



DEATH IN VIETNAM: This is one of the series of photographs by Ronald L. Haerberle published in The Plain Dealer

FORMER G. I. TOOK PICTURES OF DEAD

Says He Saw 100 Slayings
and Gave Photos to Army

The accompanying photograph, published on Thursday in The Cleveland Plain Dealer, was taken by Ronald L. Haerberle of Cleveland while he was serving in Vietnam as an Army sergeant assigned to public information duties.

When published, the photograph was labeled "©1969, Ronald L. Haerberle." The photograph accompanied an interview with Mr. Haerberle by Joseph Eszterhas of The Plain Dealer staff.

In the interview, it was reported that Mr. Haerberle took this picture and several others while accompanying C Company, First Battalion, 20th Infantry Regiment, 11th Light Infantry Brigade, when its troops

entered a South Vietnamese village where civilian residents were allegedly massacred by American troops in March, 1968.

Mr. Haerberle has said that he supplied the Army with copies of these photographs. The Army declined to comment on either the photographs or the alleged shootings in the village, saying that an investigation was under way and that it did not want to prejudice the case.

In the interview published in The Plain Dealer, Mr. Haerberle reported that he saw "as many as 30 American soldiers murder as many of 100 South Vietnamese civilians, many of them women and babies, many left in lifeless clumps."

He said the killings had been carried out with M-16 rifles and machine guns, that no Vietcong were sighted and that there were no reports of Vietcong fire.

More than a year and a half after the Songmy incident, villagers and aid officials in the region still find security fragile and the Vietcong threat real.
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