

(390) PMS BUDGET

HOOVER-CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE

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WASHINGTON, OCT. 30 (AP)-FBI DIRECTOR J. EDGAR HOOVER SAID TODAY CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE WILL INCREASE THE NATION'S CRIME PROBLEM AND LEAD TO ANARCHY.

"SOWING CONTEMPT FOR LAW AND ORDER AND PROMOTING PRIDE IN LAW-BREAKING AMONG THE NATION'S YOUTHS CAN ONLY RESULT IN AN ACCELERATION OF A SERIOUS CRIME PROBLEM," THE FBI CHIEF SAID IN AN EDITORIAL MESSAGE IN THE BUREAU'S NOVEMBER LAW ENFORCEMENT BULLETIN.

HOOVER DID NOT MENTION ANY GROUPS OR INDIVIDUALS BY NAME. HOWEVER, CIVIL RIGHTS AND PACIFIST GROUPS AND OPPONENTS OF THE UNITED STATES' VIET NAM POLICY HAVE USED CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE AS A MEANS OF PROTEST.

THE REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR., A CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER WITH WHOM HOOVER HAS CLASHED PUBLICLY, HAS ADVOCATED USE OF CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE BY AN OPPRESSED MINORITY FACED WITH LAWS IT CONSIDERS MORALLY UNJUST--BUT ONLY WHEN THE GROUP IS WILLING TO ACCEPT PENALTIES.

HOOVER DESCRIBED THE DOCTRINE OF CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE AS THE "STARTLING THEORY THAT IF ONE DOES NOT AGREE WITH A LAW AND BELIEVES IT TO BE MORALLY UNJUST, HE MAY DISREGARD IT TO ACHIEVE A PARTICULAR OBJECTIVE."

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IN SOME QUARTERS, HOOVER WROTE, "IT ALREADY APPEARS THAT THE SOCIAL STIGMA FORMERLY ATTACHED TO LAWBREAKERS IS BEING REPLACED BY SYMPATHY FOR THEIR ACTIONS AND AN IRRATIONAL HOSTILITY TO LAW ENFORCEMENT."

HOOVER ASKED: "WHERE IS THE LINE TO BE DRAWN AGAINST THE SNOWBALL EFFECT OF CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE? WILLFULLY DISOBEYING MISDEMEANOR STATUTES TODAY AND COMMITTING FELONIES TOMORROW IS A LOGICAL REGRESSION FROM A GOVERNMENT OF LAW TO AN ANARCHIC SOCIETY."

MAY DETERMINE WHICH LAWS HE IS GOING TO OBEY AND WHICH HE IS NOT . . .

"CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE AND THE UNWILLINGNESS OF MANY TO RESOLVE THEIR DIFFERENCES BY ESTABLISHED LEGAL MEANS WILL SURELY LEAD TO THE DESTRUCTION OF THE INSTITUTIONS WHICH PROTECT THEIR FREEDOMS.

"IT IS FOLLY TO HOLD THAT A UTOPIA OF INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS WILL RISE FROM THE DESTRUCTION OF RESPECT FOR LAW."

HOOVER CLASHED WITH DR. KING LAST NOVEMBER, CALLING THE CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER "THE MOST NOTORIOUS LIAR IN THE COUNTRY."

DR. KING FIRED BACK A CHARGE THAT HOOVER WAS PURSUING A "PATH OF APPEASEMENT" WITH SOUTHERN WHITE LEADERS.

THEY CONFERRED AT THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT IN DECEMBER AT DR. KING'S REQUEST. THE CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER DESCRIBED THE MEETING LATER AS "QUITE AMICABLE."

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