

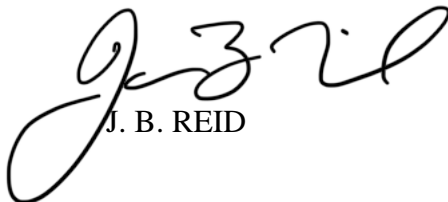


22 May 2024

Subj: COMMAND PHILOSOPHY

This unit belongs to its Marines and Sailors. They do the lion's share of the dirty work. They ultimately do the sweating and the fighting. They determine victory or defeat. The commander is only a steward, responsible for steering collective efforts towards mission success. I believe that when practiced and enforced, the principles below generate the necessary conditions and cohesion to ensure that success.

1. Be a good Teammate. Do your best in all things. When you get knocked down, get back up. Don't be a critic, take responsibility for your unit and make it better. Defend the weak. Relentlessly pursue victory and self-mastery. Have a positive winner's attitude. Lead like you want to be led. Your attitude will dictate your success as an individual and for your team. Attitude is the difference in a battle of wills where one side quits first. Never, ever quit.
2. Do what's right. Be a person worthy of trust. Believe the best in your teammates, but never tolerate Marines who lie, cheat, steal, use drugs, haze fellow Marines, abuse the weak, or take up with another Marine's spouse. Never mistreat the dead, wounded or prisoners. Be a leader. Act with intellect and decisiveness in the absence of orders. If you see a mistake, correct it. Let your actions always be an example for others to follow.
3. Protect each other. Look out for your buddy at all times. Never leave a fallen comrade. If you are a leader, never abuse your power. Ensure new Marines are positively welcomed into the unit with deliberate purpose and comradery. Develop your subordinate leaders. Create an environment that fosters initiative, aggressiveness, and a Fighting Spirit within the commander's intent. Generate cohesion. The antidote for fear is confidence in self and trust in each other. Trust your comrades.
4. Be ready now. Can we return to war tomorrow if called? We need to be ready to accomplish our traditional mission essential tasks at-sea, from the sea, and ashore. Additionally, we must prepare to form a special-purpose MAGTF to serve as a force in readiness afloat or ashore. Because we do not know for certain where we will serve next, we need to set the standard in our discipline, combat conditioning, maintenance, battle drills, and individual MOS credibility and common skills to be prepared for the unknown. Our minds, our bodies, and our families must always be ready. Strive for perfection in the little details that make the big things possible. Be physically and mentally tough, and then revel in spirit of a hard life well lived.



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