

COMMAND PHILOSOPHY

"Ready for all; yielding to none."



Mission first, Marines always. I care about you, the Marines and Sailors, herein Marines, that make up this legendary organization honed in the practice of arms. I care about our families and your sources of faith and strength. I am humbled to have the opportunity and responsibility to command 2d Battalion, 7th Marines. These are my thoughts on command and as we step out smartly together, it is important to be on one frequency and the same azimuth.

We must forge and wield a mindset of combined arms and apply that to all we do, in education and training and in combat. In cases of military necessity, our thoughts and actions will be anticipatory and at a faster tempo than the opposition can sustain. In addition to combined arms tactics, we will use combined actions and influence our enemies and partners directly and also through degrees of separation.

We will place significant emphasis on training leaders at all levels. We will fight and win with our hands and minds. You must think and fight with confidence. Self-improvement is central to the warrior ethos and this organization will prioritize education and mental challenges. We must attain superior mental and physical agility and be familiar and comfortable with uncertainty and situations that are difficult to see clearly on the fold of a map.

As a family team, we will loyally stand shoulder-to-shoulder and back-to-back in complex situations to gain and exploit the strength of the pack. In addition to our Marine family, we must be loyal to our blood family. We are who we are today because of a spouse, mother, father, brother, sister or lifetime mentor. This command will prioritize the families to maintain their trust and loyalty, and to rely on them as a significant source of strength.

We will be victorious tactically and strategically mindful of the consequence of our actions or lack thereof. I firmly believe that we each have a genuine responsibility to follow a moral compass. With the highest regard for humanity and legitimacy, true moral courage must guide our decisions and actions. As we are human and we can make mistakes, I charge each member of this unit to have an appreciation for limits. Know your own and guard the limits of your fellow Marines.

I will stand with you on any battlefield, at any time. I make this covenant with you to be absolutely responsible and accountable to the command as a custodian of the battle colors and rich legacy of 2d Battalion, 7th Marines. When we boil it all down to the simplest form of how we will be ready for all and yielding to none, it is about Marines taking care of Marines. In that regard, I am proud to serve you.

John M. Reed
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Commanding Officer