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F.B.I. Head Says Communists Seek to Exploit Youth in U.S.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2 (UPI)—J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, reported today that the Communist party was striving to exploit what it termed a "drift toward the left" among the nation's youth.

In his year-end report to Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy Mr. Hoover said that the youth plan was approved by Gus Hall, General secretary of the Communist party.

"In October," Mr. Hoover said, "Communist party delegates met in Chicago, Ill. to lay the groundwork for a new national youth organization aimed at exploitation of what the party describes as a drift toward the left among young people."

Mr. Hoover said that Mr. Hall stipulated that the youth movement "should avoid the appearance of a Soviet-style organization: however, it should not tolerate anti-Soviet or anti-party thinking."

Mr. Hoover reported action in the domestic intelligence field. He listed the arrest of a New Jersey engineer accused of passing defense contract informa-

tion to Soviet members of the United Nations mission.

Four persons arrested in New York and Washington on spy charges and a Soviet embassy official charged with attempting to recruit a Russian defector for spy work were also caught, Mr. Hoover reported.

He also said that an investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy and the slaying of Lee Oswald, the accused assassin, had been completed. The report is in the hands of Chief Justice Earl Warren, head of the President's commission.

Although the F.B.I. arrested 12,000 persons—78 more than in 1962—Mr. Hoover was disturbed over a 20 per cent annual increase in bank thefts. Of the average 125 robberies, burglaries and larcenies of banks each month, many are committed by "amateurs," he said.

Officials attribute the increase and difficulties in apprehensions to the growth of suburban bank branches and the lack of a criminal record for a "one-time" offender.