

CRIME DATA DELAY TIED TO F.B.I. AIDE

Denver Agent Said to Have Held Up Burglary Report Despite Bureau Orders

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Special to The New York Times

DENVER, July 30—Theodore Rosak, the head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's office here, delayed for six days earlier this month in notifying the police that one of his informers had been involved in a burglary, despite instructions from bureau headquarters in Washington that the informer's role be made known to the local authorities.

According to a sworn interview with John V. Almon, an F.B.I. agent here to whom the informer, Timothy Redfearn, reported, bureau officials in Washington ordered July 9 that the Denver police be told that files stolen from the Socialist Workers Party office here two days before had been in Mr. Redfearn's possession on the day of the burglary.

But Arthur Dill, the Denver police chief, has said that Mr. Rosak did not advise him until July 15 that Mr. Almon saw Mr. Redfearn with the stolen files on the day of the burglary.

Mr. Rosak has told at least one other official in recent days that the delay in notifying Chief Dill was because of indecision in Washington, but that version of events is contradicted by Mr. Almon's disclosure to members of the Denver district attorney's office last week.

In Mr. Almon's interview, a transcript of which was obtained by The New York Times, Robert M. Jenkins, a deputy district attorney here, declared:

"We have had a burglary in Denver. There is no dispute about that. We are concerned about whether or not there was any attempt to cover it up once it was known."

The delayed reaction of bu-

reau agents here and in Washington to their discovery that the 25-year-old Mr. Redfearn had had the stolen documents has also become a focus of an expanding Justice Department investigation of the Denver burglary and of illegal burglaries by F.B.I. agents in other cities.

Mr. Redfearn, who was paid up to \$400 a month by the bureau in exchange for information about the Socialist Workers, has admitted to the District Attorney's Office here that he broke into the party's headquarters last July 7 and stole hundreds of pages of party documents. He has said that he did so at his own initiative, however.

According to Mr. Almon's testimony, Mr. Redfearn then took the stolen material in his car to a spot near the bureau's office here, where Mr. Almon said he examined them.

The agent said that he did not ask Mr. Redfearn how he had obtained the files, although he "assumed that he took them without permission, certainly." He said he then sought advice from his supervisor, who telephoned bureau headquarters, and was told to direct Mr. Redfearn to return the documents to the socialist workers, although officials there "didn't seem unduly concerned about it."

Mr. Almon said that he told Mr. Redfearn, who was "very disappointed," that he would have to take the files back. But they remained in Mr. Redfearn's possession until they were recovered by the Denver police on July 16.

WASHINGTON, July 30 (AP)—Richard G. Held, associate F.B.I. director, acknowledged today his responsibility for disruptive counterintelligence operations against political militants in Minneapolis in the late 1960's and early 1970's.

But, he added, "to say that I was directly involved is not entirely true."

Mr. Held issued a statement describing his involvement in the operation while he was in charge of the bureau's Minneapolis office from October 1962 to Feb. 12, 1973.