

Army 'Secret Police'

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NEW YORK — (UPI) — A number of former military intelligence agents have claimed that the Army has built up what amounted to a "secret police" force in recent years to gather information about the antiwar and civil rights movements and slao about elected public officials.

The former agents, some of whom asked that their identities be concealed, said military intelligence operatives conducted detailed spying at the funeral for Dr. Martin Luther King, the poor peoples campaign, antiwar demonstrations throughout the country, and protests and demonstrations at the 1968 Democratic National Convention in Chicago and the inauguration of President Nixon in 1969.

Five former agents made disclosures on the NBC television program "First Tuesday," to be broadcast tomorrow night.

Public Officials

Among the allegations made by the former agents was that the Army at times gathered information about public officials.

David Johnson, identified as a former intelligence agent who is now a student at a West Coast college, said that "the (Army's) files contain the names of various high officials within the United States government — high officials, Senators, Representatives, various other officials within the government, all of whom at one time or another spoke out against the Vietnam war."

Johnson also told of being ordered to infiltrate the leadership of antiwar groups planning to protest President

Nixon's inauguration in 1969. He said he was given an expense account while in Washington and told he could supply people with alcohol or even marijuana if needed to help him infiltrate the demonstrators.

King Funeral

Other former agents told of being assigned to cover the King funeral and report on everyone who attended it, including "the Vice President of the United States." Former Vice President Humphrey attended the rites, as did numerous other important political figures.

In another instance, a former agent told of Army intelligence activities during the 1968 Democratic Convention in Chicago. The agent said that a briefing following the convention included "great emphasis . . . upon a telephone conversation which had been monitored" between Sen. Eugene McCarthy's headquarters in the

Conrad Hilton Hotel and an antiwar group.

"How it was monitored, I'm not going to venture a guess," the former agent said, "but it was monitored."

The agent said the call from McCarthy headquarters was made to, "as they always put it in briefings, a known left wing organization which was operating in the city, offering them medical help for people who had been injured in the fighting."

In another instance, an agent said he was ordered to attend a speech given by Coretta King a few weeks after her husband's assassination in April, 1968.

Admission

During the speech, in Atlanta, Mrs. King referred to her husband's famous "I have a dream" speech and

said she felt the dream would come true.

The agent said he reported this to his headquarters and was told by a captain there "to go back and find out what dream she was referring to. It seemed to me that military intelligence was getting involved in a field (and) they didn't even know what it was all about," he said.

Assistant Secretary of De-

fense Daniel Z. Henkin, interviewed on the "First Tuesday" program, said the Army had engaged in some intelligence gathering activity, but that it was done "at the request of the Justice Department."

The program contended that the Army still has about 1000 plainclothes agents operating within the continental United States.