

FBI Begins Slaying Probe

FBI agents began interviewing eyewitnesses yesterday to Tuesday's fatal shooting of Clarence Johnson, a black burglary suspect, by Patrolman Richard Lewis.

An FBI spokesman said there would be no comment on the investigation until it is completed and the results reported to U.S. Attorney James L. Browning.

AGENTS

Browning initiated the FBI investigation Thursday at the request of the San Francisco branch of the NAACP. The NAACP has charged Johnson was "cold bloodedly murdered" and that the killing

"violated his civil rights."

At a morning press conference, black leaders who have formed the Ad Hoc Committee for Justice claimed some San Francisco police inspectors had been identifying themselves as FBI agents in seeking to interview Hunters Point residents.

Chief of Inspectors Charles Barca angrily denied the charge.

"It is completely unfounded," Barca said. "Our men always show their stars (badges) and identity cards when conducting interviews and these clearly identify them as members of the San

Francisco Police Department."

The committee said it is continuing to seek the suspension of Officer Lewis pending the outcome of the investigation by the FBI.

DEMAND

Supervisor Dianne Feinstein sent on to the Police Commission a telegram she received from Benjamin Criswell, NAACP president here, demanding the suspension of Officer Lewis.

The Police Department said Lewis will continue his duties while the probe continues.