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## A Go-to-Jail Plan

### For Publishers

A group of California newspaper executives were considering a proposal that publishers rather than reporters be sent to jail for refusing to obey court orders to reveal news story sources.

The proposal was made by Alexander Bodi, editor of the Palo Alto Times, at a recent seminar of the California Freedom of Information Committee, held at the St. Francis Hotel.

"Reporters are the agents of publishers," said Bodi.

"The ultimate responsibility for the content of the paper lies with the publishers" he said, adding that it is

the publishers and not the reporters who should pay the penalty for violating court orders.

The viewpoint, long held by Bodi, was received with mixed enthusiasm by the 25 persons attending the seminar that dealt with attacks on freedom of the press.

The seminar was held in conjunction with the 85th annual meeting of the California Newspaper Publishers Association.

Usually reporters, not their superiors, have been held in contempt or punished by the courts for refusing to divulge their sources of information.