

# Report of Bonuses For FBI Burglars

## Washington

FBI agents were given bonuses for conducting successful burglaries, according to an FBI source who said he approved many of the illegal break-ins.

The bonuses ranged from \$50 to more than \$250 and were dispensed from a confidential fund used to pay informants, the source said.

FBI Director Clarence M. Kelley last week confirmed that FBI agents conducted "surreptitious entries," or burglaries, to obtain "information relative to the security of the nation." With some exceptions, Kelley said, the practice stopped in 1966.

An FBI source has told the Washington Post that dozens and sometimes more than 100 break-ins were conducted by FBI agents each year.

While most of the break-ins were conducted in cases involving domestic or foreign security, many were conducted in ordinary criminal cases, the source said.

With each bonus, he said, former FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover sent a letter of commendation to agents who had conducted burglaries that produced useful information, but the letters did not mention the burglaries.

*Washington Post*