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Japan Engineer District

Bamboo Bridge

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BUILDING STRONG®

Bamboo Bridge

News magazine of the
Japan Engineer District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Commander and District Engineer
COL Bryan P. Truesdell

Deputy Commander
LTC James C. Horton Jr.

Information and Editorial Specialist
Mieko Yonaha

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On the cover:

The U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa Complex celebrated its grand opening at its new location at Camp Foster April 30,2013. The hospital project was led by Okinawa Area Office, Japan District US Army Corps of Engineers. (Photo by CPL. Brianna Turner). Story on page10.

Bamboo Bridge INSIDE this issue

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Six of Japan Engineer Employees including DACs and MLCs were recognized for their completion of the UASCE Leadership Development Program (ULDP) Level 2 during the Town Hall meeting May 23, 2013. From right to left: Makoto Ohno, Fire Protection Engineer, Tonya Y. Bazemore, Kanagawa Resident Office Architect, John H. Feller, Civil Engineer, Darlene S. Shimamura, Engineering Technician, Hiroyuki Takai, Engineering Contract Manager, Stephen D. Pacifico, Information Technology Specialist (not shown in the photo) (Photo by Mieko Yonaha)

Commander's Corner
司令官より一言

JED Teammates,

This is my last opportunity to contribute to the Bamboo Bridge as the Commander of this esteemed District. When I arrived I said I was excited to be a part of the best District in the US Army Corps of Engineers.

I had only an inkling of what this organzation was; I had no idea how well you operated together. I said that you had a great reputation and my initial observations told me that your excellent reputation was well-deserved. Since then I've learned that your reputation is only a small indicator of your truly excellent performance. I've discovered that the reason your reputation is so strong is that you do routine things well and you continue to strive to get better.

This organization truly is outstanding. In spite of many administrative limitations and requirements, your performance stands the scrutiny of time and demanding supported commands and customers. You have unwavering mission focus. Everything you do, from safety meetings and design reviews to appraisal and time sheets is directed toward proving the best facilities for US services and agencies throughout Japan. Whether the project is extensive and visible like the Okinawa Naval Hospital or the Iwakuni Marine Corps Air Station or routine and unnoticed such as utilities infrastructure upgrades you see the significance of each and deliver each safely and to standard. More impressive to me is your desire to continue to improve. Your commitment to continual improvement is more than one office or an SOP; it is a process that pervades everything you do whether it's program and construction related or administrative. The secret to this success, I believe, is your caring for one another and willingness to accept others on the team. You treat all with dignity and respect going beyond any cultural differences intent on doing your best to serve. That dedication is how this District maintains superior results.

I know you will continue set the standard, performing every mission well; and I trust that you will continue to improve, leaving a legacy that honors our past members. It has been so much more than exciting for me. Thank you for making me part of this outstanding and amazing team!

Ichi Dan (One Team)
Kyoko ni Kizuku (Building Strong®)

BRYAN P. TRUESDELL
COL, EN
Commanding

工兵隊日本地区の皆様、

この号を持ちまして私の日本工兵隊司令官としての最後のコメント寄稿になります。日本に着任した当時この素晴らしい工兵隊日本地区の一員となって非常に喜びで一杯でした。

当時は、日本地区に関してはおぼろげな認識しかありませんでした。皆さんがどのくらい素晴らしく一丸となって働くかなど認識していませんでした。皆さんに対する評価は素晴らしいものだということを先に申し上げましたが、最初に皆さまを見ていてその言葉通りだという事がわかりました。しかしながら、皆さまに対する評価の高さは卓越した仕事ぶりを表わす極く小さな指標なのだということがわかりました。皆さんがこのように高い評価を維持しているのは、日常の業務をきちんとこなすと同時に更なる改善を目指して弛まない努力を惜しまないということです。

工兵隊日本地区は非常に卓越した組織です。業務上の制約や要求事項にもかかわらず、綿密な時間管理と厳しい支援部隊及び顧客の要求に皆さまの業務姿勢が表われています。皆さまは、断固として遂行しなければならない業務があります。安全管理会議、設計検討評価から勤怠管理など皆さまの業務はすべて日本国内の米国軍及び政府機関に最良の施設を提供することに直結しています。沖縄の海軍病院、岩国海兵隊航空基地のように大規模で注目をあびるプジェクトであろうがインフラ基盤改修工事などあまり目を引かないプロジェクトであろうが、一貫した安全基準がきちんと敷かれています。私にとって更に印象的なのは、もっと良いものを提供したいという一貫した気持ちです。皆さんの一貫した改善への強い決心は、一事務所或いは標準実施要綱以上のものです。そのやり方はプロジェクト、建築関連工事、事務業務すべてにいきわたっています。私は、この成功の秘密は皆さん一人ひとりがお互いを気にかけチームの一員として受容れているところにあると確信しています。皆さんは素晴らしい技術及びサービスを提供したいという目的の元、 文化の違いを超えて一人ひとりを尊厳を持って接しています。そのような懇親さが日本地区が素晴らしい功績を残し続ける結果になっていると思います。

皆さんはこれからも規範を示しすべての業務をきちんと遂行していく事と思います。今後も一貫した業務改善とこれまで業務に係わった方たちの功績を讃える歴史を後世に残していくと信じています。これまでの体験は私にとって心躍る以上のものでした。皆さま、私をこの卓越した素晴らしいチームの一員にしてくれて本当に有難うございました。

一団
強固に築く

Tonya Y. Bazemore named Most Promising Engineer

Tonya Y. Bazemore, an Architect in QA Section with the Japan District Kanagawa Resident Office, was presented with the Most Promising Engineer award during a ceremony at the 2013 Black Engineer of The Year Feb 7 in Washington, D.C.

Tonya Y. Bazemore is congratulated by Lieutenant General, Thomas P. Bostick, USACE Chief of Engineers during the 27th Black Engineer of the Awards (BEYA) Gala in Washington D.C., Feb 9, 2013 (Photo courtesy of Tonya Y. Bazemore)

Tonya proudly served in the military on active duty as an Army Engineer Officer. After the completion of the Engineer Officer Basic course in Fort Leonard Wood, MO, Tonya reported to the 84th Engineer Combat Battalion (Heavy) in Schofield Barracks Hawaii in October 2002. She was constantly rated as one of the top Officers in her unit. Shortly after being assigned to her first troop leader position - directly responsible for the leadership, training, safety, and welfare of 36 assigned soldiers - Tonya deployed her platoon and an attachment of Navy Seabees from Hawaii to Alaska in support of a major road-building mission. As part of the Joint Task Force Alaskan Road, Annette Island, Alaska mission, she managed the construction of a 14.5 mile road that would eventually connect the isolated Metlakatla Indian community to a ferry terminal in Alaska's Annette Bay for easier access to vital supplies on the mainland. As a result of her outstanding leadership and management skills, her platoon drilled and blasted the largest section of new road of any active duty engineer unit in the task force.

Tonya's second major deployment in January 2004 was to Operation Iraqi Freedom-2, in support of the Global War on Terrorism. As an engineer platoon leader in the combat environment of Iraq, she was praised by her company commander as "an outstanding, professional officer who ensures every mission is completed on time and to standard," who "possesses outstanding project management skills", and for her ability to "consistently manage(s) several projects daily." Her battalion commander called her "one of the best platoon leaders in a battalion of 20 platoons", who "has excelled in leading Soldiers and accomplishing missions."

Tonya was then assigned as Assistant Civil Engineer of the 900 soldier Combat Heavy Engineer Battalion deployed to Iraq, and responsible for assisting in the planning, coordinating, and management of the battalion's $4 million troop construction program involving more than 30 construction missions. Her performance evaluation included comments like: "intelligent, very well organized and absolutely dedicated; meticulous organizational skills; forward thinking; takes the abstract and makes it real for Soldiers; and unlimited potential."

Upon redeployment to Schofield Barracks, Hawaii in January 2005, Tonya was assigned as Staff (G3) Training Officer for the 8th Theater Sustainment Command comprised of 1,400 soldiers, responsible for deployment training, planning, and coordination for several units in the command preparing to deploy to Iraq. Laudatory job performance evaluations continued including: "self-starter and requires no supervision when assigned difficult tasks," "each of the units, completed…actions well ahead of schedule due in part to Tonya's tenaciousness to accomplish the mission," "she has the uncanny ability to make complex tasks seem simple and more importantly, achievable." Tonya's performance as a professional United States Army Engineer Officer was probably best characterized by the Deputy Commander of the 8th Theater Sustainment Command: "Tonya is clearly one of the army's best-qualified company grade officers who is fully capable of performing in the toughest positions. This officer has all the tools to become an outstanding company commander. Send to Advance course now and follow with immediate command of a(n) engineer unit. Watch this officer succeed, her potential is unlimited." In January 2005, Tonya had seventeen months remaining on her four year commitment to the U.S. Army and had to decide if she would remain on active duty or purse other options. Tonya made a critical career decision and decided to end her U.S. Army career as a soldier and started pursuing her other childhood dream of working the USACE as a civilian. Tonya applied for countless positions with the USACE and in March 2006, Tonya

received a job offer from the Fort Stewart Resident Office, Savannah District. She accepted the position and relocated to Georgia June 2006 where she would work as Quality Assurance Representative (QAR) in the Fort Stewart Resident Office.

One year after working at Fort Stewart, Tonya relocated to Fort Bragg, NC Special Operations Resident Office as an Office Engineer where she also performed QAR and architect duties. When her office received notification that they were to relocate into an historical WWI Mule Barn, Tonya volunteered to design the project. As the Lead Architect she transformed the Mule Barn into a suitable office environment for the Special Operations Resident Office.

In 2008, Tonya expanded her service to the USACE and she accepted a position on Camp Zama in the Japan Engineer District as an Architect. Tonya worked as a Project Engineer and the Sagami General Depot team leader. She executed over $20 million MILCON projects to include the direct management of the Battle Command Training Center project valued over $15 million. Upon completion, this project will be used by U.S. Forces-Japan military units as a simulation training center for essential readiness training. Tonya also assisted in management of several multi-million dollars Government of Japan funded projects.

Tonya became the first LEED Accredited Professional (AP) in the Japan Engineer District Construction Branch and successfully completed the U.S. Army's first project in Japan that incorporated the sustainable feature of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED).

Tonya wholeheartedly understands the importance of exposing young people to Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) career fields. Her volunteer efforts included participation in the Ground hog shadow day for local base middle school 6th graders and participation in the local base High School STEM conference. During the one day Shadow Program, students shadow professionals on their jobs to gain a better understanding of that particular field. The students that shadowed Tonya where exposed to architecture and engineering with the hopes of sparking an interest in the STEM field.

During the 2009 shadow day, the female 6th grader paired with Tonya stated that she was not interested in the STEM field. As a professional female in the STEM field, Tonya understands the need to expose males and females to STEM; however, considering the male to female ratio in the STEM field, Tonya was motivated to discuss the field in an effort to spark the female student's interest. After Tonya and her student discussed STEM and the field of architecture the student built a scaled model of a home (with pre-cut material Tonya prepared the day before) the student designed that day. At the conclusion of the shadow day, the female student displayed extreme enthusiasm and stated that she was now interested in becoming an architect. During the 2010 shadow day, the two students that shadowed Tonya were also given an opportunity to build a scaled model of a house they designed. Although this activity lasted about one hour it had a significant impact on the students. A parent of one of the students informed Tonya that his son decided he wanted to pursue architecture as a result of the shadow day. Tonya also volunteered as a recruiter during the USACE recruitment career fairs at the 2009 and 2011 BEYA/STEM conferences. The potential impact on young people is the driving force behind Tonya's passion for volunteering. Tonya's early exposure to the STEM field greatly influenced the career path Tonya selected.

Tonya's childhood dreams of joining the U.S. Army, working for the USACE, and working as an Architect has been fulfilled. At this point in Tonya's life, her professional goal is to become a licensed Architect and to continue supporting the USACE positive mission. In addition, Tonya plans to continue serving as a role model for the future STEM professional.

Tonya Y. Bazemore, holding the 2013 Most Promissiong Engineer of the Year Award, poses for the camera with Lieutenant General, Thomas P. Bostick (right), USACE Chief of Engineers and Colonel Bryan P. Truesdell, USACE Japan District Feb 9, 2013 (Photo courtesy of Tonya Y. Bazemore)

Japan Engineer District Hosts Groundhog Job Shadow Day

By Mieko Yonaha
Information and Editorial Specialist, the JED Public Affairs Office

Sixth-grade students from John O. Arnn Elementary School visited Japan Engineer District (JED) for the National Groundhog Job Shadow Day (NGJSD) March 28, 2013. Six JED team members: Huong Huynh; Brad Scully; Han Duong; Tonya Bazemore and DJ Fusero hosted the students and explained their expertise and responsibilities in the fields of electroics and construction, program and projects management, fire protection and mechanical engineering.

All the students rotated through the Computer Aided Drafting Design (CADD) section in which they had hands-on experience to design their own living room using CADD software. "It is a lot more difficult to draw lines on CADD than I thought", said Nilsgodwinn Xavion Cruz, one of the six grade students who participated in the Shadow Day program. The students demonstrated how the skills they learn in the classroom could be applied to the career in the real world. As a result of the experiences from the program, some may decide on a career.

COL Truesdell welcomes six-grade students from the John O. Arnn Elementary School for Groundhog Job Shadow Day March 28, 2013. Six JED job shadow mentors are, left to right in the back row, Huong Huynh; Brad Scully; Han H. Duong; Tonya Bazemore and Didier C. Fusero. John O. Arnn Elementary School students, left to right in the front row: Nilsgodwinn Xavion Cruz; Brandon Duckworth; Joshua Allen; Cameron Stewart; Cassandra Miranda.(Photo by Mieko Yonaha)

Photos by Mieko Yonaha

Naoko Kubota, Engineering Technician, Japan Engineer District, explains how to draw lines on CADD to Nilsgodwinn Xavion Cruz, March 28, 2013.

Masateru Tanabe, Engineer Technician, assists Brandon Duckworth with CADD software, March 28, 2013.

Tonya Y. Bazemore, Architect, Kanagawa Resident Office, briefs description of the drawings to Cameron Stewart, March 28, 12013.

Reid S. Oshiro, back, Chief Engineering Branch, Japan Engineer District, Kyoko Fukushima, Engineer Technician, left, and Cassandra Miranda, left pose for the camera on the Groundhog Job Shadow Day, March 28, 2013.

(Left to right), Didier C. Fusero, Mechanical Engineer, Cassandora Miranda, Joshua Duckworth, and Han H. Duong, Fire Protection Engineer, hold the Q & A session at the end of the CADD rotation on Groundhog Job Shadow Day, March 28, 2013.

Naoko Kubota, Engineering Technician, demonstrates the CADD operation to Joshua Allen, March 28, 2013.

Six-grade John O. Elementary School students who participated in the Groundhog Job Shadow Day observe how the Camp Zama fire fighters operate the fire hydrant located in the Japan Engineer District parking lot March 28, 2013. (Photo by Mieko Yonaha)

The Groundhog Shadow Day is a national campaign which gives young students a new perspective in their studies through hands-on learning and a one-day mentoring experience. It is a joint effort of America's Promise –Alliance for Youth, Junior Achievement and the U.S. Department of Labor. Nationwide, more than one million students and 100,000 business entities and organizations participate in the program to demonstrate a commitment to supporting and improving the community.

U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa Opens at Camp Foster

Dawn Y. Shinsato, Chief, Okinawa Area Office

With an eventful Ribbon Cutting Ceremny on 30 April 2013, the US Naval Hospital Okinawa (USNH-O) celebrated its Grand Opening at its new location, Camp Foster. The US Naval Hospital Okinawa Complex Relocation is a part of the Government of Japan (GoJ) Host Nation (HN) Program, Special Action Committee on Okinawa (SACO) land return initiative. This historic move marks an important step forward in the process to reduce the impact of the US military presence in Okinawa, thus strengthening the Japan-US Alliance. In addition, the hospital relocation starts a brand new chapter in the history of the US Army Corps of Engineers, as the former US Naval Hospital at Camp Lester was built by the Corps in 1958.

The culmination of the USNH-O project represents a collaborative partnership between the US Government (USG) and Government of Japan (GoJ), driven by the disciplined efforts of the Project Delivery Team (PDT). This diverse PDT was effectively led by the Okinawa Area Office, Japan Engineer District (POJ), working together with Pacific Ocean Division (POD), Regional Technical Center (RTC), Huntsville Center of Expertise for Medical Design (MX), Navy Medicine West Okinawa Detachment (NMW), US Naval Hospital Okinawa (USNH), US Marine Corps, Facilities Engineer (G-F), US Forces Japan (USFJ) and Okinawa Defense Bureau (ODB) for the GoJ.

For more than a decade, PDT members were dedicated to this comprehensive project, starting in April 2000 with development of the Preliminary Criteria Package to the Criteria Package, Design Definitive Drawings, and Design, which was completed in August 2009. Hospital construction began in March 2009, and was completed in Jun 2012, to facilitate the customer's outfitting and transition for the final hospital move by March 2013.

The US Naval Hospital Okinawa is the largest overseas hospital in the US Navy, with a beneficiary population of 55,000 on Okinawa, serving as the primary referral center for the Western Pacific. The new 4-story hospital with a half basement totals 41,140 SM (442,827 SF) and includes 86 beds and 20 nursery bassinets (including 14 bassinets for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit). Unique design features of the new hospital include: earthquake resistant "base isolation" foundation system; ice storage to reduce peak power demands of cooling systems; rooftop solar electrical panels; and 4-day full-capacity emergency back-up of generator and fuel, potable water and sewage storage. Other hospital complex projects completed include: Central Utility Plant; Helipad; Switch Station; Back-up Sewage and Water Tanks; Hospital Warehouse; Hazard/Flammable Storage; Public Works and Transportation Facility; Waste Treatment Facility; Water Supply Tanks; and Bachelor Enlisted Quarters. Upcoming projects include: Blood Storage Facility; Preventive Medical and Alcohol Rehabilitation Center; Bachelor Officer Quarters; Multi-Purpose Facility; and Recreation Facility.

Besides solar panels and ice storage systems, other sustainable features included: cultural asset surveys, energy saving ballasts in fluorescent fixtures, occupancy lighting sensors, room brightness control sensors, environmentally-friendly materials, timer-controlled exterior lighting dimmer switch, low flow sanitary fixtures, self-re-charging faucet sensors, and day-lighting via multiple light courts.

While the project required strict adherence to US life safety and fire protection regulations, including stringent US Joint Commission requirements, it was also subject to Japanese laws and regulations. Proactive measures were taken to prepare the USNH-O customer for formal US Joint Commission inspections. Working

Photo by LCpl Elizabeth A. Case

with the POJ life safety consultant, the team prepared Statement of Conditions (SoC) supporting documentation for establishing equivalency of Japanese-manufactured building life safety features and equipment to US criteria. Particular focus areas included: fire protection systems, elevators, architectural features, means of egress and emergency power.

The hospital included substantial quantities of specialized equipment furnished by the USG and installed by GoJ/USG. With the large volume of installed equipment, the team developed equipment plot plans to integrate general equipment and specialized systems (i.e., MRI, CT, x-ray, medical gas, security, etc.) between engineering and construction disciplines, and mitigate potential problems in the field.

The PDT readily sought learning opportunities and specialized expertise for continual improvement. In September 2010, POJ and NMW team members visited the Fort Belvoir Community Hospital project to gain insight for best practices. In June 2011, POJ facilitated an American Society of Healthcare Engineering (ASHE) Healthcare Construction Certification Course in Okinawa for PDT members, including customers. The team applied knowledge of specialized healthcare requirements to inspection of aseptic areas, fire-stopping, fire doors, HVAC systems, medical gas and healthcare equipment (i.e., MRI, x-ray, security systems, etc.).

Safety on the jobsite is of foremost priority. Safety procedures included frequent review of safety plans, joint safety inspections, mandatory power outage meetings, and newcomer briefings. Safety initiatives specific to Okinawa include typhoon preparations, prevention of heat illnesses and unexploded ordnance (UXO) procedures. During the past three years, the team safely managed seven (7) UXO findings and ten (10) typhoon events. By promoting a proactive safety culture at the jobsite, the team achieved an exceptional safety record of 3,100,000 man hours with no serious injuries or accidents.

During the Red Zone Phase, final inspections, commissioning/testing, O&M training, and closeout activities were conducted. The PDT provided oversight of GoJ commissioning and testing activities for major systems including: HVAC, boilers, generators, uninterruptable power source (UPS), EMCS, intrusion detection systems, fire protection systems, electrical systems,

COL Truesdell (right) held the Town Hall Meeting at the Okinawa Area Office in conjunction with opening of the U.S. Naval Hospital Camp Foster April 30, 2013. Dawn Y. Shinsato (third from right), Chief, Okinawa Area Office, and the employees stand with him for a photo (Photo courtesy of the Okinawa Area Office).

communication, and elevators. In addition to normal construction activities, the team monitored hospital-specific items to include health care fire safety construction, installation of specialized equipment, infection control, life safety items, and certified inspections of medical gas systems. Additionally, the team supported the customer in facilitating specialized inspections (i.e., radiology shielding, laboratory fume hoods, elevator inspections, boiler certifications, etc.). As the largest medical facility constructed under the GoJ Host Nation Program, the US Naval Hospital Okinawa represents a distinct landmark which embodies the dedication and selfless service of the hardworking team.

With the successful delivery of the US Naval Hospital Okinawa Complex Relocation, the team's accomplishments truly reflect the USACE Vision to be: "A great engineering force of highly disciplined people working with our partners through disciplined thought and action to deliver innovative and sustainable solutions to the Nations engineering challenges."

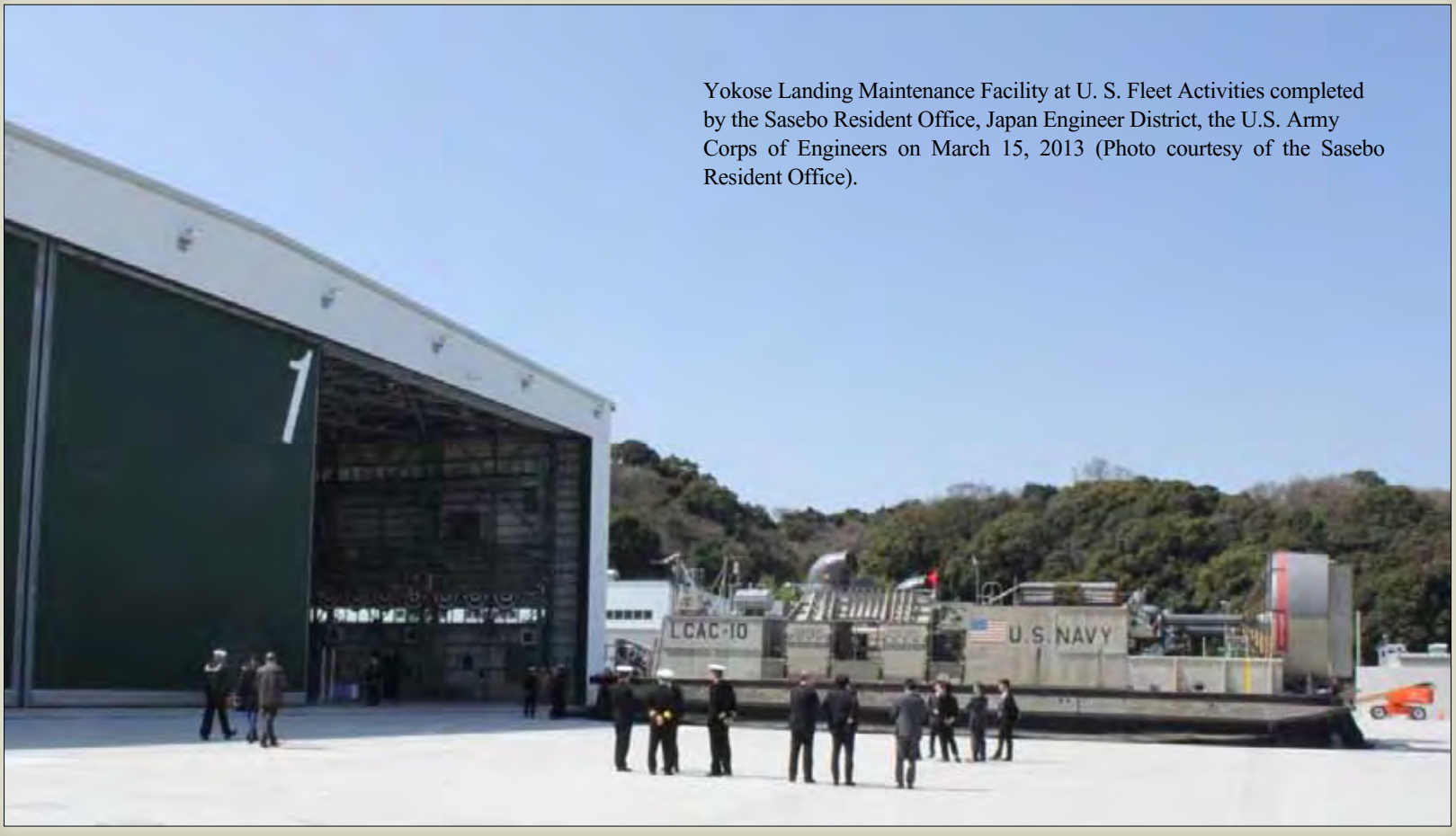
Photo courtesy of the Okinawa Area Office, Japan Engineer Distrcit.

Yokose Landing Maintenance Facility completed at U.S. Fleet Activities Sasebo

By Mieko Yonaha
Information and Editorial Specialist, JED Public Affairs Office

Sasebo celebrated the completion of Yokose Landing Craft Air Cushion (LCAC) Maintenance Facility with its supporting Fire Station and Security Building March 15, 2013. Site work started December 2004, twenty-six construction contractors and five Quality Assurance contractors for LCAC, and five construction contractors for the Fire Station were involved in the facility completion. As for LCAC Apron Paving work, pre-construction meeting was held on 15 February 2011. In approximately 2 years, major concrete work such as concrete apron paving work, installation of pre-cast concrete floor panels, construction of wind protection concrete wall, concrete apron paving work, and concrete placement for Apron completed the facility 24 February 2012.

The LCAC project was completed with the final inspection of trench on 31 January, 2013. Facilities include: training and administrative offices, ground support building, warehouse, maintenance shop, maintenance hangar, hush houses, parking apron, berthing wharf, small craft pier, boat ramp, wash rack, fuel farm, filling station, water tank, exterior lighting, fire suppression systems, power distribution systems, and communication systems.



Yokose Landing Maintenance Facility at U. S. Fleet Activities completed by the Sasebo Resident Office, Japan Engineer District, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on March 15, 2013 (Photo courtesy of the Sasebo Resident Office).

Sasebo celebrates the completion of Yokose Landing Craft Air Cushion Maintenance Facility, 15 March 2013 (Photo courtesy of the Sasebo Resident Office).

Yokose Landing Craft Air Cushion (LCAC) is open for the guests during the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony 15 March 2013 (Photo courtesy of the Sasebo Resident Office).

COL Truesdell, center, poses for the photograph with the Sasebo RO team mates: from left to right ; David W. Franzen, Resident Engineer, Etsuro Oshita, Project Engineer, Hiroshi Nagashima, Project Manager, and Fumi Shimomura, Administrative Specialist during the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, 15 March, 2013 (Photo Courtesy of the Sasebo Resident Office).

Bottom right corner : COL Truesdell talks with Naval Forces Japan Rear Admiral Commander Cloyd during the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on 15 March 2013 (Photo courtesy of the Sasebo Resident Office).

Cleaning Safety Tips

Submitted By Safety and Occupational Health Office

Each year many of us look forward to that special time of year known as Spring Break. For many, it is that time of year when we emerge from our wintering shelters and engage in the annual ritual of spring cleaning. Follow these simple tips to keep this annual ritual safe for everyone.

Fire Safety Tips

Spring is a great time to clean your house throw away unwanted items. It's also a great time to check all your for potential fire hazards.

*Check your house for any stored papers or any other combustible materials you don't need

*Keep the area under your stairs clear of combustible as well.

*Check your yard for any woodpiles, branches, or papers that could prove tempting to someone wanting to light a fire.

*Make sure you clean your BBQ and check for leaks, breaks, and other wear & tear.

*Check your smoke alarm monthly

General Cleaning Tips

While spring cleaning is a rewarding activity, it can also be a risky one. Falls, cuts, and electrical shock are just some of the injuries which can occur.

*Wear protective clothing. Sturdy shoes will protect your feet if you drop something or step on somthing sharp. Wear gloves to protect your hands from minor injuries and don't forget hearing and eye protection.

*Beware of electrical hazards. Keep moisture away from electrical appliances and outlets. Don't spray cleaning products directly onto light switches or the fuse panel area of an electrical stove.

*Slips, trips, and falls are common household accidents, and they can occur easily when the house is in disarray during spring cleaning. Keep traffic areas clear of buckets, cords, boxes and other obstacles. Clean up spills promptly, and move carefully on damp surfaces.

*Ladders are involved in many serious injuries at home. Make sure the ladder is in good condition. Place the base of the ladder on a solid, even surface. Do not stand on the top few rungs of a ladder. Do not lean away from the ladder because this can cause it to tip over. Always watch out for overhead electrical hazards.

Household Chemicals

Many household chemicals and paints can present hazards to you and your family, particularly children. Ensure you precautions are taken to keep all safe and sound.

*Get rid of old household chemicals and paints. Know your communities' disposal rules and dispose of them properly.

*Close lids to chemicals and paints when not in use. Ensure they always put safely away when the work is finished.

*Never leave children unsupervised when paints and chemicals are in use. Read the instructions carefully and make sure you adhere to them. Pay particular attention to flammability cautions and ventilation requirements.

While you are enjoying the beautiful weather and dusting off the cobwebs, remember to take your on-the-job safety awareness with you.

JGSDF's Central Readiness Force (CRF) relocated to Camp Zama

Open media source translated
by Mieko Yonaha, Information and Editorial Specialist, JED Public Affairs Office

The HQs of the GSDF's Central Readiness Force (CRF) relocated from Camp Asaka in Nerima, Tokyo, to Camp Zama (located in Zama and Sagamihara Cities) March 26, 2013. CRF consists of highly specialized units and brigades sent abroad for peacekeeping operations and nuclear accidents. The relocation is expected to have closer relationships in sharing information and strengthening alliance between the U.S. military and the Japan Self Defense Forces (JSDF).

LT GEN Masahiro Hidaka is Commander of the CRF, which is lateral to five defense bureaus in the Ministry of Defense (MoD) and retains a total of 4,000 military personnel including the First Airborne Brigade, which has parachute troops in Chiba Prefecture, the Central Readiness Force Regiment in Tochigi Prefecture, the unit deployed overseas, the First Helicopter Brigade in Chiba Prefecture, which was dispatched to spray water from the air to respond to the nuclear accident in Fuskushima Prefecture, and the Central Nuclear Biological Chemical (NBC) Weapons Defense Unit in Saitama Prefecture, which is dispatched for nuclear and chemical weapons attacks.

The CRF's relocation is a part of the 2006 U.S. – Japan agreement on U.S. forces realignment. Commanders of three hundred personnel moved in the two newly-built six-story government buildings. The CRF's installation at Camp Zama is now upgraded to an army post with 600 JGSDF personnel(300 personnel previously stationed JGSDF). The total relocation cost ran 18 billion yen inclusive of the two new government buildings.

U.S Army and Japan Ground Self-Defense Force (JGSDF) Soldiers, and Civilians salute while U.S and Japanese national anthems are being played at the Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony on March 26, 2013 (Photo by Mieko Yonaha)

Camp Zama celebrated the completion of the JGSDF Central Readiness Force (CRF) HQ buildings with Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony March 26, 2013. From left to right: Sagamihara City Mayor Kayama, the South Kanto Defense Bureau DG Yamamoto, Central Readiness Force, LT GEN Hidaka; The U.S. Army Japan & I Corps (FWD), MAJ GEN Michael T. Harrison (Photo by Mieko Yonaha).

Hidaka, Commander of the CRF, said in his speech at the ceremony that (this relocation) will be the foundation to strengthen the U.S. – Japan alliance. "We hope to build cooperative relationships beyond national boundaries." Michael T. Harrison, Major General, commander of the U.S Army Japan & I Corps (FWD), stated that CRF's relocation will contribute to strengthen the U.S-Japan security, peace and stability in the entire Asia-pacific region.

The Central Readiness Forces (CRF) HQ buildings are located near the DPW buildings. A Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony to celebrate the CRF's relocation was held at Camp Zama March 26, 2013 (Photo by Mieko Yonaha).

Q-TIPS

Key Quality Learning Points

- Quality is Not Negotiable
  品質に妥協はない
- Don't Skip Steps – Follow the Process Every Time
  業務工程を省かない－必ず所定の手順通りに進める
- Understand the Big Picture and Know the Details
  大きな目標を理解し、詳細を知る
- One TEAM – One Goal – One Quality Project
  チームワーク － 共通目標 － 良質プロジェクト
- Elevate Early – Know When to Elevate
  早期報告－いつ上層部に報告すべきかを理解する
- Share Experiences and Knowledge – Avoid Repeating Mistakes
  経験･知識を共有する－同じ間違いを繰り返さない
- Professional Relationships Trump Personal Ones
  公私混同せず、プロとして判断する
- Measure Twice – Cut Once
  念には念を入れる
- Trust but Verify
  信頼しても検証せよ
- Document – Document – Document
  一に記録、二に記録、三に記録

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