



UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF  
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MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA 32621-5101

JAN 24 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER, COALITION FORCES LAND COMPONENT  
COMMAND, U.S. ARMY FORCES CENTRAL COMMAND, APO  
AE 09304

SUBJECT: Investigation of the 800<sup>th</sup> Military Police (MP) Brigade  
Detainee Operations

1. You are hereby directed to conduct an investigation into the 800<sup>th</sup> MP Brigade's detention and internment operations from 1 November 2003 to the present. Because your investigation will inquire into the conduct of Brigade leaders at all levels of command, appoint an investigating officer who is senior to the current 800<sup>th</sup> MP Brigade Commander. Your investigating officer may use Army regulations and processes as guidelines.

2. The investigation should inquire into all of the facts and circumstances surrounding recent reports of suspected detainee abuse. I have forwarded relevant material under separate cover. The investigation should further inquire into detainee escapes and accountability lapses as reported by CJTF-7. These incidents reflect poorly upon the Brigade and suggest possible systemic problems, to include a lack of proficiency in detention operations, the absence of clear standards, and supervisory omissions. Several related investigations are currently ongoing, including a USACIDC investigation into specific incidents concerning the Brigade's operations. The purpose of this investigation should be to gain a more comprehensive and all-encompassing inquiry into the fitness and performance of the 800<sup>th</sup> MP Brigade.

3. The report of investigation must include findings of fact and indicate whether any misconduct or negligence occurred. Further, the report must make recommendations concerning corrective measures and disciplinary actions, as appropriate. Finally, the 800<sup>th</sup> MP Brigade is a reserve unit and is scheduled for demobilization. Accordingly, ensure that jurisdiction is maintained over any members of the Brigade that are suspected of misconduct.

4. This investigation must become the primary duty of the investigating officer. The final report of investigation should

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be completed and returned to me by 1 March 2004. Submit any requests for an extension in a timely manner and outline the reason for the requested delay. The seriousness of these allegations warrants a thorough and prompt investigation.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



R. STEVEN WHITCOMB  
Major General, USA