UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
1st Reconnaissance Battalion
1st Marine Division (REIN)
Camp Pendleton, California 92055-5380

IN REPLY REFER TO:
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06 Mar 08

RECONNAISSANCE BATTALION POLICY LETTER 003-08

From: Commanding Officer
To: Marines and Sailors of 1st Reconnaissance Battalion

SUBJ: IMPLEMENTATION OF TRAVEL RISK PLANNING SYSTEM (TRiPS)

Ref: (a) TRiPS Program Overview

1. **Background**. As we all know, the most precious asset we possess in the Marine Corps and Navy are our individual Marines and Sailors. As the leadership of our battalion, it is incumbent on us to do everything in our power to ensure that we care for their well-being and provide the necessary oversight to assist each of them as they grow and develop into the future leaders of the Marine Corps and Navy. Marines and Sailors are on duty twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. We must be engaged and take a personal interest in not only their actions during the working week, but also during leave and liberty. The fact is that currently the Marine Corps and Navy are losing more warriors to traffic accidents than we are in combat. In life, accidents are unfortunately inevitable. Regardless, the responsibility still remains with each of us to fiercely protect our Marines and Sailors from careless mistakes and needless loss of life. In many cases, Marines and Sailors are making poor decisions in regards to their travel plans as they try to drive long distances during leave and liberty periods. Basic leadership - BY EXAMPLE - and education are how we will mitigate this in our battalion.

2. **Policy**. Effectively immediately, each Marine and Sailor in 1st Reconnaissance Battalion - including myself - will begin to utilize the Travel Risk Planning System (TRiPS) prior to leave, special liberty periods, and any liberty outside of command travel limits.

3. **Discussion**. What is TRiPS? TRiPS is an on-line, automated risk-assessment tool. The system helps them recognize- and avoid -the hazards they face on the highway: fatigue, not buckling up, and driving too far. Each Marine and Sailor must register in the system via Marine Online or Navy Knowledge Online, complete the risk assessment and forward it to their immediate supervisor for approval.

4. **Action**. Reference (a) discusses in detail how to complete the process. Please take the time to immediately discuss this program with those under your charge, and the rational behind the implementation of it in our battalion. As I outlined in my command

philosophy, I charged each of you to "Live Above the Common Level of Life." Under that tenet I put forward the amplifying guidance to "Take care of each other - save your buddy from doing something he will later regret." To do any less would be forfeiting our moral obligation as leaders. In caring for our brothers in arms we live up to our creed that the title of Recon Marine and Sailor is our honor.

M. J. MOONEY