



STRATEGIC NEWSLETTER

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AUGUST ACTIVITIES

Gen. Brooks Visits Rodriguez Complex to Certify Improved Safety Features

On August 15 United States Forces Korea (USFK), Combined Forces Command (CFC), and United Nations Command (UNC) Commanding Gen. Vincent K. Brooks visited Rodriguez Live Fire Complex to observe and certify the improved safety features of the installation. The leaders and Soldiers of the 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division hosted Gen. Brooks during a training that will increase readiness levels for rotational units assigned to the Peninsula. Gen. Brooks stated, "...it is much safer now for the troops and especially for the citizens in the surrounding area of Pocheon."

Ban Ki-Moon Visits Camp Humphreys

Former United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon visited Camp Humphreys to deliver a lecture at the USFK and UNC Command Headquarters on August 9. Speaking to members of both commands, Ban emphasized the importance of an international and U.S. presence in Korea as an enabler and maintainer of peace on the Korean Peninsula and in the Northeast Asia region.

Gen. Brooks Addresses Seoul Foreign Correspondents Club

In his role as head of the UNC, Gen. Vincent K. Brooks briefed reporters at an international press conference held by the Seoul Foreign Correspondents Club on August 22 to discuss the role of the UNC. General Brooks discussed the UNC's role in deterring conflict between the two Koreas. He also emphasized the importance of the UNC as an enduring and critical component of the U.S. and the coalition of international sending states to peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula and the region at large. "But we still have to see earnest action being taken on those matters of great concern like denuclearization," said Gen. Brooks. "There is still a need for continued pressure so that there's not a reason or even an ability for North Korea to back up."



UNITED NATIONS COMMAND

UNC Returns Remains of North Korean Soldier

A United Nations Command (UNC) honor guard prepares to escort the remains of a Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) Soldier across the demarcation line between North and South Korea in Panmujom, the Joint Security Area, on August 14. Republic of Korea Naval Forces originally discovered the remains near the Northwest Islands in May of 2017. Previous attempts to arrange repatriation to the DPRK, however, had failed. With renewed dialogue in 2018, delegations from the UNC and representatives of the North Korean Army reached an agreement to facilitate the handover. Much like the larger repatriation of 55 cases of remains returned by the DPRK in July 2018, these exchanges are governed by the 1953 Armistice Agreement which is enforced by the UNC in an effort to build trust among all nations on the Peninsula.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

The following officials saw the three commands first-hand during visits this past month.

- Rep. Chris Stewart (R-UT/2nd), Aug. 9-12
- Maj. Gen. Lee Seo-young, (retired) former Republic of Korea Defense Attaché to the U.S., Aug. 9
- H.E. Ban Ki-Moon, Former United Nations Secretary General, Aug. 9
- Gen. Sir Chris Deverell, Commander, U.K. Joint Forces Command, Aug. 14

- Michael McAndrew, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Facilities Investment and Management, Aug. 18-25
- Gen. Charles Brown, Commander, Pacific Air Forces, Aug. 26-29

FEEDBACK

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