

Leaders... set the example, enforce standards
By CSM Fourhman

I am extremely proud of the work that each and every one of you does on a daily basis. This goes from the most junior Soldiers in the command to our senior leaders.

We are a transforming organization and you have all risen to the challenge to make this a successful and smooth transition. The work put forth by all members in the command during our Lucky Warrior exercise is a testament of our willingness to change, while we continue to maintain our efforts of security cooperation and theater sustainment.

As we continue to transform and adjust, as all Soldiers do, we must continue focusing on the fundamentals of Soldiering and what being a leader truly means. This means no matter what the circumstance, we must always do the "hard right", rather than the "easy wrong". This is even more essential for all those in leadership positions as we are charged with setting the standards for our troops with our every action.

A leader's responsibility is taking care of Soldiers. That means being involved and invested in their daily work and lives and ensuring they know they can come to us at any time with problems or concerns they have.

By involving ourselves in our Soldiers lives, we can influence the negative things that can affect a command, such as sexual assaults, equal opportunity issues, safety violations or anything else that demonstrates a lack of discipline and accountability for actions. When leaders involve themselves in the daily activities of their Soldiers... good things happen.

Leaders must hold their Soldiers accountable for their actions and enforce the standards; while at the same time showing them what right looks like and investing the time to mentor and teach them.

A leader who sets the example not only gains the respect and confidence of his own Soldiers but of other Soldiers as well... it's a ripple effect.

The military is a unique organization that best exemplifies a mix of demographics, religions, races, genders, backgrounds and ethnicities all working together towards a common purpose and goal. With leaders setting the standards of ethics and respect amongst Soldiers, we can continue to create an organization for others to emulate.

Organizations that function on all cylinders know how to get the job done correctly, including the smallest details. They continue to push themselves forward because of the guidance and mentorship as their leaders pass on their knowledge and experiences to their subordinates, who one day will replace them.

It is because of your determination and devotion that Third Army/U.S. Army Central continues to perform at such a high operational tempo. I know we have a top notch group of leaders and Soldiers working in our organization that can get behind this and raise and enforce standards. I thank each of you and your families for your service and all that you do... keep up the great work.

Patton's Own!