Police Pressroom, Home

Newsman's Phones Reported Tapped

By Charles A. Krause Washington Post Staff Writer

The Baltimore Sunday Sun partment and the Chesapeake reported yesterday that two and Potomac Telephone Co. apparent wiretaps were disconducted a thorough search covered Saturday on tele of the telephone lines in quesphones used regularly by the tion late Saturday night and Morning Sun's police reporter, found no evidence of wiretaps.

Baltimore city police officials said that gation of police corruption.

Twigg told a reporter yesterday that he believed the ap-parent taps, including an apparent tap on his home telephone, were placed on the telephone lines as part of a city police department effort to uncover his sources within the department.

that the Baltimor police de- the partment has ever tapped any of the Sun's phones or Twigg's home telephone line.

"We're talking about a serious proposition. The Constitution has something to say about that," Hill said, "We're just not tapping their tele-

Hill said that the police de-

telephone company Twigg said he has angered spokesman, Peter B. White, altimore city police officials said that "very extensive over the past year because of checks" of the telephone lines several stories he has written joint federal and local investigation of police corruption. Twigg's home phone was "low," which would be one sign of a wiretap.

Paul Banker, manager editor of the Morning Sun, said through a spokesman that neither he nor the paper would have any further comment on the alleged wiretaps.

Dennis S. Hill, director of ing editor of the paper, said public information for the po- he could not say what action lice department, flatly denied the paper might take about the apparent wiretaps nor could he say whether the newspaper was satisfied with the phone company's findings that no taps exist.

Police spokesman Hill said that the Baltimore city police department had requested FBI assistance last year in aiding

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Baltimore Newsman Says Phones Tapped

SUN, From C1

of eight present and former heard a part of his previous detectives on charges of accepting payoffs to protect think that his line was tapped. three large-scale gambling op-

Hill said one of the reasons for asking for FBI assistance larly uses the phone which the was the bureau's expertise in electronic surveillance. Hill ently tapped after Wade overspecifically said that while he was certain that city police versation. were not tapping the two, telephone lines, he could not the alleged tap on his home speak "for any other govern- phone after being apprised of ment agency.'

Baltimore office, said, "We are sion at home a "sidewinder," a not tapping the Sun's phones.' device used to measure elechowever, added. wouldn't say if we were-if we line.

was discovered on an internal phone Saturday measured telephone line linking the only four amperes, indicating Sun's newsroom with the pa- a possible tap because a tap per's telephone in the police would reduce the amount of press room in the old city po-lice headquarters building. Despite the phone compa-

Sun's internal line was found your lines and it is virtually imwhen another Sun reporter in possible for the phone company the police press room said he to find" the tap. overheard a tape of a con- White, the phone company in the Sun's newsroom.

Wade, said he picked up the phone shortly after completthe probe of city police coring his previous call and — ruption. The investigation has while waiting to be connected already resulted in the arrests with another party — over-

> Twigg, who has been one of the Morning Sun's police reporters for four years, regu-Sunday Sun said was apparheard a part of his own con-

Twigg said he discovered the other apparent tap on the Thomas Farrow, special Sun's internal line. Twigg said agent in charge of the FBI's yesterday he had in his posses-"We tric voltage on a telephone

Twigg said a normal tele-The Sunday Sun reported phone would register 10 to 20 that one of the apparent taps amperes when in use but his

The other apparent tap was not statement that it found is covered by Twigg on his no taps after "very extensive home telephone line, the paper said.

Despite the pinne comparation by statement that it found no taps after "very extensive home telephone line, the paper said. The apparent tap on the and one ways someone can tap

versation he had had minutes spokesman, said the man who before with another reporter checked Twigg's phone Saturthe Sun's newsroom. day night could not be The reporter, Robert P. reached yesterday.