

FBI Data Cites Scout Plan On Recruitment of Informers

A document purportedly stolen from the Federal Bureau of Investigation office in Media March 8 describes an FBI training program for police that urges recruitment of students, parents and school officials as informers.

The document cites as an example a program in Rochester, N.Y., that allegedly used Boy Scouts as "extra eyes and ears" for the police there.

The FBI paper said: "Each Scout is requested to observe and report any suspicious act or unusual occurrence that endangers the life and property of friends and relatives. The Scouts are instructed as to how to observe and report these incidents."

Gene Cruse, Scout executive for the Rochester area, denied the boys had been recruited to give information to the police.

He said the Boy Scout council there held a community service project two years ago to make Scouts and the public more aware of how to deal with emergencies such as accidents, fires and thefts.

The project, he said, was an attempt by the council and public safety officials to help Scouts report emergencies or crimes to proper authorities. But, he said, there were no incidents of police recruiting boys.

The alleged FBI document was released by the Citizens Commission to Investigate the FBI, which claims credit for the FBI office burglary.