



December 2008

Throughout our Army, Soldiers, civilians and their Families are making preparations for the rapidly approaching holiday season. Many of us will be enjoying the festivities, celebrations and long awaited homecomings with our loved ones. As we celebrate the holidays, please remember the many sacrifices of our Soldiers and civilians deployed in harm's way around the world, and their Families back at home.

As each of us prepares for the holidays, please remember that this joyous season historically is a period of time that is often marred by increasing numbers of mishaps and accidents. Last year, our Army tragically lost 208 Soldiers to preventable accidents. We must **all** look out for each other as members of the Army's Band of Brothers and Sisters, and effectively manage risk, especially during off-duty activities.

I know many of you will be traveling to be with your Families over the next month. I would ask each of you to use the TRiPS online planning tool found on the USACRC website at <https://crc.army.mil> to assist you in making sound risk decisions regarding your travel plans. Discuss your plans with your Leader, supervisor and/or Family before setting out for your holiday journey. Their sage wisdom and advice should be incorporated in all you do to insure your personal safety.

Let's all make this the safest and most joyful holiday season ever by looking out for each other. I wish all of you and your Families the best, and have a blessed and safe holiday season.

Army Safe is Army Strong!

WILLIAM T. WOLF  
Brigadier General, USA  
Director of Army Safety