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GREECE

WASHINGTON (AP)-A GROUP OF EXILED GREEK JOURNALISTS AND PUBLISHERS HAS APPEALED TO THE AMERICAN NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION TO DEMONSTRATE SUPPRESSION OF THE PRESS BY THE GREEK MILITARY REGIME.

IN A LETTER TO STANFORD SMITH, PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION, THE 25 EXILES CITED THE TROUBLES BEING ENCOUNTERED BY THE ATHENS NEWSPAPER "VRADYNI" AND SAID "THE NEW ATTACK ON THE GREEK PRESS WAS LAUNCHED SO THE GREEK PEOPLE SHOULD NOT HEAR ABOUT THE MERCILESS PERSECUTION OF THE YOUNG STUDYING IN ESTABLISHMENTS OF FURTHER EDUCATION, WHO WISHED TO DEFEND THEIR FUNDAMENTAL LIBERTIES, WINNING THE ADMIRATION AND SUPPORT OF INTERNATIONAL OPINION."

SMITH TOLD ELIAS DEMETRAPOULOS, AN EXILED GREEK JOURNALIST LIVING HERE, THAT HE IS FORWARDING THE LETTER AND RAISING THE ISSUE WITH THE PARIS HEADQUARTERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS.

AMONG THE SIGNERS OF THE LETTER WERE HELEN VLACHOS, NOW LIVING IN LONDON, A. ARNAKIS OF FRANKFURT, P. BAKOJANNIS OF MUNICH, T. BIROU AND A. FAKINOS OF PARIS, AND A. MAROPOULOS AND B. KATHICPOULOS OF BONN.

ON ANOTHER ISSUE, DEMETRAPOULOS REPORTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT CONTROLLED ATHENS NEWS AGENCY RECENTLY PUT OUT A SPEECH MADE MORE THAN A YEAR AGO BY U.S. VICE PRESIDENT SPIRO AGNEW AS A SIGN OF AMERICA'S SUPPORT FOR THE GREEK REGIME.

THE VICE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE SAID THEY WERE SURPRISED AT THE AGENCY'S ACTION. (END)

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