A member of the armed forces[1] who, whether or not in the face of the enemy, commits desertion, i.e. leaves the troops or his post. If the deserter goes over to the enemy, the enemy must treat him as a prisoner of war.

See Release[2]; Re-establishment[3];

**BIBLIOGRAPHIC RESOURCES**


**Source URL:** https://casebook.icrc.org/glossary/deserter

**Links**

[1] https://casebook.icrc.org/glossary/armed-forces
[3] https://casebook.icrc.org/glossary/re-establishment