Standards and Guidance for Soldiers

Circumstances in war require the need for establishing—Standards and guidance for soldiers in every area.

Ps 144:1— *Blessed be the LORD my strength, which teacheth my hands to war, and my fingers to fight:*

Pr 27:22 ¶ Though thou shouldest bray a fool in a mortar among wheat with a pestle, yet will not his foolishness depart from him.

“Though thou shouldest bray a fool”

A metaphor taken from pounding metallic ores in very large mortars, such as are still common in the East, in order that, when subjected to the action of the fire, the metal may be the more easily separated from the ore.

You may try, by precept or example, or both, to instruct a stupid man, your labour is lost; his foolishness cannot be separated from him. You may purge metals of all their dross; but you cannot purge the fool of his folly.

SIN makes a man contemptible in life, miserable in death, and wretched to all eternity. Is it not strange, then, that men should LOVE it?

Pr 23:29 Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes?

30 They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine.

31 Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright.

32 At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder.

33 Thine eyes shall behold strange women, and thine heart shall utter perverse things.

34 Yea, thou shalt be as he that lieth down in the midst of the sea, or as he that lieth upon the top of a mast. 35 They have stricken me, shalt thou say, and I was not sick; they have beaten me, and I felt it not: **when shall I awake**? I will seek it yet again. {I felt it not...: Heb. I knew it not}

To wake up is an act- a work of faith, a fight of faith

Ge 9:24 ¶ And Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done unto him.

Without standards an army loses discipline (Without standards) you lose discipline

Guidelines for Detention and interrogation: Detention and interrogation

Preparation for battle: future battle, future crises, future storm, future Judgment.

God makes His servants, soldiers by revealing His Word and they following by obeying. God makes His servants soul winners by revealing His Word and they following through obedience

God uses key life events and experiences to prepare us for the battle.

We need to regard the life of every (Person, soldier)

Jer 4:6 Set up the **standard** toward Zion: retire, stay not: for I will bring evil from the north, and a great destruction.

Isa 49:22 Thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I will lift up mine hand to the Gentiles, and set up my standard to the people: and they shall bring thy sons in their arms, and thy daughters shall be carried upon their shoulders. {arms: Heb. bosom}

Isa 59:19 So shall they fear the name of the LORD from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him. {lift...: or, put him to flight}

Isa 62:10 ¶ Go through, go through the gates; prepare ye the way of the people; cast up, cast up the highway; gather out the stones; lift up a standard for the people.

Jer 4:21 How long shall I see the standard, and hear the sound of the trumpet?

Jer 50:2 Declare ye among the nations, and publish, and set up a standard; publish, and conceal not: say, Babylon is taken, Bel is confounded, Merodach is broken in pieces; her idols are confounded, her images are broken in pieces. {set up: Heb. lift up}

Jer 51:12 Set up the standard upon the walls of Babylon, make the watch strong, set up the watchmen, prepare the ambushes: for the LORD hath both devised and done that which he spake against the inhabitants of Babylon. {ambushes: Heb. liers in wait}

Jer 51:27 Set ye up a standard in the land, blow the trumpet among the nations, prepare the nations against her, call together against her the kingdoms of Ararat, Minni, and Ashchenaz; appoint a captain against her; cause the horses to come up as the rough caterpillers.

Admonish them of the great danger when every man will prepare to save himself, but it will be too late

2Ki 25:4 And the city was broken up, and all the men of war fled by night by the way of the gate between two walls, which is by the king's garden: (now the Chaldees were against the city round about:) and the king went the way toward the plain.

Ps 144:15 Happy is that people, that is in such a case: yea, happy is that people, whose God is the LORD.

De 33:29 Happy art thou, O Israel: who is like unto thee, O people saved by the LORD, the shield of thy help, and who is the sword of thy excellency! and thine enemies shall be found liars unto thee; and thou shalt tread upon their high places.

Ps 16:11 Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.

Ps 33:12 ¶ Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance.

Ps 36:8 They shall be abundantly satisfied with the fatness of thy house; and thou shalt make them drink of the river of thy pleasures.

Ps 65:4 Blessed is the man whom thou choosest, and causest to approach unto thee, that he may dwell in thy courts: we shall be satisfied with the goodness of thy house, even of thy holy temple.

Ps 84:4 Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: they will be still praising thee. Selah. 5 Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee; in whose heart are the ways of them.

Ps 17:15 As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: **I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness.**

1Jo 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

Ex 19:5 Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine:

De 4:20 But the LORD hath taken you, and brought you forth out of the iron furnace, even out of Egypt, to be unto him a people of inheritance, as ye are this day.

De 7:6 For thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God: the LORD thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth.

De 14:2 For thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God, and the LORD hath chosen thee to be a peculiar people unto himself, above all the nations that are upon the earth.

**June 2003 to June 2004**

Sanchez held the top military position in Iraq during what was arguably one of the most critical periods of the war—the year after the fall of the Hussein regime, and the time the insurgency took root and began its counterattack. Highlights during his tenure as commander in Iraq include the killing of [Uday](http://hussein) and [Qusay Hussein](http://hussein), and the capture of [Saddam Hussein](http://hussein).

He was in command when the abuse of prisoners occurred most notably at [Abu Ghraib prison](http://prison). Some have been highly critical of the U.S. military's failure to hold generals accountable, as the blame for abuses at Abu Ghraib and other detention centers was placed only on a few individuals of the lowest rank.

Sanchez was succeeded as commander of allied ground forces in [Iraq](http://iraq) by a four-star general: former Army Vice Chief of Staff [George Casey](http://jr.). This changeover was part of a larger split in responsibilities as Sanchez's former command, Combined Joint Task Force 7 under a three-star general, was superseded by [Multi-National Force Iraq](http://iraq) under a four-star general.

**Disunity in leadership**

[L. Paul Bremer](http://bremer) was the leader of the Coalition Provisional Authority in Iraq. There was almost a complete failure to communicate between Bremer, the top civilian, and Sanchez, the military leader. "It was very clear they hated each other. They lived in the same palace and didn't talk to each other." This disunity in leadership has been cited as one of the major failures of the first year of the Iraq War.

**Abu Ghraib**

Sanchez was commander of coalition forces during a period when abuse of prisoners occurred at Abu Ghraib and at other locations. In a memo signed by General Sanchez and later acquired by the [ACLU](http://aclu) through a [Freedom of Information Act](http://act) request, techniques were authorized to interrogate prisoners, included "environmental manipulation" such as making a room hot or cold or using an "unpleasant smell", isolating a prisoner, disrupting normal sleep patterns and "convincing the detainee that individuals from a country other than the United States are interrogating him." [[2]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ricardo_Sanchez#cite_note-1) On May 5, 2006 Sanchez denied ever authorizing interrogators to "go to the outer limits". Sanchez said he had told interrogators: "...we should be conducting our interrogations to the limits of our authority." Sanchez called the [ACLU](http://aclu): "...a bunch of sensationalist liars, I mean lawyers, that will distort any and all information that they get to draw attention to their positions." [[3]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ricardo_Sanchez#cite_note-Macon-2)

**Career after Iraq**

In June 2004, Lieutenant General Sanchez relinquished command of the Multi-National Force Iraq (MNF-I) to General [George Casey](http://jr.), Vice Chief of Staff of the Army. Sanchez returned to Germany where he continued as Commanding General, [V Corps](http://corps). He was briefly considered for promotion to four-star rank with assignment as Commander, [Southern Command](http://command); nomination would have required Senate confirmation, which would have been contentious due to the [Abu Ghraib scandal](http://abuse). He was not nominated; the position went to General [Bantz Craddock](http://craddock).

Sanchez led V Corps in Germany during 2004-2005 as it refitted in anticipation of its second deployment as the command headquarters in Iraq. When V Corps returned to Iraq as headquarters element for the Multi-National Corps Iraq (MNC-I), Lieutenant General [Peter W. Chiarelli](http://chiarelli) was named commander; the V Corps flag remained in Germany with Sanchez. The result was somewhat unusual; the V Corps headquarters was in Iraq under Chiarelli's command with the name MNC-I while Sanchez remained in Germany with the corps flag, but with replacement (V Corps-Rear) personnel.

On 6 September 2006, Sanchez relinquished command of [V Corps](http://corps) in a ceremony at Campbell Barracks, Heidelberg, Germany. Sanchez had commanded the corps for more than 3 years; longer than any previous commander in the unit's history. In deference to Sanchez' longevity, he relinquished command to General [David McKiernan](http://mckiernan), Commanding General, US Army Europe and Seventh Army, his higher commander, instead of to a successor.

Sanchez retired on 1 November 2006, culminating 33 years of Army service. Sanchez now lives in his home state of [Texas](http://texas).

**Criticism of the media and political leadership**

Speaking to a group of military reporters and editors in Washington DC on October 12, 2007[[6]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ricardo_Sanchez#cite_note-Prepared_notes-5), Sanchez lambasted the media for "sensationalist" coverage and "self-aggrandizement" and expressing the belief that reporters were willing to "compromise [their] integrity" and "display questionable ethics" to get front page stories:

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|  | The death knell of your ethics has been enabled by your parent organizations who have chosen to align themselves with political agendas. What is clear to me is that you are perpetuating the corrosive partisan politics that is destroying our country and killing our servicemen who are at war.  My assessment is that your profession, to some extent, has strayed from these ethical standards and allowed external agendas to manipulate what the American public sees on TV, what they read in our newspapers and what they see on the web. For some of you, just like some politicians, the truth is of little to no value if it does not fit your preconceived notions, biases and agendas. | **”** |

Sanchez went on to criticize the partisanship that has characterized America's political leadership on Iraq[[7]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ricardo_Sanchez#cite_note-Criticism-6):

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|  | There has been a glaring, unfortunate, display of incompetent strategic leadership within our national leaders. As a Japanese proverb says, "Action without vision is a nightmare." There is no question that America is living a nightmare with no end in sight.  Since 2003, the politics of war have been characterized by partisanship as the Republican and Democratic parties struggled for power in Washington. National efforts to date have been corrupted by partisan politics that have prevented us from devising effective, executable, supportable solutions. At times, these partisan struggles have led to political decisions that endangered the lives of our sons and daughters on the battlefield. The unmistakable message was that political power had a greater priority than our national security objectives. Overcoming this strategic failure is the first step toward achieving victory in Iraq — without bipartisan cooperation we are doomed to fail. There is nothing going on in Washington that would give us hope. |  |

Sanchez has become the most senior retired general to criticize American political leadership of the war.

**Quotes**

* "(The Abu Ghraib prison scandal is) the key reason, the sole reason, that I was forced to retire. I was essentially not offered another position in either a three-star or four-star command.[[9]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ricardo_Sanchez#cite_note-8)
* In reference to the 2007 "surge" strategy in Iraq: "The best we can do with this flawed approach is to stave off defeat"

**A former US military chief in Iraq has condemned the current strategy in the conflict, which he warned was "a nightmare with no end in sight".**

Retired Lt Gen Ricardo Sanchez also labelled US political leaders as "incompetent" and "corrupted".

He said they would have faced courts martial for dereliction of duty had they been in the military.

The best the US could manage under the current approach in Iraq was to "stave off defeat", Gen Sanchez warned.

"There is no question that America is living a nightmare with no end in sight," he said, addressing journalists at Arlington, near Washington.

**'Desperate'**

A catalogue of political misjudgements had paved the way for the insurgency after the fall of Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein, according to Gen Sanchez.

He blamed the US disbanding of the Iraqi military as well as the failure to set up civilian government quickly and cement ties with tribal leaders.

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| Gen Sanchez commanded coalition forces in Iraq for a year |

The White House this year injected an extra 30,000 US troops into Iraq in the hope of stemming sectarian violence and sowing some political stability.

But Gen Sanchez branded this so-called "surge" strategy a "desperate attempt" to make up for years of shortcomings.

"The best we can do with this flawed approach is stave off defeat," he warned.

The White House responded by pointing to the report by current commander Gen David Petraeus and US Ambassador Ryan Crocker, who said the situation was difficult but marked by gradual improvements.

White House spokesman Trey Bohn said: "We appreciate his (Gen Sanchez's) service to the country... As General Petraeus and Ambassador Crocker have said, there is more work to be done, but progress is being made in Iraq."

Gen Sanchez was commander of coalition forces in Iraq for a year from mid-2003.

He retired last year in the aftermath of the scandal over detainee abuse at Abu Ghraib prison in Baghdad. He was cleared of any wrongdoing.