



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
AIR EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMAND

5 DEC 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

FROM: AETC/CC
1 F Street, Ste 1
Randolph AFB TX 78150-4324

SUBJECT: Holiday Safety

1. The "First Command" has gone the last six years without a single fatality during the holiday season. Success like this doesn't just happen. Our commanders have taken an active role, emphasizing risk management during the holiday season and our Airmen have exercised sound risk management in their holiday plans. An active wingman culture with Airmen watching out for each other has also been a key factor in preventing mishaps. I expect us to implement these same keys to success this holiday season.
2. Remember, we haven't always been as successful in mitigating risk and preventing the loss of life. Since 1980, fifty-six AETC Airmen have lost their lives in mishaps during the holiday season. This year the Air Force's winter safety slogan is "*Safety Never Takes a Holiday.*" Although the holiday season is a time for celebration and spending time with friends and family, we must not ever let safety take a holiday.
3. Additionally, returning from the holiday season presents challenges of its own as we get back to our normal routines after an extended break. I encourage all flying unit commanders to implement a local instructor development/continuation training "spin up" program to mitigate the risk of decreased proficiency. Maintenance personnel and Air Traffic Controllers should also be part of this program. I ask all AETC members returning from the holidays to take time to reflect on the hazards in the work place and think through the risk mitigation measures currently in place.
4. If we exercise good wingman principles, sound risk management, and good judgment we will all return from the holiday break recharged and ready for the new year. Thanks for all your efforts this past year, and please have a safe and joyous holiday season.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "E. Rice", is positioned above the typed name.

EDWARD A. RICE, JR
General, USAF
Commander

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