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Militants, Mobs Cited

U.S. to Retain Worldwide FBI Network

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WASHINGTON — The Nixon Administration has decided to maintain intact the small worldwide network of undercover federal agents because of the international ramifications of organized crime and the growing contacts of black militants abroad.

A special committee of the National Security Council, assigned by President Nixon to enforce his order for a 10 per cent across-the-board reduction in United States government personnel overseas, has accepted a plea from the Department of Justice that the 173 agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs be exempt.

With regard to the black militants, the Department of Justice contends that foreign contacts by representatives of the Black Panthers "pose a serious threat to our government and demand close attention."

The recommendation by the Permanent Committee of Undersecretaries, presided over by Undersecretary of State Elliot L. Richardson, to exempt the agents of the Department of Justice was approved by the White House.

The committee's report, submitted to the White House on Oct. 3, has not been published, but its text was made available to the New York Times by high administration officials.

On Nov. 26 the White House announced that 14,937 military men not in troop units will be brought home and that 5,100 civilian overseas jobs would be abolished by June 30, 1970.

The announcement made no reference to exemptions for the Department of Justice, nor did it mention exclusions of thousands of the Defense Department's intelligence and psychological-warfare operatives in Asia and of scores of American employes of the Commerce, Agriculture and Treasury departments.

The Peace Corps, with 473 staff officials throughout the world, also was exempted from what is known as Operation Reduction, or OPRED.

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