Service Dress Khaki uniform design, initial wear policy approved

A Sailor shows off the prototype uniform for service dress khaki, a throwback to the traditional World War II style uniform. It allows for chiefs and officers to shift from service khaki to service dress khaki by adding a black tie and jacket.

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Brien Aho

By Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

Service Dress Khaki (SDK), featuring a contemporary design, was approved by the Chief of Naval Operations for development as an optional uniform for E-7 and above, as announced in NAVADMIN 020/10.

It is anticipated the uniform will be available for purchase in approximately 18 months, after issues identified in the wear test are resolved.

NAVADMIN 020/10 includes initial details of occasion for wear policy.

Costs for the uniform will be determined following the final development phase, including a second wear test to evaluate final uniform components, manufacturer selection and final manner of wear decisions. It is anticipated this process will be complete by fiscal year 2012.

Two SDK uniform designs were developed and tested by 125 Sailors from April 2008 to October 2009. The testing included a traditional design, based on the original SDK uniform disestablished in 1975, and a contemporary uniform design, which incorporated more updated design features, such as an unbelted waist and peaked lapels.

Once available, SDK will be approved for optional wear in lieu of summer white and service khaki when wearing a tie in civilian attire is appropriate, such as in an office environment. It will be available by special order from Navy Exchange uniform centers for purchase.

For more information on uniforms and uniform policy, visit the Navy Uniform Matters Web site at http://www.npc.navy.mil/commandsupport/usnavyuniforms/.

The Chief says:

"Do you know the military's rules regarding eyewear? As a reminder, the following is provided:

• **Prescription Glasses** – No eccentric or faddish glasses are permitted. Retainer straps are authorized for Foreign Object Debris (FOD) prevention and safety only. If retainer straps are required, they shall be plain, black and worn snugly against the back of the head.

• **Sunglasses** – Conservative sunglasses are permitted, except in military formations. Retainer straps are authorized for FOD prevention and safety only. If retainer straps are required, they shall be plain, black and worn snugly against the back of the head.

• **Contact Lenses** – Tinted contact lenses must be of a natural color (blue, green, brown, etc.).

"If you didn't know, now you know." – MCC(SW/AW) Eric Hannah, CFAY Public Affairs

Paper enlisted field service records to be phased out in September

By Navy Personnel Command Public Affairs

Like wash khakis and dungarees, the old brown-folder enlisted field service record (FSR) will soon become a thing of the past as the Navy eliminates the paper record in 2010.

NAVADMIN 040/10, released Feb. 3, outlines the Navy's plan to close-out the FSR by Sept. 30.

Service record information will now be generated and maintained electronically through a secure Internet connection to the Navy Standard Integrated Personnel System (NSIPS) Electronic Service Record (ESR). Officer field service records have already been eliminated.

The Navy first implemented ESRs in 2006. Accessible through a secure Internet connection, the ESR provides access to personnel, training and awards data for individual Sailors, Personnel Support Detachments (PSDs), personnel offices holding service records, Navy Operational Support Centers and customer commands of PSDs. A shipboard version is available through NSIPS Afloat for Sailors at sea with limited bandwidth.

PSD Memphis began closing out records for Sailors at Navy Personnel Command (NPC) last year as part of a field test.

"It went pretty well. There are a lot of tools online that can help you locate things you need from your electronic service record," said Personnel Specialist 2nd Class Kelvin Turner, assigned to PSD Memphis. "We have not noticed much of a hiccup."

All active duty and drilling reserve Sailors can access their ESR by signing up for a self-service ESR account on the NSIPS Web page at https://nsips.nmci.navy.mil/ using a Common Access Card (CAC)-enabled computer. Sailors can view their own records, as well as make minor changes, including emergency contact information, home and mailing address, official e-mail address and other personal information. Navy reserve Sailors can also input their civilian employment information.

NPC began implementing FSR close-outs early this year. According to the NAVADMIN, ESR allows for global transactions for medals and awards, training and education, personnel qualification standards (PQS) and routine administrative remarks, as well as creates electronic forms that can be printed and signed when a hard copy is required.

Commanding officers, executive officers and command master chiefs can obtain command-level view only access by completing the NSIPS/ESR system authorization request and contacting their local NSIPS area manager.

PS3 Justin Webb, researches enlisted service records aboard the guided-missile destroyer *USS Fitzgerald* (DDG 62). Like wash khakis and dungarees, the old brown-folder enlisted field service record will soon become a thing of the past as the Navy eliminates the paper record in 2010.

U.S. Navy photo by PHAN Adam York

A much smaller version of personnel documents, such as Record of Emergency Data, Service member's Group Life Insurance, Security Clearance Eligibility Certification and Family Care Plans are still required to be maintained to support associated programs.

NPC is conducting training at PSDs throughout the fleet to make the transition as seamless as possible.