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S. Vietnam Expels Two Journalists

From News Dispatches

South Vietnam's new rulers expelled two journalists yesterday, an American and a Frenchman. They are the first newsmen ordered to leave the country since Saigon fell April 30.

The two expelled, French author Jean Larteguy and Matt Franjola of the Associated Press, were flown to Vietniane, Laos, aboard a North Vietnamese airliner with 78 other foreigners.

No reason was given for the expulsions, but other journalists said the Communists apparently objected to recent articles written by Franjola and to the tone of several books on Indochina written by Larteguy over the 25 years he has lived in the area.

Franjola said Nguyen Nhu Doi, of the information department of the Military Management Committee that rules Saigon, told him that perhaps he had "done something to damage the Vietnamese revolution."

He said customs agents at the airport went through hundreds of photographs and rolls of movie film he had with him, confiscating some of them in apparently random fashion.

Meanwhile, former Brig. Gen. Le Minh Dao told UPI in Saigon that he had spurned an opportunity to flee to the United States and would "never again have anything to do with Americans."

The general, who commanded the South Vietnamese army's 18th Division, told UPI correspondent Paul Vogle, "It is the Americans who sold out Vietnam. It is the Americans who are responsible for the unbelievable corruption which rotted our country and kept us from building a stable nation."

He said he decided not to go to the United States because "There would be no one to care for my family of nine children and a wife. I could not earn a living in the United States and I could not bear to leave my country."

Meanwhile Hanoi Radio reported that four South Vietnamese warships that had fled to Singapore to escape the Communist takeover had returned to Saigon. It made no mention of any people aboard.

Saigon Radio said the new government had set temporary salary standards for civil service and private companies. The salaries, given in piasters, seemed roughly equivalent to those before the Communist victory.

Western correspondents in Saigon reported that men have joined women in tilling the fields in Longan Province,