

FBI Admits Inquiry

On Girl, 16

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(UPI)—The FBI, in contrast to earlier statements, has admitted it conducted an investigation of a teen-age girl who wrote a letter to the Socialist Workers Party as part of a high school project.

The disclosure was made in papers filed by the FBI in answer to a federal suit brought by the girl, Lori Paton, 16, of Chester, N.J. Miss Paton, fearing the action might hurt her chances of ever working in the State Department, is trying to have the FBI remove her name from its records and pay \$65,000 in damages.

Miss Paton's attorney, Frank Askin, said today the FBI submitted a memo sent from offices here to a field agent instituting the probe and also his report, which stated the student was "not politically motivated."

Prior to the disclosure, the FBI through its agent in charge of the Newark office, J. Wallace Laprade, denied that the West Morris-Mendham high school student was the subject of an investigation.

Last January Miss Paton was enrolled in a social studies course called "From Left to Right" that covered a variety of political ideologies. For her project, she wrote a letter to the Socialist Labor Party but misaddressed it, sending it instead to the Young Workers Alliance, a Socialist Workers Party affiliate.

About the same time, L. Patrick Gray III, then acting FBI director, wrote a letter to the Postal Service requesting a mail cover on the national headquarters of the Socialist Workers Party in New York City.