

GAINS HELD MINOR IN F.B.I. BREAK-INS

SEP 25 1975

Congress Told of Intelligence

Operations Here in '60's
NYTimes

WASHINGTON, Sept. 24 (AP) — Domestic intelligence operations of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, including break-ins in New York City and Chicago in the nineteen-sixties, produced few warnings of extremist and subversive activities and few convictions, Congress was told today.

In delivering a comprehensive analysis of F.B.I. domestic intelligence activity, Congress's General Accounting Office said it had come across eight F.B.I. break-ins in New York and one in Chicago in the early nineteen sixties.

The G.A.O. investigators told the House Civil Rights Subcommittee that it had no details on the break-ins, not even the organizations involved, but said all had been against subversive and extremist groups.

"I think we can say it appears to have been a technique used fairly frequently in one field office," said Richard L. Fogel, an assistant G.A.O. division director. "We didn't get any indication this technique was used broadly across the country."

J. Edgar Hoover, the late director of the F.B.I., ordered the break-ins stopped in 1967.

The G.A.O., Congress's investigating agency, said that in a survey of 676 F.B.I. domestic intelligence investigations in 10 cities, it had found only 12 cases in which advance warning was obtained of subversive or extremist activities, and only 16 cases that were referred for prosecution, with only four that brought convictions of subversives or extremists.

But while suggesting that the F.B.I. intelligence gathering had produced too little analysis to policy makers, Comptroller General Elmer B. Staats said in delivering the G.A.O. report:

"Who is to say that the bureau's continuous coverage on such groups and their key leaders has not prevented them, to date, from achieving their ultimate subversive and extremist goals."

Mr. Fogel said the eight break-ins in New York City had been uncovered in a sampling of 50 investigations there. He said that in one case the F.B.I. had opened mail as well as conducted break-ins.

The F.B.I. domestic intelligence activity stems from requests that President Franklin D. Roosevelt made to Mr. Hoover in private meetings in 1936, the report said.

Cases 'Under Study'

A spokesman for the F.B.I. declined to comment on the report regarding the break-ins, but said the cases were "under study" by the Justice Department.