

Critical Colonel Is Probed

WASHINGTON — (CDN) — The Army is investigating Col. David Hackworth, one of the most decorated men in its history, who recently resigned his commission in disgust over the Vietnam war.

In a statement issued in Vietnam in connection with the investigation started yesterday the Army's Inspector General, Hackworth said he "could not in good faith follow the axiom of 'My country right or wrong,' as perhaps Lieutenant Calley did," he said.

Hackworth, who has spent 25 of his 40 years in the army — he lied to get in at the age of 15 — has been wounded four times during the 5½ years he has spent in Vietnam. Before that, he was wounded four times in Korea.

He holds eight Purple Hearts, two Distinguished

Service Crosses, nine Silver Stars and nine Bronze Stars.

Here are some of the things he has said in interviews:

- The United States had all the assets to win the war but failed because it tried to fight a guerrilla war with conventional tactics.

- Possibly as many as one-fifth of the U.S. casualties in Vietnam resulted from friendly troops firing at each other.

- The President and other

decision makers never got "the real facts" about the war because of "razzle dazzle, Hollywoodized briefings complete with charts, and extremely well-rehearsed briefing officers" that greeted high government officials when they visited Vietnam.

Hackworth is due for rotation back to the States and for retirement in September. He said that upon his return, he will "freely discuss any questions" presented to him by the Army, or a Congressional investigative body.