

Hoover's Ghostly Book Royalties



Jack Anderson

THAT tireless guardian of the nation's morals, J. Edgar Hoover, has collected more than \$250,000 in royalties from three books researched and ghostwritten for him by FBI agents on government time.

This is an offense, if it had been committed by some other government official, that the FBI might have been asked to investigate. For the money rightfully should have gone to the taxpayers, who paid the salaries of the FBI researchers and writers.

In defense of Hoover, friends say he turned over the proceeds to his favorite charities. They cited the J. Edgar Hoover Foundation, whose records we immediately inspected. No royalty payments nor cash donations were listed from the FBI chief.

We also determined that royalty checks were made out to Hoover personally, not to charities.

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OF THE THREE BOOKS, the biggest money maker was "Masters of Deceit," published in 1958 by Holt (not Holt, Rinehart and Winston), which sold almost 250,000 copies. Then it was bought up by Pocketbook, which sold two million paperback copies.

In 1964, Warner Brothers paid Hoover a reported \$50,000 for the movie rights, although no movie was ever made of the book. Insiders suggest the payment was intended to butter up the old bear so he would permit Warner Brothers to film the

popular TV series, "The FBI."

The FBI chief's book, "Study of Communism," published by Holt in 1962, sold some 125,000 copies. And a paste-up collection of Hoover's sayings, published by Random House as a book entitled "On Communism," sold around 40,000 copies.

Insiders say the man who authored Hoover's best prose is special agent F. C. Stukenbroeker, a talented Ph.D., whose sinewy writing would have made him a fine author in his own right. Stukenbroeker gulped out on "of course I can't say anything about that," when we asked him how much of the three Hoover books he had written and whether he received a bonus for them.

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HUNDREDS OF federal agents, dressed in hippie garb, infiltrated the recent antiwar demonstrations in Washington. Most effective were the narcotics agents, who speak the language of the drug culture and wear their hair long and unkempt as a regular guise.

They submitted handwritten reports, charging hawkers sold drugs instead of hot dogs to the crowds and sexual intercourse was a spectator sport. They reported that some of the LSD was diluted with strychnine, causing serious illnesses. One report quoted Rennie Davis, the demonstration leader, as planning to dress radical girls as tourists, provide them with cans of lighter fluid and have them set fires in government buildings.

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