



Delbert D. Black

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- January 13, 1967 to April 1, 1971 -

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Leadership is an attribute that cannot be issued through a supply system or injected by a hypodermic needle. It can only come from an acquired set of values: honor, duty, self-discipline and dedication to service.

Our leaders must [also] have patience, understanding, imagination, foresight and an appropriate sense of restraint.

I don't feel that I had the same leadership philosophy as an awful lot of the others. My philosophy is to make 'em want to do something as well as you do. I'd go to my people, I'd make them want to do it because I felt it was the right thing and the best thing for them. I would go do it myself. I would set the example and make them aspire to the same example.

[Sailors] not only expect, but will need your proper interest and guidance. Never deny a petty officer ... proper leadership function in the division. Seek the benefit of your petty officers' experience and counsel on certain matters and give ... the charge to carry out the ... objective. A good leader provides the opportunity for those under him to better themselves.

The degree of leadership success depends less on the position of the leader than upon his ability to gain the full commitment. In the eyes of those he leads, the leader must be the most qualified person to direct them toward the desired goal. When preparedness meets opportunity, that is luck. The harder you work the luckier you get. If you work hard, you'll get ahead.

There is a solution to every problem. There should be no excuses.

Be yourself, don't try to be somebody you are not, and don't try to please everybody. If you do those three things, you'll survive.

This Charge is a compilation of remarks made by my husband Del during his writings and interviews over the years

Sma J. Black

