

## Examples of FBI's Political Use

### Washington

These examples of the White House's use of the FBI for political purposes were cited by the Senate intelligence committee.

- President Franklin Roosevelt asked the FBI to put in its files the names of citizens sending telegrams to the White House opposing his national defense policy and supporting Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh.
- President Harry Truman received inside information on a former Roosevelt aide's efforts to influence Truman's appointments, labor union negotiating plans, and the publishing plans of journalists.
- President Dwight Eisenhower received reports on purely political and social contacts with foreign officials by Bernard Baruch, Eleanor Roosevelt and Supreme Court Justice William Douglas.
- The Kennedy administration had the FBI wiretap a congressional staff member,

three executive officials, a lobbyist and a Washington law firm. Attorney General Robert Kennedy received the fruits of a FBI "tap" on Martin Luther King Jr. and a "bug" on a congressman, both of which yielded information of a political nature.

- President Lyndon Johnson asked the FBI to conduct "name checks" of his critics and of members of the staff of his 1964 election opponent, Senator Barry Goldwater. He also requested purely political intelligence on his critics in the Senate, and received extensive intelligence on political activity at the 1964 Democratic convention from FBI electronic surveillance.

- President Richard Nixon authorized a program of wiretaps which produced for the White House purely political or personal information unrelated to national security, including information about a Supreme Court justice.