

## Philosophy of Command

To all members of Headquarters and Support Battalion – Marine Corps Installations – East. I am very proud to assume command and be amongst you. This letter serves as my initial guidance for mission accomplishment and success personally and professionally.

The Marine Corps is an honorable calling with a legacy like no other. We are all a part of, and trusted with, that legacy. Whether you are wearing a uniform or not, you serve the Corps in a validated capacity. Every member is a valued part of Headquarters and Support Battalion and a reflection of this command, this base, and the Marine Corps. There is the potential for everything from destructive weather to war for the residents and employees on this base and their families. This unit's daily activities and responsibilities touch every spectrum of keeping the Marine Expeditionary Force trained, equipped, and ready.



**Personal Professionalism** and **Resilience** are key to our success. **Professionally**, I ask you remember that we are all part of a team. Treat everyone with empathy and respect; a failure to do so is more of a reflection on you vice them. Relationships matter and keep our business running smoothly.

**Personally** - Own your failures and learn from them. If you make a mistake - own it and take responsibility. Always remember, bad news doesn't age well and the cover-up is generally worse than the crime.

Whether a Marine, Sailor or Civilian, being mentally, physically, and spiritually fit is key to your personal and professional growth. Ensure that you are looking out for your well-being and for those around you and in your charge. Read, think, continue to grow and learn; and in turn use your experience to lead, mentor, and train.

**Resilience** is the hallmark of character. When faced with any situation good or bad, handle it with grace and dignity. People may not remember what happened later, but they sure will remember how you handled it. Remember, you are always setting an example; a true test of mettle is really how someone behaves in bad times.

Getting absorbed in personal problems and stressors is not healthy for you or anyone around you. Problems that seem great based on personal perspective and experience may not really be that bad. Take advantage of the resources available to you and look to your left and right; your brothers and sisters have probably had the same problem, or worse. Keep faith in each other and the Corps.

**We are always grooming the next generation.** Someone is following your example; good or bad. Although not currently part of a Marine Expeditionary Force, we should always be preparing ourselves for the next battle. Uphold and embrace our traditions and ethos; it is what makes us who we are. Most importantly - do what the Marine Corps has taught you, at all times, and follow the leadership traits and principles outlined in "Leading Marines."

I look forward to the journey we will embark upon the next couple of years!

Semper Fidelis,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Col A. R. EBITZ". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Col A. R. EBITZ  
Commanding Officer  
Headquarters and Support Battalion