



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
6TH MEDICAL LOGISTICS MANAGEMENT CENTER  
693 NEJMAN STREET  
FORT DETRICK, MD 21702-5022

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

MCMR-LCZ

20 November 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR 6<sup>th</sup> Medical Logistics Management Center (MLMC) Soldiers and Families

SUBJECT: Holiday Safety Message

1. As the holiday season begins and 2012 draws to a close, it is a fitting time to pause and reflect on an extremely productive and safe year, as well as the many blessings bestowed upon us. This Thanksgiving is especially meaningful in light of your extraordinary support in response to the recent Hurricane Sandy federal relief efforts and the safe return of our Soldiers called to action when the nation needed us most. You personify the definition of Vanguard and I am extremely proud to be part of such a dynamic, *lethal* Team of Teams!

2. Not to be forgotten, are our deployed men and women supporting the US Central Command area of responsibility at the US Army Medical Materiel Center-Southwest Asia based in Qatar. Your personal sacrifices and selfless commitment to our Nation, Armed Forces, and formidable mission of sustaining 'troops in contact,' is foremost in our thoughts and never goes a day unnoticed. Special thanks to our family members as well. As best described by the Army Chief of Staff, "the strength of our nation is our Army...the strength of our Army is our Soldiers...the strength of our Soldiers is our families...and that's what makes us Army Strong!"

3. During this holiday season as we give thanks, relax, spend quality time and celebrate with loved ones, I ask that you do so safely and responsibly. The Thanksgiving weekend and Christmas holiday are among the most dangerous times to be on the road. This fact is due to several reasons including: extended driving time without breaks, distracted driving, drowsy driving, reckless driving, speeding, and driving under the influence of alcohol. A lack of preparation for snowy/icy roads and poor vehicle maintenance are also contributing factors. Thanksgiving is also the peak day for home cooking fires, so keep safety in mind when preparing holiday meals. Removing risk does not mean removing fun. **The bottom line is that safety is about having a plan and exercising good old fashioned common sense and adult behavior at all times.**

4. I also ask that you look out for each other as battle buddies and surrogate family members. The holiday season can be a difficult period for some--both mentally and emotionally. We need leaders and battle buddies to closely monitor our at-risk Soldiers and ensure that no Vanguard is without a place to share in the holidays. Leaders will also ensure that Soldiers complete the Travel Risks Planning System (TRiPS) risk assessment at <https://safety.army.mil>.

5. It remains the greatest of privileges to serve with each of you. You make a difference in protecting lives. Once again, SGM Rodriguez and my wife Lori join me in wishing you a wonderful holiday season and prosperous 2013. Be safe, reset your "check engine lights," and cherish this special time with your loved ones. God bless.

*REGIONALLY FOCUSED / GLOBALLY DEPLOYABLE...LET'S ROLL!*

*Vanguards,  
Wishing you a safe and joyous  
holiday season. Spend some quality  
time with your loved ones--  
you deserve it! All the best.  
Happy Holidays G*

*Michael J. Talley*  
MICHAEL J. TALLEY  
Colonel, U.S. Army  
Commanding