

FBI Role In Campus Cases Asked

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President Nixon asked Congress yesterday for legislation to empower the FBI to investigate bombings and incendiari-ism on college campuses.

Under the proposal, the FBI would enter the investigation as soon as an overt act of bombing or arson is committed on the campus of a university or college receiving federal aid.

Since nearly all do receive aid in some form—if no more than for construction of a dormitory — the measure would apply almost nationwide.

The administration also asked Congress for authority to use wiretapping where there is probable cause it would produce evidence on bombings or arson in violation of the proposed federal anti-bombing statute.

At present, the FBI enters campus bombing cases only when a federal crime is involved or when asked to do so by local authorities.

The President's requests will be considered today by the House Judiciary Committee as amendments to the bill to curb organized crime and bombings. The omnibus bill already has passed the Senate and been approved by a House judiciary subcommittee.

Senate Minority Leader Hugh Scott (R-Pa.) and House Minority Leader Gerald R. Ford (R-Mich.) said after a meeting with the President that his requests came after a large number of bombings and acts of incendiarism on campuses last year and after the recent "tragic bombing at the University of Wisconsin" which killed one person.

Mr. Nixon also asked for funds to increase the number of FBI agents from 7,000 to 8,000, Scott and Ford reported. An additional \$14 million will be needed for the remainder of the 1971 fiscal year and \$23

million will be required in 1972, they said.

The added agents will be needed to enforce the new anticrime measure and to assist in the antihijacking efforts.

The FBI would not have jurisdiction before a crime was committed, but after an overt act it would move promptly whether invited or not.

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Ford said that FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, who attended the White House meet-

ing, reported that in the last academic year the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) was involved in 247 arson cases, 462 personal injury cases and 300 other incidents involving destruction on campus.

"This is badly needed legislation to give the FBI and federal authorities the right to move in immediately, not on an advisory or secondary but on an initial basis, at federally financed institutions where there is evidence of use of arson, incendiaries or bombs," Ford said.

When White House Press Secretary Ronald L. Ziegler was asked what would happen if a college administrator objected to a federal investigation he said he could not conceive of that happening.

He replied in the negative when asked if the administration consulted the President's

Commission on Campus Unrest headed by former Gov. William W. Scranton of Pennsylvania before proposing the legislation.

The crime bill now before the House Judiciary Committee combines the administra-

tion proposals against organized crime and against bomb-ers, dealers and importers.

ers. The bill would prohibit the selling of explosives to felons and persons under 21 and would require federal licen- sation of explosives manufactur-

It would impose the death penalty for fatal bombings and bring draft and military recruiting centers under the law against destroying federal property by including property used by the government.