SFChronicle JAN 2 9 1974 Saigon Arrests New York Times Correspondent

Saigon government police yesterday arrested James M. Markham, Saigon bureau chief of the New York Times, as he emerged from a week in a Viet Cong - held area near the central coast of South Vietnam of South Vietnam.

According to officials at the U.S. consulate in NHA Trang, Markham was taken into custody in Binh Dinh province and is being held in the province capital of Qui Nhon, about 260 miles nor-theast of Saigon.

The detention of Markham was the latest in a series of government moves against journalists who have tried to report on life in Viet Cong areas.

New York Times