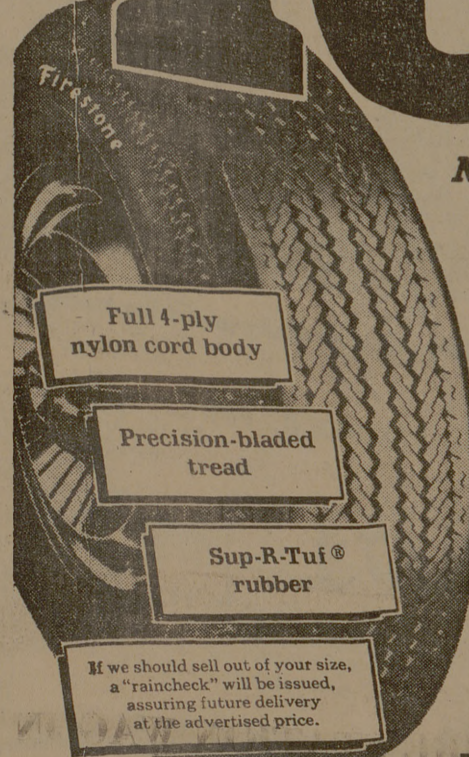


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Calley's defense rests in trial

FT. BENNING, Ga. (AP) — Lt. William Calley's defense rested Wednesday after he testified at his court-martial that during the mass execution of My Lai villagers "the main thing was to go on, finish these people off as fast as possible and get my men out into position."

"It wasn't any big deal," the 27-year-old Calley said, referring to unresisting Vietnamese men, women and small children who fell beneath the automatic rifles of American infantrymen at a drainage ditch in My Lai on March 16, 1968.

Calley ended the equivalent of two full court days of testimony at 4:32 p. m. — EST — and the defense immediately rested.

The trial was recessed overnight with the prosecution scheduled to present rebuttal testimony Thursday from the first of three government psychiatrists.

They examined Calley early this month and pronounced him "perfectly normal."

The trial began Nov. 12 and the government rested Dec. 8, reopening its case briefly for two supplementary witnesses.

Calley is being tried by a six-man jury of superior officers.

He is accused of the premeditated murder of 102 civilians in My Lai while leading an infantry platoon of Charley Company on an assault mission near the South China Sea. The government said

70 or more of the victims died at the ditch.

Calley admitted ordering the execution in the ditch, but said he did so under orders of superiors.

However, the defendant denied the governor's charge that he ordered killed, and helped kill, an additional 30 civilians along a trail in the village.

Capt. Aubrey Daniel, the prosecutor, completed his cross-examination in midafternoon, after interrogating Calley for the equivalent of a full court day.

In one of the final exchanges Calley was asked:

Q. Did you ever receive any instructions on how to treat prisoners?

A. Yes sir. To treat them with respect. Don't humiliate them. Keep them silent. Keep them separate. Keep them guarded.

The defense had stressed Calley's respect for his commander, Capt. Ernest Medina, and his unquestioned obedience to the latter's orders, which were said to include the shooting of anything that moved at My Lai.

On redirect examination, defense attorney George Latimer asked Calley about adherence to Medina's orders. Calley said: "You had better carry them out now and as readily as possible."

Calley had admitted joining men in firing into the My Lai ditch with his automatic rifle.

Pesticide loss could increase prices

The loss of certain agricultural chemicals, such as nitrogen fertilizers and pesticides, could cause a drastic increase in food prices to the consumer.

The prediction was made here Tuesday night by Dr. L. S. Pope, associate dean in the College of Agriculture, who spoke to about 200 persons attending the 19th annual Farm and Ranch Credit School for Commercial Bankers.

He said the price jump to consumers would result from lower farm production, even if farmers put now-idle land back into crops. Farmers currently depend on chemicals for about 90 percent of crop protection and fertilization. The associate dean said that

chemicals have benefitted consumers in making possible low-cost food, now averaging a little less than 17 percent of disposable income — the lowest in the world.

Modern methods of production using chemicals have given the most attractive and wholesome food in the world.

He added that food quality would be much lower without chemicals to protect not only crops and livestock, but to avoid losses in storage.

"It should be remembered that many young people today have never known poor quality food, let alone a shortage of it," Pope said.

The speaker cited a special

study by the College of Agriculture staff which showed that if all chemicals were withdrawn, crop yields might fall 36 to 46 percent. Prices of basic food commodities would soar, and farm exports would drop precipitously.

"If loss of agricultural chemicals caused only a 15% reduction in yield of basic crops, consumers might be forced to pay 23 percent more for the reduced output," he explained. "As population increased, the situation would become worse since no reserve cropland would be available. A decline in rural economy would have many far reaching effects.

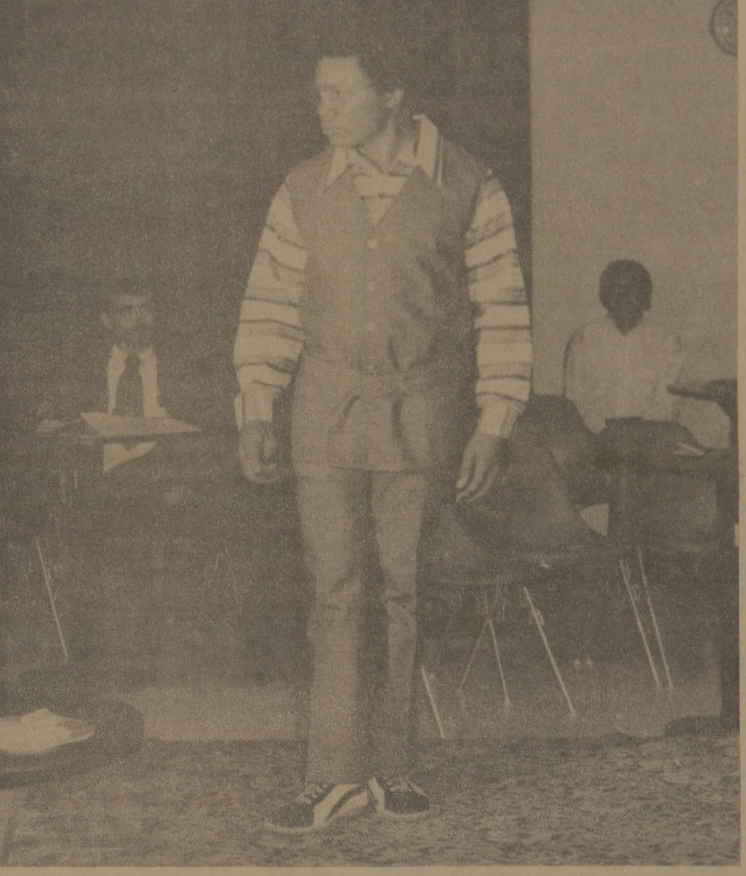
Another factor to consider,

Pope said, is that many nations in competition with the U.S. for food and fiber production are liberal use of chemicals.

U. S. farmers will be at a disadvantage if they were denied reasonable use of the chemicals necessary for maximum production.

Safe use of pesticides and chemical fertilizer is possible, he emphasized, and can be done with improved knowledge and production methods.

Efforts to reduce toxic chemicals in crop production should be accompanied by stepped-up research to find new, safer materials for tomorrow.



FOOTBALL PLAYER Hugh McElroy models the latest in men's fashions during the Duds 'n' Dolls fashion show Wednesday night in the Memorial Student Center. See story page 1. (Photo by Randy Freeman)

U. S. Laos aid

(Continued from page 1)

South Vietnam.

"We will not give up on negotiations," he said.

On the other hand he trays his other track toward U.S. disengagement — the demilitarization program for handing over more of the combat burden to the South Vietnamese — is going well. Both the South Vietnamese and Americans are confident that in time the Vietnamese will be able to stand on their own against a determined enemy," he said.

In talking about Laos and Cambodia, Nixon did not refer to the current Laos operation as much as his report covers only calendar 1970. But in looking ahead, he said, "We face some very serious problems with some 90,000 North Vietnamese troops massed in Laos and more than 50,000 North Vietnamese and Viet Cong in Cambodia.

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