

# New Data On Illegal Spying in U.S.

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The National Security Agency, the most secretive and reportedly the largest of all U.S. intelligence groups, intercepted private international communications of millions of Americans until 1975, a Senate staff report said yesterday.

Telephone, telegraphic and Telex communications were intercepted during a 23-year period without warrants and without any legal or judicial decisions, the report said.

The report was one of a series from the staff of the Senate Intelligence Committee, which has been investigating U.S. intelligence agencies for more than a year.

Names of about 75,000 U.S. citizens were filed in the headquarters of the National Security Agency at Ft. Meade, Md. The communications of those individuals were subject to monitoring, the report said.

"Watchlists" were maintained under "Operation Minaret" of a smaller group of citizens whose every telephone call or cable overseas was intercepted, and the information was relayed to the CIA, FBI, defense intelligence, Secret Service, narcotics bureaus and other agencies.

Intercepts were ordered to determine "foreign connections" of black groups, anti-war dissidents and other organizations, the report said.

Many of the activities of the National Security Agency were disclosed during Senate Intelligence Committee hearings, transcripts and reports released last year. The staff report was designed to collate the information, bring it up to date and point to the abuses and dangers therein.

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