



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
HEADQUARTERS, V CORPS  
UNIT 29355  
APO AE 09014



Policy Memorandum # 6

AETV-CG

07 February 2002

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Policy on Accident Prevention

1. Privately Owned Vehicle (POV) accidents continue to be the single biggest cause of injuries and fatalities to our soldiers and family members. My intent is to reverse this unacceptable trend. However, we must go a step further and institute an aggressive accident prevention program that targets all accidents to minimize the number of injuries and fatalities on and off duty. Leader involvement is vital to ensure that: accident assessments are conducted; lessons learned are shared; soldiers are educated on all safety issues and that safety awareness is emphasized Corps wide.
2. Commander involvement is paramount in preventing serious injury and the tragic and needless loss of life that occurs from accidents. Proactive, hands-on leadership at all levels is imperative, particularly at the squad leader or first-line supervisor level. Accept nothing less than standard. Utilize available safety professionals and resources. Provide and use the proper accident prevention tools. Mentor, lead, educate. Maintain a "running" risk management culture. Share ideas and techniques that work. Reward safe behavior and protect our most valuable resource, the soldiers.
3. All Class A and selected Class B accidents will be reviewed by the first general officer in the chain of command. Corps separates' accidents will be reviewed by the Chief of Staff, Deputy Commanding General, or the Commanding General. Units experiencing a Class A or B accident will generate and publish a Safety Alert. Commanders will brief Class A and B accidents resulting in Safety Alerts at the USR.
4. Following every POV accident that results in a fatality or serious injury, the battalion commander will appoint an accident assessment team to review the incident.
  - a. This assessment team will meet as soon as possible after the accident notification. Commanders should include the unit safety officer and safety non commissioned officer, local medical personnel and chaplain to assist the team. This team will determine what happened, why it happened, how it could have been prevented and the lessons learned.
  - b. The assessment will involve the implementation of corrective and preventive measures.
  - c. The results of the assessment will be briefed to the first general officer in the chain of command of the unit experiencing the accident, and provided to the Corps Safety Office within five working days of the convening accident assessment team. The format should be an Army Ground Accident Report to include three additional paragraphs; pre-accident phase, accident phase, and post accident phase. Each paragraph will describe the circumstances involved in each phase.

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- d. V Corps Safety will forward the Army Ground Accident Report to the Command Group and disseminate the resulting Safety Alert throughout the Corps to help prevent a similar occurrence.
5. Our emphasis on safety must be unrelenting. Junior officers and non-commissioned officers see their soldiers every day. They should know where their soldiers go, what they do, and then assert positive influence to prevent needless accidents.
6. Soldiers sometimes telegraph signals that translate later into accidents. Negative behavior such as traffic offenses, alcohol abuse, misconduct, and poor performance are often indicators of potential accident victims. We must identify "at risk" soldiers; counsel them; and take proactive measures to modify their risky behavior.
7. Use risk management to identify hazards associated with all operations. Assess the hazards; make decisions to control them; implement the controls; and supervise execution. The next accident assessment is the best tool to accomplish this task.
8. Activities scheduled on post keep soldiers on post and off the road. Commanders should coordinate with Base Support Battalion Commanders to keep gyms, recreation centers and other places soldiers use off-duty open later. These same measures can also provide alternatives to alcohol use. Promote the use of the Base Support Battalion and local transportation systems as alternatives to POV use.
9. We must all be dedicated to end these tragic and needless fatalities. Direct, positive, hands-on leadership will make a difference. Accident prevention is leaders' business at every level of our Corps. We owe it to our great soldiers, civilians and families.
10. Victory Corps!

  
WILLIAM S. WALLACE  
Lieutenant General, USA  
Commanding

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