



**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**  
1ST RECONNAISSANCE BATTALION  
1ST MARINE DIVISION, I MEF  
CAMP PENDLETON, CALIFORNIA, 92055



Subj: ENDURING COMMANDER'S INTENT FOR THE MARINES AND SAILORS OF 1ST RECONNAISSANCE BATTALION

1. I am honored and humbled to be your Commanding Officer. This intent is to ensure that we have a common understanding of what every Marine and Sailor in the Battalion can expect from their leadership, and what is expected of the men of 1st Reconnaissance Battalion. You can count on me to live out this philosophy every day, as I will count on you to do the same. In the end, our unit will be measured not in our words, but our actions.

2. Everything we do in this Battalion will have the end state of producing the most capable combat ready fighting unit. Not only will we stand ready to defend our country, but we will prepare to take the fight to our enemies, wherever they may be. Here are some guiding principles to get us there:

We will:

- **Place the mission first.** We are part of the profession of arms; realize that our job is to fight and win.
- **Be brilliant in the basics.** Shoot, move, communicate, and always be thinking! Balanced excellence in tactical and technical proficiency, as well as, mental and physical toughness.
- **Train hard, and train as a team.** Only through our combined strengths will we be a truly exceptional unit.
- **Lead by example.** Be aggressive and lead from the front. "An imperfect plan implemented immediately and violently will always succeed better than a perfect plan."
- **Be the quiet professional** - the hall mark of a world class fighting unit.
- **Live above the common level of life** - Your integrity is precious, never allow it to be compromised. As the eyes and ears of the division, lives depend on the accuracy of your reporting. Integrity is the cornerstone of distributed operations and small unit tactics.
- **Be tolerant of honest mistakes, intolerant of incompetence or apathy.**
- **Be accountable** for our action, or lack of action. Take care of each other, and prevent your buddy from doing something he may later regret.
- Use the **leadership traits and principles** to guide our actions.

3. Discipline and Accountability: The two go hand in hand and are woven through the above concepts. Have the discipline to do the right thing when no one is looking. Maintain constant accountability of your men, your equipment, your decisions and your actions. Hold each other accountable. Do the little things correctly. Prepare for combat. Debrief. Be relentless on continuing actions. Don't lie, don't cheat, don't steal, don't do drugs, don't disrespect NCO's, don't drink and drive and don't haze.

4. I am confident that you will execute my intent and uphold the high standards of the Marine Corps and the Reconnaissance Community, not out of blind obedience, but because you are professionals, simply fulfilling your duty as Marines and Sailors dedicated to the defense of our great nation. Never give up on yourself or your fellow Marines. Never give in to temptations that may take you away from the core values of your family and Corps. And never, never quit.

K. R. ROOT