



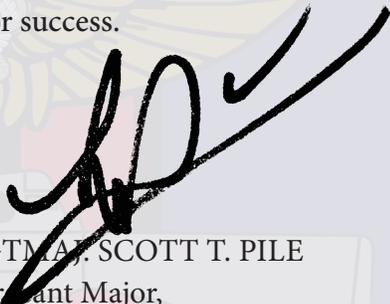
Engaged leadership this Memorial Day weekend

AS WE PREPARE TO SEND OUR GREAT WARRIORS OFF THIS WEEKEND FOR A WELL DESERVED BREAK FROM TRAINING, I ASK THAT YOU RE-ENFORCE THE FOLLOWING:

First, though we often speak to the issue of liberty being a mission, we must recognize and embrace that it truly is. Since 1775, the utilization of the battle-buddy system has and will continue to ensure that our warriors take care of one another and guard against issues that will affect the force. There is no doubt in my mind that there is no better warrior to have by your side on liberty than another teammate from the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit. That said, whomever the liberty buddy is, we must ensure the same principles we apply in combat, relative to providing over-watch of one another, is fully implemented into our warriors' plans. Knowing those associated with our warriors is as important as any other aspect of liberty.

Engaged leadership at all levels is 'the' key to our success both in garrison and in combat. Just as we methodically plan a mission on the battlefield, we must be equally diligent while we are here in CONUS. Keeping our heads on a swivel and remembering that we represent our Corps and Country in everything that we do must be the drum beat heard across the force. Having fun and enjoying time off while being equally capable while in a training area preparing for combat speaks to the issue of "Balanced Excellence."

Staff Noncommissioned Officers and Noncommissioned Officers, your full attention and laser focus is what I am looking for as we close out a period of very busy training and shift to a well deserved Memorial Day weekend. Cross the line of departure this weekend knowing that your part of the force is set up for success.



SGTMAJ. SCOTT T. PILE
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