

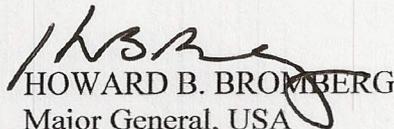


Commanding General
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DEC 15 2009

Commanding General's December Holiday Safety Message:

1. The winter holiday season is a wonderful opportunity to visit family and friend, to take time off from our daily routines, and to relax. It is also an opportune time to reflect on all that we have accomplished during the past year. I extend my heartfelt appreciation and special holiday greetings to all Team Bliss Soldiers, civilians, and Family members, especially to those with deployed loved ones.
2. During these festive periods, many individuals will be exposed to numerous hazardous situations that if not properly controlled may produce tragic events. The highest risk activities will be traveling in privately owned vehicles (POVs) on our nation's roads and highways. While POV travel is a necessary risk, it can be accomplished safely with careful planning and keen situational awareness. The use of the POV Pre-Trip Risk Assessment through TRiPS, located at the Combat Readiness/Safety Center website at <https://safety.army.mil> is essential for all Soldiers driving on leave, pass and/or TDY trips. Also check the weather; allow enough driving time and incorporate breaks; start any trip well rested; watch your speed; use your seat belts and a serviceable vehicle is crucial for safe driving.
3. Home fires are another threat to the safety of our Army community. Conditions that usually cause home fires include faulty wiring, overloaded outlets and extension cords, faulty heating systems, gas leaks, unattended lighted candles, and dried-out Christmas trees. Other hazards include the danger of carbon monoxide poisoning, cold weather injuries, slips and falls, and excessive consumption of alcohol. We must also remain vigilant in our security and terrorist threat efforts and be alert to recognize stressful situations that may lead to violence or suicide. Positive individual preventive actions and early involvement by leaders can make the difference in saving lives and preventing serious injuries.
4. This is a time of great anticipation, celebration, and joy, but it can quickly turn tragic if we fail to adhere to and enforce the high standards expected of all leaders and individuals. Enjoy your time off but control your activities with discipline, common sense, and do not take unnecessary risks. My goal is not to lose one Team Bliss Soldier, civilian employee or Family member to accidents during the holiday period. I need your help to make that a reality.


HOWARD B. BROMBERG
Major General, USA
Commanding

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