

See also FBI - II, 26 Mar 71.

Army Spied on Youth for FBI

By Jared Stout

WASHINGTON — (NNS) — The Army intercepted a Pennsylvania father's message to his 14 year old son at an East German youth camp and gave the information to the State Department and the FBI, according to stolen FBI documents.

The documents showed for the first time the use of Army facilities to intercept messages that are then relayed to the State Department and the FBI, a practice suspected but heretofore undocumented.

The interception by an undisclosed means was done by the U.S. Army Operations and Research Detachment at Frankfurt, West Germany, in July, 1970, while the boy was at a camp near Altenhof, East Germany.

According to an FBI document stamped "secret — no foreign dissemination," the message told the boy of the "physical and emotional well-being of 'Mom,' who presumably is the subject's mother."

It was one of four interceptions by the Army unit, but there was no indication whether the message was written or spoken.

The other interceptions involved the boy's communications with persons who had helped him get into the camp. All were attributed to source "PH T-L, another government agency which conducts intelligence operations." It was later identified as the Army unit in Frankfurt.

In one intercept, the youth was reported by the FBI to have said:

"He had learned a great deal about Socialism when he previously attended the camp and after his next experience at the camp, he would be able to return to the United States with ideas and to inform the children about the camp."

The FBI began an investigation of the boy, apparently not knowing his age. When it was learned the youth was 14, the inquiry was dropped in favor of one into the background of his father who had traveled in West Germany.

A "Mrs. E. Thompson" in the personnel records section of the University of Pennsylvania was listed by the report of special agent Charles Silverthorn as a source of data on the father, a professor.

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The Citizens Commission to Investigate the FBI, which made the documents available Friday, said they brought to over 50 the number of documents mailed to several newspapers and members of Congress. They were stolen March 8 from the FBI's Media, Pa., office.

Other disclosures in the documents included the presence of FBI agents in Argentina, an investigation of a Quaker who asked a Czech National to visit his Pennsylvania home, and inquiries into persons working with international organizations such as the United Nations.