

# 18th Military Police Brigade SHARP Newsletter

Volume 1

06 January 2014



**I. A.M. Strong**

- Intervene
- Act
- Motivate

A Healthy Force is a Strong Force

Prevent and Report Sexual Assault

**Brigade Commander  
 Colonel Donna W. Martin**

Welcome to our first edition of the 18th Military Police Brigade SHARP Newsletter.

It is my mission, as the Rear Detachment Commander of the 18th Military Police Brigade, to create an environment free of sexual harassment, sexual crimes and offenses. I endeavor to leave no means, no excuses, no place to hide, no oxygen for sexual harassment or sexual assault.

At the same time, I want to make sure those who have suffered any sexual harassment or assault know that you can freely report the offense and justice will be sought in every case. All Soldiers and persons affiliated with this brigade have the right to be free of any unwanted sexual involvement of any kind whether physical, verbal or implied.

It is unacceptable for me to envision my personal Family Members having to endure unwanted sexual attention where they work or live. It is equally unacceptable for me to tolerate such activity in this brigade.

I want everyone who reads this letter to understand that the root cause of sexual offense is weak or unhealthy attitudes of respect. People do not make inappropriate sexual comments to people they respect. People do not tell dirty jokes about people they respect. They don't get people

they respect drunk with the intentions of having sex with them. And people don't force sex or sexual actions on people they respect.

It may seem impossible to stop all sexual harassment and sexual assault, but we can easily learn to respect everyone at all times. It is fallacy to wait for a person to earn respect. If each of you is the values driven person you were raised to be and the Army trained you to be, then you are strong enough to show respect regardless of extenuating circumstances. You will realize that the actions of other people don't determine when or if you do the right thing. Instead, you will always exercise power over your own self and will yourself to respect. For good people are not governed by circumstances; they are governed by values and principles. When respect is non-negotiable, sexual offenses will cease. We will kill sexual offenses and stifle disrespect together by first changing the way we talk to each other and about each other. I am charging all 18th MP BDE Soldiers to ensure what you say about yourself, your fellow Soldiers-regardless of rank-and all others is respectful. Don't allow anger, misunderstanding, or unpleasant words from others to convince you that disrespectful words are justified. Disrespect is never justified. I understand that subordinates



will require correcting and influencing. However, don't use a need to correct as an excuse to use disrespectful language. Don't take the easy way out; use the intellect God gave you and find the right way to correct or influence. As we improve everything we say to a respectful level, the way we treat each other will improve. We can then look for ways to increase the level of respect in our actions and in the actions of those around us. When this level of excellence is achieved, 18th MP BDE will become one of the safest environments in the US military.

So, 18th MP BDE, I charge you to start now not allowing disrespectful language from yourself or any other person around you. In this way we will suffocate disrespect which will eliminate sexual assault and sexual harassment.

**Brigade Command Sergeant Major  
 Command Sergeant Major James W. Breckinridge**

The 18th MP BDE has aggressively worked to prevent sexual abuse and to create a safe environment for Soldiers through its Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention, or SHARP, program. The program is intended to eliminate sexual assaults by creating a climate that respects the dignity of all members of the Army family – Soldiers, their spouses, partners and other family members. The effort also extends to anyone Soldiers come into contact with, including civilian employees. To help accomplish this,

the SHARP strategy has been built around senior leaders based at the unit level. The Army has placed emphasis on holding commanders and NCOs accountable and giving them the resources to improve the climate for Soldiers. Leaders must work to create climates that emphasize dignity and respect as the core values by which Soldiers live. Additionally, leaders must understand and convey that the Army's efforts to stop sexual violence are not distractions from the mission but rather are essential to unit cohesion, crucial



to mission readiness and indispensable to the vitality of the all-volunteer force and the Army Profession.

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### Reporting Options

#### Unrestricted Report

- An official investigation will begin.
- Command will be notified of the incident.
- Report to chain of command, military police, CID, or medical and behavior health personnel.

#### Restricted Report

- There will **NOT** be an official report.
- Command is **NOT** notified.
- Confidentiality is maintained.
- Medical and counseling services can be utilized while maintaining confidentiality.
- Report the assault to SARC, VA, a health-care provider, or chaplain.

### Contacts

USAG Rheiland-Pfalz Assault Hotline  
24 Hrs  
475-4567 or 0964-183-4567

(24/7) DoD Safe Helpline:  
877-995-5247

18th MP BDE SARC/SHARP  
MSG Antione Taylor: 496-3605 or 06302-67-3605

SFC Maria Olson: 496-3571 or 06302-67-3571, Cell: 0162-234-1508

18th MP BDE VA/SHARP  
Mrs. Jenna Miller: 496-3578 or 06302-67-3578, Cell: 0162-297-4530

SHARP Office is located at:  
Bldg 136, Room 110 Sembach

### Sexual Harassment

The Army recently changed its procedures for the handling of sexual harassment complaints for uniformed personnel. Effective 1 July 2013, the responsibility to handle sexual harassment complaints for Soldiers changed from the Equal Opportunity Advisor (EOA) to SHARP. For more information, consult MOD 2 to USAREUR TASKORD 12-0418 (SHARP Synchronization), DTG: 031611ZJUN13.

## Policy

The Army policy that governs Sexual Harassment/Assault Response Program is AR 600-20, Chapter 8.

### Army Sexual Assault Policy

*a.* Sexual assault is a criminal offense that has no place in the Army. It degrades mission readiness by devastating the Army's ability to work effectively as a team. Every Soldier who is aware of a sexual assault should immediately (within 24 hours) report incidents. Sexual assault is incompatible with Army values and is punishable under the UCMJ and other Federal and local civilian laws.

*b.* The Army will use training, education, and awareness to minimize sexual assault, to promote

the sensitive handling of victims of sexual assault, to offer victim assistance and counseling, to hold those who commit sexual assault offenses accountable, to provide confidential avenues for reporting, and to reinforce a commitment to Army values. *c.* The Army will treat all victims of sexual assault with dignity, fairness, and respect. *d.* The Army will treat every reported sexual assault incident seriously by following proper guidelines. The information and circumstances of the allegations will be disclosed on a need-to-know basis only.

This policy applies

- (1) Both on and off post and during duty and non-duty hours.
- (2) To working, living, and recreational environ-

ments (including both on- and off-post housing). For more information on the Army Policy regarding the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program, visit the SHARP program website at [www.preventsexualassault.army.mil/policy\\_reg.cfm](http://www.preventsexualassault.army.mil/policy_reg.cfm).

## Upcoming Training

21TSC will be hosting a SHARP MTT from 21 Jan – 31 January 2014. The event will be from 0800-1700 at building 8085 in Baumholder.

USAG Rheiland-Pfalz will hold their Right Seat Ride on 3-4 February 2014 and the EOA right seat ride will follow on 5 February 2014.

## Highlights

A new date rape drug is on the rise sweeping across Europe and hitting American soil. Which once was a common date rape drug in the South American countries like Colombia, Ecuador, and Brazil, reports of a drug called Burundanga or known as Scopolamine is one of the worse date rape drugs to hit the market in years. Natives of the South American countries say one of the reasons why this drug is so bad is because the effects can last from several hours to several days. Unlike other date rape drugs that cause a victim to pass out, this drug turns a person into a "zombie" according to eyewitnesses. The drug causes disorientation, loss of memory, hallucinations, fever and stupor within minutes. The drug does not have to be injected into the system to work, simply spraying a

certain amount on your skin or breathing it could expose you to the tasteless and odorless drug. The street name for scopolamine is "Devil's Breath" in Columbia, and is used not only as a date rape drug but a common way to rob people. Because the victim stays completely conscious and is in a trance, victims under the influence have emptied their own bank accounts at ATM's and handed the money over to the robber, but the next day had no recollection of doing it until they saw video footage from the bank. Women have reported (even though this is an unfounded delivery mechanisms) of feeling different after they touched a flyer or a card that was handed to them by a stranger but have no recollection of what happened to them. Police in Columbia say, the side

effects of the loss of memory but the ability to still physically partake in certain actions, makes it very hard for victims to report what happened to them because they honestly cannot explain it. As this drug becomes more available and closer to home we urge people to stay alert of their surroundings. Don't leave drinks unattended, stay in groups and in common lit places and if you feel any of the symptoms listed above try to get help as soon as possible.



18th MP BDE SHARP Team