

## 417th Base Support Battalion

# SAFETY BULLETIN

### HOLIDAY DRIVING SAFETY TIPS

The period from November to January which includes Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year Holiday is often accompanied by cold weather, rain, fog, snow, black ice, and darkness in the morning and afternoon. This combination is the most hazardous traffic condition of the year and as you know, accidents occur to all, military and civilian, of all ranks and ages.

Too many drivers think that most fatal accidents happen at high speeds and on long trips, only. This is an incorrect and dangerous impression. Three out of four traffic deaths occur within 25 miles of home and 50% of all serious accidents happen at speeds of 40 miles an hour or less. However, 40 miles an hour on a wet or icy road can be too fast.

The following information should assist you to have a safe and accident-free holiday season.

1. **HAVE YOUR CAR CHECKED.** Brakes, tires, lights, steering, windshield wipers and -washers, rear view mirror, and signal horn. Think about a flash light, a blanket, and jumper cables.
2. **USE SEAT BELTS AND CHILD RESTRAIN SYSTEMS.** They help prevent injuries, and save lives. Safeguard yourself and your family, use seat belts whenever and wherever you drive.
3. **BE ALERT TO HAZARDS.** Adjust your driving to traffic and weather conditions. Remember, posted speed limits are for normal driving conditions.
4. **ADOPT GOOD DRIVING HABITS.** Merge smoothly into traffic. Keep safe distance to traffic ahead. Turn on your headlights (use low beam) and fog lights if necessary. Do not drink and drive for any reason.
5. **EVERYWHERE** - at intersections, when turning, while passing or being passed -  
**MAKE COURTESY YOUR CODE OF THE ROAD.**

Last but not least, check the "Road Condition" boards at the installations. They're posted and maintained for Army Motor Vehicle (AMV) and Government Owned Vehicles (GOV), but can give you at least an idea of the road conditions between the listed locations.

**The 417th BSB Safety personal wishes you and your family a peaceful and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.**