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F.B.I. File Theft Stirs Rage and Joy

By DONALD JANSON

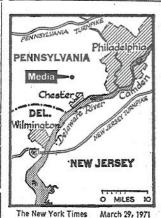
MEDIA, Pa., March 26 - Too small to be incorporated as a city, this residential borough of 6,300 population some 10 miles southwest of Philadelphia is not too small to have a three-room suite of offices for the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The office files held about 1,000 documents until they were stolen March 8 by the self-styled and still unapprehended Citizens Commission to Investi-gate the F.B.I.

The theft and subsequent distribution of copies of 14 of the documents for the stated purpose of exposing the extensiveness of the bureau's surveillance "People here see the burglary has produced as herassment of the F.B.L."

over citizens has produced as harassment of the F.B.I.," said James J. Loughran, borough secretary. "They range from joy at the daring of the exploit to anger that anyone would presume to tamper with the F.B.I. Between these extremes is a considerable segment of the populace that is not would have the respect to the populace that is not would have the respect to the burgiary as harassment of the F.B.I.," said James J. Loughran, borough secretary. "They think it's a shame."

More outspoken were representatives of several veterans groups. "People are shocked that anyone would have the respect to the burgiary as harassment of the F.B.I.,"



these extremes is a considerable segment of the populace that is apathetic.

"I saw something about it in the paper and it's been on my mind to read it," said a woman office employe, "but I haven't had time."

"Most people didn't even know the F.B.I. was here," said Mrs. Charles Cassidy, a housewife. "I didn't know it." She in major cities. There are two in Pennsylvania—in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. Each field office serves as a focal point wife. "I didn't know it." She in continuous for outlying "resident agencies."

There are about 500 of these, and the Media office is one.

The bureau apparently moved

agents to Media from Chester, Delaware County's largest city, four years ago, presumably be-cause Media is more centrally situated for covering the county. Delaware County residents discovered that earlier, moving the county seat from Chester to Media in 1850.

Not all Media residents be-lieve the bureau moved into Media solely because it is a centrally located county seat. Some say the move was prompted by a desire to keep a closer eye on antiwar activities here. Agents in Media and at the regional headquarters in Philadelphia refused to specify when the Media office was opened or state what other branch offices were in the Philadelphia.

in the Philadelphia area.

A prime mover in antiwar demonstrations and a draft counseling service is the Street Messenger Community Project, which was organized following the Cambodia incursion last

Among 6,300 Residents of Media, Pa.

Quakers are among the leading peace activists in Media. Unlike numerous Media house-wives, antiwar demonstrators who appear at the monthly in-duction ceremonies, were well

year. It has headquarters in the aware of the existence in their what the Citizens Commission Fellowship House, which was midst of the F.B.I. branch office to Investigate the F.B.I. had started in 1944 to promote instarted in 1944 to promote interracial brotherhood.

Among peace activists working with the project is Robert L. Anthony, an art therapist who teaches disturbed teen agers.

"I am opposed to the F.B.I. branch office to investigate the F.B.I. had stolen and why. He told Mr. Anthony the had received it in the mail and gave him a copy that might. But there was no public disclosure of the contents of floors and apartments on the documents until this week, the top two.

who teaches disturbed teenagers.

"I am opposed to the F.B.I. spying on people," Mr. Anthony said in an interview at his home in nearby Moylan.

The lay psychotherapist, who has been arrested twice in demonstrations in Media, said he saw great value in exposing Lewis is being transferred, resuch activity. But he emphasized protectly to Atlanta, because of the apartments, the documents unto the the documents unto the documents unto the documents unto the tween mailed copies of 14 of the stolen documents to newspapers and politicians.

Mr. Davidon, a physics professor, and the Rev. Daniel J. Berrigan have been named by the Justice Department, but not indicted, as co-conspirators with the theft.

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When the commission mailed that he opposed any form of the theft.

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