



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
HEADQUARTERS, 12TH COMBAT AVIATION BRIGADE  
ANSBACH ARMY HELIPORT, GERMANY  
APO AE 09177-8710

AETV-CAB

13 January 2014

MEMORANDUM FOR All 12th Combat Aviation Brigade (CAB) Military Personnel

SUBJECT: 12th CAB Command Policy Letter 18, Relationships Between Soldiers of Different Ranks

1. References.

a. AR 600-20, Army Command Policy (18 Mar 2008).

b. Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ), Article 92 (Failure to Obey a Lawful Order or Regulation).

2. Purpose: Army Regulation 600-20, para. 4-14, prohibits relationships between Soldiers of different rank if those relationships:

a. Compromise, or appear to compromise, the integrity of supervisory authority or the chain of command;

b. Cause actual or perceived partiality or unfairness;

c. Involve, or appear to involve, the improper use of rank or position for personal gain;

d. Are, or are perceived to be, exploitative or coercive in nature; or

e. Create an actual or clearly predictable adverse impact on discipline, authority, morale, or the ability of the command to accomplish its mission.

3. Within the 12th Combat Aviation Brigade, any business or social relationship between a Soldier in the grade of E6 or above and a Soldier in the grade of E5 or below is determined to create a predictable adverse impact on discipline, authority, morale, or the ability of the command to accomplish its mission, and is therefore prohibited.

4. Soldiers in the grade of E5 and E4(Corporal) are discouraged from engaging in business or social relationships with Soldiers of junior rank, and as part of their professional development, should begin to transition any such existing relationships with Soldiers of junior rank from social to a professional context. Even though such relationships are not per se prohibited by this policy, they may still violate the provisions of AR 600-20, para. 4-14b.

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5. Certain types of personal relationships between officers and enlisted personnel are prohibited. The term "officer" includes both commission and warrant officers. Prohibited relationships include:

a. Ongoing business relationships between officers and enlisted personnel. This prohibition does not apply to landlord/tenant relationships or to one-time transactions such as the sale of an automobile or house, but does apply to borrowing or lending money, commercial solicitation, and any other type of on-going financial or business relationship.

b. Dating, shared living accommodations other than those directed by operational requirements, and intimate sexual relationships between officers and enlisted personnel. This prohibition does not apply to marriages, although evidence of fraternization prior to the marriage may still be cause for adverse action. If two enlisted Soldiers are in a dating relationship and one of them has entered into a program intended to result in a change in their status from enlisted to officer, the couple must terminate the relationship permanently or marry within one year of the actual start date of the program, before the change in status occurs.

c. Gambling between officers and enlisted personnel.

6. Paragraph 4-14 of AR 600-20 and this policy letter are punitive and violators may be subject to prosecution under UCMJ Article 92, Article 134, and any other articles applicable to a given situation. All military personnel share the responsibility for maintaining professionalism in their relationships with other service members. However, in any relationship between Soldiers of different rank, the senior member is generally in the best position to terminate or limit the extent of the relationship. Nevertheless, all members may be punished for relationships that violate AR 600-20, para. 4-14 or this policy.

7. This policy applies to all 12th CAB Soldiers even if another party to the relationship is not a 12th CAB Soldier.

WINGS OF VICTORY!



VINCENT H. TORZA  
COL, AV  
Commanding