

# A Way to Regulate Spying by the NSA

Longer NWT story filed CIA (d)  
Washington

The Ford administration has become convinced that a significant part of the National Security Agency's foreign intelligence gathering may be of "questionable legality" and it has devised a plan by which it hopes to continue such operations while protecting the rights of Americans, according to highly placed administration sources.

President Ford, the sources said yesterday, is considering an executive order that would empower Attorney General Edward Levi to approve or disapprove specific electronic intrusions by the security agency. The plan is not complete, and several sources were concerned that publication of its details might endanger national security.

The security agency's advanced technology has made it possible for the agency to scan thousands of telephone calls, cables and other wire and radio communications and select those with valuable national security data.

The proposal Mr. Ford is considering would require that when the agency records a communication it believes contains important intelligence data, the agency would notify the

attorney general and he would authorize a national security intrusion. If the attorney general did not give his approval, the recordings would be destroyed.

If such approval was received, the security agency would then be able to disseminate the information to other federal agencies, including the Central Intelligence Agency and the FBI.

*New York Times*