

# Safety is 'in house' for 35th ADA Brigade

**PFC. DUSTIN ROBERTS**

*35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade*

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea – 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade's top priority is mission readiness, and according to Col. John G. Rossi, brigade commander, safety significantly contributes to this objective.

Alpha Battery, 1st Battalion, 43rd ADA Regiment, 35th ADA Brigade, Suwon Air Base, Republic Of Korea, received the "Good Order, Discipline and Safety Program" Award June 28 from Rossi.

"In order to be honored, batteries within the brigade must go 90 consecutive days without reportable accidents, episodes related to alcohol/drugs and curfew violations," said Master Sgt. Paul Knoblich, brigade safety director.

This is the second time in a row the battery has earned the award, setting the standard as the first battery in the brigade to go 180 days without incident.

"I'm extremely proud of my Soldiers," said Capt. Sara Cardenas, battery commander. "The award shows how well the Soldiers look out for each other."

The program, which has been in place since Oct. 1, 2005, was designed by Rossi in order to comply with 8th Army's safety campaign to reduce accidents by 33 percent from last year.

"Safety is something you have to think about every day, including weekends, whether Soldiers are on or off duty," said Knoblich.

When Soldiers from A Btry., 1-43 are off duty, they are expected to do their part to make sure the rules are still being followed.

"We just make sure we help each other out," said Pfc. Jacob M. Sandberg, a Soldier from A Btry., 1-43.

In order to emphasize the program, the brigade has placed display boards outside of each battery's headquarters that are updated daily to show how many consecutive days the battery has gone without incident.

Rossi said the signs are there for Soldiers to see the progress made towards another incident-free 90 days.

"When you look at that sign, it reminds you that it's less about 'I' and more about 'us.' It reminds you to do the right thing," said Rossi.

Knoblich added that safety also has



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**Capt. Sara Cardenas, battery commander of A Battery, 1st Battalion, 43rd ADA Regiment, 35th ADA Brigade, poses with Brigade Commander, Col. John G. Rossi, after receiving the "Good Order, Discipline and Safety Program" Award for the second consecutive time.**

an impact on mission readiness.

"If you're preventing incidents from occurring, you're also definitely saving time and money for the unit," said Knoblich. "If a Soldier gets hurt or equipment is damaged, then the readiness of the unit is affected."

"When a unit stresses good order,

discipline and safety as a priority, it is more ready for the mission," said Knoblich.

Cardenas said because of their excellent display of good order and discipline, the Soldiers from A Btry., 1-43 will receive a well-deserved four-day weekend.

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