

Memorandum J. J. Casper to Mr. Mohr
RE: MARKIN

The worst that could happen in either of the above circumstances, however, - assuming that we follow the precautionary measures listed below - is that we illegally learn where the subject is located and thus are able to arrest him on that knowledge. The rule that comes into play here, established in the last century by the Supreme Court in Ker v. Illinois, 30 U.S. 347 (1886), is that an illegal arrest is no bar to prosecution. Wong Sun v. U.S., 371 U.S. 471 (1963); U.S. v. Hoffman, 385 F2d 501 (1967); Keegan v. U.S., 385 F2d 260 (1967). A person may be arrested unlawfully and actually kidnapped into the court having jurisdiction of the criminal case, yet the court still retains jurisdiction to try the person for the offense. The court would not allow the prosecution to use as evidence any information obtained through the illegal surveillance but the illegal surveillance would not taint the use of any other evidence obtained either before or after and which was gotten in a legal manner. Nor, to repeat, would the illegality of the arrest alone, resulting from whereabouts disclosed by unlawful surveillance, prevent the court from trying the subject for the offense.

If the action being considered is taken, we strongly suggest three precautionary measures, as follows:

(1) That all recordings be preserved intact. It may be necessary to disclose some of them to the court or even to the defense.

(2) That no use be made of any information obtained against anyone whatsoever or in any way whatsoever except for the single purpose of locating the subject in this case. As we well know by this time, evidence of the offense obtained in this manner is not admissible. It would not be admissible against the subject and it would not be admissible against the Peppers on a charge of harboring.

(3) Be aware that since this search and seizure is unconstitutional as to the Peppers, they have at least a theoretical cause of action for damages against those who installed the devices by trespass. Here again, however, if nothing learned by this surveillance is used against the Peppers in any way, their cause of action is diminished to the lowest possible degree, becoming that for a technical violation only rather than one of substantial harm to them. Moreover, in any such case the government of the United States should surely be willing to pick up the tab for any judgment had against those who installed the microphones.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

[Handwritten signatures and initials: "R", "JJC", "AM", "PP"]
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PLEASE SEE ATTACHED

file

P. 2 of Ex 2. (Ser 3763) CRD memo
Phillips Aff. 12/9/81

Not correct in re what Ray had