



US Army Garrison Stuttgart

SAFETY- LESSONS LEARNED

Traffic Accident



In the early morning of 18 February 2003, four persons (one Service Member (SM), one Local National bus driver and two bus passengers) sustained injuries in an off post traffic accident involving a military bus and Privately Owned Vehicle (POV). Preliminary investigation revealed that the SM lost control of his POV in a long right hand curve due to speed not adjusted to the freezing/slippery road conditions. After hitting a traffic sign on the right hand side, the POV skidded over the center line and struck the oncoming military bus at the front right hand side. Both drivers were wearing seatbelts, which certainly prevented them from sustaining more serious or even fatal injuries.

!! CAUSAL AND CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

- **Loss of Control.** Vehicle crossed centerline into oncoming traffic.
- **Misjudged risk**
- **Speed not adjusted to conditions.**
- **Road/Weather Conditions**



!! LESSONS LEARNED

- **Adjust speed to conditions**
- **Accept no unnecessary risk**
- **The use of seatbelts significantly reduces the risk of serious injury or fatality.**
- **Improve driving skills by attending a driver safety course**

