



Capt. Blake Benedict, commander of C Battery, 6th Battalion, 52nd Air Defense Artillery (C/6-52 ADA) Regiment and Mr. Suh, Yong-Ha, school principal at Songil Elementary School, sign a proclamation on 12 September 2013, allowing air defenders to teach English at the school. (U.S. Army Photo by 1st Lt. Ryan Hess, C/6-52 ADA, 35th ADA)

COLD STEEL, WARM HEART

Article by Capt. Ed Ellingson, 35th ADA Brigade Public Affairs

Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea – On 12 September 2013, Capt. Blake Benedict, commander of Battery C, 6th Battalion, 52nd Air Defense Artillery (C/6-52 ADA) Regiment, signed a proclamation committing soldiers assigned to the unit to teach English to the local students Songil Elementary School.

The school principal, Suh, Yong-Ha, signed on behalf of the elementary school and welcomed the friendship of the U.S. service members.

“Cold Steel,” a Patriot missile battery, is better known for providing air defense on the Korean peninsula; however, the soldiers are dedicated to fostering cooperation and friendship through education and cultural exchange, said the commander.

“I’m very excited about this new partnership,” Benedict said. “It’s a great thing to get out there, be a part of the community, and show what good neighbors we can be.”

After Chuseok, the Korean equivalent to Thanksgiving, The soldiers will begin visiting the school once a week to teach, interact with and engage in recreational activities with the students, said Benedict.

Chuseok is among the most important Korean holidays, families come together to share food and stories and to give thanks for the abundant harvest, according to the Gateway to Korea website. Chuseok will be celebrated from 18-20 September 2013.