

GALLEY, ON STAND, TELLS OF HATRED

He Says Army Taught Him
to Treat All Vietnamese
as Potential Enemies

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FORT BENNING, Ga., Feb. 22—First Lieutenant William L. Calley Jr., accused of killing 102 men, women and children during the alleged massacre of South Vietnamese civilians at Mylai, took the witness stand today and said that he had been indoctrinated by the Army to treat all Vietnamese, including children, as potential enemies.

He told how he had come to regard them all with deepening suspicion and hate.

The short, stocky 27-year-old officer, now the chief defendant in the Mylai case, said that although he had attended Army classes on the Geneva Convention, he could not recall anything he had been taught about the rules of war.

He was on the stand for 93 minutes reviewing his early background and his Army career up to the eve of the alleged massacre.

What did stick in his mind, he told the court-martial panel of six officers who will decide his guilt or innocence on four counts of premeditated murder, was the sickening horror of the conflict.

While still in Hawaii, he had

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read some action reports of the 25th Division, which had been in Vietnam for a year. From these reports, he said, he drew this conclusion: "It was essential that troops in Vietnam put out of their mind the World War II and Korean concept of giving candy and chewing gum and things to the children."

The children, he told the jury, were "even more dangerous" than men and women because, although they seemed so innocent, they threw grenades and were "very good at planting mines."

His fear and hatred of the Vietnamese was heightened, he said, during the enemy's Tet offensive of early 1968.

Shortly before Mylai, his men ran into a minefield and suffered heavy casualties, he went on. He was away on a rest-and-recreation leave when it happened, he said, but he got back in time to see a helicopter bring back the gear and the bodies of his buddies.

"I think the thing that really hit me hard were just the heavy boots," he said. "There must have been six boots there, with the feet still in them. Brains all over the place, and everything was just saturated with blood. Rifles just blown in half. I believe there was one arm and a piece of a man's face half of a man's face, on the chopper with the gear."

Describes His Feelings

Q. (B the chief defense counsel, George W. Latimer) and what was your feeling when you say this? A. I don't know if I can describe the feeling. Q. Well, at least try. A. Anger, hate, fear, generally sick to your stomach, hurt. Q. Did this have any impact on your future actions? A. I think [it] installed an even deeper form of hatred towards the enemy, but I don't think I ever made up my mind or came to any conclusion what I'd do to the enemy.

Q. All right, now did you have any remorse or grief or anything? A. Yes, sir, I did.

Q. What was that? A. Re-

morse for losing my men in the minefield, remorse that those men ever had to go to Vietnam, remorse for being in that sort of a situation where you are completely helpless. I think I felt mainly remorse because I wasn't there. Although there was nothing I could do, I think there is a psychological factor of just not being there when everything is happening.

'Weren't Playing Games'

Lieutenant Calley told of the pervasive fear engendered by the Tet offensive and described an incident when "it dawned on me that we weren't playing games, that we weren't supposed to be a bunch of Boy Scouts out there playing."

He was on leave at a seashore village.

"I woke early in the morning, and there was about six mama-sans coming down the street with their choggie baskets and their wares to sell at the market. That is what I presumed. I don't know where they were going but just trying to get a head start so they could get a good place at the market.

"And on every corner the white mice [South Vietnam police] had a machine gun set up, and I'd say it was about a half an hour before twilight, and they cut them [the women] down. And that is how strict the war was becoming. At that time, you weren't supposed to move or be in an area. You'd best not be there, or you'd be dead."

"Rusty" Calley proved a taut witness. Although he holds a Bronze Medal and a Purple Heart, the only decoration he wore today was a Combat Infantryman's Badge. He was freshly barbered, and from his prematurely receding hairline a long brown lock was plastered to his forehead.

In the beginning, his heavy-lidded eyes, which give him a perpetually sleepy look, darted nervously from defense table to spectators, with only a few glances at the jury.

But under the gentle questioning of Mr. Latimer, the young officer relaxed slowly and turned more frequently to



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Lieut. William L. Calley Jr. at recess yesterday.

the somber-faced jurors, five of whom have had combat experience in Vietnam.

The small courtroom, with its patriotic décor of red carpet, white walls and blue curtains, was thronged. Mr. Latimer asked the judge to enforce the rule against any outbursts by spectators during Lieutenant Calley's testimony.

The lieutenant spoke of his early youth in Miami. He said that he came from a "stable" family, a family without friction and a reasonably prosperous family. The father ran his own heavy construction machinery business.

Was Claims Investigator

Lieutenant Calley said that he ran into some trouble in the seventh grade—"for cheating, basically, sir"—and got generally poor marks as he went on through military schools and a junior college. The family encountered hard times. Lieutenant Calley's father lost his business, and the family moved to North Carolina, where the mother died of cancer.

"Rusty," meanwhile, had a number of menial jobs — bus-boy, dishwasher, short order cook—"not that I knew how to cook," he told the court with a self-effacing chuckle—and a car drier in a minute car wash.

Then he was briefly a strike-breaking freight car conductor on the Florida East Coast Rail-

way and finally an insurance claims investigator.

"I ended up in Mexico looking for certain individuals, but I just realized very rapidly that I just didn't have any mental capacity to try to figure out where a person would be hiding."

He was jobless in San Francisco when the draft notices caught up with him. He started East, but his car broke down in Albuquerque, where he went to a recruiting station and enlisted.

Lieutenant Calley is expected to remain on the stand for the next two days.

This morning, a psychiatrist, Dr. Wilbur M. Hannan of Alexandria, Va., testified that Lieutenant Calley had told him he had no intention of "destroying" all humans at Mylai but wanted to use some of them to clear minefields.

'Is Not Human Being'

Lieutenant Calley never used the word "kill," Dr. Hannan said. The lieutenant told him that the military avoided that word because it caused "a very negative emotional reaction" among the men, who had been taught the commandment, "Thou shalt not kill."

Instead, Lieutenant Calley employed the word "destroy"

or the phrase "waste 'em" which meant something quite different from kill, the psychiatrist said.

Lieutenant Calley felt he was not killing human beings but destroying enemies, that he was carrying out legal orders," Dr. Hannan said.

The psychiatrist suggested that no American soldier — except psychopathic killers — could properly be tried for the Mylai incident or any similar action.

"It amounts to war," he said. "And if you're going to blame war on anyone, it might as well be God—you can't blame groups of individuals or nations."

He said that Lieutenant Calley had suffered no "diagnosable mental illness" but insisted that the young officer, because of personal background, training and combat stress, had been unable to commit premeditated murder at Mylai.