

These clip ings do not mention what was treated repeatedly and extensively on radio news (WOP), that the Chicago Black Panthers charged their office was torn up and ransacked, that it was entered by force and without a search warrant, none having been served or displayed, that the files were rifled, the cash taken and the place left a shambles. The newscasts accounted that reporters at the scene did, indeed, find the office wrecked, and the descriptions were pretty graphic. There has been no denial I have heard from the FBI. Specifically, if there has been any denial that it did these things without proper warrant, I have heard nothing of it. I would presume that the papers could ignore the charge against the FBI but would not likely omit FBI denial of it. I heard extensive parts of WOP's broadcasts yesterday (6/5/69). They did not change their **account** of what happened in Chicago which is, it would seem, ample indication they had neither protest nor denial from the FBI.

Post 6-7-69

FBI Arrests Fugitive In Slaying of Panther

The FBI picked up another member of the Black Panther party yesterday in a nationwide roundup of fugitives from a murder charge that has spread from the Washington, D.C., area to Salt Lake City.

Arrested in Salt Lake City was Lonnie McLucas, 23, of New Haven, Conn. It was in New Haven that a group of Panthers was indicted last week for the murder of fellow Panther Al Rackley, 24, who was said to have been tortured and "executed" after a dispute within the party.

The search continued for George Sams Jr., 23. An FBI spokesman said agents, acting on information that Sams might be in the Washington area, had gone to 4111 Southern ave. se. across the District of Columbia line in Prince Georges County, Md.

There the agents reported finding a stolen M-1 rifle. They charged Dorothy Jean McQueen Hughes, said by agents to have been a secretary to Stokely Carmichael, with illegal possession of the weapon.

FBI search and seizure methods brought complaints from Panther officials in Chicago, who said a raid there Wednesday led to an unwarranted ransacking of their headquarters. The FBI said it

entered the headquarters in a good-faith search for Sams.

In Denver, bonds of \$200,000 each were set Thursday for Rory Hithe, 18, and Landon Robert Williams, 25, on charges of unlawful flight to avoid the New Haven prosecution.

PANTHER ARRESTS LAID TO U.S. PLOT

Chairman Says Nixon Seeks
to Destroy Negro Party

By EARL CALDWELL
Special to The New York Times

BERKELEY, Calif., June 5—The chairman of the Black Panther party said today that recent mass arrests of Panther leaders were part of a plot to destroy the organization of militant blacks.

At an unusual morning press conference, the chairman, Bobby Seale, referred to the arrests as "nothing more than Richard M. Nixon's operations of attempting to destroy the national and state level Black Panther party leaderships."

Mr. Seale said that the plot ordered by the President was being carried out by the Federal Bureau of Investigation with the aid of local law enforcement agencies.

The chairman and co-founder of the Black Panther party expressed particular concern over recent arrests of Panthers in New York and Chicago. And while the press conference was in session, he was informed that a group of Panthers had been arrested in Denver.

Mr. Seale called the arresting agents "Fascist F.B.I. pigs" and said that they were attempting to stop Socialist programs advocated by the Panthers.

United Front Sought

To cope with the situation, Mr. Seale said that the Black Panthers were calling together radicals from across the country for a national conference next month.

He said that the purpose of the meeting would be to develop "a united front against Fascism in America." Mr. Seale said that the conference had been scheduled for July 18-21 in Oakland, Calif.

While Mr. Seale spoke enthusiastically of the conference, he spent most of his time discussing the growing number of mass arrests of Black Panthers.

He said that within the last two months "more than 40" Panther leaders on the East Coast had been arrested and jailed. He said that this had been in addition to a group of 21 members of the party in New York City who were arrested on conspiracy charges.

In Chicago yesterday, the



Associated Press

TAKE PANTHERS INTO CUSTODY: Denver police and F.B.I. agent, right, start search of Black Panther center. Two were seized in connection with New Haven murder.

Federal Bureau of Investigation raided the Panther offices and arrested eight party members. They were charged with harboring a fugitive.

Mr. Seale did not discuss the impact the arrests were having on the organization. He simply said that the organization was losing "too damn many good people." But a source close to the organization said the chairman was not particularly disturbed.

In addition to the Chicago and New York arrests, the Panthers said that they had lost key men in Oregon, Connecticut, Colorado, New Jersey and California.

In every case, Mr. Seale said that the Panthers had been victims of what he called "trumped up charges."

No Government Comment

WASHINGTON, June 5—The Department of Justice declined to comment on charges that raids on Panther offices had been ordered by President

Nixon and directed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Murder Suspects Seized

DENVER, June 5 (UPI) — F.B.I. agents and policemen lobbed tear gas into the basement of a Black Panther headquarters early today to flush out two men suspected of the torture-murder of a Negro militant in Connecticut last month.

Scott Werner, agent-in-charge of the F.B.I., said the pair, Rory Hithe, 18 years old, and Landon Robert Williams, 25, had offered no resistance. Eight other Panther members also were routed by the tear gas but were not arrested.

The two men were taken into custody for the murder of Al Rackley, 24, a fellow Panther who apparently was tortured and shot after undergoing a "kangaroo court" trial for alleged wrongdoings in the Panther organization, the authorities said.

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SR 6-4-69 Eight Arrested In FBI Raid on Panther Office

CHICAGO (AP) — Federal agents raided the headquarters of the militant Black Panthers today, arrested eight persons and seized a quantity of weapons and ammunition.

About 35 FBI agents conducted the early morning raid on the two-story headquarters on the West Side, at 2350 W. Madison St.

A number of city police were stationed nearby in case of trouble in the predominantly Negro neighborhood.

MARLIN W. JOHNSON, special agent in charge of the Chicago FBI office, said the agents were seeking George Sams Jr., a fugitive from New Haven, Conn., who is charged with murder and kidnaping.

Sams was not among those arrested.

The agents cordoned off the area around the headquarters and then, using a bull-horn, called on those inside to come out. The agents were armed with machine guns, shotguns, rifles and pistols. Several took up positions on the roof of the headquarters.

Johnson said seven persons, including two women, emerged from the headquarters and surrendered without resistance.

THE AGENTS entered the building, Johnson said, and confiscated weapons, ammunition and records found in the second floor office.

Traffic in busy Madison Street was blocked off for a block while the raid was in progress.

The FBI identified those arrested as Georgia Washington, 18, Andrea Graves, Patrick Keene, 20, Larry M. Roberson, 20, Harvey D. Holt, 25, Jessie Ward, Bruce A. Dickson and Lockett Bibbs.

ALL WERE CHARGED with harboring a federal fugitive and illegal possession of weapons.

Sams, the man they are charged with harboring, was sought on a federal warrant charging him with unlawful flight to avoid prosecution for murder.

Johnson said Sams is under indictment in New Haven on charges of murder, conspiracy to commit murder, kidnaping and conspiracy to commit kidnaping.

Post 6-6-69

Denver FBI Seizes 2 in Panther Killing

DENVER, June 5 (UPI)—FBI agents and police lobbed tear gas into the basement of a Black Panther headquarters early today to flush out two men suspected of the torture-murder of a Negro militant in Connecticut last month.

Bery Hithe, 35, and Landon Robert Williams, 25, were unarmed and offered no resistance when arrested at the An Naturel Club, the headquarters for the Black Panthers in Denver.

Authorities lobbed tear gas

grenades into the basement of the building when the group inside defied orders to come out. Besides Hithe and Williams, eight other Panther members were routed by the tear gas but were not arrested. Scott Werner, agent in charge of the FBI in Denver, said Hithe and Williams face charges in the slaying of Al Rackley, 24, a fellow Panther who apparently was tortured and shot after standing trial before a "kangaroo court" for alleged wrongdoings in the Panther organization.

A Federal indictment was issued against the two in New Haven, Conn., May 27, charging them with murder, kidnaping, conspiracy to commit murder, conspiracy to commit kidnaping and binding.

(On Wednesday, FBI agents raided the Chicago Black

Panther headquarters in an unsuccessful attempt to capture George Sams Jr., 23, who is charged with murder in the Connecticut slaying. Six men and two women were seized in the Chicago raid and charged with harboring a fugitive.)

Authorities said Rackley may have been killed because fellow Panthers suspected he had tipped off police in the arrest of 21 militants for allegedly planning to bomb department stores and police stations in New York City.

His body was found in a swamp near New Haven, a few days after he was kidnaped from New York City. On the body was a note warning Panther co-founder Bobby Seale not to deliver a speech at the University of Oregon in Eugene. The city was hit by numerous firebombings the night of the talk.