



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, III CORPS AND FORT HOOD
1001 761ST TANK BATTALION AVENUE
FORT HOOD, TEXAS 76544-5000

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

AFZF-CG

14 August 2003

MEMORANDUM FOR Major Subordinate Commanders

SUBJECT: Labor Day Safety Message

1. On 1 September 2003, we observe Labor Day — conceived by America's labor unions as a testament to their cause and dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. We celebrate Labor Day as a national holiday, and as a military community we are especially proud of the hard work by our soldiers in our units. Over the years, our military labor force has complemented the American labor force in sustaining our country's economic prowess.
2. Labor Day traditionally marks the end of summer and a time when children are back to school. The upcoming long holiday weekend affords most an opportunity to cap off summer activities and spend time with family and friends. Although summer is passing quickly, leaders must continue to sustain the safety programs employed during our Summer Safety Campaign.
3. During this holiday weekend, safety must be everyone's number one priority. The frequency of fatal Personally Owned Vehicle (POV) accidents for Fiscal Year (FY03) has slowed down since Memorial Day, the start of our Summer Safety Campaign. Unfortunately, POV accidents took the lives of 16 III Corps soldiers to date in FY03. To ensure everyone returns home safely after the upcoming holiday, leaders and commanders must double their existing safety efforts, especially POV accident prevention. We must exert our leadership and influence to go above and beyond the regular briefings and POV inspections. Since speed, fatigue, alcohol, recklessness, and not wearing seatbelts and protective motorcycle gear are common factors in our POV accidents, we must focus on getting that message out to our soldiers prior to the holiday. Additionally, we must stress preventing losses due to water/recreational activities, sun/heat stress, and hunting accidents. The loss of even one soldier is tragic and must be avoided.
4. I thank the soldiers and civilian workers of III Corps for their service to our Nation. Each of you epitomizes the hard work and dedication of centuries of American workers. I hope that each of you enjoy a happy and safe Labor Day holiday with family and friends.


THOMAS F. METZ
Lieutenant General, USA
Commanding