COMMANDING GENERAL'S POLICY STATEMENT ON SAFETY

Safety is not an item in a checklist - it is an intrinsic part of responsible leadership. Safety is part of being a good steward of our resources and looking out for the welfare of our people. Marine Corps Installations Pacific-Marine Corps Base Camp Butler (MCIPAC-MCBB) shoulders a key role in support of America’s continued focus in the Indo-Pacific by ensuring our warfighters are properly trained, equipped, and supported in a manner that safeguards our personnel and equipment while enhancing the preservation and defense of America’s interests.

The principles of Operational Risk Management are simple and based on common sense:
1. Accept risk only when benefits outweigh the cost. Risk is part of life, but we must balance it with the potential rewards.
2. Accept no unnecessary risk. If something is dangerous but not essential, do not do it.
3. Anticipate and manage risk by planning. By thinking before we act, we can identify risks and devise ways to mitigate or avoid them before they become a threat.
4. Make risk decisions at the right level. When in doubt, ask your leadership for guidance.

A culture of safety is a team effort and the responsibility of every member of this command. I charge each and every one of you with incorporating risk management principles and force preservation measures into all activities, whether on or off-duty. The loss of just one member of the MCIPAC-MCBB Team negatively impacts our capabilities and the ripple effect extends well beyond the boundaries of our installations.

The foundation of this command’s safety program stands with each individual Marine, sailor, DoD civilian and host nation employee. Every team-member has the authority and obligation to stop an activity that in their judgment poses an immediate risk to life or health, or call a “safety timeout” to correct deficiencies. I expect leaders and supervisors at all levels to foster a positive safety culture by setting the right example, enforcing applicable safety standards, and training personnel in the proper application of risk management principles, safe work practices, hazard identification, mishap reporting, and the proper use of personal protective equipment.

We must never lose sight that the absence of a mishap does not indicate the presence of a vibrant safety program. I need all personnel actively and aggressively engaged in the MCIPAC-MCBB safety program in order to achieve operational excellence and to carry out the mission as the “Strong Bow which launches the III MEF Arrow”.

Semper Fidelis,

WILLIAM J. BOWERS
BRIGADIER GENERAL, U.S. MARINE CORPS
COMMANDING GENERAL, MARINE CORPS INSTALLATIONS PACIFIC-MARINE
CORPS BASE CAMP BUTLER