



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Far East District

EAST GATE EDITION

SEPTEMBER 2015 VOL. 24, NO. 11

UFG 15 validates USACE enterprise-wide competencies

Pacific Ocean Division Public Affairs

SEOUL, South Korea - The Combined Forces Command announced Aug. 28 that it successfully completed exercise Ulchi Freedom Guardian. For participants from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the end of the annual Republic of Korea and United States computer-assisted simulation exercise marked the beginning of conducting after-action reviews and developing lessons learned.

"The results of AARs and lessons learned are used to enhance future exercises and improve military contingency plans," said Pete Gitto, who is the mili-

tary planner for USACE-Pacific Ocean Division. "The AAR process identifies practices that should be sustained for future operations and areas that require improvement."

According to Gitto, who deployed to the Republic of Korea to participate in the exercise, "A major 'sustain' is the engagement of USACE enablers across the enterprise that directly contributed to the success and training value of UFG 15."

Prior planning by Robert Brem, USACE liaison officer to U.S. Forces Korea; and Maj. Leeann Browning and Capt. Lex Oren, both of USACE

Far East District, ensured that multiple USACE capabilities were integrated into the exercise scenario. Their efforts were supported by POD's Readiness Contingency Operations Division staff. POD's emergency management specialist, Darla Hill, coordinated with USACE Field Force Engineering program manager, Maj. Dwayne Hampton, and POD's resource analysts, Al Hu, for funding to accomplish the mission.

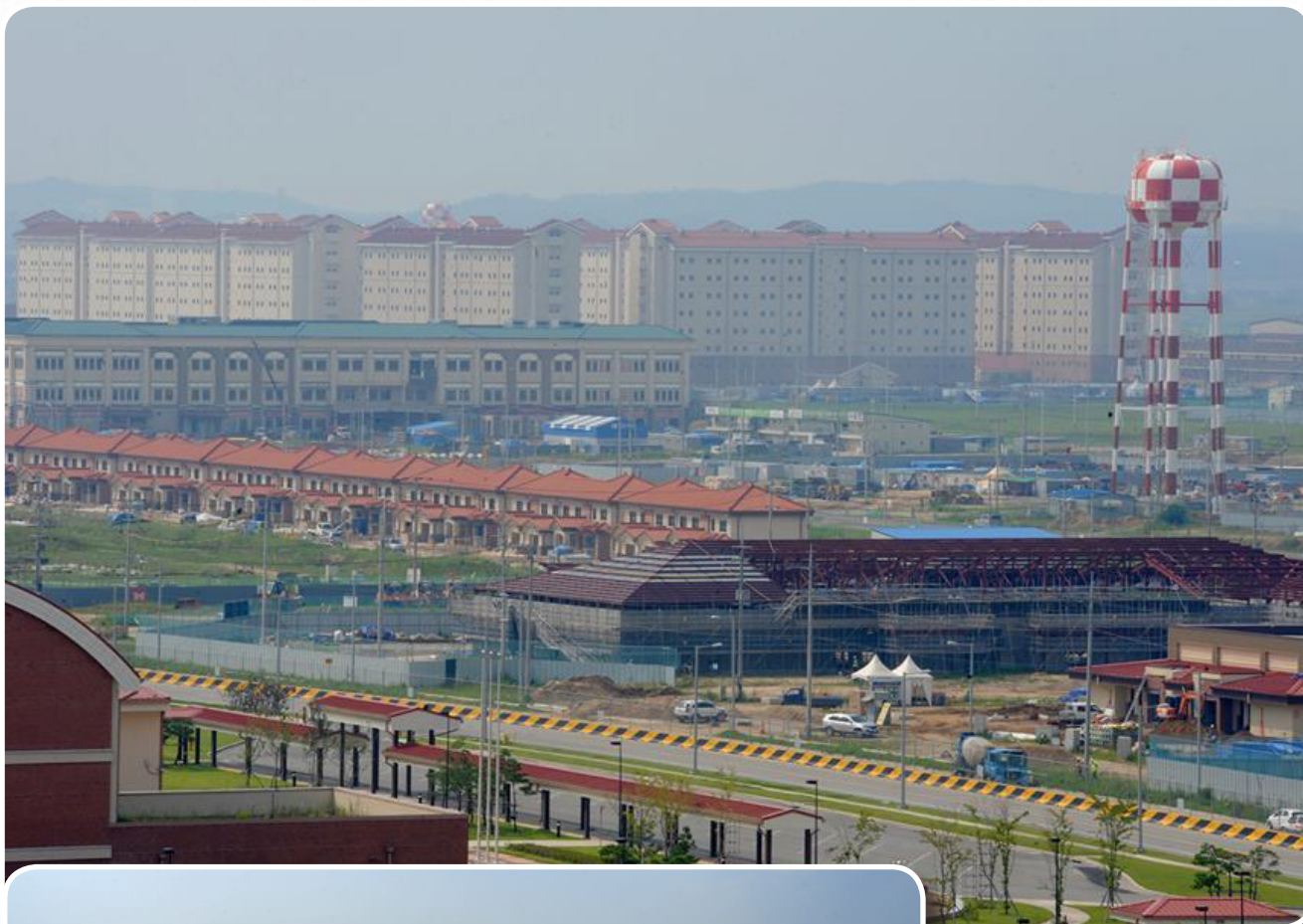
"USACE participants from across the enterprise were enablers that made a good exercise a great exercise," said Gitto, who described value added by USACE assets.

A mobile training team from the Engineer Research Development Center provided hands-on training to Forward Engineer Support Team members about FFE equipment, and extended training to Soldiers of the 2nd Infantry Division stationed in Korea.

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Southwestern Division's Military Planner, Jim Fields (front center), is pictured with members of the USACE 273rd FES-A, who participated in UFG 15. The FES-A one of several small, expeditious teams of military and USACE civilian specialist who bring the Corps' technical engineering capabilities and expertise to the front with minimal footprint. (FED file photo)





Here's the view from an 11th-floor unit in new Army Family Housing at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys. The construction at far left is for some more Family Housing towers under construction. (U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys photos)



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“I enjoy seeing the FEST teams successfully fulfill their missions using FFE equipment,” said Angela White, a member of the ERDC team. “It makes me feel as though I have fulfilled my mission as trainer.”

The USACE Logistics Activity engaged the exercise with a Logistics Support Team, which augmented Far East District’s logistics support missions.

“Now I have a grasp of mission requirements and the role LST’s would play in a military contingency mission,” said Warren Quesnell, who is from the Corps’ Los Angeles District. Quesnell worked reception, staging, onward movement and integration and transportation services with Cliff Steele, from the Savannah District.

The USACE Reachback Operations Center provided responsive reach-

back capability throughout the exercise. Engineering requests for information were managed by the USACE LNO to USFK. The RFIs were received from warfighters throughout the Korean Theater of Operations and linked to the UROC for their technical engineering expertise.

UROC staff members are capable of analyzing diverse infrastructure challenges, such as: load carrying capacities of roads and bridges; field fortifications and force protection; design and repair of airports, port facilities, bridges, dams, railroads and roadways; and evaluation of transportation networks.

In addition, the Southwest Division’s 273rd Forward Engineer Support Team – Advance (FEST-A) deployed to Korea with the detailed planning of Jim Fields, who is a military planner at

USACE-Southwestern Division. This planning effort integrated the 273rd FEST-A into the U.S. Army Reserve 412th Theater Engineer Command’s 368th FEST-M to accomplish engineer assessments for USFK, while simultaneously conducting a certification exercise for a future deployment.

What makes a good exercise a great exercise?

According to military planner Pete Gitto, “Dedicated USACE professionals from Pacific Ocean, South Atlantic, Southwestern, and South Pacific divisions; ERDC, Headquarters USACE, and reserve component members working together as one team – that’s what makes a great exercise.” “Within the spirit of the Combined Forces Command’s motto, ‘We go together - Katchi kapshida.’”



(left) USACE-Far East District’s Chief of Operations, Maj. Leeann Browning, and Plans Officer, Capt. Lex Oren, prepare a battle update during their participation in UFG 15. Training exercises like UFG are carried out in the spirit of the Oct. 1, 1953, ROK-U.S. Mutual Defense Treaty and in accordance with the Armistice. These exercises also highlight the longstanding military partnership, commitment and enduring friendship between the two nations, help to ensure peace and security on the



peninsula, and reaffirm the U.S. commitment to the alliance.

(right) Angela White, a member of the ERDC mobile training team, provides instructions to FEST members during their participation in UFG15. UFG, like all Command Forces Command exercises, is routine and defense-oriented, designed to enhance readiness, protect the region and maintain stability on the Korean peninsula. (FED file photos)

DLA Energy Pacific at Korea celebrates completion of headquarters' renovation

By Elizabeth Stoeckmann
DLA Energy Public Affairs

Defense Logistics Agency Energy Pacific at Korea Headquarters received a facelift after a major renovation and recently returned to normal operations at Camp Walker, Daegu, Republic of Korea.

To commemorate the occasion, DLA Energy Korea Commander Army Lt. Col. Wheeler Manning hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony with the workforce and senior officials at Camp Walker Sept. 1.

The ceremony recognized the efforts of the DLA Energy Pacific at Korea staff and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District Office - Korea during the year-long renovation project.

"This ceremony is the culmination of a vision initiated several years ago to provide a safe, efficient and fully compliant work environment," Manning said. "The workforce is more than deserving of this renovated facility."

Manning said the renovation project included a whole host of modernization projects, to include the replacement of flooring and furniture; heating, ventilation and air conditioning upgrades; fire suppression system installation; asbestos abatement and secure compartmentalized information facility compliance upgrades - all valued in excess of \$3 million.

The project at times conflicted with our day-to-day operations, Manning added.

For example, three major exercises, to include the capstone Ulchi Freedom Guardian exercise, were in full operation during the renovation, Manny explained. As a result of the extensive work, portions of the workforce were twice required to relocate to temporary work areas during



Defense Logistics Agency Energy Pacific at Korea Commander Army Lt. Col. Wheeler Manning, with his daughter and wife, along with U.S. Army Corps of Engineer Jared McCormick cut the ribbon to officially commemorate the completion of DLA Energy Korea Headquarters renovation at Camp Walker, Daegu, Republic of Korea, Sept. 1. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Tracey McCollin)

the three phased project before returning to the completed facility Aug. 3.

"Renovating a facility to first-rate standards in the current fiscal environment is a testament to DLA Energy's commitment to its valued employees," Manny said.

"The Army Corps of Engineers did a fantastic job of balancing the construction milestones against the dynamic operational environment of the Korean Peninsula," he said. "The foresight and mission flexibility ensured our capability to sustain uninterrupted petroleum operations in support to the warfighters throughout the Pacific area of operations."

U.S. Senator Tom Cotton from Arkansas visited U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys on Aug. 15 to learn about Transformation and meet some Soldiers. He is shown here with 3rd MI Soldiers from Arkansas at the airfield and Maj. Gen. James T. Walton, U.S. Forces Korea Director of Transformation and Restoration. (FED file photos)



Far East District design branch employee Ho Nam-su (left) was awarded the civilian service medal by Forward Engineer Support Team-Advance team leader Capt. Josh Warren, St. Louis District (right) for his support to the 368th Forward Engineer Support Team-Main during Ulchi Freedom Guardian (UFG). (FED file photo)

Honorable Katherine Hammack visits US Army Garrison Humphreys



Jesus M. Hernandez, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District (with pointer) discusses a construction project with the Honorable Katherine Hammack, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy and Environment.



*U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys commander Col. Joseph C. Holland (left) and Col. Philip Keller, FED Korea Programs Relocation Office (right) brief the Honorable Katherine Hammack during an aerial tour of Humphreys on Aug. 22.
(U.S. Army photos by Bob McElroy)*



*Thirty Far East District construction division employees attended the architectural hardware quality verification PROSPECT Class held at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys community activities center Aug. 17-21. The Course enabled participants to develop new skills oriented to the quality verification of hardware used in building construction and updated student's knowledge of current industry practices and changes in specifications.
(Photo by David Talbot)*



Building *Safety* Strong

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Back-to-School Safety Tips

It's hard to believe that summer is almost over and the time to send the kids back to school is once again upon us. Back to school time means it's also time to think about safety. Here are a few safety tips to help keep you and your children safe all school year long.

Playgrounds

Each year, more than 200,000 kids are treated in U.S. hospital emergency rooms for playground-associated injuries. Most of these injuries occur when a child falls from the equipment. Take a look at the surfaces of your local playground. There should be a 12-inch depth of wood chips, mulch, sand, or pea gravel. Mats made of safety-tested rubber or fiber material also make great padding to help prevent injuries.

Backpacks

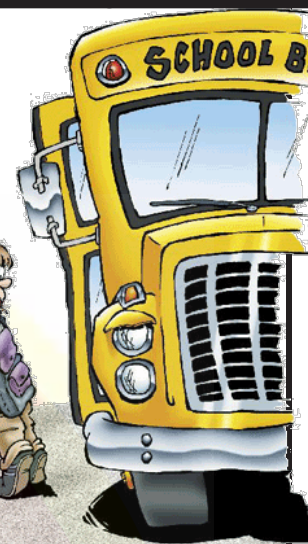
Textbooks, notebooks, lunch, toys... how much weight is your child toting back and forth each day? Take the load off your child by following these backpack safety tips.

- ◆ **Pack light.** Choose a backpack with wide, padded shoulder straps and a padded back. Organize the backpack to use all of its compartments. Pack heavier items closest to the center of the back. The backpack should never weigh more than 10 to 20 percent of your child's body weight.
- ◆ **Always use both shoulder straps.** Slinging a backpack over one shoulder can strain muscles.

Traveling To and From School

Use this list to make sure your kids arrive and return from school safe and sound.

- ◆ **School Bus:** If your child's school bus has lap/shoulder seat belts, make sure your child uses one at all times when in the bus. If your child's school bus does not have lap/shoulder belts, encourage the school to buy or lease buses with lap/shoulder belts. Make sure your kids wait for the bus to stop before approaching it from the curb and make sure to always remain in clear view of the bus driver.
- ◆ **Car:** All passengers should wear a seat belt and/or an age- and size-appropriate car safety seat or booster seat. Children under 13 years of age should ride in the rear seat of vehicles. If you must drive more children than can fit in the rear seat (when carpooling, for example), move the front-seat passenger's seat as far back as possible and have the child ride in a booster seat if the seat belts do not fit properly without it.
- ◆ **Biking:** Always wear a bicycle helmet, no matter how short or long the ride. Ride on the right, in the same direction as auto traffic. Wear bright color clothing to increase visibility. Wear reflective materials when riding during limited visibility. Know the "rules of the road." That includes no talking or texting on the phone while you are riding.
- ◆ **Walking:** Make sure your child's walk to a school is a safe route with well-trained adult crossing guards at every intersection. Be realistic about your child's pedestrian skills. Because small children are impulsive and less cautious around traffic, carefully consider whether or not your child is ready to walk to school without adult supervision. Bright colored clothing will also make your child more visible to drivers.



Being aware of the hazards your kids may face and taking a few safety precautions, you'll be able to help keep your child safe.



Brian Quiroga
Construction
Came from Belleville, Illinois



Chun W. Wong
Construction
Came from HQ USACE



Eric Henry
Logistics Management
Came from Yongsan



Ho S. Choe
Logistics Management
Came from Seattle District



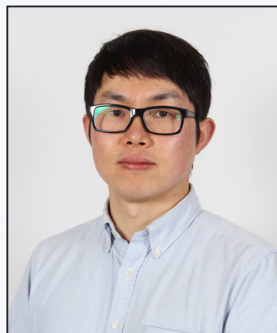
James Lee
Logistics Management
Retired from the Army, Yongsan



Jason Allmon
Korea Programs Relocation
Came from Memphis District



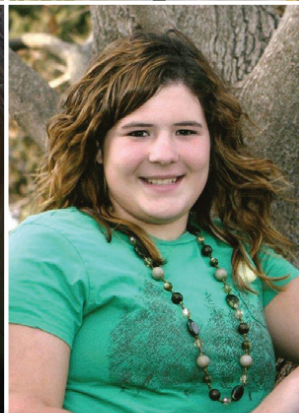
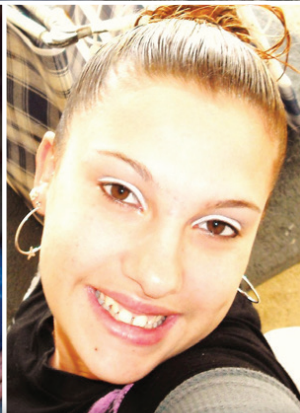
Thomas McDonald
Construction
Came from Seattle District



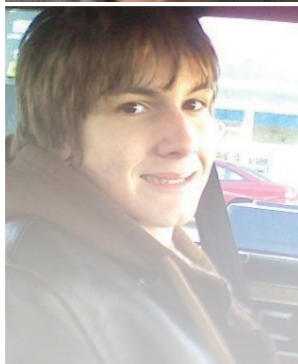
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Transferred to Kunsan Air Base



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Programs and Project Management
Transferred to Alaska District



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drivers *choose* to use a phone.



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