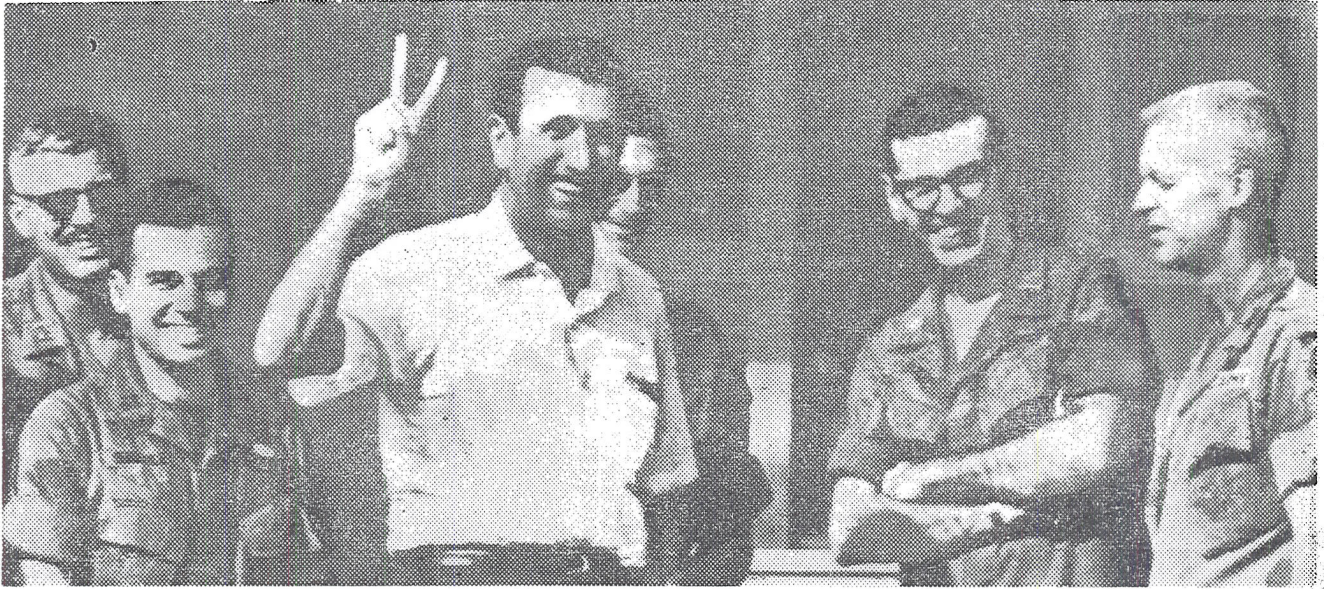


THE NEW YORK TIMES, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1969

Defense Lawyer in Green Beret Case Says He Will Call Gen. Abrams



Associated Press

Henry B. Rothblatt of New York, a defense attorney in the Special Forces case, making victory sign at Longbinh yesterday. With him are, from left: Maj. David E. Crew;

Capt. Leland J. Brumley; Capt. Robert F. Marasco, partially hidden; Maj. Martin J. Linsky, an attorney representing Col. Robert B. Rheault, standing at the right.

SAIGON, South Vietnam, Sept. 22 (Reuters)—Gen. Creighton W. Abrams, commander of United States forces in South Vietnam, will be called by the defense in the trial of six Special Forces officers accused of murder, an attorney said tonight.

"What right does he have to be the cop, the prosecutor and the judge?" asked the lawyer, Henry B. Rothblatt,

after declaring that he planned to call General Abrams.

Mr. Rothblatt also said that he planned to seek a public trial to be held in Washington because it would be difficult to get an impartial hearing in South Vietnam, he said.

According to Mr. Rothblatt, General Abrams was mentioned in testimony given at a preliminary hearing into

charges against the officers of the Special Forces, or Green Berets.

The officers, including Col. Robert B. Rheault, former commander of the Special Forces in Vietnam, are accused of murder and conspiracy in the alleged killing of a Vietnamese double agent.

The victim—no body was found—is said to have double-crossed the Central Intel-

ligence Agency and the Special Forces while working for North Vietnam.

Mr. Rothblatt said he planned to ask General Abrams: "What information was furnished to you by the C.I.A.? What reports did you receive, what way did you check them out? Did someone kid you and lie to you? How did the whole thing start?"