



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Far East District

EAST GATE EDITION

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District makes history as it breaks ground on new headquarters building

By **Stephen Satkowski**
FED Public Affairs

Construction on the future United States Army Corps of Engineers Far East District headquarters building began as ground was ceremonially broken June 20 on land adjacent to U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys.

The building will offer a central location for district employees to provide the day to day administrative, construction and engineering services in the Republic of Korea.

“I think it’s historic that we have broken ground on a brand new headquarters building that will be completed around the time the district celebrates its 60th birthday,” said Col. Bryan S. Green, district engineer and commander.

Brig. Gen. Kang Chang-koo, Director General of Program Management, Ministry of National Defense United States Forces Korea Relocation Office, said the teamwork between the district and MURO since the Land Partnership and Yongsan Relocation Plan agreements were signed in 2004 has been excellent.

“Many challenges, big and small, lie ahead of us, but I’m not worried

because we as a team are strong enough to accomplish the mission,” said Kang. “Thanks to our partnership the Yongsan Relocation Plan is now [well underway].”

At the ceremony a three-person shovel, used in construction in the mid- to late-20th century in Korea, symbolized the close partnership

between the Far East District and its Korean partners.

“One of the first pictures taken in district history in 1957 was of three Koreans from [contracting firm] Daelim [Industrial] operating a three-person shovel,” said Green.

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Col. Bryan S. Green (center), commander of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District is joined by Republic of Korea Brig. Gen. Kang Chang-koo (left), Director General of Program Management, Ministry of National Defense USFK Relocation Office and Republic of Korea Lt. Col. Cho Nam-ya (right) of the MND-Defense Intelligence Agency as they use a three-man shovel to bury a time capsule which will be opened at the district ribbon cutting ceremony. (Photo by Stephen Satkowski)

Construction Division moves to Humphreys

By Stephen Satkowski
FED Public Affairs

The majority of the district's construction division employees are set to move to U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys by Oct. 15. The move coincides with a ramping up of construction at the garrison, part of the United States Forces Korea's Yongsan Relocation Plan, the largest base relocation program in the Department of Defense.

"I think this is the best way to focus everyone on the YRP," said Mike Kopp, construction division quality assurance branch chief. "We can be more efficient down there. Every dollar and every hour counts."

The quality assurance branch will move this summer to allow those with children in Department of Defense Dependent Schools to complete the school year in Seoul.

"Moving is always a challenge, even when it's in country," said Sam Adkins, chief of construction division. "Moving to Humphreys is just like moving to Kansas. You have to get orders, pack out household goods, outprocess your vehicle, outprocess Area II [the Seoul area], travel, stay in temporary quarters until you find an apartment and inprocess Area III [Humphreys area]."

Kopp said everyone in his section has been to Humphreys numerous times and knowing the projects and the people will help ease the transition.

"We had some help from Far East District folks who are already down there," said Kopp. "People shared their experience with places to live and real estate agents so that made the process easier."

Moving can be a stressful time, especially for those who have lived in Seoul for decades. Korean National Sung Ho had lived in Seoul for nearly 14 years and said leaving brought some challenges.

"I talked it over with my family for six months before deciding to move. The biggest problem was educational – finding the right school for my children," said Ho. "We moved in February and we like it there now. My advice to others is don't be afraid."

Korean nationals account for more than half of construction division's employees and the process of moving them is different compared to U.S. Army civilians.

"On the whole it's probably more difficult for the Koreans to move because their system doesn't have as many benefits for them to move as opposed to ours," said Kopp. "Americans in Korea on the whole we're built more to be mobile and versatile."

Kopp left for Humphreys in May, the first one in his section leave. He said "leading from the front" gave him the opportunity to provide tangible leadership and advice to his employees on what to expect.

"It's not just a question of cutting the orders and the money," said Kopp. "You've got to show them we care. We haven't forgotten about you. We really appreciate what you're doing and we need you. That's the biggest concern I have. This is a challenge to really take care of the people," said Kopp.



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District makes history as it breaks ground on new headquarters building

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Representatives from Daelim, which will build the new facility, United States Forces Korea Base Relocation Project Management Office, and Korea Land and Housing Corporation joined Green to mark the occasion and help bury a time capsule, which will be opened at the building's ribbon cutting.

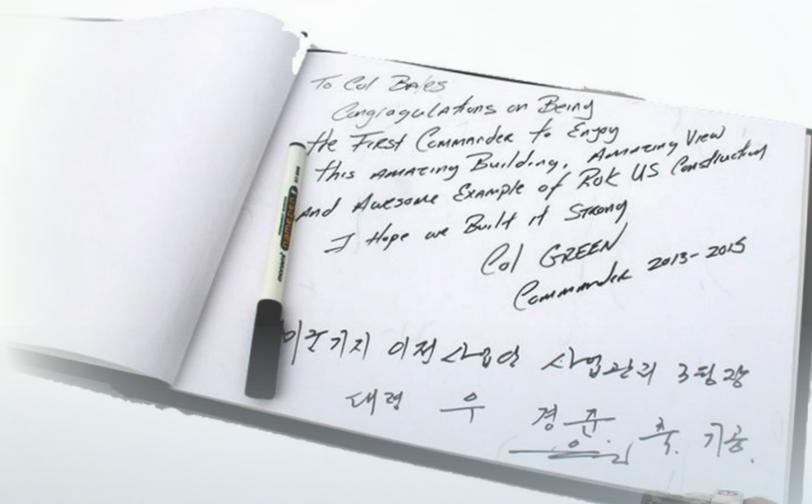
“We used a piece of the past to bury a guest book filled with messages to welcome the future residents of the building,” said Green.

The building is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2016.



(above) Rendering of the future U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District headquarters building.

A note to the future ... Col. Bryan S. Green wrote this note to the future commander, Col. Stephen Bales, in the groundbreaking ceremony guestbook, which will be unveiled at the new district headquarters ribbon cutting. Right now the book is buried in a time capsule on the site. (Photos by Stephen Satkowski)



Tarikas presented de Fleury award for service to Engineer Regiment

By Stephen Satkowski
FED Public Affairs

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District civil engineer technician Ilmar Tarikas was presented the Steel Order of the de Fleury Medal for more than 39 years of service to the Engineer Regiment.

The award was presented by district commander Col. Bryan S. Green July 8 on behalf of Chief of Engineers Lt. Gen. Thomas P. Bostick.

Tarikas began his career in October 1972 as an artillery surveyor for 3rd Battalion, 13th Field Artillery, 25th Infantry Division at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. Later, he was assigned as a surveying technician and cartographic technician for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Honolulu District. He has been with the Far East District since 1996 and has served as the primary technical lead within the district's survey unit, tasked to ensure the accuracy,

precision, and completeness of all site survey work associated with the Korea Relocation Program.

During his career Tarikas has participated in numerous contingency operations and deployments. He was deployed to Bangladesh in 1991 to contribute to typhoon response operations and deemed an emergency essential employee with the district, periodically participating in contingency exercises.

Tarikas transferred to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Galveston District July 10 and will serve there as a survey technician.

The Engineer Regiment has four award levels of the de Fleury Medal - steel, bronze, silver and gold.

The Steel de Fleury Medal recognizes "superior service to the Engineer

Regiment as it supports the Army to assure mobility, enhance protection, enable expeditionary logistics, and build capacity in order to provide commanders with the freedom of action required for full spectrum operations in an era of persistent conflict."

The medal is named for French Engineer Francois Louis Tesseidre de Fleury who volunteered to serve with the American Army in its fight for independence from Britain during the American Revolutionary War.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District civil engineer technician Ilmar Tarikas (center) is presented with the Steel Order of the de Fleury medal by district commander Col. Bryan S. Green (left) and Doug Bliss, chief of the district's geotechnical and environmental engineering branch. (Photo by Stephen Satkowski)



Minority engineering students learn tricks of the trade

By Stephen Satkowski
FED Public Affairs

Three college students are getting on the ground experience in engineering this summer at the Far East District.

The students, Tony Morgan, an electrical engineering major at Morgan State; Randi Wilson, an architectural engineering major at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State; and Zachary Robinson, architecture major at Hampton University; traveled to Korea as part of the Advancing Minorities Interest in Engineering program.

The program serves as a catalyst that forges industry, government and academia partnerships that support programs to advance minorities interest in engineering.

The three will rotate through various engineering specialties at the district to help them discover what life is like as a professional engineer.

“It is a great opportunity to not only build the skills of these young people but also impact the future of the United States Army Corps of Engineers by getting them excited about what we do,” said Bernadine Thomson, Korea Program Relocation Office deputy chief.

Thomson and Adrian Devillasee, project engineer and a graduate of the 2000 program, select the interns, receive them at the airport and work to integrate them into the office and job for the ten weeks they are in Korea. She

and Devillasee also have become surrogate parents, helping them navigate the subway, seeing some of the sights the peninsula has to offer and helping them learn about the culture.

“I feel that this is a great opportunity to learn various technical skills and professionalism from qualified engineers,” said Morgan. “I have never been overseas. I am learning so many new things about Korea and this internship has made me a better person.”

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Zachary Robinson, Advancing Minorities Interest in Engineering program intern, observes at a construction site at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys. (FED file photo)



A new 'skyline' emerges over Camp Henry

By Stephen Satkowski
FED Public Affairs

A new building is changing the Camp Henry skyline at U.S. Army Garrison Daegu. A 10-story barracks for enlisted Soldiers will be the tallest in all of Area IV when it's completed in the fall.

"The lack of space on Camp Henry made it difficult to build the standard design so it was necessary to make some design modifications to fit the number of required units," said Benny Apuya, southern resident office quality assurance representative.

Due to changing personnel and difficult terrain on-site the project had its share of challenges.

"The project sits on an old river bed so pile driving was very difficult due to big rocks on the subsoil," said Apuya.

These initial obstacles put the project behind schedule for a time.

"Thanks to everyone's efforts we are back on track," said Apuya. "We are coordinating with our stakeholders and the project is running smoothly."

Each room will consist of a shared bathroom and kitchen and each Soldier will have an individual bedroom with a spacious closet said Elisa Beck, southern resident office deputy resident engineer.

She also said the close partnership between Apuya and his counterpart with the contracting firm Fine Construction played a key role in accomplishing the projects goals.

"This projects success is in great part due to Benny Apuya and Lim

Kyung-wook, quality control representative for Fine Construction, as they both adhered to our safety and quality standards and schedule," said Beck. "Their teamwork has ensured the highest standards of construction have been followed."

Apuya said he accomplishes his goals by following tools he learned while serving the Army.

"Be professional in what you do, know your job and your responsibility, and do your to the best of your best ability and respect others," said Apuya.

Two-hundred-ninety-eight Soldiers from the 19th Expeditionary Sustainment Command will begin calling the barracks home in November of this year.

The 10-story barracks on Camp Henry in U.S. Army Garrison Daegu will be the tallest structure in all of Area IV when completed in the fall. (Photo courtesy of FINE Construction)



FED Community garden continues to grow

The Far East District community garden continues to grow this summer at the compound in Seoul. Plants include tomatoes, kale, peppers and more. The garden was developed as an informal way to bring people together to share tips on gardening. (FED file photos)



Minority engineering students learn tricks of the trade

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Zachary Robinson chose the architecture field because he enjoys solving problems and creating living spaces that put people at ease. He said the chance to work for the U.S. government in a thriving nation like Korea was a combination he couldn't turn down.

"It's a great opportunity to get not only professional experience, but a cultural one too," said Robinson. "The Republic of Korea is a developing country in the midst of a growth spurt so it's an experience that is very unique."

Robinson interned with engineers before but this is his first time working with Soldiers and civil servants.

"I'm learning acronyms, industry

practices, cultural practices and some Hangul all at the same time," said Robinson.

Robinson said he has gained knowledge here that will prove beneficial as he chooses his future career path.

"This experience has already connected me with people who have shown me multiple pathways in which I can be employed after I get my degree," said Robinson. "I also want to end this experience with a good idea of how my future might be if I have a career with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers."

Randi Wilson has wanted to be an engineer for as long as she can remember and said this internship will allow

her to apply the skills she learned in the classroom to the real world.

"Lifelong learning is essential as an engineer," said Wilson. "As the field grows and changes, so must the engineer. "It is my goal to enhance the quality of life for people as their needs grow, also."

Wilson said this international work experience shows to future employers her flexibility and adaptability.

"This is truly a priceless experience," said Wilson.

This is the 14th year the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has participated in the program.

District members celebrate its 57th birthday

Here are some photos of district employees and Servicemembers celebrating organization day!



This month in FED History



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Far East District

"Leaders
In
Customer
Care"

East Gate Edition

SEOUL KOREA VOL. IV NO. 40 JULY 1986

Col. Howard Boone assumes FED command

Col. Howard Boone became the Far East District Engineer at the change of command ceremonies July 21 at FED compound.

The Far East District is responsible for military construction activities for the U.S. Forces in the Republic of Korea.

Prior to this assignment, Col. Boone was Director, Force Integration Studies, Department of Command, Leadership and Management, U.S. Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, Pa.

He graduated in 1964 from

the U.S. Military Academy with a bachelor's degree in military science and in 1970 earned a master's degree in operations analysis engineering from the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, Calif. He is a graduate of both the Army Command and General Staff College and the Army War College.

Col. Boone has had numerous assignments in the United States and overseas. He served as Commander, 8th Engineer Battalion, Fort Hood, Texas, 1980-1983, and

as staff officer with the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Research Development and Acquisition, 1977-1980.

Earlier assignments include duty as assistant division engineer with the 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood Texas; at Headquarters Department of the Army as senior analyst with the Engineer Strategic Studies Group; in Vietnam with the 19th Engineer Battalion and as senior advisor to the Vietnam Army's 5th Engineer Battalion. He also served in Germany with the 3rd Engineer Battalion, 24th

Infantry Division.

Among his military awards are the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, the Parachutist Badge and the Ranger Tab.

He was born in Centralia, Ill. He and his wife, Christine, have four children, Cynthia, Charles, Craig and Cassandra. Craig and Cassandra accompanied Col. and Mrs. Boone to their Seoul duty station.



Welcome new Commander, Col. Howard Boone.



Brig. Gen. Robert Ryan, Pacific Ocean Division Commander, passes the organizational colors (Corps flag) to Col. Howard Boone, incoming Commander, during the change of command ceremonies at FED, while Col. Larry Fulton, outgoing Commander and Sgt. Maj. Gary Williams, POD Sergeant Major, look on.

Col. Larry Fulton bids District farewell



Col. Larry Fulton turned over command of the U.S. Army Engineer District, Far East, to Col. Howard Boone during a formal change of command ceremony on July 21. Col. Fulton and his wife Dee will be heading for Italy, where Col. Fulton will assume his new duties as Command Engineer with the SETAF. During the change of command ceremony, Col. Fulton was presented the Army's Legion of Merit by Brig. Gen. Robert Ryan, Commander, Pacific Ocean Division, for his exceptional meritorious achievements while commanding FED from July 1984 to July 21, 1986.

Col. Fulton's tenure was punctuated

with a number first for the Far East District. One of the most rapidly expanding military construction programs in the Corps of Engineers was taking place in FED during the period along with the turbulence of bringing a larger workforce on board to accomplish this program.

The District was widening its scope of design and construction expertise from the usual barracks and dining facility projects. More technically complex projects were being designed and constructed, such as the Osan hospital complex, command and control centers and state of the art automated firing ranges. In most cases, the excellent work in these facilities was recognized by the customer, but there were occasions when the

(Continued on next Page)

Col. Larry Fulton receives the Army Legion of Merit from Brig. Gen. Robert Ryan.

RM Corner: It's your money!

Travel Guidance

FAR EAST DISTRICT TRAVEL BULLETIN

INFORMATION FOR TRAVELERS and APPROVING OFFICIALS

- Any travel other than by a usually traveled route is usually referred to as circuitous travel or indirect travel. This is usually personal travel that detours from the usually traveled route. This travel is typically more costly and not for official purposes. To avoid confusion, misrouting and misuse of city-pair airfares, travel documents must clearly show the official travel points and that circuitous travel is authorized. If personal locations are shown, they must be clearly identified as personal/leave travel location and state that any excess cost is the responsibility of the traveler. Employees may not be provided a city-pair airfare or any other airfares intended for official government business for any portion of a circuitous route traveled for personal convenience.

Example: A traveler TDY from Seoul, Korea to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas is authorized personal/leave travel to Hawaii, on the return trip. The price of the airline ticket for Korea to Kansas to Hawaii exceeds the cost of the round-trip airline ticket between Korea and Kansas. The employee is responsible for paying for the airline ticket for Korea to Kansas to Hawaii and will only be reimbursed up to the amount of the round-trip airline ticket between Korea and Kansas. The government travel credit card cannot be used to purchase the airline ticket that includes personal/leave travel.

- Resource Management Office has published a “TIPS FOR TDY TRAVELERS” booklet for our frequent travelers. This booklet is being provided to inform employees of the entitlements normally incurred in the performance of official travel. The booklet should serve as a guide and it does not replace the Department of Defense Joint Travel Regulations which is used to determine claims for reimbursement.

TIPS FOR TRAVELERS CORNER

Did you know...



- **Transportation Security Administration Pre-check:** DoD civilian employees may expedite security screening checking at over 100 airports in the states. TSA pre-check program allows participants to keep on their shoes, belt and light jacket and leave laptops and liquids in their carry-on bag when going through dedicated pre-check security lanes. You must enroll in this program by going to the milConnect website at <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect> and click on the “My Profile” tab. At the top of your profile, click on the “CIV” tab and look for the Personnel Status information box. Click on the TSA Look for the Pre check box and scroll to the bottom of the page and click submit.



Building Safety Strong

ARMY SAFE IS ARMY STRONG



Working In the Summer Heat



The hot summer sun puts a whole new light on the workplace. Some people love the heat, while others can't wait for the dog days of summer to give way to blessed fall-like conditions. Regardless of your personal viewpoints on hot weather, everyone must take precautions to know and avoid heat illness.



Here are the warning signals of heat illness:

- ◆ **Heat Cramps.** Heat cramps affects muscles such as those in the arms, legs and abdomen – the muscles that have been used while working. These cramps may occur after work, when the person is resting. Heat cramps are a signal that the body has lost too much salt through sweating.
- ◆ **Heat Exhaustion.** Heat exhaustion is a serious condition that needs immediate attention. It may have any or all of these symptoms: A feeling of exhaustion, nausea, dizziness, pale and clammy skin, quick pulse, and low blood pressure. Heat exhaustion is also a warning that the mechanism that controls heat for the body becomes seriously overtaxed. Heat stroke may follow if heat exhaustion is not treated.
- ◆ **Heat Stroke.** Heat stroke is a serious matter and it can be fatal. It occurs when the body's heat control mechanism simply shuts down. Perspiration stops and the body temperature rises. The heart pounds and the skin becomes flushed and hot. This condition is a medical emergency and must be treated immediately.

Here are some suggestions for smoother sailing in the summer:

- ◆ **Let the water flow.** People often wait until they are thirsty to drink water but if you are doing physically demanding work and become dehydrated, you can't catch up and are at risk for potentially fatal heat illness. Employees need to be encouraged to drink water continuously on hot days and you must provide it.
- ◆ **Take frequent rest breaks when working in hot conditions.** These breaks can consist of moving to a cooler area or switching to lighter work for a while.
- ◆ **Acclimate to working in hot conditions.** You cannot go from working in comfortable temperatures to working full tilt in a heat wave. Allow them frequent rest breaks in the shade and save extra-demanding physical jobs for cooler parts of the day.
- ◆ **Wear hats and dress in light-colored, lightweight, loose clothing.** They should be using sunscreen with a sun protection factor (SPF) of at least 15 and reapplying it if they are sweating it off. Workers who are overweight or have medical conditions should ask their doctors about additional precautions to take while working in hot conditions, whether indoors or outdoors.



- ◆ **Don't stop taking medication unless your doctor says you should.** Take extra care to stay cool and ask your doctor or pharmacist for any special heat advice.
- ◆ **Ventilate.** Ensure that indoor areas are kept well ventilated and that fans or air conditioners are operating.
- ◆ **Watch each other for signs of heat illness.** Mild cases can be treated by moving the person to a cool area and supplying water to drink. Heat stroke is a life-threatening condition that calls for immediate medical help.

Every summer many areas undergo periods of seriously hot weather. Make sure you know how to avoid heat illness at work and off the job.



Clifford Birgado
Construction
Came from Hawaii District



Jakia McDonald
Construction
Came from Fort Gordon, Ga.



Leslie Hull
Information Management
Came from Fort Leavenworth, Kan.



Roger Fullam
Construction
Came from New York



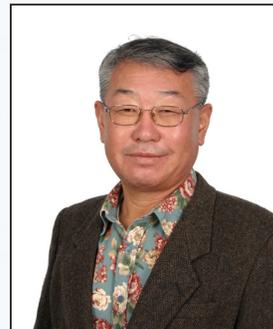
Tracie Le
Construction
Came from Hawaii District



Anisha Downs
Korea Program Relocation
Transferred to Omaha District



Ilmar Tarikas
Engineering
Transferred to Galveston District



O Chin-sok
Engineering
Retired



Patrick Crays
Security, Plans and Operations
Transferred to Headquarters
USACE

LEADERS, SOLDIERS, FAMILIES AND CIVILIANS: MANAGE YOUR RISK

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June is National Safety Month, and now is a great time to evaluate your personal risk, both on and off duty.

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