



Marine Cryptologic Support Battalion

Command Philosophy

9 July 2019

Marines,

We have the privilege of serving in a unit with a legacy of cryptologic excellence in the most respected military organization the world has ever known. As the premier Service Cryptologic Component of the National Security Agency, our mission is unique within our Corps. We are a cadre of U.S. Marine intelligence professionals persistently engaged in delivering advantage to the Service, the Joint Force, and the Intelligence Community through National Tactical Integration activities. The trust of the nation to carry out these sensitive activities demands that we share a bond, united by the core values of our profession. I expect leaders at every level to reflect on and regularly engage in conversations about *who we are*, *what we do*, and *why we do it*. Below are my guiding principles.

Leave no doubt. Our daily commitment to excellence will leave no doubt that we are the national cryptologic force of choice. As we master our tradecraft we will prioritize talent management, foreign language, and interoperability that brings national capabilities to the tactical edge. We will also leverage our unique insights to bolster Service capabilities.

Live the title. With the title of U.S. Marine comes a sacred obligation. We owe it to our families, our nation, our Corps, and the long legacy of our fellow Marines, to maintain our high standards and to live by a code of honor, courage, and commitment that extends on and off duty, 24/7. Protect each other. We must leverage the potential of every Marine to be successful as a unit.

Lead well. Today's hyper-complex operating environment demands that we promote a climate of trust, integrity, humility, diversity of thought, and ownership. We will live by example with our words, actions, and behaviors. Together we will set the standard for our country and our Corps in developing humble servant leaders. We will also empower Marines to be operationally innovative, generating impactful ideas that we never thought were possible.

Be ready. We represent a unique, high demand set of capabilities that must be postured to rapidly deploy across the spectrum of conflict. We will remain vigilant by prioritizing mental, physical, spiritual, and family readiness. We will be ready to fight tonight.

This is an exciting time to be a part of this battalion. As the strategic environment shifts to near-peer competition, we are at the cutting edge leveraging emerging technologies, collaborating with interagency partners, navigating complex operational authorities, and delivering advantage to compete, deter, and win in all operating domains. Although geographically dispersed across eight states and five countries, we are one team with one overarching mission. *Together, we deliver advantage and we uniquely prepare Marines to dominate in the information environment.*

Semper Fidelis,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Arlon Smith'.

LtCol Arlon Smith
Commanding Officer