

## ILLINOIS SPYING DENIED BY ARMY

Resor Says Report on Three  
Officials Is Unfounded—  
Nixon Bars Such Action

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By United Press International

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17—  
Army Secretary Stanley R.  
Resor denied today that Army  
intelligence agents had ever  
conducted political surveillance  
of three prominent political  
figures in Illinois as reported by  
Senator Sam J. Ervin Jr.

Mr. Resor said he had checked  
and found nothing to substan-  
tiate Mr. Ervin's report yester-  
day that the Army had col-  
lected information on Senator  
Adlai E. Stevenson 3d, former  
Illinois Gov. Otto Kerner and  
Rep. Abner J. Mikva, all Demo-  
crats.

"On the basis of information  
I have received," Mr. Resor  
said, "I can state that neither  
Senator Stevenson, Representa-  
tive Mikva, nor former Govern-  
or Kerner are or ever have  
been the subject of military in-  
telligence activities or investi-  
gation related to political ac-  
tivities. Allegations to the  
contrary are without founda-  
tion in fact."

The White House said, mean-  
while, that President Nixon "to-  
tally, completely and unequivocally"  
objects to military spying  
on civilian political figures and  
would not tolerate it during his  
Administration.

Nevertheless, Representative  
David R. Obey, Republican of  
Wisconsin, introduced a resolu-  
tion in the House directing the  
Government Operations Com-

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3d, said yesterday that "civil  
disturbance information previ-  
ously collected by the Army  
was ordered destroyed June 9."

Mr. Friedheim replied that he  
was sure Mr. Resor had assur-  
ances that satisfied him that  
none of the information refer-  
red to Mr. Stevenson, Mr.  
Kerner or Mr. Mikva.

### Army Cooperation Pledged

"The Department of the Army  
has reported to Senator Ervin  
and to others, including the  
press, the restrictions which  
have been imposed on collection  
and retention of intelligence in-  
formation," Mr. Resor's state-  
ment said.

"I want to reaffirm the  
Army's intention to continue its  
full cooperation with Senator  
Ervin and other members of  
Congress who share my con-  
cern that there must be no  
abuses whatever of military in-  
telligence responsibilities."

The White House press secre-  
tary, Ronald L. Ziegler, said  
that Mr. Nixon was aware that  
Defense Secretary Melvin R.  
Laird was investigating Mr.  
Ervin's allegations. But Mr.  
Ziegler said no such spying was  
"going on in any way at this  
time" and would not be per-  
mitted as long as Mr. Nixon  
was President.

Asked about the ethics of  
wiretapping by the Federal Bu-  
reau of Investigation of such  
prominent persons as the late  
Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.,  
Mr. Ziegler said that such inci-

dents had occurred under prop-  
er legal procedures, which he  
said was different from the type  
of surveillance Mr. Ervin said  
the Army had conducted.

Mr. Ervin's office, meanwhile,  
said the intelligence sections of  
all three branches of the armed  
forces had issued guidelines for  
military spying on civilians.

It released correspondence to  
Mr. Ervin from Robert C. Moot,

Assistant Defense Secretary,  
who said Sept. 9 that the Navy,  
Air Force and Army had issued  
the guidelines.

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