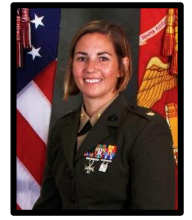




COMMANDING OFFICER'S COMMAND PHILOSOPHY AND GUIDANCE



Gryphons,

MWSO-24 has proven itself as a well-trained and highly experienced unit throughout its deployments and exercise support. We will continue to build on this solid foundation of experience as our core mission is vital to the success of MAG-24 and the Marine Corps. Outlined in this document are the pillars MWSO-24 will focus on to ensure we maintain the level of readiness needed to be a **lethal**, **resilient** and **innovative** force prepared for the next fight.

Tactically proficient. Today's battlefield is unlike any we have fought on in the past. It is fluid, complex, and undefined. As the Nation's Force in Readiness we must prepare ourselves for the unknown and the unknowable. In order to do so, our training plan must be **deliberate**, **aggressive** and **creative**. We will use a systematic approach to build on the basics of our core mission while taking advantage of any new and unique opportunities to train. We must define the standards, evaluate ourselves objectively, and continue to refine and improve our SOPs.

Physically primed. John F. Kennedy once said "Physical fitness is not only one of the most important keys to a healthy body, it is the basis of dynamic and creative intellectual activity." An established routine helps develop a disciplined mindset that will affect all other aspects of your life. MWSO-24 will maintain a **holistic** physical fitness program that benefits all of our Marines individually while strengthening the unit as a whole. We will train smart, hard, and often but always with a purpose.

Mentally tested. While the character of war is certainly changing with the explosion of new technologies, the nature of war must also change. General Allen argues that nearly all aspects of the human dimension (will, knowledge, resilience, decisiveness, etc) are shaped through training and education. Therefore in order to "maximize the human advantages in war" we must challenge ourselves mentally and focus on **how** to think, not what to think. Take advantage of any and all opportunities to promote learning within your divisions - tactical decision games, hip-pocket classes, or book discussions. Learning should be a daily activity that is as routine as PT.

Flexible Mindset. In order to remain on the 'cutting edge,' we must learn to adapt our way of thinking and challenge the status quo. I encourage you to think outside the box and when faced with an old problem, rethink your solution. Do the homework, ask for guidance, and if it is **legal**, **moral** and **ethical**, then act on it. The Marine Corps will lag behind unless we are willing to try new things and take risk.

Lastly, but most importantly, I expect each of you to continue to **uphold the standards** of the U.S. Marine Corps and represent Marine Wing Support Detachment 24 honorably. Remember, it is a privilege, not a right, to wear this uniform every day. I am proud to serve alongside each and every one of you. Semper Fidelis.

M. K. SNYDER