

RIGHTS GROUPS PLAN MOVE AGAINST SPYING

Eight to Pool Information on Suits Against Surveillance by Officers

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CHICAGO, Jan. 24—A plan to establish a legal resources center to assist in the court actions many civil liberties groups are initiating against police spying was agreed upon here this weekend at a conference on government spying.

Eight organizations, including the American Civil Liberties Union, the National Lawyers Guild, and the National Conference of Black Lawyers, spent four days at the Northwestern University Law School discussing the activities of the surveillance squads of the police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Among the joint actions the groups decided to take was the creation of a center at which legal briefs and documents pertaining to antispying court suits would be collected and made available to these organizations.

"At the moment there are more than 30 lawsuits in courts all around the country," David Hamlin, executive director of the the Illinois division of the A.C.L.U. said today in summarizing the work of the conference. "All of them are making some progress and if we could collect the experience of each we would have a useful legal resources center for mutual support," he said.

The center would probably be established here, where one of the largest antispying cases is in progress, Mr. Hamlin said.

Halperin Offers Help

At the conference, Morton Halperin, director of the Project on National Security and Civil Liberties and recent victor in a \$1 million suit against the Nixon Administration, offered the draft of a model antispying ordinance that communities and states could adopt.

It included clauses that would prohibit police from investigating the views or political beliefs of an individual or organization on the pretense of conducting a criminal investigation. It would limit any police intelligence investigation to 30 days and would require the police to ob-

tain a warrant before infiltrating undercover agents into any organization.

The basic aim of the ordinance, Mr. Halperin said, would be to prohibit general political intelligence probes by the police and limit their intelligence activities to investigation of a crime or when police suspect a crime is about to be committed.

The conference also heard a report on the recent formation in Washington by more than 45 private organizations, including the A.C.L.U., the National Lawyers Guild, and several church and environmental protection groups, of the Campaign to Stop Government Spying.

Further Actions Planned

The steering committee that organized the conference here was reconstituted and will meet again next week in Chicago to plan further joint actions against police spying, Mr. Hamlin said.

"We're dealing with such a pervasive problem nationally that any one approach by single groups is not enough," he said.

The conference also discussed the latest developments in the court suit brought against the Chicago Police Department by the civil liberties union and a coalition of other civil liberties groups calling itself the Alliance to End Repression.

These plaintiffs received permission from Federal District Court Judge Alfred Y. Kirkland to examine more than 100,000

index cards the department's so-called "Red Squad" had been keeping on Chicagoans. The court also allowed any individual with an index card to disclose its contents if that person chose.

Earlier this month 24 prominent Chicagoans revealed the information the police had been keeping on them.