

Council Asks Specific Data On D.C. Police Surveillance

By Linda Newton Jones
Washington Post Staff Writer

The D.C. City Council yesterday sent to Mayor Walter E. Washington a list of questions it would like answered in the forthcoming report on the intelligence-gathering activities of the D.C. police department.

Included among the questions was one about the estimated total cost of the intelligence program and another on the degree of control department officials have over the activities of individual officers in order to prevent illegal investigations.

The Council asked that it receive copies of the department's report no later than the first week in March. Members said the report would provide the basis for a possible Council investigation into intelligence activities of the department.

D.C. Police Chief Maurice Cullinane ordered the internal investigation into the activities of the department's intelligence division last week after it was reported that city police maintained files on the personal lives of antiwar activists and some local politicians.

At-large City Councilman Julius Hobson, who was reported to have been included in the police files, led the Council in its move to obtain the information.

Hobson told the Council at its committee-of-the-whole meeting yesterday that he planned to ask the mayor for a copy of the report and for

the additional information on the department. The Council endorsed Hobson's move and all members except Chairman Sterling Tucker signed a memorandum he delivered to the mayor.

Tucker told the Council that he had already conferred with the mayor concerning the report and did not feel he should petition him for the information. He said he already has "the assurances of the mayor" that the Council will receive the information.

Ward One Councilman David A. Clarke said he believes he was under surveillance by the police in 1971 when a woman, who was later revealed to be a police officer, joined a group he headed at that time, the D. C. Freedom and Independence Day Committee.

He said Ward 7 Councilwoman Willie Hardy also was a member of the committee.

Recent reports of the intelligence activities of the department revealed that at-large Councilman Marion Barry and D.C. Del. Walter Fauntroy were included in police files.

Council members said in the memo that they are confident the mayor would support their quest for additional information since "we are sure the citizens of the District would feel more comfortable with an independent review of the acts by the elected City Council."

The Council asked that the report also include a complete list of all persons named in special noncriminal files and a

list of persons who were subjected to other forms of surveillance for noncriminal reasons. Members also want to know who authorized the surveillances, who ordered the destruction of the files, and whether the information was used by other government agencies.