

'The Infamous Acts of J. Edgar Hoover'

This should be the last straw.

After a sickening parade of revelations about the unconstitutional, un-American and indecent excesses of J. Edgar Hoover's regime, the news about the FBI's cruel and vulgar bullying of Jean Seberg for her espousal of equal rights for black people demands a national act of revulsion and repudiation.

The name "J. Edgar Hoover" should be stripped immediately from the headquarters building of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

ROBERT G. LEWIS

Washington

Based on the latest revelations of the disgustingly disgraceful dirty tricks perpetrated by the late J. Edgar Hoover and his goons against good Americans who were not afraid to speak out against the outrageous racism that continues to plague this country, I strongly suggest that J. Edgar Hoover be censured for his beastly acts and that the name of the building be changed to the FBI Building.

OTHA E. NIXON

Columbia

Herblock's Sept. 21 cartoon stimulates me to write this letter, which has been brewing since the revelations of the Seberg tragedy spotlighted once again the infamous acts of J. Edgar Hoover. That man, over a period of 48 years in federal office, instigated and guided, abetted and condoned acts of espionage and character assassination against the citizens of his own country. He main-

tained his power and the backing of the nation's leaders through blackmail. He knew everyone's secrets and used that knowledge to his personal advantage.

He symbolizes all that is contemptible in human nature and all that is subversive of American ideals. So we erect a building in his name?

It would be a blessing if we could obliterate the building itself, which is as much an insult to the aesthetic landscape as the map is to the moral.

All the more reason to delete J. Edgar Hoover's name. Let us spare our civilization the mortification of research done by future students of government on the great American who was so respected that he was honored—together with Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln—with a monument in the capital city of the United States.

ADELE S. BROWN

Washington

Efforts by the FBI to "neutralize" Jean Seberg have merely served to transmute her into the sort of martyr, whom she once depicted on the screen. Isn't it time that the Justice Department disclosed all the names of American citizens targeted by COINTELPRO and the nature of that targeting? It will never be possible to repair the tremendous damage done by that insidious program, but we must salvage what we can. Ironically, the loss in prestige suffered by the FBI has made it COINTELPRO's biggest victim.

JAMES W. WALKER JR.

Seabrook