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*General Section*

*Chapter I. Basic Provisions*

**ARTICLE 1. The Tasks of the Penal Code**

The Penal Code has the tasks of defending the socialist system and the people's right to socialist collective mastery, safeguarding the people's basic rights, protecting socialist law and order, combating all criminal acts, and, at the same time, inculcating in all people a sense of being law-abiding and a sense of struggle against infractions and their prevention. To fulfil these tasks, this code defines infractions and the penalties they incur.

**ARTICLE 2. The Bases of Penal Responsibility**

Only offenders committing crimes stipulated in the Penal Code are subject to penal responsibility. Penalties must be decided by the court.

*Chapter VIII. Regulations on the Penal Responsibility of Soldiers*

**ARTICLE 68. Penal Responsibility of Soldiers**

A soldier on active duty or a reservist undergoing formal training who commits an infraction which exceeds the jurisdiction of military regulations and discipline shall be subject to investigation as to his penal responsibility according to the regulations of this Penal Code.

**ARTICLE 69. Exemption of Soldiers from Penal Responsibility**

A soldier shall be absolved from penal responsibility for his action if the performance of this action is in strict compliance with the order of his direct commander or a competent higher echelon when the execution of this order constitutes an infraction as defined in this code. In such a case, the person issuing the order shall assume penal responsibility. If an order is still executed despite the realization that doing so is committing a felony, the person who executes it must also assume penal responsibility.

**ARTICLE 70. Temporary Postponement, Remission or Reduction of Penalties**

If, owing to the demands of combat or combat support activities, a regimental or higher-level commander proposes that a soldier who has committed a misdemeanour be permitted to remain in his unit to continue performing his duties so as to earn merits to compensate for past faults, the court may allow this soldier a temporary postponement of the implementation of his penalty of from six months to one year. After this period expires, the courts, depending on the offender's attitude to correcting his fault, shall remit or reduce his penalty or compel him to carry out in full the penalty already decided.

**ARTICLE 71. Reform at Army Disciplinary Camps**

(1) Reform at an army disciplinary camp is the main penalty to be applied for a period from six months to two years to a soldier who commits a misdemeanour which does not warrant the imposition of a prison term. If a soldier seriously violates reform regulations while undergoing reform at an army disciplinary camp he may have the remaining time of his reform period converted by the courts into a prison term at the rate of one day of imprisonment for every three days of reform.

(2) If a convict does not commit another infraction for three years after he completes his reform period at an army disciplinary camp, his conviction shall be automatically annulled.

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**ARTICLE 72. Divestment of the Title of Soldier**

Divestment of the title of soldier is a supplementary penalty applicable to a soldier who has committed a felony. A person condemned to being divested of his title of soldier shall have his military service seniority automatically abolished and all the privileges which he and his family enjoy as a result of his military service shall be revoked.

**ARTICLE 73. Dishonourable Discharge from the Army**

Dishonourable discharge from the army is a supplementary penalty applicable to a soldier who has committed an infraction and who is therefore no longer qualified for active duty. A person condemned to being dishonourably discharged from the army shall not be entitled to any privileges which are reserved for soldiers on active duty and which he and his family would otherwise be enjoying on account of his military service.

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