



**United States Army
Soldier Support Institute**

Adjutant General School

**Advanced Noncommissioned Officer
Course**

Supervise Casualty Operations

Lesson# CCC2A101

ALARACT 142-2006

ALARACT 142/2006 COMPLIANCE WITH AR 600-8-1 REQUIREMENT FOR COMMANDERS TO CONDUCT INVESTIGATIONS INTO ALL HOSTILE DEATHS ARMY G-1 SENDS ON BEHALF OF CSA, DTG 251954Z JUL 06. This message directs commanders of all Major Army Commands and Major Subordinate Commands to ensure commanders of all Army active and reserve component units that are currently deployed comply with the requirement in AR 600-8-1, para 2-9, to initiate AR 15-6 collateral investigations (formal or informal) for all hostile deaths.

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Caveats: NONE

P 251954Z JUL 06
FM PTC WASHINGTON DC//ALARACT//
TO ALARACT
ZEN/ADDRESS LISTS @ AL ALARACT(UC)
BT
UNCLAS

***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****

SUBJ: ALARACT 142/2006

THIS MESSAGE HAS BEEN SENT BY THE PENTAGON TELECOMMUNICATIONS CENTER ON BEHALF OF DA WASHINGTON DC//DAPE-ZA//

SUBJECT: COMPLIANCE WITH AR 600-8-1 REQUIREMENT FOR COMMANDERS TO CONDUCT INVESTIGATIONS INTO ALL HOSTILE DEATHS ARMY G-1 SENDS ON BEHALF OF CSA

- A. AR 600-8-1 (PUBLISHED 7 APR 06; EFFECTIVE 8 MAY 06)
- B. AR 15-6 PROCEDURE FOR INVESTIGATING OFFICERS AND BOARDS OF OFFICERS (30 SEP 06)
- C. DOD INSTRUCTION 1300.18 (18 DEC 00)
- D. PUBLIC LAW 102-484, SURVIVOR NOTIFICATION AND ACCESS TO REPORTS RELATING TO SERVICE MEMBERS WHO DIE.
- E. ALARACT 224/2005 SUBJ: CASUALTY REPORTING PROCEDURES 041732Z NOVEMBER 2005
- F. ALARACT 137/2005 SUBJ: CASUALTY REPORTING AND HANDLING REQUIREMENTS FOR SUSPECTED FRIENDLY FIRE INCIDENTS OR OTHER INCIDENTS THAT RESULT IN THE INITIATION OF A DEATH INVESTIGATION 151601Z JULY 2005

1. THIS MESSAGE DIRECTS COMMANDERS OF ALL MAJOR ARMY COMMANDS AND MAJOR SUBORDINATE COMMANDS TO ENSURE COMMANDERS OF ALL ARMY ACTIVE AND RESERVE COMPONENT UNITS THAT ARE CURRENTLY DEPLOYED COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENT IN AR 600-8-1, PARA 2-9, TO INITIATE AR 15-6 COLLATERAL INVESTIGATIONS (FORMAL OR INFORMAL) FOR ALL HOSTILE DEATHS.

2. REPORT THE INITIATION AND COMPLETION OF THE INVESTIGATION ON THE CASUALTY REPORT. USE BLOCK 61 FOR UNIT FIELD GRADE OFFICER REVIEW. EXAMPLE: MAJOR SMITH, BN XO, HAS APPROVED THIS CASUALTY REPORT. USE BLOCK 56 AND 61 FOR THE AR 15-6 INVESTIGATIVE INFORMATION. EXAMPLE: 56: YES (BLOCK CHECKED FOR ALL HOSTILE DEATHS). BLOCK 61: AR 15-6 INVESTIGATION INITIATED ON 5 JUL 06.

2. BACKGROUND:

A. REF C REQUIRES THE SECRETARY OF EACH MILITARY DEPARTMENT TO ENSURE THAT FATALITY REPORTS AND RECORDS PERTAINING TO ANY MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES WHO DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO FAMILY MEMBERS OF THE SERVICE MEMBER.

B. IN LIGHT OF SOME INSTANCES OF ARMY UNITS OR AGENCIES NOT COMPLYING WITH REF C, REF E WAS ISSUED ON 4 NOV 05 TO REMIND COMMANDERS OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES CONCERNING CASUALTY REPORTING AND REF A WAS RECENTLY REVISED TO MAKE MORE EXPLICIT THE REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES OF ALL COMMANDERS WHO INITIATE ANY TYPE OF DEATH INVESTIGATION INVOLVING SOLDIERS WHO DIE ON ACTIVE DUTY.

C. DESPITE ISSUANCE OF THE REVISED PROCEDURES, ADDITIONAL INSTANCES OF PREVIOUSLY UNREPORTED DEATH INVESTIGATIONS CONTINUE TO SURFACE INVOLVING A DIFFERENT ACCOUNT OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES LEADING UP TO THE DEATH FROM THE CIRCUMSTANCES PROVIDED TO THE FAMILIES THROUGH CASUALTY REPORTING CHANNELS.

D. THE CSA AND THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY EXPECT THAT THOSE FAMILIES WHO SUFFER THE LOSS OF A LOVED ONE WHILE IN THE PERFORMANCE OF HIS OR HER DUTIES AS A SOLDIER ON ACTIVE DUTY WILL RECEIVE THE FULLEST POSSIBLE ACCOUNTING FOR THE CIRCUMSTANCES THAT LED UP TO THAT SOLDIER'S DEATH, WHETHER UNDER HOSTILE OR NON-HOSTILE CIRCUMSTANCES.

THE CSA HAS THEREFORE DIRECTED THAT SURVIVING FAMILIES ARE INFORMED OF ALL DEATH INVESTIGATIONS CONDUCTED BY ANY DOD ACTIVITY AND PROVIDED WITH INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW THEY CAN REQUEST A REDACTED COPY OF ANY INVESTIGATION THAT IS CONDUCTED INTO THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THEIR LOVED ONE'S DEATH.

3. PROCEDURES:

A. ALL HOSTILE DEATHS WILL BE INVESTIGATED UNDER THE PROCEDURES OF AR 15-6. PARA 1-4, STATES "FORMAL PROCEDURES ARE NOT MANDATORY UNLESS REQUIRED BY OTHER APPLICABLE REGULATIONS OR DIRECTED BY HIGHER AUTHORITY. NEITHER AR 600-8-1, NOR HRC, REQUIRE A FORMAL BOARD; THEREFORE, IT MAY BE AN INFORMAL INVESTIGATION. AR 15-6, PARA 2-1 STATES THAT THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS MAY APPOINT AN INFORMAL INVESTIGATION OR BOARD (B) A COMMANDER AT ANY LEVEL, OR (C) A PRINCIPAL STAFF OFFICER OR SUPERVISOR IN THE GRADE OF MAJOR ABOVE. THEREFORE, A BATTALION COMMANDER MAY APPOINT THE INFORMAL AR 15-6 INVESTIGATING OFFICER. THE BATTALION CAN DIRECT THE INVESTIGATING OFFICER TO REVIEW ALL INCIDENT-RELATED REPORTS AND INVESTIGATIONS, QUESTION EYE WITNESSES AND THEN REPORT THE FINDINGS. THE REPORT CAN TAKE THE FORM OF AN INFORMATION PAPER. THE APPROVAL AUTHORITY IS THE APPOINTING AUTHORITY.

B. BECAUSE THE INCIDENT BEING INVESTIGATED RESULTED IN DEATH, IAW AR 15-6 PARA 2-3 (B), A LEGAL REVIEW IS REQUIRED PRIOR TO THE APPOINTING AUTHORITY ACTING. THE LEGAL REVIEW MUST BE CONDUCTED BY A JUDGE ADVOCATE (JA).

C. THESE INVESTIGATIONS ARE RELEASABLE UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT UPON A PROPER REQUEST. THE UNIT IS THE CUSTODIAN OF THE RECORD AND THEREFORE THE RELEASE AUTHORITY. THEREFORE, THE REPORTS MUST BE PROPERLY REDACTED BEFORE RELEASE.

4. COMMANDERS OF DEPLOYING UNITS ARE REMINDED THAT THIS REQUIREMENT IS IN ADDITION TO THE PREVIOUSLY ESTABLISHED REQUIREMENTS TO INVESTIGATE ALL SUSPECTED FRIENDLY FIRE INCIDENTS AND ALL FATAL MILITARY ACCIDENTS. CONTRARY TO A HOSTILE DEATH INVESTIGATION, THE INVESTIGATING OFFICER FOR THESE INVESTIGATIONS MUST BE APPOINTED BY THE GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL CONVENING AUTHORITY (GCMCA). FURTHER, IAW REF A THROUGH D, ALL COMMANDERS MUST ENSURE THAT THEY REPORT THE INITIATION OF ANY --REPEAT ANY-- DEATH INVESTIGATION (COLLATERAL, ACCIDENT, LINE OF DUTY, OR OTHER PURPOSE) THROUGH NORMAL CASUALTY REPORTING CHANNELS, USE SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS TO PROVIDE STATUS UPDATES, AND IAW REF A, PROVIDE A COPY OF THE COMPLETED REPORT TO CDR, AHRC, ATTN: AHRC-PEZ, WITH INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW A SURVIVING FAMILY MEMBER CAN REQUEST A REDACTED COPY OF THE COMPLETED REPORT.

5. COMMANDERS WHO INCUR CASUALTIES, WHETHER DURING DEPLOYMENT OR AT HOME STATION, ARE ALSO REMINDED OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES TO ENSURE THAT CASUALTY CIRCUMSTANCES AND OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE INCIDENT OR THE INVESTIGATION THAT SHOULD BE RELAYED TO THE SURVIVING FAMILY MEMBERS IS REPORTED THROUGH CASUALTY CHANNELS AS IT BECOMES CONFIRMED, REGARDLESS OF THE AMOUNT OF TIME THAT HAS TRANSPIRED SINCE THE INCIDENT OCCURRED AND REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE INVESTIGATION ITSELF HAS BEEN COMPLETED.

6. POCS FOR QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE ABOVE PROCEDURES ARE:

7A. G-1 POC IS MR. KEVIN LOGAN AT AHRC-PEZ; E-MAIL KEVIN.LOGAN@HOFFMAN.ARMY.MIL; COMM: (703) 325-8629 OR DSN: 221-8629.

7B. OTJAG POC IS LTC MICHAEL LUTTON AT DAJA-AL; E-MAIL MICHAEL.LUTTON@HQDA.ARMY.MIL; COMM: (703) 693-0493 DSN: 223-0493.

8. EXPIRATION DATE CANNOT BE DETERMINED.

BT

#9903

NNNN

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Caveats: NONE