'HE NEW YORK TIMES, THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 19

Clark Denies F.B.I. Provided Life With Gallagher Wiretap

Says the Agency Never Had Transcripts That Link Jerseyan With Mafia

By RICHARD L. MADDEN WASHINGTON, Aug. 14 — Attorney General Ramsey Clark said today that transcripts of purported telephone conversations in a Life magazine article linking Representative Cornelinking Representative Cornelius E. Gallagher with a Mafia figure could not have come from the Federal Bureau of In-

vestigation.

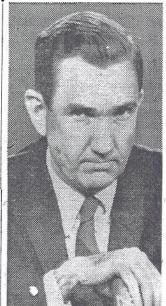
"Mr. Clark said at a news conference that the matter was being "very thoroughly studied," but added: "At this time I am advised that the F.B.I. does not have, has not had, any transcripts or logs that could be the basis for the questions in the basis for the quotations in the Life magazine story."

Life magazine story."

The Attorney general said that the Justice Department was looking "within the range of reason" at all federal agencies, such as the Internal Revenue Service, which might have been involved in any wire-tapping.

He said he "would consider it a breach of integrity that would call for stern disciplinary measures if we found anyone from any agency" who had given an outsider "any information from an electronic surveillance.

Life magazine had no comtant today on Mr. Clark's news.



what to do about this has been troubling officials of the Department today on Mr. Clark's statements.

The Life article, which appeared in last week's issue, described Mr. Gallagher, a Bayonne Democrat, as being the "tool and collaborator" of Joseph [Joe Bayonne] Zicarelli, a reputed Mafia figure in New Jersey.

The article reproduced transcripts of purported telephone conversations between the two men in 1960 to substantiate the charge that Mr. Gallagher had interceded with the police to protect Zicarelli's gambling operations in Bayonne.

Mr. Gallagher has denied all the allegations and has siad that the transcripts of the purported wiretapped conversations were "totally manufactured."

After the article appeared, Representative Charles S. Joelson, Democrat of Paterson, wrote to the Attorney General to demand an explanation of how Life had obtained the transcripts. Mr. Joelson said the "clear implication" of the article was that the Justice De
what to do about this has been troubling officials of the Detroubling officials of the Detranscried.

Following Mr. Clark's news conference today, his office released a letter of reply to Mr.
We find no evidence that the alleged intercepted conversations quoted in Life magazine were ever known to Federal authorities."

The letter reiterated that the F.B.I. had reported no record of any matters covered in the alleged conversations in exceiving any prospective consideration by the Administration which was in power in 1960. No basis for prosecution arising from any such matters is reflected in department of powers.

Mr. Clark told newsmen that since the early nineteen-forties the departmental policy has been for the Attorney General to approve every wiretap by any Federal investiga