

New Jersey Green Beret Named by Army as Slayer

By The Associated Press

SAIGON, South Vietnam, Saturday, Sept. 27—The United States Army named Capt. Robert F. Marasco of Bloomfield, N. J., today as the man who killed a reported Vietnamese double agent. Captain Marasco is one of six Special Forces soldiers charged with the murder.

The Army also broke its relative silence on the case and announced the charges and specifications against the six officers despite defense objections, which were overruled yesterday.

Col. Robert B. Rheault, 43 years old, of Vineyard Haven, Mass., former commander of the 3,000 Green Berets in Vietnam, was accused of premeditated murder, although the charge stated that he had not participated in the actual slaying.

The Army charged that Colonel Rheault, from about June 15 to about June 20, 1969, conspired with seven other members of the Special Forces, or Green Berets in the murder of Thai Khac Chuyen.

The specifications said that Capt. Leland J. Brumley, 27, of Duncan, Okla., had obtained a boat to carry the victim from the Fifth Special Forces headquarters at Nhatrang and "did

administer an injection of morphine to Thai Khac Chuyen to render the said Thai Khac Chuyen unconscious."

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

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

Army Inspected Mail

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Sept. 26—The incoming and outgoing mail of the Special Forces soldiers accused of the murder of a Vietnamese was subjected to inspection for a time, the Defense Department said today.

A department spokesman said that the practice ceased on Aug. 18, almost four weeks after the men were arrested, except for one "erroneous action."

The disclosure appears to clear up, at least partly, a dis-

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agreement between the Army and the wife of one of the six soldiers accused of killing a Vietnamese employed by the Special Forces. A lawyer for the soldiers contends the man was a double agent.

Despite Army contentions that the mail and telephone calls of the accused men were never censored or monitored, the wife of Maj. Thomas C. Middleton Jr. of Jefferson, S. C., charged yesterday that she was "almost positive" that mail had been tampered with. She said that her husband had agreed.

A spokesman for the Army, which earlier had denied censoring or monitoring, said that mail had been "inspected," but not censored, under the provisions of an Army regulation that sets out rules for the treatment of mail received and sent by men under confinement.

No Reply to Criticism

The Pentagon also said that no immediate Pentagon reply was expected to criticism voiced in the House of Representatives Tuesday by 24 members.

The Representatives complained of Army mishandling of the case and irregular procedures. They asked once more that the Secretary of the Army, Stanley R. Resor, take the case under his direct jurisdiction and move the site of the trial out of Vietnam.

Representative Peter W. Rodino Jr., Democrat of New Jersey, charged that Mr. Resor "has shirked his responsibility by refusing to assume jurisdiction over this case."

The Secretary said earlier that he felt it would be "unwise and unjustified for me to interfere with the normal course of proceedings."

But his statement, which pointed out the review and appellate procedures of military justice, failed to mollify Congressmen.

In addition to providing some of the harshest and most comprehensive criticism of the Army's handling of the case, the House speeches Tuesday in-

cluded the first public call by one of its members for a Congressional investigation.

Representative Lester L. Wolff, Democrat of Nassau, said that a board of inquiry should look into the case to determine "what is fact and what is merely rumor, supposition and allegation." He suggested that a Congressional committee be created to "put the facts in perspective."

An aide to Mr. Wolff said today, however, that the suggestion, which involves the Judiciary and Armed Forces Committees, had met with little response.