

S EXAMINER 8 MAY 70

Who Decides on 'Subversives'?

HARTFORD (Conn.) — (AP) — Under a proposed executive order being circulated among key presidential aides, the Subversive Activities Control Board would be empowered to declare subversive any organization it deems "violent action oriented," the Hartford Courant reported today.

According to the newspaper, under the new order the power to declare a group "subversive" would be shifted from the attorney general to the board.

The Courant said an order is being prepared by Attorney General John Mitchell for President Nixon and is being circulated in draft form by the "executive office of the President" to key aides for comment. The story did not identify the aides.

The order proposed by Mitchell would include any group which advocates "the commission of acts of force or violence or other unlawful acts to deny others their rights . . . the unlawful damage or destruction of property; or injury to persons . . ."

The board could also declare subversive any group which obstructs the "recruitment and enlistment service" of the military, the Courant said.

Congressional approval of the order would not be required.

Under present law, the attorney general has the power to name an organization subversive if he finds it to be "communist," "totalitarian," or "fascist." The proposed order would give this powers to the board.