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Home of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault)

PRESS RELEASE

Contact:

3rd Brigade Soldier Pleads Guilty (Graber)

FORT CAMPBELL, Ky., January 9, 2007 – As part of a plea agreement reached Tuesday, Spc. Justin Graber pled guilty to aggravated assault with a dangerous weapon and was sentenced to nine months confinement for his role in the alleged killing of three detainees during the unit's deployment to Iraq last year.

Col. Theodore Dixon, the military judge, also reduced Graber's rank to private (E-1), the lowest military rank, and ordered that he forfeit all pay and allowances for six months.

Graber had faced charges of attempted premeditated murder, conspiracy to commit premeditated murder and premeditated murder for the killing of one of the mortally wounded detainees. Those charges were dismissed under the agreement.

The judge recommended that three months of the sentence be suspended if Graber fully cooperates with authorities in the pending trials of the other three Soldiers accused in the case. The sentence must be approved by the Division Commander, Maj. Gen. Jeffrey Schloesser, before it becomes final.

The incident occurred May 9, 2006 during Operation Iron Triangle, an assault on a suspected terrorist training camp north of Baghdad.

Additional Photos