

# Military Expertise: “Right is Always Right” Written Case Study

**Facilitator:** Reading the Case Study twice often ensures that participants are prepared to discuss the issues.

**Facilitator’s Summary:** A Special Forces company commander used his Military Expertise to make an ethical decision. By doing so, the SF commander verified and validated his professional Competence, Character, and Commitment.

## Notes:

- What is the ethical situation at the time of the incident?
- This CO used his expertise to make a discretionary judgment without supervision – a professional’s role.
  - How did he use knowledge from the moral-ethical field of expert knowledge? Share how the Army Values and Ethic informed the SF commander’s decisions and actions.
  - What does his decision demonstrate of his character?
  - How did he use knowledge from the human development field of expert knowledge? How did he lead from this spot?
- What does the commander’s demonstrated ability to perform assigned duties say about his Competence?
  - How does the commander’s performance of duties reflect on his Commitment as a professional?
- Despite obstacles and challenges, share how you feel the commander accomplished the mission.
  - Ask the group to reflect on critical influences that affect decision making. Have them list a personal factor that would influence them as a professional in this situation; discuss the answers as a group.
- How is the commander’s commitment questioned in this situation? How did he behave as a steward? How would you perform your duties ethically and effectively?