



COMMANDER'S TRAINING GUIDANCE



Focus training at the lowest level - The true measure of our combat readiness will be how well the section-level integrates and supports the platoon and battery. We desire well-trained platoons, capable batteries and a competent battalion. Ensure you are developing decision making, character development into you scenarios and tactical decision games.

Manage time - Training needs to be organized and effective. We are wasting our Marine's and Sailor's time if they are standing around waiting. Time lost in training could mean lives lost in combat. Ensure you provide enough predictability and consistency for effective Marine training and life stability. Establish and adhere to the training schedule.

Close the gap - Always strive to close the gap between when training ends (taking care of our weapons and equipment is training also) and when liberty is sounded. Our men will have earned the time off - let's give it to them.

Plan thoroughly - Every event should be standards based, well supported and every round down range should be the best we can fire. Use the Training and Readiness Manual. Plan each event; Design our training plans to address our METs. Rehearse all live fire.

Train aggressively - When the skill set supports, ensure your training is realistic and demanding. Our training should be challenging enough to ensure our combat deployments are efficient and effective.

Train safe - Marines and Sailors seriously injured or killed in training is unacceptable. No form of training is worth losing one of our own to injury or death. Operational Risk Assessment will be used for everything not just training events. Correct adherence to procedures will ensure safety in executing challenging tasks. We are a community of procedures. Create a culture that embraces accurate procedural execution and allows Marines to pause for clarity when needed. Exercise your moral courage and execute reset training when necessary.

Combat Conditioning - Physical fitness is fundamental to everything we do. Combat conditioning events need to occur on a daily basis, even in the field. Whether it is hiking, MCMAP, combat endurance runs, etc. The goal is to build and maintain both mental and physical toughness.

Critique everything - Ensure every training event receives a timely and honest assessment. If we haven't learned something and improved ourselves, we've wasted that training event. Strive to learn and get better.

PME - Every Marine and Sailor needs to be prepared to go to school. The Field Artillery Chief and Sergeant Major will work to ensure only the most deserving and capable Marines attend the limited school seats assigned to the Battalion. No one is irreplaceable and subordinates' stepping up to fill leadership gaps is excellent training. We must encourage professional reading and membership in our professional organizations.

Goal - To develop every 0811/0844 into a professional artilleryman and produce highly competent supporting MOS skills that will ensure the success of the Regiment, Battalion and follow on duty assignments.

Shawn Beltran
Lieutenant Colonel
5th Battalion, 11th Marines