

Mandel Asks for Report on Claim That Police Spied on Politicians

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Maryland Gov. Marvin Mandel yesterday ordered Baltimore City Police Commissioner Donald D. Pomerleau to prepare "a complete and detailed" report on alleged surveillance of black politicians in that city by Baltimore police detectives.

Mandel ordered Pomerleau to complete the report by Jan. 7. "Upon receipt and thorough review of the report . . . I will determine whether further ac-

tion is necessary," the governor said in a written statement.

Under state law, the governor of Maryland appoints the police commissioner of Baltimore City and has jurisdiction over his actions.

The surveillance controversy began last week when a Baltimore newspaper published allegation of police spying. Later two Baltimore newspapers published the text of a memo from a city police detective to Pomerleau detailing what was said at a 1971 debate between two black Democratic mayoral candidates, State Sen. Clarence M. Mitchell (D-Baltimore) and George L. Russell Jr. Russell then was then city solicitor.

The controversy continued yesterday when the Baltimore News-American reported that police detectives had also compiled secret intelligence reports on several newspaper, radio and television reporters covering controversial issues in the city.

Surveillance of both newsmen and politicians is alleged to have been carried out by the Baltimore City police department's inspectional services division (ISD), which reports directly to Pomerleau.

Pomerleau in the past has denied suggestions that the ISD was used as a private in-

telligence-gathering service but he has refused comment on the recent allegations.

Mandel ordered Pomerleau to supply a list "of any and all persons who have been under active surveillance by the ISD for activities that fall outside the normal range of intelligence work."