

Senate Unit Told Landlords 'Blacklisting' Draft Boards

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The Selective Service System has been virtually blacklisted by landlords in many cities because of anti-draft violence and terrorist bombings, a Senate subcommittee was told yesterday.

The persistent threat of damage and mayhem from explosive devices, officials said, has forced the government to reconsider its entire program for housing local draft headquarters throughout the country.

Hart T. Mankin, counsel for the government's housekeeping agency, the General Services Administration, called the problem especially disconcerting since many towns have no federal buildings where Selective Service offices might be put.

The GSA spokesman testified before the Senate Permanent Investigations subcommittee, which opened hearings this week on the rising incidence of protest by terrorism.

"As a means of disrupting the government's operations," Mankin said, bomb threats alone are "admittedly effective."

He estimated that building evacuations prompted by bomb scares have cost the federal government \$2¼ million in lost time for the first six months of 1970 alone.

Private landlords, he added, are becoming increasingly reluctant to take Selective Service as a tenant, both for fear of losing their insurance coverage and concern for other tenants in their buildings.

The subcommittee also heard from New York City Police Commissioner Howard R. Leary whose Manhattan headquarters building was racked by a bomb explosion in a second-floor men's room last month.

Never a town for the faint-hearted, New York was pictured by Leary and his aides as a city on edge, with thousands on thousands of workers forced to wear ID cards simply to gain admission to the buildings where they work.

Leary reported 368 bombing incidents in New York City since January 1969, with the targets or attempted targets ranging from municipal and federal offices to banks, commercial buildings and churches.

By contrast, he said, there were only 113 explosions in the five-year period ending in 1964 and only 70 more between 1965 and 1968.

The police commissioner blamed the escalation on political nihilists and malcontents, "people who find dissatisfaction with present political philosophies not only of this country, but of the world."

Suspects arrested in New York bombings and conspira-

cies of violence, his detectives said, have included members of the Revolutionary Action Movement (RAM), the American Nazi Party, the Minutemen, the Black Liberation Front, the Black Panthers and a militant black group with the motto "Kill a Cop a Week."

"Then it's a means to an end?" Sen. John L. McClellan, the subcommittee chairman, asked.

"I don't know whether they're concerned about the end," Leary responded. "They're interested in destruction."

Wary of repressive legislative solutions, Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.) suggested the bombings might subside when the issues subside, especially the war in Vietnam.

Leary said they might, but he wouldn't guarantee it.



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Members of New York City's Police Department appear before a Senate subcommittee investigating domestic terrorism. Explosives mockups are displayed.