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Demonstrators Seize Djakarta U.S. Film Office

From News Dispatches

DJAKARTA, March 16—A crowd of demonstrators variously estimated from 300 to 3000 claimed they had seized the American Motion Picture Association office here today. AMPA represents most American film distributors here in the Indonesian capital.

The official news agency Antara said the takeover was ordered because AMPA was "a hotbed of subversion and imperialist aggression in the field of film and culture . . . directed against the Indonesian revolution."

William Palmer, the only American with AMPA here was out of the country on vacation. Antara demanded that Palmer, a longtime friend of President Sukarno, be expelled or detained "because he was obviously an agent of the CIA in Indonesia."

American films were banned in Indonesia last May. The ban was lifted by the government in September, but their showing was not resumed.

The demonstrators were led by members of the Indonesian Film Artists Association and a "Committee for Boycotting Imperialist American Movies."

They urged the government to turn the offices into a National Movie Institute and a meeting place for artists, youths and journalists.

When the leaders submitted a takeover statement to Foreign Minister Subandrio, Associated Press reported, he angrily asked, "Why did you take them over? Those buildings were to be handed over to me."

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