



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND SOUTH
29350 Coral Sea Blvd.
Homestead ARB, FL 33039-1299

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

SOCSO-CG

11 December 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR SFC Misipati Bird, [REDACTED] Special Operations Command
South, 29350 Coral Sea Blvd, Homestead ARB, FL 33039

SUBJECT: General Officer Letter of Reprimand – False Official Statements.

1. In accordance with AR 600-37, you are hereby reprimanded for your following actions: specifically, that you wore awards and badges that you had not earned; that you noted those awards in official military records; that you signed three non-commissioned officer evaluation reports (NCOER) for rating periods in which you were not assigned to the unit; that you signed and certified as accurate a DA Form 2-1 which you knew to contain false and inaccurate information; that you made false official statements; and that you submitted a warrant officer application with false and inaccurate information, with the intent to deceive.

2. SFC Bird, I have determined that you have made false official statements for the purpose of obtaining a commission with the U.S. Army Warrant Officer Corp. This action makes me question your honesty and integrity. Such an action from an NCO of your rank demonstrates that you lack good judgment and are unprofessional. The submission of false information to gain a promotion amounts to fraud against the United States Government. Based on your experience you should have known better than to submit records you knew to be false. As part of the warrant officer application process, the false records you submitted were going to be reviewed for the purpose of evaluating you against other worthy candidates. You submitted false documents for the sole purpose of gaining an unfair advantage against other individuals seeking admission to the program, even though you knew the information to be false. Your actions demonstrate to me, that personal gain was more important to you than the good order and discipline of the armed forces.

3. SFC Bird you continued to manipulate the system for your personal gain by aiding in the drafting of NCOERs which you knew to be false. You also signed and certified those NCOERs as accurate and enlisted the help of senior NCOs and Officers to perpetuate this fraud against the government. Those individuals, as well as you, clearly demonstrate to me that everyone involved in the processing and drafting of the NCOERs in question lack honesty and integrity. You have severely disappointed me, given the fact you previously served with distinction while deployed in Iraq.

SOCSO-CG


SUBJECT: General Officer Letter of Reprimand – False Official Statements.

4. Your actions represent a serious departure from the high standards of integrity and professionalism expected of a Special Forces Soldier in this Command. Your conduct in this matter causes me to seriously consider your suitability for continued service as a Soldier in the United States Army.

5. This reprimand is imposed as an administrative measure and not as punishment under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. I intend to file this reprimand in your Official Military Personnel File. I will, however, make my final decision only after I receive and consider any response you elect to make. Reply by memorandum through your chain of command no later than seven days from receipt of this reprimand. Your reply may contain any written information or documents you want me to consider.

6. The Command Judge Advocate, Special Operations Command South, Homestead Air Reserve Base, Florida, must approve any extension of the seven-day response period.

Encl.
ROI 1 Dec 09


HECTOR E. PAGAN
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND (SOUTH)
29350 CORAL SEA BLVD
HOMESTEAD ARB, FL 33039

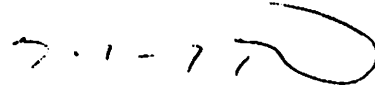
SOCSOUTH-J35

9 December 2010

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Response to Commanding General, SOCSO, Homestead ARB, FL 33039

1. I have received and read the General Officer's Memorandum of Reprimand (GOMR) and fully understand the gravity and seriousness of what has transpired. I first and foremost accept full responsibility for my actions. There are no excuses for my actions and this memorandum is not intended to make any. The intent of this memorandum is to acknowledge the fact that I submitted false and inaccurate information in my Warrant Officer (WO) packet to include false NCOER's in order to compensate for unrated time and meet the requirements for the WO program. My actions constitute nothing less than a fraud against the United States Army plain and simple. As a senior NCO I know that doing the right thing is not an option when it suits me, but an obligation as defined by the NCO creed I swore to support and live by.
2. My actions took advantage of the senior NCO's and Officers in my chain of command by requesting their support and then betraying their trust. My chain of command entrusted me as a senior NCO to take charge of my career in preparing my WO packet in accordance with regulation and the professional standards of the NCO corps, which I failed to do.
3. I have served for over 17 years in the armed forces. After a 15 year break in service, I volunteered to serve in the Army National Guard in 2001. I have never regretted my decision to put the uniform back on and serve the country that I love even though my service has kept me away my family for long periods of time. It sickens me to think that the poor choices I recently made may have overshadowed the previous years of honorable service, and most importantly, may have discredited the uniform I have proudly worn.
4. This incident has served as a wakeup call for me as a senior NCO. I have learned that there should never be complacency when it comes to adhering the Army Values and the NCO Creed. There is right and wrong, and as a senior NCO it is my obligation and duty to represent the highest standards of the Army and do the right thing. I have take steps to correct the wrong I have perpetrated against the United States Army by re-taking an "official" DA Photo (20100115) and correcting all of my military records to include my 2-1, and submitting a DD-215 to correct any errors on my DD-214. These corrections have been submitted to the SOCSOUTH JAG for review and then to personnel for submission to the HRC and NGB where the corrections will be anoted in my official Military Personnel Folder (OMPF). Additionally, with the support of my State CSM I have obtained an "official" NCOER for unrated time which is also being imputed in my OMPF.
5. Point of contact for this Memorandum is the undersigned at misipati.bird@socso.southcom.mil


MISIPATI BIRD
SFC, USA
Deployments NCOIC

**NARRATIVE TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
BRONZE STAR MEDAL WITH VALOR DEVICE**

TO

STAFF SERGEANT MISIPATI S. BIRD

Staff Sergeant Misipati S. Bird, United States Army, heroically distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous conduct in the face of the enemy of the United States as a Special Forces Engineer assigned to Forward Operating Base 102 (FOB), Baghdad, Iraq during Operation IRAQI FREEDOM on 9 July 2006. During Operation ██████████ in vicinity of the ██████████ neighborhood, Baghdad, Iraq, SSG Bird was the acting Special Forces advisor to the FOB 102 Tactical Psychological Operation Team. SSG Bird's vehicle was the trail vehicle assigned to strong point the eastern edge of the objective at a T-intersection in order to cover the infiltration route into the objective and a high speed avenue of approach located east of the target area. As the rear of the convoy set into their security positions, the element immediately came under enemy fire from at least four enemy personnel. SSG Bird and his security element, without hesitation, dismounted the vehicle and began to return fire temporarily suppressing the enemy fire. The enemy quickly regrouped and fired two Rocket Propelled Grenades (RPG) into the security element's position forcing SSG Bird to make the decision to remain on the exposed side of the vehicle in order to effectively return fire and mutually support both directions his element was assigned to cover. During the engagement, the first RPG impacted approximately twenty feet in front of SSG Bird knocking him and his security partner to the ground. SSG Bird immediately regained his composure, got accountability of his security element, and returned fire. The enemy fired a second RPG, this time striking SSG Bird in the helmet with a piece of fragmentation. SSG Bird held his ground and continued to engage the enemy despite the increased threat. The enemy finally fired a third RPG, critically wounding an Iraqi Special Operations Force (ISOF) Soldier, only this time the security element (SSG Bird) was able to neutralize the threat. During exfiltration, SSG Bird took charge when the trail vehicles were caught in an ambush on the west side of the objective, semi-disabling his vehicle by blowing out the right rear tire. SSG Bird immediately ensured all team members had enough ammunition, and then coached the vehicle driver in maintaining control of the vehicle as it continued to drive through the kill zone until it could no longer move under its own power. When the vehicle came to a stop, SSG Bird immediately organized a security perimeter while a tow strap was attached and the vehicle was towed back to base without further incident. Throughout the entire duration of the engagement, SSG Bird remained calm while under fire, displayed his maturity, and demonstrated true military leadership under extreme conditions even though it was later determined that he had suffered a mild concussion after the first RPG engagement. SSG Bird, with total disregard for his personal safety, held his ground in the face of the enemy and neutralized an RPG threat which may have potentially injured United States Special Forces Soldiers or additional Iraqi Special Operations Force Soldiers. His actions are in keeping with the finest traditions of military heroism and reflect distinct credit upon himself, The Special Operations Command Central, and the United States Army.