



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

121ST SIGNAL BATTALION
CMR 448
APO AE 09225

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

AETV-BG-SB

24 JUN 03

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Policy Memorandum 14: Safety

1. Purpose. To minimize the risk of death and injury to personnel operating vehicles and equipment.
2. Risk Assessments will be conducted prior to, and during, all training. The risk assessment will be present in the vehicle dispatch. Company Commanders or 1SGs will conduct a safety briefing of their troops prior to all weekends and holidays.
3. Vehicle Safety.
 - a. All Motor Vehicles. Use of seatbelts is mandatory by all occupants of motor vehicles with installed seatbelts. Vehicles with inoperative seatbelts will be administratively deadlined. All posted speed limits will be strictly followed.
 - b. Military Vehicles. Smoking is not permitted in military vehicles. The use of headphones or earphones while operating a military motor vehicle is prohibited. During training exercises, drivers and vehicle commanders will ensure windshields and headlights are cleaned at every halt. At no time will a military vehicle be left running while unattended (without a driver seated in the driver's seat).
 - c. Tactical Vehicles. The KEVLAR helmet will be worn whenever tactical vehicles are operated outside the 121 Motor Pool. This applies to all drivers and passengers of tactical vehicles.
 - d. Special emphasis will be placed on dismounted activities around vehicles. A minimum of one ground guides will be used when moving a tactical vehicle backwards. Ground guides will use proper hand/arm signals at all times during daylight and limited visibility.
 - e. No troops will be transported in cargo vehicles with a load of cargo. The troop safety strap will always be used when transporting troops. Troops traveling in the back of trucks will wear KEVLAR helmets.
 - f. An NCO will be present while troops are working on vehicles in the motor pool, or in areas where heavy equipment is being used. Some examples of operations that have caused injuries and fatalities include improper use of jack stands, improper ground guiding, split-rim tire repair, the removal of engines, and the loading/unloading of ammunition and equipment.

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SUBJECT: Command Policy Memoranda

4. CE Safety. Shelter and equipment grounds will be fully secured and checked by an NCO. Use of ground enhancements such as salt water, multiple grounds, and star grounds are authorized and encouraged.

5. Long/Holiday Weekend Safety.

a. Most POV accidents are preventable. Commanders will safety brief the soldiers and ensure that POVs are inspected by an NCO using the current checklist prior to long weekends.

b. Risk mitigation. Commanders will brief the battalion commander prior to long weekends on their high-risk soldiers and risk mitigation procedures. High-risk soldiers are identified in USAREUR Policy 32.

c. Soldiers traveling on weekends to an area outside a 400km range of 121 Signal Battalion are required to have an approved pass on hand prior to their travel.

6. Force Protection is a top priority. Performing tasks safely and to standard not only exemplifies professionalism; it may also save a precious resource--our troops. Leaders and troops must be active participants in preventing accidents.

DANGER'S VOICE!

////original signed////
JIM GARRISON
LTC, SC
Commanding