



19-021



POW Mishap Claims One Soldier's Life

A 20-year-old Private First Class assigned to 101st Airborne Division (Airborne), Fort Campbell, Kentucky, died in privately owned weapon mishap 27 December 2018 in Clarksville, Tennessee, at 2045 local. The Soldier was visiting a private residence when he picked up a semi-automatic pistol that did not have a magazine inserted. While handling the weapon, a round discharged and struck the Soldier. Alcohol was reported as being involved in the mishap.

ENGAGEMENT TIPS:

• Firearms are designed to be deadly weapons and alcohol can have an adverse impact on your physical and mental balance. Never mix alcohol and weapons, and always **THINK** weapons safety!

Treat every weapon as if it is loaded.

Handle every weapon with care.

Identify the target before you fire.

Never point the muzzle at anything you don't intend to shoot.

Keep the weapon on safe and your finger off the trigger until you intend to fire.

PLRs provide leaders with awareness of Army loss and highlight potential trends that affect combat readiness. Our Army depends on you to use these PLRs to help Soldiers understand the impact of decisions made on and off duty.

PRINT IT

Additional U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center PLR resources can be found on the USACRC website at <https://safety.army.mil/PLR>.

