



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
16TH SPECIAL TROOPS BATTALION  
UNIT 27503  
APO AE 09139

AETS-SBB-CO

25 April 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Battalion Commander's Policy Letter #6, Safety "Owning the Edge"

1. References:

- a. Army Regulation 385-10, The Army Safety Program
- b. DA PAM 385-40, Accident Reporting and Records
- c. FM 5-19, Composite Risk Management
- d. Army in Europe Command Policy Letter #5, Safety
- e. AE PAM 385-15, Leader's Operational Accident Prevention Guide
- f. 16th Sustainment Brigade Command Policy #6: Safety "Owning the Edge"

2. It is my goal for our Soldiers to safely complete peacetime missions and prepare for wartime missions. The best way to do this is to integrate safety into everything we do. Leaders should continually analyze their missions from a safety standpoint and mitigate risks. The success of our safety programs hinges on total involvement by everyone.

3. Protecting the force and preserving our combat power are critical for mission accomplishment. This means we must be able to safely train, deploy, sustain, and protect combat ready forces capable of conducting joint, worldwide operations. This can be accomplished through engaged leadership focused on safeguarding our nation's precious resources; Soldiers and equipment. The 16th STB will adhere to the enforcement of standards and integration of composite risk management into the planning and execution of all operations. Safety and risk management also extend into all off duty Soldier activities. Safety is taking care of Soldiers and must always be a top priority! Anything less is unacceptable. Always remember, our goal is *No Loss of Life*.

4. All Commanders will maintain a proactive safety program throughout the battalion which will include:

- a. Safety Officers and Safety NCOs are appointed on orders and all will have attended or be scheduled to attend SOC-40 within 90 days of appointment.
- b. Risk Assessments completed prior to all training, systematically identifying and eliminating all hazards and signed by the appropriate level commander.
- c. Dissemination and implementation of the USAREUR CG Safety Sends, as well as Detachment, Company, and Battalion Safety SOPs.

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d. The Safety Officer will plan and participate in Battalion and Company Safety council Meetings and Command Inspections.

e. The Safety Officer and NCO will maintain files and records as required and serve as the Company point of contact for all Safety related incidents and/or accidents.

5. We will strive to accomplish zero accidents and we will accomplish this with an effective safety program implemented by strong Officer and NCO leadership. This demands vigilant leadership as we confront the challenges ahead. Our Soldiers and our nation deserve no less.

6. I expect all Commanders to raise awareness of personal risks. Encourage Soldiers to take responsibility for their actions and to care for their own and other's well being. Promote the "buddy system" where safety is concerned. This promotes an atmosphere of caring that can result in immediate and positive action when standards are not complied with. Taking aggressive actions to identify and eliminate unsafe conditions is imperative and positively enhances safety. First line leaders must talk with their Soldiers and mentor them on safety. Unit leadership must identify high-risk Soldiers and take appropriate action to reduce Soldier's risks. Leaders will take an active part in Soldier safety (Oak Tree Counseling) and enforce the use of the Travel Risk Planning System (TRiPS) for all off-duty travel outside a 150 mile radius of their unit location.

7. The implementation of the unit Safety program is a commander's responsibility. The success of the safety program rests with you.

8. A copy of this policy letter will be posted on the permanent section of all Company Safety bulletin boards.

9. The point of contact for this action is the undersigned at 469-7188.

10. ***ON POINT!***

  
CODY L. ZILHAVER  
LTC, FC  
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION:  
HHC, 16th STB  
504th BDE SIG CO  
106th FMCO