

## Commanding General's Holiday Protection Message

The holiday season is a special time of year marked by celebration with Family and friends. It is also important to be mindful of the increased potential for hazards during this busy time of year. Many of you will travel to the mainland or abroad to be with Family and friends. As you travel, I ask that each member of the USARPAC Team take precautions and include safety into all of your holiday planning and events. Additionally, be alert to the typical hazards during the holidays such as weather, vehicle/motorcycle accidents, criminal activity, alcohol consumption and sexual assault. The protection and safety of our Soldiers, Civilians and Family members is my greatest concern.

I also want to emphasize the importance of maintaining our vigilance and situational awareness to guard against a multitude of ongoing threats. Terrorism remains an enduring, persistent, worldwide threat throughout the Pacific region and our homeland. It comes in many forms and can happen at any time. The tragic attacks on our homeland over the past year continue to underscore the importance of our vigilance. The most effective means of protecting yourself and Family is individual vigilance, situational awareness and reporting suspicious or inappropriate activity/behavior.

I challenge all leaders, Soldiers, Civilians and Family members to take an "active" approach to protection throughout this holiday season. Be personally and collectively prepared. Look out for one another, each of you are valued USARPAC "ONE TEAM" members. Remember, a vigilant effort of detection and prevention is our greatest weapon in the fight against terrorism, high risk behavior and accidents.

Thank you for your continued contributions to our Nation and in support of the USARPAC mission. Have a safe and wonderful holiday season.

One Team!

VINCENT K. BROOKS

General, US Army Commanding