

Post 7-12-63

Sen. Curtis Urges Investigation Of 'Bugs' at GSA, Interior Dept.

United Press International
Secret monitoring of telephone conversations exists on a large scale at the Interior Department and the General Services Administration, Sen. Carl T. Curtis (R-Neb.) charged yesterday.
Curtis called on the Justice

Department to launch an immediate investigation, "to determine that this evil is brought to a complete and total halt."

"How much further has this practice permeated our Government," Curtis asked. "How many agencies and depart-

ments in which no national security is involved are in the habit of listening in on their employe's most private conversations."

Curtis said he received his information from a "Mr. X" whose own telephone was monitored with a "snooper-button" device.

"Since then, Mr. X has talked with several employes in GSA and the Department of Interior, who confirm the widespread, deliberate systematic use of snooper devices over the past two years," Curtis said.

"In each case, employes were instructed by their superiors to monitor all calls, to take notes, and to make no disclosure of any kind that might make either party to the telephone conversation aware of such eavesdropping."