Backgrounders' Abused, Says UPI

said yesterday that its news- be on the record and fully atmen are under instructions to make it clear to officials that "be a lot more selective" the news agency believes in about attending backgroundthe greatest possible identifi- ers. cation of the sources of news.

"We think the backgrounder statement:
has sometimes been abused,"
said Julius Frandsen, UPI est possible identification of Washington vice president and the sources of news. Our regeneral manager. But he porters are under instructions added that the agency had to to make this clear to the offi-"cover all the news, however cials with whom they deal. We it may develop.'

Background which high government offi- we also recognize an obliga-cials talk to newsmen on the tion to our subscribers in this not be identified—came under all the news, however it may critical scrutiny during the develop. Each problem involvpast week.

Washington Post reporters sidered in light of these some-have been told to insist that times conflicting goals."

United Press International) material offered at briefings

UPI's Frandsen said in a

think the backgrounder has briefings-at sometimes been abused. But understanding that they will country and abroad to cover ing attribution has to be con-