

101 Critical Days of summer Recap

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A Command Reduction in Safety Mishaps During the “101 Critical Days of Summer” Campaign!

By acting responsibly, and partaking in better Personal Risk Management practices, personnel in Air Combat Command helped reduce non-fatal mishaps by 11 percent and 16 percent in fatal Class “A” mishaps during this year’s “101 Critical Days of Summer” campaign.

Compared to the FY 03 summer campaign, ACC experienced the following reductions in safety mishaps during the FY 04 campaign: automobile mishaps fell 35 percent from 35 to 23 and on-duty accidents decreased 21 percent from 39 to 31. In the miscellaneous arena of slips, trips, and falls, mishaps were reduced by 20 percent; our lowest rate in 5 years! Nevertheless, both sports and recreation and motorcycle mishaps increased during this

ACC’s motorcycle safety initiatives. Because of the increases in motorcycle fatalities throughout the Air Force over a 5-year-period, an Air Force-wide motorcycle safety initiative was mandated ... the USAF Worldwide Motorcycle Safety Summit. As a result of the motorcycle summit, ACC mandated complete program reviews of all unit motorcycle training courses to foster the development of improved rider skills for assigned personnel. Through this initiative, a motorcycle mentorship program was developed resulting in mishap reductions and improved rider skills for our personnel with little or no riding experience.

So far, the statistics indicate that ACC personnel are employing

lost 9 ACC members to fatal mishaps this summer — 9 irreplaceable warriors. The official end of that campaign provides us the perfect opportunity to re-educate all our Airmen on the basic principles of ACT. ACT is simple: **A**ssess the situation, **C**onsider the options, and **T**ake appropriate actions to stay alive.” It’s simple; everyone can use the principles of ACT to accomplish personal risk assessment. The ACT principles were a big part of the “101 Critical Days of Summer” campaign; however, it was not the only safety initiative used to help our personnel stay safe.

Another cornerstone of success was the implementation of the “Safety Game Plan.” The “Safety Game Plan” required each ACC



year’s safety campaign. Injuries in the Sports and Recreation category increased overall by 2 percent, primarily because of the slight increases in both softball and cycling injuries.

With an increase in the popularity of motorcycles, motorcycle injuries also increased during the summer campaign by 28 percent, from 23 to 32 mishaps. However, the number of fatal motorcycle mishaps decreased by 20 percent during the summer campaign and has decreased by 23 percent for the year. The command’s reduction in fatal motorcycle mishaps can be primarily attributed to the Air Force and

the basic principles of Personal Risk Management. More precisely, our command’s mishap reduction accomplishments can be directly attributed to vigorous safety planning by the command’s safety professionals, proactive safety initiatives within the command, and the direct involvement by our leaders, managers, and supervisors.

In another telling statistic, ACC reduced the number of fatal mishaps during this year’s campaign by 16 percent. While having fewer fatalities is a positive trend, it doesn’t mean the work is over.

According to ACC Vice Commander Lt Gen Bruce Wright, “We

unit to develop, implement, and monitor programmatic solutions to any potentially high mishap area. By trending high mishap areas, concentrated safety focus was placed directly into the Achilles’ heel of areas requiring increased emphasis. The “Safety Game Plan” placed the proper emphasis on personal safety both (on-and off-duty); however, if personnel continue to take unnecessary risks and not foster a change in their behavioral paradigms, mishaps will continue to increase.

Remember, to ensure we can accomplish the Air Force mission we need everyone in ACC alive and well. 