

NYTimes FEB 28 1974
**Calley Free on \$1,000 Bond
 By Order of Civilian Judge**



United Press International

First Lieut. William L. Calley Jr. leaving court yesterday in Columbus, Ga., free under bond of \$1,000.

By WAYNE KING

Special to The New York Times

COLUMBUS, Ga., Feb. 27—Lieut. William L. Calley Jr., convicted by military court of the murder in 1968 of at least 22 Vietnamese civilians at My Lai in South Vietnam, was released today on personal bond of \$1,000 by order of a civilian judge.

The order, by United States District Judge J. Robert Elliott, freed the slightly built, laconic, 30-year-old lieutenant from the

house arrest he had been under for 35 months in his rented two-bedroom apartment at nearby Fort Benning, Ga. During that time, he was off the grounds of the small red brick apartment only four times.

Lieutenant Calley, who is under a 20-year military sentence, was ordered put under house arrest by President Nixon pending appeals.

In ordering his release, the judge said that Lieutenant Cal-

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ley presented "no danger to himself or to others," and that there was "no likelihood that he will attempt to flee."

The lieutenant signed a form in the courtroom guaranteeing the \$1,000 bond and was immediately taken back to Fort Benning at his request to complete formalities in effecting his release.

The release came as a result of a petition seeking reversal in the civilian courts of Lieutenant Calley's murder conviction by a military tribunal. The petition contends that the conviction was in violation of constitutional guarantees.

Lieutenant Calley took the witness stand for 37 minutes this morning to describe his life in apartment 31-D, Arrowhead Road at Fort Benning.

Asked by United States At-

torney Charles Erion if he felt that he was a danger to the public, he replied, "To the contrary, I feel I will be useful to society."

"I've got to finish school," he said in response to a question about his plans if released. "I'm going to try to get back in school as soon as possible and try to be self-employed."

During his confinement, he said, he at first did little—"watched television and built model airplanes"—but later studied cooking and took correspondence courses in accounting, "the history of man" and oceanography.

He has also been permitted frequent visits from his girlfriend, Anne Moore, who holds his power of attorney. Miss Moore was in the courtroom with him today and testified in his behalf.

Army Weighs Appeal

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27 (AP)—The Army said today that it had not decided whether to appeal the judge's order freeing Lieutenant Calley on bail.

"A possible appeal is under study," a spokesman said while Secretary of the Army Howard H. Callaway conferred with his top civilian and military lawyers.

One senior lawyer, describing the development as unique in a case of this kind, told a reporter "we are scratching our heads right now" on how to proceed.



Associated Press

Anne Moore in Columbus, Ga., yesterday after testifying in behalf of First Lieut. William J. Calley Jr.

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