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Saigon Accuses Don Luce Of Being Antiwar Agent

NY Times

SAIGON, South Vietnam, May 12—The South Vietnamese Government said today that it had not extended the visa of Don Luce because Mr. Luce's activities went beyond those of a journalist or a social worker.

Mr. Luce is scheduled to testify tomorrow before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, which is investigating the over-all effects of the Indochina war.

Mr. Luce, a social worker and writer, was a frequent critic of the South Vietnamese Government. He was denied a visa renewal and left Sunday.

In reply to a question, a Government spokesman said Mr. Luce had "acted as a contact for antiwar groups in the United States with various political and student groups here."

"Certainly that is not the function of a journalist or a social worker," the spokesman said.

Mr. Luce, who was employed by the World Council of Churches, was responsible for uncovering the "Tiger Cages" of Con Son Prison last year.