

## F. B. I. Reported to Have a List Of People Agents Should Avoid

NYTimes

By ROBERT M. SMITH JAN 14 1972

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 — this is a preoccupation of the Robert Maynard Hutchins, bureau's leadership—the F.B.I. president of the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, may never hear from the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Neither may Henry Steele Commager, the historian at AMHERST, OR Gene Miller, an investigative reporter for The Miami Herald, or Senator George McGovern or Carl Rowan, the columnist, or Senator Eugene J. McCarthy or anyone who works for The Washington Post.

This is because of a curious F.B.I. institution known in the bureau as the "no-contact list." Their names have all appeared on that list, according to persons close to the bureau.

According to these sources, including Robert N. Wall, a 33-year-old former special agent who worked for the bureau for five years before, he said, he became disillusioned, F.B.I. headquarters occasionally sends out instructions to local offices ordering agents not to get in touch with certain people without special permission.

According to Mr. Wall and others, the persons named in these circulars or memorandums are usually persons who have spoken critically of the bureau, and are in a position to spread public word of any direct contact with the bureau.

To prevent embarrassment—and according to many sources

has set up these special procedures.

Asked about the "no-contact list," a spokesman for the bureau said today that he "wouldn't have any comment on this."

To get in touch with anyone on the list, the agent involved must first go to his superiors and get permission. Thus, for example, Mr. Wall said that he once had to do a background check on someone who formerly worked for The Washington Post.

"They OK'd it, because it was routine," Mr. Wall said, and he went to the personnel office of the newspaper. "Routine as it was," he added, "I had to get permission."

One person close to the bureau said that the list occasionally got in the way of efficient investigation — sometimes because the agent would not bother to ask for permission and would then avoid the interview.

The names of those on the list, beyond those already mentioned, are not known. Now is the number of names on it.

Mr. Wall said that only "one or two" names a year had been mentioned to him by his squad supervisor in the Washington field office. Other sources maintained that scores of people had been singled out over the years for such treatment.