

Hoover Says Robt. Kennedy OK'd Wiretaps

FBI Chief Places Full Responsibility On Ex-Senator

The FBI chief today placed full responsibility for the wiretapping of Robert Kennedy's telephone calls on the ex-senator.

Democrat
New York

Mr. Kennedy, while in pursuing such matters, and while in different metropolitan areas, not only listened to the results of microphone surveillance but raised questions relative to obtaining better equipment.

Hoover said in a letter to Kennedy, dated May 19, 1961, that he had reviewed the FBI's records and had concluded that the wiretapping was done in accordance with the law.

Johnson's Memo
President Lyndon B. Johnson

The FBI director also sent to Kennedy a copy of a letter of May 19, 1961, in which he stated that the FBI had no objection to the wiretapping of Kennedy's telephone calls.

19, 1961, in Sen. S. Lyndon B. Johnson, (D-N.C.), a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, which said that as of Feb. 8, 1960, the FBI maintained 78 wiretaps and 57 electronic listening devices.

Kennedy Replies

Sen. Kennedy in a letter to the FBI director, dated May 19, 1961, said that he had reviewed the FBI's records and had concluded that the wiretapping was done in accordance with the law.

Attached to the Kennedy statement was a letter from Evans, saying that Kennedy was not told of electronic surveillance because the FBI is not a general intelligence agency.