

## Be safe this Memorial Day weekend

By Public Affairs Staff 24 May 2018



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
UNITED STATES ARMY WAR COLLEGE AND CARLISLE BARRACKS  
CARLISLE, PENNSYLVANIA 17013-5210


CSWC

23 May 18

MEMORANDUM FOR All Carlisle Barracks Personnel

SUBJECT: 2018 Memorial Day Safety Message

1. Memorial Day, an American holiday observed on the last Monday of May, honors the men and women who have died while serving in the U.S. military. Many Americans observe the day by visiting memorials, holding family gatherings, and participating in parades. Unofficially, Memorial Day marks the beginning of the summer season.
2. On average, the Army loses the equivalent of a company-sized formation of soldiers to fatal off-duty accidents each year. Historically, this tragic loss of life occurs during warm weather months. Privately owned motor vehicle accidents, including motorcycles, account for approximately 68 percent of all fatal mishaps. These trends are not unique to the military. Early projections of 2017 traffic fatalities nationwide show that an estimated 37,150 people died in motor vehicle traffic crashes. Hazard awareness and effective control implementation before and during off-duty activities can preserve the lives of our soldiers, civilians, and family members.
3. To increase hazard awareness, the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center has released an updated off-duty safety awareness presentation that includes loss-prevention information on home safety, high-risk behaviors, fatigue management, and alcohol consumption. I strongly encourage all organizations to integrate these accident prevention efforts into their operations so this information can be taken home where it can truly make a difference. You can view the off-duty safety presentation at <https://safety.army.mil/ODSAP>.
4. Engaged leaders and the application of risk management can enable readiness and mitigate undesired outcomes. Use this holiday observance to talk with your peers and family members about off-duty threats and to plan for the months ahead. I thank you for your commitment to the U.S. Army, and I wish you an enjoyable summer season.
5. Strength and Wisdom!

  
JOHN S. KEM  
Major General, U.S. Army  
Commanding General



*Play it safe*

*Memorial Day safety message*