



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 43D SIGNAL BATTALION
UNIT 29227
APO AE 09014

NETC-SER-BC

01 FEB 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Command Policy Memorandum #9 - Command Safety Program

1. References:

- a. 5th Signal Command Policy Letter #2, Commander's Policy on Safety
- b. 2nd Signal Brigade Command Policy Memorandum #9 - Safety

2. The purpose of this memorandum is to state my policy for promoting safety in the workplace and increasing the involvement of the chain-of-command to minimize personal injury and material loss due to accidents on and off the job.

3. The following are my beliefs concerning safety:

a. Safety is a caring for people issue. There is a strong element of leadership involved in safety.

b. Almost every activity involves a risk. Leaders must continuously foster a mental attitude among their subordinates, which is oriented on recognizing the inherent dangers in the conduct of training or daily operations.

c. Accidents generally don't just happen; they result from lapses in judgment or procedural errors, training, or supervision.

4. I expect supervisors, soldiers, and employees at all levels to consider the safety aspect of all training and operational activities. In any choice between safety and expediency, safety must prevail except in the most compelling circumstances. Choices to accept risk will be made only by leaders and supervisors who will be held responsible for their decisions, however, simple common sense safety such as use of the seat belt is not a choice, and it is a must.

5. "Under the oak tree" meetings: these meetings are to discuss soldiers' off-duty plans and remain mandatory before weekends, holidays, and before soldiers go on pass or leave. All NCOs will be provided a "meeting under the oak tree" information sheet that outlines this process, also available on the 43D Signal Battalion and 2D Signal Brigade safety websites.

6. Accident Reporting: Accidents will be promptly reported through the chain-of-command. When they involve serious personal injury or property loss, they will be reported without regard to time of day or day of week. The unit Commander, or First Sergeant, will prepare accident reports. Particular attention will be focused on corrective actions. I will personally review accident reports for this item before they are submitted from the battalion.

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7. I am the Battalion Safety Officer; the Sergeant Major is the Battalion Safety NCO. Commanders and First Sergeants will be the Safety Officers and NCOs at the company level. NSC Chiefs will respond as the Safety Officer while their Deputy as the Safety Representative of their section. Each can delegate this responsibility to a competent representative but the inherent overall responsibility remains yours. I will designate a Battalion Representative to guide and direct my policies to the companies and NSCs.

8. The proponent of this memorandum is Mr. Andrew Gancarz, Battalion Security Specialist at DSN 370-7625.

9. *"Teamwork, Strength, Speed! Always Professional!"*



PHILIP A. HOYLE
LTC, SC
Commanding

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