

Ex-Operative Charges F.B.I. Failed to Bar Klan Violence

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 30 (UPI) — A former undercover operative for the Federal Bureau of Investigation said the F.B.I. had advance knowledge, but took no action, to prevent Ku Klux Klan violence in the South during the 1960's, The Los Angeles Times reported today.

The newspaper quoted Gary Thomas Rowe Jr., who is to testify before a United States Senate committee this week.

Mr. Rowe said that he had joined the Klan at the F.B.I.'s request and worked with agents on major cases of racial violence six years as an undercover operative. He was the government's key witness in a trial in which three Klansmen were convicted of civil rights violations in the March 25, 1965, murder of a civil rights worker.

He also said that the bureau knew about the Klan's intention to assault Freedom Riders in Birmingham, Ala., in 1961, but nothing was done, and that the Klan had access to Birmingham police files on civil rights leaders and also rode around in police cars planning violence.

DEC 1 1975

NYTimes