



COMMAND PHILOSOPHY

Marine Detachment Fort Meade
Defense Information School

Whether you are a new Marine in the entry training pipeline, a fleet veteran returning for advanced schooling, or a detachment staff member, I am fully committed to your professional and personal development while here at DINFOS. As your commanding officer, it is my responsibility to provide an environment where you can learn, grow, and prepare for success in the Fleet Marine Force.

Here are a few basic principles that should guide us all -
L.E.A.D.



1. **Leaders Make Things Happen.** The underlying driver of Marine Corps leadership is action and attitude, not words. I am a firm believer that leaders – from the newest Marine to the most senior – are the catalyst to the accomplishment of great deeds. This thought should guide the actions of all Marines at the detachment. If you are in charge, accomplish the tasks at hand. If no one is leading, someone better take charge and make things happen.
2. **Everything is Prep for Fleet Operations.** Our MOS, Communication Strategy and Operations, is a combat multiplier. COMMSTRAT can engage all audiences, during all phases of operations, and have global effects. While the schoolhouse is a place to learn our craft, study theory, and challenge operating concepts, we must never lose sight of our goal: to gain knowledge and skill sets that improve our ability to conduct COMMSTRAT operations in the FMF.
3. **Always Find a Way to Have Fun.** Simply put, “Work hard, Play hard.” There will always be work to do. We must balance our time in a way that allows us to do our job, continue honing the art and science of COMMSTRAT, stay proficient in warfighting skills, and take care of our Marines. The profession of arms is serious business. If we cannot laugh at ourselves along the way or find times to commune outside the office, we run the risk of burning out. Everyone cannot be a Marine, so enjoy the privilege.
4. **Do What is Right.** As Marines, we must hold each other to the highest standards of personal and professional conduct. Whether it is in your appearance, or your ethical and moral values, live your life in such a way that your behavior and adherence to standards can never be questioned. Remember, character is developed every day in garrison, on deployment, aboard ship, on duty, or on liberty. Each individual creates, develops and nurtures their own integrity. When the right course of action is unclear, only the habit of doing the right thing, as practiced every day in all areas of our lives, will enable you to make sound moral decisions.

C. W. THOMAS
COMMANDING OFFICER