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SMA.NET

Work on character – it is our ethos #whoyouare

The most important part of being a leader is knowing 'self' (self-awareness) and therefore knowing the impact of your 'character' traits on others. Character is a word derived from the Greek meaning of ethos. Character is defined by "the mental and moral qualities distinctive to an individual" as described in the Oxford dictionary. Character is also known to influence the culture of an organisation or a team. Recently at the WODF's Warrant Officer Forum, the following was said: "Reputation is how you are perceived, and character is who you are". This description is also re-enforced in the New Zealand Defence Doctrine Publication – 00.6 Leadership. In the book 'Legacy' by James Kerr, character is an essential part in selecting the best sportsmen to play for the All Blacks.

Put simply, work on character. Our ethos is based on our values and who we are. Character does matter and our ability as leaders to positively influence and lead on operations is heavy weighted on our individual behaviour. Our competitive edge to win on operations is therefore dependent on our ability to know 'self' (self-awareness) and knowing the impact of your character traits.

SMA Jungle Tip: Character trumps talent every time, and champions do extra!

NZ Army History

Some history to share: 174 years ago on 25 March 1845 the Legislative Council passed the first Militia Act constituting the New Zealand Army. Those who serve are standing on the shoulders of giants and serve our nation and families proudly.



Fire Fighters

Our Emergency Responders are operational every day. This month I had the privilege to present SMA coins to two soldiers who deserve recognition for their efforts competing in the Combat Fire Fighting Challenge. Well done to SPR Jordan Bean, LCPL Molly Lincoln, LCPL Kelsi Spence and SPR Petra Dye-Hutchinson – you are champions!

2019 Army Innovation Challenge

The 2019 Army Innovation Challenge will give our soldiers an opportunity to showcase their innovative ideas to the people in our organisation who can make their suggestions happen. Information on how to enter is in this edition of the Army News. I encourage those who are passionate on making a difference to start consolidating their ideas now. Ideas can include

anything from suggestions for new equipment, to how we can better prepare our people. Army Innovation will work with submitters to help them further develop their ideas, and this will be an excellent opportunity for professional development. The challenge will be taking place at the Linton Military Camp Elliott VC Club on the afternoon of Friday 6th September 2019. Good luck!

Nga Mihi, see you on patrol.

Cover: The Chief Of Army, Major General John Boswell chats with Captains Laura and Tane North and son Elijah at the start of their 700 km fund-raising walk (see story page 3).

Photo: LAC Chad Sharman



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New Zealand Government

NEW TACTICAL COMMS NETWORK ON ITS WAY

A new tactical communications network will be delivered to the New Zealand Army following the signing of a contract with Harris Defence Australia.

"Communication networks are vital to Defence Force operations and must be modern, effective and designed to meet the needs of military personnel," says Minister of Defence Ron Mark.

"The contract has been signed as part of the first tranche of work being delivered under the Network Enabled Army programme, one of several projects underway addressing equipment obsolescence.

"Networks and equipment used by the New Zealand Army and Special Forces are the focus of this contract.

"The \$40 million contract for the mobile tactical command system, funded from an existing appropriation, will design and deliver a modern network along with software, systems and connecting radio equipment.

"Together these will enable accurate and detailed information to be transmitted securely between military personnel and

command centres, both within New Zealand's forces and when operating at an international level.

"Whether at home or overseas, the Defence Force operates alongside other Government agencies and New Zealand's international partners, and the ability to work together effectively is vital to the success of these operations.

"Interoperability with partners is strategically important, and as technology continues to advance Defence must be ready to keep pace in both procurement processes and capability requirements.

The new network will use a family of radios supplied by Harris Defence Australia, including new portable radios for soldiers.

"Managing and using information effectively is fundamental to the success of Defence Force operations," says Mr Mark.

Background facts:

The Network Enabled Army programme is being rolled out in four tranches, through to 2025/26.

Tranche One of the Network Enabled Army programme will be delivered over time to the end of 2021.

Tranche One is focused on Army and Special Forces' capabilities in relation to Command, Control, Communications and Computers (C4).

Tranche Two will focus on Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance capability.

As part of the initial C4 tranche, the Ministry of Defence issued a closed request for proposals for the Mobile Tactical Command System in September 2017.

This will deliver digital combat radios and supporting hardware and software to provide line of sight, and beyond line of sight communications.

An extensive evaluation process took place to test the range of solutions proposed by suppliers, to identify the most appropriate to meet Army's operational requirements, and a contract was signed with Harris Defence Australia on 21 December 2018.