



21-063



POW Mishap Claims One Soldier's Life

A Specialist assigned to Fort Bragg, North Carolina died in a privately owned weapons (POW) mishap 15 May 2021, in Fayetteville, North Carolina, at 0118 local. While attempting to unload and clear his privately owned weapon, it unintentionally discharged, striking him in the head. He was transported to the local medical center and pronounced dead upon arrival by the attending physician. Earlier in the evening, the Soldier had been out drinking with another Soldier, however, the investigating officer has not determined if alcohol was a contributing factor to the mishap. The investigation is currently ongoing.

Since FY16, the Army has lost an average of four Soldiers a year to POW mishaps. This tragedy was the third POW fatality of FY21.

PLRs are intended to be used as an engagement tool for leaders to discuss the hazards and trends impacting Soldier safety and readiness. The PLR contains only basic information but provides sufficient background to allow leaders an opportunity to communicate risk at the Soldier level. More detailed information on this and other Army mishaps can be found on the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center website at <https://safety.army.mil/lessonslearned>.

To access current U.S. Army accident statistics and reports, visit <https://safety.army.mil/STATISTICS>.

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

