

Post 10/7/71

## PBS Withdraws Segment on FBI

NEW YORK (AP)—A segment of a television program accusing the FBI of fostering violence, scheduled for broadcast nationwide on noncommercial stations last night, was withdrawn Tuesday by the Public Broadcasting Service.

The president of PBS, Hartford Gunn Jr., said in Washington he decided the segment would not be shown on "The Great American Dream Machine" last night because it makes serious charges that he does not believe are documented.

Writer Paul Jacobs, who wrote the segment, said in New York that government pressure forced the cancellation.

Gunn said he had not been contacted by any government agency about the segment and that no pressure had been brought to bear.

National Education Television in New York, producers of the show, said NET received letters from FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, three FBI agents named in the segment and the Seattle chief of police denying allegations made in the program.

Advertisements appearing in Wednesday morning papers here for the program said it would contain the FBI segment. The decision to withhold it was made Tuesday after reviewing revisions of the program, Gunn said.

In its original form, the segment characterized three FBI informants, acting either under bureau instructions or with bureau approval, deliberately provoked violence.

Sources at NET said Hoover, in his letter, said he might turn the matter over to Attorney General John N. Mitchell and the Justice Department.

A. H. Perlmutter, the pro-

gram's executive producer, quoted acting Seattle Police Chief Neil W. Moloney as saying he was "surprised that the NET network will allow itself to be used as a vehicle for this type of subversive activity."

Perlmutter quoted Hoover as saying in his letter:

"On the basis of information available to the bureau, each of the charges is totally and absolutely false in each and every particular. We have referred this matter to the Department of Justice."

Gunn said he had seen r

correspondence about the program.

The PBS president said he had decided to take the segment out of the Oct. 6 schedule after consultation with an advisory panel of "about eight" professional journalists who had no connection with the PBS.

He said that, if further study showed the charges warrant it, the program could be expanded to an hour or longer. If documentation is not forthcoming, he said, the segment might never be shown.