

# New Data Hits FBI, CIA, IRS

## Panel Cites Questionable Past Activity

3-9-76  
By Walter Pincus  
Washington Post Staff Writer

The Senate intelligence committee yesterday released 996 pages of documents that provide new examples of questionable and sometimes illegal past activities by the FBI, the Central Intelligence Agency and the Internal Revenue Service.

The documents include memos detailing President Lyndon B. Johnson's demand Jan. 17, 1967, for the FBI to conduct a "complete rundown" on former Assistant Attorney General Herbert J. Miller after learning that Miller, while in office, had authorized wiretaps and bugs in the investigation of Johnson's former aide, Robert G. Baker.

An internal FBI memo outlined Johnson aide Marvin Watson's request that the check on Miller and four Treasury Department officials be made "as discreetly as possible." Watson asked that the reports "should specifically point out whether any of these individuals were close to Bobby Kennedy."

Robert F. Kennedy, the former Attorney General, was then a senator from New York. He and Johnson were political adversaries.

On the day of the Johnson request Baker was on trial for tax evasion and important testimony against him was introduced from a 1965 bug Miller had arranged with the aid of the Treasury Department's Bureau of Narcotics. The FBI had refused to place the bug.

According to the FBI

memo: "The President does not want any record made of this request. He wants the memoranda in question to be blind memoranda."

The FBI memo noted the President should be told "Jack Miller was formerly an assistant AG under Bobby Kennedy and is now a law partner of former Bureau (assistant director) Courtney Evans."

The memo concluded say-

See FBI, A11, Col. 3

### FBI, From A1

ing Evans' "lying defense of Kennedy" should be set forth, an apparent reference to public statements by Evans earlier that Kennedy had not known of FBI electronic surveillance of Martin Luther King Jr.

A second section of the documents reveals that Western Union gave the IRS six microfilms that listed the senders and recipients of all money orders for \$1,000 or more in 1966.

Section 805 of the Federal Communications Act prohibits the telegraph company from disclosing such information without "lawful authority."

Each IRS region was to check the names "against open case files and those names showing substantial activity should be matched against background files," the IRS memo says.

"The documents were made available to us with the understanding that before we used them for investigative purposes, Western Union would be served with a summons," the memo says. Thus, IRS was to prepare a summons for information it already had if it wanted to investigate further.

At a hearing in which this activity, termed Operation Mercury, was discussed, IRS Commissioner Donald C. Alexander termed it possibly "illegally acquired or improperly acquired evidence."

The hearing also brought out that the IRS received from Western Union the names of any person who sent a \$5,000 money order from 1969 to 1972.

A Western Union spokesman yesterday confirmed

the company had in the past "discussed with IRS without actual summons" the contents of money order messages. Since 1972, he added, the company was legally required to tell IRS the senders of \$10,000 money orders.

### CIA TAP REQUESTS

In 1970 and again in 1971, then CIA Director Richard Helms requested the FBI to increase its wiretapping of foreign intelligence and counterintelligence targets in the United States, according to FBI and CIA memos.

One 1970 FBI memo shows that Helms and his counterintelligence chief, James J. Angleton, pressed for "across-the-board telephone taps" against unidentified targets as far back as 1963.

According to the documents, Helms ran into continuous opposition to such wiretaps from then-FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover.

On March 29, 1971, according to an FBI memo, a meeting was held with Attorney General John N. Mitchell, Hoover, then-National Security Agency Director Noel A. Gaylor and Helms to discuss the CIA director's plan for "a broadening of operations, particularly of the very confidential type in covering intelligence both domestic and foreign."

At the time, the Nixon administration had a variety of domestic intelligence programs under way including CIA's Operation Chaos, which collected material on anti-Vietnam war movements.

Hoover's report on the meeting said, "I was not at all enthusiastic about such an extension of operations insofar as the FBI was con-

cerned in view of the hazards involved."

A subsequent memo, prepared by Angleton, reported that following the meeting with Mitchell, "the Attorney General reversed the FBI decision" which turned down a proposed CIA electronic surveillance and in May, 1971, "all the devices which had been installed... were tested and all were working."

#### CONVENTION WIRETAPS

In March 1968, according to FBI memos, the bureau made requests to wiretap the group that was organizing the demonstrations scheduled for the 1968 Democratic National Convention in Chicago.

In discussing the need for a wiretap on the National Mobilization Office an FBI official wrote "a telephone surveillance of this newly opened office will enhance our coverage and enable us to furnish the appropriate government officials with the plans of those groups which would try to embarrass or even inflict bodily harm on the President or other high government officials."

Hoover transmitted the request to then-Attorney General Ramsey Clark, who on March 12, 1968, turned it down.

The FBI memos also show that Bill Connell, top aide to then-Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey, asked in August, 1968, for a "special team" of agents at the Chicago convention.

Connell, according to the memo, told then-FBI associate director C. D. DeLoach that President Johnson had told Humphrey of the FBI "special team" sent to the Atlantic City convention in 1964.

In 1964, the FBI provided the Johnson White House with political tidbits as well as detailed information on the actions of black leaders seeking recognition for their delegations.

Connell, according to the DeLoach memo, was told "full preparations have been made by the Chicago office to handle the matter of passing intelligence to the Vice President and his aides; consequently there is no need for a special team to proceed to Chicago."

#### FBI WIRETAPS

According to a March, 1971, FBI memo, the FBI then maintained 13 domestic intelligence telephone sur-

veillances against organizations and institutions. One tap was on the home phone of Huey P. Newton, then commander of the Black Panther Party. His house was also bugged, according to the memo.

Telephones at six Black Panther Party headquarters in various cities around the country were also wiretapped.

The headquarters phones of the Communist Party USA, Jewish Defense League and Worker Student Alliance were also tapped, along with the Junta of Military Organizations, a Tampa, Fla. black extremist group, according to the bureau memo.