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Subj: COMMAND VISION AND PHILOSOPHY

Vision - Ready to Fight Tonight

3d Battalion, 3d Marines is a combat credible, forward deployed, Naval expeditionary force in readiness, strengthened through progressive, standards-based, combat-oriented training, prepared to conduct crisis response and expeditionary operations as directed, and if need be, on short notice. The battalion is ready to "Fight Tonight."

Philosophy - Brilliance in the Basics

The key to success for the Marines and Sailors of 3d Battalion, 3d Marines is simply "mastery of the basics". Below are three focal points that describe what I consider to be basic principles for every Marine and Sailor to master.

1. Be mentally and physically tough. Everyone struggles and faces hardships periodically. Let adversity and affliction be your teachers. Be strong so that others can feed on your strength. If no one else is around, be prepared to encourage and push yourself. Our profession is centered around state-sponsored violence. We must condition ourselves to be able to endure and persevere through the extreme hardships of combat and overcome all manner of resistance. Be willing to frequently visit and extend your threshold of pain. Welcome challenge from others. Orient mental training on developing judgment under pressure and physical training on combat fitness. Combined, these two things will ultimately serve as the baseline to ensure unit effectiveness.

2. Be a professional. Know yourself and seek self-improvement. Accept and embrace criticism. Help others around you to improve, whether senior or subordinate. Never turn your eye to wrongdoing. Have the courage to address problems and take the time to develop solutions. Be diligent in pursuing the mastery of the art and science of warfare at your level. Be prepared to teach and educate others in your field. Continue to expand your knowledge in the depth and breadth of your specialty while sustaining perishable skills. Conduct and present yourself as a professional both on and off duty, ready to serve at all times. Take responsibility for your actions and the actions of your team. Be accountable for all resources entrusted to your care.

3. Be an expert with the tools of your trade. To be a true professional war fighter, one must always seek mastery of his or her weapons and equipment. This includes small arms, crew served weapons, radios, vehicles, and all other special devices and instruments of one's craft. Seek to become the duty expert at the operation, maintenance, and employment of your weapons and equipment.

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