

Prosecutors and defense attorneys in the court-martial of Staff Sgt. Frank Wuterich, accused in the killing of 24 unarmed Iragis in 2005, announced an agreement Monday to settle the case.

Wuterich will plead guilty to a single count of negligent dereliction of duty. Other charges were dropped. No announcement was made on what kind of discharge Wuterich would receive. The maximum sentence is three months in the brig. That decision will be made by the judge.

With the trial set to resume at 8:30 a.m. PST Monday, the judge, Lt. Col. David Jones, sent jurors home without explanation.

Neal Puckett, one of Wuterich's lawyers, told the North County Times that the decision to accept an agreement was made by Wuterich and that his client thought it was the "right and honorable thing to do."

Wuterich hugged his parents and members of a small support group that had attended the trial. The agreement has been approved by Lt. Gen. Thomas Waldhauser.

TVNL Comment: Three months in the brig, for killing 24 unarmed Iraqis. Of course, they hate us for our freedom. Bullcrap.

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