

12/2/71
MKT

FBI harassment campaign against professor bared

By NED MACKAY

An FBI campaign to harass Bay Area radicals during the 1960's included actions directed at Stanford Professor H. Bruce Franklin, according to documents thus far released.

The FBI program, code named COINTELPRO, was a nationwide effort against left and right wing radicals. Files on it are being released by the FBI as a result of a lawsuit won by 15 newspapers and news agencies based on the federal Freedom of Information Act.

Some of the COINTELPRO documents reportedly describe efforts by Charles Bates, then head of the San Francisco FBI office, to expose Franklin's links to radical groups.

According to news accounts, the COINTELPRO files show Bates provided information that led to a story in the San Francisco Examiner disclosing Franklin's affiliation with a Maoist group.

Ed Montgomery, a retired Examiner reporter, has filed a \$750,000 libel suit against the weekly Bay Guardian for an article it published entitled "How the FBI Nailed H. Bruce Franklin."

The suit charges that the article calls Montgomery a conduit for the FBI to plant stories in the Examiner. Montgomery has denied the FBI provided him any inside information about Franklin.

Bates commented similarly today. "I never gave anything to Ed," he said. "I dealt with the press when the press would call and have some inquiry."

"I'm not saying it was done,

but I personally didn't do it and I wasn't aware of it at the time."

Bates is now retired from the FBI and is employed by Burns International Security Services in Oakland.

Asked about COINTELPRO memorandums above his signature relating to Franklin and other Bay Area radicals, Bates said that every piece of correspondence from the San Francisco office would be over his name or initials, but signed by the lower level supervisors, and he would not necessarily be familiar with the contents.

Bates said 10,000 items of correspondence monthly left the San Francisco FBI offices, and it was impossible for him to read it all.

Asked if there was a COINTELPRO program, Bates replied, "I don't know how extensive it was. There was a program, that has come out in Congressional hearings."

"You've got to put yourself back in," he added.

"We were having a riot two or three times a week. . . . What you do at a certain time has to be related to what the conditions are at that time, not 10 years later."

Franklin said articles on his radical connections were written by Montgomery in the spring of 1969.

"The real significance of the Montgomery article was not to reveal that I was a member of an organization because that was public knowledge," Franklin said today. "The significance was to create a climate in which he could be 'neutralized,'" Franklin said.

Franklin and his wife, Jane, have requested to see their FBI files and have received 4,000 pages so far. Asked if it makes interesting reading, Franklin said, "I think the taxpayers would be rather alarmed if they knew how their money was being spent by the secret police."

Franklin charges that the FBI's main goal was to have him fired from Stanford, where he was an associate professor of English.

Franklin was fired in 1972, after a Stanford Faculty Advisory Board concluded he had incited violence on campus during anti-war demonstrations in 1971.

Night watchmen

(Continued from page 1)

get in without being detected is if they opened the lock without making any noise, tiptoed in on sneakers and tiptoed out again," Alper said.

The system has picked up the sound of footsteps on the roof of the Fairwood School and is capable of detecting the sound of breathing, he said.

Fairwood suffered \$8,800 in vandalism damage last year, and the alarm was installed to prevent such damage. "There have been only a few break-ins since the alarm was installed," he said.

The district has spent \$10,000 for installation of the system.