

Jackson Unit Starts Survey On Wiretaps

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The Senate Permanent Investigations Subcommittee began a government-wide survey yesterday to determine the extent of wiretapping, recording and other secret monitoring practices.

Subcommittee Chairman Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.) said a detailed questionnaire was sent to scores of government departments and agencies requesting detailed information on all surveillance activities.

The results, once evaluated, will be used as the basis for hearings by the subcommittee into all aspects of government surveillance.

[Replies are due by Feb. 15. A subcommittee spokesman said the questionnaire was sent to every department, including Defense and Justice, and to the White House, but not to the Central Intelligence Agency because the survey is concerned solely with domestic surveillance.]

Jackson said the subcommittee also has been collecting information on surveillance activities in the private sector, including industrial espionage and bugging of labor negotiations.

In releasing the questionnaire, Jackson said, "We must start by identifying, isolating and eliminating all unwarranted surveillance activities by the government itself. The civil liberties of all our citizens are at stake.

"It is indeed shocking to the public not only to find out that surreptitious recording has been going on in the President's own offices but to be told that this is perfectly legal."