

## Colombo at a Son's Home

New York

Reputed Mafia leader Joe Colombo, still in a semi-coma after being shot at a New York rally two months ago, was released from the hospital Saturday.

A spokesman at Roosevelt Hospital said the 47-year-old founder of the Italian-American Civil Rights League was taken by ambulance to the Brooklyn home of his son, Anthony.

The reputed underworld leader was hit in the head and neck by three bullets during a league rally at Col-

ombus Circle June 28.

His alleged assailant, Jerome Johnson, a Negro, was shot and killed immediately afterward. Whether Johnson was shot by Colombo bodyguards, police or someone else has never been ascertained.

Police said then that the shooting was the result of a feud between the Mafia "family" headed by Colombo and another headed by Joseph (Crazy Joe) Gallo.

Colombo went into a coma after five hours of surgery to remove bullets from his neck and the base of his spine.

One bullet remains in his jaw.

A second operation, to relieve pressure on the brain, was performed last month and Colombo was taken off the critical list August 13.

The hospital spokesman said yesterday that Colombo was still in a "semi-comatose" condition, cannot talk and will need nursing care for a considerable time.

Colombo was accompanied from the hospital by a nurse, another son, Joseph Jr., 24, and other members of his family. He is expected to be taken to a private nursing home later.

Reuters