



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
Far East District

# EAST GATE EDITION

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## FED Engineers take part in bridge inspection team

By Stephen Satkowski  
FED Public Affairs

**F**ar East District (FED) structural engineers Choe Hyon-ku and Young C. Jung joined nine members of the Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) during the week of Oct. 7 to perform bridge inspections on all U.S. military installations in the Republic of Korea. The team provided assessments on 57 bridges, both vehicular and pedestrian, and provided an out brief to garrison commanders in the region.

The results were 23 in good, 30 in fair, 13 in poor and one in critical condition.

“Poor condition is advanced deterioration and possible failure condition. Critical condition maintains that the structure needs to be closed due to possible failures,” said Young C. Jung, FED structural engineer.

Military regulations state that bridge inspections should take place every two years. Some of the deficiencies that the team looked for included cracks in the road, excess vegetation hindering the roadway and whether signs were posted explaining the civilian weight restrictions on each bridge. Both FED structural engineers worked closely with the team from ERDC to complete the mission in a timely and efficient manner.

“Both became an integral part of the ERDC team,” said Gerardo Velazquez, ERDC research civil engineer, and bridge inspection team member.

“From helping collect channel

profile data, identification of defects in concrete and classification between structural defects vs non-structural defects like concrete honeycomb and freeze-thaw cracking, they did an excellent job explaining to the technicians on the team what was a primary vs. secondary issue and what were the most important ones. Both got integrated to our teams very well and helped a lot,” said Velazquez.

Once the deficiencies were defined to the garrison commanders it will be up each commander to make the necessary repairs on each installation.



*Far East District structural engineer Young C. Jung is assisted by an Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) engineer as he inspects a bridge at Camp Hovey, Republic of Korea on Oct. 9, 2019. (FED file photo)*






*From left to right: Kim Jung-u, a Ministry of National Defense, Defense Installation Agency project manager, Pi Young-kil, SeongBo Construction Industrial Company Ltd. President, Col. Thomas Wood, Camp Mujuk commander, Lt. gen. Stacy Clardy, III Marine Expeditionary Force commander, Maj. Gen. Bradley James, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Korea commander, Brig. Gen. William Bowers, Marine Installations Pacific commanding general, and Jason Lamb, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District project engineer, all participate in a ribbon cutting ceremony to commemorate completion of Life Support Area Barracks #2, Camp Mujuk, South Korea, Oct. 28. (FED file photos)*



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# ULDP program further develops U.S. Army Corps of Engineers leaders

By Antwaun J. Parrish  
FED Public Affairs

**T**he U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Leadership Development Program (ULDP) Level II, is a district level competitively selected, cohort-based leader development program targeted at emerging leaders at the GS-12 level and below. The cohort consists of approximately six employees and the program lasts for 19 months, with Defense Acquisition University instruction and Far East District (FED) ULDP committee oversight.

The format of the course includes experiential team activities, classroom instruction and discussion, guest speak-

ers, self-assessment tools, reading, journaling and mentorship activities. There are three main learning outcomes of ULDP. One of the outcomes is a demonstrated ability to perform a team project that requires leveraging interpersonal skills, individual strengths, and effective team strategies.

The result of this outcome is now on display after a ribbon cutting ceremony was held at the district headquarters, Oct. 8, to commemorate the presentation of the 2017/2018

class' capstone project. The goal of the group's capstone project was to bring FED together after the district relocated to Camp Humphreys last year and to provide a sense of community as well as offer a practical solution for meeting spaces for customers and visiting guests. Although the cohort program was complete in 2018, a few of the team members actually made a plan to incorporate the drafted project.

*Continued on Page 4*

***A ribbon cutting was held at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Far East District (FED), headquarters to commemorate the completion of the district's USACE Leadership Development Program (ULDP) II cohort capstone project, Camp Humphreys, South Korea, Oct. 8, 2019. (Photo by Antwaun J. Parrish)***



# ULDP program further develops U.S. Army Corps of Engineers leaders

*Continued from Page 3*

A photo contest to hang pictures was recommended to the corporate board, open to all FED employees and their family members, capturing the area around Pyeongtaek and South Korea. The pictures are focused on nature and the elements, bodies of water, fields, trees, mountains, palaces, and skylines, and to also be used as way finders for employees and guests as they first come to the building. The seating areas are to be used as work space or break space for small groups, individuals, and teams and as an ideal place to meet stakeholders during their visits. The team was well positioned with experts from contracting, architecture, and small contract purchasing and they poured their hearts into making this space happen.

Brady Hales, a contracting division chief, was a member of that 2017/2018 cohort. Hales shared his thoughts on the program and the reason he decided to apply for ULDP.

“When it came time for applying I was somewhat new in the district, so I thought it would be a good opportunity to get to know people in other divisions, some of the senior leadership and the corporate board that we’d be working with,” said Hales.

Hales went on to state that the curriculum was another variable that drew him to the program. He felt like it would be value added to his career. He was also interested in learning the leadership philosophies of the Corps of Engineers, and what makes a good leader in the Army.

The program affords the participants a chance to speak with and learn from various leaders who serve in several different capacities.



“They would bring some of the leaders here and provide us an hour to pick their brains, and to see the difference between them,” said Hales. “There were lots of different qualities, some were similar and some were very different. But asking them [the leaders] questions that you always wanted to ask a leader was a great opportunity.”

Hales stated that he went into the program thinking he understood what makes a great leader based on outward traits, however, after the program he understands that it’s more than just what’s presented.

“The program forced me to look inward and discover who I am and what I need to do in order to be a good leader,” said Hales. “Also I have a good library of books that were the curriculum, so I can always refer back to them.”

He went on to state that he built great relationships during the program,

and having Jennifer Moore, Air Force Program Branch Chief, and Richard Byrd, deputy district engineer, as a resource and being able to rely on them as mentors and leaders, was invaluable.

Learning that leadership is not monolithic has made Hales more self-aware and he now has more tools than he had before to empower his subordinates.

“It was more reflective of me, who I am and discovering my leadership style,” said Hales. “A good leader motivates his employees, listens to his employees, and removes barriers that hinder them from doing their job.”

The district is currently accepting applications for the 2020/ 2021 cohort from Oct. 15 until Nov. 29. The program is looking to add a Korean cultural/history trip to its curriculum. The application can be found on the district’s sharepoint portal.



# **New fueling system provides improved aircraft re-fueling capabilities to Kunsan's 35th fighter squadron**

**By Karey Park**

FED Kunsan Resident Office Resident Engineer

**T**he Far East District Kunsan resident office recently completed a project to construct ten hardened aircraft flow-thru shelters for aircraft refueling and a new JP-8 hydrant fueling system. The system is comprised of two 1.6 million liter fuel tanks, two new pump houses, and a 250 millimeter underground hydrant loop routing the fueling systems to each of the individual aircraft refueling shelters. This \$39 million project was completed and accepted by the 8th civil engineer squadron on Aug. 1.

While the technical requirements of such a project are quite complex, the concept of the “hot pit” refueling system is simple. It provides aircrafts “quick turn” capability to concurrently load munitions and refuel aircrafts while parked in aircraft shelters. It allows aircrafts to meet the minimum times required to support various air operations throughout the Pacific theater. Kunsan is home to two F-16 squadrons: the 35th Fighter Squadron and the 80th Fighter Squadron. These facilities will be exclusively used by the 35th Fighter Squadron.

A project of this size naturally presents a host of challenges to the project delivery team in the field, with all of

its main and supporting facilities intricately connected by a series of piping systems, not to mention stringent standards that must be met by facilities that receive and transfer fuel of any kind. The most substantial project milestone, by far, is the commissioning and acceptance testing of the aircraft fueling system, which took place over an approximately five week span, culminating in government witness by the Defense Logistics Agency (project owner). Key to the successful completion is close coordination with the contractor, Defense Logistics Agency, title II service contractor, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mandatory Center of Expertise (MCX), and the Air Force IMSC (installation's technical representative). Like most projects, a little teamwork goes a long way, but that is especially true on fueling system projects, which tend to require a high degree of inter-agency interaction.

The successful completion of this project reflects highly on the close teamwork the Kunsan Resident Office has with the 8th Fighter Wing, known as the Wolf Pack and the fighter squadrons that form the backbone of their operations at Kunsan Air Base. This project will continue to support the Wolf Pack's mission for many years to come.



***A look at the ten hardened aircraft flow-thru shelters for aircraft refueling at Kunsan Air Base. (FED file photo)***



# FED employee pushes past competition at Strongest Warrior

By Antwaun J. Parrish  
FED Public Affairs

**A** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Far East District (FED) employee recently pulled an Army Humvee with her body during a competition where physical strength is the key to winning.

U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys hosted the 2019 Strongest Warrior Competition at Balboni Field, Oct. 19. Among the competitors was Gina Petrino, a contract specialist, who was competing for the first time and won 2nd place in her weight class of five other competitors.

Petrino, who has been an employee with FED since July, has managed to remain active throughout the years after playing sports in high school. She stated that she hadn't done any power lifting or weightlifting until about two years ago.

"I went back to school for my MBA ([Master of Business Administration]), and during that process I was working full time and going to school full-time," said Petrino. "It was very overwhelming and it was exhausting - reading and writing - and it was constant every day. But in-between work and studying I'd go to the gym, I needed a relief. I started going to a crossfit gym, and it was just for fun, just to get my energy up and I just found that lifting heavy weights, for me, was calming."

After completing her MBA, she wanted to have a new challenge. Petrino stated that it feels great to accomplish such a feat and strive to push harder than what she could have imagined.

"Being able to physically push yourself to the limits, beyond what you can mentally do in everyday training, and succeed without injury, is an indescribable feeling," said Petrino. "Makes you want to push yourself further and see how far you can really go."

The Strongest Warrior competition included five events including the log press, atlas stones, yolk walk, Humvee pull, and farmer's carry. During her training for the competition, Petrino suffered an injury and didn't think it was possible for her to participate.

"I took three weeks off and just did light training," said Petrino. "I didn't plan on competing but at the end of the three weeks I got back on schedule and was able to push the weight up and actually PR [achieve her personal record] several of my best."

*Continued on Page 7*



**Gina Petrino, a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District contract specialist, competes during the 2019 U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys Strongest Warrior competition, at Balboni Field, Camp Humphreys, South Korea, Oct. 19. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Kaden D. Pitt and Pfc. Jillian Hix, 20th Public Affairs Detachment)**

## FED employee pushes past competition at Strongest Warrior

*Continued from Page 6*

Petrino didn't change much of her training for the competition as she already trains daily at the gym, but she admitted that she was a bit anxious the week leading up to Strongest Warrior.

The competition proved to be successful for Petrino, who was able to do some self-reflection during and after the competition, and is now more aware of what to do in order to prepare for future opportunities.

"I was very nervous but excited about the competition," said Petrino. "Nervous because this was my first competition and had no idea what to expect and excited because I wanted

to see how I would perform under pressure. Afterwards, I felt pumped to get back in the gym and train for the next competition. I identified my strengths and weaknesses in the events so I was ready to work on them!"

The next USAG Strongest Warrior competition is scheduled for Sept. 2020 and Petrino stated that she plans to be there and hopes to fit in some other organized competitions until then.



**Gina Petrino (far left), a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District contract specialist, after she won 2nd place for her weight class at the 2019 U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys Strongest Warrior competition, at Balboni Field, Camp Humphreys, South Korea, Oct. 19. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Kaden D. Pitt and Pfc. Jillian Hix, 20th Public Affairs Detachment)**





# ENERGY

ACTION MONTH

## ENERGY SAVING TIPS

### Use cold water!

Washing your clothes in cold water reduces energy use by up to 80% compared to a warm wash load. Hot water uses 39% of energy in the average home.



**Slow down!** As your speed increases, so does the amount of fuel you're using. Driving at 70mph uses up to 9% more fuel than at 60mph. Cruising at 80mph can use up to 25% more fuel than at 70mph.



### Go around, not through!

Using a revolving door helps control temperatures - saving energy and money. Eight times as much air is exchanged when using a swinging door versus a revolving one.

