



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

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

AFZF-GA-SAFE

14 August 2003

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Winter Safety Campaign 2003

1. Two areas we must focus on for the 1st Quarter, Fiscal Year 2004 (FY04) Safety Risk Assessment are the potential hazards of winter weather and effective controls to avoid losses. Good risk management dictates that we have our winter safety programs in place long before the cold weather arrives. "War-game" the risks now to ensure the winter training and travel season is conducted safely. With III Corps units spread out over five installations, seasonal hazards vary at each installation and training area, requiring varying preventive actions.
2. During the winter months, we usually see an increase in adverse weather related vehicle accidents and injuries – most of which are preventable. The winter season offers our soldiers and family members numerous opportunities for extended weekend and holiday off-duty activities. Leaders must employ risk management and frequently remind soldiers of the preventive measures to avoid traffic accidents: driving sober, not exceeding the posted speed limit, wearing required motorcycle safety gear, and avoiding fatigue. If a traffic accident occurs, wearing seat belts usually prevents loss of life or serious injury. Leaders must also stress control measures for potential hazards associated with recreational activities such as hunting and other outdoor activities. Other concerns should be ensuring that soldiers are trained on cold weather preparedness, protective gear and clothing, safe operation of heaters, carbon monoxide poisoning prevention, and home safety.
3. Leaders must acclimatize soldiers to working and training in colder temperatures to avoid cold-related casualties. Teach soldiers how to identify and treat cold injury categories IAW III Corps and FHR 350-16. Additionally, driver training and refresher programs must address the potential hazards of driving military vehicles in adverse winter conditions.
4. I urge leaders to browse the "Winter Safety Campaign 2003" web site on the III Corps web site (<http://www.hood.army.mil/>) under the "Phantom Safety" button. Demand that your leaders, particularly first line leaders, vigorously execute their responsibilities to ensure the safety of their soldiers during the upcoming winter months. Being prepared for winter hazards now can help us all achieve an injury and accident free winter.


THOMAS F. METZ
Lieutenant General, USA
Commanding

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