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A BAKER WIRETAP IS DENIED BY U.S.

Got Tip From Defendant's
Friend, Prosecutor Says

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 (UPI) — The Government's chief prosecutor in the Robert G. Baker trial testified today that the former Senate Democratic secretary's best friend — not an illegal wiretap — had led him to information "that Mr. Baker's testimony was a fabrication."

William O. Bittman, who handled Baker's prosecution two years ago, testified at Baker's appeals hearing before United States District Judge Oliver Gasch, who had presided at his trial.

Baker is appealing his conviction on seven counts of conspiracy, grand larceny and income tax evasion on the ground the Government used evidence gathered by illegal wire taps.

"No electronic device has ever been employed in the Baker investigation," Mr. Bittman told Judge Gasch today.

During his trial, Baker testified he was in Los Angeles on Nov. 2, 1962. But Mr. Bittman produced a hotel receipt showing him to have been in Las Vegas that day.

Mr. Bittman said that he had found out that Baker had been in Las Vegas through a tip by Wayne Bromley, Baker's best friend until he became a Government informer and testified against Baker at his trial.

Baker is under sentence of one to three years in prison but has been free on \$5,000 bond pending his appeal.