

# Fugitive Black Leader Had Led Civil Rights Group

Hubert Geroid Brown, known to the public as H. Rap Brown and named as a suspect in a West Side bank holdup yesterday, is the controversial and long-missing former chairman of the defunct Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, a civil rights organization.

He has been a fugitive from justice since April, 1970, when he failed to appear for his trial in Ellicott City, Md., on charges of inciting to riot and arson in disturbances that destroyed much of a Negro section of Cambridge, Md., three years earlier.

The 28-year-old militant also is under indictment on charges of illegally transporting a gun and intimidating an agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, both stemming from the Maryland incident. He was added as a special name on the F.B.I.'s list of its 10 "most wanted" persons.

### Sentenced in Arms Case

At the time of his disappearance, Brown was free on bail pending appeal of a five-year sentence for violating the Federal Firearms Act in New Orleans in 1968. He also is wanted on a charge of assaulting a Federal officer in New Orleans in 1968.

Brown succeeded Stokely Carmichael in May, 1967, as chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, which was popularly known as Snick. Mr. Carmichael had popularized the slogan "black power," and

Brown received much attention subsequently because he made appeals to Negroes to take militant action in their fight for equality.

After his disappearance, there were rumors that Brown had fled the United States. Another rumor was that he had died in a bomb explosion that wrecked a car and killed two of his friends at Bel Air, Md., on March 9, 1970.

### Attended Southern U.

Brown was born in Baton Rouge, La., on Oct. 4, 1943, the son of Eddie Charles Brown, a worker for the Esso Petroleum Company, and the former Thelma Warren. He attended the Baton Rouge public schools and entered Southern University in 1960 as a sociology major.

Brown attended the university for three years and two summers and had a good scholastic record. He left college before graduating and went to work for Snick in Mississippi. He later that named the organization's project director in Alabama, where he worked in voter registration drives and other civil rights programs before succeeding Mr. Carmichael. He was regarded a fiery and effective orator.

He once characterized violence as "American as cherry pie."

In a speech in Jersey City, he was quoted as having said: "We must wage guerrilla war on the honkie white man."

And in Cambridge, he told an audience: "If America doesn't

come around, then black people are going to burn it down."

### Case in Maryland

Special to The New York Times

ELLICOTT CITY, Md., Oct. 16—A local prosecutor who termed a pending arson charge against Brown a "fabrication" scheduled to be tried Monday for contempt of court.

Richard L. Kinlein, the Howard County State's Attorney, is accused of violating a court order prohibiting extrajudicial statements "prejudicial to a fair trial."

The contempt case stems from charges naming Brown, the former chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, in connection with a racial disorder in 1967 in Cambridge, Md.

Mr. Kinlein joined the prosecution of the case when it was transferred to Howard County. Brown was indicted by a grand jury in Dorchester County on the eastern shore on the arson charge and rioting and inciting to riot.

Brown failed to appear for his trial here on April 20, 1970.

Last January, however, nine months after the trial date, Mr. Kinlein told a reporter that the arson charge had been "fabricated" by the Dorchester County State's Attorney in order to insure the involvement of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the event Brown failed to appear.

As a felony, he said, it is considered more serious than the other two offenses, and

the F.B.I. is permitted to assist the state in the pursuit of fugitives from felonies.

Mr. Kinlein told the reporter, Robert Woodward, then of The Montgomery County Sentinel, that William B. Yates 2d, the Dorchester County prosecutor, acknowledged the fabrication of the arson charge at a luncheon April 21, 1970, the day after Mr. Brown failed to appear.

### Fabrication Derived

Mr. Kinlein's accusation prompted Brown's attorney, William M. Kunstler, to try to have the arson charge dismissed. His effort in May, 1971, was unsuccessful.

At the hearing on the request for the dismissal, Mr. Yates denied ever having said that the arson charge was unfounded.

Mr. Kinlein repeated the substance of his comments to a reporter at the hearing and said Mr. Yates had told him the arson charge was placed to insure the involvement of the F.B.I. in case Mr. Brown did not appear.

Judge James MacGill of Howard County Circuit Court decided that "it is difficult to believe Mr. Kinlein's version" and ruled against the motion for a dismissal.

Judge MacGill, who is scheduled to try Brown, then brought contempt charges against Mr. Kinlein on the basis of an earlier order that prohibited participants in the trial from making "any extrajudicial statement which is or intends to be prejudicial to a fair trial."