



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Far East District

EAST GATE EDITION

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Col. Teresa Schlosser becomes 36th Commander of the Far East District

By Stephen Satkowski
FED Public Affairs

Col. Teresa A. Schlosser relieved Col. Stephen H. Bales, as commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Far East District (FED), July 7 at a ceremony on U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan, Republic of Korea.

The ceremony was presided over by Brig. Gen. Peter B. Andrysiak, commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Pacific Ocean Division.

Andrysiak highlighted several achievements during Col. Bales' tenure including bringing the Yongsan Relocation Plan and Land Partnership Plan to a 77 percent completion rate, enabling the relocation to Camp Humphreys of Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Korea headquarters, Eighth Army headquarters and delivering the largest dental clinic in the Department of Defense.

"He has been an exceptional commander and has managed the pressures of command magnificently as a Soldier, statesman, and I would also say as the

CEO of a multi-billion dollar business," said Andrysiak. "He embodies what we look for in strategic leaders in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers."

Bales, in his farewell remarks, recognized all district employees for supporting him throughout the last two years.

"To the leaders and employees

of the Far East District I want to say thank you," said Bales. "Each one of you in your own unique way has made the last two years memorable. I will never forget the fabulous opportunity, privilege and honor I was blessed with to serve as your commander."

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Brig. Gen. Peter B. Andrysiak, Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pacific Ocean Division, passes the Engineer Colors to Col. Teresa Schlosser, Far East District commander, during a change of command ceremony on U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan, July 7. (Photo by Stephen Satkowski)



Cultural tour gives District Soldier unique glimpse of Korea

By Master Sgt. Kimberly King

FED Operations Non-commissioned Officer-in-Charge

Each year the Republic of Korea Ministry of National Defense hosts various Korean culture tours for service members and civilians serving on the peninsula. The intent of these tours is to share a part of the traditions and culture here in South Korea, and for the MND to express their gratitude for the partnership and support personnel assigned here provide. Recently I had the opportunity to participate in a tour of the Chungcheong Province. This trip was enlightening for me as I realized how experiencing other cultures has enhanced my experience here. Some of the highlights of the trip included witnessing the crafting of traditional pottery and the preparing of rice cakes. Although the

craftsman of these age-old traditions don't earn a hefty salary, the effort, love, and spirit they place into their work, which was appreciated by those in attendance, allows for the historic significance and essence of their culture to be shared with others. In my opinion, the final product is an authentic representation of the Korean culture and the craftsman's soul. This trip altered my scope of Korean traditions and allowed me the chance to appreciate its value. I recommend these culture trips to anyone who has the opportunity to attend, and if unable, I suggest finding other opportunities to take advantage of and experience the culture of this great host nation.



(left) The Baekje Cultural Heritage Complex. This complex is a recreation of the historic site in Buyeo, which took the culmination of prominent archeologists, historians, and engineers more than 17 years to create.

(above) A Korean traditional rice cake maker at Songjuk Village. (Photos provided by Master Sgt. Kimberly King)



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www.pof.usace.army.mil

Col. Schlosser becomes 36th Commander of the District

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Bales departs for Winchester, Virginia where he will be the commander of the Middle East District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Schlosser arrived at the Far East District after serving as the United States Forces Korea deputy engineer. During her remarks she thanked Brig. Gen. Andrysiak and Col. Bales for the warm welcome to the Pacific Ocean Division and the Far East District and looked forward to her time as commander.

"I felt completely welcomed by everyone in the district and am eager

to become part of this incredible organization," said Schlosser. "The Far East District has an amazing 60-year history here in the Republic of Korea and everyone in the district is adding to that every day. They continue to build a multi-billion dollar program on the peninsula and somehow make it look easy."

The Far East District is one of four districts within the Pacific Ocean Division and one of 45 districts in the United States Army Corps of Engineers. It is headquartered in Seoul, Republic of Korea and is the premier engineering,

design, and construction agent for all Department of Defense agencies in the Republic of Korea. With a workforce of about 500 Soldiers, Department of Defense civilians, and Korean employees the Far East District contributes significantly to the peace and security in the Pacific region through the execution of a multi-billion dollar construction program for U.S. Forces in the Republic of Korea - worldwide, it is the largest construction program managed by the U.S. Army.



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District change of command ceremony was presided over by Brig. Gen. Peter B. Andrysiak, Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pacific Ocean Division. Col. Teresa Schlosser relieved Col. Stephen H. Bales as commander of the Far East District July 7 on U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan. (Photos by Antwaun Parrish and O Sang-song)

Motor pool section prepares for move to Camp Humphreys

By Antwaun J. Parrish
FED Public Affairs

The Far East District headquarters is scheduled to relocate from Seoul to Camp Humphreys next year, however some components of the district won't be waiting until then. The motor pool section will relocate before the end of the year.

Construction on the district's vehicle maintenance facility at Camp Humphreys is set to be complete and ready for occupancy by November. Kenneth Pickler, Transportation Branch Chief, said there are already three mechanics and one supervisor stationed at Camp Humphreys in preparation for the move.

Pickler has been a part of the district for almost 30 years. He initially came in Feb. 1989 to be the motor pool sergeant and 1st Sgt. He later retired from the Army in 1993 and a few months later he returned to work as a civilian in the same position.

As a part of the district for such a long time he witnessed plenty of changes throughout those three decades. When

he first arrived at the district the motor pool was a wooden structure, but in 2001 the Department of Public Works made the decision to have the old building torn down due to wiring issues, and contracted a new facility to be built. Pickler said he is excited to move to Camp Humphreys so he and his team can utilize the brand new building.

"We're getting a fantastic building, better than we've ever had," said Pickler. "The new motor pool that we're getting is a Class A facility, with drive through bays, latest technology, latest equipment, latest exhaust systems, a grease pit, which we have never had. It's going to make life much better for our mechanics and for maintaining our equipment."

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The current vehicle maintenance facility located at the Far East District compound in Seoul. (Photo by Antwaun Parrish)



Motor pool section prepares for move to Humphreys

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Trying to mitigate potential problems throughout the move is one of Pickler's priorities. His team have conducted rehearsal of concept drills for the past six months to help with the transition.

"We have 100 percent accountability for tools, test equipment, tool boxes, and all that stuff," said Pickler. "So right now we're working through the milestones and timelines, so what is actually going to occur to make sure the move happens as smooth as possible without loss of equipment."

According to Pickler, there are a few Eighth Army units moving now and he's waiting to review their after action comments so he can formulate a better plan based off their lessons learned.

"With moving, there will always be trials and tribulations and we will work through them," said Pickler.

The relocation of the Far East District is a long term project and part of the Yongsan Relocation Plan.



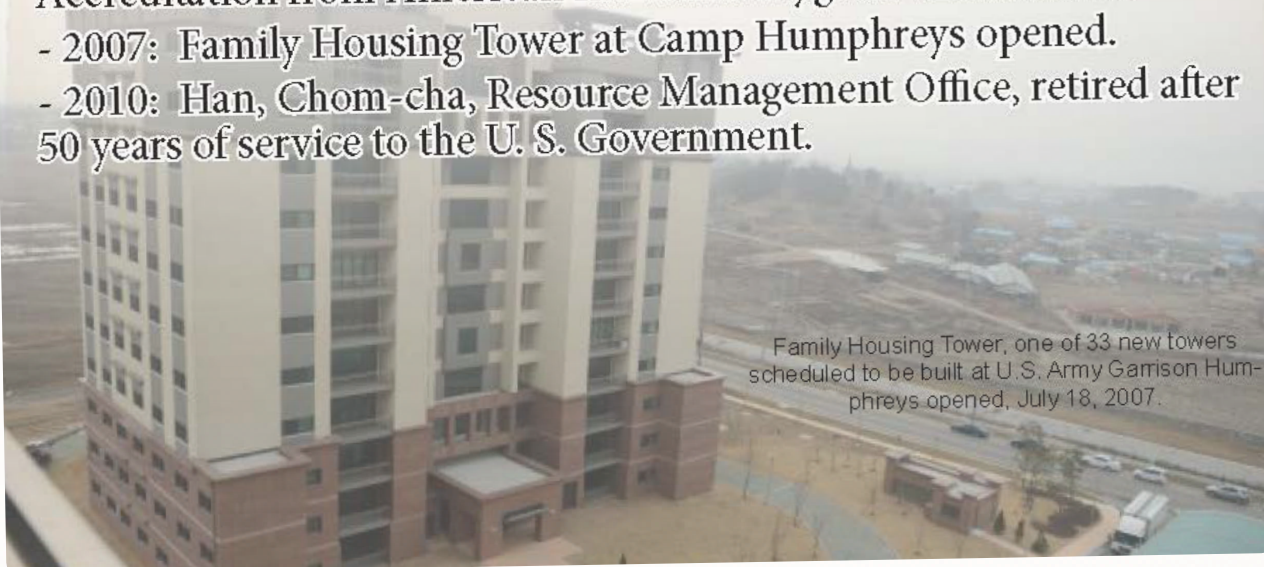
Brig. Gen. Peter Andrysiak, United States Army Corps of Engineers Pacific Ocean Division commander, hosts a town hall meeting July 6 at the Far East District East Gate Club. The town hall was attended by all FED employees both physically and virtually for those located in other areas. (Photo by Antwaun Parrish)

This month in FED History

- **July** 1985: Eighth Army Milk Plant at K-16 Air Base completed.
- 1987: Kunsan Resident Office opened.
- 1987: The 19th Support Command Headquarters at Camp Henry opened.
- 1987: Officers' Club at Osan Air Base opened.
- 1988: Cheung, Ki-suk, FED employee received Distinguished Presidential Senior Executive Service Award from President Reagan.
- 1988: Liquid Fuel Storage Facility at Camp Sears completed.
- 1999: Barracks at Camp Red Cloud opened.
- 1999: Combined Defense Improvement Program barracks at K-16 completed.
- 2005: FED Asbestos lab obtained Industrial Hygiene Laboratory Accreditation from American Industrial Hygiene Association.
- 2007: Family Housing Tower at Camp Humphreys opened.
- 2010: Han, Chom-cha, Resource Management Office, retired after 50 years of service to the U. S. Government.



Combined Defense Improvement Program barracks at K-16 completed, July 27, 1999.



Family Housing Tower, one of 33 new towers scheduled to be built at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys opened, July 18, 2007.

HERE IT COMES

On the Water

#DYK the U.S. Coast Guard reports that each year, hundreds of lives are lost ... thousands are injured ... and millions of dollars of property damage occurs because of preventable recreational boating accidents on U.S. waterways?

- Life vests can save your life: 85 percent of drowning victims did not wear one
- Kayaks ride lower in the water and require more skill to operate; are you ready, or not?
- Taking a boating safety course can make you a safer operator
- Boating safety is like motoring safety
- Don't drink and drive a boat, it's against the law
- Do you know the rules of the road on the water?

So are **YOU** ready ... or not?
#Armysafety

READY ... OR NOT?



<https://safety.army.mil>