



US Army Corps
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Far East District

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FED provides technical support during construction of Republic of Korea FA-35 facilities

By Antwaun J. Parrish
FED Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Far East District (FED), provided unique support to the Republic of Korea (ROK) Joint Strike Fighter (F-35) bed down effort.

One of the main responsibilities for this project was for FED to serve as technical advisor to the Joint Strike

Fighter Program Office (JPO) and ROK Defense Installations Agency (DIA) on the engineering design and construction of new facilities in support of the F-35 bed down.

The F-35 Lightning II fighter jet is a single-seat, single engine fighter aircraft designed for many missions with advanced, integrated sensors built into

every aircraft. Missions that were traditionally performed by small numbers of specialized aircraft, such as intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance and electronic attack missions can now be executed by a squadron of F-35s, bringing new capabilities to many allied forces.

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The F-35 Lightning II is a 5th Generation fighter, combining advanced stealth with fighter speed and agility, fully fused sensor information, network-enabled operations and advanced sustainment. Three variants of the F-35 will replace the A-10 and F-16 for the U.S. Air Force, the F/A-18 for the U.S. Navy, the F/A-18 and AV-8B Harrier for the U.S. Marine Corps, and a variety of fighters for at least ten other countries. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Isaac Johnson)



Col. Christopher Crary, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District commander, cuts the Voting Registration Cake during a ceremony hosted by Michael Chipps, a district voting assistance officer, at the district headquarters, Camp Humphreys, South Korea, June 26. The ceremony was in honor of the Armed Forces Voters Week. (Photos by Antwaun J. Parrish)



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Pacific Ocean Division holds Change of Command and Responsibility Ceremony

By San Luciano Vera
USACE Pacific Ocean Division

Brig. Gen. Thomas Tickner relinquished his position as commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (USACE) Pacific Ocean Division (POD) to Col. Kirk E. Gibbs, during a social distance adherence change of command and responsibility ceremony, July 8.

The Army division conducted the change of responsibility from Command Sgt. Maj. Patrickson Toussaint to Command Sgt. Maj. Douglas Galick.

Lt. Gen. Todd Semonite, chief of engineers and commanding general of USACE, virtually hosted the ceremony and expressed his confidence in Tickner, Gibbs, Toussaint and Galick's

leadership and service.

"Command of a division goes beyond accountability for projects, people and money. It's about driving revolutionary change, developing future strategic leaders and serving as guardians of the Corps' world-class reputation," said Semonite live-streamed from Washington D.C. "You all are proven guardians of the Corps' credibility - leaders who develop solutions for the nation's toughest challenges while taking care of their people."

Semonite commended Tickner for delivering a full range of engineering capabilities and executing an \$11 billion program throughout the Pacific

on behalf of the nation and its partners and allies.

Tickner reflected on his time in command and thanked his family for their support and highlighted POD's diverse number one resource – its people.

"The people of POD perfectly embody the aloha spirit, yet at the same time, reflect all of the wonderful characteristics that are found throughout the districts; Alaska's rugged tenacity, Hawaii's warm relationships, Japan's revolutionary approach and Korea's long-standing commitment," said Tickner.

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Col. Kirk E. Gibbs took command of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pacific Ocean Division during a ceremony presided over by Lt. Gen. Todd T. Semonite, 54th Chief of Engineers and Commanding General of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. (Photo by San Luciano Vera)

Pacific Ocean Division holds Change of Command and Responsibility Ceremony

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“We have called upon many of you to leverage your hard-earned experience to see us through times of critical change, crisis and during ongoing operations. You weren’t just about building structures but were about building people and teams.”

Before closing his remarks Tickner thanked his closest advisor and most trusted confidant throughout this assignment – former POD Command Sgt. Maj. Patrickson Toussaint, who also shared his thanks with the region.

“I watched you (POD workforce) in awe during our most devastating natural disasters, and even today, in your COVID-19 pandemic response,” said Toussaint. “Your passion, enthusiasm and commitment to our people, mission and nation, are reflected in your many accomplishments and programs you have delivered across the Pacific.”

Tickner will take command of the USACE North Atlantic Division in Brooklyn, New York. Toussaint will assume responsibilities as the USACE 14th Command Sergeant Major.

With the socially distanced modified passing of the ceremonial flag, symbolizing the change of command, Gibbs became the 34th POD commander and Galick the Command Sergeant Major, of the Army Corps’ 115 year old division.

“I can promise you are getting a leader who cares about people and one who gives maximum effort every day with a goal of achieving greatness and delivering for the Nation,” said Gibbs. “I am ready for the challenge but most of all, I am ready for the new relationships that we will develop and build within POD and with our many stakeholders.”

Gibbs served as the USACE Chief of Staff prior to taking command of POD. He welcomed the opportunity to take command along with Galick, who served prior as the United States Army Engineer School Command Sergeant Major.

“I am very much looking forward to meeting all the great men and women of POD and learning what you do for the team, and most importantly how I can help each of you accomplish your mission,” said Galick.

“Being selected as a commander of a division doesn’t happen by accident,” said Semonite. “It requires a highly motivated, agile leader to manage the tremendous volume of day-to-day business and facilitate the long-term success of great organizations.”

“The right candidate is a strategist, advisor, and doer,” he said.



Far East District held its Annual District Award Ceremony at its headquarters on July 13. This year's Project Delivery Team of the Year was given to members that worked on the 3rd Generation Hardened Aircraft Shelter Phase 1, 2, 3 at Kunsan Air Base. The project delivery team completed this \$124 million project May 18, 2020. Paul Choi, fire protection engineer, was the winner of the District Employee of the Year. Several other employees from different offices were also awarded for their hard work. Congratulations everyone! (FED file photo)

USACE FED's leadership development program class of 2020 recognized

By Stephen Satkowski
FED Public Affairs

The Far East District USACE Leadership Development Program (ULDP) class of 2020 was recognized on their graduation July 8 at the district headquarters. The team consisted of six GS-12 and KGS-11 employees from various career fields and was named WIP6, which stands for "Work in Progress 6."

"It's been an exciting journey participating in ULDP," said Eden Shin, FED Contract Specialist. "Our six members are from different career fields and we learned to work well as a team."

The team met with 11 top tier leaders from the district, Pacific Ocean Division and beyond during their 14-month long journey. The guest speakers aimed to enhance and develop their skills as leaders and helped support the program's purpose of developing leaders in their ability to lead both self and teams.

"I really enjoyed our guest speakers," said Jared McCormick, FED Deputy Resident Engineer for Southern Resident Office. "How many people can say they had intimate personal conversations with high level staff, Generals, and senior executives just to pick their brains? The lectures were great, and I was able to get a lot out of them as well. Some I was able to apply directly and immediately such as crucial conversations. Others, over time, and some I hope not to have to use such as the lessons in dealing with toxic leaders."

The group completed experiential team activities such as a FED scavenger hunt, a leader reaction course at Camp Humphreys, as well as classroom instruction through Defense Acquisition University (DAU) led seminars and discussions on topics including emotional intelligence, effective followership, and knowing and leading self.

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The Far East District USACE Leadership Development Program (ULDP) class of 2020 was recognized on their graduation July 8 at the district headquarters. The team consisted of six GS-12 and KGS-11 employees from various career fields and was named WIP6, which stands for "Work in Progress 6." The group completed a 14 month program to enhance and develop their skills as leaders. The USACE Leader Development Program level 2 is the District level, competitively selected, cohort-based leader development program targeted at emerging leaders at the GS/KGS-12 and below level. (Photo by Stephen Satkowski)

USACE FED's leadership development program class of 2020 recognized

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"All of the seminars, books, videos and meetings with all the guest speakers were very helpful and I can use them when I will face some difficulties at work," said Chae Ungyun, FED Civil Engineer at Geotechnical Branch. "Learning these things gave me solutions."

One of the program's learning objectives is to help them possess the ability to identify, understand, and develop individual strengths and use those strengths to build teams and relationships. Each group member was able to take different elements away from the program and improve their own leadership style as they continue to develop as leaders in the district and wherever their next assignment may be.

"I learned about setting and sharing goals as a team through effective ways of communication, and how to im-

prove myself by changing my attitude and risk taking," said Ye-Kwon Choe, FED Geologist. "I also learned how to keep my curiosity and passion focused on a job, profession and areas of interest."

The team is in the final stages of its capstone project which includes updating and streamlining the on-boarding and sponsorship process and creating a recruitment video for FED to help inform new potential employees.

The USACE Leader Development Program level 2 is the District level, competitively selected, cohort-based leader development program targeted at emerging leaders at the GS/KGS-12 and below level. Please contact Jennifer Moore, Facilitator, or MSG Brett Akers, Co-Facilitator, for more information on FED's ULDP.



Brig. Gen. Kim, Jae-bong, former Director General of Program Management, Ministry of National Defense U.S. Forces Korea Relocation Office (MURO), his wife, (center) along with Col. Christopher Crary, (third from left) Far East District (FED) commander, Col. Garrett Cottrell (second from left), Deputy Commanding Officer – Transformation FED, and other distinguished guests pose for a picture during a retirement dinner for Brig. Gen. Kim on July 30 in Seoul, South Korea. Brig. Gen. Kim was a key partner as FED was able to successfully complete many construction projects during his time as Director General of Program Management at MURO. (Photo by USFK Transformation and re-stationing)

FED provides technical support during construction of Republic of Korea FA-35 facilities

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According to the Defense Security Cooperation Agency the F-35 provides the ROK with a credible defense capability to deter aggression in the region and ensure interoperability with U.S. Forces.

Ensuring that this mission critical aircraft has support facilities is key to the overall mission success of the US and ROK forces. This project falls in line with the district's mission to deliver engineering solutions in the Republic of Korea and to secure our allies and our nation. FED helped educate the ROK on security issues and procedures, established and coordinated a design review process, and provided onsite reporting to JPO during the construction.

According to a Programs and Project Management Division (PPMD) representative this mission is unique in the fact that it's the first time USACE has supported the FMS process quite in this way before.

FED also served as JPO's forward presence for construction activities at Cheongju and ROKAF headquarters. FED provided two construction representatives five days a week, a project engineer once a week, and a resident engineer once a month. Other FED support includes a project manager, design manager, chief, and construction division and quality assurance branch personnel.

The contract amount is \$2.1 million and construction has taken place over a four-year period. Phase I of the project at Area 6 began Nov. 2016 and was completed in June 2018. Phase II began July 2018 and is scheduled to be completed by 2021.

The construction includes a total of 65 facilities. Some of the types of facilities constructed during this project include hangars, fuel parking lots,

training center, storage facilities and squadron facilities.

Chi, YongChae, a Central Resident Office project engineer, is currently the project engineer responsible for the completion of this massive project. Chi went into further detail about the overall support the FED provided to the ROK Joint Strike Fighter F-35 bed down.

"We provided basic design and specification support to the Korea Design Company," said Chi. "The FED field team conducted quality assurance inspections at Area I and monitored the construction site and supported on site. We also attended weekly meetings with the ROKAF and construction management and monitored the status, provided support and advice and used the inspection tool from the U.S. Corps of Engineer inspection guide."

During the initial phase of the project, from Dec. 2016 to Feb. 2017, FED was to provide technical assistance and advice to ROKAF for their construction project of a small SAP room and collateral security area in the ROKAF headquarters in Daejeon. The support requirement was for only two or three days at Daejeon.

Ensuring that the construction helps the ROK forces fulfill their mission was at the forefront of this construction project. Chi stated that the FED supports the basic design and specification, and USACE inspection tool.

"The contractor (Daewoo) and CM did outstanding projects and arrived FA-35 AT Area I on time," said Chi. "Area 2 is still under construction for taxiway and access road around hangars."

Chi went on to state that the ROK Air Force occupied security control

buildings (SQ, L and AL facilities) on Jan 2020.

Providing direct support to the construction team is a part of Chi's responsibilities, and he explained some of the insight he provided when joining this project.

"I checked the project site, and took current construction photos and reported to JPO weekly, and I attended weekly meetings with ROKAF, the contractor and CM.

Chi was also tasked to provide technical advice to DIA and ROKAF during their preparation of required documentation (checklists, shop drawings, photographs, quality control management, and construction progress) for U.S. government certification and accreditation of SAPF areas.

Also, Chi and his team is responsible for providing limited construction surveillance technical advice to DIA and ROKAF for all other facilities (non SAPF and non-collateral secure areas) and provide a brief summary of findings/ recommendation to DIA, with a copy furnished to JPO.

In the initial draft memo, FED is assigned to provide a written report via email to JPO on construction activities every two weeks.

Discussing pending issues with JPO was a large component within Chi's scope as he wanted to ensure that issues could be resolved and not cause a major delay in construction.

Chi described each support agency and their involvement with this four-year project.

"The DIA is the main customer and they coordinate with airfield control office security, site release and status control," said Chi. "They also control the CM directly."

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Nursing and Engineering: A Surprisingly Unsurprising Pairing

By Tacy Surret
FED Summer Hire

When I walked into the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Far East District (FED) building on my first day as a summer hire, I felt some uncertainty and confusion as to how I, a nursing major, could contribute to the district. I had never taken an engineering class, nor had I even visited a construction site before. The confusion extended into the district employees as well, as they looked at me and asked, “nursing and engineering? I can’t see how those two have any relation.”

After several of these conversations, it became my mission to find out how engineering and nursing were related and how working at USACE would prepare me to be the best nurse possible.

The first lesson I learned had to do with occupational health and safety. This appeared to be the most obvious connection to nursing, as it relates to being safe, and therefore healthy, in the workplace. However, after comparing Accident Prevention Plans and Safety Plans, I realized that it means so much more than just wearing Personal Protective Equipment or following rules and guidelines (although those are extremely important). It’s about our mindset around safety and health, our values and where we spend our time and energy. I realized that embracing this mindset would help me to view patients as a holistic system, affected by each interaction they have with their world, including their workspace and career. Health does not start or stop at the door of the hospital/clinic, it encompasses every moment of our lives and follows us everywhere.

As I began talking to people and learning more about them, it reaffirmed my views on the importance of diversity and the value that it brings to society. I learned it’s important to take time to find out who people are so you can see where they are coming from in order to achieve their goals. Moreover, taking the time to learn about and do research on other people’s cultures is incredibly important not only for professional conversational skills, but also in order to understand



Tacy Surret, 3rd from the right, is a Junior at the University of Maryland at Baltimore School of Nursing (UMSON) and an FED Summer Hire working at the Engineering Division. (FED file photo)

those you are working with every day on a deeper level. It was so inspiring to witness enriching professional relationships in this workplace, as I can now see how important that is for mental and occupational health.

I learned the importance of asking questions and offering your help on whatever task might be needed. Before working here, I did not understand that asking questions both conveys a sense of respect and curiosity, but also helps one figure out what they need and want to do and how to get there. I struggled to connect the dots at times, whether it was between A-E contracting or design analysis, but asking questions enabled me to form working relationships at the same time. I now imagine the charge nurse at my hospital listening to me ask them one thousand questions a minute wondering, “who taught her to be so curious my goodness,” and I’d say, “engineers, of course!”

While I only worked here for a short time during the summer, I watched as my professional skills began to grow and my ability to expand my horizons increased significantly.

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Nursing and Engineering: A Surprisingly Unsurprising Pairing

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I can now look at a building and know that it took the effort of so many hardworking individuals to plan, create, build, and budget that very building, from the HVAC to fire-protection. This is similar to the ways in which my patients will be a result of their interactions, experiences, environment, and genetics, and are not simply a single entity that just appeared with the ailment they have at the time.

I have learned the importance of paying attention to detail while also seeing the big-picture, as it could mean life or death in the sense of a building staying structurally sound

or a human being treated properly.

Finally, I saw how both engineering and nursing value the needs of others and put those first, whether that be in constructing a gymnasium to harness the equipment necessary for a beneficial exercise environment or adopting a patient-first philosophy in practice.

I am grateful to those I interacted with and learned from and am excited to apply my new skills and lessons to the healthcare field in my future.

FED provides technical support during construction of Republic of Korea FA-35 facilities

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He went on to state that JPO is the main operational office during construction, and that they check the construction status and check the high security inspection at SQ building and coordinate with Northrop Airplane Company.

The technical support which the

district QAB provides after inspections, has helped improve other areas within various stages of the project.

“FED QAB team checked the entire construction inspection at Area I in 2019, based on the technical support, the improved construction electricity and arch work at Area 2,” said Chi.

This project has kept the vision of the district to be the trusted engineers on the peninsula as focused professionals delivering quality, engineering excellence, and driven to exceed expectations.



FED Safety Gram



1 August 2020

What do you think about FED Safety?



CESOHMS (Corps of Engineer Safety and Occupational Health Management System) is the developmental system for a culture of safety. The purpose of CESOHMS is to promote an effective worksite-based safety and health program. It is a cooperative action-oriented approach where supervisors, managers, employees and contractors work together to prevent workplace hazards to reduce injuries and illness. Take a few minutes to check and review your knowledge of the FED Safety program and enjoy the FED workplace without worry.

Check your safety knowledge

1. What are your rights under OSHA?
2. How to address an unsafe or unhealthy condition?
3. What is the procedure when you are injured?
4. What does CESOHMS mean to you?
5. Where can you see copies of the workplace's injury and illness log?

Keep these safety answers in mind

1. You have the right to a safe workplace free of known health and safety hazards.
2. Notify your immediate supervisor and the FED Safety office at FED HQ U 401.
3. Treat the injury first, then report it to your immediate supervisor and the FED Safety Office. This is for all mishaps; recordable, non-recordable, near-miss.
4. CESOHMS is a safety management system to make all individuals proactively engage the safety program.
5. You can see the OSHA 300 log on the Safety Board, in the Safety and Occupational Health Advisory Council (SOHAC) and FED Safety Office.

?

Check
safety
board



PLAN DO CHECK/ACT



**Take a moment to have a safety meeting to discuss and talk about monthly safety grams.
Remember these answers make a world class safe workplace.**