

38. Picking Up The Trash (1:37)

I didn't do much. I used to have this General who used to come from an army base across the peninsula. He'd come on and he'd say, "Les, how do you keep this base like this?" I said, well... He said, "Do you have people out there doing picking up trash all the time?"

And I said, "No we don't." And he said, "Well, do you have programs once a week ."

I said, "No, we never do that." And he said, "Well, how do you do that?"

And I said, "Well, my people keep it clean. He said, "Why do they do that?" I said, "Well, they don't want the old man picking up trash." And I said if I find trash on the base, I pick it up and they don't want me picking it up. And so they asked me to stop doing that. I said, "Well, I won't pick it up if it's not there.

So then they decided they had to keep it picked up and so they picked it up. And when you get new people and new people would toss something on the ground they jumped on them right away and said don't do that.

We don't do that on our base here. This base is kept like this because we keep it this way. And so I had a clean base. It's not the CO's base. This is your base. It's as good as you guys make it."

Related Primary Leadership Principles

Accountability

Decision-Making

Delegation

Example

Expectations

Military Core Values

Political Savvy

Responsibility