



STAFF PHOTO--BOB DANDY  
PFC. EDWIN GLOVER STANDS OUT LIKE "A SORE THUMB," ARMY SAYS  
Marxist Says Army Doesn't Understand His Views: Army Agrees

## A MARXIST

# *Pfc. Glover's Private War*

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FT. BENNING -- Few would expect an outspoken Marxist to hit it off with the U.S. Army.

Each has ways of making the other's existence more miserable. The Army can be picayunish about enforcing its myriad of rules and regulations. The Marxist can express his political philosophy. The result is a strained relationship.

It is difficult to say who suffers more.

That appears to be the case with the Army and Pfc. Edwin Glover, 21, an avowed Marxist and outspoken Vietnam war critic from Minneapolis, Minn., stationed at Ft. Benning, Co. C, 4th Battalion, 69th Armory, 197th Infantry brigade.

### ON RESTRICTION

Pfc. Glover, a small, bespectacled young GI with chopped blond hair, has spent the last 50 days on restriction in his company area. He has been physically attacked twice by GIs who objected to his political views and has spent most of his time on restriction on details ranging from sweeping floors to moving rock piles from one place to another. He has missed several copies of his anti-war newspapers in the mail and his old copies have been confiscated by Army Intelligence. Some of his friends have been told not to associate with him because he would get them into trouble.

"I think the Army is picking on me," said Pfc. Glover, who speaks with a polite abruptness.

On the other hand, the Army, which admits giving Glover more attention than most soldiers, is upset because Glover has been distributing militant anti-war publications and "throwing" his Marxist philosophy around in the presence of

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# Marxist Soldier Fights Own War

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other soldiers. A colonel was outraged when he found a blunt memo on his desk from Glover demanding an investigation of his mail privileges. "Privates don't usually leave a note on the colonel's desk after cleaning his office," one captain explained. "He should have gone through channels."

## OUTSIDE HELP

In addition, Ft. Benning and the Pentagon almost daily receive angry telegrams and letters from Glover's civilian "comrades" and his attorney complaining about his treatment and "illegal harassment."

Apparently, the only thing the Army and Pfc. Glover agree on is that each would be better off without the other.

Pfc. Glover, who was active in anti-war demonstrations and a member of the Young Socialist Alliance in civilian life before being drafted, insists that he salutes and tries to get along with the Army. He has, however, recently concluded that it is impossible.

Glover said his problem with the Army came to a head after he was transferred to his present unit at Ft. Benning, where he is a radio repairman.

## BROUGHT PAPERS

It all began after his first leave. Some of his friends at Ft. Benning asked him to bring them some issues of "Vietnam GI," "The Bond" and other anti-war publications when he returned from leave. He did.

Private Glover also expressed his political views around the barracks, holding informal sessions with Negroes and Puerto Ricans on why the U.S. should not be in Vietnam.

"Glover began to stand out like a sore thumb," explained Captain John E. Davis, his commanding officer.

Glover agrees.

For example, he said he was required to stand at parade rest while waiting to see his first sergeant and other GIs were asking him to remove his glasses. He refused, but two soldiers, one a former coal miner, tangled with him anyway.

## WRONG FORM

He was offered an Article 15 (company commander's punishment) for failing to fill out the proper form on a malfunctioning jeep he drove, and when he refused to accept it, he was told to expect a court martial.

During his first period of restriction, from Sept. 21 to Oct. 24, Glover was required to sign in at his company's orderly room every hour during weekends from 6 a.m. to 12 midnight.

The restriction was removed for two days when his attorney, Rowland Watts of New York, complained to the Pentagon.

Two days later, however, he was back on restriction and offered another Article 15 for wearing an "improper uniform." Glover said he borrowed a friend's uniform and removed the name tag because he had been unable to wash his uniforms during the five days he was ordered to sleep in the orderly room. "I didn't have a needle and thread to sew my name tag on with," Glover explained.

## WASHING POSSIBLE

Capt. Davis, who said he had Glover sleep in the orderly room for "his own protection" because some Vietnam veterans were itching to get a chance at him, said Glover could have washed his clothes in the latrine sink.

When Military Intelligence decided to investigate Glover for security reasons, Capt. Davis said he told them he would keep him on restriction to facilitate keeping up with him.

His total restriction, before it was lifted last week, amounted to 50 days, and his attorney complained that it was illegal because the Army never filed specific charges against him.

The Army decided to drop court martial proceedings against him rather than "keep things stirred up."

## MOVED ROCKS

Glover was given an extra week of training here "to acquire added skills" in his area of work. Glover said he moved rocks from one place to another and did housecleaning work around the company area during the extra week.



Staff Photo: Bob Dundy

PFC. GLOVER RESTRICTED FOR 50 DAYS  
"The Army's Picking on Me," He Complains

"The first sergeant told me if I didn't like the Army I should pack my bags and leave," Glover said. "But that's all they would have wanted. It would have been the stockade then."

Capt. Davis said 1st Sgt. Jesse Davis "is a veteran of three wars and fought communism in two of them. You'd expect him to get a little upset with somebody like Glover."

Glover called his treatment "pretty rotten. I've done nothing bad."

"The charges against me are for things that happen pretty often around here," Glover protested to a reporter.

"I notice Glover more than the average private." Capt. Davis said. "Army-wise, these things may happen a lot, but we run a strict outfit around here."

The captain added: "Glover is costing the Army three men who have to look after him. I don't think the taxpayers would appreciate this. It would be to Glover's interest to be out of the Army."

Glover, who is less than articulate in his expressions, said he doesn't mind his regular duties in the Army, but would not mind being out.

He said his Marxist philosophy has been misunderstood. "I don't believe in the violent overthrow of the U.S. government or the Stalinist form of communism," he explained.

Meanwhile, the Army, while not admitting defeat, has recommended Glover for an "undesirable discharge for security reasons."

Glover said he will take it, but "I'll fight the undesirable discharge when I get out."

It will be difficult to say who will be happier with the discharge—Glover or the Army.

But as for now, they are stuck with each other.