

Legislation

Excerpt from speech by Frank Wilkinson,
executive director of the National
Committee Against Repressive Legislation.
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Conference on Repressive Legislation
sponsored by the National Lawyers Guild
[in Berkeley?], on Police State
Legislation of 1970 and Its Effect on
the Movement.

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I would like to conclude by just pointing out things that I heard here today that I don't think have been mentioned enough. With all the talk about the Organized Crime Bill I didn't hear anybody here talk about one section that was tagged [tacked?] on by Mitchell in the House and then accepted by the Senate, whereby the FBI now has the right to come on to any college campus over the expressed wishes to the contrary of the administration of that college or the chief of police of the community into which it is coming. The FBI now has power over the head of the president of this university and of the chief of police of Berkeley to come on here. This is a very, very serious problem. I have talked with university administrators in several parts of the country, where they are already having a problem with not just so much the FBI, but the CIA agents that are on there, and are serving as agents provocateurs.

The Stratton Commission Report deals with 25 examples, 25 examples of FBI agents. First of all, the Stratton Commission Report clarifies the basic thing, that 92 per cent of all the student protest after the invasion of Cambodia was peaceful and within the rights under the First Admendment, and when you get down to the 8 per cent where there was some destruction of property or some injury to an individual, the Stratton Commission Report details in fact, and minutely, the example in which FBI agents were the instigators.

Down in Tennessee, this Grimm^{*} case, where 26 students went rushing down a hall, lighting the trash barrels, smashing the windows. When they came up for trial, 26 of them arrested, the leader [unintelligible] of the students, Grimm, was not present, and the Government stepped in and said that he had been dismissed, he was out of the state, and that he was all the time an agent of the FBI. And faculty and administrators and students alike recognized that it was Grimm who was the first one who threw the torch into the trash barrels, who busted the windows, and he's gone on out of the state carrying on his work for the FBI up in Minnesota.

And I guess you've read the situation in the Seattle Liberation Front. You don't have to get this out of the Guild publications or out of any underground press. Here's the L.A. Times' report, where the sworn testimony of the prosecution - not the defense, the prosecution - in the Seattle Liberation Front indicates that the FBI agent up there did the following things: he provided the leader of the group up there, the peace group up there, with an illegal tear gas gun; he held firearm instructions, sniping discussions and target practice sessions for the group, many of whom had seldom if ever held a gun in their hands before.

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*Charles Grimm, U. of Alabama? See FBI - II, 15 Oct 71.