

## FBI Papers Released

# 'Mau Mau' Prevention

### Washington

The FBI disclosed yesterday that a major goal of seven domestic counter-intelligence programs against the "new left" in the late 1960s and early 1970s was to prevent black nationalists from forming a "real mau mau" in this country and starting a revolution.

Secret documents, released in response to a suit, showed that the FBI sought to prevent the rise of any "messiah" who might unify militant black nationalists, and employed a campaign of harassment and other effects to discredit their leaders.

FBI tactics against the targets included fabricating documents so they would appear to be "pilfered from police files," planting spies who pretended to be "disgruntled police employees," and discrediting leaders of extremist groups in their own communities.

The documents were made public on orders from Attorney General William B. Saxbe in response to a suit won by NBC reporter Carl

Stern under the 1967 Freedom of Information Act.

As a result of the suit, former acting Attorney General Robert H. Bork last December made public the initial memo in which former FBI director J. Edgar Hoover launched a counter-intelligence program against the "new left" on May 10, 1968, and another memo in which Hoover halted the program without explanation on April 28, 1971.

Additional memos released yesterday contained directives concerning counter-intelligence programs also directed at white hate groups, the Socialist workers party and black extremists.

In one memo Hoover noted that in the summer of 1967, leaders of an unnamed group being watched by the FBI were brought to the attention of police in an unnamed city.

They were arrested on every possible charge until they could no longer make bail, Hoover said. As a result, they spent most of the summer in jail and no violence took place that could

be attributed to them, he added.

Saxbe declined to provide other requested information on the Communist party, espionage and part of a file on counter-intelligence and "special operations" on grounds that the information is either classified as secret or included investigative material not covered by the Freedom of Information Act.

The 20 sheets of photocopied records, all of them consisting of letters or directives to FBI bureaus around the country, were heavily censored to blot out names of most of the organizations and persons that were targets of the programs.

The document on strategy for dealing with black nationalists, apparently prepared in 1967, said that program was now being expanded to include 41 offices.

It said the long-range goal of the program was to "prevent the coalition of militant black nationalist groups."

"An effective coalition of black nationalist groups might be the first step toward a real 'Mau Mau in America,' the beginning of a

true black revolution," it said.

A second goal, it added, was to "prevent the rise of a 'messiah,' who could unify and electrify the black nationalist movement. (Blank) (Blank): (Blank) is less of a might have been such a 'messiah,' he is a martyr threat because of his age."

Other goals were listed as "prevent violence . . . prevent leaders from gaining respectability and finally preventing growth of the movement especially among youths."

*United Press*