



Commanding Officer's Enduring Training Philosophy ***Professionalism – Flexibility – Reliability***

“Let no 9th Comm Bn ghost say they died because you failed to train them or their leader.”

Our mandate for training is simple and compelling: the Nation must have a Marine Corps that is ready for combat. Combat-ready units consist of motivated, disciplined, and proficient Marines and Sailors, led by tactically and technically competent officers and noncommissioned officers, and conditioned through physically and mentally rigorous training.

Because we must be prepared to prevail in operations across the competition continuum, we will maintain a thoughtful balance in addressing our enduring support requirements to regular force deployments, operations, and exercises while building and sustaining combat readiness for the future fight. We will apply the following principles for the conduct of training as we prepare for the future fight:

- 🇺🇸 **Train as We Fight** – Marines train for the rigors of combat. To grow Marines’ capacity to cope with the complex, stressful, and lethal situations they will encounter in combat, all training should strive to simulate battlespace conditions to the greatest extent possible.
- 🇺🇸 **All Leaders Lead Training** – Leaders at all levels are responsible for the training and performance of their Marines and units. MCDP 1, *Warfighting* states, “In order to develop initiative among junior leaders, the conduct of training—like combat—should be decentralized.”
- 🇺🇸 **Training is Mission-Oriented and Standards-Based** – Training plans are derived from the mission-essential task list (METL) and mission analysis. Training events must conform to Training and Readiness (T&R) standards. Units trained to standards enable Marines at all echelons to function in combat when actions must be reflexive and automatic and reduces the need for complex orders. Further, standards-based training makes maximum use of training time and builds confidence in Marines and units.
- 🇺🇸 **Values-Based Training** – Values-based training, complete with moral and ethical lessons and decision-making exercises will be fully integrated into our training plans. We will challenge our Marines to think and act morally and ethically in training so that upholding our Core Values, Leadership Traits, and Leadership Principles is second nature in both garrison and in combat.
- 🇺🇸 **Train to Sustain Proficiency** – Combat readiness is not a one-time achievement; it is a continuous process that demands our time and focus. Once we have trained to the required level of proficiency, we must sustain it. To sustain proficiency, we must continuously evaluate performance and design training plans to correct weaknesses and reinforce strengths.
- 🇺🇸 **Training is Progressive** – As individual and collective training progresses, the required capabilities and conditions must become more complex and challenging. The progression of difficulty should ensure Marines and units are continually challenged while also reinforcing previously learned tasks and behaviors.
- 🇺🇸 **Risk Management** – While all training must be challenging and realistic, it should never be at the expense of the physical well-being of our Marines and Sailors. A well-disciplined, trained unit executing a thoroughly prepared training plan is normally accident-free. Every leader and Marine must be aware of safety policies and restrictions and is empowered to stop unsafe training.

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