

WITNESS STATEMENT
(AR 195-10 - TB PMO 3)

MOWER

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| PLACE Washington, D.C. | DATE 17 Mar 70 | TIME 0800 Hrs. | FILE NUMBER |
| LAST NAME, FIRST NAME, MIDDLE NAME MERCER, James Edmund | SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT NO. | | CHARGE Crim Inves |
| ORGANIZATION OR ADDRESS 1st MP Det (CI), OPMG, Washington, D. C. 20315 | | | |

SWORN STATEMENT

gm James F. Mercer

On 1 Mar 70, Mr John Richard MOWER, SSN [redacted], Shippensburg, PA, was contacted in person for the purpose of obtaining a statement relative to his knowledge and/or participation in the offenses of murder and rape at My Lai (L), on 16 Mar 68. MOWER presented a Court Injunction dated 25 Nov 69, by CPT Audrey DANIEL III, SJA, Ft Benning, GA, directing that he would not render any information to anyone except those individuals named thereon. MOWER indicated that he would answer questions if he was released from the Court Injunction.

On 15 Mar 70, MOWER was personally given a release to the aforementioned Court Injunction. MOWER read the release and then requested the undersigned to read the release to him in the presence of his wife and another witness. MOWER then declined to make any statement relative to the incident under investigation. MOWER maintains that he does not have a lawyer. The only explanation rendered for not wanting to make a statement was that it has been a long time since the incident, and he doesn't remember anything. *gm*

James E. Mercer
JAMES E. MERCER
Crim Inves

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| EXHIBIT | INITIALS OF PERSON MAKING STATEMENT <i>gm</i> | PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES |
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ADDITIONAL PAGES MUST CONTAIN THE HEADING "STATEMENT OF [redacted] TAKEN AT [redacted] DATED [redacted] CONTINUED." THE BOTTOM OF EACH ADDITIONAL PAGE MUST BEAR THE INITIALS OF THE PERSON MAKING THE STATEMENT AND BE INITIALED AS "PAGE [redacted] OF [redacted] PAGES." WHEN ADDITIONAL PAGES ARE UTILIZED, THE BACK OF PAGE 1 WILL BE LINED OUT, AND THE STATEMENT WILL BE CONCLUDED ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF ANOTHER COPY OF THIS FORM.

DA FORM 2823
1 JAN 68