

Senate Panel Inquires Into CIA 'Bug' Reports

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The Senate Select Committee on Intelligence has opened an inquiry into reports that the Central Intelligence Agency conducted electronic surveillance of negotiators from Micronesia, the Pacific island group, according to a committee spokesman.

The spokesman said that CIA had provided some information yesterday on the reported surveillance but said that the committee inquiry was not completed.

Sen. Howard Baker of Tennessee, the ranking Republican on the committee, said yesterday that he had no knowledge of the alleged CIA bugging, which reportedly has been conducted to learn the negotiating position of the Micronesians in talks with the United States on the eventual status of the trust territory.

Baker said that he would make efforts this week to find out.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the Micronesian people called on President Ford and the Congress to halt any and all CIA activity in Micronesia.

Leo A. Falcam, liaison officer for the Congress of Micronesia, said in a statement sent to the White House and released publicly that the reported spying "will unquestionably

cast a long shadow in future status negotiations between the U.S. and my people."

"I would like to hope, however, that the reported CIA activities in Micronesia are the responsibility of a few desperate individuals within the intelligence community and that these activities do not reflect official policy of the United States government."

Antonio Borja Won Pat, the delegate from Guam to the U.S. Congress, said yesterday that the reported surveillance "is improper and without justification." He said that he would urge a committee of Congress to investigate the matter.

The White House and State Department continued to decline comment on the alleged CIA surveillance.