

Press Raps
Violations
Of Freedom

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Inter-American Press Association expressed dismay Friday over violations of press freedom in Latin America—under elected governments as well as under military regimes.

Delegates attending the IAPA's annual assembly approved a report stating "there is no freedom of the press" in Cuba, Haiti, Brazil, Panama and Paraguay.

The IAPA said the press in Brazil—Latin America's largest nation—is "laboring under unbearable restrictions."

Argentina, second to Brazil in size and economic importance, almost was included in the no-freedom list but after long debate the delegates voted 37 to 16 that press freedom has been "violated" in Argentina, but still exists.

The IAPA noted that press restrictions were imposed this year by the elected governments of Chile and Uruguay, despite long democratic traditions in these countries.

Press freedom has been threatened or curtailed also in the Bahamas, the Dominican Republic and Peru, according to the final report of the IAPA's Press Freedom Committee.

Seventeen countries or territories of the Western Hemisphere were declared free of press restrictions. These included the United States.