

676 Probes By FBI Yield 4 Convictions

Post 10/7/75

Government auditors looking over the FBI's shoulder have learned that only four convictions resulted from 676 domestic intelligence investigations conducted by the bureau in 1974.

The General Accounting Office, conducting the first review of the agency, admits that its data may not be conclusive because the FBI has declined to yield all the information GAO auditors requested.

Rep. Peter W. Rodino Jr., (D-N.J.) says he may ask his House Judiciary Committee to subpoena the material.

The GAO, the congressional auditing agency, took a sampling of 19,700 subversive and extremist investigations conducted by 10 FBI field offices.

Of the sample 676 cases reviewed, it found only 16 cases turned over to federal or local prosecutors and only 7 prosecutions attempted, leading to convictions.

The results pose questions about the need for the investigation activities, the GAO said, though it remarked that 12 of the FBI inquiries led to advance intelligence about planned activities by subversive or extremist groups or individuals.