

NATIONAL VETERANS' INQUIRY INTO US WAR CRIMES

**A Sample
of
Summary Testimonies**

GROUND AND COMBAT OPERATIONS

WILLIAM E. MARHOUN, 30 Sp/5, field radio mechanic, 2nd Battalion, 173rd Airborne Brigade, a St. Paul resident, testifies to the massacre of 24 women and children by a company of the 2nd Battalion, 173rd Airborne in August of 1968 on the beach 7 kilometers directly east of Bong Son. According to Marhoun, the company had made an amphibious assault on the beach and had secured the area without encountering any enemy contact. Women and children from the near by village came onto the beach while the GIs were relaxing and were mingling with the GIs selling them cokes, etc., when a burst of gunfire rang out followed by 2 minutes of pandemonium and shooting. all of the 24 women and children were killed and no weapons of any kind were found.

Later in the day, back in base camp, Marhoun asked his commanding officer if he had heard about the incident. The C.O. said, "Yeh, we got 26 V.C." to which he replied, "But, they were women and children". The C.O.'s response was "a gook is a gook; if it's got slanty eyes, kill the bastard".

*ED BARBOUR, 29, E/4, Medic, 101st Airborne, Charlottesville, Va., resident, testifies to the killing of approximately 27 innocent civilians in the village of An Lo by a U.S. tank unit in early July, 1968. Barbour testifies that a U.S. tank fired a floorshot round (tiny arrow-like nails) into a crowded meeting of Vietnamese civilians. He says that the meeting, in a large house, was peaceful and that the shelling was unprovoked-although the tank commander stated he "suspected" Viet Cong. Other civilians and South Vietnamese troops in the village agreed that all victims were non-combatants. An official Army investigation resulted in "no action."

Barbour testifies that he regularly witnessed torture of prisoners by both South Vietnamese and American personnel-breaking of bones and severe beatings were not uncommon. On three occasions he witnessed Vietnamese "suspects" beaten and then shot to death by South Vietnamese with the silent acquiescence of U.S. officers. On one occasion, a small boy, who was a "suspect," was beaten to death by Vietnamese working with Barbour's unit-a U.S. Sgt. participated in the beating.

DARYL NELSON 29, E-5, radar technicians, 3rd Battalion 3rd Marines, Minneapolis resident, testifies that while stationed at Dong Ha between December, 1966, and June 1967, Harrasment and Interdiction fire was used repeatedly every night. According to Nelson, any movement whatsoever that was picked up on the radar screen would be zeroed in for artillery strikes. The result was indiscriminate killing of civilians and wholesale destruction of villages within the area surrounding Dong Ha.

BOB ANDERSON, 26, Sgt., Infintry, Americal Division, a resident of Minneapolis testifies to the often indiscriminate killing of Vietnamese civilians and the wholesale destruction of Vietnamese property.

As an example, Anderson relates one incident in June of 1968 ten miles west of Tam Ky where his commanding officer was attempting to interrogate local villagers. One young boy began to skip off to play and was shot and killed by the officer in command.

"Mike McCusker, 29, E/3, 1st Marines, Infantryman/Reporter, Portland resident-will testify in detail about the systematic killing of residents in two villages, 5 miles west of Tam Ky (approximately 50 deaths) by members of 1/3rd Marines. Three U.S. Majors present made no attempt to restrain the troops. McCusker also witnessed interrogation of Vietnamese by U.S. forces in which field telephones and jeep batteries were used to induce shocks-also police dogs were set upon some suspects biting them. He also witnesses open trenches that had been dug next to the prison compound near Binh Son. He later saw them after they had been filled in-like graves. A U.S. advisor at the site told him that the trenches were filled with prisoners-most of whom were shot "because if released, they'd become Viet Cong again!". On many occasions, McCusker saw villages (occupied by civilians) levelled by high-explosives, napalm, and mortar fire, whenever a few sniper shots were received.

*W. GRIFFITS ELLISON, 24, Corporal, 26th Marine Division, Charlottesville, Va., resident, testifies that his unit's Sgt. ordered the men to dig up two fresh Vietnamese graves in order to increase the unit's "body-count"---one corpse was a 15 year girl.

Ellison describes a typical combat operation in Kobe Tan Tan. Marines burned all houses, demolished sacred temples and tombstones, grenade all bunkers, without attempting to remove occupants, and used napalm strikes on surrounding rice fields.

He also testifies that ARVN troops working with his unit were allowed to regularly torture prisoners by wrapping fine wire around limbs, then pulling it to tear flesh. The Marines' Lt. Col was present during such treatment.

*Ray Early, 23, Pfc., Reconnaissance, 3rd Recon. Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, a Minneapolis resident, testifies to the frequent torture of Vietnamese suspects - men, women and children - by U.S. Marines. According to Early, beatings, clubbing, pistol whippings and wiring of wrists were frequently used in order to extract information from Vietnamese.

On one occasion, a VC suspect was shot and strung up on a cross at the doorstep of a village in order to terrorize the inhabitants. Early also testifies that the wearing of ears as souvenirs, in the presence of officers, was common practice for the Marines during his two tours of duty.

*Danny Amigone, Sgt., U.S. Army, 199th Light Infantry, infantryman, Buffalo resident-will testify about his unit's use of "search and destroy" tactics-in which everything (houses, crops, livestock, pottery, etc.) is destroyed and all Vietnamese males between 13-40 are detained and sent to interrogators. Mr Amigone will describe an incident in which a Vietnamese girl was raped and then killed by a GI. The Commanding Officer listed her as "Viet-Cong-killed in action" In another incident, a Sergeant released 3 Vietnamese prisoners and then killed them as they "escaped." Also, he will describe the high incidence of casualties among those who were inducted as a result of lowered physical and mental standards.

* PHIL WINGENBACH, 24, Sp/5, Medic, 173rd Airborne and 17th Cav., Buffalo, N. Y. resident. In Dec. 1968, 90 miles north of Saigon, a Platoon leader (Lt.) ordered Wingenbach to cut the arteries of 4 wounded Viet Cong prisoners to increase the unit's body-count. Wingenbach refused and evacuated wounded. In February, 1969, near Bao Loc, U.S. jeeps (heavily armed) fired into village after hearing fire-crackers celebrating TET. 18 civilians were killed-an official inquiry resulted in "no action." Witnessed men with 17th Cav., hang dead Vietnamese bodies from trees-to pose for photos. Testifies to total destruction of small Montegnard village on orders from Lt. No confirmed casualties but all livestock killed and everything else burned.

*GUY THORNTON, 23, E/5 (Sgt.) 5th Special Forces, Jamestown, N.Y. resident. Thornton testifies that in Nov. 1967, a village 1 mile from Song Be was attacked by U.S. artillery, mini-guns, and heavy machine-gun fire after enemy fire was received. The U.S. barrage was so intense that 75% of the village was destroyed and about 70 civilians were killed or severely wounded. Subsequently, both U.S. and ARVN denied responsibility for the "mis-directed orders." In Feb., 1968, Thornton saw 150 enemy bodies being buried in open pits near Song Be. Vietnamese on-lookers told him that some wounded were buried alive. In another incident at Song Be, U.S. troops saw persons moving on hill $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile away. The Colonel gave order to fire with 50-cal. machine guns-over 10 minutes of continuous fire was given. The following day, ARVN troops reported extensive casualties among civilians.

Thornton also testifies that on many occasions prisoners were beaten with fists and rifle butts. On one occasion, H & I fire (harassment and interdiction) killed an innocent family of three. No action was taken on complaint.

*BOB CONNELLY, 22, Sp/4, 2/8, 1st Air Cavalry, Infantryman, Frewsburg, N.Y. Witnessed the killing of 15-20 NVA soldiers who were wounded and/or surrendering by U.S. troops (May, 1969, LZ Carolyn, III Corps) Connelly testifies that at least 50% of wounded prisoners were killed by GIs. Connelly states that GIs regularly mutilated enemy corpses. 1st Air Cav patch was carved into bodies or a patch was applied with sticks jabbed into body. Officers were often present-no attempt was made to restrain the men. When in base camp, the PX would issue men extra patches for just this purpose.

One occasion heard on radio that Psych War helicopter had spotted 15 Viet Cong who were surrendering. The helicopter couldn't land, so a gun-ship was called in and all were killed. (August, 1969) In March, 1970 Connelly read the same account in the division's HQ Journal.

In August, 1969, Connelly testifies, two platoons were sent into Cambodia for a 10-14 period. Nightly artillery support was provided from LZ Becky (Fish hook area). Later, Connelly saw that map coordinates had been changed at HQ to conceal the fact that troops were in Cambodia.

*Joseph Galbathy, 23, Spec. 4, 11B, 1/6 198th Brigade, Americal Division, a resident of Philadelphia, testifies to the employment of "Rat Patrols" as Standing Operating Procedure while stationed at LZs Baldy and Center in the spring of 1968. The concept was to go into a village at night and anytime a noise was heard, to open up with everything you had. He recounts one incident where several civilians were killed in a friendly village just outside of the base camp. On the following day, the local village chief came to the base camp to beg the C.O. to stop killing the people for no reason. He was mistreated and thrown out of the camp. Galbathy also testifies to several incidents where suspects were murdered in the field for failure to produce an ID card.

*Edward Murphy, 23, Sgt. E-5, 1/6 198th Brigade, Americal Division, a Philadelphia resident, corroborates Galbathy's description of Rat Patrols and the particular incident where several civilians were killed. Murphy also testifies about the burning of villages as S.O.P. during search-and-destroy operations and the murdering of unarmed suspects in the field.

*Kenneth Campbell, 21, Lance-Corporal, Forward Observer, "A" Battery, 1st Battalion, 11th Marines, 1st Marine Division, a Philadelphia resident, testifies to the unprovoked killing of approximately 20 innocent civilians - men, women & children - in two small villages just north of the DMZ at Con Thien in mid-August, 1968. Mr. Campbell, upon spotting the 2 villages, called back to headquarters for permission for an artillery strike and was granted permission even though the Commanding Officer was aware that both targets were populated civilian villages. After the strike, Campbell counted 20 dead civilians and 25 houses damaged or destroyed.

*Jeff Luckenbach, 22 E-4, Medic, 2/17 Artillery IFFV, a Strafford, Pa., resident, testifies to the killing of 12 innocent civilians - men, women and children - on highway 19 outside of LZ Schueller, An Khe in October 1968. Luckenbach's C.O. called in 2 heavy explosive rounds on a bus full of civilians travelling down the highway, killing 12 people, some of whom were children--no weapons were found nor was any formal action taken on this incident.

*GARY BATTLES, 21 E/4, APC driver, 11th Brigade, Americal Division, a College Park, Maryland resident, testifies to the frequent killing of civilians by personnel of the Americal Division.

For example on June 10, 1969 Gary's CO gave the order to throw an old woman and child in a well with two M-26 Fragmentation grenades. They were included in the body count.

On another occasion, during a sweep operation in February, 1970, between LZs Liz and Bronco, his unit came across 5 Vietnamese, all unarmed, in a bunker. Three were killed outright. Two others were still alive after being dragged out of the bunker. One was shot to death with a .45. The other was tortured and died shortly after. A Lt., a Major, and 2 MI officers were present.

*CHARLES DAVID LOCKE, 20, Sp/4, Mortorman, 11th Brigade, Americal Division, a Wheaten, Maryland resident, served with Gary Battles and corroborates his statements concerning the frequent killing of unarmed civilians.

Locke witnessed the systematic destruction of 10 villages during his 18 months near Duc Pho. He also states that torture of suspects and mutilation of bodies was a common occurrence within his unit.

*TIM DIEFFENBACHER, 24, E/5, Mortorman, 1/22nd Infantry, a Milton, Wisconsin resident, testifies to the killing of 6 unarmed civilians-men, women, and children in mid-August, 1968, near Ban Me Thuat. While on patrol in a free fire zone, Dieffenbacher's unit detected movement and directed an artillery strike on what turned out to be one woman, one child, and four old men, all unarmed.

*JAMES DIETRICH, 27, Sgt. E/5, CID Hq., Long Binh, is a resident of Baltimore, Maryland. All war crimes of a non-classified character were processed through Sgt. Dietrich during 1969 in Vietnam. Sgt. Dietrich testifies about a verbal order sent down the Chain of Command in the first week of December, 1969, shortly after the Song My massacre was made public in the U.S. press.

The order was to forget about investigating any more atrocity cases in Vietnam so as to prevent any further embarrassment to the U.S. Military Command. According to Sgt. Dietrich's testimony, this direct order came down the Chain of Command as follows:

Deputy Commander General of the U.S. Army in Vietnam, Major General Mabry (who is directly responsible to General Abrams, Commander of all U.S. forces in Vietnam), issued the order to the provost marshall, U.S. Army in Vietnam, Brigadier General W. H. Brandenburg. General Brandenburg in turn issued the no-investigation order to Colonel James Tynan, Chief of CID, U.S. Army, Vietnam. Colonel Tynan in turn issued the order to the twelve-man CID staff at Long Binh headquarters.

* Richard Dell, 23, SP/4, squad leader for the mortar platoon of B company, 1/6 Infantry, 198th Brigade, Americal Division, a Paulsboro N.J. resident, corroborates the eye-witness accounts given by Joe Galbally and Edward J. Murphy, with whom he served while in Vietnam. He testifies to the frequent killing of prisoners and detainees and the Battalion policy of "Rat Patrols".

* Michael Siegel, 22, Sgt E5, squad leader for A and E companies, 2/1 Infantry, 196th Brigade, Americal Division, a resident of New York City, testifies about the frequent killing of unarmed civilians by his unit.

On a search and destroy operation, just outside of Tam Ky, he witnessed the deliberate and indiscriminate killing of three civilians, two old men and one women, who were trying to flee their village which was being strafed by US Army gunships.

In a similar incident during Tet, 1968, approximately five miles south of Tam Ky, two unarmed, old men were killed.

In May, 1968, outside Tam Ky, two young boys, unarmed, who were working in a rice paddy, saw Mr Siegel's unit approaching and tried to run to their homes. They were shot and killed by the US troops. When a women with a baby in her arms, presumably the boys' mother, came out of the hut to investigate, she was fired on with M79 grenades resulting in the death of the baby and the traumatic amputation of her leg.

* Robert Osman, 24, Cpl and forward observer for C company, 1/3, 3 Marine Division, an Arlington Va. resident, testifies about the brutal interrogation of Vietnamese suspects with rubber hoses—the use of Vietnamese ears and teeth, worn by Americans as war trophies—and the mutilation of enemy bodies.

On one occasion, under the supervision of B company commander, a Captain, the dead body of a NVA soldier was crucified and blown apart by C-4 explosive and detonation cord. The entire company gathered to watch.

Robert Hoffman, 26, SP/4, a courier for the 64th FDS, a Washington D.C. resident testifies to the numerous enemy ear collections of the 3d Marine CAG, near Phu Bai and the mutilation of Vietnamese bodies by the Marine Combined Action Platoons as a "lesson to the local populace".

* Greg Motoka, 23, Sp/4, Infantry- "Riverrines", 4th Battn, 9th Div, Pittsburgh, Pa resident, testifies that on Lt.'s orders, his unit shot and killed 3 Vietnamese without provocation. He witnessed a GI machine-gun to death a woman and child on another occasion. This killing was also done under orders. Motoka states that upon arrival in Vietnam, a U.S. Colonel told 100 men in his unit; "we (9th Army) have the highest body count and we're proud of it---don't let us down!" Motoka testifies that it was Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to "work over" an area along river with heavy fire (50-cal. & grenades) before attacking from assault boats. On some occasions, these areas were populated with civilians---no warning was given. On one occasion, a Lt. Colonel ordered the men not to treat a villager who was badly burned from a U.S. napalm strike; instead they were told to "get him out of here."

* GAIL GRAHAM, 23, Sp/5, Door-gunner (helicopter), 229th Aviation Unit, 1st Air Cavalry, Jamestown, N.Y. resident. Witnessed 6 helicopters attack a hamlet after flight leader (Captain) said over radio; "Screw it, blow them all away!" Between 15 and 20 thatched huts were destroyed. No reason was given. This occurred North of Camp Evans (I Corps) June, 1968. Graham witnessed door-gunners on medi-vac helicopters harass and slap wounded enemy soldiers as they were flown to medical station. Graham testifies to regularly flying on "snatch missions", in which U.S. helicopters would land in village, all military age persons were rounded up, threatened and hit with rifle butts while their papers were checked. Many Vietnamese were flown back to U.S. HQ for further questioning. In Dec. 1968, Graham saw a "Hot Pit" at Landing Zone Rita---a 3 foot hole covered with a poncho. Prisoners were placed in hole and left in sun until they talked. On 3 separate trips, Graham flew with unit into Laos-first time, May, 1968 from Phu Bai. On these flights, as many as 12 Green Berets were ferried in Laos where they were left for reconnaissance work. Before each trip, all insignia and markings were removed from craft and men. Graham also testifies to helicopter assaults in which extensive CS gas was dropped in area before GIs entered.

*WALTER McDERMOTT, 25, E/4, Safety Officer-Artillery, U.S. Army, Monroeville, Pa. resident. Testifies to procedures for "clearances" by Vietnamese for artillery strikes in populated areas--actually U.S. officers made all decisions. On one occasion, U.S. Captain gave wrong map coordinates and artillery fire killed 6 civilians--despite "safety" procedures. McDermott witnessed the nightly use of H&I fire-on trails, dikes, paths, trails, etc. This fire was not at specific targets--merely to keep enemy "off balance" (Mekong Delta--near Tan Trae IV Corps)

* Samuel D. Rankin, 25, SP/5, medic, A company, 3/7 Infantry, 199th Light Infantry Brigade, a Billings, Montana resident, testifies to the indiscriminate killing of 23 Vietnamese old men women and children in a small hamlet near the village of Can Giuoc.

On what Rankin estimates to have been July 14, 1969, his unit moved into a night ambush position outside the aforementioned hamlet and received approximately 10-15 rounds of AK-47 fire from an area separated from the hamlet. Gunships were called in by Rankin's Battalion XO and subsequently, the village was totally destroyed.

Rankin states that "my platoon, with the commanding officer, went into the village to search for AK rifles, rice caches, etc., that might indicate there indeed had been an enemy force in the village that nite. All i or anyone else in my platoon found that day were destroyed hootches, broken and burned house-hold goods, dead pigs and if I recall correctly, 23 dead civilians; including young children, women, old men and a few babies, all of them inhabitants of that village".

* Thomas Roberts, 23, medic, A company 3/7 Infantry, 199th Light Infantry Brigade, a Temple, Arizona resident, served in Vietnam with Mr. Rankin and corroborates his account of the Can Giuoc incident.

Roberts states: "The incident took place at night in a small village, about five miles northwest of Can Giuoc between late June and mid-July. One of the platoons of A company, operating out of Fire Support Base Madeline was leaving the road to set up an ambush at dusk when they encountered small arms fire from the village. A decision was made by one of the commanding officers of the 3rd of the 7th to bring in cobra gunships, and the village was raked with machine gun and rocket fire. To the best of my recollection, the bodies of 18 civilians were counted in the morning, not including two or three unidentified bodies presumed to be Viet Cong."

* Bruce Tabor, 22 Sgt E5, Radio-telephone operator, A company, 3/7, 199th Light Infantry Brigade, a resident of Akron, Ohio, served with Sam Rankin and Tom Roberts in Vietnam and corroborates their testimonies. As an RTO, Tabor was in communication with the gunships that destroyed the hamlet. He states that no weapons or empty cartridges were found after the company conducted a thorough search of the hamlet.

TREATMENT OF CIVILIANS AND/OR PRISONERS

*Michael J. Uhl, former 1st Lt., Counter Intelligence Officer, Chief, 1st Military Intelligence Team, 11th Brigade, Americal Division. Mr. Uhl will testify in detail about systematic use of field telephones as a means of electrical torture devices to interrogate prisoners. He will also attest to the routine use of brutal beatings of men, women and children by American Military Intelligence personnel.

GREGG TURGEON, 23, corporal, infantry rifleman, and vietnamese interpreter, 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, a resident of Minneapolis, testifies to the frequent use of torture to elicit information from Vietnamese suspects--men, women and children.

On one occasion just outside of DucPho base camp in March of 1967, a marine Colonel took a Vietnamese suspect, bound him with rope and let an attack dog loose on him. When that failed to get the suspect to speak, the Colonel ordered detination chord to be tied around his neck.

On another occasion at Dai Loc Base Camp, Turgeon witnessed the use of electrical torture on a suspect with wires hooked up to the sensitive parts of the body to cause excruciating pain.

Beatings, of suspects were often critical and Turgeon relates on incident where an old papason was literally beaten to death by marines in the unit.

In September of 1967 near Dai Loc, Turgeon's squad leader called back to a tank support unit requesting an artillery strike on a small village even though it was in a pacified area and no suspicious activity or sniper fire was reported. The village was destroyed and among the victims was a Vietnamese child.

*Robert Stemmes, former E5 (Sgt.), Counter Intelligence Special Agent, attached to the 172nd Military Intelligence Detachment of the 173rd Airborne Brigade. Mr. Stemmes gives eye-witness testimony on the common use of electrical torture and severe beatings of men, women and children by members of his Military Intelligence Detachment.

*Fred Browne, former Sp. 5, Military Intelligence Interrogator. Mr. Browne served in the same unit as Robert Stemmes -- the 172nd Military Intelligence Detachment of the 173rd Airborne Brigade. He corroborates the testimony of Mr. Stemmes with his own eye-witness accounts of electrical wiring and brutal beatings of men, women and children by members of his Military Intelligence Detachment.

*JOHN DROLSHAGEN, 24, 1st Lt., U.S. Army, 25th Division, Hampton, Va., resident, witnessed the killing of 5 civilians (3 children) who were unarmed and offering no resistance by a U.S. ambush patrol, in Feb. 1967.

Drolshagen testifies that an intelligence team (S-5 unit, 1st Brigade, 25th Div) on 5 or 6 occasions wired Vietnamese' genitals to jeep batteries in an effort to gain information. On one occasion, he witnessed this team stake a Vietnamese "suspect" to the ground and then methodically stab him to coerce information-when this failed, the suspect's throat was slashed.

Drolshagen also witnessed the dragging of Vietnamese corpses, bound with barbed-wire, behind armored personnel carriers (APC's) of the 25th Division's "Wolf Hounds". This was done to terrorize villagers in the area around the Cu Chi base camp of the 25th Division.

*Peter Martinsen, former Sp. 5, POW Interrogator, 101st Airborne. Mr. Martinsen will testify as to the systematic use of electrical torture, the field telephone wires often applied to the breasts and genitals of suspects for maximum effectiveness. He further testifies to the existence of Classified Army documents in which methods and procedures for illegal methods of interrogation are discussed. He witnessed the torture of a North Vietnamese officer by the gouging of bamboo splinters under his fingernails. He also witnessed the beating of a Vietnamese prisoner with an M79 grenade launcher and beatings using carbines. His Military Intelligence Detachment also denied food and medical aid to those severely injured in order to facilitate interrogation.

*Chuck Conine, Pfc, U.S. Army, 1st Air Cavalry, Infantryman, Buffalo resident-will testify to the shooting of 60 enemy soldiers, many of whom were wounded, following a battle. He will corroborate others' testimony as to burning and looting Vietnamese homes.

*Edward Murohy, former E5 (Sgt.) attached to the Military Intelligence Detachment of the 4th Infantry Division.

Sgt. Murohy's testimony includes the unleashing of scout dogs onto a suspect to elicit information and the routine use of electrical torture by his Military Intelligence Detachment. Sgt. Murohy served as a liaison between his Military Intelligence Detachment and the CIA in Operation Phoenix, whose objective was the neutralization of VC infra-structure. Neutralizing was operatively interpreted as carte blanche license to murder Vietnamese civilians suspected of being VC cadre, often purely on hearsay evidence.

Treatment of POWs
Civilians by U.S.

*MIKE SHEPPARD, 25, Sp/5, Medic, assigned 101st Airborne, Lake Grove, Oregon resident. He saw US mortar teams firing into village near Cu Chi after curfew for villagers. (Late October, 1967) Sheppard testifies that on at least five occasions, wounded or surrendering Viet Cong were killed by U.S. troops. Further, detainees were regularly kicked and clubbed by GIs.

In U.S. medical facilities, U.S. troops always received priority over ARVN or enemy wounded--no matter how inconsequential the GI's injury. In some instances, this led to the death of Vietnamese patients. (Medical facility at Quang Tri)

Sheppard witnessed a "resettlement camp" between Dong Ha and Quang Tri. 350-400 persons were kept there--mostly old men, women, and children. No irrigation, sanitation, or agriculture was provided. Houses, situated on low, wet lands, were very crowded and ramshackle.

*SCOTT CHIVERTON, Jr., 25, Infantryman, 1/28th, 1st Division, Geneva, N.Y. resident. He witnessed the torture of Viet Cong with U.S. field telephones wired to the testicles--March, 1966. He testifies that GIs were allowed to wear strings of pickled ears around their necks--at least 20% of the company did this at one time or another.

Witnessed a U.S. Colonel remove marble slabs intended for a Vietnamese hospital to use them as flooring when he entertained General De Puy.

On Operation Birmingham, Chiverton witnessed the burning of 20 to 25 buildings in a village near Tay Ninh for no apparent reason. Also, GIs were ordered by Major to urinate on village rice supply--though supply was too small to be enemy cache.

*WILLIAM EADIE, 22, Infantry-air mobile, Sp/4, 2/12, 1st Air Cavalry, Buffalo, N.Y. resident, testifies that prisoners were brought into Landing Zone Dolly with burn marks from cigarettes on bodies. In March, 1969, on perimeter of Landing Zone Grant, wounded enemy soldiers attempting surrender after battle were killed by U.S. troops. In Eadie's sector (3 bunkers out of 40 total) approximately 12 men were killed each day for two days.

In Phuoc Vinh, in June, 1969, Eadie witnessed a 1st Lt rape a Vietnamese "Coke girl" while a Major also looked on. A verbal reprimand was the Major's only action.

A U.S. Captain ordered Eadie's unit to shoot water buffalo belonging to villagers for "sport." Near Song Be, Sept. 1969.

CS gas was regularly used by Eadie's company--often for no apparent reason--this occurred at least 40 times.

*BILL HATTON, 23, L/cpl, Security Guard, Engineer Maintenance Co., 3rd Marine Division, a Bagley, Minnesota resident, testifies to the injuring and killing of several Vietnamese civilians one mile south of Da Nang perimeter in March, 1969. Cases of C-rations were thrown onto the civilians from the rear of speeding trucks in a convoy.

Hatton also states that it was a common practice to hand children Cration crackers-sandwiches of heating tablets which the children took to be food and ate.

*STEVE NOETZEL, 30, Special services attached to special forces, a Long Island resident, testifies to the frequent use of torture to elicit information from Vietnamese suspects. Noetzel witnessed the use of electrical wiring, water torture and the use of snakes to terrorize prisoners.

Noetzel also saw suspects and detainees placed in coffin-shaped barbed wire cages by U.S. units with which he served. He says that the barbed wire gouged and punctured the flesh at the slightest movement.

*JAY D. PLOTNICK, 24, Sp/4, Combat engineer, 39th Combat Engineer Battalion, a Moorestown, New Jersey resident, testifies to the destruction of entire villages during Task Force Oregon in April, 1967 in the Duc Pho area of Viet Nam. The civilian populations were forcibly evicted and sent to barbed wire compounds in Duc Pho.

Plotnick also states that his company commander promised a 3-day pass to anyone who got a confirmed VC kill.

Plotnick also testifies to the brutal treatment of prisoners by U.S. forces. On one occasion in May, 1967 at Duc Pho, he witnessed members of the 25th Infantry Division bring in prisoners to the base camp. Their hands were tied behind their backs and a sandbag placed on their heads. These prisoners were slapped, kicked and burned with cigarettes.

*KENNETH B. OSBORN, 25, E/5, 525th MI Group, area intelligence specialist, a Washington, D.C. resident, testifies to his own experience as an intelligence operative involved in Operation Phoenix. Osborn was involved in the liquidation program and cites an example of a Vietnamese operative being liquidated with extreme prejudice on orders from higher headquarters.

Osborn also testifies to various torture techniques used to elicit information. On one occasion in April, 1968, he accompanied a Captain of the III MAF Counter-intelligence office on a helicopter ride in order to expedite the questioning of 4 Vietnamese. On orders of the Co, one of the Vietnamese was thrown out to his death to get the other 3 to talk.

Osborn also witnessed the attaching of field wires to testes and nipples of women to elicit information and the insetting of 6-inch dowels in prisoners' ears and then tapping through to the brain in a slow, methodical process to elicit information.

*GORDON LIVINGSTON, 32, Major (West Point), Regimental Surgeon for the 1th Armoured Cavalry Regiment, Under Colonel George S. Patton III, a Baltimore resident, testifies to personal knowledge of a helicopter pilot who, upon returning from a combat mission, arbitrarily and consciously ran over and murdered 2 women riding bicycles. The pilot was temporarily rounded and later exonerated by the U.S. Army.

He saw the administerin of water torture by the Vietnamese National Police while under the supervision of American Advisors, including a Lt. Col. Major Livingston has a slide of this act.)

Major Livingston also recounts a conversation with the Chief American advisor to the Vietnamese National Police in which the advisor confirmed the use of electrical torture by the U.S. military command.

Major Livingston also testifies about the use of medicine as a political weapon, i.e., the use of delayed medical treatment to induce prisoners to give information. In connection with the above practice, Major Livingston's Commanding Officer, General George Patton III (son of the famous World War II General) instructed him to: "Just keep the VC alive for a few minutes until they talk and then let them die." A direct offer by Lt. Cl. Mosley, Chief of Anesthesiology for the U.S. Command in Vietnam, to administer Succinyl Chlorine--a drug producing temporary suffocation--in order to assist interrogation of prisoners (contrary to the Geneva Conference).

*JOHN PATTON, 25 1Lt., Interrogation Officer for the 1st MI Team, 11th Brigade, Ameracal Division, a Fort Lauderdale resident, testifies to the frequent use of electrical torture and beating of men, women, and children used by his MI team. Patton testifies that invariably suspects were merely innocent civilians and not hard core VC or NVA.

Patton, served in the same unit as Michael J. Uhl, and corroborates much of his testimony.

*Nathan Hale, 23, Spec. 5, 198th Brigade, Military Intelligence, American Division, a Coatesville, Pa. resident, testifies to the systematic torture of Vietnamese suspects during intelligence interrogations. Hale says that electrical torture - by field telephones - was a common practice for his M.I. unit. Hale also frequently witnessed prisoners being tied on to splash boards of Armored Personnel Carriers and then drowned as they drove through rice paddies. On Operation Daring Endeavor, Oct. 1968, Hale saw 2 Vietnamese burned, beaten and hung by the National Police with an American advisor (a Lieutenant Colonel) present as overseer in command. This was done to terrorize the local villagers and Mr. Hale will make public a series of color slides showing the entire torture sequence at the press conference.

*David Bressem, former Warrent Officer, 1/9 Air Cav. U.S. Army, helicopter gunship pilot, Springfield resident - will testify in detail about a number of occurrences, including the following: Mass murder of 33 Vietnamese men, women and children by his Commanding Officer. The C.O. and his crew received medals of commendation for their valor in this massacre.

*Gary Thamer, Sp/4, U.S. Air Force (attached to 173rd Airborne) Forward Air Controller, Buffalo resident-will testify in detail about: systematic destruction of Vietnamese villages with tanks; extensive use of CBU's (cluster bomb units-anti-personnel) in areas with large civilian populations; combat patrols into Cambodia over two years ago, and other experiences.

Larry Rottman, 27, 1Lt, assistant information officer, 25th Division, a Boston resident, will give eyewitness testimony on war crimes committed by his unit in Vietnam:

*The presence of GB nerve agents (Serin) in South Vietnam -- first public disclosure.

*A direct order by the Chief of Staff of the 25th Infantry Division to withhold all war crimes information from news reporters. including the suppression of photos showing torture of prisoners and the mutilation of enemy soldiers by U.S. troops.

*Disclosure of previously classified battle maps of major operations in Vietnam, including Operation Junction City. These maps clearly demonstrate the indiscriminate saturation bombing and napalming of non-combatant civilian populations.

*American troops wearing ears, noses and scalps as personal adornments.

*The routine murder of enemy troops attempting to surrender under the Chieu Hoi program.

*The blitz-krieg destruction of the city of Ap Cho - population, 10,000. Troops leveled the entire city. Nothing was left standing.

(X) *Nick Kinler, 23, Sp/5, U.S. Army, Chemical Warfare Specialist, Vancouver, Washington resident-will testify to his unit's use of CS and CN tear-gases to drive Vietnamese from their bomb-shelters- other troops then shot the Vietnamese down as they fled. This use of gas was Standard Operating Procedure. Kinler will also describe his work with defoliation chemicals within the U.S. Defoliants (widely used to destroy crops and foliage in Vietnam) were doubled in strength by his chemical unit.

* DON ENGEL, 26, Captain, Helicopter Pilot, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Buffalo, N.Y. resident. Testifies that in April, 1967, he saw two U.S. F-4's dive-bomb village of Lang Vei ($\frac{1}{2}$ mile south of Khe San) two U.S. F-4's dive-bomb village of Lang Vei ($\frac{1}{2}$ mile south of Khe San) Village had Special Forces team working there-plus well-marked U.S. helicopter pad. Village received direct hits, including CBU (cluster bomb unit) bombs. At least 150 civilians were killed or seriously wounded. Engel flew many helicopter evacuations of wounded. Official investigation into incident received affidavit from Engel-no action was taken.

From Feb. 1967 to Oct. 1967, Engel testifies, he flew at least 20 missions into Laos. Before each flight, all insignia were painted over and all personal ID was confiscated. On 5 of these missions, permanent U.S. bases within Laos were re-supplied. Balance of trips were to drop off 8-man U.S. recon teams or 90-man "hatchet forces" composed of Nuongs-U.S.-directed/financed mercenaries.

Engel also witnessed numerous enemy bodies that had been mutilated at Khe Sahn.

* HUGH SCANLON, 22, E/5, 68th Assault Helicopter Unit, 145th Combat Aviation Bn, Detroit, Mich resident, Door-Gunner. Scanlon testifies that in Basic Training (Ft. Polk) men in his unit were told (about Vietnam); "the only good gook is a dead gook!" He witnessed a helicopter pilot fire at least 20 automatic grenades into a populated village (Tan An) in March, 1968. No body count was taken.

Witnessed door-gunners drop CS gas cannisters on villages "for laughs".

Heard a discussion on copter radio in which Colonel kept his men fighting in a jungle area until casualties had surpassed an "acceptable" level. (Elements from 199th Lt. Infantry)

Scanlon testifies that during the Tet offensive (Jan. 1968) that U.S. helicopters fired at any Vietnamese sighted-regardless of civilian dress. Also, along the Dang Nai river (III Corps-20 miles from Ben Hoa) helicopters employed reconnaissance-by-fire to detect any "enemy" elements.

* BRO ADAMS, 25, 1st Lt., MACV (Military Asst. Command-Vietnam) Colorado Springs, Colo. resident. Adams testifies that when he was U.S. district advisor (Chau Doc province) he was under orders to have at least two air strikes a day (four planes total) whether there was any military reason for them or not. Adams also describes "constant pressure" for body-counts from MACV. Figures were submitted on the basis of their acceptability-not fact. Adams worked with Operation Phoenix during late 1968-early, 1969. His task was to coordinate air support to apprehend "suspects".

PACIFICATION & RELOCATION

*Peter Fossill, former Pfc., 5th Marine Div., 3/26 Reg. U.S. Marines, infantry rifleman, Amherst resident - Fossill will testify about his unit conducting two forced death marches in which hundreds of Vietnamese civilians (men, women and children) were driven from their villages and made to march through the night to resettlement areas. Many persons died along the route of starvation and exhaustion

*FRED MORTON, 23, E/5, 541st Military Intelligence Detachment, attached to the 11th Armored Cavalry, Charlottesville, Va., testifies to members of his unit (11th A.C.) piling Vietnamese corpses in front of Colonel (now General) George Patton's tent, with a sign wishing Patton "good luck from his men." Patton (son of the W.W.II hero) reacted with pleasure-he did not admonish the men.

Morton also witnessed some interrogations by U.S. and Vietnamese personnel in which suspects and detainees were slapped and beaten.

*Russ Homme, Sp/4, U.S. Army, 198th Light Infantry, Infantryman, Lackawanna, N Y resident-will corroborate testimony as to systematic destruction of villages and crop-lands. Witnessed the regular slaughter of hundreds of water buffalo and cattle-vital to a rural economy. He will describe Army training in treatment of civilians and prisoners and the systematic violation of this training in Vietnam.

*Ron Betts, 26, E/5, 1st Army, 2/18th "C" Company, Mortar-man, Portland resident-will describe effects of major U.S. operations Operations Cedar Falls, Manhattan, Junction City in which he participated-villages destroyed, all civilians interrogated and evacuated from their homes. Betts will describe "harassment and interdiction" fire used nightly by his mortar team-generalized fire (w/o specific targets) in all directions. Betts also witnessed GIs shoot and kill old man carrying water buckets for being out of "secure area" five minutes after curfew. Commanding Officer gave GI involved Bronze Star for this killing.

*Steve Hassett, Sgt., U.S. Army, 1st Air Cavalry, Infantryman, Buffalo resident-will testify regarding: Total destruction of all hamlets within a 3-mile radius by U.S. helicopter gun-ships and artillery fire. After 150 civilians from this area followed his unit back to their base, they were driven off with warning shots. After a battle in which his unit suffered many casualties, the Lt Colonel told the GI's he didn't want to see any prisoners taken "for a long time to come." Also, Mr. Hassett will describe the enormous applications of fire-power that would respond to a solitary rifle shot.

*Robert Bowie Johnson, Captain, U.S. Army, 25th Infantry-Ranger Airborne qualified. Graduate of West Point Military Academy (also All-American-Lacrosse) Annapolis, Md resident. Captain Johnson will testify as to his tactical use, as a field-grade officer, of "free-fire zones," harassment and interdiction fire, Rules of Engagement, "search and destroy" missions, and chemical warfare. Additionally, he will discuss his training in the above at West Point.

* Richard T. Altenburger, 25, Sgt E5, 173d Airborne Brigade, a Philadelphia Pa. resident testifies that it was a standing operating procedure, (SOP), that after a search and destroy operation, no villages were to be left standing, and all domestic animals should be killed. Mr Altenburger will make public a series of slides, showing how in May, 1966, during a search and destroy operation in the Ben Cat area, after having received no fire and finding only a small quantity of rice, the entire village was decimated. No attempts were made to evacuate the villagers.

* Bruce Galloway, 27, 1Lt, small unit commander, 519th MI Battalion and MACV, a Baltimore, Maryland resident, testifies to an incident along Plantation Road, near Saigon causing 5000 Vietnamese to become refugees as the result of one night's air strike by US bombers and Artillery in early May, 1968.