

The Morning Calm

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Olympic Committee announces Winter Fest to take place at Yongsan Pep rally for U.S. Service members to feature celebrity performance and visits by athletes



U.S. Olympic Committee Chief Executive Officer Scott Blackmun announces plans for a special celebration at U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan during a press conference Aug. 1 at the Dragon Hill Lodge. Olympic Winter Fest will invite U.S. service members and their families throughout Korea installations to USAG Yongsan for a concert, winter Olympic activities and the opportunity to meet Olympic athletes, in celebration of the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang. (U.S. Army photo by Pvt. Sydney Perry)

By Staff Sgt. David Chapman
USFK Public Affairs

USAG YONGSAN — Special guests and media from across the Korean peninsula gathered Aug. 1 at U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan, Dragon Hill Lodge, for a special press conference by the U.S. Olympic Committee.

With winter months away, and not a flake of snow in the forecast, the press conference was held to announce what festivities will come to the community to heighten excitement for the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea.

“We’re proud to announce that Winterfest, presented by Hersheys,

will come to Yongsan Garrison,” said Lisa Baird, chief marketing officer for the U.S. Olympic Committee. “We want to bring the passion of sports and the Olympic spirit and share that with you and your families. We want to bring the excitement of Pyeongchang 2018 and the pride of Team USA here to Yongsan.”

Winter Fest will take place Feb. 19, 2018, and will offer opportunities for the Yongsan community to meet athletes and enjoy a concert by performer Rachel Platten, famous for her hit, “Fight Song.”

“We will have special festivities, winter sports activities,” said Baird. “Of course it wouldn’t be an Olympic event without some of our Team

USA athletes, both from the current games and our legends, here signing autographs.”

During the press conference, USOC Chief Executive Officer Scott Blackmun explained why it was so important to the athletes and Soldiers to enjoy this special event.

“For us, it is an incredible opportunity to marry what is a strong interest in our country that is held both by our athletes and our troops,” said Blackmun. “I know our athletes really admire our troops, and our troops truly admire our athletes ... So the opportunity to put these two groups of people together, both which believe fully in America, is important for us.”

Col. Scott Peterson, commander, USAG Yongsan, was proud to represent the garrison at the press conference and is looking forward to Yongsan having this very exciting opportunity.

“We are honored U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan was chosen as the site for Team USA Winter Fest hosted by the U.S. Olympic Committee and Directorate of Family Morale Welfare and Recreation,” said Garrison Commander, Col. Scott J. Peterson. “We have a long-standing friendship with the Korean people and are honored to host an event that will showcase Korean culture and Pyeongchang as the venue for next year’s Winter Olympics.”



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Women's Equality Day Observance hosted by 1st Signal Brigade

By Spc. Bethany P. Williams

1st Signal Brigade Public Affairs

USAG YONGSAN - USAG YONGSAN
- On Women's Equality Day, the U.S. Army marked the anniversary of the Constitution's 19th Amendment: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridge by the United States or by any state on account of sex."

1st Signal Brigade hosted the Women's Equality Day Observance, celebrating women's right to vote, at the Dragon Hill Lodge, U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan, Aug. 4.

To kick off the event, Martha Compton, the wife of a service member in the Eighth Army band, sang "The Sun Is Love" by Dr. Gwyneth Walker. This set a tone for the observance because Gwyneth Walker was an early advocate for women's equality.

The struggles and strife that women had to go through for them to be able to have equal voting rights today took time and effort; the women who made it happen will be remembered and honored.

"Achieving this milestone required a lengthy and difficult struggle; victory took decades of agitation and protest," said Lt. Gen. Thomas S. Vandal, Eighth Army Commanding General. "Beginning in the mid-19th century, several generations of women suffrage supporters lectured, wrote, marched, lobbied, and practiced civil disobedience to achieve what many Americans consider a radical changer of the Constitution.

The change that women made for Americans to have certain rights that they have now can easily be forgotten or go unnoticed.

"It is easy to take voting for granted, or worse yet, to think our one vote does not really matter," said Col. Scott Bird, 1st Signal Brigade Commander.

Following a brief video that gave a brief history on women gaining the right to vote, attendees heard from guest speaker, Lt. Col. Ulekeya Hill, Director of the Regional Cyber Center-Korea, who spoke about the



2nd Lt. Torrin Mike, Executive Officer with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Signal Brigade, and Capt. Steven Villalva, 1st Signal Brigade, S3, orders officer in charge, cast their votes for the most influential woman during the equal rights movement following the formal portion of the Women's Equality Observance. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Park, Yoon-sang)

importance of Woman's Equality Day, the celebration of woman's rights to vote, and remembering the history of women who stood and believed in making a change.

"The women's right to vote and have her voice heard in the democratic process started in the 1800's, over 200 years ago," said Hill. "During those times women in the United States had very few legal rights, didn't have the same rights as men, and certainly didn't have the right to vote."

In those times, there were women who understood the inequality of the voting system and dedicated themselves to changing history.

"An example of an early pioneer or champion for women's rights to vote is Susan B. Anthony," Hill said. "In 1872, she was arrested for casting an illegal vote during the presidential election. During her trial she was subsequently convicted and fined \$100, but Susan B. Anthony decided not to pay the fine." Susan B. Anthony battled for equality, arguing that women weren't seen as citizens at that time.

"If that was truly the case, then half of the population at that time would have been grossly disadvantaged, marginalized and alienated," Hill said. Women eventually got the right to vote, but that still didn't make it equal for all.



Col. Scott Bird, 1st Signal Brigade Commander, and Lt. Col. Ulekeya Hill, director of the Regional Cyber Center, cut a cake at the Women's Equality Observance. The observance celebrated the overall history and changes in equality for women. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Park, Yoon-sang)

"The 19th amendment was passed June 4, 1919 and ratified Aug. 18, 1920, giving women the right to vote," said Hill. "African Americans were still disenfranchised in southern states through various methods: poll taxes, literacy test and other means to prevent them from processing the right to vote."

Hill expressed how important it should be for everyone to realize how voting and equality has changed over time, from women who served as mayors, governors, and in the House of Representatives to leaders in the military such as herself.

Casting her first ballot in the presidential election of 1996 was nerve racking, Hill said. Listening to each candidates' campaign platforms on improving the current state of the nation and having the ability to vote was undeniably significant for a small town country girl.

"97 years ago, the evolution of women having the rights to vote came to fruition," said Hill. "The equality and the right to vote didn't just end with the Woman's Rights Movement and the ratification to the 19th Amendment, but continues on today." Following the formal portion of the observance, attendees were encouraged to cast their vote for the woman who they felt made a difference and influenced them the most.

"I casted my vote for the female I felt connected to the most," Hill said. The winner, whom Hill and others voted for, was Susan B. Anthony.

The importance of the Woman's Equality Day Observance was expressed in many different ways during the observance, through video, song and speech, but the main theme each portion emphasized was that all have a voice, and no one should never forget that.

"You matter, your vote matters, and your voice deserves to be heard," Hill said. "Social justice, advocacy, civil and human rights for all is what matters." ▴

Troops drill in loading rocket pods

By Sgt. Michelle U. Blesam
210th Field Artillery Brigade Public Affairs

CAMP CASEY, South Korea – The Soldiers moved like clockwork in the blazing sun, sweat running down their faces.

They were members of the 210th Field Artillery Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division/ROK-US Combined Division, and were working through the steps of a training exercise aimed at developing their skills in loading rocket pods onto trucks.

The pods, empty for purposes of the training, were those used with the Multiple Launch Rocket System, or MLRS.

The exercise ran July 31 through Aug. 2 on Camp Kwangsa-ri in Yangju.

It also included, among others, troops

of the U.S. Army Materiel Support Center and 19th Expeditionary Sustainment Command.

“The purpose of the training is to practice the loading procedures so that we can resupply the Multiple Launch Rocket System pods quickly and precisely during wartime,” said



Soldiers with 210th Field Artillery Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division/ROK-US Combined Division unstrap Multiple Launch Rocket System training pods during a loading exercise at Camp Kwangsari in Yangju, Aug. 3. (U.S. Army Photo by Pfc. Lee Hyeon-min)

Maj. Park Jong-bok, a South Korean army maintenance ammunition officer assigned to the Combined Division.

“And the fact that we train with other units makes the exercise much more practical and important,” he said.

“I mean there will be situations where cooperation between different units is needed when an actual engagement happens.”

“It is a big joint exercise for us to practice wartime missions,” said Capt. Chad E. Johnson, a logistics officer assigned to the brigade’s Headquarters Support Company, 70th Brigade Support Battalion.

One key stage in the exercise was rehearsal, part of which entailed setting up a tactical operations center.

Then came the work of loading, securing, and unloading their cargo, something they practiced daily.

The Soldiers also practiced inspecting their cargo and ensuring they had the necessary safety and other equipment needed to keep the pods properly tied down for transport.

Among the challenges they encountered was that of keeping the truck convoys within their assigned serials and at proper pace, something not as easy as it might appear, said Johnson.

“So just staying together, communicating amongst the serials and keeping contact were the most challenging things,” he said.▲

1st Cavalry Division tankers hold live-fire gunnery



At Rodriguez Live Fire Range Aug. 4, an M1A2 Abrams tank fires its 120 mm cannon during gunnery qualification. The tank is part of the 1st Cavalry Division’s Company B, 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team. The brigade is on a nine-month Korea rotation with the 2nd Infantry Division/ROK-US Combined Division. The gunnery, known in the U.S. Army as Table XII, is a live-fire event used to evaluate the ability of platoon leaders to

Area I holds town hall meeting

On Camp Casey in Dongducheon Aug. 11, Col. Brandon D. Newton, Commander, U.S. Army Garrison Area I, briefs civilian employees, both U.S. and Korean, on a range of topics of interest to the garrison workforce during a town hall meeting inside the Carey Physical Fitness Center. The session focused largely on developments related to the “transformation” of Area I, a process under which U.S. forces in the area are moving – by gradual, carefully orchestrated stages – to a new home at Camp Humphreys in Pyeongtaek. Newton also took questions from the audience. (U.S. Army photos by Sgt. James M. Griffin)



Area I holds farewell dinner for Command Sgt. Maj. Michael L. Berry



On Camp Casey in Dongducheon Aug. 11, Area I holds a farewell dinner for Command Sgt. Maj. Michael L. Berry, senior enlisted leader for U.S. Army Garrison Area I, who moves to a new assignment. Berry will become Commandant of the U.S. Army Drill Sergeant Academy at Fort Jackson, S.C. He has been with USAG Area I since January 2016. Berry was joined by his wife and son at the dinner, at the Warrior's Catering and Conference Center. A succession of speakers said Berry had been a caring and committed leader who had been tirelessly devoted to the well-being of both Soldiers and civilians. Col. Brandon D. Newton, Commander, USAG Area I, said Berry exemplified good leadership and was distinguished in part by his ability to think strategically. – (U.S. Army photos by Sgt. James M. Griffin and Cpl. Lee Jin-woo)

Area I First Sergeant awarded Meritorious Service Medal



Col. Brandon D. Newton (left), Commander, U.S. Army Garrison Area I presents Sgt. 1st Class Cory T. Messingham, First Sergeant of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, U.S. Army Garrison Area I, a Meritorious Service Medal Aug. 1 on Camp Casey. The medal was awarded in recognition of Messingham's "leadership, expertise, and professionalism which directly enhanced the quality of life for the Soldiers of Headquarters and Headquarters Company." Messingham served as the company's first sergeant from June 2016, and moves to a new assignment. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Sandy A. Barrientos)

Area I Commander's Cup Standings

Following are Commander's Cup standings through the end of March

PLACE	UNIT	POINTS
1	A, HHBN	2565
2	HSC, HHBN	2525
3	55 MP CO	1910
4	580 FSC	1775
5	B, HHBN	1680
6	C, HHBN	1420
7	46 TRANS	1165
8	E, 6-52 ADA	905
9	HHB, 210 FA	695

PLACE	UNIT	POINTS
1	HHC, USAG AREA I	2130
2	61 MAINT	1530
3	4 CHEM/CBRN	1355
4	62 CHEM/CBRN	1265
5	579 FSC, 6-37 FA	1170
6	HHB, 1-38 FA	1010
7	61 CHEM/CBRN	940
8	HHB, 6-37 FA	795
9	HHC, 70 BSB	745
10	B, 1-38 FA	690
11	A, 70 BSB	475
12	HHT, 1-7 CAV	50

PLACE	UNIT	POINTS
1	8 ARMY NCOA	2025
2	275 SIG	1700
3	501 CHEM/CBRN	1532
4	HHD, 23 CHEM	1365
5	629 MCAS	1143
6	560 MCGA	996
7	579 SIG	785
8	WRC	780
9	A, 6-37 FA	750
10	618 DENTAL	730
11	403 LRC CRC	725
12	A, 1-38 FA	700
13	D DET, 176 FIN (FMSU)	675
14	B, 6-37 FA	660
15	607 WEATHER SQDN	605
16	17 ORD CO	600
17	65 MED	575
18	524 MI COA	565
19	604 ASOS	525
20	21 MP DET	525
21	B, 70 BSB	375
22	602 DET	375
23	106 MED DET	375
24	C, 6-37 FA	50
25	403 AFSB	50
26	19 AG (Postal)	0



To find out more, or to enroll your unit, please contact Mr. Paul Henevich, 010-4694-5567

USAG Yongsan hosts townhall meeting

Despite relocation to Humphreys, it ensured to provide continuous services for community

By Cpl. Park, Min-je

USAG Yongsan Public Affairs

USAG YONGSAN – U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan hosted their quarterly Area II Town Hall Aug. 3, at the South Post Chapel. Unlike most of the recent Transformation Town Halls that have taken place this Town Hall was geared more towards those who will remain working in Area II. The USAG Yongsan Command Team gathered to inform the community of all that is happening in the next few months, and to answer community question regarding events and services.

USAG Yongsan recently lost about 4000 personnel when Eighth Army moved to USAG Humphreys and another approximately 2,000 personnel from other subordinate units will transfer to Humphreys by the end of this year. After that move roughly 16,000 community members will remain in the Yongsan area. Thus, as our population continues to decline, there is a growing concern over whether USAG Yongsan will continue to provide the services it has provided for the personnel remaining in the USAG Yongsan area.

The fundamental message that USAG Yongsan Command team delivered at the Town Hall was that the garrison will continue to serve for the community, despite gradual downsizing of the population.

"As long as we got the population, we'll continue to provide services for those who still live or work at here; no fundamental reductions in anything we do." - Col. J. Scott Peterson, USAG Yongsan Commander

However, there will be some unavoidable changes at USAG Yongsan. Some people may experience varying degrees of inconvenience as a result of the reduction in services.

Although most of the installation services will keep open, Sunnam Golf Course will close Dec. 2, 2017.

The northern portion of Camp Coiner will be vacated and will be turned over to U.S. Embassy in December. Gate 19, which contains a visitor's center will close but Gate 20 atop Coiner Hill will open. Furthermore, the Enhanced Pedestrian Gate (ESPG) or unmanned Gate 18, which connects the garrison to the Sookmyung Women's University area, will be closed as well. So those personnel at Yongsan that use this gate will have to make other arrangements to get in and out of the installation.

In the long run, there are going to be noticeable changes. Next summer, United States Forces Korea and its personnel will relocate to USAG Humphreys. This is considered the watermark of transformation in that it will bring lots of visible changes, including changes to operating hours or days services are provided.

The Brian Allgood Community Hospital (BAACH) will continue to take care of patients in Area II until the end of 2019 or early 2020, according to Lt. Col. Jeremy Johnson, Deputy Commander for Medical Services at BAACH. However, the other primary health clinic, Yongsan Health Clinic located at the Main Post, will close next summer in conjunction with the relocation of the USFK.

During the Town Hall, other topics such as safety, school hours, upcoming Family, Morale, Welfare



James Adamski, Direct of Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security, gives a brief about garrison antiterrorism measures during Yongsan Townhall, Aug. 3, at the South Post Chapel. (U.S. Army photo by Cpl. Lee, Kyoung-yoon)

and Recreation (FMWR) activities were also covered by the USAG Yongsan Directors.

After the briefs, a question and answer session followed. People asked a variety of questions regarding installation services at USAG Yongsan, and questions were answered by directors.

The next Area II Town Hall will be Nov. 8, at 2:30 p.m. in the South Post Chapel. For those who missed the Town Hall, visit the official US Army Garrison Yongsan Facebook to watch the video of the previously live-streamed broadcast. Also if you have additional questions, please post your questions on the USAG Yongsan Facebook page, "Ask CSM James," Questions submitted by Noon Tuesday will be answered on Friday of the week. ▲

Germ killing robots arrive at Brian Allgood Army Community Hospital

By William Wight

65th Medical Brigade Public Affairs

USAG YONGSAN - Three Tru-D SmartUVC robots have arrived at the Brian Allgood Army Community Hospital (BAACH) in Yongsan, South Korea. Tru-D, short for "Total Room Ultraviolet Disinfection," is a 5-foot-5 germ-killing robot that is deployed in patient and operating room after an environmental service professional cleans the area with traditional cleaning protocols.

Using chemical-free UVC energy, Tru-D operates from a single position and administers a single cycle of Ultraviolet light with minimal labor impact.

"Think of the Tru-D as a total room ultraviolet disinfection like an autoclave," said Ed Manley, government accounts representative for Tru-D Smart UVC. "Currently you have a two-step process when it comes to cleaning and disinfecting operation and patient rooms. Staff will come in and clean up and wipe surfaces down. But many times these environmental surfaces will still hold multi drug resistant pathogens, thus the need for the Tru-D."

"Although the BAACH has a very low infection rate, below national standards, the command saw this concept as a way to add an additional protocol and supplement our room cleaning process, said Maj. Michelle Wells, Chief Operating Room Nurse.

"Composed of 28 lamps, the Tru-D floods the room with UVC energy light that will eliminate any known bacterial or viral pathogen known to man, making sure to eliminate any pathogens left after regular cleaning protocols. This is not a replacement for those protocols but rather an additional step to further sanitize the rooms for patient care," said Manley.

Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Martin Army Community Hospital at Fort Benning and Womack Army Hospital at Fort Bragg have the Tru-D and results are showing a significant lower hospital infection rate.

How does the Tru-D work?

Tru-D SmartUVC is a portable UV disinfection system that delivers an automated, measured dose of UVC light to consistently disinfect an entire room during a single cycle. Operating from a single position in the room, Tru-D ensures significant pathogen reduction in direct and shadowed areas. Validated by more than a dozen independent studies and the only CDC-funded randomized clinical trial on UV disinfection, Tru-D's automated, measured dosing capabilities and real-time usage-tracking features make it one of the most advanced UV disinfection systems available.

Its patented technology eliminates human error and ensures that a proper dose of UV light is distributed throughout the room. The technology can be used to fight such deadly pathogens as C. diff, MRSA, CRE, VRE, MERS, Ebola and many more.

Tru-D allows hospital staff to easily and confidently disinfect virtually any environment, including patient rooms, intensive care units, operating rooms, emergency rooms and public areas. The UV disinfection robot kills deadly pathogens and common health care-associated infection culprits such as Clostridium difficile (C. diff), Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA), carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE) and other bacteria that can compromise patient outcomes.

By adopting the Tru-D as an integral adjunct to the BAACH facility infection prevention solution, every corner, crevice and shadow in the operating rooms are disinfected. This best

practice will not only improve patient outcome and make the BAACH an even much cleaner facility but will elevate our commitment to patient care. ▲



Spc. John Mcilvaine, a Licensed Practical Nurse with Brian Allgood Army Community Hospital, 65th Medical Brigade, received instruction on how to operate the TRU-D iPad. (Courtesy photo by 65th Medical Brigade Public Affairs)

Abandoned pets increase during PCS Season

By Cpl. Park, Min-je

USAG Yongsan Public Affairs

USAG YONGSAN - During the permanent change of station season from June until August, many military personnel at U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan move to other stations. Unfortunately, some of them leave their beloved pets behind at the garrison, making pet abandonment a recurring issue for the community.

"It is not certain how many pets are abandoned during the PCS season, but it is true that the number tends to increase," said Sgt. Logan Campbell, Yongsan Vet Clinic NCOIC. Also, a total of 17 pets were abandoned at the Yongsan Pet Care Center this year.

Most of the pets abandoned on post are usually found around Blackhawk Village or on the street. People have the misconception that leaving their pets on post will ensure they are picked up by veterinarians and can be cared for much more easily.

When veterinarians find an abandoned pet on post, they first try to locate the owner. By regulation, all pets with owners who are beneficiaries of the garrison are supposed to be microchipped. That is, their first step is to scan for the microchip. Pets should also be registered for vaccination purposes. However, not everybody follows the regulation, and more often than not there is no way to track unchipped pets.

The vet will then determine if the pet is adoptable based on the pet's behavior and temperament. If the animal is friendly, veterinarians will work hard to find the pet a family. Animals like dogs or cats are more popular than rabbits. There is also the rare case of the previous owner returning to the vet to reclaim the pet.

There are two primary legitimate reasons why pet owners surrender their pets. First, the pet could be aggressive and considered dangerous, especially to children. The second is health-related, including allergies to animals. In most cases, however, the owners will say they are PCSing and cannot take their pets with them.

"There are many reasons for pet owners to surrender their pets," said Gina Nam, Pet Care Center Director. Most of these reasons are financial as pet owners may not be able to pay vet medical bills, boarding costs, and the expense of transporting their pets back to the states or to their new station. In addition, if their destination country



An abandoned cat waits to be adopted by a good family, at the stray facility of Yongsan veterinary clinic. Every month, especially during PCS season, many pets are abandoned or left at the veterinary clinic. (U.S. Army photo by Cpl. Park, Min-je)

has complicated regulations for incoming pets, and if the owner does not have enough time to prepare for the process, they may be inclined to leave the pet behind, she said.

Therefore, it is imperative that pet owners be able to support their pet financially through any move. A move can cost up to several hundred dollars to fly with dogs or cats on the same airplane, depending on their size. Pet carrier services are even more expensive, reaching thousands of dollars depending on the size of the pet. Lower-ranking Soldiers, in particular, should be prudent before investing in a pet given the high cost of maintaining an animal.

Both Nam and Campbell insisted that pet owners on a military installation be aware of the regulations of each region. Some countries require at least a period of one month for quarantine or vaccination, further resulting in

more expenses.

"It is necessary for pet owners to take into account expenses or regulations in raising a pet, in order to prevent impulsive adoptions," said Nam.

Fortunately, more than 95 percent of pets abandoned on post are able to find a new home, usually adopted by civilians or Soldiers. Vets take into consideration the animal's temperament and family make-up to find a good fit for even more troubled animals. Also, both the Yongsan Pet Care Center and Veterinary Clinic advertise to the public whenever a lost animal needs a home. The animals left behind are euthanized as a last resort given the lack of facilities off-post for abandoned animals.

For more information on adopting pets, please contact the Yongsan Pet Adoption Center/Veterinary Hospital, Bldg 4728, DSN 737-2450, or the Yongsan Pet Care Center, Bldg 5256, DSN 736-6426.▲

USAG Yongsan Volunteer of the Quarter ceremony



U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan hosts the Volunteer of the Quarter Ceremony to recognize community members nominated by their organizations for the Quarter. The ceremony took place Aug. 11, at the Yongsan Main Post Club, with USAG Yongsan Commander Col. J. Scott Peterson and Command Sgt. Maj. Joseph M. James on hand to present the nominees with a Certificate of Appreciation. Congratulations to Amanda Saarloos, Jeffrey R. Irvin, Shin Baek Kang, Elizabeth Daniels Robert L. Ferguson and Ms. Ha, Ji Hyun. (U.S. Army photo by Cpl. Lee, Kyoung-yoon)

The 72nd National Liberation Day of Korea



Korean independence activists are released in 1945 after the declaration of liberation. (Courtesy Photo)

Story by Cpl. Lee, Kyoung-yoon
USAG Yongsan Public Affairs

USAG YONGSAN - Korea celebrates Independence Day on Aug. 15, known as "Gwangbokjeol," which literally translates into "bringing back the light" in Korean. The combination of three letters, "Gwang," "Bok" and "Jeol" means "light," "return" and "festival day," referring to the restoration of national independence that was lost for 36 years under Japanese rule.

With regard to the history of Japanese imperialism, Korea was under Japanese imperial rule from 1910 to 1945. In an effort to make Korea its protectorate, the Japanese forced Korea to sign the Japan-Korea Treaty of 1910, triggering Japanese annexation of Korea. This treaty gradually restricted Korea from developing its own political, military and cultural status, making it impossible for Korea to build a national identity. Then within a few days, the term

annexation turned into forced colonization.

During Japanese imperial rule, numerous independence movements took place. The March 1st Movement is an example as it was one of the earliest public displays of Korean resistance. Thirty-three activists convened at Taehwagwan Restaurant in Seoul and read the Korean Declaration of Independence in spite of Japanese suppression of demonstrations. Moreover, in 1919, Korean activists avoided Japanese surveillance and gathered and established the provisional government of the Republic of Korea in Shanghai. Korean patriots strived for liberty for decades.

Behind the scenes of movements and demonstrations by fighters for independence, there were many atrocities committed by the Japanese. The Seodaemun Prison History Hall displays historical records of how Koreans were tortured under the justification that Korea was a colony of Japan.



Activists gather around the Taehwagwan Restaurant in Seoul to participate in the March 1st Movement in 1919. (Courtesy Photo)

The Japanese regarded every activist as challenging their authority in Korea, and thus locked

to become sex slaves in 1932, a practice that continued into World War II.



People celebrate Korean National Liberation Day in front of Memorial Hall in Cheonan. (Courtesy Photo)

the activists up in prison and tortured them into submission. One of the most inhumane crimes the Japanese committed involved Korean women who were turned into sex slaves regardless of their age. The Japanese military began to force women from their colonies

Meanwhile, it was not until the end of World War II that Korea gained its independence after 36 years of oppression under the Japanese. In the final stage of World War II, the U.S. dropped two atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. This incident succeeded in getting the Japanese to surrender and sign the Potsdam Declaration. The Potsdam Declaration included provisions of the Cairo Declaration adopted in 1943, guaranteeing the freedom of Korea from colonization. The Korean Peninsula was finally liberated on Aug. 15, 1945. Three years later on the same day, an independent Korean government was established.

While legislating the Act of National Holidays in 1949, Aug. 15 became a national holiday to commemorate Korea's liberation from Japanese colonization. During this particular day, there are numerous commemorative events held across the peninsula. A celebration ceremony takes place at Independence Hall, located in Cheonan, Korea, and is usually attended by the Korean President. Moreover, Korean citizens are strongly encouraged to display the Korean national flag, "Taegukgi," in front of their house or streets. ▴



The Potsdam Conference took place in Potsdam from July 17 to August 2, 1945. (Courtesy Photo)



At Odeng Sikdang restaurant in Uijeongbu recently, customers savor budaejjigae, or “military camp stew,” a unique dish that dates to the Korean War and its aftermath, and mixes such old GI chow hall classics as spam, hot dogs and other elements with traditional Korean ingredients. Uijeongbu boasts a separate street with restaurants specializing in the dish. (U.S. Army photo by Franklin Fisher)

Budaejjigae war fare still popular

‘Military camp stew’ mixes GI chow with Korean ingredients



Kitchen staff at Odeng Sikdang restaurant in Uijeongbu assemble the ingredients for budaejjigae, a legacy of the 1950-53 Korean War and aftermath. (U.S. Army

Editor's Note: The following article was first published in the Morning Calm edition of April 20, 2012, and is reprinted occasionally for the benefit of our newer readers.

By Franklin Fisher
USAG Red Cloud Public Affairs

UIJEONGBU – Its Korean name translates roughly to “military camp stew,” and while there are more than a few versions of how budaejjigae got started, most agree that it came about amid the devastation of the Korean War and its day-to-day, hand-to-mouth aftermath.

Budaejjigae, (pronounced booday jee-gay), is a culinary convergence of two cultures -- traditional Korean and GI Joe American. It's a steaming, bubbling, orange-colored stew awash with spam, hot dogs, ground beef, ham, sausage, sometimes a slice of cheese, tofu, bean sprouts, kimchi, Korean green peppers, red pepper powder, red pepper paste, garlic, onions, scallions, and one or more varieties of noodles, for example, potato noodles and ramen noodles.

The liquid, called yook-su, contains an ingredient that varies somewhat from one restaurant to another and is usually a closely-held house secret.

The standard account of budaejjigae's origins is that Koreans working on U.S. military bases would scavenge leftovers from GI chow halls or officers clubs, take them off-post and combine them with whatever everyday Korean ingredients came to hand.

While it's known to have gained popularity in a number of Korean cities over the years, it carries an especially close association with the city of Uijeongbu, about an hour north of Seoul and home of Camp Red Cloud.

In fact, Uijeongbu boasts an entire street of restaurants dedicated to serving budaejjigae, and the city has sought to further underscore the connection by erecting a special sign at the head of that street. It reads, in Korean and English, “Uijeongbu Budaejjigae Street.”

It's maybe not surprising that on that street is one restaurant in particular whose owner lays claim to being the city's originator of budaejjigae.

Huh Ki-sook, 78, is owner of Odeng Sikdang. Sikdang means restaurant. She opened it in 1955 when Korea was still a scene of rubble and postwar privation. In the earliest years she served only two Japanese dishes, odeng and udon.

According to Huh, it wasn't until the 1960s that she started cooking GI ingredients but served them fried, not as a stew.

In those days, she said, there were a number of U.S. military installations in Uijeongbu.

Some Korean civilian employees who worked at one of those – she doesn't recall which one, she said – got hold of some leftovers tossed out at the post officers club, hid them under their clothes and brought them to her.

See what you can do with these, they suggested.

The food included spam, sausage and other scraps, and she said she mixed them with Korean ingredients.

The turning point, she said, came when South Korea hosted the 1988 Olympics. That, she said, is when she began serving the actual stew, budaejjigae.

At her restaurant, for example, kitchen staff cut the ingredients, then place them in a shallow black pan. Each pan is then stacked slantwise one behind the other in a shelf-like metal cabinet.

When an order comes in, a waitress carries the pan to the customer's table and sets it on a gas burner, pours in the yook-su and starts the flame.

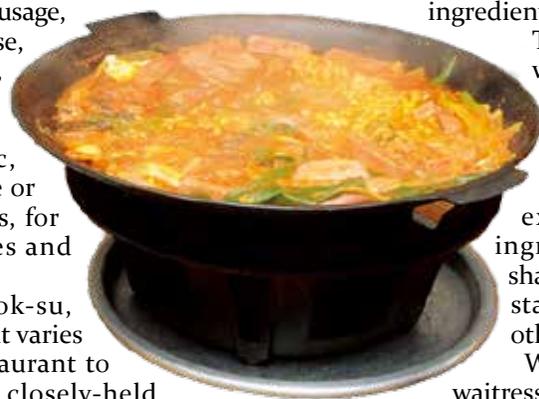
Within five to 10 minutes the budaejjigae is bubbling.

Budaejjigae was a hit with Spc. Kara Buckner, a vocalist with the 2nd Infantry Division Band at Camp Red Cloud.

She had it for the first time a few weeks ago at Odeng Sikdang after hearing about the dish from her boyfriend, who's Korean, she said.

“I really liked it,” said Buckner, 21, of Shepherd, Mich. “I was a vegetarian for a while, so this was one of the meals I tried once I started eating meat again, and I really loved it.

“I liked how they used spam, how Koreans can take the simplest things and make it taste so good. They have like, cabbage and all these different vegetables and it's just like the perfect combination of everything together. Just makes it taste so delicious.”





U.S. and South Korean servicemembers and spouses walk along the edge of San-Gumburi volcanic crater during a recent Good Neighbor Program trip to Jeju Island, one of the country's foremost vacation resorts. The Korean Ministry of National Defense hosted their visit. – U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Troth

Jeju Island, scenic getaway, abounds in diverse

Editor's Note: *The following article on Jeju Island was first published in the October 16, 2012 edition of the Morning Calm newspaper. It is being republished here for the benefit of our newer readers.*

By Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Troth
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JEJU ISLAND – For those looking for a quick get away from the South Korean mainland, a trip south to Jeju Island offers many opportunities they won't find anywhere else in Korea.

Flights to the 715-square-mile island take off from the mainland every day. For a more relaxed mode of transport, the island can be reached by ferry from several mainland ports.

The island was formed by a volcano and is rich with natural wonders that years of tourism haven't ruined.

Halla Mountain is the focal point of the island. The volcanic peak is South Korea's highest point at almost 6,400 feet and can be seen from just about everywhere on the island.

Seongsan Ilshulbong Peak is an island unto itself on the eastern edge of Jeju,

and rises 600 feet out of the ocean.

Since many visitors like to take an early morning hike up this peak to catch the breathtaking sunrises, a well-maintained trail of steps leads to the summit.

For those wanting to be closer to sea level, the shores offer many sunbathing and swimming beaches as well as rocky shorelines complete with working light houses.

The south side of the island is home to one of the island's great waterfalls, Jeongbang Waterfall, which drops 75 feet to the edge of the sea.

If wanting a photo next to it, be careful. The steps to sea level are an easy undertaking but the last portion over the small and medium size borders are slick. They've caused more than one eager photographer to slow down.

If you want to go below the sea level without getting wet, head to Manjanggal Cave near the north coast.

It really isn't a cave, but a lava tube carved out of the rocks in seconds by molten lava. The tube is immense and could easily fit a couple of double-decker buses side by side. Besides the unique markings on the wall, floor, and ceilings, the lava also created a "lava

turtle" and pillar where many people pose for pictures.

Other tunnels on the island were made during the 35 years of Japanese occupation.

At the Jeju Peace Museum, located on the western side of the island, you can tour the tunnels the Japanese had the islanders dig to defend against any enemy armada. But you can also learn about the hardships they imposed on the islanders, from forced labor to the enslavement of "comfort women."

Today the women of Jeju take on a very different role, a role they had long before the Japanese even knew about the small island.

All along the coastline you will see women divers heading out to collect seafood. They free-dive with only a weighted vest and goggles to harvest the ocean's bounty. Holding their breath for two or three minutes they dive to depths of 65 feet, and surface with nets laden with squid, abalone and other shellfish.

Their catch of the day can be sampled at some of their own restaurants or one of the many other island restaurants serving "normal" and exotic seafood.

Besides the memories and the fantastic seafood, Jeju Island has many items that are "must" purchases for visitors.

The island is famous for its tangerines and visitors purchase cases of them every day. I bought a bag of tangerines, but I also bought cactus taffy and Jeju chocolates for Christmas stocking stuffers.

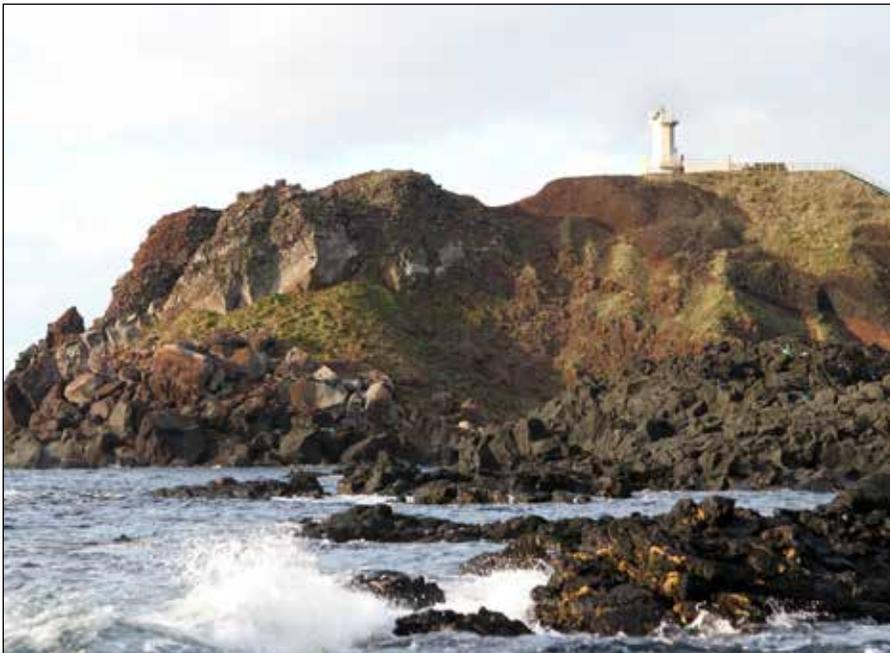
The chocolate comes in many flavors, and yes, one is tangerine.

Decorating my barracks room are a couple of Jeju "grandfather statues." These little statues holding their stomachs with both hands will long remind me of the fantastic food I got on my trip to Jeju. ▴

(Left) At early morning on Jeju's eastern shore, a lighthouse stands a solitary vigil. Jeju offers a diverse array of natural, cultural, culinary, and other attractions. – U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Troth



At the foot of the 75-foot-tall Jeongbang Waterfall on the southern coast of South Korea's Jeju Island, visitors pose for photos during a recent Good Neighbor Program visit to the scenic island. The Korean Ministry of National Defense sponsored the tour for members of the U.S. and Korean military and their families. – U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Troth



1st Signal Brigade unit ministry teams train on signal equipment

By Spc. Bethany P. Williams

GARRISON YONGSAN, SOUTH KOREA—July 31 — Every job in the military plays a crucial role to mission success. That success can be strengthened when service members cross train on additional jobs outside their military occupational specialty.

The military has ministry teams that provide support for service members that need help, or guidance, to help them accomplish their mission.

The 1st Signal Brigade unit ministry teams gathered at the 304th Signal Battalion motor pool, U.S. Army Camp Humphreys, July 31, to take part in cross training on signal equipment.

The training provided ministry teams an opportunity to get a first look at what a signal soldier does on a day to day basis and the different equipment they use, while learning different ways to be present when a soldier needs help.

“I [am] so proud of what our soldiers do on a daily basis, these are very complicated pieces of equipment that they deal with every day,” said Ch. (Capt.) Jueun Kim, 304th Signal Btn chaplain. “I just wanted to show the UMT’s what the rest of the signal brigade does and have them understand and have knowledge of what they do on a daily basis.”

Getting a better insight on what a signal soldier does will allow the ministry teams to learn how to be present when a soldier needs support to help them continue the mission.

“Soldiers need all sorts of things all the time, whether that’s someone to talk to when they’re having home problems or actually talking to the chaplain for a field service, or having someone that’s just there on their side at the soldier care level,” said Capt. Joseph McCandless, company commander with C Company, 304th Expeditionary Signal Btn.

McCandless explained how the UMT’s discussed how a signal battalion fights and how to get involved with the operation cells, that way they can be there

at the training with the soldier.

“Being able to understand how a signal soldier trains and understand how they fight in the battle is absolutely essential to the UMT care that they’re going to get when they’re out on the battle field,” said McCandless.

One part of the UMT’s job is to be there for different kinds of support, whether it’s religious or just someone to talk to in any environment.

“I think it’s critical for all UMT members to understand what signal soldiers are doing, especially out in a tactical area or very strategic area, so they have the awareness of understanding the knowledge of what they are dealing with every day,” said Ch. (Capt.) Jueun Kim, 304th Signal Btn chaplain.

The availability of the UMT’s can be essential to the soldier’s mission.

“It all starts with ministry teams being present,” said Kim. “Chaplain’s should be around soldiers all the time and not just in the motor pool area. If they’re deployed out to other places, we need to be out there with them. If we are available to them, and if we are around them, we can always provide leadership whenever they need it.”

The UMT’s training is focused on how to be at the right place at the right time when a soldier has a crisis to be able to help.

“When a crisis occurs, the soldier knows who the chaplain is, they know who the chaplain’s assistant is, they know that that’s someone that they’ve seen out there with them, and they know who the soldiers are and they can help the soldier solve their problems,” Kim said.

Seeing how the Soldiers operate on a day-to-day basis allows UMT’s to see all the hard work that a signal battalion does and can allow them to see the importance of supporting the soldier and the

mission at hand.

“They’re all sorts of support that the UMT’s bring to the fight for my soldiers, and their support keeps them squared away so they can be ready to fight tonight,” said McCandless.



A signal soldier with 304th Expeditionary Signal Battalion, 1st Signal Brigade, explains how their system is used in tactical environments to the brigade unit ministry teams in the 304th Signal Bn. motor pool at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys, South Korea, July 27. The UMT’s understand that having the knowledge about the equipment allows the soldiers to have more trust that they will be able to help them in a time of a crisis. (Photo by Spc. Bethany P. Williams, 1st Signal Brigade Public Affairs)



Ch. (LTC) Joseph Ko, 1st Signal Brigade Chaplain, gives the unit ministry teams encouraging words and expresses the importance of understanding the job of a signal soldier at the 304th Expeditionary Signal Battalion conference room at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys, South Korea, July 27. The classroom portion of the training was a mix of slideshows and speakers explaining what they were going to learn in the training. (Photo by Spc. Bethany P. Williams, 1st Signal Brigade Public Affairs)



A signal soldier with the 304th Expeditionary Signal Battalion, 1st Signal Brigade, explains to the brigade unit ministry teams what type of equipment they use and how it works in the 304th Signal Bn. motor pool at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys, South Korea, July 27. The unit ministry teams learn the importance of a signal soldier’s job and how they can better insert themselves into day-to-day operations for leadership support. (Photo by Spc. Bethany P. Williams, 1st Signal Brigade Public Affairs)

Cadets shadow, train with 304th Expeditionary Signal Battalion officers

By Spc. Bethany P. Williams

People don't often have a chance to see what the U.S. Army life is like before they join, but for college students in the Reserve Officer Training Corps program, a unique summer opportunity allows them the advantage of getting a view of the Army and what it would be like to be an officer before commissioning.

Students in the ROTC program participate in Cadet Troop Leader Training [CTLT], which gives them a view at the everyday life of an officer, to better prepare themselves before commission.

Cadets from different colleges shadowed several officers with 304th Expeditionary Signal Battalion, 1st Signal Brigade at Camp Humphreys, South Korea, over the course of several weeks, to learn what it's like to be an officer in the Army.

"I wanted to come and see the life of an officer so that I have an idea [what to expect] before commissioning," said Joyce Borja, a cadet attached to Company, 304th Signal Battalion. "You always see the people that work at your school, but to actually see someone as a platoon leader or as an executive officer is a great experience."

To be able to see how officers operate and interact with their soldiers gives the cadets an idea of what they can expect when they commission.

Ho said learning from her sponsor, 1st Lt. Andrew Tran, talking to his soldiers, and getting their perspective on how they see him as an officer was encouraging.

"Lt. Tran's soldiers really trust him and I want to be that person that my soldiers can look up to when I commission," Ho said.

The benefit of being able to see what an officer does day to day allows the cadets to understand how different the Army is from ROTC.

"When you're in ROTC, it's a completely different world [because] it's not the real army, coming to CLTL provides [real world] training none of us have been able to have," said Rachel Ho, a cadet attached

to B Company, 304th Signal Battalion.

Ho, who shadowed 2nd Lt. Grace Park, B Company's executive officer, 304th Signal Battalion, said she was offered the option to go, so she figured it would be a good way to see which officer branch she wanted to go in to and choose if she wanted to go Active Duty, Reserve or National Guard.

The cadets learned a lot of new things in only a few weeks a lot of the information was new and exposed them to more than they would have learned in the ROTC program.

"I got to Camp Humphreys on Wednesday and then worked Thursday and Friday and by the end of Friday I learned more than I have in the past couple years in two days just from shadowing Lt. Park," said Ho.

Being able to actually work as if the cadets are the actual officer of a platoon or a company helped them see the importance their role plays in a unit's day-to-day operations.

"I like how they give you an assignment, whether it's big or small, because just being involved makes you feel like you're important no matter what rank, or who you are, or where you come from," said Borja. "So being able to work as a team made me feel like I matter. That's my favorite part and I'm thankful."

The 304th Signal Battalion officers wanted to expose the cadets to many aspects of the life of an officer, and the Army standards, in the few short weeks they were in Korea.

When she was cadet, Park explained she was basically treated like a privates had to do everything from the planning to the execution and the cadets ran the entire show. So for her, it was important that the cadets understood that wasn't always the case.

"In the Army, the officers don't run the show," Park said. "There's definitely a lane for the enlisted, for the non-commissioned officers, and for the [commissioned] officers."

What they teach cadets in ROTC is very one sided, it's not a very accurate version of what the Army is, but neither is Korea, Park said. What she tried to do is give Ho a bigger overview of things that she has learned from her experiences.

For the cadets to be able to have this experience is important and some commissioned officers feel that it should be a requirement for all cadets that plan on commissioning.

"If funding would allow it, I think it should be a requirement," said Maj. Sergio Contreares, 304th Signal Battalion executive officer. "I mean if you look over the course of your life, you're better for having experience. If you can get it to the cadets sooner, I think you start that development process and they end up being better officers."

Seeing the officer lifestyle first hand will give cadets a better outlook on what could possibly be their future and what kind of officer they want to be and what they want to portray as a leader.

"I think it gives them perspective more than anything," Contreares said. "You flash forward to what your life could look like in two or three years and you get to go back and figure out if that's what you want to do. Specifically, if you get them over here with an active duty, signal unit, they kind of see what a platoon leader goes through and you see what the soldiers go through and it gives them a better appreciation of the life that you're about to inherit."

Inheriting good habits and good leadership skill from the CLTL program will benefit the cadets when they commission, if they choose to, and become better officers with the guidance from their sponsors.

"Overall, the experience of learning and working with the different companies and the platoons in the brigade is just like being exposed to different cultures, being able to be open minded to learning and take so much knowledge was a great experience," said Borja.



2nd Lt. Grace Park, B Company Executive Officer, 304th Expeditionary Signal Battalion, 1st Signal Brigade, and Rachel Ho, a cadet shadowing her through the Cadet Troop Leader Training, watch as mechanics fix equipment in the 304th Signal Btn. motor pool, at Camp Humphreys, South Korea, July 27. The training program consisted of college students enrolled in Reserve Officer Training Corps traveling to an Active duty unit to see how every active Army officer's conduct their day. 304th Signal Btn. hosted three cadets over a period of two weeks. (Photo by Spc. Bethany P. Williams, 1st Signal Brigade



Col. Scott Bird, 1st Signal Brigade Commander, welcomes several cadets to the brigade and talks about what they can expect from their experience in Korea at 1st Signal Brigade headquarters, USAG Yongsan, July 19. Three cadets from various colleges across the United States traveled to Korea as part of the Cadet Troop Leader Training, a unique program that allows them to shadow active duty officers before they commission through the Reserve Officer Training Corps. Cadets got to see first-hand what an officer's life is like on the day-to-day basis. (Photo by Spc. Bethany P. Williams 1st Signal Brigade Public Affairs)



2nd Lt. Grace Park, B Company Executive Officer, 304th Expeditionary Signal Battalion, 1st Signal Brigade, and Rachel Ho, a cadet shadowing her through the Cadet Troop Leader Training, watch as mechanics fix equipment in the 304th Signal Btn. motor pool, at Camp Humphreys, South Korea, July 27. The training program consisted of college students enrolled in Reserve Officer Training Corps traveling to an Active duty unit to see how every active Army officer's conduct their day. 304th Signal Btn. hosted three cadets over a period of two weeks. (Photo by Spc. Bethany P. Williams, 1st Signal Brigade Public Affairs)

ROTC Cadet Troop Leadership Training provides opportunity for officer candidates to learn from Soldiers



Assignment offers wealth of learning opportunities for Cadet

By: Michelle Turcios, ROTC Cadet American University

Apache pilot mentors ROTC Cadet

By: 1st Lt. John Buonforte, A/4-2 ARB

The CTLT program is an effective method of developing cadets in their final years of university. By partnering them to mentors who are experienced lieutenants in company roles across every branch in the Army, the goal is to show them a role model and make them aware of the daily ins and outs of the job they will soon take on. It provides them a sense of direction in their time before commissioning, and prepares for the title they will soon assume.

Having Cadet Michelle Turcios, an Arabic major from American University, as my shadow, one of my goals was to expose her to the responsibilities that I and every Platoon Leader have. She got the opportunity to work through to issues regarding property, sit in on both initial and performance counseling, and to practice her own leadership style in helping to run maintenance.

As an aviation officer, there are many aspects of my job that are branch specific, and I wanted to make sure I helped Cadet Turcios learn about both general and branch specific platoon leadership challenges and skills. I reached out to friends in the two branches in which she professed the most interest—Military Intelligence and Armor—as well as introducing her to fellow aviation platoon leaders in the Blackhawk community.

My goal as her sponsor was to provide her with resources so that she could make an informed decision come her time to choose her branch.



Exposure to each of these different branches let her see the intricacies of their leadership challenges, not to mention the opportunity to fly with them on a few occasions.

Aside from the professional development, my other goal was to help Cadet Turcios enjoy the opportunities that the Republic of Korea has to offer. A large group of cadets and sponsors joined the MWR trip to Boryeong to enjoy the festivities of the Mud Festival. We traveled up to Seoul to explore Itaewon, spend time in the War Museum, and ate foods she had never seen before.

The overarching purpose of CTLT was to develop the Cadets, both personally and professionally. I hope that I helped make Cadet Turcios' time here a great opportunity that provided just that, and that she will employ the lessons learned in

During my three years in ROTC, I have heard about Cadet Troop Leadership Training as one of the greatest opportunities in which a cadet can participate. The program gives a glimpse to what our future careers in the real Army will be like, introducing the everyday life of a lieutenant/platoon leader. Learning that I would get to spend my CTLT in Korea, I was even more excited for the unique perspective bring in Korea and seeing the joint US-ROK stability and defense mission would add to my experience.

The first weekend I arrived to Korea, I went to see the sites in Seoul and Pyeongtaek. South Korea is an amazing country with a rich history, prosperous cities, and plethora of different types of foods to try. I walked the alley ways of Itaewon, ordered fried chicken at the Han River, and visited the outstanding war museum.

Following a weekend of cultural and historical emersion, I started Monday by meeting my assigned sponsor and unit, 1st. Lt. John Buonforte, a platoon leader for A Company, 4-2 Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade.

My assignment was a pleasant surprise and offered a wealth of new learning opportunities. There being little exposure to the aviation branch in ROTC, the experience



has been eye opening. In addition to seeing and learning firsthand the basic duties and responsibilities of a platoon leader applicable to all branches, I also learned a lot about duties and responsibilities that are unique only to aviation.

One of the most interesting parts of my time shadowing in A "Archangel" Company was seeing the different relationships between the platoon. An aviation platoon leader not only works with and takes care of the enlisted members of the platoon, but also works extremely closely with warrant officers—commissioned officers with a technical specialty, in this case: flying.

Aviation warrant officers are critical to the unit's survival and success, yet I knew very little about them beforehand. Seeing the dynamics in the platoon and learning about the warrant officers' job and technical expertise was one of the most interesting components of my experience.

Commemorating the Start of Armistice on the Korean Peninsula



Maj. Gen. John P. Sullivan, commanding general, 19th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, Korean War veterans, and distinguished guests gather on stage for a group photo during the Korean War Armistice and UN Forces participation day commemoration ceremony that took place at the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs Daegu branch, July 27. (U.S. Army Photo by Cpl. Sin, Jae-hyung)

By Cpl. Sin, Jae-hyung
19th ESC Public Affairs

USAG DAEGU, SOUTH KOREA – On the day of the 64th anniversary of the end of the Korean War, service members, students, and local residents came together for a very special event, a commemorative ceremony of the Korean War Armistice Agreement and United Nations Forces participation day. The event took place July 27 and was hosted by and held in the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs Daegu branch.

Maj. Gen. John P. Sullivan, commanding general, 19th Ex-

peditionary Sustainment Command, and nearly 30 Soldiers and Non-Commissioned Officers from 19th ESC attended the ceremony.

The Korean Armistice Agreement serves to insure a complete cessation of hostilities of the Korean War. It was signed by the United Nations Command on July 27, 1953 and so, July 27 is also known as UN Forces participation day in the Republic of Korea.

“All of us from the 19th ESC and 8th Army feel privileged to participate in today’s ceremony as we honor all of the United Nations soldiers who fought in

the Korean War on this 64th anniversary of the armistice,” said Sullivan during his commemorative remarks.

The ceremony began with the presentation of colors from all UN nations that participated in the Korean War on the main stage. As the Republic Of Korea Army band paused the music, all participants observed a moment of silence, in order to pay tribute to all Korean War veterans who are no longer with us today.

This year’s event highlighted the importance of the Korean War Armistice, honored the sacrifice of UN Forces and commemorated their meritorious

dedication.

“Korean War veterans all share in common some fundamental qualities. Those qualities of courage, pride, determination, selflessness, dedication, and integrity. They are ordinary people who responded with bravery in extraordinary ways during challenging times. The presence of Korean War veterans and U.S. soldiers from our command today demonstrates the dedication and commitment of our two nations in sustaining and strengthening the ROK-U.S. alliance,” said Sullivan.

Following Sullivan’s remarks, the Daegu Dae-jin high school students recited a letter of appreciation, in order to express their deepest gratitude to all the veterans who fought in the Korean War. Additionally, there was a presentation of roses by Yeungnam University students to Korean War veterans as a token of appreciation for their sacrifice and effort.

“I wasn’t there during the war, but I can imagine you coming to a foreign land and holding guns to fight for people with brave heart. If you had not come, more than fifty million people might have had to live without human rights as a North Korean with no liberty. It means that you changed history. I am so proud to know there were people who protected us,” said Yeji Jung, a 2nd grade student at Dae-jin high school.

The 19th ESC will now reiterate to all its members, the lessons learned from the past in order to render respect to the ROK-U.S. alliance while reaffirming its strength. ▲



Soldiers from the 19th Expeditionary Sustainment Command attended the Korean War Armistice and UN Forces participation day commemoration ceremony in order to show appreciation to the Korean War veterans. The ceremony took place at the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs Daegu branch, July 27. (U.S. Army Photo by Cpl. Sin, Jae-hyung)



ROK soldiers stand on stage in formation with national flags of the nations that participated in the Korean War during the presentation of colors as a part of the Korean War Armistice and UN Forces participation day commemoration ceremony that took place at the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs Daegu branch, July 27. (U.S. Army Photo by Cpl. Sin, Jae-hyung)

U.S. and Korean Students Build Bonds Together



By So, Ki-chun
USAG Daegu Public Affairs

CAMP CARROLL, South Korea - United States Army Garrison Daegu hosted the 13th annual Camp Carroll English Camp for 50 Korean students from Booksam and Inpyong Middle Schools, August 7-11 here.

The camp is a five-day English home-stay experience for Korean students that provides an opportunity to use, improve, and develop confidence in their English language skills through interaction with native English speakers.

Soldiers from U.S. Army Materiel Support Command - Korea, 2nd Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade, 2-1 Air Defense Artillery, and USAG Daegu volunteered as instructors for the program. Thirty students from Daegu American Middle School also participated in the camp to help the local students feel more comfortable.

"It's a fun camp where students from both the U.S. and Korea can interact with each other and make Korean students get more comfortable with speaking English," said Staff Sgt. Aguilar Adolfo, 2nd Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade. "During this camp, there are multiple activities that enabled the students to have plenty of interaction with each

other."

Throughout the English Camp, the students were encouraged to speak a minimum of Korean and a maximum of English. Their activities included eating at the dining facility, bowling, swimming at the outdoor pool, watching a movie in the theater, and performing a variety of activities at Community Activity Center.

Ashton Smith, Daegu American Middle School student was one of the volunteers.

"It was very fun and nice experience," Smith said.

Booksam Middle School student Yi, Ji-han, agreed.

"This is a wonderful event," Yi said. "I have really enjoyed not only speaking with Americans but also making foreign friends throughout this English Camp. If I could, I would love to attend this camp next year"

The English Camp began in 2005 at the request of then Chilgok Governor who wanted to give local students an opportunity to practice their English speaking skills and experience American culture. Funding for the camp is provided by Chigok County and USAG Daegu Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

Second of an Ongoing Series about Environmental Initiatives at USAG Daegu

Enhancing Environmental Awareness from the Top

Col. Robert P. Mann Jr.
USAG Daegu Commander

Q: As the Garrison Commander what role do you have with regards to Environmental Protection and Enhancement?

A: I ensure that our Base Support activities supports military training and readiness operations, enhances mission accomplishment, and are conducted in a manner to promote good environmental stewardship. I ensure environmental considerations are incorporated into installation plans, to include our installation strategic plans. Installation strategic planning incorporates the concepts and philosophy of sustainability, the ultimate objective in strategic planning, and must be applied to and supported by all functional areas across the Garrison.

Q: How can you help?

A: We're committed to environmental stewardship in all actions as an integral part of the mission and to ensure sustainability. Part of my responsibility is to foster an ethic that takes us beyond environmental compliance to sustainability and hopefully create a culture of sustainability. We're strengthening our operational capabilities by reducing our environmental footprint through more sustainable practices. Minimizing impacts and total ownership cost of systems, material, facilities, and operations by integrating the principles and practices of sustainability. Leadership in sustainability enhances the well-being of our soldiers, civilians, families, neighbors, and communities. We do our best to use innovative technology and the principles of sustainability to meet user needs and anticipate future challenges. I also need to do the best we can to provide resources and ensure that we have an efficient and well-trained environmental staff.

We have an established Environmental Quality Control Committee, which I chair. It's comprised of members representing the various Directorates, units and tenants. The EQCC meets quarterly and helps to plan, execute, and monitor actions and programs with environmental implications. This committee will identify issues and provide me with recommendations that help aid me with making appropriate decisions.

Our Green Neighbor Initiative is our community outreach program between the garrison and local community that was established to build positive long term relationship with current and future generations of Koreans and foster the fact that we are a 21st century Army that is a good steward of the environment in which it lives and works.

Using the Public Affairs Office and the USAG Daegu Facebook website are other ways in which helps us to spread the word for environmental related events happening around the Garrison and communities, as well as continuing to bring environmental awareness across the Garrison.

Q: Is there anything else you would like to the community to know?

A: Our Environmental Division has made tremendous strides in promoting environmental awareness across the Garrison. We've had many successes in the areas of hazardous waste minimization, solid waste diversion, and recycling. All of which has saved us millions of dollars in disposal or cost avoidance. I would ask that our community continue to be great stewards of the environment and help us "Make a Difference"



Movement Control Academy

USAG PYEONGTAEK, SOUTH KOREA – How many times have you heard of a Movement Control University? That was the question of the week during the training event bearing that title. The event was organized and executed by members of the 25th Transportation Battalion and took place at the Camp Humphreys' rail head in Pyeongtaek, Korea, July 23 to 28.

“The purpose of this training event is to build and increase individual and collective proficiency on transportation Management coordination operations in order to increase readiness and execution of mobility operations throughout Korea, said Chief Warrant Officer 4 David Essi, the Battalion Operations Mobility Officer with the Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 25th Transportation Battalion, Camp Henry, Daegu, Korea and originally from Jacksonville, North Carolina.

The Movement Control Academy was designed to enhanced Army Military Specialty Code 88 series Soldiers' skills. Army Personnel in the 88 series MOS are Transportation Coordination Specialist and they are responsible for the movement of personnel and materiel by truck, rail, air, and sea.

About 70 U.S. Soldiers and Korean Augmentees to the United States Army participated in the training event. They received classroom training as well as hands-on training. The classroom portion was taught in mass but the hands-on portion was divided into two smaller groups.

The personnel received hand-on training on how to palletize shipments and how to properly attach air lift netting to palletized cargo. Additionally, they were taught how to conduct a center balance for vehicles that are going to be transported and finally, they were also trained on how to load and secure cargo on rail carts for rail transport.

All the training the participants received during the first four days paid off in the end when they had to show what they had learned during a culminating event. During this event, the participants had to demonstrate to their graders, in order to graduate, that they knew how to execute all the different cargo processing skills they had been taught.

The culminating event consisted of a mock unit movement. The intent was to safely and efficiently conduct/coordinate the transportation of personnel and cargo for a deploying unit. After the culminating event, each group's appointed leader had to provide a detailed back brief to the battalion commander.

“This type of training provides me with a good baseline of where we are in regards to training and also helps me identify the areas where we need to get better; it helps me identify my true standing and

my limitations,” Lt. Col. Patrick Almond, the 25th Transportation Battalion's Commander.

“This training helps me ensure that all my 88 series Soldiers are more than capable of doing all aspects of their jobs,” said Almond. “The biggest take-away from this training would be that I think we need to allot more time to it, such as going from six days to 10 days of training or conduct more iterations.”

Because of the rarity of this type of training events, a couple of subject matter experts with the 1st Cavalry Division from Fort Hood, Texas were on hand to assist in delivering the training. They are here in Korea with a rotational unit on a 9-month tour. These two individual are: Chief Warrant Officer 2 Karla J. Smith, a Mobility Warrant Officer with HHC Brigade, S4 Mobility, 2ABCT, 1st Cavalry Division, originally from Brooklyn, New York and Staff Sgt. Deangelo Wiggins, a transportation movement supervisor with HHC Brigade, 8th Brigade Engineer Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas and originally from Smithfield, Virginia.

Additionally, there were a couple of cadets also partaking in the training event. Cadet Benjamin Mock, assigned to the 517th Movement Control Team, 25th Transportation Battalion is here in Korea for Cadet Troop Leader's Training. He is currently enrolled as a junior at the University of Alaska, in Anchorage, Alaska.

“This is a once in a lifetime experience, I love it,” said Mock. “I have learned so much. This experience has widened my view of the transportation corps and I have also met a lot of great leaders. I want to thank the 517th MCT for everything they have done for me, specifically the mentorship they have provided me.”

Despite being the first of its kind here in Korea, the training event was well received as it was evident in the number of attendees.

“I think that the training went very well as it's not often that we get to do this type of training, said” SFC James R. Whitley Jr., Support Operations Noncommissioned Officer also with HHD, 25th Transportation Battalion and originally from Lacey, Virginia. “It was great to receive instructor assistance from outside units. The objective was to hone in on the MOS 88Ns, or Movement Coordination Specialists' skills and in the end, I believe that we met the intent and the Soldiers received really good training.”



USAG PYEONGTAEK, SOUTH KOREA – Service members from various units across the Korean Peninsula attended a six day training event, Movement Control Academy at the Camp Humphrey's rail head, July 23 to 28. The purpose of the training event was to build and increase individual and collective proficiency on transportation Management coordination operations in order to increase readiness and execution of mobility operations throughout Korea. This type of training helps ensure that all Military Specialty Code 88 series Soldiers are more than capable of doing all aspects of their jobs. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Kong, Il-woong, 19th Expeditionary Command, Public Affairs)

A Voice of their Own

By intern Lee, jo-eun USAG Daegu Public Affairs

USAG DAEGU, South Korea - Special Troops Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade hosted the Area IV Women's Equality Day Observance August 2, at the Camp Carroll Community Activity Center.

"The acknowledgement of the day women were allowed to vote is important because it changed lives," said Cpt. Sharleen Morgan, human resources operations branch officer in charge, 2nd Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade.

Soldiers performed vignettes about the prominent people who fought for women's rights. These renditions gave the crowd an opportunity to focus on the history of women's rights and struggles women had to overcome.

"I wanted to go with something different from the traditional observance of a guest speaker," said Morgan. "I encouraged Soldiers to volunteer for something new. I am grateful the audience was pleased and everyone enjoyed my vision."

Highlighted during the observance were Dr. Drew Faust, the first woman President of Harvard University, Harriet Tubman, an abolitionist and highly respected supporter of equal rights for women, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, the intellectual pioneer that started the fight for women's rights, Dr. Ellen Ochoa, Director of Flight Crew Operations at the Johnson Space Center, Susan B. Anthony the executor and speaker of the long fight for women's rights, Sojourner Truth, an avid supporter and speaker for women's rights, Chief Warrant Officer 5 Jean Pace the longest serving female in the U. S. Army, and Frederick Douglass, an abolitionist and brave supporter of women's rights.

"When Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony came together during the Women's suffrage years to struggle and fight for the rights of women is the best day for every woman then and now to have a voice of their own," said Morgan.

The observance of Women's Equality Day not only commemorates the passage of the 19th Amendment, but also calls attention to women's continuing efforts toward full equality. Workplaces, libraries, organizations, and public facilities now participate with Women's Equality Day programs, displays, video showings, or other activities.

"Understand that women should continue to fight for the right to be treated equal," said Morgan. "Acknowledge that women work just as hard as men and deserve to be treated with respect and dignity as any human being in the world. When it comes to equality, the continued efforts are to raise voices and awareness for women to remain relevant in all aspects of life. From the Equal Opportunity perspective the Army will continue to celebrate every year and throughout the year the importance of women's rights and fair treatment."

Women's Equality Day is commemorated on the August 26 every year. This day is dedicated to women and marks the granting of their right to vote, celebrates the victory of the equality that women have won and holds a strong point to eliminate discrimination against women.



