



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Far East District

EAST GATE EDITION

MARCH 2015 VOL. 24, NO. 3

Prime Power Soldiers learn valuable lessons as they assist district engineers

By Stephen Satkowski
FED Public Affairs

Sgt. Alfredo Alvarez and Sgt. Dinesh Liyanage, members of the 249th Engineer Battalion - Prime Power, are the first set of Soldiers from the battalion assigned for temporary duty with the Far East District at U.S. Army Garrison (USAG) Humphreys, part of a rotation the District is conducting this year.

"We like it a lot," said Liyanage, who works as a power station mechanic at USAG Humphreys. "It's a new experience for both of us. As prime power soldiers we don't get to participate in huge construction projects like this."

Prime Power battalion is a versatile power generation battalion assigned to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that provides commercial-level power to military units and also federal relief organizations. Their mission at the district is to provide technical expertise on electrical systems, making sure everything is done according to regulation.

"Prime Power Soldiers are no ordinary electricians. They are the most specialized and highly trained engineers in the regiment and they have the knowledge and training to go anywhere in the world and provide electrical power," said Far East District Sgt. Maj. David Breitbach. "The Prime Power Soldiers are helping ensure that when the switch is thrown to power up each new building the lights come on."

While at the district Alvarez and Liyanage are also learning valuable tools that will benefit them as they progress in their career.

"We are working with great project engineers at the parcel 2 resident office," said Alvarez. "They are sharing information with us that we couldn't learn anywhere else. All the engineers here are very helpful and always take us on different missions providing us with valuable experience."

Continued on Page 5


Sgt. Alfredo Alvarez (left) and Sgt. Dinesh Liyanage, members of the 249th Engineer Battalion - Prime Power, inspect a generator panel at a troop housing area construction site on U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys in February 2015. The Soldiers are on a 100 day temporary duty at the district providing expertise in electrical engineering. (FED file photo)



Dr. Pak Chun-pom, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District's data management section chief, test flies a new drone in the drill rig shelter at FED headquarters on Feb. 23. The drone will assist in taking valuable videos and photographs of construction projects for the district. (FED file photos)



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

The ***EAST GATE***  is an authorized publication for members of the Far East District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Contents of this publication are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by the U.S. Government, DoD, DA, or the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. It is published monthly by the Public Affairs Office, Far East District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, APO AP 96205-5546.
Telephone: 721-7301
E-mail: DLL-CEPOF-WEB-PA@usace.army.mil

District Commander

Col. Bryan S. Green

Public Affairs Officer

Stephen Satkowski

Managing Editor Kim Chong-yun

Staff Writer Yi Yong-un

Check out the Far East District web site at

www.pof.usace.army.mil

Career fair provides first exposure to engineering for elementary students

By Stephen Satkowski
FED Public Affairs

Engineers from the Far East District demonstrated to Osan American Middle School students Jan. 30 what they can expect if they chose a career in the engineering field.

The district, along with the 51st Civil Engineering Squadron, was part of more than 30 volunteers from a variety of fields ranging from firefighting and emergency management to explosive ordnance disposal.

"I really enjoyed being out and talking to the middle school students," said parcel 2 resident office engineer

Eric Carandang. "I believe this made a huge difference because they were given a chance to be exposed to different career options. It's about basic understanding of what these careers are like and what they entail. Hopefully this exposure will help point them in the right direction and inspire them to keep moving forward."

District personnel challenged students to questions about engineering and explained in detail the nature of their work, said Korea Program Relocation Office project manager Tom Kwiat.

"Quite a few students displayed

a strong interest in engineering, said Kwiat. "We all enjoyed the opportunity to interact with these young men and women and hopefully gave them food for thought as they consider options for their future endeavors."

This was the second annual career fair at Osan American Elementary School. The district participated as part of its STEMEd program, a science, technology, engineering and mathematics educational partnership between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers headquarters and Department of Defense Dependent Schools.

Several U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District engineers participated in an annual career fair at Osan American Middle School Jan. 30 as part of the science technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) educational partnership program. District personnel challenged students to questions about engineering and explained in detail the nature of their work. (FED file photo)



Reinforce stability in the ROK: Quality of life construction

By Staff Sgt. Jake Barreiro

51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

This is the eighth in a series of articles relating an overview of the mission at Osan Air Base. The major role Team Osan plays in the Republic of Korea and the extent of its mission will be showcased this week in the way Team Osan's Airmen "reinforce stability in the ROK". Next week, there will be a wrap-up article and accompanying video summing up the four principles and how they're accomplished to keep the mission running here.

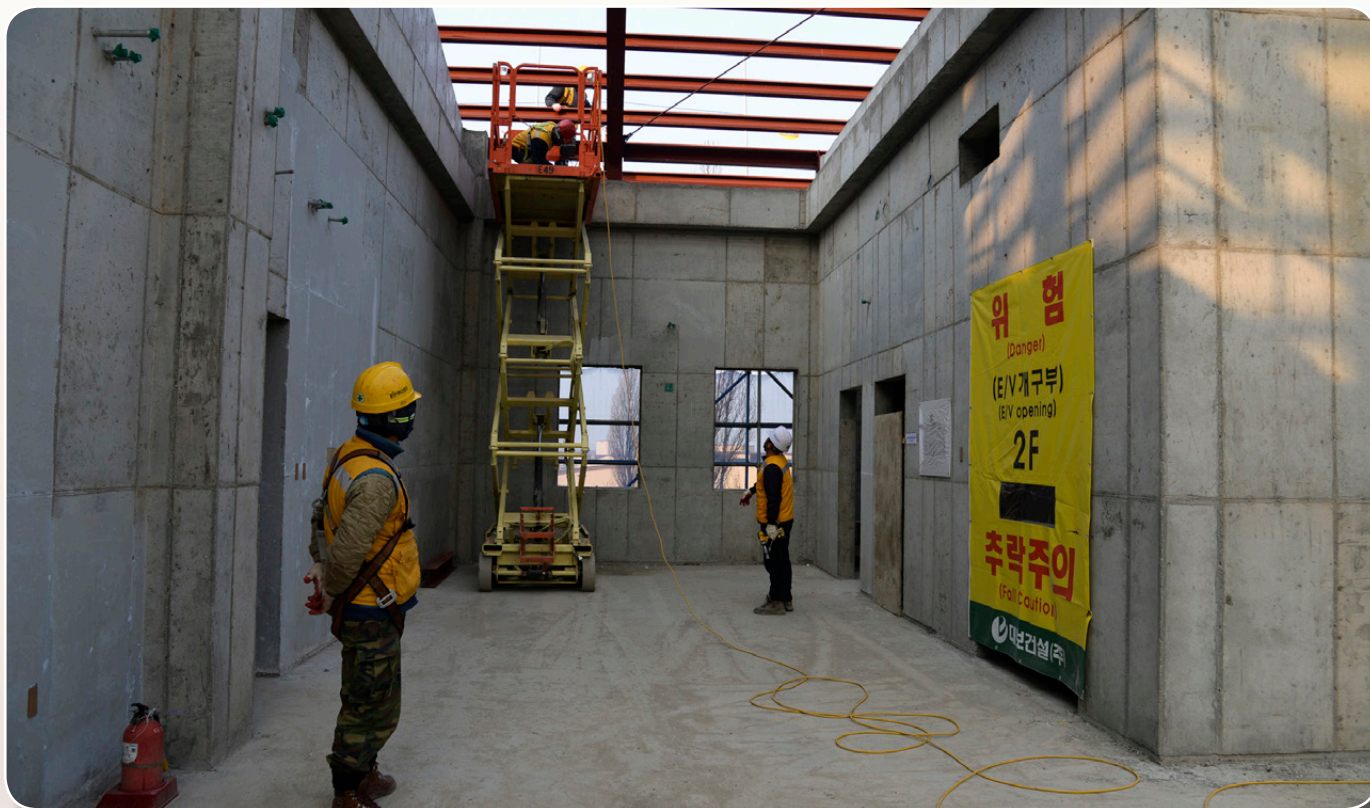
(below) Contractors work on the inside of a building Feb. 4, at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea. Osan AB is constantly adding new construction projects in order to enhance quality of life and stability of more than 10,000 residents on base. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Matthew Lancaster)

“This is what victory looks like,” is a phrase oft-repeated at ceremonies by Col. Brook Leonard, 51st Fighter Wing commander. These words are usually in reference to things like the base's renovated Enlisted Club, the newly-erected Senior NCO dorms or the popular chain-restaurant Chili's. To some, calling an international burger establishment an indication of “victory” can seem over the top, but the point is that quality of life establishments are a product of stability, which was earned in the Republic of Korea in July of 1953 with the signing of an Armistice between feuding North and South Korean militaries. Ever since, preserving

that stability has been a primary goal of United States forces on peninsula, a job the members of Team Osan accomplish not just through sorties and flights, but through the establishment of permanent, high quality of life facilities on base.

Before these quality of life facilities become Osan staples, they need to be designed, contracted, approved and constructed. The construction projects on base are brought to realization with coordination from multiple agencies including the 51st Civil Engineer Squadron, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far-East District, and the 411th Contracting Support Battalion.

Continued on the next page



Reinforce stability in the ROK: Quality of life construction

Continued from the previous page

There are currently more than 400 appropriated, non-appropriated and host-nation funded projects either on going, in design or being programmed for Osan Air Base, totaling more than \$3 billion in planned spending. Indicators like “appropriated, non-appropriated and host-nation funded” are given to prospective projects based on the planned funding for the project. That kind of mass logistical and monetary expense involves coordination between extra-service and extra-national agencies.

“Managing construction projects is a team effort where the customer, base civil engineers, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far-East District and the 411th Contracting Support Battalion all have an important role to play,” said Capt. Christian E. Ocasio, 51st CES engineering flight commander.

The 51st CES is responsible for tracking a project’s process, while continuously performing quality assurance checks. Additionally, the mustang engineers also liaison between the base and the host-nation contracting offices, Army Corps project managers and other contractors.

“As the base representative we ensure the customer’s requirements are fully met,” said Ocasio. “We do this by having our programmers visit the sites and meet with the facility managers and

users to accurately define the scope of the projects.”

Of course, teamwork and comprehensive coordination are necessary to bring ideas like a new Enlisted Club or modernized Senior NCO dorms to hard reality. The USACE-FED is a cherished partner of the 51st CES.

“Our quality of life projects here are very important,” said Army Maj. Brian Becker, U.S. ACE-FED project engineer. “Looking back at the old facilities on base, we can see how things have improved here in the last 20-30 years.”

One example of a recent improvement is the erected-from-nothing Senior NCO dorms, which had the ribbon on it cut Nov. 11, 2014. The new dorm will provide more than 250 Senior NCOs with single-occupancy apartment rooms, with each unit having its own bedroom, living room, toilet room, kitchen, closet and washer and dryer unit.

The new dormitory was an example of the U.S. and ROK alliance working together to enhance quality of life, and thus stability, at Osan AB.

“This is an amazing facility because it is a perfect example of craft and art coming together to deliver the perfect project on time and on budget,” said Army Col. Bryan Green, U.S. ACE-FED commander, at the dormito-

ry ribbon cutting. “I am thrilled [about this dorm] because every senior NCO that goes in there will get to experience this new style of dormitories on base.”

The relationship between the host-nation contractors, the 51st CES and the USACE-FED is a strong one according to Ocasio and Becker.

“The 51st CES and FED have a strong working relationship,” said Ocasio. “We have weekly coordination meetings and communicate daily. Within the organization we have civilian, Air force, Army and contractors all working for a common goal. It is truly one team, one fight.”

Together, these units help reinforce stability in the ROK while building partnerships across services and nations.

“It all goes back to partnering and teamwork,” said Becker. “Nothing gets done here without a good working relationship. We have a fantastic relationship with the host nation, 51st FW and CE flight where everyone feels valued.”

Stability, like construction, involves patience and long-term planning to achieve. The 51st CES and U.S. Army FED help keep this common goal secure with a lasting legacy of high-quality facilities helping make Osan a more permanent, stable and habitable assignment.

Prime Power Soldiers learn valuable lessons

Continued from Page 1

Breitbach said this opportunity for the Soldiers puts them in an environment that is a bit unusual for them.

“This is a career broadening opportunity for these troops. They typically work in environments where they are coming in during a natural disaster or in places with no infrastructure,”

said Breitbach.

Alvarez and Liyanage are scheduled to leave in May. Two other prime power soldiers from their home installation at Schofield barracks, Hawaii, will replace them in a rotation lasting 100 days.

Daegu middle school students visit new barracks



Sgt. 1st Class Fabio Vallejo, U.S. Army Corps of Engineer Far East District southern resident office construction representative, provides a tour of the recently completed barracks to 40 Daegu middle school students on Feb. 4. The tour was part of a larger visit to Camp Henry and Walker at U.S. Army Garrison Daegu. (Photo by Cpl. Kim Si-wong, USAG Daegu Public Affairs Office)



U.S. Army Medical Command Health Facility Planning Agency Lt. Col. Robert Schultz (left) and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District medical resident office chief Donald Needham (right) briefed the Hon. David Berteau (second from right), Assistant Secretary of Defense for Logistic and Material Readiness, and the Hon. Alan Estevez (second from left), Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, on construction progress at the medical campus at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys Feb. 7. (Photo by Seukhwan Son)

Building ROK-US Alliance Strong

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District Commander Col. Bryan S. Green, (fifth from left) along with members of the district met with Ministry of National Defense – Defense Installations Agency Commander Maj. Gen. Tak Bu-young (fifth from right) and members of his staff at Sables restaurant on Yongsan Garrison Feb. 10. The meeting reinforced the close ties and partnership between the two organizations. (Photo by Stephen Satkowski)



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District Parcel 2 Resident Office engineers attended an electrical safety class conducted by Sgt. Alfredo Alvadez and Sgt. Dinesh Liyanage, members of the 249th Engineer Battalion – Prime Power March 6. The class provided information on electrical hazards and how to mitigate those hazards by using proper safety procedures and personal protective equipments. (FED file photo)

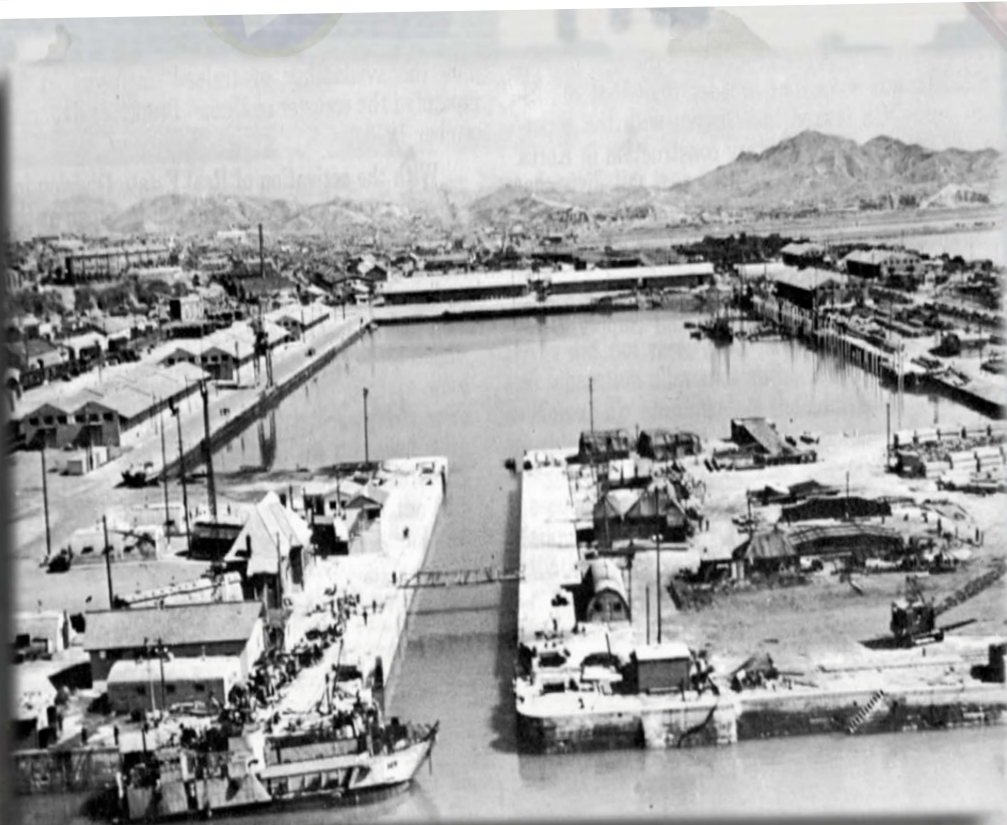


Robert Lamoureux, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers emergency management specialist, received a citizen heart saver award from Jungbu Fire Station Chief Kim Hyeong-cheol March 5 at the Jungbu Fire Station in Seoul, Korea. He was recognized as the first foreign citizen heart saver in Seoul. Lamoureux saved co-worker Jerry Giefer's life by performing cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) Dec. 30 at the Far East District compound. The citizen heart saver is a prestigious award given to a civilian assisting paramedics and revitalizing a person's life in cardiac arrest by participating in CPR. (Photo by Yi Yong-un)



Song Mi, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District manpower analyst, obtained a Certified Defense Financial Manager (CDFM) professional certification March 4. The CDFM certification is one of the professional certification programs recognized by the Department of Defense. (FED file photo)

A Look Back in FED History



The year 1959 marked the beginning of a new era for FED with the award of the District's initial major construction contract: the Incheon tidal basin rehabilitation. This consisted of several phases: dewater and dredge the basin and lock, repair the gates and seawall, rebuild the south wharf and ramp, and construct a new harbor-master building. The dredging segment proceeded smoothly; after draining the harbor, Hyundai removed almost 130,000 cubic yards of debris, including coal and metal scraps. Despite many challenges, the Far East District turned over the newly rehabilitated 700 foot by 1,490 foot Incheon tidal basin to the 7th Logistics Command on 15 December 1960 with no cost overrun.



**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Far East District
Building Strong in Korea since 1957**

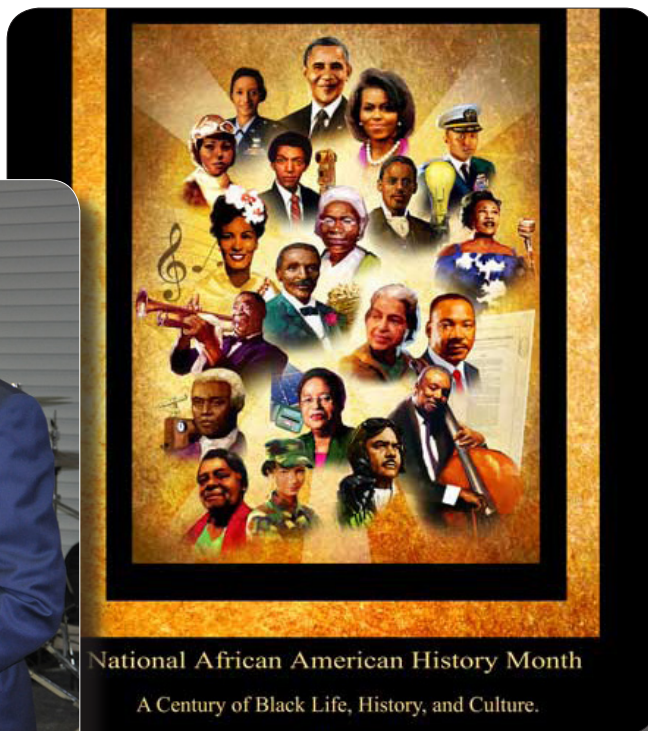




EEO CORNER

African-American History Month Observance

The Far East District held an African-American History Month Observance Feb. 17. Jesse Thompson, a former Army pilot and NBA referee was the guest speaker and the 2nd Infantry Division Rock Band played hits from various African-American musicians of the last 50 years. (Photos by Stephen Satkowski)





Building **Safety** Strong

ARMY SAFE IS ARMY STRONG



Spring Cleaning Safety Tips

Spring time is a great time to clean, organize and get rid of unnecessary items in your home and office. It is also a great time to check if your safety plans are in place and your safety equipment is in working order. Make sure to test your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. Change the batteries. Replace light bulbs and store winter clothing. Get rid of expired medicines properly and make sure your first aid kit is up to date with supplies. Springtime is also a good time to practice your family emergency plan as well as office fire evacuation drills. Taking time with these simple tips can help your family and co-workers stay safe all year round.

Position Hazard Analysis (PHA)

It is time for all FED Employees to once again update and sign our PHA's. This seemingly mundane task is the foundation for safety in the workplace. We all need reminded of the hazards we face daily to prevent complacency. Once your PHA has been signed by you and your supervisor please place them into the Safety SharePoint folder with your corresponding section folder.

Recreational Safety Tips

- Travel with a companion
- Think about your footing
- Wear appropriate clothing
- Be wise to the weather
- Have knowledge of basic first aid
- Be alert to your surroundings
- Think before you drink
- When traveling alone schedule to check in with someone
- Plan your trips
- Have a basic emergency plan
- Drink plenty of water
- Eat Healthy
- Warm up or start out slowly when conducting strenuous activities
- Pack a first aid kit
- Beware of wildlife
- Play by the rules
- Don't panic, if lost stay in one location
- Wear life jacket during water recreation
- Inspect area before setting camp or starting a fire
- Enjoy your time off SAFELY

Spring Cleaning



Who says you can't have too much PPE

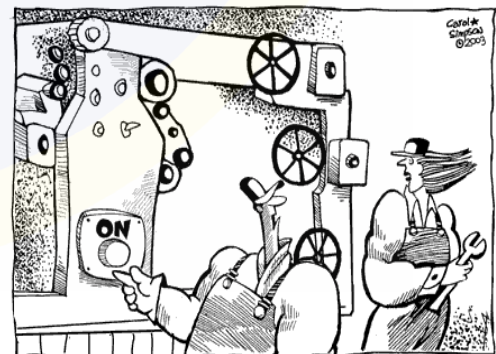
SAFETY TRIVIA

The recommended following distance in an automobile is two seconds for other cars. However four to eight seconds is suggested for commercial trucks or buses.

If someone is tailgating you in heavy traffic you should gradually slow down to allow more space between you and the car in front of you.

During the rainy season you should drive with your headlights on, ensure your wipers are in good repair, and increase your following distance.

Microsleep is a brief sleep episode that lasts up to 30 seconds, during which a person temporarily loses consciousness. Example, getting home, but not remembering the whole drive.



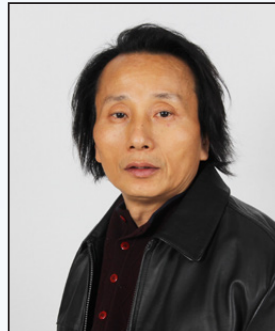
"This machine is perfectly safe...
As long as you never press this button."



Benjamin Ellis
Construction
Came from Springfield, Va.



David Chai
Korean Program Relocation
Came from Phoenix, Ariz.



Ki Kim
Construction
Came from LA District



Lisa Billman
Contracting
Came from Fort Worth District



Pamela Lovasz
Engineering
Came from Jacksonville District



Maj. Allison flowers
Construction
Came from Tulsa, Okla.



Col. Michael Nyenhuis
Korean Program Relocation
Came from 80th Training Command, Va.



Kim Myong-son
Logistics Management
Transferred to Dragon Hill Lodge



Michael Feighny
Counsel
Retired



Douglas Bliss
Engineering
Transferred to Alaska District



Song Bliss
Information Management
Transferred to Alaska District

The signs are all around

it's up to **YOU**
to recognize
and act on them



Training, Discipline and Standards

Training, discipline and standards are the bedrock of our Army, and as Soldiers, you've been taught what right looks like. As leaders, you have a duty and a responsibility to maintain standards in your formation. You also have an obligation to your Soldiers and their families to manage risk and take action to correct problems. In our fight against accidental fatalities, knowledge is the weapon of choice.



ARMY STRONG.



<https://safety.army.mil>