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## SONGMY INQUIRY WIDENED BY ARMY

Five More Under Scrutiny,  
Bringing Total to 31

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON Jan. 14—  
The Army's investigation of the alleged massacre at Songmy has been widened to include 13 soldiers and 18 former soldiers, five more men than were previously known to be under scrutiny.

Official sources said today the expansion of the investigation resulted from information gathered by Army criminal investigators who had already turned up evidence leading to charges against four of the 13 soldiers.

The latest move in this regard was the announcement today that S. Sgt. David P. Mitchell, who is stationed at Fort Hood, Tex., would be ordered to face a court-martial on a charge of committing an assault with intent to murder "upon an eight-year-old Vietnamese male, name unknown, by shooting at him with an M-16 rifle."

The Army did not say whether the child had been killed or even whether he had acutally been shot or otherwise harmed.

The decision to court-martial Sgt. Mitchell on this charge follows by one day the filing of the charge. Last Dec. 31, the 29-year-old noncommissioned officer was ordered to trial on a charge of assaulting with intent to murder 30 Vietnamese civilians in the same incident.

### Investigation Not Needed

The lengthy investigation that usually follows the filing of such charges before a court-martial is ordered was not necessary in this case, the Army said, because "the subject matter of the offense" had been investigated earlier.

The wording of the charge against Sgt. Mitchell is the second clear indication that the Army believes children may have been killed at Songmy. First Lieut. William L. Calley Jr., the only other soldier who has been ordered to stand trial, is charged with having shot and killed a 2-year-old child.

The massacre of civilian men, women and children is alleged in Army proceedings to have occurred on or about Mar. 16, 1968, and to have involved Company C of the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry, 11th Infantry Brigade in Vietnam. Lieut. Calley was a platoon commander in the company.

The 26-year-old officer, who is now stationed at Ford Benning, Ga., is accused of killing 109 persons.

The widening of the investigation to include five more soldiers and former soldiers does not mean that a decision has been made to file charges against these men. Army spokesmen emphasized. In the case of the civilians under investigation, substantial legal problems concerning the Army's jurisdiction remain unresolved.