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

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF

Policy Memorandum # 7

AETV-CG (385-10c)

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: V Corps Suicide Prevention Program

1. References.

a. Department of the Army Regulation 190-40, Serious Incident Report.

b. Department of the Army Regulation 600-63, Army Health Promotion.

c. Department of the Army Pamphlet 600-24, Suicide Prevention and Psychological Autopsy.

d. Department of the Army Pamphlet 600-70, U.S. Army Guide to the Prevention of Suicide and Self-Destructive Behavior.

e. USAREUR Regulation 40-6, Referring Soldiers for Mental-Health Evaluation.

2. Suicide prevention is the business of every commander, leader, supervisor, soldier, and civilian employee in the Army. My goal is to make every effort to eliminate suicides within V Corps. The loss of even one soldier is a tragic loss to all of us.

3. Caring leadership and early involvement are keys to success. A caring leader is aware when there is a change in behavior or attitude in a subordinate. Soldiers do not readily tell us when they are involved in a failing relationship or facing hopeless situations. Someone in the soldiers support structure, the chain of command as well as soldiers in the work place and family members, must take the initiative and get involved!

4. Education is important in order to recognize potentially suicidal or self-destructive behavior. Leaders need to know what steps to take in order to successfully intervene.

a. Annual suicide awareness briefings will help keep leaders as well as soldiers informed and ready to make a difference. Unit chaplains and/or mental health professionals can provide classroom instruction utilizing the Army Suicide Prevention Program prepared by the United States Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventative medicine and The American Association of Suicidology (http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/dhpw/).

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b. Units can provide each soldier with the Suicide Prevention Cards (http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/dhpw/) and ensure that a list of helping agencies is readily available. The wallet-sized cards give suicide warnings signs and how to help individuals who appear suicidal.

5. Victory Corps!

JAMES C. RILEY
Lieutenant General, USA
Commanding

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