



1 December 2015

RAPE



COURT-MARTIAL: At a September 2015 Court-Martial in Wiesbaden, Germany, a Sergeant First Class assigned to 1-214th Aviation Regiment pled guilty to, and was convicted by the Military Judge of, three specifications of rape of a child, in violation of Article 120, one specification of taking indecent liberties with a child, in violation of Article 120, and one specification of producing child pornography in violation of Article 134.

SENTENCE: Confinement for 16 years and a dishonorable discharge.

FACTS: Between 2009 and 2011, the Sergeant First Class raped his niece, a child under the age of 12. During one incident, he showed the child a sexually explicit picture of himself. In 2011, he photographed his niece engaging in sexually explicit conduct. The crimes were discovered and reported in 2015.

OBSERVATIONS: Minors cannot consent to sex or being photographed in a sexual manner. A core strength of the Army is our Families. Army policy requires mandatory reporting of any allegation of sexual assault or abuse of a child. All members of the community must be committed to eliminating incidents of sexual abuse and exploitation of children through a comprehensive policy that centers on awareness and prevention, training and education, victim advocacy, response, reporting and follow-up.

"Report all cases involving a minor to your local military law enforcement or Family Advocacy Program Office. Military members and adult dependents 18 years and older who have been sexually assaulted, may contact the Brigade Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, Victim Advocate, healthcare provider, CID, Staff Judge Advocate, Military Police, Behavioral Health, or Chaplain. They may also call the DoD Safe Helpline from Germany by dialing 537-SAFE (7233) or 0611-143-537-SAFE (7233). The telephone number is accessible via DSN, landline, and mobile, 24 hours a day."

For more guidance on reporting options and rights, visit

<https://www.safehelpline.org/>