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Calley Lawyers Ask Review of His Conviction

Washington

Lawyers for First Lieutenant William L. Calley Jr. asked the civilian military appeals court yesterday to reconsider its ruling upholding the army officer's conviction and sentencing to 20 years at hard labor for his role in the Mar. 16, 1968, My Lai massacre.

The motion included a request that the three-judge U.S. Court of Military Appeals delay its reconsideration until a replacement is named for former Chief Judge William Darden, the lone dissenter in the December 21 ruling. Darden resigned effective December 28.

The majority held that a "reasonable man," one of "ordinary sense and understanding," could comprehend the illegality of an order to kill.

Washington Post