DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS BRIGADE
UNITED STATES ARMY NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION
UNIT 21420
APO AE 09705

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF

ACDP-POAD 15 December 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: USANATO Brigade Safety Policy

1. Nothing we do as leaders warrant the unnecessary risk of life. Safety will be a primary concern of commanders and leaders during all activities in which our personnel are involved.

2. I am the USANATO BDE Safety Officer and am overall responsible for safety. The Brigade Safety Manager serves as my safety representative. Commanders at all levels are also Safety Officers and are responsible for safety within their commands. I will hold each Commander accountable for the safety of their unit's property and our most valued resource, *Our People.*

3. Risk Management is the main focus of today's Army and it is no different within this Brigade. Our mission has become inherently more dangerous since 9/11. Our people are located in varied locations throughout the world, in austere conditions and hostile environments. We must not accept the old saying, "Safety goes out the window during war". We must maintain the effectiveness of the risk controls and ensure risk control standards are performed as expected. The following principles must be used to manage risks:

a. Accept no unnecessary risk.

b. Make risk decisions at the appropriate level.

c. Accept risk when benefits outweigh the costs.

d. Manage risks in the planning phase, before execution.

e. Reconsider your risk management approach when changes occur.

4. Personal protective equipment is a mainstay in any safety program. The cost is diminutive whenever we consider the alternative. Hearing Conservation, Eye, Foot, and Respiratory Protective Equipment will be provided to protect our people whenever the operation dictates the requirement for such equipment.

5. Excellence in safety starts with individual commitment and discipline. Personal injuries and damage to equipment occur for many reasons. Complacency, excessive motivation,

overconfidence, and disregard for established procedures are the greatest causes. If you see an unsafe act or condition, TAKE ACTION!

6. We can achieve a safe and healthful workplace through prevention, not through investigation. Remain vigilant and take care of yourself, your family, and your fellow soldiers. I want you to know my concern for your safety and sincere determination to spare no effort in making your job as safe as reasonably possible. Be assertive – SAFETY must be our FIRST priority.

7. Point of contact is the Brigade Safety Manager, ACDP-POAD DSN 423-5343.

BARRY L. SWAIN
Colonel, AG
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION:
B plus 2, 7
C minus 1 - 14