



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS, EIGHTH ARMY  
UNIT #15236  
APO AP 96205-5236

FEB 05 2013

EACG

MEMORANDUM FOR All Eighth Army Commanders, and Assigned Soldiers and Civilians

SUBJECT: Eighth Army Command Policy Letter # 58 – Leader Responsibilities Pertaining to the Health and Discipline of the Force

1. References:

- a. Army 2020, Generating Health and Discipline in the Force, Ahead of the Strategic Reset, 2012.
- b. Army Health Promotion Risk Reduction Suicide Prevention Report 2010 (Red Book).
- c. U.S. Army Soldier and Leader Risk Reduction Tool in Korea, 2013 (USASLRRT-Korea).
- d. ALARACT 160/2010, 282049Z MAY10, Subject: ALARACT VCSA Sends on Protected Health Information (PHI).
- e. DoD Regulation 6025.18-R, DoD Health Information Privacy Regulation, 24 January 2003.

2. Purpose. To ensure that Eighth Army Commanders thoroughly screen Soldiers preparing to PCS and or otherwise depart their formations. Commanders who identify Soldiers as high risk will communicate the nature of their assessment to gaining commanders. This policy is designed to support a conversation between losing and gaining commanders; a conversation that will undoubtedly contribute significantly to a healthier and more ready force.

3. Background. Today's Soldiers, given the last decade of persistent conflict and the accompanying stressors that has imposed upon them, in addition to the garden variety challenges that accompany service in uniform, face unique challenges with respect to physical, behavioral, emotional health and relationship and discipline issues. Commanders have always been directly responsible for the welfare of their Soldiers. In keeping with that obligation, Commanders must ensure that they engage in active communication and collaboration with one another to ensure that substantive and actionable information pertaining to the high risk status of Soldiers, moving from one formation to another, is effectively and expeditiously communicated.

4. Discussion:

- a. I expect losing Commanders, subsequent to consistent and periodic assessment, by virtue of the US Army Soldier Leader Risk Reduction Tool-Korea (USASLRRT-Korea), to personally communicate to gaining Commanders the names of high risk Soldiers, and the nature of behavior that resulted in a high risk assessment.

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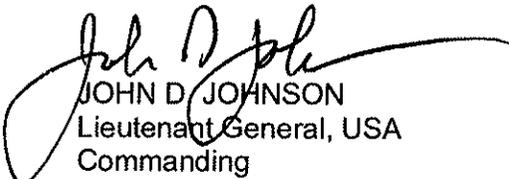
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b. Losing Commanders should also provide to gaining Commanders, recommended leader actions applicable to the high risk assessment, as well as a brief assessment of command actions previously taken (e.g. UCMJ, counseling, rehabilitative training), and the effectiveness of those actions, to effect a “warm hand-off” of Soldiers. This “warm hand-off” is essential to not only ensuring that at risk Soldiers receive the continued care and attention they deserve, but also reversing negative trends such as disciplinary, social, behavioral, or duty-related, and mitigating altogether suicide gestures and attempts.

c. In the interest of protecting the privacy of Soldiers and ensuring compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) provisions, Commanders should only communicate with Commanders, and should take necessary measures to ensure protection of sensitive information. In accordance with paragraph 1d, Commanders have the same responsibilities as health care providers to safeguard protected health information (PHI). Commanders must balance the right to privacy of PHI with mission requirements and the Commander’s right to know. Examples of Soldiers’ medical information that Commanders have the right to know include: any perceived threat to life (such as suicidal behavior, homicidal behavior, acute agitation, impaired impulse control, or other violent action), medical conditions or treatments that are duty limiting, and DOD drug testing results. In accordance with paragraph 1e, Commanders will limit disclosure of PHI to the minimum necessary to accomplish the intended purpose of the disclosure of PHI.

d. Our Soldiers are recognized as our most precious resource. We, as leaders, must ensure that they are treated accordingly and guarantee that as they move from formation to formation applicable information is passed between Commanders that will contribute to the overall well-being of our Soldiers and their families.

5. Proponent. The Eighth Army Assistant Chief of Staff G1 is the proponent for this policy. The proponent can be contacted at commercial 011-822-7914-3197 or DSN 315-724-3197.

  
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Commanding