



THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350-1000

July 15, 2004

Today is the midpoint for the accomplishment of the Department of the Navy objectives that were signed out by the CNO, the CMC and myself six months ago. As the data supports, we have made significant progress in every area, and I thank all the men and women of our great Navy/Marine Corps team for their dedicated efforts and hard work in this achievement. You are clearly part of the best Navy/Marine Corps team our nation has ever had.

As you know, safety of our people is my number 1 hot button. Our safety objective, number 2-D, is to reduce mishaps across all categories by 50% from our FY '02 numbers. We are on track for that 50% reduction by FY '05 for about half of the categories that include military operational fatality rates and afloat mishaps. We need improvement in other categories such as Class B flight mishaps and off-duty recreation fatalities. Work for this improvement during the second half of this year -- as any life lost in any category is one too many -- and safety is everyone's responsibility.

A couple of our other objectives, such as synchronizing and aligning IT programs and investments (NMCI), or creating a modern human resources system (like NSPS for our valued civilian employees) are multiyear efforts that require constant attention and high energy.

We are adding a new objective; namely, voting. Our Department objective is to make sure that every service member and civilian in the Department of the Navy has the opportunity to vote this November. At sea, in combat, overseas, at a duty station at home, wherever, please make sure everyone has the opportunity to vote. Thanks for all your help in achieving this essential American objective.

The midpoint report card is attached. Review it and share it with your people. You should be proud of the accomplishments of the Navy/Marine Corps team and relentless in our mutual objective of constantly improving our performance.

Fair winds and Semper Fi

Attachment
DoN Objectives for 2004 Update

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew England", written in a cursive style.