SFChronicle FEB 1 6 1978

U.S. Sues Ex-CIA Man

Washington

The Carter administration filed suit yesterday to recover all profits that former Central Intelligence Agency officer Frank Snepp may make from a book criticizing the U.S. evacuation from Vietnam.

The suit alleges that Snepp broke a contract by publishing the book, "Decent Interval," without government approval. The suit said the United States has suffered damage from the publication "through the undermining of confidence and trust" in the CIA.

In a six-page complaint filed in Virginia, where Snepp lives, the Justice Department also said the former agent should be barred by the federal courts from making any further unauthorized disclosures.

The department offered no basis for computing the damages.

Associated Press