

Post 2/11/71
AKRON, Ohio—A \$2 million extortion plot against Ben Maidenburg, publisher of the Akron Beacon-Journal, was thwarted yesterday with the arrest of an Akron man, police said.

George W. Blake, 43, was charged with extortion after Murray Stewart, a newsman at WJW-TV, Cleveland, obtained a telephone number that enabled police to trace the suspect.

WJW-TV and radio station WAKR in Akron received anonymous telephone calls saying that Maidenburg or his son, Ben Jr., who works for WAKR, would be abducted by the American Revolutionary Party unless \$2 million was turned over to feed the poor in Akron.

Police said Stewart was able to get the caller to reveal a telephone number, which was traced to the home of a neighbor of Blake's. Police went to the home of Blake's neighbor and then to Blake's home, where he was arrested without incident.

Maidenburg twice before has been the target of terrorism. On July 4, 1970, a bomb caused an estimated \$10,000 damage to a garage at his home. On Feb. 10, 1971, an unexploded bomb was found on his front porch.