

# Sulzberger Expresses 'Complete Joy' at Ruling

Arthur Ochs Sulzberger, president and publisher of The New York Times, said yesterday that his reaction to the Supreme Court's decision was "one of complete joy and delight."

Mr. Sulzberger held a news conference with A. M. Rosenthal, managing editor of The Times, and James C. Goodale, the newspaper's general counsel, about 20 minutes after the decision was announced.

The publisher said that he had "never really doubted that this day would come and that we'd win," adding that "sometimes it seems like it was going to be a little longer waiting than I had hoped." The Times had been under court orders to suspend publication of its series on the Pentagon papers since June 15.

When asked, "Knowing what you know about what happened, would you do this again if someone came to you with what you considered to be an equally important discovery?" Mr. Sulzberger replied that he would.

## 'A Joyous Day ...'

Mr. Rosenthal, asked for his reaction, said: "Well, I think it's a joyous day for the press and for American society. And I thought this was the way it would turn out. I prayed it would."

He said also that "there will be no changes in the presentation of the articles" as a result of the Government's action and the delay. "We will present them exactly as we planned." He added:

"Obviously, I'm not filled with joy that other newspapers have had pieces of this story, but I really do not think it dilutes it. Quite the contrary—I think that an enormous amount of interest has been built up in these papers, and I think that the job we intend to do will demonstrate that they are a matter of enormous historical interest."

Mr. Rosenthal was asked if he felt the decision would "open up channels of information to the news media that

may heretofore have been closed?"

"Yes, I do, really," he replied. "I think this whole case will have done that. I think that people in the press, people in government and people in the public will see as the result of this whole case that a great deal of information is classified for no real national security interest and I think the move will be in the direction of more information rather than less."

## Press Freedom 'Upheld'

He said also that he thought the Court, in its decision, "upheld the freedom of the press, and that is a matter for great joy."

A great deal of the material, Mr. Rosenthal said, had been "a rather profound surprise" to him. "Not individual decisions . . . but the rationale or lack of rationale, the government planning or lack of government planning."

Mr. Goodale, asked if he thought there was "a new kind of antagonism between First Amendment rights and the Nixon Administration," said: "I don't really know if that's the case. I sometimes suspect it to be the case. But . . . I can't really answer that, I don't know."

Mr. Rosenthal, asked the same question, said that he felt there was "a tendency to . . . try to take legal action that is more pronounced in this Administration than in others." And in reply to the succeeding question, as to whether such antagonism between the press and government might not be "a sign of good health in both parties," he said:

"To a great extent I think it is. I don't think we'll ever see the day, nor should we see the day, when we're in bed together."

Toward the end of the 30-minute news conference, the questioning returned to Mr. Sulzberger, who was asked if he felt the motto of The Times — "All the News That's Fit to Print" — had been upheld.

"Yes, sir," Mr. Sulzberger said, "I think it was very much upheld."