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FBI denies knowing of plots

United Press International
LOS ANGELES — The FBI says it "has no knowledge" to back up a newspaper report that two terrorist cults have joined forces in a mission to free Charles Manson and jailed members of his "family" and the Symbionese Liberation Army.

The Long Beach Independent Press-Telegram said in a copyright story Sunday that SLA and Manson clan members are recruiting new followers to carry out an ongoing crime spree aimed at freeing their imprisoned comrades.

"Our street sources tell us that the group is planning something that will make the Patty Hearst thing look penny ante," the newspaper quoted one intelligence agent as saying.

Law enforcement officers reportedly told the newspaper the two groups have merged to carry out a series of recent crimes, including bank robberies in Northern California and an intricate credit card scam.

The group to date has raised nearly \$2 million, intended to help

Manson, his followers and SLA members escape from prison, informants reportedly told the FBI.

But Harry Brown, the duty agent in charge of the Los Angeles FBI office, said Sunday his office "has no knowledge of any ongoing conspiracy involving the SLA and the Manson group in the Southern California area."

The Long Beach paper said three of the suspects have become proficient helicopter pilots, and the group has stockpiled weapons and gold and purchased thousands of

dollars worth of freeze-dried

and camping equipment. Officials estimate the clan, which numbered about 200 in the 1969 Sharon Tate murder spree, has 60 members, more SLA — whose hard-core members died during a 1974 gun battle in Los Angeles — at more than 100.

Prison officials say hundreds of letters supporting Manson were poured in to the cult leader in 1971 for the murder of Sharon Tate, Leno and Rosemary LaBianca and four others.

Will doesn't deter 'palimony' suit

United Press International
NEW ORLEANS — The daughter of supermarket magnate John Schwegmann says her father purchased two homes and left \$100,000 in his will to a woman who filed a "palimony" suit against him.

"I think that should be enough," said Melba Margaret Schwegmann, the only family member who has

commented on the suit thus far. "I can't understand why this woman would do this," Miss Schwegmann said.

Mary Ann Blackledge, 37, who also goes by the last name of Schwegmann, filed the suit last week. It asks for \$30 million, half the amount she says Schwegmann earned during the 12 years they

lived together. Schwegmann, 68, a former state senator and an unsuccessful candidate for governor in 1971, is a member of the Louisiana Public Service Commission.

A hearing on the case may be delayed because Schwegmann was hospitalized at Touro Infirmary after a stroke.

Blackledge said she met Schwegmann when she was a 17-year-old snack bar employee at one of his supermarkets and began a relationship that lasted 20 years.

Schwegmann said her earliest recollection of Blackledge dates to the third grade.

"That's when he first found himself with a daughter to raise by himself, my mother had been ill for time and he was off in the States," she said.

"But she moved in with father asking her."

Schwegmann's daughter, John Schwegmann, 31, Schwegmann Brothers Supermarkets Inc. were named defendants in the suit.

Blackledge is being represented by Marvin Mitchelson, the lawyer who represented Michelle Marvin in a similar suit against Lee Marvin.

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USSR action hurt '62 spirit
Bush claims

United Press International
NEW YORK — Republican presidential candidate George Bush Sunday said the Soviet Union, in pulling troops in Cuba, violated the agreement ending the Cuban missile crisis.

Soviet leaders, the former director said on the CBS-TV program "Face the Nation," have responded to quiet diplomacy on the matter but President Carter in making it public, lost any moderating room.

"They know they're provoking us, they know it's a violation of the spirit of the '62 agreement," Bush said. "The fact they say they're doing that is unimpressive."

The administration, said Bush, lost control of the issue when Sen. Frank Church, D-Idaho, known for a reelection issue, presence of what U.S. intelligence describes as a 3,000-man Soviet combat brigade.

Bush said the administration would have done better had it had Soviet leaders privately the SALT treaty and other interests could be jeopardized by the presence of troops.

"We're the United States, they understood us in the past, and deal firmly, they'd understand the present," Bush said. "That's what the president did — it's what he should have done."