

Walinsky Seeks Inquiry On a Campus Infiltrator

NY TIMES By WILLIAM E. FARRELL '9 JUN 70

Adam Walinsky demanded yesterday that Attorney General Louis J. Lefkowitz investigate allegations that an upstate undercover agent for the Ontario County Sheriff's office known as "Tommy the Traveler" had incited campus violence by offering students bombs, guns and lessons in guerrilla tactics.

"Serious allegations have been made that a man admittedly in the pay of a law-enforcement agency has attempted to incite violence on college campuses in New York State," Mr. Walinsky, a Democratic contender for the party's nomination for Attorney General, said at a sidewalk news conference in front of Mr. Lefkowitz's offices at 80 Centre Street.

"These charges may indeed be false, in whole or in part," he continued, "but the people of the State of New York must know."

The Attorney General, Mr. Walinsky said, has sufficient powers under existing law to investigate the tangled web of charges surrounding the undercover agent, particularly concerning his activities at Hobart College in Geneva, N. Y., where, for two and a half months, he posed as an organizer for the Students for a Democratic Society.

His identity as a police informant became known to the students on June 5 during a narcotics raid by the police on the campus. It led to a raucous confrontation between 50 policemen and 500 students and resulted in damages to two patrol cars and the police seizure of five students whom they later released in an attempt to mollify the tension on the campus.

Lefkowitz Replies

Mr. Lefkowitz replied to Mr. Walinsky's demand by saying that the Ontario County District Attorney, Willard Best, had already asked Governor Rockefeller to appoint a special prosecutor to investigate all aspects of the case and that such a move was "more encompassing and effective than what the Attorney General could do himself."

"The Attorney General could launch an investigation only," Mr. Lefkowitz said, "but the Governor has the power to appoint a special prosecutor who can both investigate and prosecute."

Ronald Maiorana, Mr. Rockefeller's press secretary, said that "The Governor's office has been investigating the situation and an announcement will be made in the next few days."

In Geneva, a resort town in the Finger Lakes region of the state, the controversy around "Tommy the Traveler," a slender, handsome, dark-haired 26-year-old whose name is M. L. Singkata Thomas Tongyai, has heightened the animosity between townspeople, who view the Hobart campus as a hotbed of promiscuity and permissiveness, and the college community, incensed that the county police planted a "spy" on the campus.

Agent Quiet on Case

Both Mr. Tongyai and his employer, the Ontario County Sheriff, Ray Morrow, have recently refused to discuss allegations that the agent espoused violence on Hobart and other campuses in the area.

On Wednesday, dressed in a neat green-plaid suit, Mr. Tongyai appeared in Geneva's City Court on a charge of harassment brought by Rafael Martinez, a 37-year-old Hobart senior who has a riot charge pending against him.

"I'm under orders not to make any statement," Mr. Tongyai said to a reporter who asked for an interview. "There's a thousand other guys in the field like me. Harass them. This is a small-town thing."

He then referred the reporter to an interview he had given to a local reporter who knew him which appeared in The Geneva Times on June 11.

In an explanation in the

article of his activities Mr. Tongyai, who is married and has a small child, said:

"The best cover for an undercover agent who wanted to get on to the campus was portraying the part of a radical extremist, which I did. That way you are so far from what they would expect a law enforcement officer to be, you can pretty well get in and start moving around. . . . There are a lot of students up there who are absolutely paranoid about older students being narcotics officers."

Before he imposed silence on himself, Sheriff Morrow was asked about charges that Mr. Tongyai had instructed students on making bombs. "There's a lot of difference between showing how to build a bomb and building one," the Sheriff said.

In the aftermath of the allegations, including one by some students that Mr. Tongyai had provided materials for the fire-bombing of an Air Force Reserve Officers Training Corps office on the Hobart campus in May, Mr. Walinsky asked a Rochester lawyer, Lawrence T. Kurlander, to investigate.

Mr. Kurlander tape-recorded interviews with a number of students, some at Hobart and some attending other colleges in the area.

One recording of a girl, formerly a student at Keuka college, a female institution not far from Hobart, said: "He was advocating the violent overthrow of the United States Government. He was advocating people getting into the streets, using bombs and firearms. . . ."

A Hobart sophomore told Mr. Kurlander: "He had a bottle filled with dynamite. And like I've seen dynamite before because I used to work with rockets and stuff, and he had a fuse in it and he went and put it out in the snow and he set it off, only it didn't go off because it was too wet. And he had an M-1 at the time. Me and the other kid fired it and he fired it."

The Mayor of Geneva, Michael J. Simeone, reflected some of the town's sentiment when he said: "I don't know what they're persecuting this