



## DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS JOHN L. CANLEY (ESB 6) BLUE  
UNIT 100338 BOX NUMBER 1  
FPO AP 96693

May 12, 2025

From: Commanding Officer, JOHN L. CANLEY (ESB 6)

To: All Hands

Subj: MISSION AND COMMAND PHILOSOPHY

1. Purpose: The Expeditionary Sea Base (ESB) class of U.S. Navy warships plays a critical role in the United States national military strategy. These versatile and reliable vessels serve as forward-deployed staging platforms for the United States Navy, Marine Corps, and Joint Forces. This capability empowers our forces to project power and maintain a presence in vital regions, ultimately enhancing national security and operational effectiveness. Due to their impressive mission flexibility, ESBs are a high demand warfighting platform in theater and around the world.

2. Mission: AS A TEAM, WE PROJECT POWER IN THE FORM OF FORWARD PRESENCE OR DELIBERATE FORCE. Our mission capabilities extend beyond traditional naval operations. From our mission and flight decks, we launch expeditionary and special forces, security teams, and conduct airborne mine countermeasures. We utilize unmanned systems and support a multitude of embarked units throughout various phases of armed conflict. Furthermore, we engage in collaborative efforts with partner nations, allies, and the global community by offering peacekeeping operations, humanitarian assistance, disaster relief, and support for civil authorities to effectively address crises and enhance stability.

3. Command Philosophy: MISSION FIRST, CANLEY ALWAYS. We firmly believe that the success of our operations hinges on putting the mission first and supporting all efforts required for its successful execution. However, our mission cannot be accomplished without our greatest asset: the incredible men and women comprising our Navy and Military Sealift Command crew. By fostering an environment that continuously develops our warfighters and promotes a culture of excellence, we strive to achieve our full operational potential. This commitment ensures we remain prepared for both the mission at hand as well as future capabilities. Our collective efforts are essential to present the finest operating unit across a wide array of missions.

a. Mission First. Accomplishing our mission is predicated on several key principles:

Professionalism: Whether on duty or during liberty, our Navy Core Values and Watchstanding Principles provide a strong foundation for our conduct as Sailors and warfighters. We execute the fundamentals with excellence across all we do. In instances where we cannot successfully execute the basics, we embrace critical thinking, assess risks thoughtfully, and elevate decision-making to the appropriate levels to remove barriers and promote mission success.

Knowledge: A deep understanding of our roles and responsibilities, both personally and professionally, is vital to our success. We are committed to ongoing training, learning, and adapting to the demands of our roles and our teammates. Knowledge is the bedrock for innovation, operational flexibility, and lethality, ensuring we maximize our warfighting efficiency in a dynamic operational landscape.

Teamwork: The essence of our success is rooted in teamwork. Partnership and collaboration embody the core principles of the ESB concept. We recognize that the effective integration of diverse teams and ideas is paramount in accomplishing our mission objectives successfully.

b. Canley Always. We hold ourselves and our shipmates accountable to the following guiding principles:

Respect: We believe in treating everyone with dignity, recognizing that we are a reflection of this great nation, comprising individuals from various backgrounds and experiences. Our shared values and commitment to one another, founded in our dedication to the Constitution of the United States, strengthen our collective resolve.

Integrity: Upholding integrity means choosing the difficult but ethical path over an easier wrongdoing. Our sense of accountability requires us to acknowledge that we alone are the stewards of our character; no one can take away the values we choose to uphold.

Accountability: Recognizing we are human entails acknowledging that mistakes will occur. When errors happen, we commit to admitting them swiftly, identifying the root causes, and sharing lessons learned to prevent repetition among our teams.

Pride: We embody pride in our work by dedicating ourselves to excellence and ownership of our responsibilities. Our commitment to improvement drives us to leave our command and ship in a better state than we found them. The legacy we create together will resonate long after our departure, shaping the future of our crew and our mission!



RYAN T. FULWIDER  
CAPT USN  
CO BLUE



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