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## U. S. Plans to Broaden Protection of Newsmen

DETROIT, Oct. 4 (UPI)—Attorney General Elliot L. Richardson has decided to require all Justice Department employees to obtain his approval before any reporter can be questioned, arrested or indicted for an offense arising from coverage of a news story, a spokesman said today.

John W. Hushen, head of the Justice Department's public information office, predicted in a prepared speech for the Detroit, Mich., chapter of Sigma Delta Chi that "this new directive will quickly put an end to a problem which was building a wall between the media and the Administration."

He recalled that Richardson recently told the American Bar Association that he was considering a directive "which would require his specific approval before a newsman could be questioned, arrested or indicted for any offense which the reporter is suspected of having committed in a news story."

### 'New Guidelines'

"I am happy to announce tonight," Mr. Hushen said, "that these new guidelines have now been written and will be signed by the attorney general next week."

Mr. Hushen mentioned two incidents that he said were "damaging to the relationship between the media and the Government."

They were the arrest last

January of Les Whitten, a reporter for the syndicated columnist Jack Anderson, who was carrying several boxes of records that had been stolen from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the arrest of Thomas Oliphant, a Boston Globe reporter who was taken into custody for riding in an airplane that dropped food and medicine into the insurgent Indian encampment at Wounded Knee, S. D.

In the Whitten case, Mr. Hushen said, "the grand jurors had more sense than those who ordered his arrest and refused to return an indictment."