

# Broader Probe of FBI's Illegal Actions in N.Y.

## New York

The Justice Department is widening its investigation into possible illegal activities of agents in the FBI's New York field office.

The inquiry, it was learned yesterday from sources close to the investigation, is focusing on possible illegal entries and wiretaps of the Black Panther party and the Vietnam Veterans against the War.

For several months, Justice Department prosecutors have been probing the methods of a special unit of the FBI's New York office, known as Squad 47, which was assigned to investigate the Weather Underground and other radical groups.

A federal grand jury here reportedly has heard extensive testimony concerning agent "black-bag operations," or

illegal entries, into the homes of friends or relatives of fugitive radicals.

In recent weeks, 44 agents who were once assigned to Squad 47, now disbanded, have been given limited immunity from prosecution from Justice Department lawyers in return for discussing the origins of their orders.

Well-placed sources in both New York and Washington indicated that the prosecutors were looking into the activities of another unit designated Squad 48, which had among its subjects the Black Panther party and the Vietnam Veterans Against the War.

Justice Department sources had indicated last month that they were checking into possible burglaries of Black Panther facilities in recent years in the San Francisco Bay Area.

*Los Angeles Times*