



US Army Corps
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Far East District

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Hospital dedication ceremony marks a new era in healthcare at Camp Humphreys

By Antwaun J. Parrish
FED Public Affairs

A dedication ceremony was held Sept. 20 to officially commemorate the naming of the new Brian D. Allgood Army Community Hospital (BDAACH) at Camp Humphreys, South Korea. Allgood was commander of the 18th Medical Command and 121st General Hospital, and the U.S. Forces Korea surgeon from 2004-2006 at Yongsan Garrison. He made the ultimate sacrifice on Jan. 20, 2007, as his UH-60 helicopter was shot down, by enemy fire, while deployed to Iraq. That hospital, located in Seoul, will close in the fall as part of a relocation of U.S. forces on the peninsula. His wife, mother, and other family members were present for the dedication and ribbon cutting.

The new hospital is a part of the \$10.7 billion, multi-year, massive relocation effort known as the Yongsan Relocation Program (YRP). The YRP relocated 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) Hum-

phreys. USAG Humphreys has grown exponentially over the past 10 years due to projects led by the Far East District.

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During a hospital dedication ceremony for the Brian D. Allgood Army Community Hospital U.S. Forces Korea senior leaders and Allgood family members participate in a ribbon cutting, Camp Humphreys, Sept. 20. The hospital has been a major project for the Far East District and is now operational and accepting patients. The completed medical campus will be able to support 65,000 eligible beneficiaries and 5,000 annual inpatient admissions. (Photo by Antwaun J. Parrish)



Maj. Gen. Anthony Funkhouser, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Deputy Commanding General for Military and International Operations, and Brig. Gen. Thomas Tickner, USACE Pacific Ocean Division Commanding General, visited Camp Humphreys, South Korea Sept. 18-20 to conduct multiple engagements with U.S. Forces Korea, Eighth Army, and Republic of Korea senior leaders and stakeholders. During their trip they also visited various project sites and attended the hospital dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony. (Photos by Antwaun J. Parrish)



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Check out the Far East District web site at
www.pof.usace.army.mil

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"The ROK-U.S. alliance continues to get stronger and stronger. This ribbon cutting ceremony represents a culmination of effort displayed by our outstanding U.S. and host-nation employees, who worked in close partnership with our friends and allies in the Republic of Korea to advance the quality of life for Americans serving abroad in this great country," said Brig. Gen. Thomas Tickner, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pacific Ocean Division commanding general. "The completion of Brian Allgood Army Community Hospital also brings us one step closer to full

consolidation from Seoul to U.S. Army Garrison - Humphreys, a modern base and smart city with better facilities than ever before, and completed with mostly Republic of Korea funding. Combine this with the strategic capabilities that this installation provides, it's clear to see that the U.S. is here to stay in support of our host-nation partners."

The district has been at the forefront of ensuring the completion of this world-class facility. The hospital offers the highest quality of medical care for service members, family members, civilians, and retirees. As the primary

U.S. military treatment facility in Korea, the BDAACH provides routine and specialty health care for all eligible beneficiaries on the peninsula.

Dave Fortune, Chief, Health Facility Project Office - Korea, worked closely with Far East District Humphreys area office engineers Mike Mouw, Roger St. Louis, Jay Kim, and Kenneth Ward to ensure construction of the facility was in compliance with medical facility standards.

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Maj. Gen. Anthony Funkhouser (right), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Deputy Commanding General for Military and International Operations, and Brig. Gen. Thomas Tickner (rear left), USACE Pacific Ocean Division Commanding General, attend the Brian D. Allgood Army Community Hospital dedication Ceremony, Camp Humphreys, South Korea, Sept. 20. (Photo by Antwaun J. Parrish)

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“The Far East District team has delivered one of the most cutting edge and medically advanced U.S. community hospitals in the overseas Pacific region,” said Fortune. “Not only will this vital facility provide safe and highly reliable health care for eligible beneficiaries across the peninsula, but it will stand as a testament to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ commitment to delivering quality facilities.”

Having a world-class facility named after Brian D. Allgood is fitting based on the remarks given by current senior leaders and retired Command Sgt. Maj. Ricardo Alcantara, who served alongside Allgood as his command sergeant major at the 18th Medi-

cal Command and The United States Military Academy at West Point.

“As a Soldier, physician and leader Brian was others focused,” said Alcantara. “He put others first. At all times and circumstances.

Alcantara became emotional during the end of his remarks as he went on to list Allgood’s titles as father, son, brother and describing his strongly held beliefs.

“His [Allgood] philosophy included staying focused and never forgetting what is important to you,” said Alcantara. “When the going gets tough, he said, take a knee, breathe in and drive on.”

The new BDAACH is the largest

medical asset on U.S. Army Garrison-Humphreys, medically equipped to support 65,000 eligible beneficiaries and 5,000 inpatient admissions. BDAACH’s Ambulatory Care Center can provide support for 56,300 eligible beneficiaries and 200,000 annual outpatient visits. BDAACH has expanded from its previous 38-bed set-up to 68 total inpatient beds consisting of six intensive care unit beds, 40 medical/surgical units, four operating rooms, eight labor and delivery beds and 14 behavioral health beds. A 1,000 space parking garage along with 949 surface parking spaces support the new facility. BDAACH is scheduled to be fully operational on Nov. 15.



Col. Lee Woo-sik (left), Chief, Program Management Team, MURO, and Col. Garrett Cottrell (right), Deputy Commanding Officer - Transformation, United States Army Corps of Engineers Far East District, sign the acceptance release letter for the AAFES mini mall gas station and KATUSA snack bar Sept. 5. (Photo by Son, SeukHwan)

FED engineer ensures Korean helipads structurally sound for USFK aircraft

By Stephen Satkowski
FED Public Affairs

Young C. Jung, Structural Engineer, Far East District, recently finished an assessment of the Ajou University medical center helipad and his analysis led to it being certified for use by United States Forces Korea (USFK) aircraft.

The helipad, located in Suwon, South Korea, was dedicated Sept. 6 as the Col. Brian D. Allgood helipad, in memory of the former commander of the 18th Medical Command and 121st General Hospital who made the ultimate sacrifice when his UH-60 helicopter was shot down, by enemy fire, while deployed to Iraq in 2007.

The dedication was in conjunction with the introduction of the first and only 24-hour medical evacuation helicopter in the Republic of Korea.

The head of Ajou University Medical Center's Trauma Center had been requesting an air ambulance capability. In response, the Republic of Korea Ministry of Health and

Welfare provided funds allowing the University to purchase an Emergency Medical Services Helicopter ('Doctor Helicopter') dedicated to providing 24 hour MEDEVAC coverage for Gyeonggi province.

Jung is in the process of assessing nine other helipads in Korea to determine their accessibility for aircraft from USFK. He said the work is different from most military construction projects he has worked on since coming to the Far East District.

"These particular assessments help me a lot in the other jobs I do," said Jung. "For this helipad there was no design code so we had to develop it. We can do any structure from beginning to end. The customer (Eighth Army) was very happy."

Jung hopes to have the remaining nine helipads assessed by next September.



K-water and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers further develop technical cooperation

By K-Water Public Affairs

K-water and leaders from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) met to discuss advanced water management techniques and a future employee exchange program on Sept. 19.

K-water, an affiliated organization under South Korea Ministry of Environment, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) held the high level meeting for technical cooperation at K-water's research facility in Daejeon, Korea.

USACE and K-water signed a memorandum of understanding in 2015 to work together to assist developing nations in Asia with water resource

development and to expand technology and technical capacity.

This high level meeting was held to expand technical cooperation between both agencies, assist developing nations in Asia with water resources management, and discuss training programs for subject matter experts to learn about advanced water management.

During the visit K-water showed different research labs in the facility to include their joint project with National Aeronautics and Space (NASA) on development of satellite technology for water management and water disaster prevention.

“We will expand our cooperation to contribute to solving global water problems as well as improving technological capabilities through the exchange of advance technologies and experts,” said K-water Chief Research Officer Dr. Park Jae Young.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been established since 1775. Since then they have executed numerous water resource projects throughout various countries, and currently are responsible for operation and management of water resource and hydroelectric power plants throughout the United States.



K-water Chief Research Officer Dr. Park, Jae Young (center), Maj. Gen. Anthony C. Funkhouser (center right) and senior leaders pose for a group photo. (Courtesy K-Water Public Affairs)



The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District, Central Resident Office, is currently working to provide a world class modern facility for delivering medical care to service members and beneficiaries at Osan Air Base, by adding an additional 26,000 square feet and altering 24,000 square feet to the existing Osan Medical Facility. The additions will also provide family practice, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology (OB/GYN), optometry, immunizations, physical therapy, dental clinic, warehouse, and administrative support functions for the 51st Medical Group. The construction completion date is scheduled for Oct. 1, 2019. (FED file photos)

Update 17 Sep 19

Public Health Alert:

Severe Lung Illness Associated with E-Cigarette Use

As of Sept. 17, 2019, seven deaths and 380* cases have been linked to the current outbreak of severe lung illness associated with e-cigarette use. These numbers will continue to change while the investigation is ongoing.

Until we know more, individuals are encouraged to avoid using all e-cigarette or vaping products.

The specific cause of these illnesses is still unknown. All patients reported a history of e-cigarette product

use within days or weeks of their symptoms starting. The most likely cause is a chemical exposure from use of e-cigarette products.

The investigation has not identified any specific e-cigarette product (devices, liquids, refill pods, and/or cartridges) or substance that is linked to all cases. Many affected individuals reported using products containing THC, but some reported only using products containing nicotine.

If you do choose to use e-cigarettes, do not buy these products (e.g., e-cigarettes or vaping devices with THC, other cannabinoids) off the street, and do not modify them or add any substances that are not intended by the manufacturer. Even then, it is difficult for consumers to know what e-cigarette products contain. Many vape oils do not disclose that they may contain potentially hazardous and/or illegal substances. Consumers who may not be seeking products containing these substances may unintentionally purchase and use them.

If you experience any of the following symptoms and currently or recently used e-cigarettes, see your health care provider right away:

- cough, shortness of breath, or chest pain
- nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
- fatigue, fever, or abdominal pain

In addition to the threat of lung illness, Soldiers risk violating Army Regulation 600-85, The Army Substance Abuse Program, which prohibits them from using hemp or products containing hemp oil. Soldiers are also prohibited from using synthetic cannabis, to include synthetic blends containing CBD oil and other THC substitutes ("spice"), or any other substance similarly designed to mimic the effects of a controlled substance.

If you are a current or former tobacco smoker who is using e-cigarettes to quit smoking, consult your health care provider for an alternative evidence-based cessation method. Regardless of the current outbreak, teenagers, young adults, and women who are pregnant should not use e-cigarettes.

* The previous case count from the initial public health alert released in early September was higher because it reported possible cases that were under investigation by states. The current number includes only confirmed and probable cases reported by states to CDC after classification.

More information is available at the following websites:

<https://phc.amedd.army.mil/topics/healthyliving/tfl/Pages/Vaping.aspx>

https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic_information/e-cigarettes/severe-lung-disease.html

