

(Winter Soldier Investigation)

Mock Probe Of Viet Gls' 'War Crimes'

Detroit

Several young men who said they had served with the First Marine Division in Vietnam told yesterday of war crimes allegedly committed by United States troops.

They spoke at the opening session of the "Winter Soldier Investigation," a mock probe coordinated by actress Jane Fonda and attorney-author Mark Lane.

Kevin Paul Delay, 20, identified as a former corporal in the Third Battalion, First Brigade, First Marine Division, said that on Christmas Eve, 1960, when an allied truce was supposed to have been in effect, one of the companies in his battalion set up an ambush, and a search of the bodies turned up only one weapon.

Delay said that at the base that night all men who possessed enemy weapons were ordered to bring them to the command post and the weapons were then placed on the bodies.

Other speakers told of witnessing the murder of prisoners, destruction of South Vietnamese villages, rapes and other sexual abuse of women and the shooting of enemy soldiers who were attempting to surrender under the South Vietnamese government's amnesty program.

Several said that their training and their experiences in Vietnam led them to regard the Vietnamese as less than human.

Scott Camille, identified as a former sergeant in the First Division, said men in his unit often cut the heads off slain enemy soldiers but were told to stop it when newsmen approached their unit.

Associated Press