

FATALITY



AFZF-SAFE

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



13 APR 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Motorcycle Accident Results in Easter Weekend Fatality

1. A Fort Hood Soldier died as the result of an Easter weekend automobile/motorcycle accident. The Soldier and a friend were traveling eastbound on a motorcycle when an automobile traveling westbound turned left and struck the motorcycle. Both the Soldier and passenger were thrown from the motorcycle. The Soldier was pronounced deceased at a local hospital; the passenger was admitted to the Intensive Care Unit due to her injuries. Initial investigation revealed that the Soldier had completed motorcycle training; however, he was operating the motorcycle without required personal protective equipment (PPE), i.e., no helmet and no fluorescent/reflective outer garment.

2. This accident brings the Corps' total of motorcycle fatalities to three for this Fiscal Year (FY). Three is the same number we had year-to-date in FY11, and we still have the entire summer to go. The most common factors in fatal motorcycle accidents continue to be excessive speed, indiscipline and inexperience. Although the Soldier was trained and knew the standards, he made the decision to operate his motorcycle without proper PPE. Undisciplined motorcycle operators have been the cause of numerous fatalities throughout the Army this year. There is no doubt that commanders, leaders, and motorcycle mentors are engaged to reduce these needless losses; however, we must remain vigilant.

3. Commanders and leaders at all levels must continually explore new methods in their efforts to encourage compliance with all requirements of safe motorcycle operations. Leaders must ensure brigade/battalion motorcycle mentorship programs are robust and provide face to face counseling for unit motorcycle operators. Command emphasis and leader involvement will make a difference.

ENSURE WIDEST DISSEMINATION AND POST ON BULLETIN BOARDS

Another preventable death - 100 PPE! Let's all do our part to stop this senseless loss of life.

DONALD M. CAMPBELL, JR.
Lieutenant General, USA
Commanding

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