



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
INSTALLATIONS AND ENVIRONMENT
110 ARMY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON DC 20310-0110

July 2, 2003

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Safety and Occupational Health Resources

Department of Defense accident rates are on the rise. After years of continued downward trends, Army accident rates have increased substantially over the past three years. Noting that "world-class organizations do not tolerate preventable accidents," the Secretary of Defense has set a goal to reduce mishaps and accident rates by 50% over the next two fiscal years (see enclosed memorandum). The Army Leadership shares the Secretary of Defense's concerns about the increase in accidents and accepts the Secretary's goal.

The Army has recently initiated many new actions to institutionalize safety and risk management in Army culture and the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Environment, Safety and Occupational Health) is in the process of developing Army strategy, initiatives, and metrics focused specifically to achieve Secretary Rumsfeld's goal. I will forward these to you in the near future. In the interim, it is essential that we posture ourselves to enable prompt and efficient execution of forthcoming mishap and accident reduction strategies, initiatives, and metrics. To reiterate Army requirements (further detailed in Army regulation 385-10), Commanders will:

- Designate a qualified command safety and occupational health official – as a member of the commander's special staff reporting directly to the commander - to exercise staff supervision of the command safety program.
- Organize and staff a safety office, under the direction of the command safety and occupational health manager, to organize and administer the command safety program.
- Provide sufficient funds and other resources to carry out safety responsibilities designated by regulation.
- Appoint, train, and qualify additional duty safety personnel to perform required safety and accident prevention functions in troop (company level or equivalent), industrial, and administrative units not staffed with full-time safety personnel.
- Establish a Safety and Occupational Health Advisory Council at MACOM, installation, and community levels to make recommendations to the commander and perform such additional safety and occupational health tasks as the commander or the council may direct.

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I thank you for your assistance in providing the foundation we need to meet the Secretary of Defense's mishap reduction goal.



Mario P. Fiori

Enclosure

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