



LEADERSHIP MAXIMS FOR LIFE :



HOW TO BE THE BEST LEADER YOU CAN



**Royal P. Mortenson
Director
Illinois Fire Service Institute
Colonel USMC (Ret)**



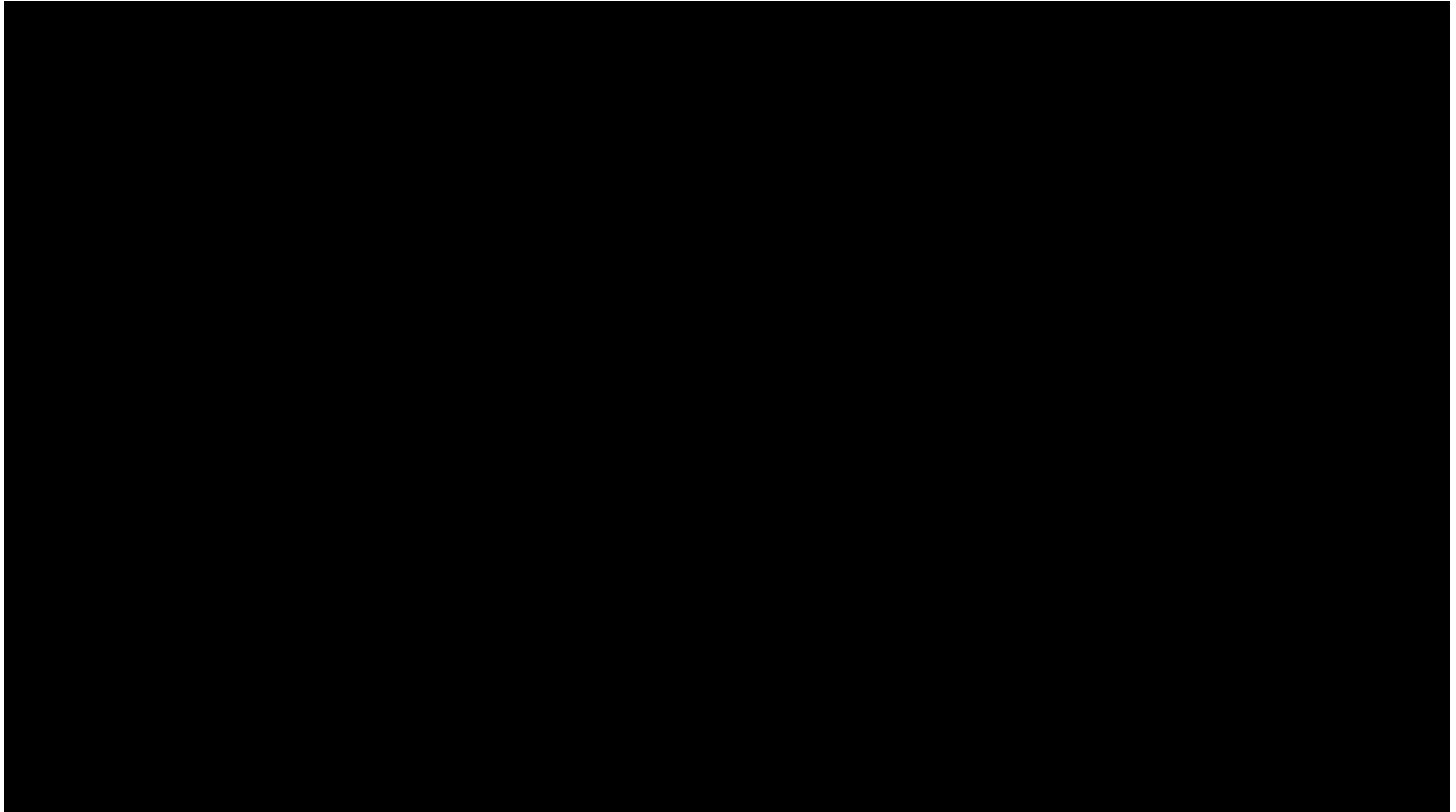


INTRODUCTION



Who I am and who I am not...

Communicating expectations through leadership style....





Questions of style...



- Focused!
- Direct!
- To the point!
- Charismatic!
- Motivating!

If only it was all that easy...



Questions of style...



- Autocratic?
- Democratic?
- Transformational?
- Charismatic?

If only it was all that easy...



Questions of situational opportunity...



- Coaching?
- Directing?
- Supporting?
- Delegating?

If only it was all that easy....



Where should you begin?



- Read?
- Watch others and learn?
- Challenge yourself personally and professionally?



Where should you begin?



- Read?
- Watch others and learn?
- Challenge yourself personally and professionally?
- Go to a conference and listen to some guy you never heard of?



Where should you begin?



- Read?
- Watch others and learn?
- Challenge yourself personally and professionally?
- Go to a conference and listen to some guy I never heard of?

You should begin with yourself. That is what we will talk about for the next hour.



PURPOSE



Share some thoughts on the sacred responsibility of leadership and how you can prepare and ensure you are ready to meet the challenges.



What this is...



- My personal thoughts & experiences developed over my lifetime.
- A whole person approach.
- A way to live...not just management techniques!
- Hard and demanding!



What it is not...



It is not;

- Unique.
- Easy.

or

- Optional. (if you want to be a GOOD leader)



Bottom line up front...



- Thoughts compiled over my life and career.
- Nothing new...you will recognize a lot.
- I am not an expert.
- I fail every day.

Lets begin.....



1. Be a good person, a person of character and strength, and you will always be a good Leader.



2. Never be afraid to take a moral or ethical stand on something you believe in your gut to be right. Stand up and be counted.



3. Always hold yourself
accountable for all you do and
don't do. Hold others accountable
at every level for their actions
commensurate with their position
and responsibilities.



4. Don't lie, steal or cheat, and
never tolerate those that do.



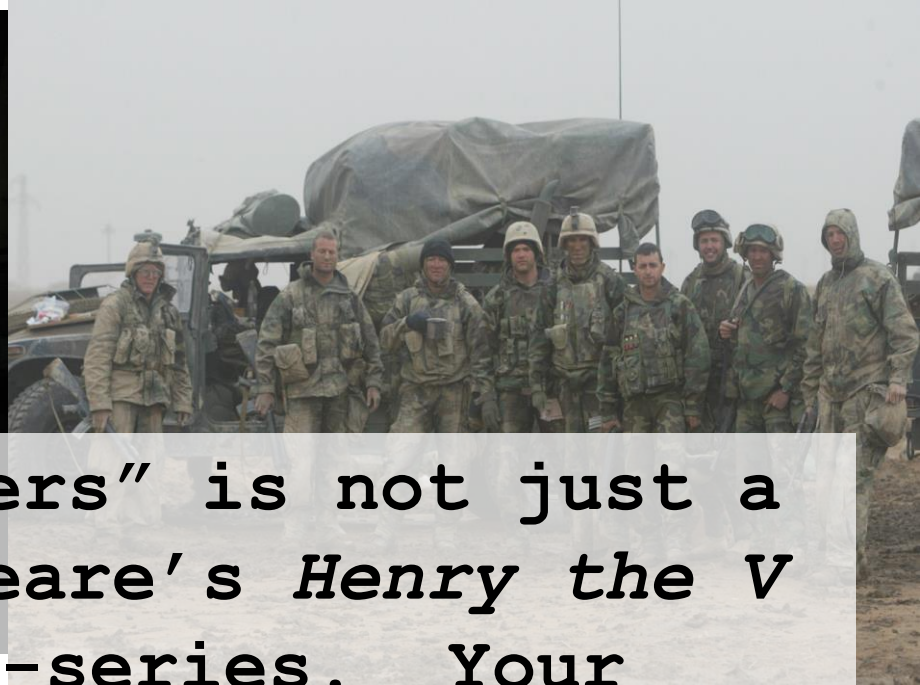
5. Listen to and help anyone, anytime. Expect and demand that your subordinate leaders do the same.

However, every person must reach out and grab the "offered hand."

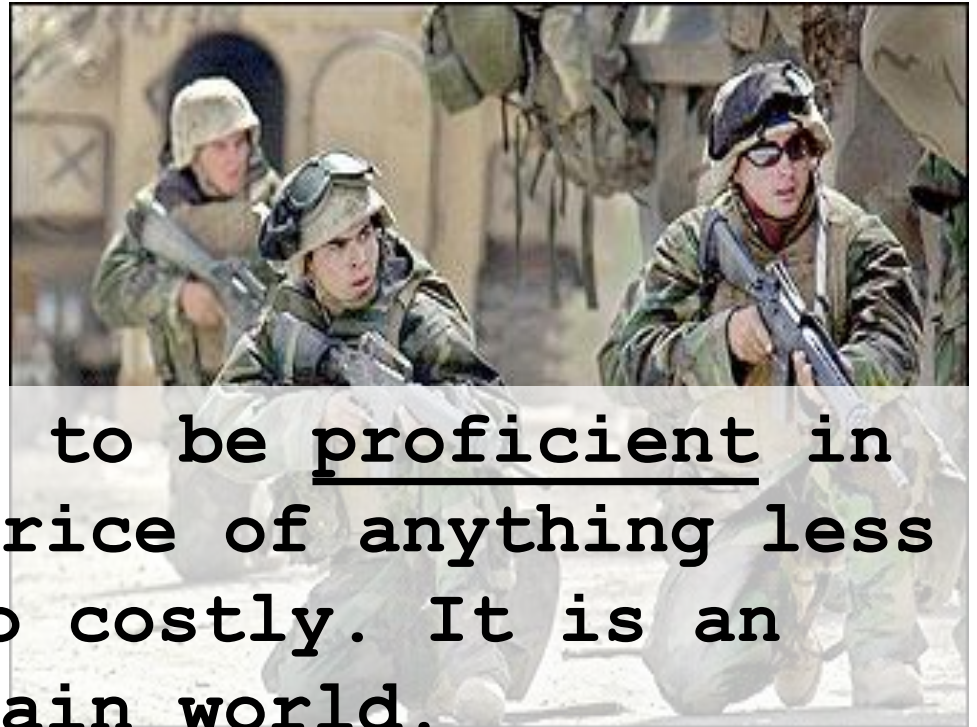


Kuni Takahashi / Boston Herald / ReflexNews

6. Someone has to lead, in the
absence of authority---
take charge.



7. "Band of brothers" is not just a line from Shakespeare's *Henry the V* or an HBO mini-series. Your organization should be a "Band of brothers" so, like a brother, never turn your back on your fellow man or woman. Take care of each other.

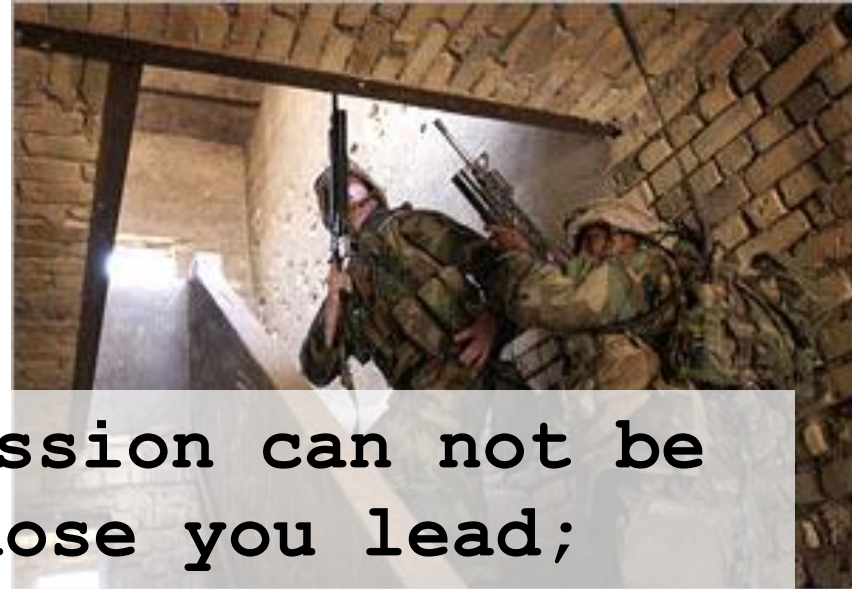


8. Always strive to be proficient in all you do. The price of anything less can be far too costly. It is an uncertain world.

Never let it be said that you and your unit failed because you didn't do your homework.



9. Everything you do must
prepare yourself and your team
for success.



10. Mistakes of omission can not be accepted. Tell those you lead;

"If you act and make a mistake because you lacked accurate information but you did your best---all can be fixed. If your mistake is bedded in a failure to try---all will be difficult."



11. Take care of your families.
Stress at home tears at the
fiber of a unit or organization.



12. Never accept hazing, racism or otherwise cruel, demeaning behavior, it is the hallmark of the ignorant, the weak, and the unprofessional.



Hazing is...

"Any activity expected of someone joining or participating in a group that humiliates, degrades, abuses, or endangers them regardless of a person's willingness to participate."

-Allan/Madden (2008)



Download from
Dreamstime.com
This watermark-free image is for personal use only.



24103026
iStockphoto | Dreamstime.com



”Remember, at the end of the day, if people are inclined to follow your leadership out of something more than an idle sense of curiosity--- it will be because you are someone they trust, admire, respect and want to emulate.

Not because you told them to”



QUESTIONS?





ILLINOIS FIRE SERVICE INSTITUTE™



"Helping firefighters do their mission through training, education, research, and information."

**If you are interested in learning more
about IFSI or supporting what we do
visit our website at;**

www.fsi.illinois.edu

