Editorial Notes

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 884 was renumbered section 904b of this title.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective on Jan. 1, 2019, as designated by the President, with implementing regulations and provisions relating to applicability to various situations, see section 5542 of Pub. L. 114–328 and Ex. Ord. No. 13825, set out as notes under section 801 of this title.

§ 885. Art. 85. Desertion

- (a) Any member of the armed forces who-
- (1) without authority goes or remains absent from his unit, organization, or place of duty with intent to remain away therefrom perma-
- (2) quits his unit, organization, or place of duty with intent to avoid hazardous duty or to shirk important service; or
- (3) without being regularly separated from one of the armed forces enlists or accepts an appointment in the same or another one of the armed forces without fully disclosing the fact that he has not been regularly separated, or enters any foreign armed service except when authorized by the United States;

is guilty of desertion.

- (b) Any commissioned officer of the armed forces who, after tender of his resignation and before notice of its acceptance, quits his post or proper duties without leave and with intent to remain away therefrom permanently is guilty of desertion.
- (c) Any person found guilty of desertion or attempt to desert shall be punished, if the offense is committed in time of war, by death or such other punishment as a court-martial may direct, but if the desertion or attempt to desert occurs at any other time, by such punishment, other than death, as a court-martial may direct.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 67.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
885(a) 885(b) 885(c)	50:679(a). 50:679(b). 50:679(c).	May 5, 1950, ch. 169, §1 (Art. 85), 64 Stat. 135.

In subsection (a), the word "unit" is substituted for the words "place of service" to conform to clause (2) of this section and section 886(3) of this title. The word "proper" is omitted as surplusage.

In subsection (b), the word "commissioned" is inserted for clarity. The word "before" is substituted for the words "prior to". The words "its acceptance" are substituted for the words "the acceptance of the same". The words "after tender of" are substituted for the words "having tendered" for clarity. The word "due" is omitted as surplusage.

In subsection (c), the words "attempt to desert" are substituted for the words "attempted desertion".

§ 886. Art. 86. Absence without leave

Any member of the armed forces who, without authority—

(1) fails to go to his appointed place of duty at the time prescribed;

- (2) goes from that place; or
- (3) absents himself or remains absent from his unit, organization, or place of duty at which he is required to be at the time prescribed:

shall be punished as a court-martial may direct. (Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 67.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

	Revised section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
88	6	50:680.	May 5, 1950, ch. 169, §1 (Art. 86), 64 Stat. 135.

The words "proper" and "other" are omitted as surplusage.

§ 887. Art. 87. Missing movement; jumping from vessel

- (a) MISSING MOVEMENT.—Any person subject to this chapter who, through neglect or design, misses the movement of a ship, aircraft, or unit with which the person is required in the course of duty to move shall be punished as a courtmartial may direct.
- (b) JUMPING FROM VESSEL INTO THE WATER.—Any person subject to this chapter who wrongfully and intentionally jumps into the water from a vessel in use by the armed forces shall be punished as a court-martial may direct.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 67; Pub. L. 114–328, div. E, title LX, §5406, Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2940.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
887	50:681.	May 5, 1950, ch. 169, §1 (Art. 87), 64 Stat. 135.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2016—Pub. L. 114–328 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: "Any person subject to this chapter who through neglect or design misses the movement of a ship, aircraft, or unit with which he is required in the course of duty to move shall be punished as a court-martial may direct."

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2016 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 114-328 effective on Jan. 1, 2019, as designated by the President, with implementing regulations and provisions relating to applicability to various situations, see section 5542 of Pub. L. 114-328 and Ex. Ord. No. 13825, set out as notes under section 801 of this title.

§ 887a. Art. 87a. Resistance, flight, breach of arrest, and escape

Any person subject to this chapter who-

- (1) resists apprehension;
- (2) flees from apprehension;
- (3) breaks arrest; or
- (4) escapes from custody or confinement;

shall be punished as a court-martial may direct. (Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 69, §895; Pub. L. 104–106, div. A, title XI, §1112(a), Feb. 10, 1996, 110