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# Minor Ordered Released by US Army Officer: All Charges Against Him Understood to Have Been Dropped — May Return to Paris.

Unsigned article in the *New York Call*, v. 12, no. 189 (July 8, 1919), pg. 1.

COBLENZ, July 7.— The release of Robert Minor, American journalist and cartoonist, was ordered yesterday by army officials after word had been passed from officialdom believed close to the Peace Commission. Minor has been under detention for over a month, pending an investigation of charges brought by the British that he had spread radical propaganda among British and American troops, especially those forces now waging war against the Soviet government of Russia.

No official announcement has been made concerning Minor's release, but it is understood that all charges against him have been dropped and that he will immediately return to Paris.

It is fairly well known, though not admitted officially that behind the persecution of Minor was the British Secret Service, whose evidence was insufficient to sustain the charges brought against the cartoonist.

Robert Minor, formerly a cartoonist on the *New York World* and later on *The Call*, was arrested in Paris over a month ago and held incommunicado by the authorities. It later developed that Minor had offended the British military au-

thorities, who appealed to the French for his arrest and then allowed the United States army to assume jurisdiction in the case.

Lincoln Steffens, who assisted in the report handed the American peace commission on Russia, learned of Minor's arrest and sought the aid of Colonel House, the President's confidential adviser, to secure Minor's liberty. At this time the cartoonist, whose special articles on the Russian situation have appeared in *The Call* recently, was taken to Coblenz, Germany, the headquarters of the American army of occupation.

The father of Robert Minor, Judge Minor of Texas, also appealed to the government, and after a month's confinement the journalist was finally set at liberty.

No official data has been given out on the case, but it is thought that after Minor's return from Russia he was too dangerous to be allowed at large in the vicinity of soldiers already grumbling at their share in a war which they do not consider to be theirs, and for safety's sake the British sought Minor's arrest.



*Edited by Tim Davenport.*

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