



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
2 NAVY ANNEX
WASHINGTON, DC 20380-1775

IN REPLY REFER TO
CMC-R
11 Jul 96

WHITE LETTER NO. 03-96

From: Commandant of the Marine Corps
To: All General Officers
All Commanding Officers
All Officers in Charge

Subj: COMMAND ATTENTION TO INTERNAL CONTROLS

1. Public Law requires that we have a pro-active approach to protecting our limited resources from misappropriation, misuse, and waste and to demonstrate our stewardship of these public resources through effective, efficient and safe operations. The Internal Management Control Program tasks commanders to determine the level of risk of all command functions and ensure that any potential control weaknesses are highlighted, reviewed and corrected.

2. We need to foster a better understanding of the importance of the Internal Management Control Program. Instead of considering controls as an isolated management tool, commanders need to make the program an integral part of the command process. As stated in my planning guidance, "Preparing a force to win battles is critical." Because we have limited resources, we must maximize the return on every dollar spent to accomplish that task. Good Internal Controls will help us succeed.

3. It is paramount that you play a major role in the Internal Management Control Program as promulgated by MCO 5200.24B. In addition to reviewing this MCO and getting personally involved in the Internal Control Program, I request that you use the results of the program as an early warning system of control weaknesses and implement appropriate improvement actions. Remember, we are not talking just money; our readiness, our equipment, supplies, real property and the welfare of Marines are all vulnerable to control weaknesses. Safeguarding the public's resources and maintaining the public trust are some of the primary responsibilities of command.


G. C. R. OLAK