

**From:** EurasiaDigest (*digest@eurasianet.org*)

**Date:** Thu Jan 13 2005 - 11:15:09 EST

<http://www.eurasianet.org/resource/azerbaijan/hypermail/200501/0018.shtml>

#### AZERBAIJANI ARMY OFFICERS ARRESTED ON CORRUPTION CHARGES

Several high-ranking military officers from the Barda and Shamkir garrisons were arrested in December on charges of corruption, and dozens more have been demoted, zerkalo.az reported on 13 January, quoting reserve Lieutenant Colonel Uzeir Djafarov, who for years has investigated and publicized instances of corruption within the Azerbaijani armed forces. The officers are believed to have listed as servicemen people who have never performed military service and to have withheld part of servicemen's wages to finance the construction of canteens and other facilities. Djafarov identified as the suspected mastermind behind the scam the former commander of the Barda garrison, Major General Gabil Mamedov, whom President Ilham Aliyev dismissed from that position in March. Mamedov is currently serving as Azerbaijan's military attache in Kazakhstan. The Azerbaijani Defense Ministry press service confirmed the reported arrests on 13 January, Turan reported. L