

Medina Praises Calley Ruling

Washington

Ernest Medina, who was William L. Calley Jr.'s commanding officer at My Lai and won acquittal in the case, said yesterday U.S. Judge J. Robert Elliott's decision to overturn Calley's murder conviction "proves the judicial system does work."

"I don't think Calley is harmful to himself or society and I am glad to see that a federal judge overturned the verdict," Medina, now a vice president of Enstrom Helicopter Co., Menominee, Mich., said.

Medina, a former captain, also charged that former President Nixon, John Dean,

H.R. Haldeman, and John Ehrlichman withheld the publication of the Army's Peers' Report on the My Lai investigation.

Medina believes, the report, which the Pentagon has never released, should be made public by President Ford.

"I feel the report will finally let the American people know what happened at My Lai," Medina said.

There is evidence in the report that top level officials in the Army and the White House used their "influence" to interfere with the judicial system, Medina said.

United Press