



Preserving and protecting our Army's combat resources

U.S. ARMY COMBAT READINESS CENTER

Labor Day 2021

On Sept. 6, our Nation will pay tribute to American laborers whose commitment and contributions helped build the strength and prosperity of our great country. For more than 125 years, Labor Day, the first Monday of September, has been commemorated with parades, picnics, parties and other celebrations.

Along with Memorial Day and Independence Day, the Labor Day weekend unfortunately has the dubious distinction of being a particularly deadly time for private motor vehicle drivers and passengers. If national trends hold true, the U.S. will suffer nearly 400 deaths as a result of vehicle mishaps over the holiday weekend. In July alone our Army lost 13 Soldiers to private motor vehicle mishaps, which includes three Soldiers who were hit by motor vehicles. As of the date of this message, we've lost a total of 64 Soldiers this fiscal year to motor vehicle mishaps, which is a 42% increase from this time last year. Sadly, nearly every one of those losses was preventable.

Many of you will take advantage of the long weekend to hit America's roads and highways to spend time with family and friends. When you do, recognize that you've significantly elevated your risk and that of those traveling with you. The hazards of travel distance, fatigue, weather, driving distractions, alcohol use and perhaps the pressure to get to your destination sooner rather than later can be deadly if not managed. Personal risk management can prevent a tragic, life-altering mishap. Don't become a victim this Labor Day, and don't lose a friend or loved one because you didn't think through your travel plans.

The well-being of our people remains our Army's greatest priority. Enjoy this special weekend and come back safe and refreshed.

Thank you for what you do for our Army and Nation.

We wish you and yours a happy and safe Labor Day.

People First — Winning Matters — Readiness Through Safety!

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