

Size of F.B.I.

To the Editor:

In the July 8 issue of The Times I read about J. Edgar Hoover's request for 525 more agents and 336 more clerks, which would increase the employes of the F.B.I. to 17,345.

I cannot help but be amazed that the F.B.I. is so mammoth and find it a bit on the frightening side.

What do so many people investigate? Are they a prelude to "Big Brother"?

If they are primarily to investigate organized crime I cannot see that the addition of 861 employees to the 16,484 will be particularly helpful. What have the 16,484 employees been doing? Why haven't 16,484 people been able to control the Mafia?

Why does Congress continually meekly acquiesce to all of Hoover's requests and at the

same time heap praise on him? Are they afraid of him? Has the F.B.I. investigated every member of Congress? What is the "hold" Hoover appears to have?

Why is it that when Senator Eugene McCarthy said that if elected President he would replace Hoover many said "McCarthy was courageous" to take a public stand against Hoover?

JOHN EASTMAN JR.
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