

Accuses Green Beret

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Army Breaks Silence

SAIGON (AP) — The U.S. Army singled out Green Beret Capt. Robert F. Marasco, 27, of Bloomfield, N.J., and said Saturday it was he who fired the pistol that killed an alleged Vietnamese double agent. The killing resulted in murder charges against six Green Beret officers.

The Army broke a relatively strict silence on the case and released the charges and specifications against the six officers despite defense objections, which were overruled Friday.

The charge sheets accused Col. Robert B. Rheault, 43, of Vineyard Haven, Mass., former commander of the 3,000 Green

Berets in Vietnam, of premeditated murder, although they said he did not participate in the actual slaying.

The Army charged that Rheault, in the June 15-20 period conspired with seven other Green Berets in the slaying of Thai Khac Chuyen.

The specifications said Capt. Leland J. Brumley, 27, of Duncan, Okla., obtained a boat to carry the victim from the 5th Special Forces headquarters at Nha Trang and "did administer an injection of morphine to Thai Khac Chuyen to render the said Thai Khac Chuyen unconscious."

"Capt. Robert F. Marasco, a

coconspirator herein, did request Capt. Robert A. Wolf to obtain a heavy chain to be used in disposing of Thai Khac Chuyen, and the said Capt. F. Marasco did shoot Thai Khac Chuyen with a pistol," the specification said.

It gave no further identification of Wolf, but military defense attorneys identified him as a supply officer. He has not been charged in the case.

The six officers have been charged with murder and conspiracy to murder in the death of Thai Khac Chuyen, a Vietnamese claimed by the Green Berets to have been a double agent for the Americans and the North Vietnamese. According to defense accounts, he was ordered executed by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency. The CIA has denied any involvement.

Henry B. Rothblatt of New York, civilian attorney for two of the accused men and a third against whom charges are being held in abeyance, said release of the details is "an attempt to inflame the public."

"It's another example of the military authorities' unethical conduct, a deliberate attempt to prejudice the case," he said.

"It certainly is not the way the government should be trying such an important case, particularly when they said before that they wouldn't release this information."

Rothblatt and the battery of military defense attorneys filed two motions Friday.