

# Suspected rapist joins 'Most Wanted'

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 -- The FBI added a 41-year-old convicted child-sex offender Friday to its '10 Most Wanted Fugitives' list. Ricky Allen Bright is charged by North Carolina with kidnapping, rape and sexual assault of a 9-year-old girl. Bright allegedly abducted the girl Oct. 8 from her neighbor's home in Hays, N.C., driving her to a remote wooded area. She was released several hours later in a rural section of Wilkes County, N.C. The FBI said after fleeing North Carolina, Bright travelled to eastern Kentucky and Charleston, W.Va., where he visited relatives. Bright also lived in Akron, Ohio, from mid-October to early November, where he was employed as a maintenance worker at a bowling center. While in Akron, the FBI said, Bright used his real name and the alias Allen Barker. The FBI said Bright frequents country music bars and has played drums with country music bands. He is also active in Baptist and non-denominational churches, both in religious and social activities. In 1979, he was convicted in North Carolina for the kidnapping and the attempted rape of a 7-year-old girl he abducted from a bowling alley in Gastonia, where he was employed. He was sentenced to life in prison plus 15 years, but was paroled last January. Born Jan. 13, 1954, in South Charleston, W.Va., Bright is white, about 5 feet 10 inches tall and 175 pounds. He has reddish hair, a receding hairline, blue eyes and wears prescription glasses. Anyone with information about Bright should immediately contact the nearest FBI office, bureau officials said.

Law enforcement agencies are also urged to disseminate the information on Bright to their sexual assault units. The FBI said Bright should be considered armed and dangerous. Bright is the 444th suspect to be placed on the '10 Most Wanted Fugitives' list since it began in 1950. Since then, 415 of the fugitives have been apprehended or located, 129 of them as a result of citizen assistance.

