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Army Plan to Spy on Civilians Was Sent to 319 U.S. Officials

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WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 —

Representative Ogden R. Reid of Westchester disclosed today that the Army's controversial intelligence surveillance of civilian dissent and political activity was so widely known in government from 1968 on that even the military aides to all 50 state Governors were informed of its scope and operations.

Mr. Reid revealed — with grudging Army permission — the partial contents of the May 2, 1968, intelligence collection plan that started the Army on its two-year program of spying on civilian civil rights workers, anti-war activists and politically active groups and individuals.

The Representative disclosed that a total of 319 Government officials, including the leaders of 19 civilian agencies were aware of the Army's broadly stated intention to spy and gather dossiers on law-abiding civilian activity.

"The remarkable thing about it," Mr. Reid said in an interview, "is that the Army's 1968 intelligence collection plan was distributed to 319 individuals, including the adjutants general of all 50 states, and yet no one had the sense or the courage to question what they were doing."

"To me, it's almost as disturbing that so many remained silent as that this was conceived in the first place," he said.

A partial list of addressees who received the "confidential" civilian intelligence plan was the only part of a thick file of classified Army documents that Mr. Reid could persuade Army officials today to let him discuss with a ques-

tioner.

He said that the list of agencies that received the Army surveillance plan in the spring of 1968 included the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board, the National Security Council, the Central Intelligence Agency, the Treasury Department, the Justice Department, the Atomic Energy Commission, the Subversive Activities Control Board and the General Services Administration, among others.

"I think you have to assume that the top people in these agencies didn't see the plan and were not aware of it," Mr. Reid said. "This whole thing burst into life with no top echelon approval that we're aware of. And that's the disturbing thing. It was started at a lower level and it could happen again. The Army was not in this alone."

Representative Reid's authorized disclosure of a paraphrase of part of an Army document came as he released a letter from Secretary of the Army Stanley R. Resor that acknowledged that "some reports" filed by Army intelligence agents "could have contained the names" of Senator Adlai E. Stevenson 3d, Representative Abner Mikva, Otto Kerner, the former Governor of Illinois, and other Illinois political figures.

The Resor letter, coming to public attention almost on the eve of extensive Senate hearings on charges of unconstitutional Army intelligence surveillance of political and other civilian figures, appeared to go substantially further than earlier Army statements in acknowledging the military's role in the surveillance of civilian political leaders.