

F.B.I. Brands Black Panthers 'Most Dangerous' of Extremists

Report Also Hits Weathermen as Guiding Force Behind Violent Young People

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WASHINGTON, July 13—The Federal Bureau of Investigation today branded the Black Panther party as the country's "most dangerous and violence-prone of all extremist groups."

It also called the Weatherman faction of the Students for a Democratic Society "a principal force guiding the country's violence-prone young militants."

During the fiscal year 1970, the F.B.I. said in its annual report, "the Weatherman group was in the forefront of much of the activity deliberately calculated to provoke violent confrontations."

The 22-page report, issued by J. Edgar Hoover, director, covered the major activities of the agency during the last 12 months. It dealt separately with organized crime, aircraft hijackings and other areas of F.B.I. concern. A considerable section was devoted to protest demonstrations and militant activity.

"Mr. Hoover deplored the fact that, despite its record of hate, violence, and subversion, the Black Panther party continues to receive substantial monetary contributions from prominent donors," the report said.

'Foreign Influences'

It also charged that "foreign influences" were making "inroads in certain black extremist groups in the United States, particularly the Black Panther party."

Although the nature of the "foreign influences" was not detailed, the report noted that Eldridge Cleaver, the party's Minister of Information, was presently living in Algiers to avoid criminal prosecution in this country. The report said Mr. Cleaver had traveled to North Korea last September and "has also developed close ties with Al Fatah, the Arab guerrilla organization."

Mr. Cleaver was the only Black Panther mentioned by name. Most of the other party leaders are in jail or in exile.

Although the report referred to pending criminal trials in New Haven, Baltimore and New York against Black Panthers,



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J. Edgar Hoover

it made no mention of the Chicago police raid on a Panther apartment last December that aroused considerable resentment against police tactics.

A leader of the Panthers in Illinois, Fred Hampton, was killed in the raid. A special grand jury has been called to investigate the conduct of the police.

'Urban Guerrilla Warfare'

In discussing the Weatherman faction, the F.B.I. did not deal with numbers, but it said that leaders had apparently decided to build "a small paramilitary organization designed to carry out urban guerrilla warfare."

Weatherman members are believed to have gone "underground" following a general meeting in February, the report states.

The principal activities of Weatherman members were described as a number of demonstrations last October in Chicago, a demonstration the following month at the Department of Justice here and several publicized visits to Cuba.

"Mr. Hoover reported that there was a sharp increase in protest demonstrations on college campuses during the school year of 1969-1970," the report noted. It said 1,785 demonstrations took place.

According to the F.B.I.'s figures, sit-ins and building seizures numbered 313 and there were 281 attacks on Reserve Officers' Training Corps installations.

The report said that 462 injuries resulted from protest demonstrations on college cam-

uses, "nearly two-thirds of which were sustained by police and college officials."

The report said "eight individuals" were killed in the disruptions, but it was not immediately clear whether they were students.

The injury figure was disputed by Dr. John Spiegel, director of the Lemberg Center for the Study of Violence at Brandeis University.

"These figures can not possibly be accurate," Dr. Spiegel charged, since the police dutifully record every injury in their ranks, while students do not.

A preliminary count by the center reflects that injuries are about evenly divided between police and college officials on the one hand, and demonstrators on the other.

Other major areas listed by the F.B.I. were the following:

¶ Communist party, U.S.A.—The report said the party had launched a new youth group, the Young Workers Liberation League, last February in an effort "to close the generation gap that exists today in the party."

¶ The Yablonski murders — Mr. Hoover noted that five persons were arrested as a result of F.B.I. investigation into the deaths of Joseph A. Yablonski, his wife and daughter. Mr. Yablonski lost a heated race for the presidency of the United Mine Workers of America just before his death.

¶ Organized crime — The report noted that two large gambling rings had been broken in December and May, one in Elizabeth, N. J., and the other in the Detroit area. Several Cosa Nostra "family" heads were prosecuted during the year, the report said.

Mr. Hoover also noted that "aircraft hijackings continued to represent a serious national threat," but no comparative figures were reported.