

B.I. MEN LINKED TO 70'S ABDUCTION

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ed in March 1975 that the bureau had kidnapped and interrogated foreign agents it discovered operating covertly in his country.

These sources said in interviews that kidnapping was also used to get information from or to "disrupt" the activities of figures in domestic radical groups.

One source said he could cite at least one kidnapping that had occurred within the last five years, the period under scrutiny by the Justice Department. The source said that two agents had been involved in seizing a member of the radical New Left to "disrupt" activities planned by him. The victim, according to the source, would not know he had been kidnapped by F.B.I. agents and would probably think his abductors were members of radical right opponents of the anti-war movement.

The source said that the two agents had conducted the kidnapping without formal authorization from the bureau and may have done it "on their own." He said the victim was roughed up but was released "without permanent damage."

Grand Jury Cited

Both sources said that this was not an isolated incident over the past decade and that some of the men who had conducted illegal burglaries, and thus would come under the Department of Justice inquiry, knew about or had been involved in such kidnappings.

Meanwhile, a well placed Government source said that evidence in the investigation of F.B.I. burglaries had already been presented to a grand jury, but he declined to disclose its location.

Another source, with extensive contacts among present and former F.B.I. agents, said that indictments were expected as early as September and might involve an initial group of 28 agents or officials.

"Street agents," however, had little specific knowledge of the pace of the investigation, according to one source. William L. Gardner, the lawyer in the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division, which is conducting this investigation, has

told certain agents that they might have to go before a Federal grand jury.

He has also told agents, sources report, that the Government would grant them immunity from prosecution for their part in burglaries in exchange for their testimony. Mr. Gardner, who heads the Civil Rights Division's criminal section, is investigating violations of laws that prohibit law enforcement officials from depriving a citizen of his civil rights or from making illegal searches and seizures.

Contempt Threat Warning

Mr. Gardner, according to F.B.I. sources, has told agents that they will not face administrative punishment by the bureau if they choose not to testify on the ground that they might incriminate themselves.

But he has warned them that the Government may get a court to grant them immunity and that if they then fail to testify, the government may move to have them held in contempt of court. One agent found this ironic since it was the method used in the early 1970's to try to get members of the anti-war movement to testify.

Within the F.B.I., sources said, there is vast difference between kidnapping used in foreign espionage cases and in investigations of domestic radicals. Kidnapping "illégals," the name for foreign agents here under false identity, is "part of the game" and is carried out by both foreign and American intelligence services, they said. But in domestic investigations,

this was considered totally unacceptable.

"You can't have law enforcement officers doing that. The next step will be killing somebody," he said. This agent said he would have resigned from the bureau if he had been asked to kidnap someone.

The purposes for kidnapping varied from trying to frighten a member of the radical movement (used against Ku Klux Klan members in the 1960's) to trying to get information.