

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

COALITION FORCES LAND COMPONENT COMMAND HEADQUARTERS THIRD UNITED STATES ARMY UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES CENTRAL COMMAND APO AE 09304

AFRD-CG

2 5 MAY 2003

MEMORANDUM FOR MSG

Headquarters, 800th MP Brigade, APO AE. 09366

SUBJECT: Memorandum of Reprimand

- 1. You are hereby reprimanded. It has been reported to me that on 16 May 2003, you consumed an alcoholic beverage at Camp Bucca, Iraq, the theater internment facility for enemy prisoners of war (EPW).
- 2. Your misconduct in consuming alcohol was both foolhardy and a deviation from the high standards the Army sets for its noncommissioned officers. The foolhardiness of your decision is established by a review of the highly volatile operational environment at Camp Bucca. Camp Bucca is an EPW camp, located in recently occupied enemy territory. EPWs have been shot while escaping or threatening guards or other prisoners, and suspected war criminals are still being found within the general EPW population. In this volatile operating environment, any use of alcohol, even the consumption of a single beverage, is extremely poor judgment. The known effects of alcohol on the body include diminished reflexes and judgment. Your poor judgment in consuming an alcoholic beverage is compounded by the continuous requirement for you, as a senior noncommissioned officer, to be prepared to lead soldiers who may be called upon to respond to crises. While your consumption of an alcoholic beverage on duty in Iraq is not an express violation of CENTCOM General Order 1A, it breaches the spirit of that order.
- 3. Your misconduct causes me to question your judgment and professionalism. With a clear appreciation of the challenges involved in EPW operations, you should have set the example. Instead, if only on one occasion, you have engaged in misconduct that can erode unit standards. Your misconduct calls into question your fitness to continue to serve in a combat theater.
- 4. This reprimand is imposed as an administrative measure IAW AR 600-37, and not as punishment under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. It is, however, intended to promptly and directly demonstrate my disapproval of your conduct. I have not determined whether I will direct the filing of this reprimand, but you must be aware that my disposition options include a decision not to file the reprimand, local filing, as well as filing in the Performance Section of your Official Military Personnel File. I will not make a final determination, however, until I receive and consider any response you may submit. Within ten days of your receipt of this memorandum, you may provide to me, in writing, any information in rebuttal that you wish me to consider

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You will acknowledge receipt of this memorandum, by signing and dating the attached memorandum. Submit the acknowledgement and any rebuttal or extenuating and mitigating matters through COL Staff Judge Advocate, CFLCC.

Encl

DAVID D. McKIERNAN Lieutenant General, USA

Commanding