

Reports circulated today that the government is ... moving, or already has moved troops into Cambodia. Pacific Counseling Service, which does GI counseling in Asia, learned by telephone today that a total of 3,000 U.S. Marines already have been, or will be sent to Cambodia or off-shore Cambodia. The information came to the surface as the result of a report that court-martial charges were being considered against a soldier for running down an Okinawan woman with a tank. No maneuvers were said by authorities to be going on at the time. The incident led to speculation that although the maneuvers were indeed going on, they were not to be made public because they were too directly related to the alleged troop movement to Cambodia.

Military sources of the GI counseling project in Okinawa cited specific regiments and battalions involved in the troop movement. They include a Marine division said to leave Okinawa April 5th for the Philippines that allegedly went instead to Cambodia, a motor transport battalion, half of which has reportedly been sent to Cambodia and the other half of which will go April 23rd, and an amphibious tractor battalion sent either to Cambodia or to a location off the coast. The sources also said that Bravo, Charlie and Fox companies were sent to Cambodia April 18th, and that the rest of their regiment will go April 24th. Confirmation of this report will be difficult but it is believed to have caught the eye of several members of Congress, including Ron Dellums, and some response from the administration may come as a result of the publicity the report may obtain.

[End of item.]