

Calley, Now Free, Seeks Anonymity in Adopting a New Life Style

COLUMBUS, Ga., Dec. 19 (AP)—William L. Calley Jr., no longer haunted by the possibility of confinement for the My Lai murders, has taken up a new, private life-style.

He is moving into a new apartment with no "old memories," seeking a job in which he will not be exploited and is no longer dating his longtime girlfriend.

The 31-year-old former Army lieutenant, in his first real taste of freedom since he was charged in the killings at My Lai more than five years ago, is apparently sinking into the anonymity he desires.

He was convicted in March, 1971, for the murder of 22 South Vietnamese civilians at the hamlet of My Lai in 1968. The conviction was later reversed and appeals are still pending.

He will soon move from his apartment in the complex in which he spent nearly three years under house arrest, to a new one off the Fort Benning post.

"He wants to get away from too many old memories," said Mr. Calley's local attorney, Kenneth Henson.

"Moving Cautiously"

"He's moving very cautiously about a job. He does not want to be exploited for promotional purposes," Mr. Henson said in an interview.

"He's looking in to a business for himself and has been checking into construction work and also is seriously considering

furthering his college education,"

Mr. Calley, a college dropout, will not attempt to get his degree, his lawyer said, "but just take a few courses at Columbus College."

The stubby, rusty-haired former officer has consistently refused to grant interviews until his case, now under appeal by the Army, is over. Even then, says another of his lawyers, J. Houston Gordon, "he's a saleable commodity."

A close friend, who declined to be identified, said Mr. Calley and Anne Moore, who was at his side throughout his lengthy court-martial, no longer date.

Miss Moore, an attractive green-eyed redhead, took the stand last February in Calley's first civilian appeal to be freed on bail to describe him as "a very delightful person."

She told the court that she visited him every day, buying his groceries and performing secretarial duties for him.

Comment Declined

Miss Moore, a recreation worker with the Red Cross at Fort Benning, declined to comment on their apparent breakup. During his years of house confinement, she held his power of attorney.

Friends say that Mr. Calley, normally a gregarious person who enjoys dining out, is rarely seen in restaurants in Columbus. "We are very defensive about him and hope to help him maintain his privacy," said one.

He no longer drives the plush Mercedes that a car dealer is

said to have lent him last February when he was first freed by United States District Court Judge J. Robert Elliott. He now drives a small, inexpensive foreign car.

Mr. Henson declined to say where Mr. Calley gets the money to live or if he's paid his attorney fees and expenses.

The modest apartment into which he moved soon after he was freed on bail, is not costly but Mr. Calley wears modish, well-cut suits and apparently feels no pressure to take a job.

Jobs Have Been Offered

He has had job offers Mr. Henson says, but they appeared to be the type in which "he would have been exploited."

When he was freed on bail in November by the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit in New Orleans, he said through his lawyers that he hoped to get a job in the Columbus area and "sink into anonymity."

In seeking bail, Mr. Calley

told the court he needed to work in order to pay heavy legal costs. Several veterans groups have collected funds for him.

Mr. Calley's attorneys still consider him a lieutenant in the United States Army, which dismissed him last spring. His lawyers contended the discharge was a result of his court-martial appeal.

conviction and should be voided since his conviction was overturned in September.

The Army has said it no longer seeks confinements of Calley—even if they with their appeal of the reversal of his conviction. Both sides say they will go to the United States Supreme Court if they lose at the appellate level.