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Kent State**FBI 'Witch-Hunt' Charged****Washington**

Two groups, acting on charges by students and faculty members at Kent State University, have

asked for a federal probe of an alleged FBI investigation into the teachings and political beliefs of instructors.

The FBI has been investigating the violent confrontation at Kent State on May 4 between the National Guard and students that left four

students dead and ten wounded.

Kent chapters of both the American Civil Liberties Union and the American Association of University Professors sent telegrams of protest to Senators William B. Saxbe (Rep-Ohio), Stephen M. Young (Dem-Ohio) and Representative J. William Stanton (Rep-Ohio).

Dr. William I. Gorden, associate professor of speech at Kent State and local ACLU chairman, said that the FBI's investigation "tends to have a chilling effect on the use of free expression in the classroom." He said, "It's absurd to link what is said in a classroom to action."

WIRE

In the ACLU telegram to Stanton and the Senators, Gorden charged that the county prosecutor had all dormitory rooms searched and had no warrant. He said this, together with the FBI's questioning, raised a "fear that overzealous witch-hunt tactics contribute to climate of hysteria common to the McCarthy era."

"Request that your offices investigate these reported practices and provide cause to believe that possible intimidation by investigators will

be halted. One thing this grieving community does not need is further disillusionment with our protectors."

Stanton, whose district includes Kent, said he had referred the ACLU telegram to FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover more than a week ago, but had received no reply.

NO

FBI spokesman Tom Bishop said Hoover would have no public comment on the complaint but that Stanton "will be getting a written reply."

Louis K. Harris, vice-president of Kent State, confirmed that the university faculty has expressed "extensive concern" about the FBI questioning.

Harris said he earlier gave class enrollment lists to the FBI in "good faith," but would no longer give them to agents except under court order. The lists identify students in each class, subject being taught and the instructor.

"In behalf of the FBI," Harris said, "their story is that the only thing they were searching for was the type of presentation that would provoke violence, that they were not attempting to ascertain the political ideology of faculty members."

The Kent Record-Courier

reported, however, that professors and students questioned by the BI "say the investigative emphasis is veering from the Kent disorders to the type of books used in classes, courses taught and political philosophies of the professors."

The newspaper quoted a graduate student as saying the FBI "tries to turn your questions around and make you admit things that really never happened. They try to

get you to say something about your instructors."

A senior was quoted as saying she was asked if an instructor had discussed how to make molotov cocktails.

"I thought they were out of their minds," the student was quoted as saying. "And then after we got talking, they asked me six times if I was a member of the Students for Democratic Society, and I told them six times I was not."

CLASS

An English instructor who asked not to be quoted by name said, "I know for a fact the FBI asked students and some faculty members

such general questions as, 'Has your instructor made inflammatory remarks in class?' and 'Is he a radical?' in some cases they repeatedly press the students on those questions."

Harris Dante, chairman of the faculty senate, said that his organization also had expressed concern about the

FBI's actions, but had taken no formal action.

Dante said he knew of 10 students in one class being questioned as to whether their instructor was radical and added, "It's rather silly. We have a conservative faculty, we don't have any revolutionaries."

Times-Post Service

See also this file, NYTimes 10 Jun 70.