



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment
Unit 26137
APO AE 09031



“Supporting Excellence”

Command Philosophy
CPT Kenneth C. Wilson
17 December 2003

“We Make a Difference”

As the Commander of this unit, I am delighted to be the newest member of your team and proud to have the opportunity to serve with you all.

This memo outlines my basic philosophy of command. It is designed to assist you in prioritizing your duties and responsibilities as a member of this team. I have not placed my thoughts in order of importance since I sincerely believe that all are vital to the success of this unit.

Leadership. I will allow leaders to lead and manage their sections, as they know best. However, there may be times when you may need to elevate situations that you cannot resolve to my level. **Do not hesitate!** I am here to assist. Refrain from waiting until there is no resolve to get me involved. **Come to me with your recommendation(s) and a thorough explanation of the issue.** If you are at fault for an incorrect decision, be responsible enough to own up to it and fix it. We all make mistakes and bad news does not get better with time. As leaders, let us remember that everyone deserves to be treated with dignity, fairness, and respect. By upholding these values, leaders can make a positive difference.

Safety. Safety is a force-multiplier. In everything we do we must think safety. Safety must be more of a value, like the Army Values, as oppose to just a priority, because priorities often change and safety must always be first and foremost in all we do. Do an internal risk assessment. Know your limitations and your soldiers. Lack of planning and poor judgment is normally the reason for safety hazards. Don't let it happen to you. From private on up, we are all responsible for ensuring safety guidelines are met.

Teamwork. The essential element to the success of this company is teamwork. We need to support each other. This includes your off duty time. We must look out for each other on and off duty, lending assistance to any member of the team when things are just not going right. No one person alone can accomplish what the collective efforts of the group can. Remember that there is not a single action in this command that does not affect someone else. When used as an acronym, the word team says a lot: **T: Together, E: Everyone, A: Achieves, M: More.** In order to maintain teamwork, army values such as integrity, loyalty, and respect must abound and not compromised. The application of these values as well as the other army values will help build our relationships and in-turn strengthens this unit's cohesion and esprit de corps.

Supply Discipline. Our ability to successfully accomplish all missions tasked and immediately be ready for the next mission is based on how well we account for all assigned equipment. Without our equipment, we cannot perform our mission. All equipment will be maintained above standards. Request work orders as needed. Be proactive in maintaining the equipment in your area of responsibility. Precise property accountability is indicative of your professionalism, your personal pride, military discipline, and the pride you have in your unit.

Training. It is vitally important to plan ahead and execute training to standards. I will depend heavily upon my NCOs to make this happen. You assist me in planning and you conduct training. The Army's greatest resource is the soldier. Mothers and fathers have entrusted us with the lives of their most precious asset, their children. As leaders, we are responsible for ensuring that our soldiers are trained to fight, survive and win in combat. I challenge you to strive for excellence in preparing us for war, letting no soldier cry out from the grave, "if only I were trained."

Illegal Drug Usage/Alcohol Abuse. The abuse of alcohol and/or the use of illegal drugs will not be tolerated. Conduct of such manner serves only as a detriment to the good order and discipline of this great unit. Although the consumption of alcohol is not prohibited, the abuse of it by members of this unit is. Any soldier charged with misconduct due to the use of alcohol or illegal drugs will be held accountable for his or her actions

Family. It is important that you cherish your off duty time and spend it with your families. They are the reason that you are able to serve this country so faithfully. Establish goals for each day, meet those goals, then go home and take care of your family. I am not excusing you from accomplishing the mission, however, total neglect of the family could lead to an earlier ETS or retirement than planned. Although, for most of us we are far away from the extended family, i.e. mom, dad, siblings, we still need to let them know as well that we are alive. This is very important for single soldiers especially. Please call home to your family at least once a month to let them know you are alive and well.

Again, I am thankful for the opportunity to command this unit. I want all of you to have fun and I look forward to serving with each of you.