

14 Mar

THURSDAY

FBI CHIEF REPORTS

**Justice Dept. Gets
Marcello Phone Data**

By **BILL LYNCH**
(States-Item Bureau)

BATON ROUGE—FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover has informed the East Baton Rouge Parish District Attorney's Office that records of alleged telephone conversations between a phone listed to rackets figure Carlos Marcello and the State Capitol were turned over to the U. S. Justice Department.

District Atty. Sargent Pitcher told the States-Item today that he personally was advised by Hoover that the controversial records were obtained by FBI agents but given to the Justice Department.

channels produced only silence on the whereabouts of the records.

The records had been obtained by the FBI from the telephone company and cover a period in 1966 and 1967.

THE RECORDS are toll slips on long-distance calls between a number reputed to be that of Marcello in New Orleans and a telephone maintained in the Capitol for C. H. "Sammy" Downs, unpaid administrative aide to Gov. John J. McKeithen.

The calls purportedly were made to Aubrey Young, former aide to McKeithen. Both Young and Downs deny having received any calls from Marcello over that phone.

Hoover told Pitcher that his request for the records had been sent to the Justice Department.

"The investigation by the FBI to develop the information you seek was conducted at the request of the Department of Justice in another matter," Hoover told Pitcher.

The district attorney also has made a request to the Justice Department for the records and has been in touch with an attorney there but the records have not been produced yet.

PITCHER SAYS he needs the records to complete an investigation of the telephone incident, as requested by the governor following stories in Life Magazine of alleged calls from Marcello to Young.

The district attorney decided to appeal directly to Hoover and U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark for the records after efforts through normal