



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY CENTRAL
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SHAW AIR FORCE BASE SC 29152

ACCG

2 November 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR United States Army Central (USARCENT) Personnel

SUBJECT: Autumn/Winter Safety Message

1. Soldiers, Army Civilians and Families across the command are enjoying the cooler days and longer nights of autumn, but unfortunately, unique hazards accompany this welcome time of year. Whether it is operational activities in the U.S. Central Command Area of Operations (AOR), enjoying a holiday meal with friends and family, or getting your weapons ready for hunting season, autumn and winter offer many opportunities for celebration, great outdoor fun and renewal. We ask that you look out for others and make the right choices for yourself to recognize risks and then identify and implement effective mitigation measures.

2. This autumn/winter season, it is incumbent upon leaders and supervisors to reinforce practices and principles that we know mitigate risk and equip all USARCENT personnel to make smart decisions in their daily activities to prevent accidents involving injuries, fatalities, and property loss. Be personally involved in your team's holiday planning and reinforce your commitment to their welfare. We also encourage all to discuss your plans with your leader, supervisor and Family and consider their advice.

a. Weather. USARCENT deployed Soldiers and Civilians must be mindful that as cooler weather approaches, it is crucial that they understand the importance of protecting themselves to avoid becoming a cold weather injury statistic. Leaders must ensure that cold weather injury prevention procedures are incorporated into planning as risk mitigation measures.

b. Traffic/Vehicle Operation. Privately owned vehicles and motorcycle accidents continue to be the leading cause of accidents and fatalities throughout the year. For those who are traveling, exercise caution as winter weather and holiday traffic may complicate your plans. Just a moment of inattention can turn a festive journey into a tragedy. While forward, our personnel will encounter road conditions that differ significantly from those in the United States. Although Kuwait has an extensive and modern system of well-lit roads, excessive speed on both primary and secondary roads, coupled with lax enforcement of traffic regulations and a high density of vehicles, leads to frequent and often-fatal accidents.

3. The CSM and I are proud to be part of this great team. As we wrap up a challenging year and look forward to the challenges of next year, we cannot express our gratitude for all that you do for our Soldiers, their Families, and our Army Civilians. By working together, we can be safe and reduce the risk in all fall and winter activities this season!

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