



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Far East District

EAST GATE EDITION



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THE PENINSULA ENGINEER CONFERENCE

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

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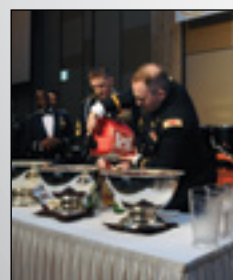
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Check out the Far East District
web site at

www.pof.usace.army.mil

On the cover



Capt. Matthew Larocco (right), Charlie Co. Commander, 1st Brigade Special Troops Battalion, pours Red Bull into the grog bowl during the 2012 Peninsula Engineer Conference Dining Out April 5. Master Sgt. Aaron Moore, also of 1st BSTB, looks on.



Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr.

Commander's Corner

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

April has been an incredibly busy month that began with the Peninsula Engineers Conference hosted by the Society of Military Engineers (S.A.M.E). The District had an exciting opportunity to show the critical role that you all play toward transformation here on the peninsula. To all of you who were a part of the conference and all of our valued employees, we thank you for what you do each and every day; your contributions resulted in an excellent conference and our continued success as a great district.

Shortly after the conference, I attended ENFORCE, the annual Engineer regimental conference at Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo. This year's theme, "ENGINEERING FOR THE WARS WE FIGHT" is especially timely as a major part of our mission is contingency operations. As the U.S. Army continues with the transformation, the Engineer Regiment will see its numbers increase and mission capabilities greatly enhanced.

In keeping with that theme, the District is preparing for participation in the U.S. Forces Korea Courageous Channel Noncombatant Evacuation Operation (NEO). Throughout this month and on into May, NEO Wardens and Stewards will continue to assist and inspect NEO packets ensuring readiness for all noncombatants. I expect maximum participation from all available personnel during this exercise.

Working with our U.S. Air Force partners we began construction on the 36th Fighter Squadron's Operations and Aircraft Maintenance Unit Facility. The state-of-the-art facility will allow the squadron to enhance its peacekeeping mission here in Korea.

As May and June approach, we turn our focus to "USACE and the District". During this timeframe, both the Commanding General U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the Senior Enlisted Advisor will retire; we wish them well and sincere thanks for their leadership. The District is developing its business plan that focuses on strategic management guidance. Next month's issue will highlight this plan and the role we all have.

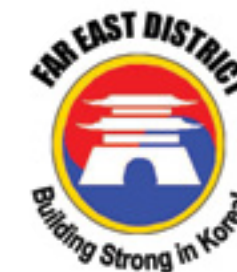
This month we've included a special section in the magazine devoted to those employees who will be departing soon. I want to extend my sincere personal and humble thanks for your steadfast loyalty and dedication to the District, the US Army, and both the Republic of Korea and United States of America. We could not have completed our mission without you. We salute you!

Thanks for all you do each and every day!

To our great Alliance – Katchi Kapsida!

To our great Corps – Essayons!

One Team Building Strong® in Korea!



"Like" us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/USACE.FED.Korea



Read more Commander's Information on Page 30-31

Quality Management System: Friend or Foe?

By Kevin Shanahan
FED Business Process Manager



The Quality Management System (QMS) is the framework the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers implemented as a means for each division and district to achieve the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 9000 Certification. ISO 9000 is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies recognizing high levels of organizational achievement obtained by both commercial and government entities throughout the world. The Far East District has been ISO certified for over ten years. QMS not only assists with achieving a level of corporate excellence, but provides our organization a means to produce high quality product and services for our customers. FED is ISO certified by an independent third party auditor once every three years and is also inspected on an annual basis via surveillance audits as a follow up inspection to confirm continual adherence to these international recognized standards.

QMS is a set of principles, practices, and procedures for monitoring and controlling the characteristic of products and services that concern customers. Perhaps the best way to understand QMS and embrace its philosophy is to think about it this way. We come to work as employees and are paid to either produce a product or service in support of our mission requirements. A product is something physical or concrete like a project design, a safety report, a contract package, or the monthly East Gate Edition. Examples of services produced within the District are information technology support, consultation services both internal and external to FED and information exchanges to our customers as related to our products. Each end result product or service produced is the result of a series of systematic steps or transactions which when put together form a process. The process thought about another way, is nothing more than what you did to achieve the end results. Our goal is to produce a quality product of service no matter what specialty or functional position we hold within the district. Quality is defined as the degree to which a set of inherent characteristics fulfills the requirements. Or perhaps said in a more understandable manner, quality is

defined by the customer and simply providing the customer what he or she needs to meet expectations. Customers are both internal and external to FED. QMS provides the format and context to provide consistent high quality products and services to our customers by establishing and documenting our processes.

Our FED SharePoint QMS site is the District's official repository for all QMS documents and associated information. At this site, the QMS index lists the entire FED documented product and service processes by proponent. Every district organizational area is represented as owning one or more QMS processes. You are encouraged to go to the site and look for those QMS documents that affect your roles both within and responsibilities to our organization. Organizational supervisors are the functional owners of respective processes and can answer your questions and concerns. You will note the QMS documents describe the processes, as well as provide definitions, roles and responsibilities and procedures associated with those processes. In addition, the documents often contain attachments, flowcharts and records. Records are nothing more than proof or evidence that you are in fact complying with the procedures established within the QMS document.

Read more on page 28



*Building **Safety** Strong* **ARMY SAFE IS ARMY STRONG**



“STEPPIN’ OUT SAFETY” TIPS FOR PEDESTRIANS AND JOGGERS

Be safe and be seen: make yourself visible to drivers

- Wear bright/light colored clothing and reflective materials.
- Carry a flashlight when walking at night.
- **Keep to a well-lit area** where others walk in the day and evenings. Lots of people are walking and jogging these days so most of the time there will be others if it is a good place to walk. Cross in a well-lit area at night.
- Stand clear of buses, hedges, parked cars and other obstacles before crossing so drivers can see you.

Be smart and alert: avoid dangerous behaviors

- Always walk on the sidewalk; if there is no sidewalk, walk facing traffic.
- Stay sober; walking while impaired increases your chance of being struck.
- Don't assume vehicles will stop; make eye contact with drivers; don't just look at the vehicle. If a driver is on a cell phone, they may not be paying enough attention to drive safely.
- Don't rely solely on pedestrian signals; look before you cross the road.
- Be alert to engine noise or backup lights on cars when in parking lots and near on-street parking spaces.
- **Stay away from isolated areas**, if you must use these areas, **never go alone**, if you have to walk alone stay close to other people and bring a cell phone. Press 911 but do not send unless needed. If you have it on the ready all you have to do is press send and give your whereabouts for help. **Never walk alone with headphones on**, this is an invitation to an attacker.
- **Walk with your head up and with purpose**, know where you are going and project a no-nonsense image to deter attackers.
- **Have your door keys ready**; carry them in your pockets.
- **Never carry large amounts of money.**
- **NEVER hitchhike.** Accept rides only from persons you trust.

Be careful at crossings: look before you step

- Cross streets at marked crosswalks or intersections, if possible.
- Obey traffic signals such as WALK/DON'T WALK signs.
- Look left, right, and left again before crossing a street.
- Watch for turning vehicles; make sure the driver sees you and will stop for you.
- Look across ALL lanes you must cross and visually clear each lane before proceeding. Just because one motorist stops, do not presume drivers in other lanes can see you and will stop for you.

Building Safety Strong in Korea

THE PENINSULA ENGINEER CONFERENCE

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

The 2012 Peninsula Engineer Conference (PEC), hosted by the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME), was held April 3-5 at the Seoul Millennium Hilton hotel.

SAME provides networking and continuing education opportunities for military engineers spanning all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces—Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard and also Department of Defense Civilian engineers. One of the ways it does so is the PEC. The theme for this year's conference was engineer innovations enabling Korea Transformation.

Besides networking and continuing education, this year an additional objective was added to SAME's mission statement: developing future engineers through outreach and mentoring.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District not only is the architect of Korea Transformation but has already been engaged in SAME's new objective. District leaders have begun recruiting efforts aimed at bringing both experienced and fresh engineers into the District.

"We want you. We are hiring," said Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr., Commander of FED. "This is the biggest program right now in the United States Army."

During his presentation, Degidio introduced SAME members to the expanding opportunities available through the Korea Relocation Program.

Degidio also discussed the role FED plays in both armistice and contingency on the Korean Peninsula. Besides Afghanistan, FED is the only forward deployed district and an integral part of the ROK-U.S. Alliance with more than 250 local nationals employed by FED.

FED was also a major player in preparations for the conference. The conference consisted of briefings and break-out sessions, all for the purpose of gaining a full understanding of engineering opportunities and capabilities in this theater of operations where FED is the Department of Defense design and construction agent.

Continued on the next page



Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr., Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District, briefs attendees of the Society of American Military Engineers Peninsula Engineer Conference about the District April 4 at the Seoul Milenium Hilton. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Maj. Gen. Edward C. Cardon, Commander of the 2nd Infantry Division, was the keynote speaker during the Society of American Military Engineers Peninsula Engineer Conference Dining Out April 5. Cardon is one of the few engineers to command an infantry division and he spoke about the vital role that engineers play in the military today. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



(Above left) Brig. Gen. Richard Stevens (left), Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pacific Ocean Division, listens to one of the speakers during a session at the Peninsula Engineer Conference April 4 at the Seoul Milenium Hilton. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



(Above right) Maj. Gen. Dennis E. Jacobson (left), Assistant Chief of Staff for Transformation and Restationing, U.S. Forces Korea, cuts the Peninsula Engineer Conference Ice Breaker cake with Brig. Gen. Park, Jong-gwan, Republic of Korea Army, April 4. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



(Right) A Korean traditional singer performs during the Peninsula Engineer Conference Ice Breaker April 4 at the Seoul Milenium Hilton. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

Many members of FED voluntarily contributed their time to ensuring that the PEC was a successful and engaging opportunity for both U.S. and Republic of Korea engineers.

"I'm pleased that our many Republic of Korea engineer counterparts joined us for this conference," said Brig. Gen. Richard Stevens, Commander of the Pacific Ocean Division. "Their presentations and insights provided great value-added to all in attendance. It's clear that with our continued cooperation and friendship the ROK-US Alliance will remain strong."

Stevens visited Korea for the third time during the PEC where he was also given the opportunity to talk about the role that POD plays in both Korea and the Asia-Pacific Region.

"This conference is a superb opportunity to bring together a diverse community of engineering professionals from both our nations and around the Asia-Pacific region to share ideas, experiences, and lessons learned."

The PEC is also an alliance builder between the U.S. and the Republic of Korea. Today, one of the biggest bilateral agreements between the U.S. and its allies is the Land Partnership Plan and the Yongsan Relocation Plan between

the U.S. and the Republic of Korea which together will relocate the majority of U.S. Forces from Seoul to Pyeongtaek. Both of these programs were major topics of discussion throughout this year's PEC.

"The Pacific Ocean Division prides itself in providing 'Trusted Engineering.' This trust is built upon a foundation of technical expertise, industry leadership and fiscal stewardship," said Stevens. "We're committed to providing every resource possible to ensure the success of our program here in Korea."

Lt. Gen. John D. Johnson, Eighth US Army Commander gave a presentation about the progress of Korea Transformation. He mentioned that the program is the biggest USACE project since construction of the Panama Canal 100 years ago and that FED is making history today.

The conference concluded with the Peninsula Engineer Conference Dining Out in which all engineers from across the peninsula were invited. The keynote speaker was Maj. Gen. Cardon, Commander of the 2nd Infantry Division and one of the few engineers to command the Division.

See more photos of the Peninsula Engineer Conference at www.flickr.com/photos/fedpao/sets



"Professional organizations such as the Society of American Military Engineers play a key role in promoting collaboration between the public and private engineering sectors. This year's Peninsula Engineer Conference was an absolutely first-class event."

**Brig. Gen. Richard Stevens, Commander
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pacific Ocean Division**



Brig. Gen. Richard Stevens (right), Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pacific Ocean Division, speaks with Maj. Gen. Park Kye-su, Director of the Defense Installations Agency, Republic of Korea Ministry of National Defense, during the Peninsula Engineer Conference April 4 at the Seoul Milenium Hilton. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



(Above left) Lt. Gen. John D. Johnson, Commander of the 8th U.S. Army briefs members of the Society of American Military Engineers on Korea Transformation during the Peninsula Engineer Conference April 4 at the Seoul Milenium Hilton. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

(Above right) The Drum Cats, an all female Korean drum ensemble, perform during the Peninsula Engineer Conference Dining Out April 5 at the Seoul Milenium Hilton. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



(Left) Lt. Col. Gregory Baisch, Far East District Transformation and Relocation Liason Officer, helps prepare the engineer grog during the Peninsula Engineer Conference Dining Out April 5. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



(From left to right) Lloyd Caldwell, Senior Executive Service at U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Headquarters, Retired Col. Anthony Leketa, member of the Society of American Military Engineers, Eugene Ban, Pacific Ocean Division Director of Programs, and Robert D. Wolff, Executive Director of SAME, talk during the Peninsula Engineer Conference Ice Breaker April 4 at the Seoul Milenium Hilton. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

Meet Sgt. Maj. Breitbach, Operations Sergeant Major

By Sgt. Maj. David Breitbach
FED Security, Plans, and Operations

When the Commander made the decision that I, as the District Sergeant Major contribute a column for the East Gate Edition I had no idea what to write for my first journalistic effort. After much thought I decided that with my initial effort I should quickly give an introduction of myself since getting out to meet everyone would take considerable time and travel. Eventually, I hope to get the chance to meet every District employee; until that happens this will have to suffice. Everyone I meet seems to ask the one same question, "Have you ever been to Korea before?" The answer is yes. My first time in Korea was a long time ago; 1984. I was a very young Sergeant with the 44th Engineer Battalion near Camp Casey and since 1994, it seems like every three or four years I returned to participate in one of the annual exercises. Each time I return I am more impressed with the Korean people, and this great country's evolution into a global industrial and economic power.

Prior to my current assignment in the Security, Plans and Operations Section as the Operations Sergeant Major with the additional duty as the District Sergeant Major, I was with the Fort Worth District at Fort Bliss, in El Paso, Texas. I was very fortunate to have been a part of the Fort Bliss Expansion Program from the first ground breaking in October 2006 until the final project was turned over in September 2011. While at Fort Bliss I was a Project Engineer and later a member of the Contract Administration Section. Both positions gave me opportunities to learn a great deal more about construction contract management. During that five year period beginning Fort Bliss had the largest Military Construction Program in USACE's history; approximately \$4 billion with more than 150 projects and 300 facilities.

Today, the Far East District is well on its way with both the Yongsan Relocation and Land Partnership Programs estimated to be in excess of \$11 billion making this the largest program in modern USACE history. Ironically, after leaving what was the biggest construction project in the Corps' recent history, I find myself in a rare position of being a part of what is now the biggest program in the US Army! History has been written about the successes at Fort Bliss as that program was at the forefront of military construction transformation and became the standard for other districts

to follow. There are many factors that led to that success but none was more important than the complete buy-in to the mantra, 'One Team, One Fight' by everyone associated with the program. The Far East District uses the phrase "One Team Building Strong in Korea." Both phrases share the same common denominator, "One Team." No one person or group alone can get the job done. We are interdependent and this undertaking requires the combined effort of the entire Far East District team from our laborers to our division chiefs and military personnel. The same commitment to "One Team Building Strong in Korea" is the key to accomplishing our mission whether it is in support of Armistice, contingency and contingency training, or crisis; we are in fact *One Team Building Strong in Korea*.



Sgt. Maj. David Breitbach, FED Operations Sergeant Major, during Key Resolve 2012. (Photo by Joe Campbell)

Far East District prepares for Courageous Channel

By Robert Lamoureux
FED Security, Plans, and Operations

The annual Courageous Channel Noncombatant Emergency Evacuation Operation (NEO) is scheduled to take place May 16-19. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers families located in Areas II, III, IV, V, and VI are highly encouraged to participate. This exercise tests the ability of the U.S. Department of State, with the assistance of U.S. Forces Korea, to efficiently evacuate non-combatant U.S. and other selected national personnel from the Korean Peninsula in the event of disasters or regional conflict. For the last several weeks, FED NEO stewards and wardens have been inspecting family readiness books and kits and updating their rosters to insure that all District non-combatant evacuees (NCE) are accounted for and prepared to leave should the need arise. The goal of this exercise is to account for 100 percent of our noncombatant civilian population.

Lessons learned in the aftermath of last year's nuclear event in Japan highlighted the need for detailed family planning as well as a thorough understanding of the NEO process. The foundation of a sound NEO plan begins with the assembling of a NEO Family Battle Book. The battle book contains a checklist of all the items a family will need to help speed their way through the evacuation process and ease their transition back to the U.S.

Each FED family has been assigned to an area based NEO team supported by two trained NEO stewards. Your NEO steward is your primary point of contact for questions or concerns involving NEO. The stewards will assist you with the construction of your battle book and conduct periodic inspection to insure that all data is up to date. Accurate and complete data will prevent unnecessary delays in processing and enable families to make claims on lost property. All battle books should contain a copy of USFK Pamphlet 300-600, NEO Instructions. This pamphlet explains in detail the process for NEO family evacuation and provides many helpful insights to assist in preparing your family should an evacuation be required.

In order to insure that the District NEO plan is sound and that all of our families are sufficiently prepared to evacuate if ordered, 100 percent participation in the exercise is the goal. Your NEO steward will brief you on where to go and what to bring.

The FED NEO Team looks forward to seeing you at the Assembly Area 16-19 May!



Pacific Ocean Division Commander visits the Far East District

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

Brig. Gen. Richard Stevens, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pacific Ocean Division Commander, visited Korea for the Society of American Military Engineers Peninsula Engineer Conference April 3-5.

"It is always great to visit and see firsthand the significant contributions being made by our Far East District team," said Stevens. "The construction efforts in support of transformation on the peninsula are immense. I'm confident the FED team is more that up to the task. They are definitely Building Strong in Korea!"

Stevens was able to visit members of the Far East District in Seoul and at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys.

At USAG Humphreys Stevens was able to tour the new Senior Leaders' Quarters which are expected to open later this year. He looked at a mock-up unit which showcases how future senior leaders at USAG Humphreys will live.

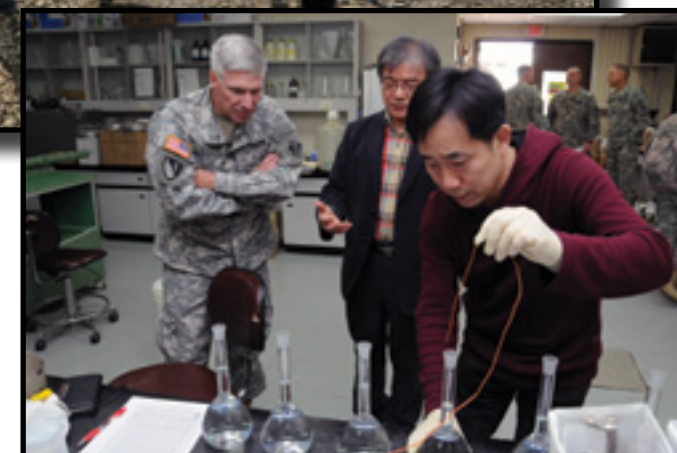
Brig. Gen. Richard Stevens (left), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pacific Ocean Division Commander, and Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr., Commander of the Far East District, listen to a briefing on Korea Transformation construction presented by members of FED's Humphreys Area Office April 3. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Stevens was also briefed on the new elementary and high schools by Amber Houston, an engineer with the Korea Programs Relocation Office. These schools are very important projects as they are the first vertical construction projects as part of the Yongsan Relocation Plan and are expected to be complete by summer 2013.



Brig. Gen. Richard Stevens, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pacific Ocean Division Commander, walks through the Build-to-Lease Senior Leaders' Quarters complex at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys April 3. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Brig. Gen. Richard Stevens watches as Ko Myong-ho (front) and Kim Kwang-chin, Far East District Geotech Branch, perform a specific gravity calibration experiment April 5. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

Brig. Gen. Richard Stevens, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pacific Ocean Division Commander, is briefed by Amber Houston, an engineer with the Korea Programs Relocation Office, on the new elementary and high schools April 3. These schools are very important projects as they are the first vertical construction projects as part of the Yongsan Relocation Plan and are expected to be complete by summer 2013. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



36th Fighter Squadron breaks ground on new operations facility

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs



The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District and the U.S. Air Force 36th Fighter Squadron, 51st Fighter Wing broke ground on a new Operations and Aircraft Maintenance Unit Facility April 10 at Osan Air Base.

The operations and maintenance facility will allow the Squadron's F-16 fighters to continue to carry out their mission to "prepare for and execute immediate air combat operations to dominate any aggressors threatening U.S. or Republic of Korea interests."



(Above) Capt. Ryu Gyu-seok, Chief of U.S. Forces Korea Construction Management Team, ROK Ministry of National Defense-Defense Installations Agency, speaks to the groundbreaking attendees about the significance of the new Operations and Aircraft Maintenance Unit Facility April 10 at Osan Air Base. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



(Left) The distinguished guests broke ground on the new Operations and Aircraft Maintenance Unit Facility April 10 at Osan Air Base. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

"With today's groundbreaking, we know that the new facility will become a significant U.S. Air Force operation asset for the Korean Peninsula peace keeping mission," said Capt. Ryu Gyu-seok, Chief of U.S. Forces Korea Construction Management Team, ROK Ministry of National Defense-Defense Installations Agency.

The ROK funded construction project is a collaborative effort between MND-DIA, the U.S. Air Force, and FED.

"Today marks another milestone in our ROK-U.S. commitment to our allies and partners in the Asia-Pacific region," said Col. Patrick McKenzie, 51st Fighter Wing Commander.

The 37,000 square-foot operations and maintenance facility will double capacity of primary aircraft assigned and is expected to be completed in April 2014 at a cost of about \$14.4 million. It will replace the current operations building and separate aircraft maintenance unit building with a combined facility that will provide seamless integration of services, some of which was not previously available at the older buildings.



Women dressed in traditional Korean hanboks greet visitors and guests to the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Operations and Aircraft Maintenance Unit Facility April 10 at Osan Air Base. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

See more photos of the Operations and Aircraft Maintenance Unit Facility at www.flickr.com/photos/fedpao/sets



Brig. Gen. Kurt Neubauer, Vice Commander of the 7th Air Force, signs the guest registration book at the groundbreaking for the new Operations and Aircraft Maintenance Unit Facility April 10 at Osan Air Base. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



Retiring employees share fond memories of FED

By FED Public Affairs

As this year has transitioned from winter to spring, the Far East District is focusing its theme in the upcoming months on District priorities. One of the District's top priorities is its people. Here are just a few of the District's many employees who have served honorably. Each of them will be retiring soon and we wish them all the best.



Leo Lau



Ron Pang

Leo Lau, Resource Management Office

Leo Lau has been with FED since 2007 and will be retiring as the Chief of the Finance and Accounting Branch. He is responsible for the execution of policies required to ensure sufficient funds to manage FED's financial responsibilities. He is also the leader of a well-integrated financial team in which he helped build a climate of cohesiveness.

Lau is a veteran of the U.S. Air Force where he served as a pilot during the Vietnam War. He is still willing to volunteer his services to the community today and serves as Catchiest, Treasurer for the Knights of Columbus, and secretariat for ecumenical ministry and the annual religious retreats.

Ron Pang, Engineering Division

Ron Pang has been with FED since 2008 but began his career with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 1976. He is the Chief of the Cost Engineering Branch and has spent his entire career in engineering.

"Work hard and make use of the knowledge of those which have been in and around the 'world' of engineering," said Pang. "In USACE there are many with vast knowledge and experience. They know things that are not found in books so don't be afraid to ask them questions."

If given the choice to do it all over again Pang would not change a thing. He is happy with his career.

Upon retirement Pang will return to his home state of Hawaii where he will enjoy his free time with his wife and family, and of course go fishing.



Kim Yong-kyun

Kim Yong-kyun, Logistics Management Office

Kim Yong-kyun has been with FED since 2001 with the Facilities and Services Branch. Prior to FED he worked at the 8th U.S. Army since 1975. Before that he worked in the private sector, but of all the places he has worked, he believes that FED feels more like a family than any others.

"FED is an organization with a family atmosphere," said Kim. "I will never forget the years that I have worked at FED. I will keep all the good memories and experiences at heart. I wish all FED family members good health and happiness."

During his retirement Kim plans on staying busy. He wants pick up new hobbies and learn more about computers.

Kim Chong-hwa, Engineering Division

Kim Chong-hwa has been with FED since 1977 and is retiring from the Engineering Design Branch. He started his career in 1965 with the 8th U.S. Army.

Kim's fondest memories of FED are the unit cohesion and the Korean Employees' Union trips, especially fishing in Incheon and hiking. He also has many memories with his coworkers in the Design Branch.

"FED Engineering Design Branch is a team with great teamwork," said Kim. "Hopefully the newcomers will keep the great teamwork going. I wish the best and forever success of FED."



Kim Chong-hwa

Chang Sok-wan, Logistics Management Office

Chang Sok-wan has been with FED since 2000 with the Facilities and Services Branch. Prior to coming to FED he worked for the 8th U.S. Army.

Chang's fondest memories of FED are from Organization Day. Often on Organization Day, the employees with the Facilities and Services Branch are the first to arrive and the last to leave; making sure that everything is good to go for a fun and exciting event. Once the festivities began Chang was able to relax and enjoy the event.

"This is a good chance to team build and get to know other people in the organization," said Chang.



Chang Sok-wan

Far East District bids farewell to An and Garay-Rodriguez

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs



Unfortunately Chang was in an accident and will not be able to continue with FED but he would like to thank everyone who visited him during his hospital stay.

“Because of the accident and the situation I am in now, I realized that being around family and having one is really important,” said Chang. “I thank all of the employees for their leave donations. Thank you for your support.”

Pak Pok-tong, Resource Management Office

Pak Pok-tong has worked for FED since December 1980; almost 32 years with the Resource Management Office. As a competent and highly qualified Budget Analyst, she has been a vital asset to the Budget and Manpower Branch and the organization.

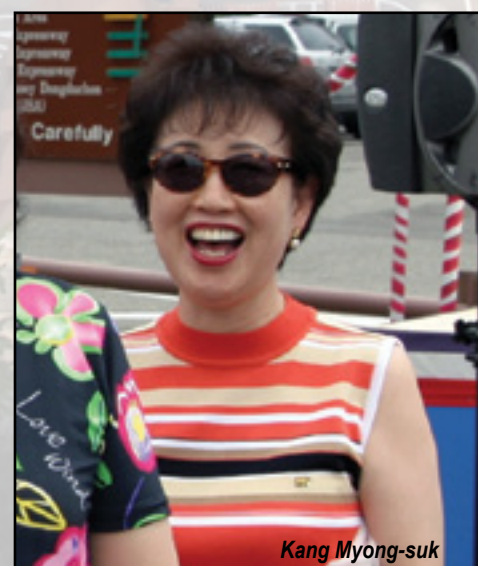
Pak’s exemplary performance over the years has contributed immensely to the successful operations of the Budget and Manpower Branch. Her technical expertise, knowledge and background were instrumental in the successful execution of the district-operating budget and program mission. She has always demonstrated exceptional financial technical knowledge and hands on skills in all phases of fund control process for the execution of design and construction projects.

Kang Myong-suk, Construction Division

Kang Myong-suk has worked for FED since July 1994 in the Quality Assurance Branch. Prior to FED she worked at the Civilian Personnel Accounting Center at U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan.

Kang’s fondest memories of FED are the closeness she felt with coworkers especially during events such as Organization Day, Korean Union picnics and many other activities.

“I’ve really enjoyed the time spent with everyone at FED,” said Kang. “It has been good memories for me.”



Two employees with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District will be leaving soon. Ji An, Workforce Liaison Specialist, Workforce Management Office, will be returning to Texas in May. An took on many additional responsibilities during her tour. She helped coordinate the District’s Noncombatant Emergency Evacuation Operations (NEO). During the absence of a chief for the Workforce Management Office for about six months, An ensured that the WMO rhythm did not miss a beat during this period.

“Ji An is an awesome workforce management specialist who is very knowledgeable and always willing to help,” said Shawn Washington, Workforce Management Specialist. “I am going to truly miss her.”



Shawn Washington (left), Workforce Management Specialist, presents a plaque to Ji An, Workforce Management Liaison Specialist, during her farewell gathering April 18. An will be leaving the Far East District in May for Texas. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

Sharon Garay-Rodriguez, Deputy Chief of the Korea Program Relocation Office, will also be leaving in May for Georgia because her husband, who is an active duty Soldier, will be changing duty stations. During her tour, Garay-Rodriguez fulfilled an additional role. She was the acting Chief of KPRO for about nine months while that position was vacant.

During her farewell lunch April 25, Garay-Rodriguez thanked all the members of the KPRO team and the District. Her experience in Korea was an opportunity for growth and she hopes to return someday to see the results of everyone’s efforts.



Sharon Garay-Rodriguez, Deputy Chief of the Korea Program Relocation Office, poses with Korean students from Pyeongtaek during a Good Neighbor Event in 2011. Garay-Rodriguez will be leaving the Far East District in May for Georgia. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

Things to do this spring in Korea

By Yi Yong-un

FED Public Affairs

Springtime is here and it is time to get out of the house and explore some of the exciting cultural activities around Korea! For more information on festivals happening around Korea try visiting this website: <http://english.visitkorea.or.kr> -> Attraction -> Events

8th Gwanghwamun International Art Festival

Dates: April 18–May 22

Region: Seoul Sejong Museum of Arts

Admission: Free

Description: The festival was created in 2005 to provide a public context for the appreciation of contemporary art and culture through easily accessible exhibitions.

Contact: +82-2-723-9484

Gochang Green Barley Field Festival

Dates: April 21–May 13

Region: Jeollabuk-do Gochang-gun Gongeum-myeon Seondong-ri/Hakwon Tourism Farm area

Admission: Free

Description: This festival is held every year in April amongst the beautiful green barley fields of the Gochang-gun region. The Gochang Green Barley Field Festival is the region's most popular festival and was visited by over 550,000 tourists in 2008. The festival celebrates the region's plentiful 'barley', and visitors can take part in activities such as making flutes out of barley and searching for hidden treasures in the barley fields.

Contact: +82-63-1330

24th Yeosu Ceramic Festival

Dates: April 21–May 13

Region: Gyeonggi-do Yeosu Dojasesang

Admission: Free

Description: Started in May 1990, the Yeosu Ceramic Festival is held every year to promote the excellence of its ceramics both nationwide and abroad. As the first and best ceramic festival in Korea, the festival exhibits its unique, high quality ceramic artwork and products. At the festival, you can see works of art by ceramics masters and buy a variety of ceramic products at discounted prices.

Website: www.yeosuceramic.com

Icheon Ceramic Festival

Dates: April 28–May 20

Region: Gyeonggi-do Icheon Sulbong Park

Admission: Adults (ages 19-65) 5,000 won

Youths (ages 13-18) 3,000 won

Children under six are free

Description: Icheon has 1,000 years of history in ceramic arts and its ceramics festival is one of the most famous festivals in Korea. Here visitors can see a variety of Korea's finest ceramics such as Cheongja (celadon porcelain), Baekja (white porcelain), and Buncheongsagi (grayish-blue powdered celadon). Particularly popular festival events include the ceramics excavation program, and a hands-on experience program in which visitors can draw their own artwork on slightly heated pottery.

Contact: +82-31-1330

2012 Gunpo Royal Azalea Festival

Region: Kyonggi-do Gunpo Yang-gi Park (a five minute walk from Surisan Station Subway Line 4)

Dates: May 4–13

Admission: Free

Description: The scenery of Surisan Mountain is attractive all year round but the spring scenery is the most attractive. Pink azalea flowers and wild cherry flowers bloom in clusters on the slopes of the mountain and

red royal azalea flowers cover the southeastern slope of the mountain fantastically whenever spring comes. The 2,000 square meter area planted with more than 100,000 royal azalea trees since 1999 is filled with splendid royal azalea flowers every spring. Therefore, when spring comes, more than 10,000 visitors visit here every day in spring.

Boseong Green Tea Festival

Dates: May 16–20

Region: Jeollanam-do Boseong-gun Boseong-eup Green tea fields, Chasori Park

Admission: Free

Description: Boseong is considered the birthplace of the commercial tea industry and is the largest producer of tea in the country. At the Boseong Green Tea Festival, some of the most popular festival events are the hands-on experience programs such as picking tea leaves, making tea, and sampling green tea snacks. Other events such as the tea exhibition and sale, and a number of celebratory performances are also scheduled to be held during the festival period.

Contact: +82-61-1330

Lotus Lantern Festival

Dates: May 18–20

Region: Seoul Jongno-gu Bongeunsa Temple, Dongguk University, Jogyesa Temple area

Admission: Free

Description: Korea's annual Lotus Lantern Festival celebrates a millennia-old tradition in honor of Buddha's Birthday. The highlight of the month-long Lotus Lantern Festival is three activity-packed days on May 18-20. Activities will include hands-on experiential programs, performances, parades, and exhibitions. Most programs are family-oriented. On the night of May 19, more than one hundred thousand lotus lanterns will light up the Seoul night.

Contact: +82-2-1330

Eumseong Pumba Festival

Dates: May 24–27

Region: Chungcheongbuk-do Eumseong-gun Eumseong-eup Seolseong Park area

Admission: Free

Description: The Pumba Festival is held in Eumseong every year. Programs offer a visit to the old days of poverty and a glimpse of the performances and lifestyles of various gakseoris. The festival participants are top performing gakseoris who entertain at marketplaces, festivals, or theaters around the nation.

Contact: +82-43-1330



Keeping access points secure and safe for pedestrians

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District's main access control point will close temporarily to vehicle traffic April 28 for construction. However, the pedestrian gate will remain open. When the main gate opens again June 1, there will be some added improvements. The most noticeable will be a canopy to shelter the compound's security force from the weather while they check motorist's ID cards.

(Below left) A new fence was installed in April to ensure pedestrian safety at the Far East District's main gate.

(Center) A survey crew makes their initial measurements before work begins on a canopy which will shelter the security force from the weather while they check vehicle ID cards.

(Below right) A new arm bar is installed at the main gate to the FED Compound. (Photos by Patrick Bray)



EAST GATE
EDITION

Showdown! at the West Point Society

By Patrick Bray
FED Public Affairs

Maj. Gen. John A. Macdonald (below left), Assistant Chief of Staff, C3 United Nations Command and J3 Combined Forces Command, challenged Maj. Vincent Lee (right), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District Emergency Management Operations Officer, to a duel April 7 during the West Point Society of Korea's Founders Day dinner.

The good-humored sword play was part of a stand-up comedy routine where younger West Point graduates make fun of older graduates. MacDonald, a 1979 graduate, challenged Lee, a 2001 graduate, after declaring that Lee had made one too many jokes about his age.



(Photo by Patrick Bray)

APRIL
A 2012

UNION SPOT LIGHT

Korean traditional “one-dish-meal” - Bibimbap

Editor's note: This is a condensed, edited translation of the adjoining article in Hangul.

If you ask a foreigner to name signature Korean cuisine, the dishes that would come to mind would be bibimbap, bulgogi, and kimchi. This month, we are going to learn about bibimbap, which recently made the cover of the New York Times. Jeonju, a small city located in the southwest corner of the peninsula, is a famous region for bibimbap. Koreans automatically think of Jeonju when they hear the word bibimbap, and likewise they tell others that Jeonju is the place to go for the best bibimbap. So, are all bibimbap recipes Jeonju bibimbap? No! Rice from your own kitchen with the right amount of Gochujang (red pepper paste) and left over side dishes from your refrigerator make delicious bibimbap as well. It's very easy to make and is a “one-dish-meal!” This means that bibimbap contains all of the daily basic nutrients a person needs, and it leaves you satisfied!

The nutritious side of bibimbap is that it contains various vegetables that many children do not usually like to eat, but, by adding those into bibimbap they can easily consume the vegetables and its nutrients. The bibimbap also has egg, beef, and sesame oil which provide at least five major nutrients and vitamins. We will talk about the nutrients of bibimbap by mainly focusing on the “Jeonju bibimbap.”

There are a variety of bibimbap recipes according to regions. Of all the different bibimbap “Jeonju bibimbap” is known for its superb ingredients, authentic paste, cooking style, and personal touch that gives it that “special taste.” Jeonju bibimbap uses locally grown bean sprouts, and only Korean beef, known as yukhoe, these merge well with the others giving the dish its incredible taste.

Read more on page 28



Read more on page 28



EEO CORNER

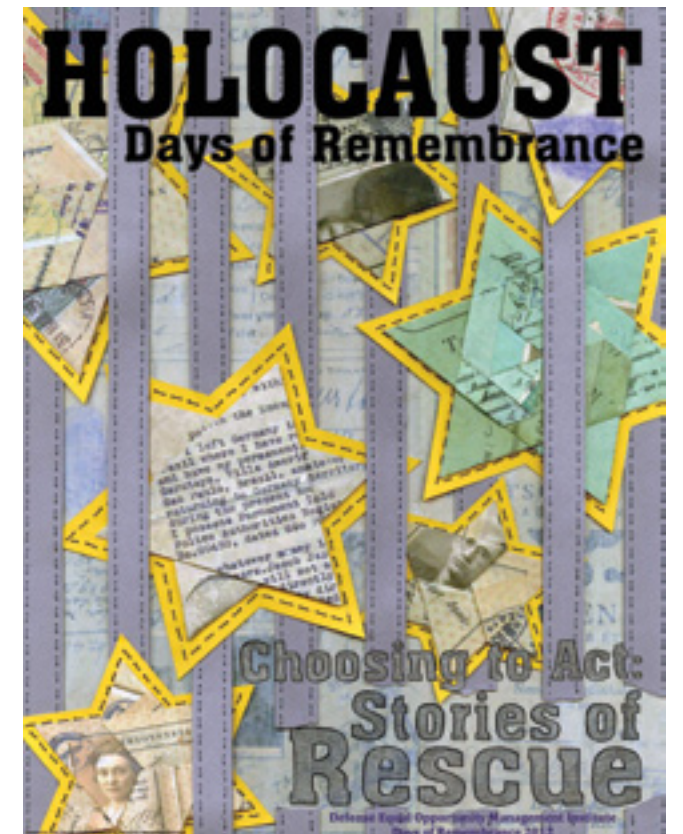
Remembering the Holocaust in April

By Erica Hogle
FED Equal Employment Opportunity Office

Every year for one week in April or May, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District recognizes the Days of Remembrance to commemorate the Holocaust. The week is decided by the Hebrew calendar which is based on the lunar calendar. The week will always hold the Holocaust Remembrance Day which the Israeli Parliament created to be observed on the 27th day of Nisan in the Hebrew calendar. This year Holocaust Remembrance Day is April 19. The Days of Remembrance will be from April 14-22.

Each year there is a specific theme for the week. This year the theme is “Choosing to Act: Stories of Rescue.” The theme honors the acts of the rescuers during the Holocaust. The rescuers were common, everyday people who decided to take on the risks and help rescue the Jews showing others that one person does have the power to make a difference.

People all over the world from many different backgrounds have helped in saving many of the Jews in Europe from the Nazis. Bishop Chrysostomos lived on the Greek Isle of Zakynthos and saved 275 Jews by refusing to give the Germans the names of the Jews who would have been deported. Marion Pritchard was a social worker in the Netherlands who rescued more than 150 Jews. George Mandel-Mantello of Switzerland helped thousands of European Jews by identifying them as citizens of El Salvador after receiving permission from the Salvadoran Consul General. Two citizens from the U.S., Reverend Waitstill and Martha Sharp, went to Prague to help establish a network of relief and emigration assistance. These people and many more have contributed in saving many lives during the Holocaust.



Yu Chi-nam
Executive Office



My Plan

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

- Driving the Commander to District related appointments, safely and on time
- Translate for the Commander while we travel through Korea as needed
- Ensure that the Executive Office is always supplied and ready to meet visitors
- Take photographs when VIP's visit

My Face



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

- Going camping, fishing, hiking, and other trips in Korea
- Enjoying time with my wife and three kids
- Playing badminton and watching movies
- Meeting new people at work and after work

Vincent Pecchia
DA Intern

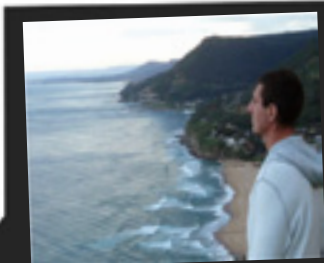


My Plan

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

- Being part of a Great District
- Having a good attitude that spreads like wildfire
- Building Relationships and Teamwork
- Helping out where help is needed

My Face



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

- Equally keeping strong spiritually, mentally, physically and socially
- Expanding my social network through sources such as facebook and Kakao talk
- Participating in softball, volleyball, basketball, golfing, surfing, snowboarding, long boarding, cross fitting, fishing, taekwondo, any other "sport"
- Having Fun!

Continued from page 4

All employees share the responsibility to ensure FED is meeting its mission requirements. If what you do for the district is not outlined in an existing QMS document then contact your supervisor and discuss the merits of developing a new document. If you have a recommended improvement in your process or any process for that matter, you may submit a Corrective and Preventive Action Request (CPAR). The CPAR process is described in QMS document D.2 Internal Quality Management System (QMS) Assessment and a blank CPAR form is at the QMS Share Point site under the CPAR link. Your supervisor can assist you in filling out the form or you may contact me, the District's Business Process Manager at 721-7023 or via email for assistance with the CPAR or any other aspect of the QMS program.

QMS when used properly and in the right context is a vital tool to assist the Far East District to achieve mission goals and provide first-class quality service to all our customers.

Save the date

ORGANIZATION DAY

29 June 2012



U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
FAR EAST DISTRICT

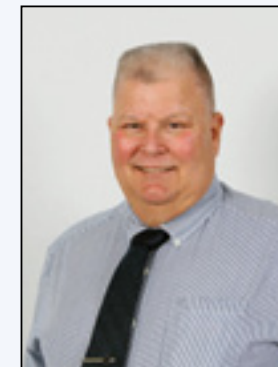
Continued from page 24

Along with providing nutrients, it is said to be a functional food that prevents and helps cure diseases. Bibimbap lowers blood cholesterol levels and has a lot of dietary fiber that helps with digestion. The red pepper paste has an anti-cancer effect that also helps prevent obesity.

Let's now look at the strong points of bibimbap as a representative signature dish of Korea. It is certainly a dish that can satisfy everyone's taste. With rice and red pepper paste anyone can easily make bibimbap, and they can select what ingredients they would like according to their taste. Because of its nutritional value, taste and simplicity bibimbap is now a world renowned dish.

In closing, the dish captures Asian beauty. Korean ancestors have always laid importance on colors, and have added meanings to colorful decorations even with foods. It's pleasing to the palate, and very nice to look at, which according to many Koreans makes it a Korean Royal Court Cuisine.

비빔밥이 우리나라를 대표하는 전통음식으로 서 가치를 가질 수 있는 강점을 몇 가지 생각해 보겠다. 첫째, 쉽게 입맛을 맞출 수 있다. 기본적으로 밥과 고추장이 있다면 누구든 쉽게 간단한 비빔밥을 만들 수 있으며 취향에 따라 재료를 선택해 넣을 수 있다는 장점이 있다. 이는 세계에 세계 각 나라사람들의 입맛에 맞추어 저 우리나라의 전통적인 비빔밥을 세계에 알리는데 긍정적인 작용을 할 것이다. 둘째, 동양의 미가 담겨 있다. 우리 민족은 예부터 색을 중시하여 음식에도 각각의 의미를 담아 아름답게 장식하곤 하였다. 비빔밥에는 당근, 계란지단, 오이와 같이 화려한 색으로 장식할 수 있다. 이는 맛도 좋지만 먹는 이에게 눈도 즐겁게 해주며, 격이 있는 궁중요리로서의 비빔밥의 모습을 보여줄 수 있을 것이다. 셋째, 앞서 말했듯이 영양소가 풍부하다. 또한 건강식품으로서도 좋은 면을 가지고 있기 때문에 그 가치가 상당하다고 할 수 있다. 잘 안 먹는 반찬도 비빔밥으로 만들면 맛있게 먹게 된다. 편식하는 아이들에게 많은 도움을 줄 수 있을 것이다.



Schneible, Robert
Engineering Division



Bolden, Danny
Workforce Management Office



Kopp, Michael
Construction Division



Pang, Ronald
Engineering Division



Dussing, Scott
KPRO

From the Commander Thank you for doing GREAT things:

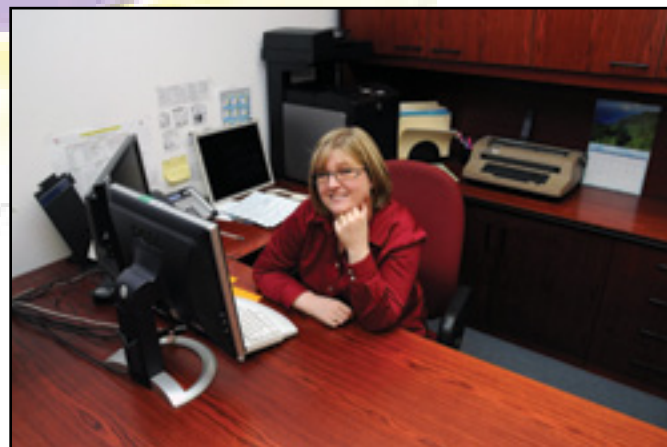
(Clockwise from top) Amber Houston is really excited about receiving a coin from Brig. Gen. Richard Stevens, Commander of the Pacific Ocean Division, for a job well-done.

Kim Chong-hwa, Ron Pang, and Ji An are congratulated by Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr. for their hard work while serving with the Far East District.

Brenda Dunwoody, FED Office of Counsel, deploys to Afghanistan at the end of April.

Jason Choi, Supply Specialist, will also be deploying to Afghanistan soon.

Kim Yong-kyun, Logistics Management Office is congratulated by Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr. upon his retirement.



Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr.

사령관 코너

최고의 극동 공병단 팀과 모든 팀들에게,

미 공병 협회 (S.A.M.E)에서 주최한 Pacific Engineer Conference를 시작으로 바쁜 4월을 보냈습니다. 이번 회의는 한반도 변혁을 위한 우리 공병단의 핵심적인 역할 수행에 대해 알릴 수 있는 좋은 기회였습니다. 행사에 도움 주신 분들 그리고 소중한 직원 여러분, 매일 애써주셔서 감사합니다. 여러분의 공헌은 성공적인 회의 결과와 최고의 공병단으로서 지속적인 성공을 가져다 주었습니다.

회의를 마치고 저는 미주리 주 Ft. Leonard Wood 에서 개최된 ENFORCE 연례 엔지니어 연대 회의에 참석하였습니다. 올해 주제 "ENGINEERING FOR THE WARS WE FIGHT"는 우리 공병단의 주요 임무 중 비상시 임무수행과 일치하여 시기 적절한 주제였습니다. 주한 미군이 한반도 변혁을 위해 지속적으로 힘쓰듯이 공병 연대 역시 대원을 늘려 임수 수행 능력을 향상시킬 것입니다.

주제에 맞춰, 우리 공병단은 주한미군 커레이저스채널 비전투원 소개 작전(NEO) 참여를 위한 준비를 하고 있습니다. 이번 달 부터 다음달까지 NEO 관리자 및 담당자들은 NEO패킷의 작성을 돕고 검토하여 모든 민간인 준비되도록 할 것입니다. 작전 훈련 동안 전 직원의 많은 참여 부탁드립니다.

우리 공병단의 파트너인 주한 미공군과 함께 제 36 전투비행대대 작전 시설물 공사에 착수하였습니다. 최첨단 시설물은 비행대대가 한반도 평화를 지키는 임무를 보다 잘 수행할 수 있도록 할 것입니다.

다가오는5월과 6월에는 "미 육군공병대 그리고 공병단"소식에 주목해 주시기 바랍니다. 이 기간에 미 육군공병대(USACE)사령관과 주임원사가 은퇴할 예정입니다. 두 분의 리더십에 깊은 감사를 드리며 앞으로 하시는 일에 행운을 빕니다. 우리 공병단은 전략 관리 규정에 따른 사업계획을 세우고 있습니다. 다음달은 우리의 사업계획 그리고 모두의 역할에 대한 내용을 신도록 하겠습니다.

이번 호에서는 우리 공병단을 떠나는 직원들을 위한 특별지면을 제작하였습니다. 공병단, 미 육군, 대한민국, 그리고 미국을 위해 보여주신 변함없는 충성심, 헌신에 대해 저 개인적으로 겸허하게 진심으로 감사 드립니다. 여러분 없이는 임무를 완수하지 못했을 것입니다. 여러분에게 경의를 표합니다!

매일 애쓰시는 여러분께 감사드립니다!

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

(Handwritten signature of Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr.)



SOLDIERS LEADERS CIVILIANS FAMILIES

Take 5

for Sports and
Fitness Preparation

- Minimize injuries with proper planning before physical activities.
- Sports and physical training produce the most injuries.
- Proper gear and equipment play a role in injury prevention.
- Clothing should be light, loose and comfortable.
- Don't go out in extreme heat; stay indoors for activities.

Take 5 ... then take action.



ARMY SAFE
IS ARMY STRONG

