

U.S. Judge Limits F.B.I.'s Distribution Of Arrest Records

WASHINGTON, June 15 (AP) —A Federal judge ordered the F.B.I. today to quit distributing arrest records from its files to employers, banks and others outside of law enforcement agencies.

District Court Judge Gerhard A. Gesell said the practice "may easily inhibit freedom to speak, to work, and to move about in this land."

He also called on Congress

to set a national policy governing records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation records and their availability to non-Government sources.

"With increasing availability of fingerprints, technological developments and their enormous increase in population, the F.B.I. identification system is out of effective control," he said.

The decision came in a case of Dale B. Monard in Los Angeles on Aug. 10, 1965. The then 19-year-old student was held for two days on suspicion of burglary but never charged.

Mr. Monard filed the suit in an attempt to have his arrest record removed from the files

of the Los Angeles police and the F.B.I., saying his chances of employment had been jeopardized by the F.B.I.'s policy of distributing arrest records to any agency or office that contributed fingerprints to the bureau.

Judge Gesell denied Mr. Monard's request that all records of his arrest be expunged from F.B.I. files, but he ordered the agency not to reveal the arrest record "to prospective employers except in the case of any agency of the Federal Government if he seeks employment with such agency."

The judge said the arrest record "may be disseminated to law enforcement agencies for law enforcement purposes."