

# Right of privacy controls proposed

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WASHINGTON — The Justice Department yesterday made public its proposal for safeguarding the privacy of computerized federal, state and local records by imposing strict federal controls on non-law enforcement use.

The legislation Attorney General William B. Saxbe intends to send to Congress Tuesday would allow other government agencies access to the computer information whenever laws or executive orders provide for it.

The door was left open for Congress to add to such exceptions.

Sen. Sam J. Ervin Jr. (D-N.C.), chairman of the Senate judiciary subcommittee on constitutional rights, announced he would introduce a somewhat stricter bill.

"If we have learned any-

thing in the last year of Watergate," Ervin said, "it is that there must be limits upon what government can know about each of its citizens."

Ervin's bill would prohibit disclosure of any arrest data for other than law enforcement purposes, unless the arrest results in a conviction.

The Justice Department bill would allow arrest data to go to a qualified user for one year. If there is no conviction by then, the record would be sealed.

The department's proposal would impose strict federal regulations on the two-way flow of information between federal, state and local law enforcement agencies and the FBI's national computer network and its supporting systems on state and local levels.

It would seal a person's record from further use ex-

cept by court order if he goes seven years without being arrested, confined or put under disciplinary supervision.

It also would provide procedures for a citizen to find

out what the computer data bank says about him and to get errors corrected.

The maximum penalty for misuse of computer information would be a \$10,000 fine.