

SFChronicle

## IRS Spy

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Figure

# Transferred

The head of the Justice Department's Organized Crime Strike Force here, which is under attack for its role in an alleged Internal Revenue Service spying operation, was transferred yesterday to Washington.

Dougald McMillan, head of the local Strike Force for 5½ years, said he asked for the transfer. But he said it was prompted by "the raging controversy" over alleged IRS spying into sex lives and drinking habits of 30 officials, including three federal judges.

The intelligence operation was called Operation Leprechaun.

In his statement, McMillan said recent reports of IRS spying activities, including burglary, are "based largely on the uncorroborated ramblings of a few questionable characters."

"No one has spoken for the IRS agents and they have not been permitted to speak for themselves," he said. "When the facts become known — as they will — I believe that some very yellow journalism will be exposed."

"As for the Strike Force, I can categorically state no one on this staff has ever requested the gathering of information on the sex lives or drinking habits of anyone. Such information, unrelated to any law enforcement purpose, would be utterly useless."

*Associated Press*