

# LBJ White House Bugging Reported

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According to a member of his administration, President Lyndon B. Johnson had the conference table in the Cabinet Room of the White House equipped with hidden microphones for at least 3½ years and maybe longer.

An affidavit from the official also said that Mr. Johnson had designated members of the White House staff to install equipment which would record their telephone conversations by simply pushing a button on the phones.

Telephones in the Oval Office, the President's lodge at Camp David, the main house at the LBJ Ranch in Texas and the federal office building in Austin, Tex., where Mr. Johnson maintained an office, were so equipped, the official said, as was a telephone in the office of Mr. Johnson's appointments secretary, Marvin Watson.

The equipment was in-

stalled and serviced by the White House Communications Agency, the military detachment which handles most White House communications, according to the affidavit.

The affidavit was given to members of the Nixon administration investigating the extent of White House bugging under previous Presidents.

It said the bugs were available for use at least from the spring of 1965 and possibly before. They were removed shortly after Mr. Nixon took office.

Another affidavit from a member of the White House Communications Agency at that time said Mr. Johnson also had a listening device installed in 1968 in a small sitting room just off the Oval Office which he frequently used to conduct business.

*Senate unit, FCC to probe  
White House tapes. A8.*

*Part 1/4/73*