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AF's homosexual ban violates rights, gay says

Associated Press HAMPTON, Va. — The attorney for T. Sgt. Leonard P. Matlovich, an admitted gay, told an Air Force dis-charge board here Tuesday that the military's historic ban on homosexuals violates their constitutional right to privacy.

The Air Force regulation calling for automatic discharge of gay servicemen is unlawful because it imposes "the morality of the majority on its employes," said attorney Susan Hewman.

Ms. Hewman is one of two lawyers who are representing Matlovich, 32, who has been decorated during his 12 years in the Air Force,

blackmail.

homosexuals.

said might last a week - often bog-

cation Agency.

ged down on technical issues in its opening hours

Now and then, the slender, dark-haired, defendant glanced around the room at the tiny crowd. At the lunch break he dashed quickly to his car, declining to answer most questions.

Asked by one newsman whether he thought all homosexuals in the military should make themselves known as he did, he replied: "That's an individual question they must answer themselves

Matlovich has said he terested in becoming a symbol gay liberation. Most of all, heh said, he wants to be permitted stay in the Air Force because heart is with the military."

He said last week he thinks the discharge board will rule against him, but that if it does he will cam his case to the federal courts. Matlovich served three tours Vietnam and received the Pun Heart when he was wounded

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