

S. Largess for Dairymen

ers" against the Vietnam war, arrived at the White House to picket Tricia Nixon's dinner dance for Prince Charles and Princess Ann of England.

The FBI, ever on the alert for subversives and saboteurs, kept them under surveillance. "On the evening of July 17, 1970," solemnly states a confidential FBI memo, "special agents of the FBI, at approximately 8 p.m., observed 34 middle-aged white women in front of the White House carrying signs . . .

"At 8:30 p.m.," continues the memo, "a group of 17 Indians arrived in front of the White House, apparently to protest that no Indians were invited to the . . . affair."

They were joined, apparently on the spur of the moment, by "six hippie type individuals" who "proceeded to seat themselves on the sidewalk in front of the White House."

The FBI agents, in other words, spent the long evening watching 34 middle-aged women, 17 Indians and "six hippie type individuals." Elsewhere in Washington, the crime rate was going up.

Footnote: The evening, according to the FBI report, passed without incident.

Blood Report

Hemo Caribbean, the controversial blood plasma firm, has raised a howl over our report on its operations in Haiti.

We told how the firm, closed down for exploiting undernourished Haitians, is now pulling political strings in

Washington so it can return to Haiti and once again extract plasma from the poorest people in the Western Hemisphere.

The firm's lawyer, Joseph Sharlitt, denied Hemo Caribbean ever took commercial advantage of the poor Haitian people. Haitian donors were "carefully protected," he claimed. They risked "nothing more than an hour and a half from work" to donate plasma for a \$4 fee.

Sharlitt said we had told "roughly 50 per cent of the truth." Unfortunately for Hemo Caribbean, the other half of the story is even more sordid than our original account.

Two weeks before the blood operation was stopped, a team of six Haitian physicians investigated the firm's two small blood clinics. Their report to Haitian Health Minister Dr. Alex Theard, translated from the French, tells of brutality, serious accidents, and even death during the daily blood letting that went on for 18 months.

Accidents "occur often among individuals with empty stomachs or physical disabilities," wrote the doctors. They referred to at least one case "of the registered death at Hemo Caribbean after plasmapheresis."

Charging that the company frequently took plasma from Haitians who were underfed and underweight, the special medical commission con-

cluded: "It is beyond doubt that the criteria used by Hemo Caribbean were not sufficient to evaluate the state [of health] of the donors."

The report described Hemo Caribbean's poor admission standards, lack of medical facilities and simple greed to make money. The operation, states the report, "is a commercial venture that takes twice the medically safe amount of plasma . . .

"The diet of these donors, the inadequate way they are selected, taken together with the unfavorable conditions in these centers, create a grave situation."

The blood clinics had "no facilities to treat an accident." The doctors found no consultation room, no emergency room, not even an oxygen tank. Instead, an accident victim was taken "to a poorly ventilated room" where apparently it was hoped he would recover on his own.

To keep the donors in line, they were frequently intimidated and sometimes beaten up at the clinics, according to the report. "As early as our first visit," wrote the doctors, "the attention of the Commission's members were drawn to the shocking presence of a guard with a huge club."

Asked about the guard, a director at the blood clinic explained that "discipline was the rule of order." The doctors noted: "Several donors have reported some acts of brutality perpetrated by these guards."

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FBI Watch

Although the late J. Edgar Hoover refused to go along with President Nixon's illegal scheme to combat subversives, the FBI was ready to spy on the most obscure protest groups.

Three summers ago, for example, an antiwar group of women, calling themselves the "Concerned American Moth-