

Memos Challenge End of '70 Spy Plan

CHICAGO, March 9 (UPI)—Congressional investigators have Federal Bureau of Investigation memos indicating part of a secret domestic intelligence plan was in operation months after President Nixon said he had called it off, The Chicago Tribune reported today.

The Tribune said that the memos were issued in the fall of 1970, and gave approval for the FBI to recruit teen-age informants and conduct "discreet" investigations of black student organizations in colleges.

Some congressional committees have been investigating domestic surveillance under the Nixon administration, and the House Judiciary Committee has disclosed one of its areas in its impeachment inquiry is the so-called Huston plan for intelligence operation, the newspaper said.

The plan was named for Tom Huston, a former presidential assistant, and urged the use of various devices and actions including wiretaps and surveil-

lance against those considered domestic subversives.

"In a May 22 statement in which Nixon tried to explain Watergate ramifications," said the Tribune, "the President acknowledged he had approved the Huston plan on July 15, 1970, as a response to what he said was a need for a greatly improved domestic intelligence operation. But Nixon said the plan was abandoned only five days later because of (former FBI Director J. Edgar) Hoover's opposition."

Congressional sources, the Tribune related, found an FBI memo dated Sept. 16, 1970, about two months after the President said the plan was dropped, which authorized recruitment of young informers.

The memo, the Tribune said, stated that Hoover had approved potential security informants ages 18 to 21, an area from which the FBI had been blocked in the past, and stated: "Let us take advantage of this opportunity."