

FBI Accused in Break-In

By Warren Brown

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The Justice Department is investigating charges that a paid FBI informer burglarized Socialist Workers Party offices in Denver on July 7 in connection with his assignment to spy on the left-wing organization.

Assistant Attorney General J. Stanley Pottinger said yesterday that the department's Civil Rights Division is looking into the allegations "as part of an ongoing investigation" into charges that bureau agents conducted illegal break-ins during the last five years, long after the FBI said such burglaries had ended.

In an action related to the case, U.S. District Court Judge Thomas P. Griesa ruled yesterday that SWP lawyers could go to Denver with a subpoena demanding that the reported informer, Timothy J. Redfearn, give

alleged role in the burglary.

The Socialist Workers Party has also asked that Theodore Rosack, the FBI agent in charge in Denver, give a deposition in the case.

The SWP has filed a \$37 million civil damage suit against the federal government alleging that the FBI, CIA and other intelligence agencies sought to harass the party through break-ins, electronic surveillance and infiltration by informers.

In another action yesterday regarding the suit, filed in New York City, Judge Griesa asked the CIA to turn over to him all unexpurgated documents relating to overseas surveillance of the party's members.

CIA Director George Bush said in a sworn statement made public nearly two weeks ago that the CIA had overseas surveillance files on SWP members. However, Bush said the agency could not provide a deposition Friday on his

the court with complete files because of national security considerations.

Griesa said yesterday that the documents given to him by the CIA were, in some cases, "90 per cent deleted," making it "very hard to deal intelligently" with the issues in the SWP suit.

FBI officials in Denver said at the agency's national headquarters in the District of Columbia refused to comment on the charges involving Redfearn. Redfearn, in a telephone conversation Tuesday declined to discuss the SWP burglary.

According to Denver party coordinator Ruth Getts, Redfearn admitted to her and several other party members that he received about \$400 monthly for seven months to spy on the Denver branch of the Young Socialist Alliance, the party's youth arm. Getts said Redfearn made the admission following the appearance of Denver media stor-

ies identifying him as the suspected burglar of the SWP headquarters.

Denver Police Chief Arthur Dill said yesterday that Redfearn was linked to the SWP burglary—in which the party's membership, phone and meeting files were taken—after being arrested July 14 in connection with another burglary that occurred in late June.

Dill said Redfearn was picked up on a warrant July 14 after returning to Denver from Texas. "He [Redfearn] signed a search waiver and we went to his place and found a couple of items from the first burglary," Dill said.

Dill said the FBI called the Denver police later that day to say that the bureau believed Redfearn also possessed items taken in the SWP burglary.

The police chief said he "didn't get into" the question of why the FBI believed Redfearn had materials stolen from the SWP. He said Denver police made a second search of Redfearn's apartment building where, Dill said, the SWP files were found in several cartons in a storage area.