

### PRESS RELEASE

# The Execution of Private Slovik



## First time UK DVD release for eight Emmy Award nominated Martin Sheen war drama

#### On DVD 23 Apr 2012

#### Fast Sell:

Martin Sheen stars in the true story of Private Eddie Slovik who, in 1945, became the only American soldier to be executed for desertion since the Civil War. Nominated for eight Emmy Awards, this is the first time the film has been made available on DVD.

#### **Key Talent:**

Martin Sheen (The Amazing Spider-Man; The Departed; Apocalypse Now), Ned Beatty (Superman; Deliverance), Gary Busey (Predator 2; Point Break; Lethal Weapon), Charles Haid (Hill Street Blues; Altered States), Mariclare Costello (Indecent Proposal; Ordinary People) and an uncredited eight-year-old Charlie Sheen in his first ever screen appearance. Directed by prolific TV movie director Lamont Johnson (Lincoln; That Certain Summer).





#### **RELEASE INFORMATION**

Distributor Transition Digital Media

Release date 23rd April, 2012

#### **KEY TALENT INFORMATION**

Director		Lamont Johnson
Stars	•	Martin Sheen
	•	Ned Beatty
	•	Gary Busey
	•	Charles Haid
		Marielara Costello

#### Mariclare Costello

#### CONTACT/ORDER MEDIA

Lisa DeBell - Lisa@fetch.fm Almar Haflidason - Almar@fetch.fm

#### Synopsis:

Following a youth blighted by petty crime and two brief spells in prison, Eddie Slovik (Martin Sheen) is paroled in the spring of 1942 and decides to turn his life around by getting a steady job and going straight. Employed by a local plumbing firm, he meets and marries the company's bookkeeper, Antoinette, and the pair begins a period of wedded bliss reassured by the fact that Eddie's criminal record classifies him as unfit for duty in the War raging around the globe. But, completely out of the blue, Eddie is reclassified and is immediately drafted by the US Army, eventually finding himself on his way to the front lines in France. During the journey, an artillery attack separates Eddie and his buddy (Gary Busey) from their unit and results in them taking refuge with a Canadian military police unit.

Finally returning to duty six weeks later, Eddie decides he would rather face a court martial than be forced to fight and, in all likelihood, be killed during the European conflict. Expecting a dishonourable discharge from the army and to be jailed until the end of the war, Eddie delivers a note confessing to being a deserter and stating his intention to run away again if necessary. But, after being taken into custody and placed in the military division's stockade as expected (and desired), Eddie's life takes a tragic turn when the circumstances surrounding his case and the US army's situation in France conspire to seal his fate.

#### We Like It Because:

The ever-reliable Martin Sheen shines in this deeply moving and controversial tale of a likeable rogue, aided by similarly sterling performances by Ned Beatty and Gary Busey.