**Movies that Matter: Zulu**

**1-16 IN Leader Development Event**

1. Purpose: The purpose of 1-16 IN Movies that Matter: Zulu event is threefold: to conduct small group leader development, to facilitate professional discussion amongst the officer corps of the battalion, and to use lessons learned from a movie to improve our organization.
2. Overview of Program: This event is a facilitated discussion group using a movie as a vehicle to discuss leaders and leadership. Movies are selected by the Leader Development Council and are presented to the Battalion Commander for approval. Movies are military or leadership movies in nature and are purposely selected to be ones that are not as necessarily well-known or as popular as recent military classics. This allows the discussion group to be relatively fresh and new to the majority of participants.
3. Execution: This event can be done as a small group or as a large group. The movie facilitator or facilitators watches the movie before the event and selects several points on leaders or leadership to ask during the event. A venue is determined for the group to watch a movie and is reserved. The event starts with the facilitator leading an introduction, the group watches the movie to the midway point, the facilitator pauses the movie at the midway point to ask 2-3 open ended questions to the group to get discussion going, the group then watches the rest of the movie and at the end the facilitators ask 2-3 open ended questions. The event ends with a final thought from the facilitator and then the group ends the event. It is best to remind the participants in the event that the movie and history are (of course) slightly different and that the leader development event is based upon the story presented in the movie and not necessarily historical fact.
4. Selected Movie: *Zulu (1964)* Running time 2:15
5. Movie Synopsis: *Zulu* film depicting the Battle of Rorke's Drift between the British Army and the Zulus in January 1879, during the Anglo-Zulu War. It depicts 150 British soldiers, many of whom were sick and wounded patients in a field hospital, who successfully held off a force of 4,000 Zulu warriors. The British held out against the odds and survive the battle. Eleven defenders received the Victoria Cross for the defense of Rorke's Drift, the most awarded to a regiment in a single action up to that time.
6. Introduction: By the 1870s the British Empire had colonies in southern Africa bordering on various Boer settlements, native African kingdoms such as the Zulus, and numerous indigenous tribal areas and states. Various interactions with these followed an expansionist policy. The discovery of diamonds in 1867 near the Vaal River ended the isolation of the Boers in the interior and changed South African history. The discovery triggered a diamond rush that attracted people from all over the world and drew the attention of British imperial interests. In the 1870s, the British began annexing native territories and colonies and merging them into their South Africa colony. The pretext for the war had its origins in border disputes between the Zulu leader, Cetshwayo, and the Boers in the Transvaal region. The British representatives made demands on territories that the Zulus would not answer to. In January 1879 a British force under invaded Zululand, without authorization by the British Government.
7. Main Characters:
   1. LT John Chard of the Royal Engineers. Born near Plymouth, Chard attended the Royal Military Academy in Woolwich and was commissioned into the Royal Engineers in July 1868. He was involved with the construction of naval fortifications in Bermuda and Malta before he was deployed to southern Africa at the start of the Anglo-Zulu War.
   2. LT Gonville Bromhead of the 24th Regiment of Foot (Infantry). Born in 1845 in Versailles, France into a notable military family he purchased commission into the 2nd Battalion, 24th Foot. Bromhead was an accomplished boxer and cricketer for the regimental team, and was popular with the men under his command.
8. Discussion Questions Overview: These questions are a guide event facilitators and are to provoke conversation not direct it.
9. Discussion Questions:
   1. Before Movie Discussion:
      1. What is the role of Noncommissioned officers in our organization?
      2. What do you do when a situation presents you with no good options?
   2. Mid-Movie Discussion: Pause at the arrival of the Zulu Army to Rourke’s Drift as the officers load their pistols.
      1. What does “When you take command, old boy, you’re on your own” mean?
      2. How would you describe the relationship with the officers and NCOs at Rourke’s Drift?
   3. End of Movie Discussion:
      1. What are the roles of NCOs compared to officers? How do they complement each other?
      2. What are the role of senior NCO’s in an organization?
      3. How did the relationship between the two Lieutenant’s change?
10. Postscript: Some of Chard and Bromhead's superiors, were resentful of the adulation bestowed on the pair. Chard was denounced as a "useless officer" and "a dull, heavy man, scarcely able to do his regular work". One superior said of Chard that a "more uninteresting or more stupid-looking fellow I never saw". As for LT Bromhead it was said that he is “capital fellow at everything except soldiering” and that “Bromhead is a stupid old fellow, as deaf as a post. Is it not curious how some men are forced into notoriety?"
    1. LT Lieutenant John Chard of the Royal Engineers. He retired from the army as a colonel in 1897 due to cancer. Chard—a lifelong pipe smoker—was diagnosed with cancer of the tongue and died.
    2. Lieutenant Gonville Bromhead of the 24th Regiment of Foot (Infantry). During his career he developed hearing problems which became progressively worse throughout his career. Following the events depicted in the movie he served in his regiment in Gibraltar, India, and Burma. The battalion returned to India where Bromhead died of typhoid fever in February 1891.