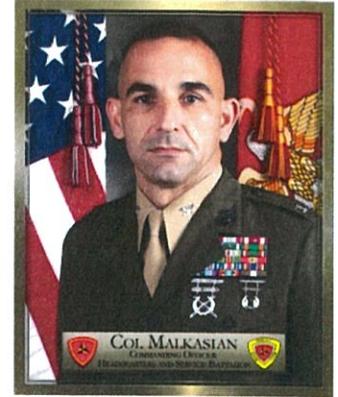




Headquarters Battalion Commander's Philosophy



As the headquarters of the Marine Corps' forward deployed division, our ability to "Fight Tonight" is at the heart of my command philosophy. Meeting this goal requires our constant attention to maintaining the highest state of preparedness. This must infuse every aspect of our day to day operations; training, rehearsals, equipment readiness, medical/dental, and family readiness. I will focus my attention on:

1. **Warfighting.** Our day to day operations will hone our warfighting skills; every task must be executed as we would in combat. Specifically we will:

- Conduct realistic and challenging training; complacency kills. We will always seek to push our limits.
- Build a strong team. Trust, common experience and faith in each other will forge those bonds.
- Every Marine and Sailor has a critical function; we must find opportunities to rehearse all of them.
- Inspect what we expect. Honing our skills requires a critical eye and constructive criticism.
- Improve unit readiness. Every Marine and Sailor must be physically, administratively, and medically prepared to deploy. This includes ensuring our families are prepared when the call comes.

2. **Sustainment.** Every Marine and Sailor is essential to the deployment, operation and maintenance of the C4I systems, combat vehicles, and logistic resources necessary for mission accomplishment. We will:

- Master the profession of arms. We are professionals; stay abreast of current events, immerse in the Commandant's Reading List, and understand the Division's mission and our role in achieving it.
- Develop physical fitness and mental toughness. We truly operate "...in every clime and place..." it is a unit and individual responsibility to prepare to fight in the austere environments of our region.
- Protect our resources. We are only as good as our gear; properly utilize, maintain, and manage it.
- Building Partnerships. Success hinges on fostering strong relationships with our allies. You are a reflection of our great nation; act with maturity and respect our regional allies customs and courtesies.

3. **Ownership.** Every Marine and Sailor is essential to the Battalion's success; understanding your role, owning that responsibility, and reaping the rewards of accomplishment will build Esprit de Corps.

- We must train, mentor, and equip our Junior Marines and Sailor's with the tools necessary for success.
- NCO's will have ownership of equipment, training, and mission execution. Your leaders will foster your growth with the engaged leadership, supervision and mentoring necessary to your success.
- SNCO's and Officers are the keepers of tradition and maintain good order and discipline. We will listen and learn, uphold the highest standards, teach and mentor those destined to replace us.

4. **Families.** Our preparations must include our families; if they are not equally ready we have failed.

- We will leverage every means available, especially social media, to inform our families, highlight exceptional performance, and maintain open lines of communication.
- We will ensure that every preparation is made to support them in the case of our deployment.

I am exceptionally proud to be a member of the Samurai Battalion and promise that I will do everything possible to earn that privilege. I will listen to your thoughts and ideas, ensure that you have the best equipment and training possible, and advocate for you. I will never ask you to do something I am not willing to do myself. Finally, I will look for every way possible to make your time in 3d Marine Division an enjoyable and professionally rewarding experience. Semper Fidelis,

GEORGE G. MALKASIAN
Colonel
United States Marine Corps