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U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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Far East District breaks ground on Fleet and Family Town Center

Seoul — The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District and Central Construction Co., Ltd. held a groundbreaking ceremony for the Fleet and Family Town Center at Chinhae Naval Base Feb. 8.

Although it was cold and raining, many members of the Chinhae Naval Base community came out to see the historic occasion.

The Fleet and Family Town Center will co-locate most of the family support functions under one roof. It will include a training auditorium, Liberty Lounge for sailors, an academic instruction classroom, computer lab, post office, barber shop, bank, Base Exchange, and commissary.

“This is going to help so many of the sailors and family members here in Chinhae Naval Base,” said Rear Adm. Peter Gumataotao, Commander, Naval Forces Korea. “It’s historical because there has never been a project like this done before here.”

Chinhae Naval Base is located along the southern coast of Korea alongside of a mountain. In order to build such a large facility where space is limited, FED had to coordinate carefully with the U.S. Navy.

“This is a great joint opportunity because the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers gets to support U.S. Naval Forces Korea in partnership with our ROK allies to build a world-class facility for sailors and their families,” said Col. Blair A. Schantz, Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District.

Schantz also expressed his confidence in the contractor to ensure that FED continues building strong.

“We have a great contractor—the right contractor—to construct the Fleet and Family Town Center,” said Schantz. “Central Construction has proven experience with U.S. projects and I know this will be another success story.”

The scope of work for the project will include site preparation. The commissary on the site will be moved to a temporary facility until the Fleet and Family Town Center is complete. Other site preparations include grading, putting in storm drains, paving, utilities, and landscaping.

This Republic of Korea funded project is scheduled to be completed by the fall of 2013.

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Photos



Members of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District and the U.S. Navy along with representatives from the Defense Commissary Agency and Central Construction Co., Ltd. shovel dirt during the ground breaking ceremony for the Fleet and Family Town Center at Chinhae Naval Base Feb. 8. The new facility will co-locate most of the family support functions under one roof. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

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Col. Blair A. Schantz, Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District stands in front of an artist's rendition of the Fleet and Family Town Center. Schantz expressed his confidence in the contractor along with his dedication of the district during the groundbreaking ceremony Feb. 8 at Chinhae Naval Base. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

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