SFChronicle

JUN 7-8 1972

FBI Investigates Congressman's Son



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THE FBI has sworn it doesn't investi-gate congressmen, but it has spent an extraordinary amount of time stalking the family of one.

Merry-Go-Round

An indignant Representative Henry Reuss (Dem.-Wis.) learned last year that the FBI had been checking on his 22-year-old daughter, Jacqueline. What he doesn't know is that the FBI is also spying on his 25-year-old son, Michael.

Reuss is a solid sort, who devotes himself largely to banking legislation. He was once a director of a bank, but he isn't likely to rob one.

His wife, Margaret, occupies her spare time teaching economics at Washington's Federal City College. The four children attended prestigious private schools. All are eminently respectable and unlikely crimi-

TRUE, REUSS is considered a bit of a radical in banking circles because of his liberal Democratic views. A decorated infantry officer during World War II, he is also against war. His wife and children, too, are active in the peace movement.

This is what aroused the FBI's suspicions about the Reusses. The FBI, you see, has become political in recent years, and antiwar activity is against the FBI's ideology. The G-men, therefore, literally spend more time investigating peace activists than Mafia gangsters.

The darkest charge the FBI could make against Mike Reuss was that he had been "a friend of Robert Avakian." The FBI dossier on Reuss contains a confidential note that Avakian "has been publicly identified as a member of the Central Committee of the Bay Area RU (Revolutionary Union)."

This group is identified by an FBI "source" as a "revolutionary, Marxist-Leninist organization ideologically oriented toward Communist China." The dossier doesn't charge that young Reuss is affiliated with the group but merely that he knows someone who is.

The surveillance reports on Reuss also assert ominously that, in July 1969, he lived in Lafayette, Calif., at "the residence of Mark Silverman." It turns out that Silverman is a "Stanford University student spokesman" who is opposed to the

S PECIAL AGENT Paul W. Shields also discovered "that as of March 28, 1967, Michael Reuss was a Vista worker managing a quilt factory in Jackson, Kentucky."

Several pages in the Reuss dossier are devoted to newspaper accounts of the young man's arrest during a civil rights demonstration at West Point, Miss., on August 6, 1965. Because a highway patrolman suffered a heart attack during the confrontation, some of the demonstrators, including Reuss, were charged with manslaughter. He was later cleared of any

The congressman's son and daughter are typical of the "desperados" who now seem to occupy most of the FBI's atten-