

1ST BATTALION, 12TH MARINES COMMAND PHILOSOPHY



This document, along with my Training Guidance, form the foundation for how 1st Battalion, 12th Marines will operate and prepare for combat. They contain basic and straightforward principles that will guide you in the daily execution of your duties.

These are exciting times. We are at the forefront of the Marine Corps' transformational change to the Marine Littoral Regiment structure. The timeless wisdom found in MCDP-1 *Warfighting* remains applicable as our focus returns to peer adversaries. While the Corps has faced peer adversaries in the past, none of us serving today has done so. There are no "old salts" when it comes to the kind of fighting we need to be ready for. It will take our collective willpower, intellect, teamwork and perseverance to stay ahead of our adversaries and provide the finest fires in the world.

VISION: 1st Battalion, 12th Marines will lead Marine Artillery's transformation to distributed long-range precision fires and integration with Naval and Joint forces while providing timely and accurate fires in support of 3d Marine Regiment.

PURPOSE: Our fundamental purpose, our reason as an organization, is to defeat the enemy. It's that simple. Everything that we do—everything—must carry that basic, clear end state in mind. We are on the cutting edge of Marine Corps innovation and experimentation. The battles that we must win in the future, will be fought on small islands with widely distributed forces – challenging the ways we organize for combat and conduct sustainment, communication and ISR.

I Trust You – My inclination will be to keep the pace fast. I'm comfortable being uncomfortable and working with uncertainty. My level of comfort with fast-paced and uncertain operating environments stems from my trust in Marines. I trust Marines' individual skill, attention to detail, calculated decision-making, bias for honorable action, and will to win.

Marines Are Decision-Makers – Make decisions at your level consistent with your authorities, responsibilities, and received guidance and intent. Whenever needed, your leadership and I are always available to you for additional guidance, advice, or instruction. I am easily satisfied with your best effort.

Expeditionary Readiness – We will maintain our gear, our families, and ourselves so we are ready to do the unexpected without notice. Everyone fills sandbags in this Battalion. Regardless of rank or position we will all pitch in where needed.

Look, Act, and Talk like a Marine – Being a Marine is hard. The standard for the title Marine is high. Few are given the chance to earn the title – once earned it must never be lost. Exemplary performance is the expectation. At all times, in each and every capacity of your performance, conduct, and professional and personal behavior, set the standard for those around you.

Fight Happy – Success leads to more success. Expect to Win. Be proud of 1/12's tremendous success, and expect more. Embrace the challenge of being a Marine and the tasks assigned to you.

I am proud to be part of this unit, serving and fighting alongside each of you. ***Be ready...***

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. P. Neikirk".

R. P. NEIKIRK
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps
Commanding Officer