



## Holiday Exodus 2013

In an Army as large and diverse as ours, the holiday season means many different things to our Soldiers, Army civilians and Family members. But regardless of personal traditions, the common themes of mutual respect and dedication to duty bind us together now and every day. Thank you for being part of this amazing team.

As with any extended leave period, travel will be the riskiest activity you and your Families undertake this holiday. Recent inclement weather could complicate your plans, so be prepared for potential hazards and allow plenty of time to arrive at your destination. Also remember that safe celebrating is one of the greatest gifts you can give Family and friends — if you've been drinking, call a cab to ensure you make it home safely. And while you may be excited to try out big-ticket gifts like a new all-terrain vehicle or privately owned weapon, get trained first. Your loved ones are counting on you to be responsible with their generosity.

Thank you again for what you do every day for our Army and our nation. We especially remember those of you serving in harm's way far from the joys and comforts of home. Your service and sacrifice is particularly poignant this time of year, and we anxiously await your return. Happy holidays to all of you and yours!

Army Safe is Army Strong!

Richard D. Stidley  
Command Sergeant Major

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Commanding