FBI Bugging of Aide Cited in Hoffa's Behalf

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Attorneys for James R. Hoffa said yesterday FBI eavesdropping on a close associate of the Teamsters Union President helps confirm their charges of widespread "bugging" during Hoffa's 1964 jury-tampering trial.

The contention was filed with the Supreme Court, where Hoffa is trying to have his conviction overturned.

The eavesdropping on Charles J. O'Brien was acknowledged Monday by the Justice Department. O'Brien, Hoffa's lawyers said, stayed in Hoffa's home in Detroit and in 1964 at his hotel room in Chattanooga.

O'Brien, business agent for Teamsters Local 299 in Detroit, and Thomas Parisi, are appealing their 1965 Federal conviction of unlawfully removing material from a Detroit warehouse in 1963.

The Justice Department, in a brief submitted to the court by U.S. Solicior General Thurgood Marshall, said the FBI eavesdropping took place at "a commercial establishment which was owned by an acquaintance of . . . O'Brien."

Hoffa's attorneys told the court that while FBI agens were listening in, O'Brien was discussing Hoffa's trial. They also said the Government has not excluded the possibility of electronic surveillance of O'Brien's telephone and room at the hotel in Chattanooga.