

**Around the Nation**

# Mafia Figure Aids Medina

FT. McPHERSON, Ga.—  
Criminal lawyer F. Lee Bailey announced yesterday that Peter J. Lazaros, self-described "fixer" for the Mafia in the Detroit area, had contributed "several thousand dollars" to Capt. Ernest L. Medina's legal defense fund.

Bailey, who is defending Medina against charges he murdered 102 South Vietnamese villagers at My Lai, said the disclosure was being made because "I wanted to tell what were the facts and what were not the facts."

There had been rumors at the Medina trial that the Mafia was paying for Medina's defense.

The 37-year-old Lazaros appeared briefly with Bailey outside the building where Medina is standing court-martial. Lazaros spelled his name, gave his age, and then permitted Bailey to do all the talking.

The "news conference," conducted in a light rain, started at 1:25 p.m. EDT and ended a few minutes later when Bailey dashed to make a 1:30 p.m. session of court.

The criminal lawyer, who described Lazaros as a client now involved in "racing and real estate," said Lazaros was passing through Atlanta on business last Tuesday and inquired whether Medina had sufficient money to finance his trial.

Bailey said Lazaros contributed several thousand dollars, and added, "I will not be more specific."