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SAIGON EXPELLING A U.P.I. NEWSMAN

Government Weighs Ouster
of Other Journalists

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Special to The New York Times

SAIGON, South Vietnam, March 7—An American journalist was ordered expelled from South Vietnam today and a South Vietnamese official said the Government was considering similar action against several other newsmen.

The South Vietnamese official made the remarks in a telephone interview against a background of increasing pressure by the South Vietnamese Government on foreign journalists accused of what it calls "un-Vietnamese activities."

The Government official said the visa of Donald A. Davis, acting bureau chief of United Press International in Saigon, expired tomorrow and "will not be renewed."

Mr. Davis said tonight that he had been given seven days to leave the country.

Others Bans Weighed

Other organizations that have been informed either that correspondents now outside the country would not be permitted to return or that their cases are "under consideration" include the National Broadcasting Company, The Los Angeles Times and Agence France-Presse.

Asked whether the Government was adopting a tougher approach toward newsmen who write articles displeasing to Saigon, an official recalled that he had announced some weeks ago that journalists "guilty of un-Vietnamese activities will not be allowed to get into the country."

He added, "We are going to stick to those principles."

The Government has never clearly defined what it considers un-Vietnamese activities by journalists, except to suggest that articles that "undermine the security" of the Saigon Government fall into that classification.

Reports Called Fabrications

In the case of Mr. Davis, however, a Government official said a visa was being denied because United Press International had disseminated news dispatches that were "pure fabrications" and "entirely inaccurate."

Mr. Davis, on behalf of himself and U.P.I., denied that the agency had filed any stories that were "false, fabricated or biased."

The Government official conceded that Mr. Davis was not necessarily the author of the articles in question, but explained: "we are not taking measures against individuals but against the agency responsible."

The Government was employing a similar approach in its dealings with the National Broadcasting Company. Recently, Ron Nessen, one of its correspondents, became embroiled in a dispute with the Government over the right of newsmen to visit North Vietnamese and Vietcong delegates to the four-party Joint Military Commission at Tan Son Nhut Air base.

Warning to Newsmen

As a result of the dispute, which reached a low point when a Government spokesman warned newsmen they might be shot by military policemen if they attempted to visit the Communist officials, Mr. Nessen was "forced to leave the country," according to the Government official.

According to N.B.C. here, two other correspondents—Bob Jones and Bill Dowell—have since been unable to obtain visas to enter South Vietnam.

N.B.C. said it was informed that Hoang Duc Nha, the commissioner general of state for information, had ordered all visas for N.B.C. personnel held up while the Government considered the network's "performance."

Asked about this today, a Government official said the Saigon authorities were "considering N.B.C.'s attitude."

The Government official also said the authorities were considering the case of Jacques Leslie of The Los Angeles Times. Mr. Leslie said he was informed yesterday that his press credentials, which expired yesterday, would not be extended.

Re-entry Held Unlikely

His visa expires on March 17 and he had planned to leave the country for a brief vacation before that. But he said today he believed that if he left, "I won't be let back in."

In addition to these cases, Agence France-Presse has been told informally that one of its correspondents would be barred if he attempted to return to Vietnam.

Although there is no pattern to the pressures being applied, several of those journalists involved have visited Vietcong-controlled areas of South Vietnam and have written articles about the torture and beating of political prisoners based on interviews with recently released prisoners.

An American official said he believed that the situation between the press and the Saigon Government had "come around to a point of East and West not meeting."