



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
Far East District

# EAST GATE EDITION

MARCH 2017 VOL. 26, NO. 03

## USFK Operations Center construction progress on track

By Stephen Satkowski  
FED Public Affairs

Construction on the United States Forces Korea operations center continues to stay on schedule. The center, a 377,000 square-foot, two-level underground facility, will support the United States Forces Korea (USFK) headquarters requirements as part of the relocation of forces to U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys. The project will provide facilities for USFK’s mission during armistice, crisis, and wartime.

Due to the large scope of the project there are multiple contracts involved. Chris Brincefield, project manager since 2016, has been encouraged by the progress so far.

“This project has been running very well,” said Brincefield. “Construction Surveillance Resident Office manages the construction contract and the project delivery team has developed a strong working relationship with all stakeholders to include the end user and construction contractor.”

One of the challenging aspects is the immense concrete requirement of 180,000 cubic meters. To meet this requirement the Far East District worked with the contractor and U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys to approve and construct the first and only concrete



*An overview of the construction progress on the United States Forces Korea Operations building set to be completed in 2020. (FED file photo)*

batch plant on the installation.

“The largest single placement has been 2,500 cubic meters which required three concrete pump trucks, 420 concrete truck loads and took ap-

proximately 16 hours to place,” said Brincefield.

Construction began on the project in 2016 and is expected to be completed in 2020.





*Far East District central resident office engineer Staff Sgt. Roy Tongue participated in a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) program with 3rd grade students at the Osan Elementary School on Feb. 10. Staff Sgt. Tongue discussed soil types at Osan Air Base, strengths of materials, and foundations required to support buildings and also provided a demonstrations on water pressure and frictional forces. (Photos by Daniel Koo)*



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

The **EAST GATE EDITION** 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: DSN 721-7301  
E-mail: [DLL-CEPOF-WEB-PA@usace.army.mil](mailto:DLL-CEPOF-WEB-PA@usace.army.mil)

**District Commander**  
Col. Stephen H. Bales  
**Public Affairs Officer**  
Stephen Satkowski  
**Public Affairs Staff**  
Antwaun J. Parrish  
Kim Chong-yun  
Yi Yong-un

Check out the Far East District web site at  
[www.pof.usace.army.mil](http://www.pof.usace.army.mil)



# FED practices welding verification process

By Antwaun J. Parrish

FED Public Affairs

**M**asked faced onlookers peeped through their blacked out protective viewers, as sparks flew across a table and the smell of burning metal filled the room. The onlookers were a part of a week-long welding course watching their instructor demonstrate proper welding techniques at the Far East District welding quality verification course March 13-17, 2017.

The course teaches the participant how to interpret the various methods and techniques employed in weldments and assuring the quality of welds and is available for engineers and of course welders.

Christopher Manley, a structural engineer and a course instructor from the Portland District, describes the course as a key component to quality control.

“It provides the class a method of how to provide QAQC [quality assurance quality control], understand welding processes, the welding quality verification, how welding is done, and what they need to look for in vertical construction,” said Manley.

Although the course is focused on welding, Manley feels that the course is necessary for engineers to attend.

“It’s [welding] abstract to the engineers, said Manley. “It [the course] allows the engineers to come into the classroom setting, learn about how it’s done, how its fabricated, what to look for and a good understanding of what the contractors are going to be doing.”

Manley does make it a point to mention that welders should attend the course, even though it’s their trade.

He stated that a lot of the welders



*A class participant welds a piece of metal during the United States Army Corps of Engineers Far East District quality verification course March 13-17, 2017. The course teaches the participant how to interpret the various methods and techniques employed in weldments and assuring the quality of welds. (Photo by Antwaun J. Parrish)*

know the trade but don’t understand why there are so many rules. He also stated that the course gives them an understanding of why we have all of these strict rules, and why we must assume QAQC roles.

John Pariseau, a welding and metallurgy training center of expertise quality assurance team lead, was also instructing the course. Pariseau has worked as an instructor for the corps since 2012. He believes that this course sheds light on detailed issues that can be prevented if the QAQC is more knowledgeable and knows what faults can occur.

“Steel is unlike other welding materials, once it fractures it can cause catastrophic failures,” said Pariseau. “Welding is an individual effort. Each weld is created custom by an individual

welder. That’s great for the welder but it causes a large range of defects that can occur because it’s so customized. So being well educated in the steel and welding world is important for the safety of our buildings.”

The course ends March 17, however, Pariseau feels that the sharing of knowledge goes beyond the course date.

“We’re hoping to give them [the participants] enough knowledge so if they happen to see something wrong they have enough resources in the welding and metal center of expertise, said Pariseau. “It’s very easy to take a photo of something and email us to ask our opinion. We’re here to serve the corps as a whole, so it helps everybody else get the project done safely and securely.”





**Col. Peter Andrysiak (far left), Pacific Ocean Division Commander, Col. Stephen Bales (left), Far East District Commander, Gen. Vincent Brooks (center), United States Forces Korea Commander, and Eugene Ban, Pacific Ocean Division Director of Programs, meet during a round table discussion held at Yongsan Garrison, Feb. 22. (FED file photo)**



**Maj. Gen. Mark Yenter, USACE Deputy Commanding General for military and international operations, (right), Eugene Ban, Director of Programs for the Pacific Ocean Division, USACE (second from right) and Col. Peter B. Andrysiak, Commander, POD, (second from left) are briefed on the construction progress of the U. S. Forces Korea Headquarters project by Eman Sundquist, Far East District project engineer at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys Feb. 21. (FED file photo)**



**Maj. Gen. Mark Yenter, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Deputy Commanding General for military and international operations, (right) presented So Chae-wan, Far East District central resident office quality assurance representative, with a coin Feb. 23 for being named the recipient of the 2016 Pacific Ocean Division's Hard Hat of the Year Award. (Photo by Daniel Koo)**





The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District hosts a ground breaking ceremony to signify the building of a new family housing tower located at Camp Walker, Daegu, Feb. 27. (Photo by Richard Byrd)



Master Sgt. Kimberly King, District Operations non-commissioned officer-in-charge, (right) reenlists Feb. 22 at the Far East District compound in Seoul. (Photo by O Sang-song)





**The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District held a retirement ceremony at the Dragon Hill Lodge Feb. 28 for Jon S. Iwata who served as the Deputy District Engineer for the district since April 2005. As the Deputy District Engineer, Iwata oversaw the planning, design and construction of military, environmental and host nation funded construction programs in Korea. He was responsible for execution of just over \$ 8 billion of projects in design and construction for Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and Defense Agency customers. Prior to his assignment as the Deputy for Program Management, Iwata served as the Chief, Army**



**Branch, Programs and Project Management Division at Far East District for five years. He also served four years as Chief, Facilities Planning Division, USFK Assistant Chief of Staff, Engineer and five years as the Chief, Major Construction Division, Eighth United States Army Engineer. Iwata is a 1972 graduate of the University of Hawaii with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering. He is a member of the Society of American Military Engineers. His awards include the Bronze de Fleury Medal from the Engineer Regiment and Federal Executive Board's Federal Manager of the Year. (Photos by Yo Kyong-il)**



**Col. Stephen Bales, United States Army, Far East District commander, presents Danny Bolden, Chief Workforce Management, with a PCS award at the FED compound, March 10. Bolden has been a significant member of the FED for the past five years and will now relocate for his new position at the Pentagon. (Photo by Yo Kyong-il)**



# March: National Women's History Month

By Valerie S. Bradley

FED Equal Employment Opportunity Office

**N**ational Women's History Month was established by presidential proclamation in order to draw attention to and improve the focus on women in historical studies. It began in New York City on March 8, 1857, when female textile workers marched in protest of unfair working conditions and unequal rights for women. It was one of the first organized strikes by working women, during which they called for a shorter work day and decent wages. Also on March 8, in 1908, women workers in the needle trades marched through New York City's Lower East Side to protest child labor, sweatshop working conditions, and demand women's suffrage. Beginning in 1910, March 8 became annually observed as International Women's Day. Women's History Week was instituted in 1978 in an effort to begin adding women's history into educational curricula. In 1987, the National Women's History Project successfully petitioned Congress to include all of March as a celebration of the economic, political and social contributions of women.



*U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District motor pool employees load vehicles onto tractor-trailers for obsolete vehicle turn-in to the Defense Reutilization Management Office, March 7, 2017. The obsolete vehicles were loaded by forklift, tied down and departed the compound in about an hour. (Photos by Antwaun J. Parrish)*





# Building *Safety* Strong

## ARMY SAFE IS ARMY STRONG



### *Don't Slip Up and Fall Down on the Job*

One of bigger safety hazards we have to deal with is slips and falls. Falls always have an element of surprise. The surprise factor is what makes falls a standard comedy routine. But falls aren't at all fun when they are real. Falls are one of the leading causes of workplace injury and death. And these aren't necessarily falls from heights such as ladders or construction scaffolds. Most are falls from the same level, caused by slipping or tripping.



#### *The main causes of slips, trips, and falls in the workplace are:*

- ◆ **Poor housekeeping:** Scrap on floors, spilled liquids, equipment cluttering the aisles all of these scenarios can lead to someone slipping and falling if we simply ignore these hazards. You may think someone else will take care of it, but that may not happen in time to prevent an accident.
- ◆ **Dangerous surface conditions:** Broken or cracked surfaces, protruding nails, different elevations which are unmarked, torn carpets, loose or curled mats and slippery finishes are all hazards.
- ◆ **Insufficient lighting:** Dim or incorrect lighting, glare in areas where it is dangerous or lights which flicker or "strobe" and cause perception difficulties.
- ◆ **Inattention to tasks:** Carelessness brought on by inexperience, horseplay, fatigue or personal problems.
- ◆ **Improper footwear:** Shoes which are not properly fastened, are too big, too small, have slippery bottoms or oversized heels.

#### *Here are some reminders about preventing falls:*

- ◆ Keep obstructions out of walkways. These items are common causes of tripping accidents - stored materials, equipment, cables, cords, hoses, scrap, and trash. Keep doors and drawers of cabinets and workbenches closed.
- ◆ Keep all floors as clean as possible. Clean up any spills promptly. If this is not possible, make sure there is a barricade and sign. Place cleaning equipment in areas where everyone can find it.
- ◆ Floor coverings such as carpets, mats, and tiles should be secured to prevent tripping hazards. Report any problems you find.
- ◆ Stay under the speed limit when you are walking. Don't run in your work area.
- ◆ Make sure your footwear won't trip you up. It should fit well and have low heels. Keep your shoelaces tied. The tread should be adequate for travelling safely on slippery surfaces and in good repair.
- ◆ Properly barricade any hazardous areas such as construction zones.
- ◆ If you are carrying an item, be sure you can see over it or around it. This is especially important on stairways.



***Falls aren't funny. They cause serious injuries and death. If you keep these fall prevention tips in mind, we will all be much safer. Watch your step to prevent falls.***

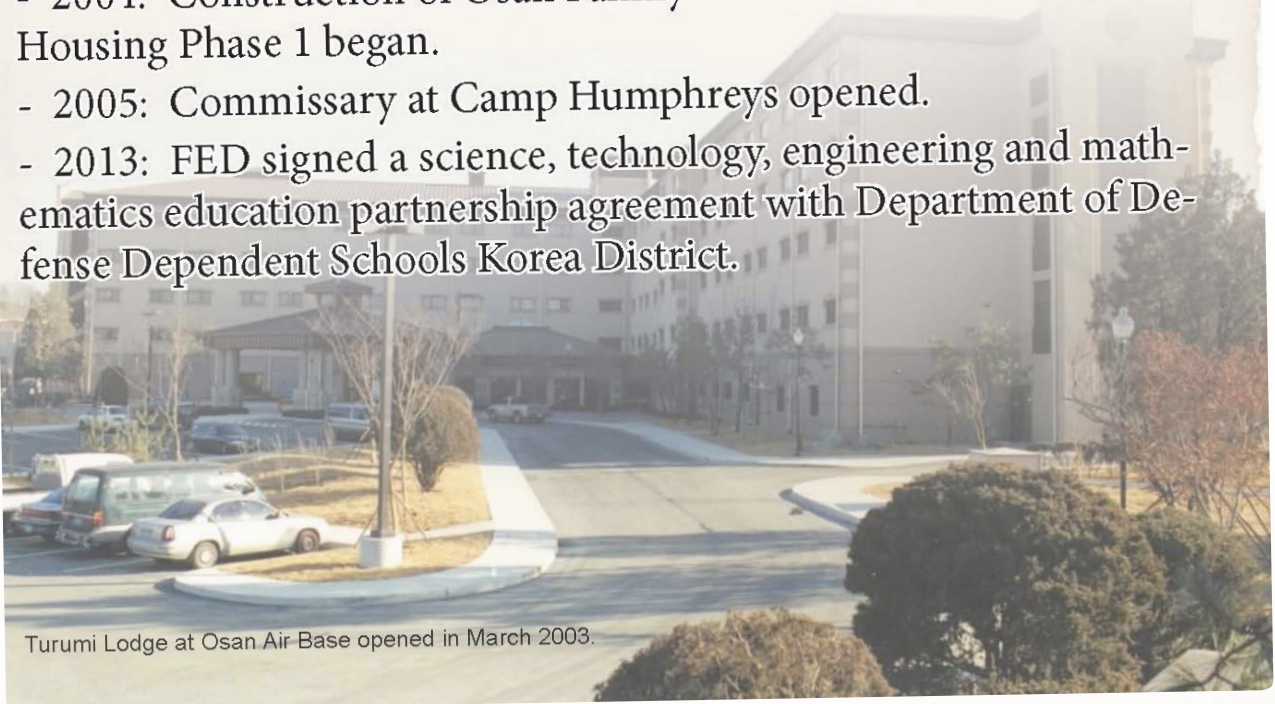


# *This month in FED History*

- **March** 1969: Petroleum distribution pipeline was built jointly by the Republic of Korea and the United States.
- 1983: Dental clinic in Yongsan opened.
- 1986: Fire Station/Weather Observation Facility at Kunsan Air Base opened.
- 1987: General supply processing shop and warehouse projects completed at Camp Carroll.
- 2000: Hangar renovation completed at Camp Humphreys.
- 2004: Renovated Soldier Support Center, known as the 1st Replacement Center, opened.
- 2002: Land Partnership Plan signed.
- 2004: Construction of Osan Family Housing Phase 1 began.
- 2005: Commissary at Camp Humphreys opened.
- 2013: FED signed a science, technology, engineering and mathematics education partnership agreement with Department of Defense Dependent Schools Korea District.



Greg Reiff, Resident Engineer for Pyongtaek Resident Office stands inside a renovated hangar at Camp Humphreys, 2000.



Turumi Lodge at Osan Air Base opened in March 2003.



# HERE IT COMES

**Slipping, Tripping and Falling:**  
Each year, an average of 2,000 civilians are hurt in slip, trip and fall accidents. How do we reduce the risk?

- Slow down and pay attention
- Wear protective footwear
- Use the correct ladder
- Report workplace hazards
- Remove trip hazards such as electrical cords and cables
- Report ice, snow or water accumulation on walking surfaces

WATCH YOUR STEP!

# READY ...OR NOT?

**Ready ... or Not** is a call to action for leaders, Soldiers, Army Civilians and Family members to assess their readiness for what lies ahead - both the known and unknown. #ArmySafety

Throughout our professional and personal lives, events happen all around us. We are often able to shape the outcome of those events, but many times we're not. Navigating life's challenges is all about decision-making.

The U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center has the tools to keep you and your Soldiers safe, both on and off duty. Visit us online at <https://safety.army.mil>.

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



<https://safety.army.mil>