

2/4/70

By Bernard Nossiter
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Some major publishing and television executives yesterday decried government efforts to commandeer their files and films for criminal inquiries and prosecutions.

Both Time Inc. and the Columbia Broadcasting system said they would resist sweeping demands for indiscriminate information. The New York Times expressed its concern over a grand jury's subpoena to one of its reporters in San Francisco and warned that this practice "could well set up a barrier between reporters and their sources of information."

The statements were prompted by a flurry of subpoenas from federal and local authorities, particularly in Chicago, for unpublished and unaired materials dealing with radical groups.

After '68 Convention

The practice began on a broad scale after clashes between demonstrators and police at the Democratic Convention in Chicago in 1968.

After last October's four-day rampage by the Weatherman faction of SDS in Chicago, all four of the city's newspapers, its television stations and Time, Life and Newsweek were ordered by the U.S. attorney and the Cook County prosecutor to turn over films, photos and files of the incident.

Time and Life have both complied, a spokesman for Time, Inc., said yesterday. Newsweek is attempting to work out an agreement that will protect the names of confidential informants. The newspapers are also trying to negotiate guidelines that will limit subpoenas to demands for specific, relevant information that can't be obtained elsewhere.

The Chicago media have also received what James Hoge, editor of the Sun-Times, yesterday called "blanket subpoenas" from the U.S. attorney's office following the police raid in December that resulted in the killing of two Black Panther leaders.

To Weigh Relevance In New York, Hedley Donovan, editor-in-chief of Time, Inc., said his company will now "analyze each subpoena carefully and weigh its relevance to trial proceedings or criminal ac-

tions. Should we believe that there is no immediate relevance and that a law enforcement body is on a 'fishing expedition' for information, we will take appropriate legal action to contest the subpoena."

Frank Stanton, president of CBS, said:

"Broad, unrestricted access to reporters' notes, notebooks

and other materials not published or broadcast can have a direct and seriously adverse effect on the free flow of information, and access to news sources."

CBS, he said, will "contest demands of this nature as soon as appropriate cases are presented."

Publishers, TV Resist U.S. Subpoenas for Files