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Ohana: Survey ends today; conference coming soon

JOC Gerard Sekerak
Editor

If you haven't taken the Ohana Quality of Life survey yet, today is your last chance. The 15-minute online survey, available at www.hawaii.navy.mil, began Aug. 6 and ends today.



After the extended Labor Day weekend, the seemingly daunting task of compiling the survey's demographic data will be accomplished with relative ease. Ohana survey designer Todd

Finnigan, of the Navy Region Hawaii Business Office, is responsible for the initial breakdown of survey data.

According to Finnigan, coming up with the demographic info is easy because the resulting charts and graphs are automatically created with the help of the survey's computer software program. It's the info from the "comment" boxes that's difficult to compile.

"For that [the comments], we're bringing in a Naval Reserve chief to help quantify the data," said Finnigan. "We're allowing about a month to organize the comments into different categories for delegates to review

at the Ohana Conference, which will take place Oct. 11-12 at the Naval Station Pearl Harbor Training Complex."

Take the Ohana Quality of Life Survey today!

Finnigan noted that for the most part this year's survey remained the same as last year's. But in an attempt to get more participation, to make it easier for people to access and to stress

the importance, Rear Adm. Robert T. Conway Jr., Commander Navy Region Hawaii and Commander Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, emailed a link to the survey earlier this month to thousands of people throughout the region.

"We also asked participants to be more specific on the survey through the comment boxes," said Finnigan. "For example, if someone wants to express an issue about a Naval Station parking lot or a pier needing additional washing machines, we asked them to specify which parking lot or which pier they have an issue with. And so far, we have noticed that people have

been more specific this year," Finnigan added.

According to Finnigan, the reason Ohana program officials have kept this year's survey much the same as last year's is for consistency.

"If we change the way things are done, it can change the results," said Finnigan. "We want to take what was done last year and compare it to this year to find where we can make improvements."

As of late Wednesday afternoon, more than 3,000 people have taken the Ohana survey and have submitted more than 15,000 comments in over 24 dif-

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Dental Center Pearl Harbor holds change of command

JO2 Jim Williams
Staff Writer

"It's a great day to be in Hawaii," remarked Capt. Charles J. Fairchild, Jr. as he relieved Capt. Robert E. Hutto as commanding officer, Naval Dental Center Pearl Harbor, in a change of command ceremony Aug. 22 under the banyan trees on Ford Island.

The visiting keynote speaker, Rear Adm. Rodrigo C. Melendez, Chief, Navy Dental Corps, agreed. "I really can't get over the friendliness of the people and the great food. I really wish I was stationed here."

But the beautiful island wasn't the only thing that impressed the admiral. "The Pearl Harbor Dental Center is one of the most premiere commands we have within our entire Navy dental community," he said.

"They have achieved more in dental health with the Sailors and Marines here than at any of our other commands."

He also shared the new vision of naval dentistry. "We're trying to go down the road to complete dental health in the Navy," he said.

"We've moved beyond just dental readiness which is our deployment measurement. And now we're trying for total dental care for our Sailors and Marines who really deserve it."

Rear Adm. Robert T. Conway, Jr., Commander Navy Region Hawaii, also delivered remarks at the ceremony. "Naval dentistry in Hawaii has set the standard for the rest of the Navy," he said. "Capt. Hutto will truly be missed as an inspiration for his Sailors and for the way he always led them from the front."

Under Hutto's command, Naval Dental Center Pearl Harbor received the 1998 Hawaii State Award of Excellence, the 1999 and 2000 CINCPACFLT Excellence in Retention Award, the Department of Defense 2000 Beacon Award for Revolution in Business Affairs, deployed a record 69 ships/subs in a row at 100 percent dental readiness, and attained a 60 percent dental health index, a level of dental health unparalleled in the history of the Navy Dental Corps for any command.

Hutto now moves to Washington, D.C. to assume duties as the Director of Healthcare Operations Division/MED-63 at the Bureau of

▼ See DENTAL, A-2

Chief selectees tour Red Hill



JOC Gerard Sekerak photo

Chief selectees from commands around Oahu enter a Red Hill tunnel at the beginning of their seven mile round-trip hike through the historic fuel and water conduit last Friday. More than 250 chiefs and selectees began the four-hour hike at 7 a.m. At the opposite end of the tunnel all of the participants had the opportunity to tour an empty 250 ft. fuel tank from a catwalk just above the tank's midway point. The hike is part of a six-week chief selectee training program which leads up to the chiefs pinning ceremony Sept. 14.

Secretary of the Navy spells out his ideas for the Navy

JO1 Craig P. Strawser
Naval Media Center

Editor's note: The following story is part one in a two part series from the Secretary of the Navy, Gordon R. England. Part two will run in next Friday's Hawaii Navy News.

WASHINGTON (NNS) — The Honorable Gordon R. England was sworn in on May 24 as the 72nd Secretary of the Navy. He recently sat down with Navy journalists in Washington, D.C., in an effort to get the word out to Navy and Marine Corps personnel on where he stands on

several of the key issues affecting them.

England explained that he has four key emphasis points he will be focusing on during his time as Secretary of the Navy. They are people, combat capability, technology and business practices.

"The most important asset in the Navy is the people," he said. "If we have an aircraft carrier or a submarine tied up to the dock, we may have spent billions of dollars to develop and buy that particular platform or product, but the value of that product to the nation is zero. Those very expensive platforms have no as-

set value to the country until we put highly trained and motivated, capable people on board. Then they have terrific asset value to the nation. It's the people that make them valuable. That's why our people are our most important resource.

"Those people are in the military to provide us with a combat capability so that we can deter, protect and defend the United States, as well as train for and if necessary fight the nation's wars," England said.

According to England, the government has increased the support structure of naval

forces and the entire U.S. military, but they have let the combat capability deteriorate.

"Combat capability is very important," he said, "and I have an emphasis on combat capability because, during at least the last 10 years, the combat capability has continued to diminish."

His objective is to concentrate on combat capability, incorporating the very best technology this nation has to offer, and applying the very best business practices to make all of this affordable.

▼ See SECNAV, A-2

USS Pelelieu visits Pearl Harbor



JO2 Jim Williams photo

USS Pelelieu (LHA 5), a Tarawa class amphibious assault ship homeported in San Diego, made a one-day stop at Pearl Harbor Aug. 20. The ship is capable of carrying more than 900 Sailors and a detachment of nearly 2,000 Marine. It is on its way to a six-month WESTPAC deployment.

Military replaces 'Threatcon' with 'FPCON', focuses on educating

JO3 Brenda Diggs
Staff Writer

The term "Threatcon" is being removed from the military's vocabulary and is being replaced with "FPCON" to signify "force protection condition" levels.

Previously used to announce degrees of heightened threat awareness on military bases, the term has been discarded as the Defense Department updates its protective measures. The name Threatcon is short for terrorist threat condition. Each condition level (normal, alpha, bravo, charlie, delta) has a list of measures that are required in order to accomplish that condition. Those measures have not changed, according to Andrew Iuvale, Commander Navy Region Hawaii Anti-Terrorism Officer.

"It lessens the likelihood of confusion between threat level and

the security posture of the installation which is the force protection condition (FPCON)," said Iuvale.

He noted that the name change does not affect Pearl Harbor any differently than other DoD installations.

The USS Cole Commission recommended the name change to avoid confusion with the term "threat level," which is used to quantify the terrorist level of threat on a country-by-country basis. Threat level terms are classified as low, moderate, significant and high.

The Defense Department, however, is updating the measures associated with the protective levels and will release them within the next few months.

The conditions are used to describe progressive levels of protective measures taken in re-

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