

# Mexico Expels U.S. Critic Of Government's Policies

From News Dispatches

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 24—Kenneth F. Johnson, author of a book critical of Mexican politics, was deported to the United States, an airline spokesman reported today.

An official of Braniff Airlines said the Interior Ministry made reservations on a flight to San Antonio, Texas, for Johnson, 39, his wife and four-month-old daughter. Johnson is an associate professor of political science at a branch of the University of Missouri in St. Louis.

Francis B. Kent of the Los Angeles Times reported that Johnson was arrested Monday and held without charges until today. His Argentine-born wife, Mercedes, and their daughter were reportedly also detained by the Interior Ministry.

A U.S. consular official spoke with Johnson Wednesday night and indicated that the author had not been physically mistreated, an embassy source said.

A Mexican Interior Ministry spokesman declined to comment on the case.

Johnson's book, "Mexican Democracy: A Critical View," was published last year. The author arrived here Aug. 9 to revise the book for a second printing.

Kent reported that Johnson had been in Mexico earlier this year, in May and June, at which time he was believed to have been in touch with opponents of the administration including leftist university students.

The arrest appeared to be a reflection of the increasing sensitivity of the government of President Luis Echeverria to criticism. Several representatives of foreign publications have been summoned to the presidential palace in the past few days and reprimanded in harsh terms for writing articles. A spokesman at the University of Missouri said Johnson had been teaching there since September 1970. Previously he had been an instructor of political science at the University of Southern California. Johnson, whose field is comparative politics, has done field work in several Latin American countries, the spokesman said.