Activists' Suit On Wiretaps Is Dismissed

U.S. District Court Judge Oliver Gasch yesterday dismissed a suit by a group of antiwar activists charging two former Attorneys General with illegally tapping their tel-

ephones.

The antiwar activists had been overheard on national security wiretaps that had been installed on the orders of At-torneys General John N. Mitc-hell and Richard G. Klein-dienst without court approval. The Supreme Court ruled three years ago the taps were illegal and transcripts must be turned over to the activists who charged with conspiring to bomb a Central Intelligence Agency office in Ann Arbor, Mich. The government dismissed the conspiracy charges rather than disclose the transcripts.

After that dismissal, the de-fendants filed a civil suit here charging Kleindienst and Mitchell with illegally tapping

their phones.
Gasch, in dismissing the suit, ruled the two former Attorneys General acted in good faith in placing the taps be-cause they followed three dec-ades of similar practice by previous Attorneys General.

"The court therefore regards it as beyond doubt that there was a well-founded and there was a weil-founded and reasonable ground for belief in the lawfulness of the ac-tions undertaken here" prior to the Supreme Court ruling that such taps were illegal, Judge Gasch said.