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# Nebraska News Executives Say Press Not Intimidated

United Press International

A newspaper executive from the nation's heartland yesterday dismissed as "hogwash" charges by some newsmen that the Nixon administration is bent on intimidating the news media.

Harold W. Anderson, president of the Omaha World-Herald, conceded that "some of these thin-skinned newsmen are quite loud of voice." But he said most newspapers are "consistent self-critics" as well as critics of the government about which they report.

"Most of us know that if we are to dish it out, we should also be prepared to take it," Andersen said in hearings on freedom of the press before the Senate Judiciary Subcom-

mittee on Constitutional Rights.

"Let me say I reject the conspiracy theory—you know, the allegation that the Nixon administration is trying to intimidate the news media by a calculated campaign of criticism and thinly-veiled threats. Hogwash! . . .

"Let me say I feel that some of vice president Agnew's criticism of the media have been justified. I fail to understand the almost hysterical reaction to those criticisms in some quarters.

"So far as I know, Mr. Agnew hasn't dismantled a single TV network or cost a single TV commentator his job. And, at last report, The

New York Times was still publishing daily.

"As for intimidation, any news medium that is intimidated by criticism—from the Vice President of the United States or anyone else—was a pretty timid news medium to begin with and doesn't merit much sympathy, in my opinion."

Similar testimony came from another Nebraska newsman, Emil W. Reutzel, Jr., editor of the Norfolk Daily News. Reutzel said he subscribed to some of Agnew's criticism of the press and said it was "helpful" for government officials to criticize the news media "without overdrawn charges about repression."