Humphreys transformation continues as ribbon is cut on mini mall project

Story on page 4-5
Final DPM Report:

Thank You to the Far East District

By Jon Iwata

FED Deputy District Engineer

Greetings to the entire FED Team!

The year-end holiday season is upon us once again. It is the time of the year where everyone can reflect on the accomplishments this year and look forward to another exciting year! Personally for me, 2017 will be a year of transition as I prepare to retire and move on to the next stage in life. As I write this article, the selection process is well underway for my replacement and I am sure Col. Bales will be making an announcement shortly (if not announced already). Don’t worry though… I will use the month of January and part of February 2017 to do a ‘left seat-right seat’ transition with my successor. It is not too often that one has an opportunity to take time to transfer the knowledge gained in my position over the last 12 years to a successor, so I really feel blessed.

FED’s long tradition and reputation is to deliver quality products and facilities, and we have certainly done that! As you are well aware, it takes teamwork which is so crucial to successfully execute our stakeholders’ programs and projects. Many of the stakeholders including USFK, Eighth Army, 7th Air Force, CNFK/CNRR, Marine Forces Korea, Directors of Public Works, Base Civil Engineers, Navy/Marine Public Works and Defense Agencies specifically seek our assistance because they know they can count on FED to deliver. The District leadership and I realize that accomplishing this mission is not a matter of routine. It takes a great deal of hard work, dedication and professionalism of everyone in the District to get the job done. Whether you are in Contracting Division, Counsel, Resource Management, Engineering Division, Construction Division, Korea Programs, Relocation Office or Programs and Project Management Division, everyone’s support and teamwork are needed to ensure successful execution. Let’s not forget the support staff including IMO, LMO, District Operations, WMO, EEO, PAO, Safety and Internal Review….without their hard work and professional service, we would not be able to accomplish our vital mission.

Looking ahead into the future, the Yongsan Re-location Plan and Land Partnership Plan programs at USAG Humphreys will wind down over the next 3 to 4 years. However, there are other critical projects outside of Humphreys that FED will need to tackle, including key projects in Osan, Kunsan, Daegu, Chinhae and Pohang. In addition, once negotiations are completed with the ROK government, FED will be involved in USAG Yongsan to oversee the design and construction of the Yongsan Residual on South Post and Combined Forces Command Residual on Main Post. Although it might appear to some people that the future is cloudy, I truly believe the future continues to be bright for FED. Remember, we have been a vibrant organization for 60 years on the peninsula!

Thus as I end my 40-year civilian career in 2017, I am sure that all of you will continue the tremendous tradition of excellence and serve with pride each and every day. Thank you to the entire Far East District Team and I look forward to seeing you again down the road.

Essayons!

Jon Iwata
FED Deputy District Engineer
Humphreys transformation continues as ribbon is cut on mini mall project

By Stephen Satkowski
FED Public Affairs

A ribbon cutting ceremony was held for a troop mini mall at U.S. Army Garrison (USAG) Humphreys Nov. 8. The Far East District was instrumental in the design and oversaw construction on the building, part of a project that includes an auditorium, community activities center, post office and chapel in the surrounding areas.

“This project provides vital facilities, intentionally located adjacent to enlisted personnel housing and senior leader quarters, that directly contributes to the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual needs of Soldiers stationed at USAG Humphreys,” said John Noll, Far East District Project Manager, Korea Program Relocation Office.

Five buildings, built for four different organizations with different preferences and ways of doing business, was just one of the challenges during the project, said Noll.

“This project had five unique buildings that required their own special care and attention,” said Noll. “Although there were significant design and construction challenges on this project, the project delivery team came together and implemented creative solutions to work through each and every one of them. The contractor, end users, Directorate of Public Works, Ministry of National Defense-Defense Installations Agency and the Far East District worked seamlessly to provide USAG Humphreys with a project that placed quality and safety above all else.”

Noll said his working relationship with the Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) was critical to seeing this project to a successful conclusion.

“Throughout the entire project, AAFES provided constant support, positive contributions to group discussions, and gave their input to solving problems, producing results, and putting Soldiers and their families first,” said Noll. The mini mall project was awarded on Dec. 31, 2012, and turned over to the garrison on Sept. 14 for a total construction period of three years and eight and a half months.
District volunteers continue tradition of helping needy in local community

By Stephen Satkowski
FED Public Affairs

For the ninth year in a row volunteers from the Far East District joined members of the Seoul Jung-gu Saemaul Women’s Club Nov. 18 to help make kimchi for the area’s needy and elderly.

In total, 2,500 heads of cabbage were converted into 500 boxes of kimchi, a traditional fermented Korean side dish made of vegetables with a variety of seasonings.

The volunteers, including Far East District Deputy Commander Lt. Col. Richard Collins, joined Jung-gu District Mayor Choi Chang-sik in the making of the kimchi. Choi expressed gratitude to district volunteers in helping to feed the most marginalized in his community.

“Thank you Saemaul Women’s Club members for preparing this event every year to help the elderly and needy,” said Choi. “I can’t thank you enough. To make it even more meaningful, volunteers from the Far East District came again this year to support this event. This is why people in this district can have a hearty winter.”

Master Sgt. Kimberly L. King, Far East District operations noncommissioned officer in charge, volunteered to experience the Korean culture and give back to the Korean people.

“I wanted to learn from the Korean people how to make kimchi,” said King. “To learn about the Korean culture, I think you need to experience the many tastes and smells of kimchi. It is a side dish with almost every Korean meal and is often times used in the main dish. While applying kimchi base to about the 20th head of cabbage, I noticed that my lower back started to ache.

I realized then that kimchi making was also a physically challenging process. I looked around at all the elderly women who were continuously slathering cabbage and moving boxes all without stopping. It made me appreciate how much is really put into making kimchi.

When I eat it the next time, I think I will really be experiencing the culture of Korea.”

The kimchi will be delivered to more than 500 needy families in the local area this winter. District volunteers have come out to support the kimchi making every year since 2008.
Earlier this fall, at the 2016 American Society of Civil Engineers’ (ASCE) Convention in Portland, OR, I presented a technical abstract titled, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) $10.7 billion Korea Relocation Program’. My submission was selected from 235 abstract submissions to fill 40 available session slots during the convention.

Founded in 1852, the American Society of Civil Engineers represents more than 150,000 members of the civil engineering profession worldwide and is America’s oldest national engineering society. ASCE’s vision is to position engineers as global leaders building a better quality of life.

My presentation was categorized in the ‘significant projects’ topic field, which is intended to cover mega projects and multidisciplinary views on the feasibility, planning, design, construction, costs, public process, value, innovation, sustainability, and resiliency of the project discussed.

My session, which afforded all attendees 1.5 professional development hours (PDHs), gave a brief overview of the entire Yongsan Relocation Program. I spent a significant portion at the start addressing the initial earthwork required to prepare the newly acquired land for construction. The volume and magnitude of the earthwork was a major point of interest to many of the professionals there. We also had a discussion on some of the lessons learned thus far, including stakeholder management, cultural differences, and construction quality. I was especially encouraged by the positive feedback I received when we discussed how the Far East District’s dedication to quality required some time extensions to the schedule. It was reassuring that my peers found it to be honorable that USACE does not sacrifice the overall quality and sustainability of our construction to meet a specific deadline. I ended the presentation with an update of many of the marquee projects, which I referred to as generic titles such as ‘headquarters’ or ‘office building two’.

I made my business cards available at the area where attendees had to register. I was very surprised to get so much feedback and inquiries about the project. My most treasured correspondence was from a professor at West Point, who commended the presentation, and requested to collaborate on some training problems based on the earthwork executed here at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys.

Overall, this was a great experience. I was proud to be able to show the type of work we are doing here in the Republic of Korea with such a respected group of peers and colleagues. Presentations like this help dispel the myth that government agencies only work on cookie cutter standardized small scale projects. I believe this can be a useful recruiting tool in the future.
Army projects continue to make up the bulk of the work for the Far East District and are mainly centered on U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys and U.S. Army Garrison Daegu. At Humphreys, construction on the 8th Army/IMCOM headquarters building is 85 percent completed and the KORCOM headquarters is nearly finished, with 92 percent completed. The commission and the main exchange are also nearing completion with both 80 percent finished. The 2nd Infantry Division headquarters building is 66 percent finished with a completion date scheduled for the end of 2017. The building will include an operations center, network operations center, administrative facilities and parade grounds. All of these projects are part of the Yongsan Relocation Plan and Land Partnership Plan. At U.S. Army Garrison Daegu’s Camp Walker, ground was broken on the new Air Force projects at the Far East District mostly are centered at Osan and Kunsan Air Bases, with operational and quality of life facilities in design and under construction. At Osan, work on the replacement elementary school is finished and the official ribbon cutting ceremony was held on Oct. 25. Work continues on a hospital addition/alteration which is 75 percent completed and construction work on an aircraft corrosion control facility is 99 percent completed. The design work for an air freight terminal facility is 99 percent completed and the design for the KOR Air and Space Operations Center is 15 percent completed. At Kunsan Air Base, on Korea’s southwest coast, construction of an aircraft rinse facility finished in November and is now in use, while construction on a new commercial gate is 19 percent completed. Design work at the base includes upgrading the electrical distribution system which is 15 percent completed.
Construction projects continue to come on line at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys. As the design and construction agent for United States Forces Korea, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District is at the forefront of one of the largest transformation and construction projects in Department of Defense history. The new facilities, shown here, range from headquarters, to housing to mini malls and encompass a wide variety of operation and quality-of-life facilities. (Photos by O Sang-song)

Korea Relocation Program
U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys

74
Percentage of completion for the entire program

655 buildings done, under construction or planned.
The number of buildings being demolished is

3,528
New total acreage

1210
Original acreage

Los Angeles International Airport is 103 acres smaller

$10.7 Billion total price tag

17.6 million cubic meters of engineered fill already in place, raising the land by about 8 1/2 feet. High enough to keep out water from a 100 year flood.

More than 40 miles of water piping has been installed and tested in the new land. Another 40 miles of new roads will be built. Total miles of cabling installed is

988

- 13 -
Cohesion between Far East District and Directorate of Public Works key to successful military construction

By Catherine Donohue
FED Engineering Division

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District (FED) has a very robust military engineering and construction program on the various military installations throughout the Korean peninsula. FED is partnering with Directorate of Public Works (DPW) communities to build world class facilities for our service members and their families using the installation specific master plan as the roadmap for the construction of all facilities (e.g. housing and barracks).

The master plan lays out where the development is to take place and anticipates future growth and capacity. It shows the future state of the installation with a location layout of the facility development and documents the optimal sequencing of the supportive infrastructure necessary for full functionality. Siting can be a challenge and tradeoffs with mitigation are often the way to resolve real estate issues.

Challenges may also occur when a new facility and its necessary supportive infrastructure are funded through different sources and planned for different fiscal years. Individual components of larger projects have separable line items that compete for funds and may not be built or planned (funded) through the various funding streams. The optimal sequencing of projects as described in the master planning document. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), as the design manager, and the Army installation Department of Public Works, as the operations manager, have a shared responsibility in the development of new facilities that are planned for installations. Coordination between the two components throughout the design and planning process is essential to ensure supporting infrastructure projects and adequate utility capacity are available prior to construction. Coordination during the project scoping should minimize unintended consequences.

Master plans, supportive infrastructure projects and unintended consequences of out of sequence work was an interesting topic of discussion in the Far East District during the summer of 2016. Due to limited real estate on an Army installation, a tradeoff was made during the master planning process to in-fill an existing water detention area to locate a new housing project. As mitigation for the loss of water detention area when the land was filled-in to build the housing tower foundation, the master plan called for the sequential construction of flood pumps to evacuate the interior drainage waters during storm events. The planned trade-off is only realistic if the flood pumps are in place prior to filling in the detention area.

In this case study the facility was funded for design, but the pumps had not yet been built or planned (funded) through the various funding streams. The proper design documentation for the funded housing project did not consider the inclusion of the pumps in the housing design likely because there was an assumption the flood pumps would be constructed as public works under a separate supportive infrastructure project. In consultation, the DPW and USACE determined the best course of action would be to consider updating the DD1391 to include the pumps as a critical feature of the housing project. It was also determined to request additional funds reducing the risk of potential flooding issues for the entire installation.

Theoretically, funding should not drive engineering decisions on projects; however, in the government, funding is always a consideration and it is often a technique to limit the project scope to match the funds available. The DPW and USACE need to work together to develop the project scoping documents in a holistic manner during the planning charrettes and the project definition phase. It is critically important to identify the supporting infrastructure required to make the proposed facility fully functional and to verify that the infrastructure is in place and ready to perform with the added capacity before defining the scope of work of the new building.

Continued on Page 17

51st Medical Group opens new medical wing in Osan

By Staff Sgt. Jonathan Steffen
51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The 51st Medical GroupPhase one hospital expansion was celebrated during a ribbon-cutting ceremony that took place Dec. 12, 2016. The expansion is one of four construction projects to renovate and expand the Osan Hospital that is projected to be complete in 2018 to accommodate the steady influx of personnel and their families.

“The prosperity of Korea over the last 30 years, the move with tour normalization and the expansion to command sponsorship and several other factors have made it very necessary to become more of a community hospital,” said U.S. Air Force Col. Krystal Murphy, 51st Medical Group commander.

The expansion has added 26,395 square feet to the hospital that houses a new clinics for family health, women’s health, pediatrics, a command area, education and training, and resource management.

“This is truly about expanding health-care coverage across the peninsula to provide the best medical services, particularly for those here on Osan Air Base,” said U.S. Army Col. Stephen Bales, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District commander.

The $34 million expansion enables greater health care capabilities to nearly 15,000 personnel and families living on Osan Air Base.

Representatives from Seohee Construction Company, the 51st Fighter Wing and Army Corps of Engineers Far East District cut a ribbon during the 51st Medical Group Phase One Hospital Expansion ribbon-cutting ceremony on Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Dec. 12, 2016. Phase one of the expansion included new clinics for family health, women’s health, pediatrics, and education and training. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jonathan Steffen)
1st Lt. Johannes Olind competes in Ironman triathlon in China

By Stephen Satkowski
FED Public Affairs

1st Lt. Johannes Olind, Liaison officer at the Far East District’s Korea Program Relocation Office, competed in an Ironman triathlon in Hefei, China Oct. 16 placing third in the 25-29 age group and 69th overall. The accomplishment was even more notable, considering more than 1000 Chinese athletes competed as well as 600 foreigners from 59 countries.

“I decided to participate because this race offered 50 qualification slots for the Hawaii Ironman and I saw this race as the best chance in my life to qualify for Hawaii,” said Olind.

The Hawaii Ironman, which includes a 2.4 mile swim, 112 mile bike and a 26.2 mile run, was the first Ironman competition ever and has been held every year since 1978. It has a rich history of competition and serves as the pinnacle of the sport for professionals and amateurs alike. Olind’s interest in competing in triathlons was sparked when he was stationed in Hawaii in 2014. His enthusiasm and drive for the sport has only grown since then.

“I have built up to the Ironman 70.3 distance and am very competitive at this distance within the amateur [men] 25-29 years old division having now completed 9 of them,” said Olind. “I have never attempted a full Ironman because I have focused my training on the 70.3 distance (half Ironman) so Hawaii Ironman seemed unattainable until I learned about the races in China and pounced on the opportunity.”

Olint trained for the competition in China with a group of fellow triathletes at Camp Humphreys. The group took part in quite a few excruciatingly tough bike rides around the Pyeongtuke area.

“They are great and it helps integrate people interested in triathlons to the Korean triathlon series as well as pushing each other to become stronger through tough training,” said Olind. “Korea is a great place to swim, bike, and run; and thankfully there are many opportunities to race in triathlons in Korea too.”

Olint’s goals in China were to earn a spot for Hawaii and finish under 4 hours and 30 minutes. He did both, finishing in a time of 4 hours and 29 minutes.

“On the course was built for speed, in that lake that was totally calm leading to a fast swim, a giant three lane brand new highway was completely closed off to vehicular traffic just for biking, allowing us to hammer the bike course and then the run was nice and flat,” said Olind. “Additionally, many of the amateur foreign athletes that came were some of the best in the world all vying to punch their ticket to Hawaii, so this heightened level of competition also contributed to fast times for all athletes.”

Olint will compete in triathlons in Korea for the remainder of October and then plans to take the remainder of the year off. In 2017 he will continue with his training as he plans to build up his endurance for the Hawaii Ironman competition in Oct. 2017.

Cohesion between FED and DPW key to successful military construction

Continued from Page 14

Knowing how the Army budget process works, it is not prudent to assume that all separate projects will be funded in the optimal sequencing demonstrated in the master plan. The DPW and USACE should work together and plan individual projects consistent with the master planning documents to ensure the Army builds high quality facilities.

The unique challenges of budgeting processes from a variety of funding streams prioritizing projects differently is a daunting task. The early and continuous coordination between USACE and DPW and adherence to the master planning document at both the scoping phase and the project definition phase can manage the risk of one requirement of the project having funds while the other has none. While the installation defines the requirements and these requirements need to be prioritized by leaders in the enterprise level, both USACE and DPW need to champion the funding of necessary project features by clearly communicating the risk and impacts of not funding the supporting infrastructure.
Scan me to connect with the Far East District's social media sites!