



STRATEGIC NEWSLETTER

VOL 5 NO 01
JANUARY 2019

DECEMBER ACTIVITIES

U.S. Special Representative to North Korea visits Joint Security Area (JSA)

Stephen Biegun, the U.S. Special Representative for North Korea, was hosted by the United Nations Command (UNC) Chief of Staff Maj. Gen. Mark Gillette for a visit to the JSA on Dec. 20. Biegun observed the changes that resulted from the Comprehensive Military Agreement, which was agreed to by the President of the Republic of Korea Moon Jae-in and North Korean leader Kim Jong-un in Pyongyang in September. Changes include de-mining in the demilitarized zone, disarming and removing guard posts and stopping artillery and other training exercises along the Military Demarcation Line that separates the two Koreas. The UNC has fully supported these changes while continuing to uphold the Armistice.

UNC Buddhist Temple Commemoration

Combined Forces Command (CFC) Deputy Commander Gen. Kim Byung-joo; 1st Republic of Korea Infantry Division Commander Maj. Gen. Park Jung-hwan; UNC Security Battalion Commander Lt. Col. Sean Morrow; Command Sgt. Maj. Raymond Hendrick and Buddhist leaders from across Korea attended a commemoration ceremony to name the Buddhist temple located at Camp Bonifas, on Dec. 23. The temple was christened "UNC Temple" and is now a nationally recognized place of worship. This event helped strengthen the Alliance between the UNC member states and South Korea, and symbolizes the hopes for peace on the Korean Peninsula.

Live Fire Accuracy Screening Test (LFAST) Training

From Dec. 3-19, 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team (ABCT) 1st Armored Division (AD) (3/1) from Fort Bliss, TX drew, fired and turned-in tanks to Army Prepositioned Stocks 4 (APS4) to validate equipment readiness and improve APS4 issuing and turn-in procedures. This included LFAST Training and firing the equipment to ensure functionality. 3/1 ABCT conducted this training about a month after assuming responsibility as the rotational ABCT in Korea. The unit will draw additional armored tank company sets to validate

Commanding Gen. Abrams Conducts Osan Air Base Battlefield Circulation

UNC, CFC, U.S. Forces Korea (USFK) Commanding Gen. Robert B. Abrams conducted a battlefield circulation at Osan Air Base hosted by U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Kenneth Wilsbach, Seventh Air Force commander, on Dec. 20 to observe readiness of air assets and prepare for his upcoming U.S. Congressional testimony. Gen. Abrams saw joint fires integration with the 607th Air Operations Center and mission partners first-hand, also visiting the 5th Reconnaissance Squadron, 51st Fighter Wing, 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade, 607th Air Operations Center; and the 694th Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Group. Each section provided an operations overview and demonstrated training to show readiness. The Commander gained deeper insight into how U.S. and coalition Airmen collaborate and respond to differing types of intelligence and sources. *(Below, left to right: U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Kenneth Wilsbach, Seventh Air Force commander, U.S. Air Force Capt. Jason Dall and Gen. Abrams, fist bump a U-2 Dragon Lady pilot prior to a flight.)*



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. TIMOTHY DISCHINAT

APS4's mechanical readiness and to rehearse and validate reception, staging and onward movement tasks inherent to contingency operations.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

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

- Vice Adm. John D. Alexander, Commander, U.S. 3rd Fleet, Dec. 3-5
- Vice Adm. Phillip G. Sawyer, Commander, U.S. 7th Fleet, Dec. 3-5
- Lt. Gen. Darsie Rogers, Deputy Director, Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA), Dec. 3-5
- Vice Adm. Kazuki Yamashita, Japan Maritime Self-

Defense Force, Dec. 3-5

- Amb. Mark Lippert, Former U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Korea and Vice President of International Affairs, Boeing, Dec. 9-15
- Lt. Gen. Lewis Craparotta, Commander, U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific, Dec. 11-14
- Lt. Gen. Edward Daly, Deputy Commanding General of the United States Army Materiel Command, Dec. 12-13
- Gen. Sun-Yup Paik, retired, first four-star general in the history of the South Korean military, Dec. 14
- H.E. Michael Danagher, Ambassador of Canada to the Republic of Korea, Dec. 18-19
- Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio, archbishop of the Military Services, USA, Dec. 18-24