



AP Wirephoto

GAIL AND JEB MAGRUDER EMBRACED IN THEIR GARAGE
He said he lost 20 pounds while he was in prison

A Big Homecoming For Jeb Magruder

Bethesda, Md.

Accompanied by his wife and children, Jeb Magruder came home from prison last night to a house and yard festooned with a welcome back sign and decorations made by friends and neighbors.

His wife Gail, and their four children, Whitney, 14, Justin, 12, Tracy, 10, and Stewart, 8, had driven to Ft. Holabird near Baltimore, to pick up Magruder after his surprise release from prison on an order by Judge John J. Sirica.

Former movie actress Colleen Townsend Evans, wife of Magruder's pastor, Dr. Louis H. Evans Jr., and a few other women had prepared dinner for the Magruder family. A brightly lighted Christmas tree still decorated the big picture window in the Magruder split-level home in this Washington suburb.

Magruder, wearing a sport coat and a red shirt open at the neck, told reporters, "I'm glad to be back with my family."

"I was very surprised obviously," Magruder said,

after he got out of their station wagon. "I was very pleased with Judge Sirica's order."

A reporter asked whether Magruder expected other Watergate defendants to receive similar treatment.

"I have no comment on any subject other than our freedom today. I'm just pleased to be free."

Magruder said he had lost about 20 pounds in prison and had done "a tremendous amount" of reading of philosophy, theology, novels, and other books.

United Press