

Prof. Franklin Seized by FBI

By Carolyn Anspacher

The Venceremos — a Peninsula-based Maoist revolutionary group — were in disarray yesterday after a member in good standing reportedly detailed to the FBI how they had engineered his bloody escape from Chino and then kept him hidden for more than two months.

As a result, seven persons were arrested in a two-state FBI sweep and charged with harboring Ronald Wayne Beaty, 35, the escaper. An eighth was taken into custody by San Bernardino authorities for investigation of the murder of a Chino guard, killed during the daring daylight ambush.

Among those taken into custody on the harboring charge was H. Bruce Franklin, 30, the English professor who was fired from Stanford University for fomenting campus violence. Franklin, a founder and leader of the Venceremos, was fingered by Beaty as the mastermind of the escape plot.

Beaty and a woman companion were captured on the Bay Bridge last week.

Arrested almost simultaneously by the FBI, Palo Alto police and San Bernardino deputies were:

- Bruce Warren Hobson, 23, of 1114 Villa street, Mountain View, son of Jean Hobson, the woman taken into custody with Beaty.

- Morton Newman, 30, 312 O'Keefe street, Mountain View.

- Robert Allan Seabock, 23, of 666 Channing street, Palo Alto, held for investigation of the guard's murder.

- Charles Woodbridge Noble, 25, of 933 Scott street, Palo Alto, who surrendered to authorities sometime later in offices of the Law Commune in Menlo Park.

Three others were arrested at dawn in Fort Defiance,

Arizona. They were Dr. Harry Bishara of the Public Health Service hospital there, his wife, Lorraine, and Michael Goldstein, a legal clerk with an organization offering advice to the Navajo Indians.

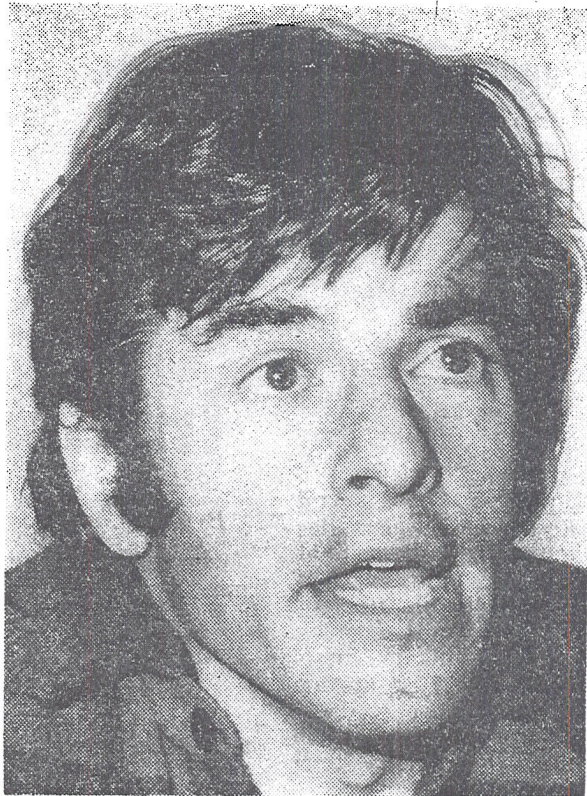
An FBI affidavit, filed by Special Agent John Raikes, said that during lengthy interviews last Saturday and Sunday, Beaty detailed both the escape plot and named those who had successfully kept him hidden.

"Beaty advised me that the escape plan was formulated by himself with the help of the Venceremos organization," the Raikes affidavit said.

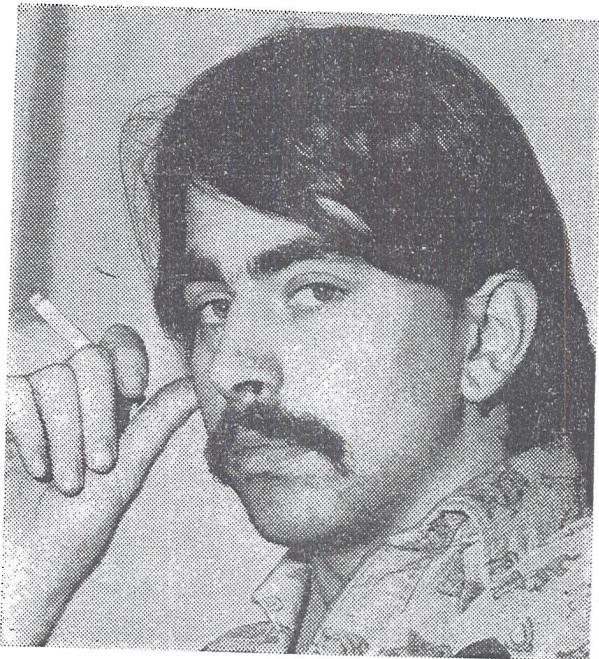
On the escape on October 7 unarmed guard Jesus Sanchez was slain, and another unarmed guard, George Fitzgerald, was critically wounded. Immediately after

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Plot Charged



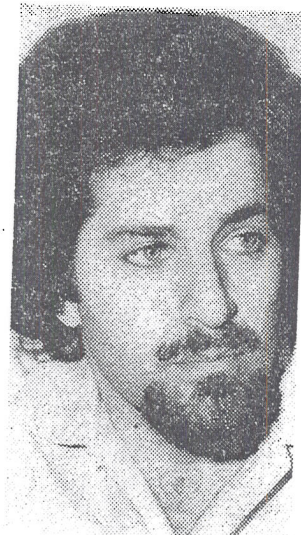
H. BRUCE FRANKLIN
He and six others were arrested in two-state sweep



BRUCE HOBSON IN CUSTODY
His mother had been arrested with Ronald Beaty



CHARLES NOBLE
He surrendered



MORTON NEWMAN
Mountain View resident

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the shooting Beaty accompanied by Jean Hobson, was taken to a house in Mountain View whose address he did not know, he told the FBI.

There, he said, he was introduced to Mrs. Hobson's son, Bruce, who knew of his fugitive status.

Thereafter, according to the affidavit, Beaty was taken by the Hobsons to a cabin in a remote area, about an hour's drive from Mountain View. He said he was blindfolded for the drive "on instructions of H. Bruce Franklin."

Beaty remained at the cabin for a month, with Mrs. Hobson in attendance, the affidavit said. Periodically Bruce Hobson brought supplies.

In November, the affidavit said, Beaty said he was taken by Mrs. Hobson to Seabock's home in Palo Alto where he was ordered to remain "until further orders were received from Franklin."

There, at the Seabock home, he was "assisted" by Seabock and Newman who provided food and acted as lookouts.

Beaty said it was "apparent that all knew of his identity and of his escape from Chino, and all were identified as members of the Venceremos."

PAPERS

While at the Seabock home, Beaty was given an envelope containing \$1000 in \$100 bills, and two sets of identification papers in the names of Daniel Collins and Stephen Hurley. The affidavit said: "Beaty was advised these came from H. Bruce Franklin," who also furnished a 1963 Mercury sedan.

"It was for them (Beaty and Jean Hobson) to leave California," the affidavit said.

In mid-November, Seabock and Beaty drove that car to Fort Defiance in Arizona and while there stayed with the Bisharas, introduced as friends of Franklin, and Goldstein, named as Seabock's "Venceremos organization contact in the area."

Beaty returned to the Peninsula the first week in December with Mrs. Hobson and she arranged for him to talk personally to Franklin "regarding arrangements for Beaty to continue hiding from law enforcement officers."

Beaty said he was instruct-

ed to go to a specific pay phone at the Co-op Market in Palo Alto. He did so, and a man, who identified himself as Franklin, discussed at length various aspects of Beaty's continued flight from justice.

Franklin advised that it would be "disastrous" if he were located in the company of Jean Hobson, a known member of the Venceremos and Beaty should try "to dissolve this contact."

SAFE

Franklin also chastised him for leaving Fort Defiance since that location was considered safe.

Beaty and Mrs. Hobson were arrested after a high speed Bay Bridge chase on December 11, on the tip of an informant. A trunkload of weapons was found in their car when it was stopped on

the eastbound deck of the bridge. Both were booked for investigation of the Chino guard's murder.

Early yesterday afternoon, all those arrested on the Peninsula, except Seabock, who was taken to San Bernardino, appeared before Chief U.S. Magistrate Richard Goldsmith here.

Franklin was represented by Charles Garry, Black Panther attorney; Hobson and Noble by Ron Romines of the Law Commune, and Newman by Walter Hunckler.

Despite the government's plea for a "very very substantial bail," Goldsmith set bail of \$10,000 each for Franklin, Hobson and Newman, and \$5000 for Noble. Bail was posted by 3 p.m. and they were released.

They are to appear January 5 for a preliminary hearing, pending which they must report weekly to a federal probation officer in San Jose, and not leave the area.

Harboring a fugitive carries a maximum sentence of three years in prison.

'GARBAGE'

Franklin catalogued the government's case as "garbage" and said Beaty's statement to the FBI was "hearsay." He charged that Beaty, who had been a Venceremos member, was obviously "working with police to save his skin." He also suggested the whole Chino escape was a "plot to get the Venceremos."

Obviously seeking documents to substantiate the Beaty story, FBI agents spent nine hours yesterday searching the Seabock home, and carting away in a van several boxes of material. For a time the entire street was blocked off to all but law officers.

Katarina Davis Del Valle, chairman of the Venceremos, charged that her home at 1114 Villa street, Mountain View, was also searched by the FBI agents, who were armed with a warrant. She said they were seeking documents of ownership to the mountain cabin, maps with directions, telephone bills of September and October of this year, receipts of grocery bills, and the like.

Mrs. Del Valle said they removed telephone books, letters and three weapons.

A 12-gauge shotgun was also taken from the home of Venceremos member Janelle James of 931 Scott street, in Palo Alto.

Previously arrested on murder charges in connection with the Chino ambush were Andrea Holman, 18, daughter of a Stanford University professor of medicine, and Benton Burt, 30, her fiance and a former cellmate of Beaty.