

A Plea by Widow of 'Beret Victim'

Saigon

A South Vietnamese government spokesman said yesterday that a petition presented by a woman claiming to be the widow of the victim of the Green Beret murder case could prompt a second, joint investigation by the Saigon government and United States military command.

The woman, Pham Kim Lien, presented the petition to the South Vietnamese government and the U.S. embassy in Saigon.

A U.S. spokesman said the woman, accompanied by her two children and an attorney, claimed she was the widow of a former Special Forces interpreter, Thai Khac Chu-



UPI Telephotos

THAI KHAC CHUYEN
The alleged victim

yen, who disappeared June 13 after refusing to accept a secret assignment ordered by the special forces.

TREATY

Under terms of a treaty between the U.S. and South Vietnam, the two governments can undertake a joint investigation of a complaint by a Vietnamese national against the U.S.

The U.S. spokesman declined to reveal contents of the woman's petition, but a Saigon spokesman said her action on the final day of the U.S. Army investigation could produce a joint inquiry.

The Army has said only that the alleged victim was slain June 20 at Nha Trang, the Green Beret headquar-

ters 188 miles north of here, and that his body was later dumped in the South China Sea.

MISSING

The Army has declined to identify the victim, and his body has not been found despite a long search by Navy divers off the coast at Nha Trang.

The name given by the woman as that of her husband is one of four different names by which the alleged victim has been identified by government sources and Saigon newspapers.

One of them, Chu Yen Thai Khac, was simply a variation of that given by the woman. Of the two others identified as the victim, one was found

to be alive in a Saigon prison and there was doubt as to whether the other ever existed.

TEST

In an earlier newspaper interview, the woman said her husband told her he had been given a lie detector test after refusing the Green Beret assignment and told to report to another Green Beret camp June 13.

He told her to check with Green Beret officials if she did not hear from him in a reasonable amount of time. The woman said Green Beret officers at the camp to which he was to report told her later they had never heard of her husband.

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AP Wirephoto

PHAM KIM LIEN AND HER 13-MONTH-OLD SON
The wife of the supposed victim presented a petition in Saigon