

Accident Kills Ex-Top FBI Aide

Sugar Hill, N.H.

William C. Sullivan, the FBI wiretap boss forced out of his assistant director's job because he questioned J. Edgar Hoover, was shot and killed yesterday in a deer hunting accident near his retirement home. He was 65.

Officials said the son of a state police officer allegedly shot the former No. 3 man at the FBI about a quarter of an hour before sunrise after mistaking him for a deer.

They said it was not known what charges, if any, would be filed against Robert Daniels, in his 20s, of nearby Lisbon, N.H.

Mason Butterfield, chief of law enforcement for the state Fish and

Game Department, said he believed that at least one FBI or former FBI officer was hunting in the White Mountains with Sullivan at the time. His department handles all hunting accidents in New Hampshire.

Butterfield said Daniels tried to give Sullivan first aid but "just couldn't do a thing for him ... and the guy died."

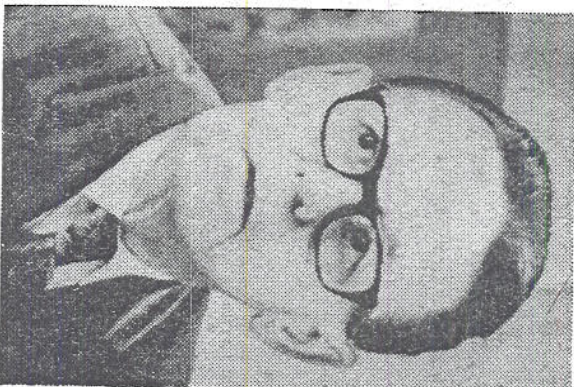
Sullivan, who later described Hoover as a "master blackmailer," was forced to retire from a 30-year FBI career Oct. 6, 1971, after questioning Hoover's judgment. He served briefly as associate director of the Insurance Crime Prevention Institute in Connecticut, then rejoined the Justice Department as coordinator of narcotics intelligence in 1972, retiring soon afterwards.

In 1973, Sullivan said he had been forced to retire as assistant in charge of the FBI's "Cointelpro" operations because he questioned Hoover's actions. In that job, he had custody of the wiretaps of reporters and National Security Council aides, ordered during the Nixon administration after the New York Times reported in 1969 the Air Force was bombing Cambodia.

Sullivan said that when he questioned some of Hoover's decisions, he was summoned to the director's office. "His hands were shaking, his face was clouded, he was raving mad," Sullivan said of Hoover.

He quoted Hoover as saying "no one has ever spoken to me like this since I became director in 1924."

United Press



WILLIAM C. SULLIVAN
Shot by a hunter

UPI photo