

What is going on in the army of the UK?

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Recently published report of air marshal Michael Wigston had a social impact in Great Britain. Wigston research shows that in the past 2 years the number of crimes related to sex violence has grown greatly. The number of investigations related to these crimes has grown up to 35% compared with 2017. According to the report in most cases the victims are women, or minority constituencies, which serve in the British army.

This problem was discussed numbers of times within the highest military and political chiefs of government. This April ex-minister of ministry of defense, of the UK Gavin Williamson said that anyone who had committed a crime related to sex violence would answer and bear full responsibility in court. It's worth mentioning that he was the one to give orders to Wigston to prepare a report on unacceptable behavior in the army of the UK. The following issues were set up before the report: determine the extent of the problem, which means the number of committed crimes related to sex violence, and give examples of measures and suggestions on prevention of such cases.

Wigston stresses that mostly the crimes were committed by „white” old-timers, which don't really want to serve along with minorities.

On the highest levels of the government it was clear that racism and sexism is unacceptable, since it can have a negative impact on combat effectiveness of the whole armed forces. To solve these problems there will be changes in the system of mentoring the military and more intensive control on their behavior will take place.

In general the problem of discrimination and sexual harassment

isn't new to the army of the UK. Back in 2006 the Committee on the human rights and equality had a big research. According to the research almost half of women in the army were victims of sexual harassment. The heat is growing to the fact that in 2017 ex-defense minister Michael Fallon left his post after he was accused of harassment of the journalist and TV-host Julia Hartley-Brewer.

Besides, there is a health problem of military men in the UK armed forces. Nearly 7200 of personnel can't serve abroad due to their health, and 9910 of personnel have limited opportunities and are limited in participating in international operations. The situation is the cause of overloaded personnel that are involved in combat operations, and the decrease of their mental condition.

Such problems can seriously damage the reputation of the armed forces of the UK. This will have a negative impact on the intensive campaign aimed at recruiting new men. The lack of professionals is already a problem. Everything combined can greatly decrease level of professional skills and the ability to react fast to new threats in the United Kingdom, one that used to be one of the most combat effective countries in the world.

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