## Ervin Reveals Ex-Agent's Charges Army Spied on Illinois Officials

By Ken W. Clawson

Washington Post Staff Writer Army intelligence was accused yesterday of spying on Sen. Adlai E. Stevenson III, former Gov. Otto Kerner, Democratic Rep. Abner Mikva nois during the last two years.

Sen. Sam J. Ervin (D-N.C.), stop them. chairman of the Senate Subwho subsequently was identi- center' was a prospective can-

anston, Ill., will appear before lance. Ervin's subcommittee in February.

Ervin demanded the Army fully explain its domestic spyand 800 other civilians in Illi- ing operations and give assurances it would immediately

On the basis of O'Brien's accommittee on Constitutional cusations, Ervin said the Army Rights, told the Senate the investigated Illinois political charges were made by a for-figures "during their cam-paign for office and while who operated out of a Chicago they were in office ... appar-field office from June, 1969, ently anyone who in the through last June. The agent, Army's definition was 'left of

fied as John M. O'Brien of Ev- didate for political surveil-

Army General Counsel Robert E. Jordan III said the Defense Department is "gravely concerned" about the allegaand is investigating tions

He said that "current army policy" prohibits collection of this type of information. He added that new policies issued during the last two years confine intelligence activities to a narrow scope that prohibits gathering information on political activities or political leaders.

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## ERVIN, From A1

It was learned that Ervin received O'Brien's letter last Wednesday. The former staff sergeant said his unit's intelligence duties changed from strictly military functions to investigations of anyone—including elected officials on all tent with military involvement the Nixon administration's domestic policies.

Ervin qualified his presentation of O'Brien's charges with that he passed onto Ervin an "if true" clause. He told came from his recollection of the Senate that he had new in- files he had seen. formation, "which, if true,

ligence collection point that has been a target of Sen. Ervin for the last year.

O'Brien said an O'Brien said his superiors jusenough personnel.

by O'Brien's letter, according 1970." to an aide who subsequently talked to the ex-GI by tele-scrutiny because of "his out-phone. The aide said that spoken criticism of war policy O'Brien' is unemployed and because he aided draft retalked about returning to col- sisters.' lege or finding a job in the security field.

Newhouse News Service, who lance took place, adding: "We has previously written on the certainly don't condone it."

domestic side of military intelligence gathering. O'Brien told Stout in an interview that he was a "domestic" spy for the army until his honorable discharge June 8, 1970.

But O'Brien told the reporter that he personally didn't spy on elected officials; levels-who espoused discon- his task involving antiwar protest groups that included Stuin Southeast Asia or opposed dents for a Democratic So-the Nixon administration's do-ciety and the Chicago Peace Council.

O'Brien said the information

The undercover agent said gives yet more details of the he became disenchanted with military intelligence activities his unit's work when Steventhat have been directed at the son was designated as a sur-American people." He added, veillance target in September, "I certainly hope that the information... is not true." trasurer, held a piente at his formation...is not true..." trasurer, held a picnic at his O'Brien said copies of his Libertyville, Ill., farm with unit's information were sent guests that included Chicago to Fort Holabird, Md., an intel- Mayor Richard J. Daley and

O'Brien said an army undercover operative took a picture tified their doing the work on of Jackson whispering into grounds that civilian intelli- Stevenson's ear. Subsequently, gence units did not have he said, agents covered every enough personnel. The senator was impressed Chicago "at least up to June,

> He said Mikva came under scrutiny because of "his out-

At the White House, Press Secretary Ronald Ziegler said A copy of the letter to Sen. it was "inconceivable" to the Ervin went to Jared Stout of President that the surveil-