

Around the Nation

Panther's Lies Not Reported

NEW YORK—A police lieutenant testified he knew that a "confidential informant" in the Black Panther Party was untrustworthy but that he did not inform a Brooklyn Supreme Court judge who had been asked to approve a wiretap on phones belonging to members of the party.

Detective Lieut. Angelo Galante, who led an investigation of an ambush of two police officers on Aug. 2, 1968, testified that he knew the informant, Sean Dubonnet, "was not telling the entire truth about certain incidents."

Under questioning by Gerald Lefcourt, one of the defense attorneys defending 13 Black Panthers facing trial on bomb conspiracy charges, Galante also testified that he eventually learned Dubonnet had a history of mental illness and that he was being sought by the Secret Service for having threatened the life of former President Johnson.

Dubonnet's report about the Panther Party activities, much of them proved to have been false was the basis of a court-ordered wiretap on Panther phones which the defense claims was unjustified.



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