

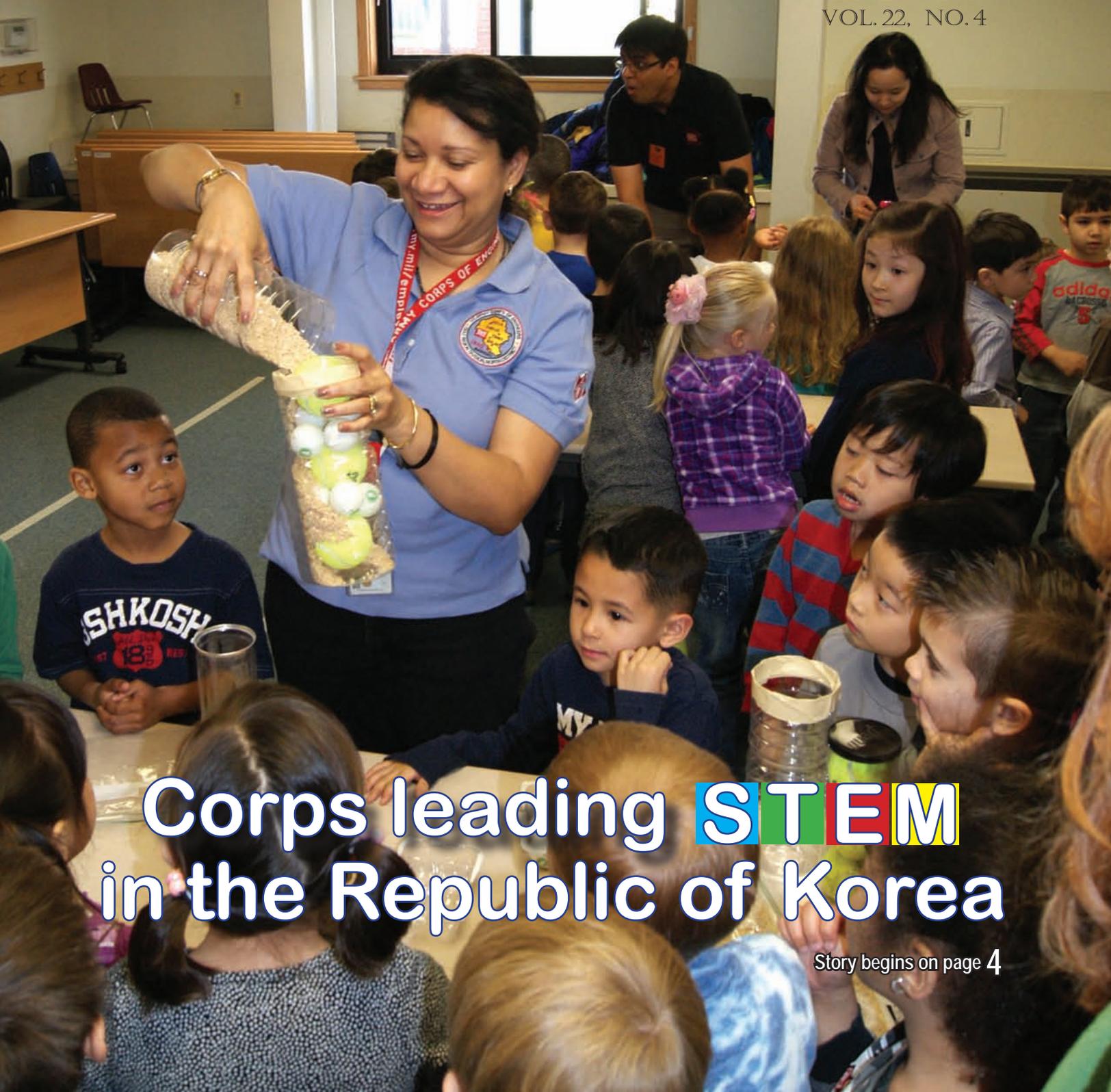


US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Far East District

FAST GATE EDITION



APRIL 2013
VOL. 22, NO. 4



Corps leading **STEM**
in the Republic of Korea

Story begins on page 4

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US Army Corps
of Engineers
Far East District

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On the cover



Bernie Thomson, deputy chief of the Korea Program Relocation Office demonstrates a practical exercise showing volume to Humphreys American School students during the STEM workshop held April 21 at USAG Humphreys. (Photo by Joe Campbell)



Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr.

Commander's Corner

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

Spring is finally here! We have seen the trees bloom on the compound and around Korea and the cold seems to be finally departing.

As the temperatures warm up, so are things around the District and the activities here in Korea! As you know, construction is picking up at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys, as well as at other facilities on the Peninsula, and we as a District continue to grow as well. As things continue to speed up and progress, don't forget to take a moment to welcome our new arrivals to Korea. Every month we put their photos in the East Gate Edition, so if you see some of our new arrivals, please introduce yourself and ensure that they feel right at home and part of our Great Team.

This month was a great opportunity to partner with the Department of Defense Dependent Schools here in regarding Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). Our entire District has played such a key and important role in this outstanding program here in Korea; thanks for all you are doing to support such a tremendous opportunity for our future leaders.

This summer will also mark the change of command for the Far East District. This time-honored tradition dates back to the earliest days of our military and this transition helps reinforce the continuity of our military units and provides the military with trained, versatile leaders. Ours will be on Thursday, July 11, on Yongsan Garrison. More details are forthcoming to mark this special day in the District.

Also in the coming weeks you will start to see another new face in the District, that of Col. Bryan Green, our incoming Commander this summer. Bryan and I recently visited Humphreys Garrison, Chinhae, Busan, and attended the PRBs in April, and will be making more stops around the District. Please don't hesitate to introduce yourselves and welcome him.

In the meantime, please continue to stay safe and do great things for our District, for U.S. Forces Korea, and for our nation as a whole.

To our great Alliance – Katchi Kapsida!

To our great Corps – Essayons!

One Team Building Strong® in Korea!



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www.facebook.com/USACE.FED.Korea



KPRO Building Strong by sharing knowledge with students

FED Korea Program Relocation

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District Korea Program and Relocation Office continues to oversee and execute the multibillion dollar Korea transformation program at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys, as the Yongsan Relocation Plan and Land Partnership Plan steadily increases momentum.

One project nearing completion is the elementary and high school complex. These host nation-funded schools can hold nearly 1,900 elementary and high school students. The facilities include classrooms, multi-purpose rooms, cafeterias, outdoor sports facilities, libraries and secured outdoor play areas.

Both schools are scheduled to be completed for the start of the 2013/2014 school year, which begins in late August.

Several office members recently shared their expertise with over 500 Humphreys American



principles like aerodynamics, strength of materials, bridge design and water surface tension.

All had an opportunity to gain valuable hands-on experience making strong bridges from sheets of paper, structures that stood firm from toothpicks and marshmallows, and aircraft from straws and narrow strips of paper.

“We need to plant the seeds that generate the scientists and engineers, then fund the research that the engineers can then turn those scientific breakthroughs into products and services for the world,” said Thomson.

(left) Keysha Cutts-Washington, a project manager at the Korea Program Relocation Office shows Humphreys American School students a model of the high school and elementary school projects during the STEM workshop April 21 at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys. (Photo by Joe Campbell)

(below) Naeem Dogar, a mechanical manager at the Korea Program Relocation Office explains how to make a paper plane out of paper hoops to Humphreys American School students during the STEM workshop April 21 at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys. (Photo by Joe Campbell)

Land Development, Utilities and Infrastructure

The Korea Program and Relocation Office continues to work with engineering and construction divisions of the district on the land development, utilities and infrastructure at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys.

With a program of this size, monitoring the infrastructure needs is critical. The complexity of the new land development on top of the existing facilities makes for an even more difficult and critical design and construction task.

Compounding the challenge has been the revision of the overall master plan. With the agreement for the downtown master plan changes from 2011 the need for capacity analysis, design modification and construction contract modification has been an ongoing effort.

Through a team effort the challenges are being met and overcome. Critical to the success has been the synchronization across the district, the Ministry of National Defense U.S. Forces Korea Relocation Office, the Ministry of National Defense Defense Installations Agency, the local Pyeongtaek government and Kunwon-CH2M Hill program management consortium.

Through a team effort, the coordination of requirements has been developed into a single master utility plan that coordinates the efforts of the contractor and the various entities doing design to synchronize the connections of all facilities with roads, gas, water, sewer and electrical networks.



School students at a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) workshop, providing interactive engineering activities for the students to learn from.

“STEM is more than math equations and spreadsheets,” said Bernie Thomson, office deputy chief. “It gives kids the chance to discover firsthand how they can impact the world, and with that knowledge they can create, improve upon and shape the future.”

According to the Department of Defense Education Activity, the STEM initiative is an educational program designed to provide students with opportunities to be successful in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, leading them to pursue education and careers in STEM disciplines.

“Educating student through STEM has provided students with 21st century skills,” said Amira Ammari, a Humphreys American School kindergarten teacher.

During the workshop, the students rotated to several stations where they learned about engineering



US Army Corps of Engineers® Far East District

Far East District hosts the 28th Ministry of National Defense Exchange Training

FED Public Affairs

The Army Corps of Engineers Far East District hosted the 28th Korean Ministry of National Defense Exchange Program March 25-April 12. The program started in 1985 to train military and civilian engineers from the defense ministry on design, project management, contracting, and construction processes of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Today, this tradition continues as the district graduated 18 more Republic of Korea military officers and civilian engineers.

Navy Capt. Ryu Kyu-seok, chief of USFK Construction Management Division, Defense Installations Agency, was the guest speaker at the graduation ceremony April 12.

“As a chief of USFK Construction Management Division, I see a big difference between those who attended the FED training program and those who do not. The lessons learned from the FED training are really beneficial. I hope

every attendee takes what they learned and applies it to their job.”

Throughout the course, the Korean engineers visited various branches of the district including Construction Division, Engineering Division, Korea Program Relocation Office, Contracting Division, Safety and Occupational Health Office, and Humphreys Area Office.

Steve Kim, resident engineer at the Pyeongtaek Resident Office, gave an in-briefing to the students when they visited U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys April 5.

“This was a good opportunity for FED to present our construction processes and show case projects that are being constructed in support of the Yongsan Relocation and Land Partnership Plans,” said Kim. “It was also an investment. The students gained a better understanding of FED which will help when we work together in the future.”

Lt. Col. Kim Il-do, exchange training participant, was

impressed with the Humphreys expansion and the day-to-day activities to run the project.

“I wanted to know why U.S. construction projects last longer and are managed better than Korean projects. Through this training I see why.”

Lt. Col. Ju Won-young was also impressed with the advanced construction management system of the district.

“It was very impressive that FED puts the customer satisfaction first of all. I think that helps to think everything on customers’ standpoint not for the easiness of project managers or construction workers.”

Navy Lt. An Myung-jin added that putting safety first is what he will keep in mind.

“In Korean construction fields, efficiency is the most emphasized. But during this exchange training I learned how important safety is and will try not to forget.”

After an intense couple of weeks the students graduated and received certificates of completion for the program.

Jon Iwata, deputy district engineer of the Far East District, congratulated the students upon completion of the program.

“As the video presentation shows we’ve been doing this since 1985. It has been quite a number of years and I truly believe that this program has advanced the understanding of MND personnel in the Corps of Engineers Far East District’s business processes,” said Iwata.

“I’d like to thank you for your attention and your supervisors for letting you come here for three weeks. I truly hope this is helpful for you.”

Since the exchange program’s inception 28 years ago, almost 250 Republic of Korea military officers and civilian engineers have graduated. The program has contributed greatly to bilateral relations and improving quality, communications, and execution of the host nation funded construction program.

(left and right) Far East District contractors gave engineers from the Korean Ministry of National Defense an overview of the aircraft parking project at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys during the MND Exchange Program April 5. (Photos by Patrick Bray)

(below) Attendees of the MND Exchange Program tour inside of the airfield operation building project at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys April 5. (Photo by Patrick Bray)





Col. Greg Baisch was promoted to his present rank by Lt. Gen. John D. Johnson, Eighth Army commander (left) and his wife Mrs. Laurie Baisch (right). The eagle rank insignias they are pinning on him had been worn by his father during his Air Force career. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

Baisch promoted to colonel

By Joe Campbell
FED Korea Program Relocation

Col. Gregory L. Baisch was promoted to his present rank in the U.S. Army Reserve during a ceremony March 28.

Lt. Gen. John D. Johnson, Eighth Army commander, presided over the ceremony at the U.S. Embassy Association on U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan

A native of Twin Falls, Idaho, Baisch graduated from Boise State University with a bachelor's degree in construction management and was commissioned as an engineer officer

"This promotion is especially important to me," said Baisch. "Today, my wife Laurie and Lieutenant General Johnson pinned the same 'eagles' on my shoulders that my father John wore as an Air Force colonel."

Col. John Baisch, a retired U.S. Air Force pilot, served with the India-China Division where he flew across the "Hump," which is what the eastern end of the Himalaya mountains were called, carrying supplies during World War II. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and multiple Air Medals for his service.

The younger Baisch has served as platoon leader, company commander, civil works project manager, chief of a construction support branch and deputy district commander.

Currently he is assigned as the U.S. Forces Korea Transformation and Restationing Liaison Officer with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District, Korea Relocation and Program Office.



Far East District commander Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr., also presented Baisch with the de Fleury medal, an award of the U.S. Army Engineer Association which recognizes outstanding contributions to the engineering regiment. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

Jun Kang selected as district's new emerging leader

By Jason Chudy
FED Public Affairs

Jun Kang, the Information Systems Support Branch Team Leader with the Information Management Office, was recently selected as the Far East District's "Emerging Leader."

Kang takes over from Jisun Kang of contracting division.

His selection wasn't a surprise for Rich Hogle, the acting information management chief. "Jun is great technically and highly qualified," he said. "He's a go-getter, always out there, and willing to accept responsibility."

Kang was born in Seoul and graduated from Fishburne Military School in Waynesboro, Va., before enlisting the Air Force in 1999.

After five years of service, including deployments to Kuwait, Jordan, and Kazakhstan, he left the Air Force and attended the University of Arizona, graduating with a bachelor of science degree in business administration, majoring in management information systems and minoring in mathematics.

He started his federal civilian ser-

vice as part of an Air Force internship program in July 2005 and continued to work on his education, earning a master of business administration degree in management information systems from Ellis College of New York Institute of Technology in July 2008.

Before coming to the district in July 2010, Kang worked with the 98th Range Squadron at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., and with the 169th Signal Company in Daegu.

Kang said he enjoys working for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. "I want to stay in the Corps of Engineers for my career," he said. "This is a good career."

One of the roles of the emerging leader is to join the district's senior leadership as a member of the corporate board. "The program gives you an overall

perspective from how senior leadership makes decisions," said Jisun Kang, the previous emerging leader. "It benefited me by giving me exposure at the highest level of the district and let me learn by being engaged and be part of many discussions that are normally not seen at my level."

This year's emerging leader said he is ready for the new role. "This is a good opportunity to learn [a higher level of] leadership and step upwards in my career field," he said.

Hogle echoed Kang's potential to grow as a leader.

"He seeks those leadership jobs and tasks," he said. "I see him moving up the leadership [ladder] and taking charge."

The former emerging leader said the position is a good place for Kang to begin his climb. "Observe and speak your opinion as a new member to the corporate board," she said. "You can learn a lot of how FED operates and about the different perspective and considerations that are given before a decision is made."



Sergeant major is back



By Sgt. Maj. David Breitbach
FED Sergeant Major

I honestly did not think I would be writing for the East Gate Edition again when I penned what I thought was my final column last September. But, here I am again. I am very happy to be back in Korea with the Far East District. I am extremely grateful for another opportunity to help lead the district as the construction mission begins to grow.

One thing is constant here in Korea and the district and that is change. No matter how much we sometimes want to resist change, it is a fact that things do change and the status quo is no more. To put it simply, change happens. There is an old saying that “nothing endures but change.”

What has changed recently? Well, for the first time in Korean history, a woman has been elected as president. That’s pretty significant.

Our district has seen many changes recently with more to come. We have seen a migration of people returning to the U.S. and many new faces are arriving in to Korea. In July the district will change commanders, as Col. Donald Degidio will turn over the reins to Col. Bryan Green who will, to be sure, introduce his ideas and thus bring us more change.

The current fiscal situation is also forcing us to take a hard look at how we conduct our day-to-day business. The pending furloughs and other budget constraints being put in place have sounded a loud wake-up call that there will be some tough times ahead.

The belt tightening is not just being done in our district but done in every corner of the Department of Defense and other government entities. The bottom line is just that, the bottom line. We have to eliminate waste and come up with ways to increase efficiency.

We have a duty to be good stewards with the tax dollars we are given to conduct our mission. What will the overall impact be? That’s hard to say. It is important that we maxi-

mize every resource and strive to be efficient as possible.

I’ll leave you with a quote from the late British Prime Minister Sir Winston Churchill, “To improve is to change; to be perfect is to change often.”

(below) Military members of the Far East District do a terrain walk over the Task Force Smith’s battlefield, which still is used by the Republic of Korea army for training April 19 (Photo by Jason Chudy)



FED Soldiers tour Task Force Smith site

Military members of the Far East District watch a video about the first encounter between U.S. and North Korean forces during the Korean War Friday, April 19, at the Task Force Smith museum, located about 25 miles south of Seoul near the city of Osan. The new museum, which officially opened in late April, is dedicated to Task Force Smith, the unit which felt the brunt of the North Korean advance towards what would become the Pusan Perimeter. The Soldiers toured the museum and did a terrain walk over the battlefield, which still is used by the Republic of Korea army for training. There are still depressions in the hill’s surface where Task Force Smith’s fighting positions once were. (Photos by Jason Chudy)



(above) Staff Sgt. Karen Blackshear(left), and Spc. Eram Sakandar, Workforce Management Office, read the history of the Korean War at the Task Force Smith museum April 19. (Photo by Jason Chudy)

Building Strong in Korea!

EAST GATE EDITION



celebrates its 30th anniversary

By Jason Chudy
FED Public Affairs

As the Far East District has been building strong in Korea for the past decades, the East Gate Edition recently celebrated a milestone of its own: its 30th anniversary.

The first East Gate Edition hit the streets in March 1983 and has been published on and off – more on than off – ever since. The East Gate Edition name, however, wasn't attached to the publication until the second issue, as the lead story for the initial magazine included a request for district staff to come up with a name.

Edith Newsome, a secretary in the executive office, suggested the winning East Gate Edition. Other finalists included the Far East Engineer, Morning Calm Monthly and Cornerstone.

Assistant district counsel Lyman Carter remembers how the unit was growing between 1982 and 1983, and when the East Gate Edition started to come out, it was well received by the staff. "Eventually people began to look forward to it coming out," he said.

The black-and-white magazine was all black and white, and with stories being printed in both English and Korean, was only 12 pages long, compared to the 24 full-color pages of today's East Gate Edition.

"It was pretty crude," said Carter, who left the

district in 1991 and returned late last year, about the difference in the early and modern magazine. "It's [now] a pretty slick publication, I must say."

A color cover was introduced in February 2002 and the first full-color magazine was the November/December 2005 issue.

Kim Jae-yol, was one of the early East Gate Edition staff members, joining the district in August 1983 as an editorial assistant.

"My job was to compile all kinds of articles," said Kim, who now works at U.S. Forces Korea as a research specialist. "I helped put it all together, edit it, and do the layout."

Kim wrote articles in both languages and took photos - even though photography wasn't in his job description. "It was very fun," he said about working on the magazine. "I miss that time. I still miss it."

Almost everything at the time was done by hand – stories were written on typewriters and then typeset by the publisher into the proper column width. Each page was laid out by hand at the publisher, located on Camp Market, near Incheon.

Kim, who spent about three years at the district, said he would spend a few days a month at the publisher, driving back and forth from Seoul each of those days, making sure everything was ready to be printed.

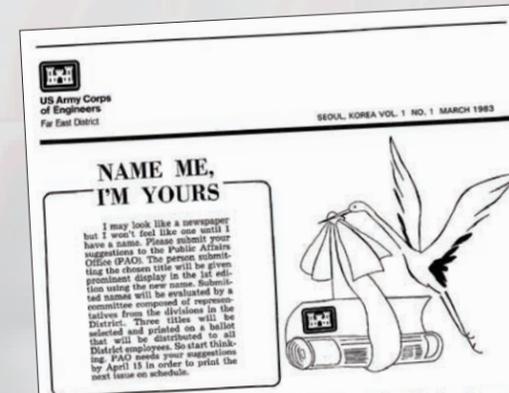
Nowadays, the East Gate Edition is done completely on computer, and the magazine is provided to the publisher as an Adobe Acrobat file.

Since the magazine is done as this type of file, it is easily uploaded to the district's website, where Carter said it is well received both inside and outside of the district. "There are a lot of ex-employees all over the U.S., as a matter of fact all over the world [reading it on-line]."

Carter, too, still peruses the old issues, reminiscing about current and past friends and co-workers.

He shared one story about a former, now deceased, district employee named Kenny Lee who attended school during the Japanese colonization period. The school's building is still on the compound, near the back gate.

Every East Gate Edition in its 30-year history, including this one, is available in the library section of the district's website at <http://www.pof.usace.mil>.



Osan aircraft shelters, Taegu school dedicated



Col. Penner and Construction Div. Chief Bobby Williams discuss Osan shelters with AF Force officials.

February saw the completion of two major district projects which were celebrated in separate ceremonies in Osan and Taegu. On February 19th, the ribbon was cut on the new aircraft shelters that were constructed on Osan Air Base. This \$10.1 million project, which includes a 130,000 sq ft shelter, was constructed by the Enterprise Corp. Two days later, Taegu Air School was dedicated. The school is a 13 million facility in Taegu, South Korea, which will accommodate 100 students. Work is underway since 1981. The school includes a high school and elementary school, as well as a gymnasium and athletic field.



FED newspaper name selected

The contest to name this newspaper closed April 15. A total of 23 suggestions were received. The District Commander convened a board comprised of individuals from each division on April 21 to select the newspaper name. The name selected was "East Gate Edition".



Edith Newsome presented commemorative issue of first East Gate Edition.



Duffers first outing for 1983

The first 1983 Engineer Golf Tournament was held March 18th at the Taegu Golf Club. The tournament was a 36-hole event. The winners were: 1st - Kim, Jae-yol; 2nd - Kim, Se-tong; 3rd - Kim, Young-chu; 4th - Kim, Seung-ho; 5th - Kim, Seung-ho; 6th - Kim, Seung-ho; 7th - Kim, Seung-ho; 8th - Kim, Seung-ho; 9th - Kim, Seung-ho; 10th - Kim, Seung-ho.

Military branch leads bowling race

As the FED Bowling League resumed the mid-way point of its 20-week season, the military branch team, consisting of Yl, Kim Chang, Dan Davis, Kim Yil-gil, Stan Choi, Steve Parsons, Tom Thomas, and Jim, Chase led the pack. Taking the honors for top score average was Yl, Kim Chang (170, 180, 180) with a 168. Chase followed with a 170, followed with a 170.

Branch	Score
Military Branch	20
Arch/Star Section	19
Civil/Design Section	18
F/M Branch	17
Mech/Elect Section	16.5
Twelve Review Section "B"	15
Construction Division	14
Mech/Elect Section "A"	13
Motor Pool Branch	12



Conceptual drawing of the new entrance.

New fed faces

Kim, Young-chu is also a mechanical engineer and is assigned to the Supervision and Inspection Branch. He has come from the General Services Agency in Washington, D.C.

Kim, Se-tong is an electrical engineer in the new branch contract office in the Public Affairs Branch. He came from the U.S. Army Finance and Accounting Office in Washington, D.C.

Kim, Seung-ho is a specialist in Office Administration. He worked for Automated Services in Hwaseong, Hwaseong.

Lee, Jae Eun is the new branch contract office in the Public Affairs Branch. He worked for Automated Services in Hwaseong, Hwaseong.

Upcoming Events

National Secretary's Week Observance	3rd Week April
Hill and Farewell	1st April
Organization Day	3 June
LTC Brown Visits	Week of June 13th
Visit to St. Vincent's Amersham Orthopaedic	12 April
Spring Picnic Song An Won Opentown	15 May

(left) The district welcomed new employees in its first newsletter published March 1983. Kim Se-tong (second from bottom left) still works as a general engineer at the district's Construction Division!

Things to do this May in Korea

Are you upset that you think you've lost the chance to celebrate the cherry blossom festivals in Korea? Here's some good news! There are many different festivals that are being held throughout Korea that are as good as the cherry blossom festivals! Start making plans with your family to explore different parts of Korea with the nice warm weather to make it more fun. Here are some upcoming festivals for May. For more information on festivals around Korea, visit the following website: <http://english.visitkorea.or.kr> -> Attraction -> Events

Hampyeong Butterfly Festival

Dates: April 26 ~ May 8

Region: Jeollanam-do Hampyeong-gun Hampyeong-eup Gonjearo 27

Admission: Adults (ages 19-65): 7,000 won
Youths (ages 13-18): 5,000 won
Children & Seniors: 3,000 won

* Tickets can be bought on the following website: life.ticketlink.co.kr

Description: The Hampyeong Butterfly Festival offers visitors the opportunity to get a closer look at ecology, in particular the region's butterflies. During the festival period, the whole town of Hampyeong is a "veritable butterfly town," covered with butterfly-themed lights and decorations. A medley of butterfly-themed events and programs shed some lights on one of nature's most beautiful and delicate creatures, all while providing fun for the whole family. In addition to numerous exhibition halls featuring butterflies, insects, and water plants, there is even a "hands-on" area where visitors can see and touch a variety of animals and plants! The festival is a great opportunity for children to learn about nature in a fun, interactive environment.

Damyang Bamboo Festival

Date: May 3 ~ May 8

Region: Jeollanam-do Damnyang-gun Damnyang-eup Hyanggyo-ri 282

Admission: Participation fees and site admission fees may be charged

Description: Located within a forest of 2.4 kilometers of bamboo, this festival is full of activities celebrating the beauty and function of the bamboo plant. More active visitors can test their skills during some of the festival's scheduled river sports, such as 'Log Rafting' and 'Water Bicycling'. After working up an appetite, visitors can please their palate with some of Damyang's famous cuisines and other world foods featured at the Cultural Experience Center. For additional sightseeing opportunities, visit some of the other attractions in the area, such as the Damyang Soswaewon, Damyang Gwanbangjerim, Damyang Jungnogwon, Metasequoia, and more.

Website: www.bamboofestival.co.kr

Lotus Lantern Festival

Dates: May 10 ~ May 12

Region: Seoul Jongno-gu Ujeongguk-ro 55

Admission: Free

Description: The Lotus Lantern Festival is held every year on April 8 (lunar calendar) in honor of Buddha's Birth. The festival is preceded by hanging of lotus-shaped lanterns across Seoul for several weeks, and officially kicks off with lighting of the Jangeumdang, a large lantern that symbolizes Buddhism and Buddha's Birthday, at the Seoul Plaza. The celebration continues with a wide array of Buddhist programs and activities, before ending with an impressive lantern parade in the heart of Seoul.

Website: www.llf.or.kr

Boseong Green Tea Festival

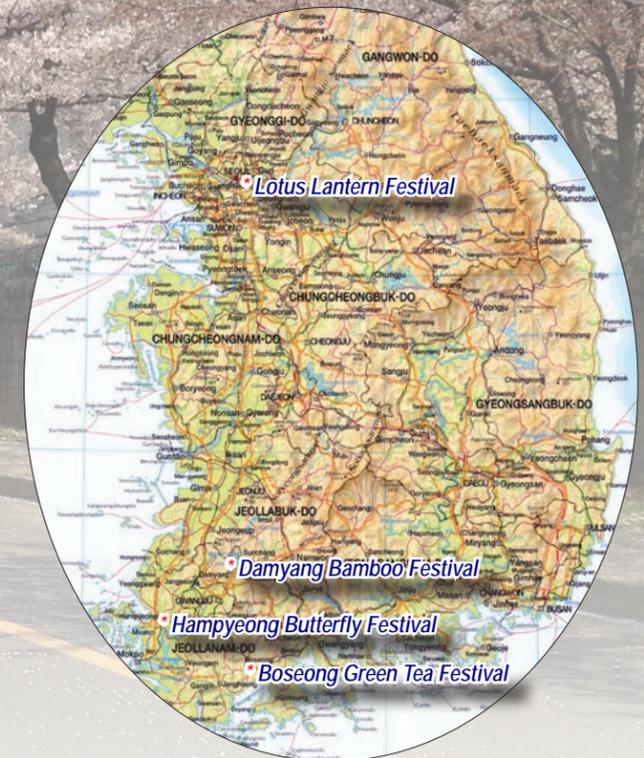
Dates: May 14 ~ May 19

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 & sale, and a number of celebratory performances are also scheduled to be held during the festival period.

Website: dahyang.boseong.go.kr



UNION SPOTLIGHT

2013 Joint Commission Ceremony for Republic of Korean cadets

By O Hwa-chin
FED Programs and Project Management

The Republic of Korea is one of the few countries where military service is mandatory. Also it is the only country with a divided territory, where national security is its top priority, and military defense is an important part of Korea's national defense.

If you are a Korean male, you are obligated to serve in the military. To make that time worthwhile, some decide to become commissioned officers to learn leadership skills through experience as a platoon commander, and contribute to society after being discharged. There are others who have decided to become officers to dedicate their life for our nation's welfare.

Soldiers from the Army, Air Force, Navy cadet schools, reserve officer training corps, female soldiers, nursing officers go through tough training to become officers every year.

This year a joint commission ceremony for 5,800 cadets was held at the Gyeryongdae military headquarters March 8.

우 리나라는 의무적으로 군 복무를 해야 하는 세계에서 몇 안되는 나라 중 하나입니다. 또한 세계에서 영토가 분단된 유일한 나라이기도 하여, 나라의 안보가 최우선 과제이며, 군사적 방어가 국방의 중요한 부분을 차지하고 있습니다.

대한민국 젊은 남자라면 다 거쳐야 할 군 복무 기간을 좀 더 보람있게, 즉, 병사들을 지도하는 소대장 경험을 통하여 리더십을 배워 제대 후 사회에 공헌하는 일꾼이 되기 위해, 또는 국가 안위를 위해 일생을 군에서 지내기로 결심한 많은 젊은이들이 다양한 경로를 거쳐서 장교로 임관되고 있습니다.

육군, 공군, 해군 사관학교는 물론이고 ROTC, 여군, 간호장교 등 여러 방법으로 장교가 되기위한 강도 높은 훈련을 거쳐서 해마다 장교가 탄생되는 것입니다.

President Park Geun-hye, generals, and other government officials attended with families and friends of the graduating cadets. All of those who attended the ceremony congratulated the cadets, who were commissioned as second lieutenants.

The opening ceremony started off with the honor guard performance; a drum performance; video presentation; the official commissioning ceremony, which the president attended; and an Air Force flyover. After lunch, the graduates took commemorative pictures with the president.

Confident eyes of newly appointed officers, disciplined military salute made not only those who attended the ceremony but also all the citizens watching them live on TV washed away concerns on the current unstable national security.

To the newly appointed Republic of Korea officers, we wish you good health and a bright future!

올해는 3월 8일 계룡대에서 합동 임관식이 거행되어 5,800여명에 이르는 장교가 배출되었습니다.

박근혜 새 대통령을 비롯해 국방부 장관과 정부 주요인사들이 참가한 가운데 신임 장교의 가족들과 친지들이 계룡대에 초대되어 아들, 딸들에게 소위 계급장을 수여하며 늙은 장교들의 임관을 축하하였습니다.

의장대, 북 공연, 홍보 영상 상영 등의 식전행사에 이어, 대통령이 참관한 임관식 행사, 그리고 공군 축하비행, 대통령과의 기념촬영 등의 식후행사가 이어졌습니다.

늙은 신임 장교들의 강한 눈빛과 절도 있는 거수경례에, 참석한 모든 사람들은 물론이고 중계를 지켜 본 많은 국민들도, 요즈음의 불안정한 국가 안보에 대한 우려를 말끔히 씻을 수 있었습니다.

대한민국 신임장교 여러분의 건승과 희망찬 미래를 기원합니다!!!



Brig. Gen. Kwon receives the Bronze Order of the de Fleury medal

Brig. Gen. Kwon Tae-hwan, former director general of the Ministry of National Defense U.S. Forces Korea Base Relocation Office, receives the Bronze Order of the de Fleury April 1 for an honorable career as an engineer officer in the Republic of Korea Army. Throughout his career, Kwon has strengthened the Republic of Korea - U.S. Alliance by serving as a role model for engineers from both nations. (Photo by Patrick Bray)



EEO CORNER

Days of Remembrance: "Never Again"

FED Equal Employment Opportunity

For a week in April, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District, looks back at the lives lost and changed by the Holocaust during the "Days of Remembrance." This year, the week was from April 7-14 and the theme was "Never Again: Heeding the Warning Signs." The theme looks back at events in 1938 that showed signs of the war and the Holocaust.

The signs began as early as March in 1938 when German troops began to expand into Austria and implementing anti-Jewish legislation. Anti-Jewish discrimination continued to increase from that point in history.

On March 31, 1938, new laws forbade Jewish doctors from practicing medicine, and then about a week later, Jews were removed from all government service positions and prohibited from practicing law. Still that year, concentration camps began to open up, and more and more Jews began to lose their belongings, jobs, and businesses due to the discriminatory laws placed by the

Nazi government.

In November 1938, a state-sponsored event known as "Night of Broken Glass," or Kristallnacht, escalated the wrongful acts against the Jewish community to violent and aggressive measures that would eventually lead to the Holocaust.

This event, which was organized by the Nazi Party and paramilitary groups, caused synagogues to be burned while Jewish homes and businesses were looted and destroyed. The "Night of Broken Glass" also led to the arrest of approximately 30,000 Jewish men and the death of 91 Jews.

During that year, other countries could have provided refugees a safe haven inside their countries and prevented many losses. History teaches us that our choices in response to hatred truly do matter and together we can help fulfill the promise that such atrocities will never happen again.



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



BUILDING SAFETY STRONG SINCE 1933

Dateline: July 3, 1933, Office of the Chief of Engineers, War Department

"...it is desired that each Division Engineer organize a Safety Section in his office and direct and supervise the establishment of a Safety Section in each district in his division."

After 55 fatalities and \$599,300 in worker compensation claims in calendar year 1931, and 313 accidents (eight fatal) in the first six months of 1933, the Chief of Engineers directed the Corps to start the first Army safety program. Then, as now, "the purpose of these sections will be to prevent accidents and sickness among employees, increase their morale and efficiency, and decrease the costs to the Government arising from lost time and employees' compensation."

Safety responsibilities have not changed. The letter directed that "all officers and employees are charged with identifying hazards and unsafe practices...The heads of departments and areas must be interested and educated so that they interest and lead their subordinates...Monthly meetings of foremen, lock masters, and others in authority will be held with the object of interesting and educating them in safety work. They must be made to realize their responsibility for the safety of the men under them."

Safety professionals in the corps have been and are still charged to be advisors to the commander and the command. "Safety Inspectors should give no direct orders. They will aid the employees in charge of work by pointing out hazards and unsafe practices...Safety inspections of each operation will be made as frequently as possible and not less than one a month."

The purpose for accident reporting today has not changed since 1933. "Accident reports are useful only in so far as they lead to the correction of the causes of the accident. Each accident should at once be carefully investigated by the employee in charge and whenever practicable by a representative of the District Engineer...Therefore, all accidents will be reported and given equal study to determine the cause."

Building Safety Strong Since 1933!!!



*Sung Kwon
Construction
Hired from military*



*Sang Lee
Construction
Transferred from Air Force*



*Yaiko Neil
Construction
Hired as a family member*



*Sgt. Maj. Robert Negaard
Korea Program Relocation
Came from Dallas, Texas*



*Sgt. Maria Capobianco
Logistics Management
Came from Salt Lake City, Utah*



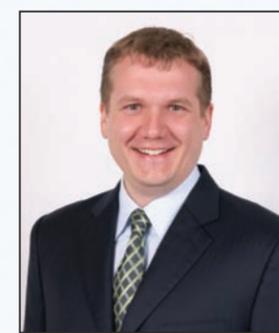
*Spc. Eram Sakandar
Workforce Management
Came from Brooklyn, N.Y.*



*Hong Chong-sik
Engineering Division
Retired*



*Kim Seong H.
Engineering Division
Retired*



*Patrick Bray
Public Affairs Office
Moved to Sacramento District*



*Maj. Randy Lorenzo
Executive Office
Transferred to 420th Engineer Brigade*

Jaymes Hovinga
Safety & Occupational Health

My Plan

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

- Integrating safety into everything we do!
- Being ready, responsive and reliable as an emergency essential civilian.
- Developing my leadership skills through continuous learning.
- Maintaining technical competence through professional certification.



Spc. Eram Sakandar
Workforce Management

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

- Learning new things every day.
- Supporting all the missions.
- Fulfilling all my job requirements.
- Learning from mistakes.



*My Plan,
 My Face*

My Plan

I help the corps build strong in Korea by (What piece of the puzzle do I provide to ensure the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers goes from good to great?)...

- Which Far East District operations plan actions and tasks do I support?
- Which Pacific Ocean Division implementation plan action do I support?
- Which Corps of Engineers command plan goals and objectives do I support?
- What unique contributions do I make to FED, POD, USACE, and our nation?

My Face

I am Building Strong in Korea by...

- Fun things I do
- People and family
- Hobbies
- What else?

Would you like to share your "My Plan, My Face?"

If you are a Far East District civilian or Soldier, simply send yours into the Public Affairs Office and you could be featured in the next East Gate Edition!

My Face

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

- Making sure everyone receiving their mail in a timely manner.
- Processing the incoming military personnel.
- Exceeding the military standards.



My Face

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

- Participating in softball and pool leagues.
- Traveling and learning Korean culture.
- Experiencing new and exciting Korean food.
- Sharing with others the great things Korea has to offer!



Social Media

“Click” us out on YouTube

Did you know that the Far East District’s YouTube page is a great way to keep up with what the district is doing? What’s new this month are spots on the Osan second runway project, Maj. Gen. Kendall Cox’s visit to Korea, and the district’s new STEM partnership with Seoul American High School. Plus, all of our previous posts are still there too. Visit the FED homepage and follow the link to YouTube or just scan the QR code below.

Scan me to connect with the Far East District’s social media sites!



facebook

YouTube



flickr

US Army Corps of Engineers
Far East District

Have a question?
Have some feedback?
Want to share your ideas?

Please visit our Interactive Customer Evaluation (ICE) website at www.pof.usace.army.mil/home/ice and share your thoughts with us.

- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District, wants to hear from you.
- We value our customers and employees so we are always looking for more innovative ways to improve our business processes and services.
- As a customer you can provide feedback or ask a question to any of our divisions and offices.
- We will follow-up on your comments within five business days or sooner.



Col. Donald E. Degidio, Jr.

사령관 코너

최고의 극동 공병단 팀과 모든 팀들에게,

봄이 드디어 왔습니다! 공병단 주변 나무들이 꽃을 피우고 추위가 누그러지고 있습니다.

날씨가 따뜻해지는만큼 공병단 업무도 바빠지고 있습니다. 모두 알고 있듯이 펄택 험프리즈 부대 건설이 빠르게 진행되고 있고 한반도에 위치한 다른 부대 시설의 건설도 차질없이 진행되고 있으며 우리 공병단도 지속적으로 성장하고 있습니다. 업무가 바쁘게 진행되는 동안에도 새로운 직원들을 환영하는 것을 잊지 마시기 바랍니다. 매달 East Gate Edition에 새로운 직원의 사진을 실고 있으니 새 직원을 만났을 때 먼저 다가가 반갑게 인사를 나누어 편하게 새로운 곳에 적응할 수 있도록 도와주고 우리 위대한 팀의 일원으로 소속감을 느끼게 해주시기 바랍니다.

이 달은 미 국방 군 자녀 교육부-한국지부와 맺은 과학, 기술 공학, 수학 (STEM) 프로그램을 시행할 기회가 많은 달이었습니다. 우리 공병단 직원 모두 한국에서 뛰어난 프로그램을 수행하는데 중요한 역할을 했습니다. 미래 지도자들에게 굉장한 기회를 제공하기 위해 애써주셔서 감사합니다.

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앞으로 한동안 올 여름에 부임하는 저의 후임 브라이언 그린 대령의 모습을 자주 보게 될 것입니다. 저와 그린 대령은 험프리즈 부대, 진해, 부산을 방문했고 4월에는 PRB에 함께 참석했으며 공병단도 앞으로 더 돌아볼 것입니다. 새로운 사령관을 보시게 되면 반갑게 인사하여 환영해 주시기 바랍니다.

안전을 항상 우선시 해 주시고 우리 공병단, 주한미군, 그리고 대한민국을 위해 최선을 대해 업무에 임해주시기 바랍니다.

우리의 최고의 동맹에게 - 같이 갑시다!

우리의 최고의 공병단에게 - 에세이온!

한반도에 강한 건설을 수행하는 하나의 팀!



I wore a DOT Approved Helmet!



***What have YOU
done to save a
life today?***



**ARMY SAFE
IS ARMY STRONG**



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