

Around the Nation

Extremist Activities Are Threatening National Security, Hoover Asserts

A dramatic increase in activities of so-called New Left extremist groups has posed a distinct threat to the security of the United States, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover said yesterday.

Hoover singled out the militant Weatherman faction of the Students for a Democratic Society as the key group responsible for much of the recent violence, terrorism and attacks on government institutions.

His remarks on radical activities appeared in the FBI annual report for the financial year which ended June 30.

Hoover also accused the Black Panther Party of widening its assault against police and promoting racial unrest.

Hoover reported a decline in the membership of the white extremist Ku Klux Klan from 6,800 to about 4,300 and an increase in Communist Party activity on university campuses.

He charged that the Student Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam, which organized a massive antiwar demonstration in Washington last November, was firmly under Trotskyist control.

The report showed that there were a record 2,786 bank robberies in the U.S. during the year, and crimes involving the interstate shipment of stolen vehicles were also up sharply. During the year, the FBI located 30,318 fugitives, an 18 per cent in-

crease over the previous year.

Tate Figure Insane

LOS ANGELES — Charles (Tex) Watson, slated to stand trial alone in the murder of actress Sharon Tate and six others, was committed to a mental institution after a psychiatrist described him as an insane "vegetable" who may be in danger of dying.

A judge ordered him committed as a "life-saving measure" and said he would not be tried unless he regains sanity.

Watson, 24, has been described at the trial of Charles Manson and three women members of Manson's hippie-style clan as the leader of killer parties that killed Miss Tate and the six others.

3 Bombs in N.Y.

NEW YORK—A synchronized series of homemade bomb blasts damaged two armories in Queens and a police station in the Bronx. There were no injuries.

Police said they had no clues to who placed the pipebombs, containing propane gas and timers, or any indication that they were linked to revolutionary groups.

The first bomb exploded at 3:12 a.m. EST, the second at 3:15 a.m. and a third at 3:22 a.m. Police said the bombs, described as "sophisticated", all had been placed in windowsills.

Train Hits Two

NEW YORK—Two passengers were injured and scores

of others narrowly escaped being run down when they fled a stalled Penn Central commuter train and found themselves in the path of an oncoming train.

Both injured passengers were struck by the train, but nearly 100 other commuters who were crossing the tracks managed to scramble to safety moments before the New York-bound train passed by.

The passengers had gotten off another Manhattan-bound Penn Central train only moments before after the train stalled due to a fire in its diesel locomotive cab box.

Addenda

- The first person convicted under the 1968 federal riot act, Howard Mechanic, was sentenced to five years in prison. He participated in violence at Washington University, St. Louis, May 5 when the ROTC building was burned.

- A Los Angeles Superior Court judge dismissed charges against four policemen who fatally shot two unarmed Mexican nationals. The judge said the case should never have reached him, since a lower court found no negligence was involved.

- A \$2 million wrongful death suit against the state of Ohio by the father of a Kent State University student killed in the May 4 confrontation was dismissed on the basis of sovereign immunity.

From staff reports and news dispatches