

FBI Harassment/Grand Jury Abuse:
A chronology of events in Lexington

Summer and fall of 1974—Two women lived in Lexington and left town. An informant tells the FBI that the two women resemble fugitives wanted for a 1970 bank robbery in Boston.

January, 1975—FBI agents harass and attempt to question scores of people about the two women. They also attempt to question out-of-town friends and relatives of politically active Lexington residents. They surround houses of some of the persons questioned here and out-of-town.

February 3—Six persons who refused to talk over the telephone, demanded the presence of a lawyer during FBI interrogation or refused altogether to talk with agents were issued subpoenas by U.S. Attorney Eugene Siler, to appear Feb. 3 before a federal grand jury here. There, they refuse to answer the questions of U.S. Attorney Siler. They read to the grand jury their reasons for refusal.

February 18—U.S. District Court Judge Bernard Moynahan refuses to quash (throw out) subpoenas issued to the six witnesses.

February 21—Judge Moynahan grants the witnesses "use immunity"—stripping them of their Fifth Amendment rights.

March 6—The witnesses appear separately for the second time before the grand jury. Again, they refuse to testify, but they do talk to the grand jurors, attempting to educate them about the abuse of their rights as U.S. citizens. Judge Moynahan begins contempt proceedings in the U.S. District