

LT. CALLEY — a PAWN or a SCAPEGOAT?

An Editorial

Was 1st Lt. William Calley used as a pawn by Top Level Military Brass in an attempt to quiet the voiciferous noise created by a group of Pacifists who in reality may be nothing more than "paid mouthpieces" for Communist Leaders within our own Country — or — was he used as a scapegoat since he was the lowest Commissioned Officer in the Army "chain-of-command"?

At first, we hadn't intended to comment on this subject, since it is a item of National interest and thus for Daily Newspaper coverage. However, when we have seen Newspaper Critics and even the New York Times, use President Nixon's actions in this case as a means to criticize and try to undermining his authority — well, we felt it high time to speak out — and up!

If Cassius Clay, a convicted draft dodger, can be turned loose — and free — pending a Supreme Court ruling on his case; why can't President Nixon, the Commander-in-Chief of the Army, turn Lt. Calley loose — and free pending a review of his case? Isn't there supposed to be "Equal Rights for Whites"?

After serving four years in the Army during the World War II period, part of which was in the Combat Infantry, as an Enlisted Man and Non-Com; several more years in the Army Reserve; and then 20 years as an Officer in the National Guard and Army Reserve both on Active Duty and Reserve Duty, we feel that we are as qualified to speak out — if not more so — than some of the Calley critics.

To begin with, Lt. Calley is a member of the Army System! And, it is a well recognized fact, that while a Soldier may be treated "like a King" during a war while people are afraid for their lives and property — just as soon as the Peace is signed — the same Soldier is treated like an "Army Bum" and, by the same people.

Then too, don't forget — that the Army has changed. During World War II and in the "forties" a candidate had to have an Army IQ score of at least 120 on his AGCT test to be eligible for OCS. (For the purpose of comparison, anyone with a score of 136 or more on this test was considered a genius.)

However, in the early "fifties" the qualifications were dropped to a score of 110 — which is just a little above average. And, according to what we have been able to dig out, Lt. Calley was not only just able to meet this qualification — but was also in the bottom portion of his OCS Class. Thus, in order to compete with other Army Officers with more intelligence and ability — he had to pay stricter attention to the other facets of Military Life such as Military Courtesy and Discipline and strict obedience to orders.

Why? Because every Officer is given an efficiency rating at least once a year and every time he leaves a Unit — by his next two higher Officers in the Chain-of-Command! And, he is rated in comparison with all other Officers of his same rank — that the rater has known! If his efficiency rating is below "Excellent" just once — chances are he won't get promoted until it is brought up. And, if he has two ratings below Excellent — "he has had the course"! OUT!

Now, we ask you — wasn't Lt. Calley promoted from a 2nd Lt. to the rank of 1st Lt.? Isn't this an indication that he was following orders implicitly enough to satisfy the Army? Do you think that a good Officer would dare to refuse to carry out an order during Combat? When it is instilled into every man that enters the service — to follow or obey the orders given you immediately — and to question them later?

Remember the old expression: "Yours not to reason why — yours just to Do or Die"! And, that's the way it's got to be in the Army in Combat! That is, if you intend to win! And, if you refuse — it could be like the old story of "Oh, for the loss of a Nail — the Battle was Lost"!

We do not question the verdict of the jury under the charge given them by the Judge according to "The Law" that was used in this case.

However, we not only question — but condemn, "The Law" that shouts "murder" for a Combat Soldier to shoot a few enemy civilians — but allows a President to push a release button that unsheathes a "Fiery Holocaust" that wipes out entire Cities, killing many enemy civilians — without even a whisper!



50 YEARS AGO

April 8, 1921

J. H. Backus, Publisher At the meeting of the Andover Hook and Ladder Company, held April 1st, A. J. Raufenbarth was chosen President and A. O. Kemp, Fire Chief.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Mead are parents of a daughter, Lillian, born Sunday, April 3.

Mr. and Mrs. William Farley are parents of a daughter, Prue Lenore born Thursday.

Miss Lenora Dean returned to her school work at Salamanca, Sunday after passing the Easter vacation at her home on South Hill.

William Harrison Burdick, 80, died at his home in Elm Valley, Sunday, April 3. A daughter, a son, a sister and a brother survive. Interment was in Alfred Cemetery.

Dr. and Mrs. W. J. Grenolds and daughter, Lois, left Thursday night for New York City to sail today on the steamer "General Gorges" for Panama. They expect to be gone six to eight weeks.

Jesse Kemp has returned to Lancaster, N. Y., after spending some time with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Kemp.

R. A. Parker is in Akron, Ohio, taking a course in tire vulcanizing.

L. D. Gardner of Wellsville is assisting in the garage during Mr. Parker's absence.

Miss Ima Williams of Wellsville is spending her Easter vacation with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Orange Smith of Andover.

Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Trowbridge were from Saturday until Monday guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Gostley at Richburg.

Ray Hammond was home over Sunday from Dansville where he is employed.

Sam Baron of Hiram, Ohio, was a guest of Mr. and Mrs. William Burger, Sunday.

Mrs. M. A. Fowler returned Saturday from a week's visit with her daughter, Grace Fowler at Sharon, Pa.

Miss Susie Langworthy of Alfred, passed Saturday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Green.

Mrs. M. A. Green of Burdette, passed the week-end guest of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Williams.

Mrs. Jennie Carr was a week-end guest of her cousin, Mrs. Olive Blivin of Hornell.

Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Wilson and daughter of Hornell, passed Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Bloss.

40 YEARS AGO

April 3, 1921

J. H. Backus & Son, Publishers Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Teribury have moved from the house owned by Miss Edna Barrett on Second Street to the farm of Frank Slocum in Shovel Hollow.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Henderson of Wausau, Wis., and Mrs. E. R. Beever of Buffalo, were guests of their sister, Mrs. Floyd Slocum of Davis Hill, over the week-end.

William Wahl spent Sunday and Monday with his mother, Mrs. Katherine Wahl.

Clifford and Richard Burdick spent the week-end with their uncle, Archie Dodge in Olean.

Lewis Guinn visited at the home of his sister, Mrs. Edna Hubbard a couple of days last week.

David A. Yentzer, 69, died Friday, March 27 at the home of his cousin, Mrs. W. H. Grepa on Barney Street.

Mrs. Pearl Davis returned to her home the last of the week from a visit with her sister, Mrs. M. E. Nite, Mr. and Mrs. James Gibson of Nite.

Miss Georgia Bines of Wellsville, passed the week-end with Mrs. Martha Bines.

Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Thorne accompanied by her mother, Mrs. Roxie Bennett spent the week-end in Cuba, guests of Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Scott and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Henning.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bullard of Friendship, are visiting this week at the home of Miss Arvilla Bullard.

Mr. and Mrs. Leon Bloss of Waverly were guests of Andover relatives and friends Sunday and Monday.

Mrs. James Guinn, daughter, Mary and Mr. and Mrs. James Guilan of Hornell and Mrs. Harvey of Wellsville left Saturday to spend Easter with Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Guinn at Port Jervis.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence King of Kenmore, were week-end guests of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Byron Propper.

Mr. and Mrs. Claude Robbins and daughter are visiting his brother at Allentown for a few days.

Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Sweet of Buffalo, are visiting at the home of their brother, Vivian Sweet and family.

A. O. Thompson of Salamanca is sending several days with his daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Steadman.

Miss Elizabeth Cannon of Rochester, was home for the Easter week-end.



by Alex Repkin

The state now has a \$7.7 billion budget and two tax hikes, sales and business largely as the result of the Onondaga budget rebel delegation of state legislators.

That is compared with the \$8.4 billion budget Gov. Rockefeller wanted, including the lifting of almost every tax in the books for a total of \$1.1 billion.

And Stanley Steingut, the Democratic Assemblyman of the Assembly, said another surprise. He had to read another Democratic Assemblyman out of the party.

Two years ago when the sales tax was hiked from two to three cents, two of his colleagues bolted and voted with the Republicans.

The latest to be banished is Assemblyman Stephen Greco of Buffalo.

He voted for the sales tax hike as part of the Republican budget package.

His "yes" vote now lets every Republican Assemblyman off the hook. No one can point at any one particular GOP assemblyman and say that it was his vote that passed the tax bill, that without his vote, the bill would have died.

On the roll call, the 76th and last vote to put it over the top would have been Assembly Speaker Perry E. Duryea, Jr. But Greco had voted on the list, so Duryea's vote was actually the 77th.

Greco also gives the Republican assemblymen from Erie County an

out. Democrats there cannot make an issue of the vote because one of their own, Greco, voted for it. Indeed, Speaker McGowan, just before signing his vote, got up on the floor of the Senate and said he was voting for it because Greco did.

By paying attention to details, whoever engineered the Greco affair managed to speak it off. Steingut, the Democratic Assemblyman, said another surprise. He had to read another Democratic Assemblyman out of the party.

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