

(b)(6)-5/(b)(7)(C)-5

Talking Points – LTC [REDACTED]

(b)(6)-5/
(b)(7)(C)-5

LTC [REDACTED] was assigned as a Battalion Commander of 2-20 FA Battalion, 4th Infantry Division Field Artillery.

(b)(6)-5/(b)(7)(C)-5

When allegations of wrongdoing arise, they are carefully investigated. In this case, the actions of LTC [REDACTED] were investigated by the Army's Criminal Investigation Division (CID). Army Commanders take appropriate action in cases of misconduct at the lowest level, consistent with good order and discipline. Available options for dealing with alleged misconduct include a wide-range of administrative and disciplinary measures.

(b)(6)-5/(b)(7)(C)-5 (b)(6)-5/(b)(7)(C)-5

In this case, as an administrative matter, the investigations were reviewed by the 4th Infantry Division Commander, MG Odinario, and the CJTF-7 Commander, LTG Sanchez to determine if LTC [REDACTED] should remain in command of 2-20 FA. It was the recommendation of the 4th ID Commander that LTC [REDACTED] should be removed from command. LTG Sanchez approved that recommendation. These are difficult decisions made after great consideration. They are best made by field commanders who are intimately familiar with military operations and the mission in Iraq.

(b)(6)-5/(b)(7)(C)-5 (b)(6)-5/(b)(7)(C)-5 (b)(3)-1

Based on the alleged misconduct, a battalion commander in the [REDACTED] preferred charges against LTC [REDACTED] regarding three specification of assault by LTC [REDACTED] and one count of threatening to kill the Iraqi detainee.

(b)(3)-1/(b)(2)-2

The charges initiate a military justice process. The process is outlined in the Uniform Code of Military Justice, a federal statute passed by Congress and . They do not mean that the ultimate outcome of the case will be a court-martial trial. In this case, the [REDACTED] has directed a pre-trial investigation under Article 32, UCMJ. The Article 32 hearing will be open to members of the media and public. LTC [REDACTED] and his counsel will be able to call witnesses, cross-examine any accusers and present other evidence in the hearing.

(b)(6)-5/(b)(7)(C)-5

The Article 32 Investigating officer, a LTC line officer, will make a recommendation after hearing all the evidence, including facts in mitigation and extenuation. After reviewing the Investigating officer's report, the [REDACTED] can dismiss the charges, take alternate action, or recommend a court-martial to his next superior.

(b)(3)-1/(b)(2)-2