Ball takes command of U.S. Army Pacific Regional Dental Command

CHANGING OF THE GUARD. During the change of command ceremony for the Army’s Pacific Regional Dental Command Aug. 27 at Fort Shafter, Hawaii, Col. Randall N. Ball (center left) returns the command’s guidon to its Senior Dental Non-Commissioned Officer, 1st Sgt. Purcell Harris. Also participating in the ceremony are Col. Sidney A. Brooks, commander, U.S. Army Dental Command (left) and Col. Henry T. Waddell, Jr., the regional command’s outgoing commander (right).

by Leslie Ozawa

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HONOLULU-- In a Change of Command Ceremony Aug. 27, the leadership of the U.S. Army’s Pacific Regional Dental Command passed from Col. Henry T. Waddell Jr. to Col. Randall N. Ball. Presiding over the ceremony at Palm Circle on Fort Shafter was Col. Sidney A. Brooks, commander, U.S. Army Dental Command.

In his remarks, Brooks praised Waddell for his service. “Your leadership under adversity and your masterful management of delivering healthcare during a period of enormous increase in support requirements for the Global War on Terrorism has been nothing short of outstanding.”

Waddell, who led the regional dental command for the past three years, leaves Hawaii for his new assignment at U.S. Army Dental Activity, Presidio, Monterey, in California.

Ball, the new commander of the Pacific Dental Command, comes to Hawaii from Yongsan, Korea, where he served as U.S. Forces, Korea/Eighth Army dental surgeon and as commander, 618th Theater Dental Command. He has previously served as a commander of dental clinics at Fort Jackson, S.C. and Wiesbaden, Germany. He has also served in other dental assignments at Fort Irwin, Calif., Camp Page in Korea, and Fort Benning, Ga.

A native of St. Albans, W.Va., Ball is a graduate of Morris Harvey College, Charleston, W.Va., and received his dental degree from West Virginia University. He completed a residency in pediatric dentistry at Fort George Meade, Md. Ball currently serves as the Pediatric Dentistry consultant to the Surgeon General of the Army

The Pacific Regional Dental Command is responsible for the dental care of 20,000 active-duty Soldiers and eligible family members in Hawaii and Japan. He also directs all programs involving the delivery of dental health care to Soldiers and their families in Hawaii.