

ABC NEWS

Fijian soldier at Duntroon military college in custody after alleged rape

Exclusive by Defence reporter [Andrew Greene](#) and [Elizabeth Byrne](#)

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Photo: [The soldier had just graduated from the Royal Military College, Duntroon. \(Wikimedia Commons\)](#)

A Fijian soldier who had just graduated from the Royal Military College Duntroon is behind bars after being accused of rape.

Prosecutors have confirmed Samisoni Loloma Baikeitoga appeared in the ACT Magistrates Court on Friday, where he was charged with one count of sexual intercourse without consent.

The ABC understands the 23-year-old was arrested last Thursday, two days after he and other staff cadets had held their traditional graduation parade, at the end of 18 months of intense officer training.

Court documents show the alleged rape occurred earlier this year after a night of drinking at Canberra nightclub Mooseheads.

Chief of Army designate Lieutenant General Rick Burr, who was the reviewing officer for the graduation ceremony, had urged Duntroon's 132nd class to strive to be good future leaders in the military.

"Commit to being your best self, the best leader for your teams that you can be every day," the incoming Army Chief told the graduating staff cadets.

"Hold yourself to your own high standards, lead with purpose, with integrity and humility."

An ACT Policing spokesperson confirmed the Fijian national was arrested at Duntroon last week but as the matter was before court said it would be "inappropriate to comment".

In a statement, the Defence Department said an incident happened in April 2018, but it would not be appropriate to comment as the matter was before the courts.

The Fijian national remains in custody after being refused bail and is due back in court later this month.

Topics: [sexual-offences](#), [law-crime-and-justice](#), [act](#), [fiji](#)

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