



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

EAST GATE EDITION

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ARL ceremony signifies another completed project for 65th Medical Brigade

By Antwaun J. Parrish
FED Public Affairs

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Far East District (FED), is known for its history of overseeing the design and construction of outstanding quality of life and operation facilities for the Department of Defense community and other stakeholders in South Korea.

Continuing this tradition, an acceptance release letter (ARL) signing ceremony was held Jan. 30 at Camp Humphreys to signify the completed renovation of vehicle maintenance facility 120, which will support the 65th Medical Brigade.

The district continues to build upon its legacy as it has been a significant contributor to the Yongsan Relocation Program in supporting units such as the 65th Medical Brigade. The YRP relocates most U.S. Forces and headquarters United Nations Command activities from the Seoul metropolitan area to areas south, most notably to U.S. Army Garrison (USAG) Humphreys. USAG Humphreys has grown exponentially over the past 10 years due to projects led by the Far East District.

The 65th Medical Brigade provides Army Health Systems in support of Unified Land Operations and Armistice Health Care in the Korean Theater of Operations.

“First and foremost all projects are important and critical to being prepared to fight tonight,” said Col. Garrett Cottrell, Deputy Commanding Officer – Transformation, USACE FED.

Although this project wasn’t as intricate as the construction of the \$300 million newly built Brian D. Allgood Army Community Hospital, it was significant in the fact that it is the next to the last project specifically designed for the 65th Medical Brigade.

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Col. Lee Woo-sik (right), Chief, Program Management Team, MURO, and Col. Garrett Cottrell (left), Deputy Commanding Officer - Transformation, United States Army Corps of Engineers Far East District, sign the Acceptance Release Letter for the Vehicle Maintenance Facility 120, which will support the 65th Medical Brigade, Camp Humphreys, South Korea, Jan. 30. (Photo by Antwaun J. Parrish)

Lt. Gen. Darrell K. Williams, Director of the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), paid a visit to the new DLA warehouse site to survey the current construction on Feb. 6 at Camp Carroll, South Korea. The warehouse will include a 20,000-square foot HAZMAT warehouse, 50 new parking spaces, and a three story administration office building. Fabio J. Vallejo, Quality Assurance Representative, Southern Resident Office briefed the director on the latest construction efforts. (FED file photos)



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Far East District welcomes new Assistant District Counsel

By Antwaun J. Parrish
FED Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Far East District (FED), Office of Counsel recently announced the addition of a new Assistant District Counsel, SoCheung Lee. Lee previously worked at the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency.

Lee earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology, with Honors, from the University of Chicago and her Law Degree from the University of Maryland. She is a member of the Maryland Bar.

As a Korean- American, Lee was raised in the U.S., but she does have some experience living in Korea while pursuing her undergraduate degree.

“When I was a college student I went to Yonsei University to learn Korean a bit more formally,” said Lee.

She has traveled to many countries outside of the U.S., but as a working professional it has always been a desire of hers to work abroad, and accepting a position with the district fit her aspiration.

“I have always wanted to work overseas. It’s been both a professional and personal dream of mine,” said Lee. “After many years I have attained a job overseas, and here I am.”

Lee has an extensive background as a legal professional, with over 15 years of experience. She brings considerable legal experience working government procurement formation and administration issues; procurement policy while drafting proposed rules for the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) Council's Working Group; contract dispute litigation before the Armed Services Board of Contract Appeals (ASBCA), and bid protests before the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) and the Court of Federal Claims (COFC).

Her experience also includes working on fiscal law, government ethics, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act issues, as well as drafting interagency memorandums of understanding, and advising Inspector General (IG) investigations.

Working with the district is a unique experience for most Americans as they get a chance to work alongside foreign nationals. With her legal background, and understanding of the Korean language, Lee has noticed that Korean Nationals (KNs) feel comfortable speaking with her.

“For work matters, the language of choice is English, but



SoCheung Lee, an U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District assistant district counsel, at the district headquarters, Camp Humphreys, South Korea, March 5. (Photo by Antwaun J. Parrish)

in terms of socially interacting with folks whose dominant language is Korean, it helps facilitate things a little more,” said Lee.

The Corps of Engineers is said to be a unique organization within the Department of Defense (DOD) community, and learning its structure is an important element to being successful within the district.

“I am learning about the organization’s structure and hierarchy, and how the Corps does business,” said Lee. “Previously, I worked in pretty flat organizations that were also much smaller as far as DOD components were concerned. But I think the Corps of Engineers is reminiscent of my experience with the Navy, and having to be familiar with different sets of instructions from the DOD, Army, and the Corps of Engineers.”

Lee has set a few professional and personal goals for herself during her time here at FED.

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Engineers Week 2020: Resident Engineer speaks about building a career with USACE

By Antwaun J. Parrish
FED Public Affairs

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) employees are provided opportunities worldwide to grow with the organization and continue to influence potential future employees of the organization.

Ken Ward, a Far East District resident engineer, has been a member of USACE for more than 10 years. He was hired as a local intern at Fort Gordon, Ga., after completing his civil engineering degree at Georgia Southern

University.

“Working with the Corps of Engineers became the first option I had and I enjoyed it once I got onboard,” said Ward. “I actually started out as a construction representative and was eventually transferred to an engineering position.”

Ward came to the Far East District in 2013 as an office engineer at Central Resident Office on Osan Air Base. He said there he dealt with a lot of negotia-

tions and contract administration. Later he moved on to other areas within the district.

“I got a promotion to be a project engineer at Kunsan Resident Office, where I led a lot of the O&M projects [Operations and Maintenance Program],” said Ward. “I applied and was selected for a resident engineering position here at Camp Humphreys last year.”

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Ken Ward, a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District, resident engineer, volunteers during a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) event held at Camp Humphreys, South Korea, May 23, 2019. (Photo by Antwaun J. Parrish)

Engineers Week 2020

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To help address the nation's Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) challenge, USACE employees participate in mentorship programs, science fairs, robotics competitions, teacher-training workshops, recreational events, STEM camps and other educational opportunities.

Ward is no stranger to participating in enrichment programs such as STEM and he is currently the Advancing Minorities' Interest in Engineering (AMIE) program director for the district.

Initially, Ward was asked to volunteer with the STEM program, but

since that time has continued to provide support whenever possible.

"I have always liked volunteering around the community and working with kids," said Ward. "It's fulfilling to work with kids and spark their interest, and it's something I have been trying to do every year."

Last summer, Ward was in charge of guiding two university students who came to the district as interns participating in the AMIE program.

"Being a minority myself, I wanted to get involved with this program a little more" said Ward. "It's rewarding to have someone look up to you and ask

you questions and eventually become a mentor to the participants of the AMIE program. I've kept in contact with last year participants, they have been talking with me and asking for advice to help them with their future."

As for now, Ward plans to remain with the district for the foreseeable future and has a few personal and professional goals he'd like to accomplish.

"I want to get married to my fiancé, earn my MBA [Master of Business Administration], and earn the Professional Project Manager certificate," said Ward.



Members of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District, gather for a group photo prior to a two-day contingency off-site workshop at Camp Humphreys, South Korea, Feb. 20. (Photo by Stephen Satkowski)

ARL ceremony signifies another completed project for 65th Medical Brigade

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“No matter if it’s a \$1.6 million project renovation or a \$300 million hospital, all facilities are important to the 65th Medical Brigade to be able to meet their mission,” said Cottrell.

It takes aligned partnerships working together as a team to be able to successfully complete the projects being overseen by the FED.

“We appreciate the efforts across the entire team, including PMC [Program Management Consortium], MURO [Ministry of National Defense United States Forces Korea Relocation Office], and the contractors,” said Cottrell.

Richard Byrd (third left), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Far East District, Deputy District Engineer, held a leadership forum with the USACE Leadership Development Program (ULDLP) class, at the district headquarters, Camp Humphreys, South Korea, Jan. 28. The session was interactive and allowed the students to ask questions as he spoke with them about things that are important to him as a leader. He also talked to the team about his commitment as a leader to ensure his people know that he will resource them, underwrite their mistakes, and watch them run and work toward the mission. Byrd also shared some of his leadership philosophies, such as sharing the pain when things are hard, knowing when to task something that will make them better, and how important it is to make the tough calls even though they may be difficult or not popular. The students also learned what it means to "lead up." (Photos by Antwaun J. Parrish)



Soldiers from the Far East District clean their M9 9MM pistols as they prepare to turn them in and receive the Army's brand new Sig Sauer M17 modular handgun system. The Beretta M9 has served us well and with great distinction during simultaneous operations across multiple theaters, including the mountains of Afghanistan, the sands of Iraq, and of course here in the Pacific. (Photos by Jessie Lindor)



Far East District welcomes new Assistant District Counsel

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“I would like to improve my Korean,” said Lee. I am conversationally pretty fluent, but I need to improve more on the technical side, since I haven’t had the opportunity to learn or had the need for it. Also I would like to expose my kids more to the culture. So being here is really a fantastic opportunity for them and I think they are going to get the best of both worlds.”

Currently, Lee is geographically separated from her family, but they are scheduled to join her later this year. Her husband is an architect who she hopes will become a member of the FED team.

Women's History Month 2020: Valiant Women of the Vote

By Antwaun J. Parrish
FED Public Affairs

Each year, the month of March is designated as Women's History Month by presidential proclamation. The month is set aside to honor women's contributions in American history.

This year's theme is, Valiant Women of the Vote. The theme honors the brave women who fought to win suffrage rights for women, and for the women who continue to fight for the voting rights of others.

This year's Women's History Month is also significant as it's the centennial of the extension of the right to vote to women. When Congress passed the 19th Amendment in 1919, and the 36 states ratified it by August 1920, women's right to vote was enshrined in the U.S. Constitution.

Women's History Month began March 2, 1980 as just a week-long celebration, but since 1995, each president has issued an annual proclamation designating the observation for an entire month.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has many women who make strides to build upon that legacy every day, in both leadership and support roles.

A few women within the Far East District shared their thoughts and reflections on Women's History Month and the importance of this annual observation.

Pamela Lovasz serves as the Chief of Engineering Division. She took a moment to describe what this Month means to her and how it impacts the world.

"Every year, during Women's History Month, both men and women recognize the power, the compassion, the leadership, the strength, the intellect, the achievements and the creativity of women around the world," said Lovasz. "The ones who are alive and the ones who have passed."

Jessie Lindor, serves as a property book officer with the logistics management office. She shared her thoughts on Women's History Month, and what it means to her personal legacy.

"It [Women's History Month] means progress, being strong, and finding new ways to advance women's equal rights within the workplace," said Lindor. "It means to create a path to inspire young girls and to show them that they can



accomplish whatever they desire. Women's History Month means carrying the torch that my mother passed to me and her mother before her."

Carol Spratley, a district project manager, stated that she has always been surrounded by women who told her, "You can do it!" She went on to state that they also set the example and led the way.

Spratley also reflected on her time being one of the only women in construction division and how she persevered through difficult times.

"When I started working in construction, most of the time I was the only woman in the office; rather it was back when I was an engineering tech, clerk typist, or when I moved into construction inspection," said Spratley. "I had to make a choice to either give up, complain or fight and prove that I could do the job. I chose to prove that a woman could do the job."

Women continue to make meaningful contributions to society, and these contributions will affect all for decades to come.

"As women we have to reach back or give a hand or encouraging word to others, either leading us or following behind us, because the success of one is the success of many," said Spratley.



With Goals, Aspiration and Dreams, you can Achieve, Believe and Succeed"



US Army Corps of Engineers®

Will Daniels
Project Manager

*Far East District
Pacific Ocean Division*

BUILDING STRONG



Name:
 Title:
 Interest:

My Job:

I've worked with USACE for over 20 years in a variety of areas and roles. As a Mechanical Engineer, I worked on mechanical designs in Design Branch and performed review of submittals, drawings and construction inspections in Technical Engineering Branch and Quality Assurance Branch. I currently work as a Project Manager for Air Force projects. Working on such projects provides a sense of fulfillment and satisfaction as my father retired from the Air Force. It's great to see projects come together in design and construction.



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A farewell lunch was held to honor Frank Meleton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Far East District (FED), Central Resident Office Resident Engineer, Osan Air Base, South Korea, Jan. 31. Meleton was presented with plaques and other memorabilia by Lt. Col. Dennis McGee, USACE FED deputy commander, and other personnel who have worked alongside him. He served as resident engineer for the past five years and executed construction projects for Osan, Suwon, Icheon, and Seoul Project Office. Meleton is returning to serve as resident engineer at Fort Hood, Texas. (Photos by Antwaun J. Parrish)



CORONAVIRUS

PREVENTION & TREATMENT



▪ WHAT IS A NOVEL CORONAL VIRUS?

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses, some causing illness in people and others that circulate among animals. Analysis of the genetic tree of this virus indicates it originated in bats, but whether the virus jumped directly from bats or whether there was an intermediary animal host is not, yet, known.

▪ HOW DOES THE VIRUS SPREAD

- ✓ Mainly from person-to-person.
- ✓ Airborne (coughs or sneezes).
- ✓ Contact with infected surfaces or objects such as doorknobs.

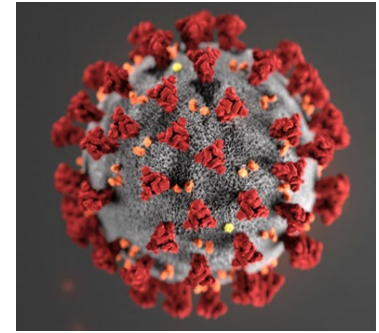


Photo by CDC

▪ HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF

- ✓ Avoid travel to other risky countries and public areas.
- ✓ Wear N95/KF94 above respirator when visit public areas.
- ✓ Wash hands frequently with soap and water for 30 seconds.
if water and soap are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. If hands are visibly dirty or greasy wash with soap and water - vice hand sanitizer.
- ✓ Cover mouth and nose with tissue or sleeve (not hands) when coughing or sneezing.
- ✓ Maintain at least 6 feet distance from other people who are coughing, sneezing and have a fever.
- ✓ Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth.
- ✓ Respiratory symptoms with fever, seek medical care early.

WASH HANDS FREQUENTLY

- ✓ Before, during, and after preparing food.
- ✓ **Before eating food.**
- ✓ Before and after caring for someone at home who is sick with vomiting or diarrhea.
- ✓ Before and after treating a cut or wound.
- ✓ **After using the toilet.**
- ✓ After changing diapers or cleaning up a child who has used the toilet.
- ✓ **After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.**
- ✓ After Touching an animal, animal feed, or animal waste.
- ✓ After Handling pet food or pet treats.
- ✓ After touching garbage or other dirty items.



As of 20 Feb 2020, by coronamap.site

▪ TREATMENT

**If you feel you have any symptoms or feel sick,
call the USFK Novel Coronavirus 24 hour hotline
at BDAACH: 050.3337.2566 (mobile to DSN); 737.2556 (DSN)**