

Hoover Bares 'Anarchist'

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WASHINGTON (AP) — An East Coast anarchist group led by two imprisoned Roman Catholic priests plotted to blow up underground power lines of the nation's capital and to kidnap as hostage a high federal official, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover said today.

The purpose, Hoover told a Senate appropriations subcommittee, is to "disrupt federal government operations" and to use the kidnapping as a lever to demand an end to U.S. bombing operations in Southeast Asia and the release of all political prisoners.

The principal leaders of the plot, Hoover said, "are Philip and Daniel Berrigan, Catholic priests who currently are incarcerated in the Federal Correctional Institution at Danbury, Conn., for their participation in destruction of Selective Service records in Baltimore, Md., in 1968."

Hoover said a White House staff

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PLOT CHARGED

member's name was mentioned as the possible victim of the kidnap plot.

Hoover cited the alleged plot of the anarchist group as an example of the increased willingness among extremists "to employ any type of terrorist tactics."

He said the group is known as the "East Coast Conspiracy to Save Lives" and has described itself as being composed of Catholic priests and nuns, teachers and former students "who have manifested opposition to the war in Vietnam by acts of violence against government agencies and private corporations engaged in work relating to U.S. participation in the Vietnam conflict."

Hoover, making one of his rare appearances at the Capitol, asked the subcommittee for a supplemental appropriation of \$14,250,000 to provide for an additional 1,000 FBI agents and 702 more clerks for field operations.

HOOVER ALSO said increasing ties

between Arab terrorists and the Black Panthers "raise the ominous possibility that militants may seek to ape Arab tactics, including airplane hijackings, to gain release of jailed Panther members" such as Bobby Seale.

Hoover said the Panthers have "substantial connections with hostile foreign elements, notably the Communist regime in North Korea and Arab terrorists in Algeria."

He added Arab guerrillas reportedly are subsidizing heavily the Panthers and testified a new "international office" of the Black Panther Party was opened in Algiers in September under the leadership of Eldridge Cleaver, whom he described as a Black Panther fugitive.

HOOVER SAID the "incipient plot" of the so-called East Coast Conspiracy to Save Lives recently came to light and an intensive investigation now is being conducted by FBI agents.

