

Monday 10 September 2012

Force Preservation Policy of the Commanding Officer

While we here in this unit attend the quarterly "Force Preservation Briefs" held at the base theater, I demand that we all think about how we collectively take care of the most precious asset we have in our great Nation = **our people**.



By now, you all should have read our Commandant's--General James F. Amos--thoughts on this critical topic...one of them being the following: "This requires every member of the Marine Corps Team to maintain a constant posture of readiness for whatever may come." Thus, I demand that at least once a week that some sort of force preservation brief be given at the section level, even if it is just two Leathernecks talking to each other about their plans to enjoy a beautiful weekend in Southern California.

Using the **7Ps**, **BAMCIS**, and constantly communicating with each other about our actions--both on duty and off--can prevent many injuries and deaths. Some of the ways we do this is by not driving under the influence/while impaired, attending the monthly motorcycle club meetings, speaking to your chain of command/chaplain/mentor when one has "friction" in her or his personal life, use the "buddy plan" when going on a long trip or to the movies, eating a meal at the chowhall with your Marines at least once a week ....there are countless options to enjoy life in a positive manner without becoming another sad & tragic statistic on a DUI or suicide chart.

Thus, I need each one of us to continue to **Accomplish the Mission by Taking Care of Each Other**...one of the ways this is done is by intervening in a professional manner, remember **THE GOLDEN RULE**, when you observe or hear of something being done that is not smart: speeding, texting while crossing the street, smoking or parking in unauthorized places, not following the 4 weapons handling rules, etcetera. Also, if you observe or hear something suspicious--for example somebody with a big bag in a movie theater--do take action and report it to the proper authorities in a timely manner. I believe that Marines have an obligation to aid others during those moments of distress--many of us have read the countless newspaper stories of Marines stopping a fight or robbery in progress or rescuing someone who was in danger of drowning. Thus, force protection is a continuous action. Positive & proactive leadership at all levels is the answer to all these dilemmas.

We all took an oath to serve our great Nation to the best of our ability; the people of America are expecting us to most be the "most ready" when the Nation calls. Together, we shall meet and exceed their expectations.

Semper Fidelis & May GOD Bless the United States of America!

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