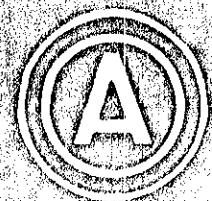


NEWS RELEASE



PLEASE NOTE DATE

MY LAI RELEASE #45

FOR RELEASE AT 1100 HOURS, 22 MARCH 1971

HEADQUARTERS, THIRD UNITED STATES ARMY, Fort McPherson, Ga.---

The Army announced today that the initial pre-trial hearing in the court-martial of Captain Eugene M. Kotouc will be held at Fort McPherson on Tuesday, April 13, 1971, at 9:00 a.m. This will be an open session.

The hearing, to be conducted under the provisions of Article 39A, Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ), will be presided over by Lieutenant Colonel Madison C. Wright, II, military judge in the case. Trial counsel will be Major William G. Eckhardt, assisted by Captain Robert A. DeMetz. Captain Norman G. Cooper will act as Captain Kotouc's military defense counsel, and Captain James W. Lane as assistant defense counsel.

It is anticipated that this initial session will be brief, and that it will be held for the purpose of issuing preliminary instructions on the conduct of the trial.

Captain Kotouc is charged with maiming and assault of an unidentified Vietnamese person which were allegedly committed on 16 March 1968 in the general area of My Lai (4), Republic of Vietnam, but were separated by several hours from the alleged My Lai (4) incident.

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NOTE: Pronunciation of Kotouc (Ko-tosh)