



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

CEPPB-ZA

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
249th Engineer Battalion (Prime Power)  
10011 Middleton Road  
Fort Belvoir, VA 22060

7 July 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR 249<sup>TH</sup> Engineer Battalion (Prime Power) and the U.S. Army Prime Power School

SUBJECT: Command Philosophy

1. The most important and sacred responsibility entrusted to an officer, warrant officer, noncommissioned officer, or civilian in military service is the privilege of leading an organizations' amazing people. This philosophy is how I will operate in all environments: garrison, deployed, TDY, in training, in school, supporting NRF, etc. I will ask the same of all Soldiers and Civilians in the 249<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion and U.S. Army Prime Power School.

2. The philosophy I live, have used throughout my career, and will use for the Black Lion Battalion and Prime Power School consists of the following four aspects:

a. **Work Hard:** Train hard, to standard, and in realistic conditions. Be technically and tactically competent in your field. Know your job and know it well. Work smarter, not longer. Be ready to support offensive, defensive, stability or civil support (full spectrum), and emergency response operations. Conducting thorough and meaningful PCCs/PCIs is hard work and must be done. But...**balance your personal life with your military career.**

b. **Have Fun:** Enjoy your hard work. Have fun with your Black Lion family. Share your "hidden" talents with your co-workers. Treat others how you want to be treated. Be energetic and help energize those around you (no pun intended). Be a perpetual optimist and always take the "high road."

c. **Improve Your "Fox Hole":** Always strive to make your organization, the Army, the Nation, and yourself better. Be forward thinking and search for better methods and processes that will define the battalions' or schools' success in the future. Continue learning. "A winner knows how much he [or she] still has to learn even when considered an expert by others" (Maxwell). Read everyday...e-mail doesn't count. Make a lasting positive contribution to your organization.

d. **Be Safe:** Every Soldier, Civilian, and Family Member in this organization is important. Everyone (Soldiers, Civilians, and even Family Members) must know the risks and hazards they face in and out of the workplace, and you must mitigate those risks. Our work with electricity is inherently more dangerous than many other military duties and, as such, safety will be a top priority for me. Choose the hard right over the easy work. Know the standard, follow the standard!

3. I consider the "Army Values" a given for every Soldier and DA Civilian; values that are automatically a part of our Army lives. I will follow these values strictly as I know all Black Lions will.

4. For any command philosophy to work, it must be lived daily. It must stand on its own merits, and be easily understood by all. It must be the basic leadership standards which guide the organization. And, as the commander, I will always have high yet realistic standards. These high standards result from professionalism, and professionalism should always be the hallmark of the Battalion and School. I look forward to working hard and having fun, safely, with all of you as we continue to make the 249<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion (Prime Power) and U.S. Army Prime Power School even better.

MATTHEW R. TYLER  
LTC, EN  
Commanding