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C.I.A. IS CAUTIONED BY FORD ON SPYING

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He Talks With Colby About
Surveillance of Congress
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WASHINGTON, June 27—

President Ford has cautioned against surveillance of members of Congress by the Central Intelligence Agency, the White House said today.

But Ron Nessen, the President's spokesman, said that Mr. Ford had accepted the assurance by William E. Colby, the Director of Central Intelligence, that files being maintained on legislators were "legitimate."

Mr. Colby told a House subcommittee Wednesday that members of Congress were not "immune" from surveillance by the agency during their travels outside the United States. He said that a legislator's name could enter the agency's files as a result of contact abroad with "some group that was a legitimate target of his agency."

The testimony by Mr. Colby provoked an angry reply from the subcommittee's chairman, Representative Bella S. Abzug, Democrat of Manhattan, that "the electorate determines our behavior, and they judge us, not some superspy organization."

Mr. Nessen said today that the President had told Mr. Colby that the C.I.A. should not spy "on any Americans, including members of Congress." But he added that Mr. Ford had found no fault with Mr. Colby's explanation that the names of about 75 members of Congress had entered C.I.A. files for legitimate reasons.

Asked if Mr. Ford had inquired, as a former member of the House, if his name was in C.I.A. files, Mr. Nessen said that he did not know.

The President's spokesman, who complained yesterday of "blind, mindless, irrational suspicion and cynicism" among some White House correspondents, said today that he had not meant to make a "blanket criticism of everybody" in the press corps.

"I could have been a little clearer," he said, in stating the objective of provoking consideration of ways that both the White House and the news media might make the daily news briefings more productive.

Mr. Nessen's outburst yesterday was unusual. He said that he had mentioned it when he met the President this morning, but that Mr. Ford had no comment. Mr. Nessen said that he had no intention of resigning, nor had anyone in the White House suggested that he should.