

Md.-Va. Briefs

Lawyer Asks Wiretaps in 'Organized Crime'

RICHMOND, June 29 (AP) —A former chairman of the National Bar Association urged the Virginia Crime Commission to recommend approval of a state law permitting wiretapping if the commission determines there is evidence of "organized crime" in the state.

Lewis F. Powell, a Richmond lawyer, said there is good reason to suspect the existence of organized crime in the state and said it seemed desirable for Virginia to adopt electronic surveillance legislation similar to federal law.

Powell said he believes such surveillance methods were indispensable in helping to combat criminal activities.

He said organized crime is generally prevalent in large population areas and since Virginia is at the southern end of the large mid-Atlantic and north-eastern population corridor, there is good reason to believe it exists in the state.

Powell, who in 1966 served on the National Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice, said the federal wiretapping law is a good one and has not been abused. He said the law meticulously includes a number of safeguards.

destroyed a barn on the Harford County farm belonging to Senate President William S. James, a deputy state fire marshal said today.

Thomas Brommel, the assistant fire marshal, said: "At this time we can't say it was a suspicious fire. We by noon Wednesday.

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hoof and mouth disease in the nation.

Dr. A. Cleveland Brown of Beltsville was named Monday as president-elect of the 270-member which con-

—A 10-member Advisory Committee on Aging has been named by Wood v. Wilkinson