on the Korean peninsula. At the Holiday Season, our thoughts turn gratefully to those who have made our progress possible. It is in this spirit that we say . . . Thank You and best wishes for the Holidays and a Happy New Year.

For the 2012 calendar year, we will continue to build and strengthen our great Republic of Korea-U.S. Alliance. We will capitalize on challenges and foster relationships to encourage trust and respect between our two Nations. In 2012, let us resolve to forge Allies, make Friends, and grow our Families.

To this calling, to all we share Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year!

To our great Alliance – Katchi Kapsida!

To our great Corps – Essayons!

One Team Building Strong® in Korea!





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# My return to Far East District and Korea

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**By Allen Chin**  
FED Engineering Division

**G**reetings to all my Far East District teammates! I am very happy to be returning to Korea and FED after a seven-year absence from my favorite place. Kay and I had looked forward with great anticipation to coming back to Korea. My first observation is that the Far East District still has some of the great people working here when I was last here. Even when I walked first through the FED Gate last month, the Guard recognized me and said “oregan manimnida” (long time no see). It appears that many of the Leaders that were here at the District when I was here before are back; proof that Korea is a great place to live and work.

I still remember the article I wrote for the East Gate Edition a long time ago comparing the District teammates to the Lord of the Rings Program Delivery Team. At that time, I said the Chief of Engineering Division was like Legolas the Elf; very nimble and dexterous. I am happy that I am the Chief of Engineering Division now because Legolas was my favorite character from Lord of the Rings. I am noticing a lot of new technical talent at the District which will serve us well as we maintain our technical competency. I also noticed a big emphasis on Strategic Communications from the Commander which is great because good STRATCOM is a vital necessity for any organization.

There are many more places to go for lunch near the District than I remember but one of my favorite places to eat is gone. When I went to the basement of the Migliore building, I found out that the Food Court was gone. I also noticed that the East Gate Club and the mini Post Exchange (PX) are gone as well. But Idewa Inn is still open with reduced hours. Overall the food in Korea is much better now with a greater variety of restaurants than before. However, I have to watch how much I eat because in my last two tours, I gained weight soon after arriving in Korea.

One improvement that I like is the transition from Battle Dress Uniform to Army Combat Uniform uniforms that the Emergency Essential Civilian and Mission Essential Civilian personnel wear during exercises. The ACU uniform feels more comfortable and less stiff than the BDUs. I like the new



boots better too as they are easier to lace up. I can't wait until we are mobilized for exercise in the spring and I can wear the uniform all week.

The biggest news in coming back to Korea is that the Design and Construction Program is much larger than before. For example, we have the Yongsan Relocation Program now and there are many new stakeholders. The workload is much greater than before and FED has a greater opportunity to make a difference in Korea.

I look forward to helping shape the path forward for the Far East District. After I left FED, I went to the Corps of Engineers Northwestern Division where I was Director of Regional Business and led the development of the Division's future workload and sustaining technical competency to meet the future workload with respect to type of work and volume of work. After leaving NWD, I became the manager of a Joint Venture of Architect-Engineer firms that provided Program and Design Management Support to a large Military Buildup Program. As a Senior Manager in the private sector, I had to develop the best ways of staffing up to meet large workloads while maintaining and developing staff Technical Competency. I will utilize and share the Best Practices gained in these recent assignments to help FED face the future way forward.

I feel very fortunate indeed to be back in the Far East District and Korea.



## SAFETY TIPS FOR THE NEW YEAR

By FED Safety Office

**T**his year holiday celebrations and observances extend well into January 2012.

The year starts with a three day weekend as Monday, Jan. 2 is observed as the New Year's Day holiday. Dr. Martin Luther King Day falls on Monday, Jan. 16 creating another three day weekend for many and this year, Korea's favorite holiday Seollal (or Lunar New Year) is celebrated on Monday, Jan. 23.

Korean families shop and prepare the week before Seollal making this time one of the busiest for department stores and markets. Many people make a long drive to and from the provinces to be with family the day before Lunar New Year (the day before and after are also designated as national holidays due to lengthy travel times). Buses and trains are crowded and traffic is very heavy.

With this busy New Year and holiday time in mind here are a few things to consider:

- Expect long delays if you are on the road Jan. 21-24. Highways are congested with hundreds of thousands of cars

and travel times are greatly increased. For instance, last year on the second day of Seollal, it took eight hours to travel to Seoul from Busan (usually a less than five-hour journey) and five hours to travel from Daejeon to Seoul (normally about a two-hour trip).

- Travelers during Seollal may be sensitive and on edge due to the stressful driving conditions and so it is important to anticipate this and control one's temper and avoid road rage.

- Drinking and driving are never the right answer.

- Perform vehicle maintenance checks well before the holidays. Consider buying some basic safety supplies if needed. Jumper cables, windshield cleaning supplies, flashlight, first aid kit, and other car related emergency supplies. Be prepared for changing weather conditions such as snow and freezing temperatures. Charge your cell phone before the trip and consider buying a cell phone charger for your vehicle.

## Far East District closes successful CFC season

By Patrick Bray  
FED Public Affairs

**T**he U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District raised over \$20,000 for the 2011 Combined Federal Campaign-Overseas, Pacific.

"I thank those who helped make a world of difference during this year's CFC," said Bok Yoon, Resource Management Analyst and Coordinator for FED's CFC.

The CFC is an annual opportunity for federal employees to support their favorite charities through a voluntary program that is employee focused and cost efficient. The campaign runs from October through December.

"This is one opportunity for each employee to make a meaningful contribution and difference in the lives of people in our community and throughout the world," said Col. Don Degidio, FED Commander.

This year also marks the 50th anniversary of the Combined Federal Campaign. Established in 1961 and approved by the Office of Personnel Management, it has been the only authorized solicitation of Federal employees in their workplaces on behalf of approved charitable organizations.



# Far East District completes new administration building at Busan

**By Patrick Bray**  
FED Public Affairs

**T**he U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District constructed a new administration building at the Busan Storage Center which opened Dec. 7.

The Busan Storage Center's primary mission is sustainment operations in support of U.S. Forces Korea. Almost all supplies for USFK have transited through there. It also has several other missions including a significant role in non-combatant evacuation operations and providing comfort kits to Korean Augmentees to the U.S. Army (KATUSAs).

Representatives from U.S. Army Garrison Daegu and the 19th Expeditionary Sustainment Command held a ribbon cutting ceremony for the administration building. John Batchelor, Deputy Commander of the Busan Storage Center, gave a speech during the ceremony.

"I'd like to thank the staff at FED for your efforts for the entire process from beginning to end," said Batchelor.

*The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District constructed a new administration building at the Busan Storage Center which opened Dec. 7. The Busan Storage Center's primary mission is sustainment operations in support of U.S. Forces Korea. (Photo by Patrick Bray)*

Moon Jae-soo, Executive Director of Shin Woo Construction Co., talked about the great partnership between the contractor, user, and FED.

"We at Shin Woo Construction are very proud to complete this project and hand it over to the user in a timely manner," said Moon. "We were able to overcome some of the difficulties we faced with assistance from everyone attending here today."

One challenge that FED faced but was able to overcome was a loss of power during the last few months of construction. In August the substation at the Busan Storage Center was struck by lightning twice. As a result, 11 emergency generators have been running day in and out to power the installation.





## Ministry of National Defense recognizes Tim Masters

**By Patrick Bray**  
FED Public Affairs

**T**he Korea Ministry of National Defense-Defense Installation Agency recognized Tim Masters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District Quality Assurance Representative, for his most recent work on the new dining facility at Camp Carroll.

Col. Han Bong-wan, Chief of U.S. Forces Korea Construction Management Team, presented the award Dec. 6 on behalf of Maj. Gen. Park Kye-su, director of MND-DIA.

“There are three types of challenging projects: schools, hospitals, and dining facilities,” said Han. “In my opinion, dining facilities are the toughest—they directly support the welfare of the soldier daily.”

The dining facility was completed in October and provided to the U.S. Army by the Republic of Korea. The award cited Masters’ contributions to the improvement of the quality of the project through his constant oversight. His work was also recognized for strengthening the ROK-U.S. Alliance.

“I am honored to receive this award. I’ve been here 11 years and I believe that the partnership that we have between MND and FED is strong today and will only grown stronger,” said Masters.

Masters takes a lot of pride in all of his projects and looks forward to the day that the customer will use it for the first time.

“It’s a great feeling when you see the user enter that new facility and they’re like, ‘Wow,’” said Masters.

Han, who is also a civil engineer, agrees with Masters that a completed project will always be judged by its quality. He commended Masters for his unwavering dedication to quality assurance.

“He is a strict and thorough QAR,” said Han. “The dining facility on Camp Carroll was a success because of Tim Masters.”



*Tim Masters (left), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District Quality Assurance Representative, talks with Col. Han Bong-wan (second from left), Chief of U.S. Forces Korea Construction Management Team, Ministry of National Defense-Defense Installation Agency. Han presented Masters with an award from Maj. Gen. Park Kye-su, director of MND-DIA, Dec. 6 for his most recent work on the new dining facility at Camp Carroll. (Photo by Patrick Bray)*



# U.S. Servicemembers ski at Olympic venue

**By Patrick Bray**  
FED Public Affairs

**T**he Millennium Club, Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and Samsung Corp. hosted a three-day tour to Pyeongchang, Yeoju, and Yongin cities Dec. 13-15.

The tour gave Servicemembers the opportunity to ski at Phoenix Park Resort in Pyeongchang Dec. 14. The resort will also be a part of the venue for the 2018 Pyeongchang Winter Olympics.

“Phoenix Park was breathing taking with its beautiful mountainous ridges populated with pine trees. The snow was fluffy and very easy on the skis,” said Ming Yang Tan, Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District.

Tan also attended with his wife Gabriella which was her first attempt at skiing.

“Skiing for the first time ever, my wife was a bit challenged in learning the basics, but the instructor’s patience

and enthusiasm helped her understand the basics,” said Tan.

For those who did not want to ski, Phoenix Park also has many other recreation activities including an indoor, heated water park. Kevin Jung, a liaison officer with the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command, and his wife opted for the water park.

“The trip was a great experience for my wife and me and we enjoyed it so much,” said Jung.

The tour also took Servicemembers to the Yeoju Ceramic Museum, the Yong-in Folk Village, and Samsung’s “d’light” Digital Playground in Seoul.

“The cultural portion was well-organized and the many activities such as drumming, archery, martial art moving and dancing reminded us of the enjoyment of the spiritual and organic elements of life to appreciate,” said Tan.



*Samsung Corp. hosted a three-day tour to Pyeongchang which gave U.S. Servicemembers the opportunity to ski at Phoenix Park Resort Dec. 14. (Photo by Patrick Bray)*



Members of U.S. Forces Korea strap on their snowboards before heading down the course at Phoenix Park in Pyeongchang. The Millennium Club, Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and Samsung Corp. hosted a three-day tour to Pyeongchang, Yeoju, and Yongin cities Dec. 13-15. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Members of U.S. Forces Korea look around the Samsung "d'light" Digital Playground in Seoul Dec. 15. Samsung Corp. hosted a three-day tour to Pyeongchang, Yeoju, and Yongin cities Dec. 13-15. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

## Friendship Night 2011

**By Patrick Bray**  
FED Public Affairs

The Samsung Corp. hosted Friendship Night 2011 for Outstanding U.S. Forces Korea Servicemembers at the Shilla Hotel in Seoul Dec. 15. The banquet dinner followed a three-day ski and cultural tour also hosted by Samsung.

"The Servicemembers are the true diplomats of the

Republic of Korea-U.S. Alliance," said Lee Yoon-woo, Executive Advisor of Samsung Corp.

The evening consisted of dinner, a Taekwondo performance, and live entertainment by opera singer Sophia Kim and jazz musician Danny Jung.



Lee Yoon-woo, Executive Advisor of Samsung Corp. was the host of Friendship Night 2011 for Outstanding U.S. Forces Korea Servicemembers at the Shilla Hotel in Seoul Dec. 15. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Opera singer Sophia Kim and jazz musician Danny Jung perform holiday music during Friendship Night 2011 for Outstanding U.S. Forces Korea Servicemembers at the Shilla Hotel in Seoul Dec. 15. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



# ***A Look back at 2011***

2011 was a successful year for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District and also provided an opportunity to continue building strong in Korea. Here is a look back at a few of the many events and accomplishments of the year. Read more about FED construction and highlights from each division in the 2011 issue of Year in Review.

Jan. 18-20

The Korea Program Relocation Office hosted three engineers from the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas. Stationed in Guam and going through a relocation program of their own, the U.S. Navy personnel came to Korea to learn about KPRO and what the Far East District is doing to support transformation in Korea. The Guam and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Military Relocation Project, more commonly referred to as Guam Buildup, has many similarities to the expansion of U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys by FED. Guam Buildup will relocate some U.S. Marines and their family members from Okinawa. The Marines would live at U.S. Naval Base Guam which would require some significant infrastructure upgrades.

(FED File Photo)





Jan. 4  
Leaders from the 2nd Infantry Division and the Far East District met at Rodriguez Live Fire Complex to discuss 2ID's intent to turn the range into the best live fire complex in the world. FED then began a plan to modify the current configuration of the firing range to accommodate both defensive and offensive battle positions. (FED File Photo)



Feb. 15-17  
The annual Peninsula Engineer Conference hosted by the Society of American Military Engineers was held at the Hilton Hotel in Seoul. Members from the Far East District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers who are also members of SAME contributed to the preparations for the conference. FED helped to provide speakers and staff to prepare, translate and present the training sessions, a U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys tour, the U.S.-Republic of Korea cake cutting ceremony, security, transportation, legal review, protocol, and public affairs coverage. (FED File Photo)



Feb. 7  
The Korea Ministry of National Defense began its 2011 exchange training with Far East District. 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. (FED File Photo)



March 1-11  
The Far East District participates in Exercise Key Resolve. (FED File Photos)

Continued on the next page



# A Look back at 2011

Continued from the previous page

March 11

A major earthquake followed by Tsunami hits Northern Japan. U.S. Forces began an assistance mission known as Operation Tomodachi. The Far East District sends two members to assist the Japan Engineer District in rescue and recovery efforts. (DoD Photo)



April

The 2nd Infantry Division reopens Rodriguez Live Fire Complex with "shoot and move" capabilities. In 2011, 2ID acquired new M1A2 Abrams Tanks and M2A2 Bradley Fighting Vehicles and needed an advanced range so that crews could master the vehicles' capabilities. (FED File Photo)







**June 17**  
*FED celebrates 54th Organizational Day, a celebration of the establishment of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the Republic of Korea. Organizational Day allowed FED to put work aside for one day to have fun and socialize with other District employees, family members, and invited guests. (FED File Photo)*



**July 8**  
*Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr. assumed command of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District during a Change of Command Ceremony on U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan. Degidio is now the 32nd FED Commander and takes responsibility of a diverse workforce of nearly 500 employees. (FED File Photo)*

**July**  
*The newly redesigned East Gate Edition makes its debut. (FED File Graphic)*

Continued on the next page



# A Look back at 2011

Continued from the previous page



Aug. 3

Serious flooding in the Dongducheon area causes damage to Camp Casey. A team of engineers from the Far East District Geotechnical and Environmental Engineering Branch conducted an initial recon of landslide and flood-related damage. (FED File Photo)



Sept. 7-9

Brig. Gen. Richard Stevens visits the Far East District. His trip took him to Camp Casey, U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys, Osan Air Base, and the FED Compound. He was also conferred with a Korean name Sept. 9 by the ROK-U.S. Alliance Friendship Association. (FED File Photo)



Sept. 30

Fiscal Year 2011 officially ends. (FED File Photo)



Sept. 2

Yongsan Relocation Program construction goes vertical with a momentous groundbreaking ceremony at USAG Humphreys. The Far East District will construct a new elementary and high school on Parcel K of the newly expanded land which in the future will be a part of the downtown area of the garrison. (FED File Photo)



November

Holiday Season begins with Thanksgiving and decorations going up around the District. (FED File Photo)

*Here's to an exciting and successful 2012.*





# Holiday Celebration!



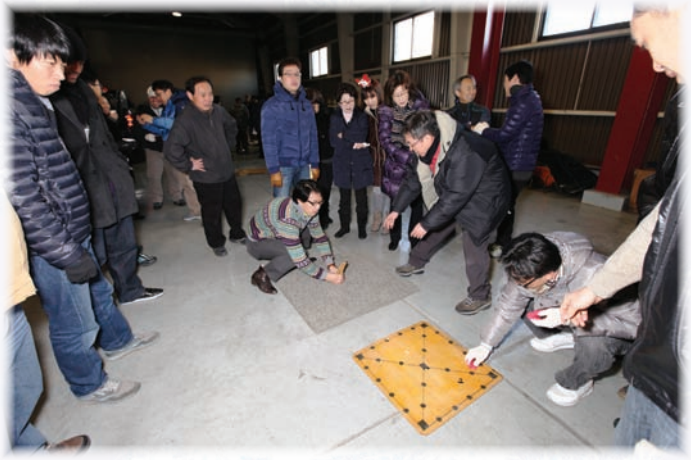
Employees of the Information Management Office pose for a group picture with Col. Don E. Degidio, Jr.



Lt. Col. Gregory Baisch enjoys Holiday food with his wife.



Bruce Park (Right), Information Management Office wears reindeer antlers with employees from Resource Management.



Employees of the Geotechnical and Environmental Engineering Branch, Engineering Division play a traditional Korean game at the Drill Rig Shelter.



Yu Chi-nam, Executive Office enjoys Holiday food.



Employees of the Geotechnical and Environmental Engineering Branch, Engineering Division play Jeopardy and give out gifts to winners.





*Employees of the Resource Management Office enjoy Holiday food.*



*Employees of the Logistics Management Office enjoy Holiday food.*



*Employees of the Engineering Division enjoy Holiday food.*



*Employees of the Engineering Division pose for a picture. (FED File Photos)*

## Show your colors!



*Maj. John Burescia, Central Resident Office is supporting Texas A&M during his farewell on Dec. 9. (Photo by Patrick Bray)*



*Lt. Col. John Rhodes (left), Deputy Commander of the Far East District, wears his New England Patriots jersey while he laughs with Dallas Cowboys fan Tracy George, FED Executive Assistant. (Photo by Patrick Bray)*



# UNION SPOT LIGHT

## Master Craftsman Motor Vehicles Maintenance

My name is Yim Yong-sik and I have been working in the Logistics Management Office as a motor vehicle maintenance mechanic since March 2000. I would like to introduce you to the Master Craftsman Vehicle Maintenance certification program that I have just completed in November.

Master Craftsman Vehicle Maintenance which is certified to top engineers is given to those who pass one of the National Qualification Test conducted by Human Resource Development Service of the Republic of Korea. To receive the certification, test takers should pass two parts of the examinations. First part is a multiple choice questions test and the next part is a test requiring short answers, essay, and practical skills. The scores of the two parts will be added to determine pass or fail. Only eight to 11 percent of test takers yearly pass the examination. The examination is difficult and requires knowledge in not only automotive engineering and maintenance, but also in areas that technicians normally do not deal with such as automotive steel stamping and having supervisory knowledge.

I realized my need for education when I had to work on automobiles built from new technology. To meet my needs, I enrolled in night classes at Seoul National University of Science and Technology. Through the classes, I could study automotive engineering in depth and get to know various people in the automotive business. It was during the class that I decided to obtain the certificate. One of my colleagues was preparing for the examination which had me think that I also wanted to get one as well.

Because of my interest in obtaining a certificate, I found out that Seoul Sanggye Vocational Training Institute and Seoul city's Employment Policy Department together was opening a three-month certificate program as a skill enhancing program for workers. The program helped me study for the certificate. Because of this program, I came across different areas in automotive engineering such as automotive steel stamping and HI-DS, a waveform equipment for analysis. This area of study was hard for me and also a challenge. There were times where I was physically exhausted, and I neglected my family by giving out an excuse that I need time to prepare for the examination.

My wife first congratulated me on the day of the announcement that I passed the examination. When I heard her congratulate me all of the hardships that I once felt faded from memory and was a moment filled with joy.

Automotive technology is continually improving. One truth I found out through all of this was that if I do not continually study and make efforts, I will be lagging from the developing technology.

There are many training programs on maintenance techniques and new technology provided outside of work. If I may find time again this year, I am planning on participating in this type of training program to greater enhance my skills.

## 자동차정비 기능장

저는 2000년 3월 미육군 극동공병단 LMO의 TMP에 입사하여 지금까지 자동차정비 업무를 하고있는 **임용식 (Yim Yong-sik)** 입니다. 제가 지난 11월에 취득한 자동차정비 기능장에 대해 소개하고자 합니다.

자동차정비 기능장이란 산업인력관리공단에서 주관하는 자격시험 중 기능인들에게는 최고 권위의 자격증으로 시험방법은 1차 객관식, 2차 주관식서술형과 작업형시험의 결과를 최종 합산하여 합격자를 선발하는 시험으로 1년에 최종합격자가 평균 8~11% 내외입니다. 자동차공학이나 일반정비는 물론 평소에 잘 접할 수 없던 판금도장이나 경영관리자로서 필요한 지식 등 시험의 내용과 범위가 넓은 꽤 까다로운 자격증입니다.

제가 근무를 하면서 새로운 기술이 적용된 차량을 정비하다보면 과거에 알고 있던 나의 지식이 늘 부족하다는 것을 느끼게 되었습니다. 이를 극복하기 위해 2003년에 서울산업대학교 야간 과정에 편입하여 자동차공학에 대해 좀 더 깊게 공부할 수 있는 시간을 가졌고 자동차계통의 여러 부류의 사람들과 교제하게 되는 소중한 시간을 보냈습니다. 재학 중에 한 친구가 자동차정비 기능장이라는 자격증을 취득하게 된 것을 보고 나도 해 봐야겠다는 생각이 들었습니다.

평소에 기능장 자격증에 관심을 가지고 있던 중 서울시의 일자리정책과에서 서울시립상계직업전문학교와 연계하여 재직자능력향상과정의 일환으로 자동차정비 기능장 과정이 3개월 수료과정으로 개설되는 내용을 알게 되었고, 여기에 지원하면서 기능장 자격 취득을 위한 공부를 하게 되었습니다. 공부를 하면서 판금도장이나 HI-DS라는 파형 장비를 이용한 정밀진단 분야의 새로운 분야를 접하게 되었고, 이는 저에게 어려운 분야이기도 했으며 새로운 도전이기도 했습니다. 체력적으로 힘든 시기도 있었고, 가족들에게도 시험을 준비한다는 핑계로 소홀히 대했던 것이 미안했습니다.

합격자 발표가 있던 날, 아내가 먼저 합격 소식을 전해주며 축하한다고 했을 때는 정말 그간의 마음 고생이 눈녹듯 사라지며, 환한 기쁨의 순간이었습니다.

현재 자동차기술은 끊임없이 발전하고 있습니다. 항상 공부하고 노력하지 않으면 새로운 기술들을 따라갈 수 없다는 것이 이번 자격증 취득과정에서 깨달은 정말 평범한 진리였습니다.

부대 밖에서는 정비기술이나 신기술에 대한 많은 교육과정이 있습니다. 여건이 주어진다면, 이러한 교육과정에 많이 참여하는 것이 무엇보다 실력을 스스로 높이는 데 반드시 필요하다고 생각되어 새해에도 많은 교육과정에 참여해야겠다고 다짐해 봅니다.



## EEO CORNER

### SEASONS GREETINGS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

**U**. S. Army Corps of Engineers is a large and diverse organization, and each individual or family celebrates the holiday seasons differently. In order to understand, honor, and respect others' traditions and cultural beliefs, here are a few holidays that are celebrated around the world.

For the United States, Christmas is a national holiday that is celebrated on the 25th of December by many of its citizens. Americans normally celebrate Christmas with family and loved ones. Some go door to door singing Christmas carols such as Jingle Bells or Rudolph the Red-Nose Reindeer. On Christmas morning, adults and children alike wake up anxiously to open and exchange gifts. It is a season of caring, family and friends, holiday parties, as well as, giving and sharing. Many families travel back home for a traditional Christmas dinner of roast turkey, ham, vegetables, cakes and pies, and eggnog.

Christmas is also a national holiday in South Korea. A traditional Christmas dinner for Koreans is a hot bowl of rice cake soup, kimchi, tangerines and cookies. Gifts are exchanged and houses are decorated with lanterns, lights, and colorful paper arts as well as a Christmas tree.

In the Philippines, Christmas celebrations may have evolved from old tribal customs mixed with other influences. Performances are acted out during their celebrations. They also have a grand family dinner called Noche Buena.

In Japan, turkey is served on Christmas day and gifts are exchanged. There is a monk known as Hoteiosho who acts like Santa Claus. Children believe he has eyes on the back of his head, so they try to behave when he is nearby.

In Bethlehem, they have a dramatic annual procession with churchmen and government officials led by galloping horsemen and police mounted on Arabian horses.

Christmas in Nicaragua officially begins on December 6, but activities begin on December 16. Every evening until Christmas Eve, families have refreshments and sing carols. Christmas Day celebrations include fun, food, fireworks, and dancing.

Russia's Christmas isn't until January 7th. Russians will have a twelve course supper on Christmas Eve. To encourage horses to grow in the coming year, hay is spread on the floors and tables, and people make clucking noises to encourage their hens to lay eggs. On Christmas Day,

hymns and carols are sung as well as a Christmas dinner filled with a variety of different meats.

Just like Russia, Ethiopia celebrates their Christmas, known as Ganna, on January 7th. Food served at Christmas usually includes injera, a sourdough pancake like bread and doro wat, a spicy stew.

In Germany, traditional Christmas toys are little dolls of fruit. Some Germans bake gingerbread houses and cookies and decorate their Christmas trees with Christbaumgeback, a white dough that can be molded into shapes and baked.

Kwanzaa is a non-religious African American holiday that celebrates family, community, and culture. It is celebrated from December 26 to January 1. Kwanzaa is derived from the Swahili phrase "matunda ya kwanza" which means "first fruits. The Kwanza setting is centered around the kinara which represents our ancestry.

For the Jewish community, Hanukkah is celebrated for eight days. It is celebrated by the lighting of candles on each night of the holiday.

Those are just a few ways some people around the world celebrate the holiday season.

Happy Holidays from the Equal Employment Opportunity Office!



(Courtesy Photo)



# Kang Nae-wha

## Resource Management



### *My Plan*

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

- Managing the Operating Budget process by providing advice, assistance, and guidance while leading the Budget and Manpower Branches
- Providing assistance and guidance on all budgetary and technical leadership
- Being proactive and professional
- Coordinating Team Building activities
- Providing professional knowledge for the District



### *My Face*

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

- Dedicating our family life to God for His glory
- Loving the office family, my husband, and our wonderful 19-year old son, Kyongsu
- Aiming at the slogan in our life, "Excellence is our habit Heaven helps those who help themselves"
- Hoping to grow our family with FED



# Allen Chin Engineering

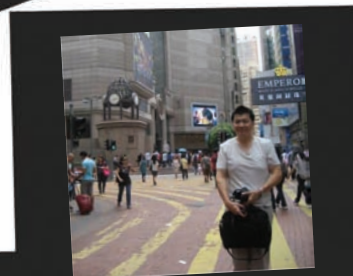
## *My Plan*



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

- Ensuring maintenance of technical competency
- Producing quality and sustainable technical products
- Responding to customer and stakeholder requirements
- Taking care of people in the District
- Practicing Strategic Communications

## *My Face*



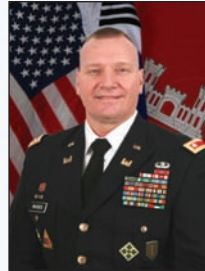
I am a key person in the Corps by...

- Balancing life with family and work
- Experience the great Korean culture and history
- Delight in running, working out and snorkeling (if possible)
- Travelling and seeing other cultures





*Pak Chan-sik  
Engineering*



*Lt. Col. John Rhodes  
Deputy Commander*



*Bammel, Christopher  
Construction*



*Buchanan, David  
Korea Program Relocation*



*Chong, Mary  
Contracting*



*Kall, Thomas  
Construction*



*Kim, KD  
Programs & Project  
Management*



*Lee, Peter  
Information Management*





Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr.

## 사령관 코너

최고의 극동 공병단 팀과 모든 팀들에게

새해 복 많이 받으세요!

연말연시가 가까워졌습니다. 올 한해를 뒤돌아보면 우리 공병단의 사업과 전문성을 형성하는데 크게 도움을 주신 분들을 생각하게 됩니다. 공병단은 도움을 주신 분들과의 관계를 중요하게 생각하며 다가오는 해에도 함께 일할 것을 기대하고 있습니다. 여러분 모두 즐거운 연말연시를 보내시고 평화와 풍요로움이 가득한 새해를 맞이하시기 바랍니다. 이번 연말연시에는 가족, 친구들과 많은 시간을 함께 보내시기 바랍니다. 연말연시는 직장 동료, 고객, 관계자들, 가족, 그리고 친구들에게 고마움을 표현할 수 있는 좋은 때입니다.

2011 년을 돌이켜 보면 우리 공병단은 성공적인 한해를 보냈습니다. 공병단의 훌륭한 프로그램 수행에 감사합니다. 공병단은 한반도에 시행 중인 모든 프로젝트와 프로그램에 뛰어난 리더십과 관리능력을 발휘하며 지속적으로 성장하고 있습니다. 이번 연말연시에는 이런 성장을 가능케 한 분들에게 감사를 드리고 싶습니다. 연말연시를 맞아 여러분께 진심으로 감사드리며 행복을 기원합니다. 새해 복 많이 받으십시오.

2012 년에도 한미동맹은 지속되고 강화될 것입니다. 양국 간의 신뢰와 존중을 복돋기 위해 다가오는 도전을 기회로 삼고 관계를 더욱 돈독히 할 것입니다. 2012 년에는 더욱 강한 동맹, 친구관계를 쌓아가고, 하나의 가족으로 나아가도록 다짐합니다.

우리의 최고의 동맹에게 - 같이 갑시다!  
우리의 최고의 공병단에게 - 에세이온!  
한반도에 강한 건설을 수행하는 하나의 팀!





SOLDIERS LEADERS CIVILIANS FAMILIES



# Take 5

Safe and Sober Celebrating

## For Hosts

- Collect car keys from guests as they arrive, and return them to only those guests who are not impaired
- Offer alcohol-free beverages and plenty of food so guests have alternatives to alcohol
- Ensure guests leave sober or with a sober designated driver, or call a cab for guests without a ride
- Keep alcoholic beverages off limits to all guests under the age of 21

## For Guests

- Make a plan; designate a nondrinking buddy and give them the keys
- Prearrange a taxi service or have the numbers for local cab companies programmed into your cellphone
- Rotate designated driver responsibilities and, if no one else volunteers, speak up and offer to stay sober



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