





## COMMANDING OFFICER'S POLICY STATEMENT ON UNIT, PERSONAL, AND FAMILY READINESS

As part of the III Marine Expeditionary Force – Marine Corps Installations Command, Pacific team, Headquarters and Support Battalion exists to make sure that Camp Foster, Camp Lester, and Plaza Housing can support the operational requirements of our tenant units and their families. Our unit is only as strong as its weakest link. It is incumbent upon all of us who are forward deployed to be ready at a moment's notice.

From typhoons on Okinawa to natural disasters, crises, or contingencies throughout the Western Pacific, there are a wide range of circumstances that could lead to our employment. We are the ones that America expects to be most ready. This means that we have a responsibility to have our personal affairs, family arrangements, and unit readiness concerns addressed so we can focus on the mission.

For personal readiness, make sure that your gear is set up and ready. Ensure that your personal records in MOL are up to date with your Next Of Kin's current information. Maintain medical and dental readiness. Maintain a high state of physical conditioning. Know your job.

For your family, ensure that your family care plan is up to date. Make sure that all financial obligations are clearly summarized and explained so that they can be met in your absence. Set up your bills for automatic payments. If married, ensure that your spouse is capable of managing the household requirements for an extended period of time in the event of your deployment. Before a typhoon, ensure that you and your family know what to do to secure all of your property outside your residence so that it does not become a hazard to those around you. Have enough food, water, medicine, and other necessities for 96 hours without resupply.

For your unit, ensure that you understand your section's operational requirements. Ensure that deficiencies in equipment maintenance readiness are addressed in a timely manner so that when an emergency arises, you and your unit are ready to move and carry out the mission.

- ❖ Maintain links to the Headquarters and Support Battalion Facebook page. This is one of several social media sites that will be used to pass information.
- Ensure all contact information is up-to-date.
- ❖ Keep your finances stable and set as many bills up for autopayment as possible.
- Encourage your family to become involved in the base community. Establishing personal links and connections provides a much larger support group in the event of emergency. We are all stronger together than we are individually.

Readiness is a core expectation of being a part of the Navy-Marine Corps team, particularly in these uncertain times. Do not take a single day of peace for granted and work every day to be more ready than you were the day before.

DAVID M. BANNING COLONEL, U.S. MARINE CORPS

COMMANDING OFFICER, HEADQUARTERS AND SUPPORT BATTALION