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Army Lets Newsmen See Jailed 'Berets'

Los Angeles Times

LONGBINH, South Vietnam, Aug. 19—Seven of the eight Green Berets being held for investigation of murder were shown to newsmen today outside their comfortable new quarters, but only from a distance.

It was the first time newsmen were permitted to see the men since their arrest on July 21 on suspicion of killing a Vietnamese who purportedly allies.

Newsmen were restricted to a road flanking the single-story frame building in which Col. Robert B. Rheault, former commander of Special Forces in Vietnam, is being held along with six of his officers. The eighth man, a sergeant, presumably is being held at an enlisted men's billet.

Newsmen could not come closer than about 35 yards from the men, and were not permitted to talk to them, but photographers were allowed to take pictures. The men appeared healthy and relaxed.

Yesterday, the Army moved the men out of maximum security cells in the stockade here, 18 miles north of Saigon.