

ARTICLE PLANNED BY BUCHER'S WIFE

McCall's to Print Account of
Drive to Free Husband

By HENRY RAYMONT

The wife of Comdr. Lloyd M. Bucher is completing an article for McCall's magazine about her campaign to persuade the Johnson Administration to be more energetic in its efforts to obtain the release of her husband and the crew of the Pueblo from North Korea.

The article by Mrs. Rose Dolores Bucher contains an account of her meeting last June 24 with Secretary of State Dean Rusk and of President Johnson's refusal to give her a White House appointment. Sources close to the magazine characterized the meeting with Mr. Rusk as "stormy."

Horace Sutton, executive editor of McCall's, confirmed yes-



U. S. Navy

Mrs. Lloyd M. Bucher

terday that he had acquired the article, which he estimated to be about 10,000 words long. He declined to disclose how much McCall's had paid, though

publishing sources placed the price in excess of \$70,000.

While he refused to discuss any details, Mr. Sutton said:

"There's no question that Mrs. Bucher was unhappy about the way in which the Pueblo incident was handled. There were certain periods, particularly in the early months of her husband's captivity, when she felt that the Johnson Administration could have brought greater pressure on the North Korean Government."

Might Become Book

Julian S. Bach Jr., a New York literary agent who has been handling Mrs. Bucher's material, hinted yesterday that she might develop the article into a book. He said Sandie North, a former editor of Cosmopolitan magazine, and David Hellyer, a freelance writer, were working with Mrs. Bucher on the article for McCall's.

Mr. Bach described Mrs. Bucher as "a loyal Navy wife" who was "unruffled" by the court of inquiry investigating the circumstances of the seizure of the intelligence ship by North Korea, although he said she was critical of the action "of certain individual officers."

The said Mrs. Bucher's article would give a full account of the meeting with Mr. Rusk and of her attempts to see President Johnson. At the time of her visit to the State Department, Mrs. Bucher merely said she had agreed with Mr. Rusk to oppose demands by extremists that the United States use military action to free the ship and crew.

Mr. Bach said Mrs. Bucher expected to complete the article at her home in San Diego, Calif., later this week and that it would be published by McCall's "very soon."

Meanwhile, several publishing houses were reported to be bidding for a book by Commander Bucher on the seizure of the Pueblo in January, 1968, and his captivity in North Korea. A report from Coronado, Calif., where the Navy inquiry on the circumstances surrounding the capture of the intelligence ship is being held, said Commander Bucher was also represented by Mr. Bach and that offers of up to \$200,000 had been made for his memoirs.

Mr. Bach declined to comment on the report.