

# The F.B.I. Homes In and Gets Its Man

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WASHINGTON, May 4 — There was a note of surprise in an F.B.I. agent's voice as he reported on a Justice Department radio frequency this afternoon that John Froines was speaking to thousands of antiwar demonstrators — right under Attorney General John N. Mitchell's office window.

Mr. Froines, one of the Chicago Seven conspiracy defendants, had been sought by the Federal Bureau of Investigation since yesterday afternoon. At that time he was charged, along with Rennie Davis, a leader of the Mayday protests here, with conspiring to interfere with the constitutional rights of commuters here and with Federal employees by disrupting traffic.

Mr. Froines's F.B.I. code name is Echo, the radio transmissions revealed. He was also called "the package."

"Echo is saying he came here not to surrender but to be protected by his people," came the agent's crackling radio report from street level on Constitution Avenue. "Well, we want him!" was the reply from inside the F.B.I.'s Washington field office, a block away.

## Followed Step by Step

Radio-equipped agents in the crowd of more than 3,000 demonstrators, who knew Mr. Froines on sight, or carried his "wanted" picture, followed "the package" for 15 minutes, step by step along the 10th Street side of the Justice Department building, between

Constitution and Pennsylvania Avenues N. W.

While agents were dispatched to each end of the block, Mr. Froines's every movement was observed.

"The package is wearing a green and red striped shirt—definitely a sport shirt, with green and red vertical stripes," one radio observer reported. "He is crossing the street toward a green, parked car, with his arm around a man wearing a suede jacket and a straw staw hat."

"The package is now moving east toward the flagpole," came the radio reports. "He's standing south of the flagpole, talking to a man with a bald head. He's still with the man

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with the suede coat and the aw hat."

From inside: "To all units, anyone with any knowledge of Echo, go to the middle of the block. The wod from the P.D. (police department) is that they're ging to pinch in from both ends of the block and lock them [demonstrators] up. They're moving now. He'll be trying to slip out while they're arresting others."

An agent: "What are the chances of pushing him in through the truck entrance?"

Another agent: "We have him! We have him! We have him!"

From the F.B.I.: "Good. Let's keep him?"

Mr. Froines, like Mr. Davis, received a hearing and was freed under \$25,000 bail on the Federal conspiracy charges. Mr. Davis was released on bond today.



Associated Press

SEIZED: F.B.I. agents arresting John Froines, right, at the Justice Department yesterday