

On February 20, 2017, our nation celebrates President's Day where we remember our former leaders and reflect on the achievements of those who have held America's highest elected office, the President and Commander in Chief of our Armed Forces.

Just as it is a time for celebration, we must not forget safety and ensure that risk management is a part of every decision. Excessive alcohol consumption, adverse weather conditions, road conditions, and winter sports activities are areas of concern but through strong leadership and personal involvement, we can continue to raise awareness and prevent accidents for occurring.

Leaders at all levels should discuss the upcoming holiday plans and importance of implementing the buddy system and designated driver program. Our Soldiers, Civilians, and Family Members must look out for the safety and welfare of one another.

As you celebrate with family and friends during the long holiday weekend, stay safe and remain vigilant. Eighth Army is stronger because of you.

Pacific Victors!

RICHARD E. MERRITT

CSM, USA

Command Sergeant Major

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Commanding