

Pitcher to Get All FBI Records In Phone Case

By BILL LYNCH
(States-Item Bureau)

BATON ROUGE—The U.S. Justice Department has agreed to turn over to East Baton Rouge Parish District Attorney Sargent Pitcher all records which the FBI obtained from the telephone company on an alleged link between the underworld and the state Capitol, the States-Item learned today.

Pitcher, it was learned, was informed by Michael Epstein, an assistant attorney general, that all of the data obtained by the FBI would be produced. Earlier, a lengthy document, provided Pitcher by the Justice Department, covered only a brief period of the telephone records being sought.

PITCHER HAS been seeking the records of alleged calls from a phone purportedly in the office of rackets figure Carlos Marcello in New Orleans to a phone that was in the office of the speaker of the House.

The phone was maintained there for the convenience of C. H. "Sammy" Downs, unpaid administrative assistant to Gov. John J. McKeithen. Life magazine had alleged that the calls were made to Aubrey Young, former aide to McKeithen, who has filed

a \$5 million suit against the magazine.

Both Young and Downs denied ever getting any calls from Marcello on the phone.

PITCHER PLANS to make a report on his long investigation into the telephone link to Gov. McKeithen, who had requested it be made.

Meanwhile, an investigation

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being conducted for the state police by Ray Beck, an investigator for the state Labor-Management Commission, has been completed.

He and Public Safety Director Thomas Burbank are expected to make their findings available to Gov. McKeithen this week and the governor may release the information this week or early next week.

IT WAS UNCERTAIN what the investigation would disclose, but there were indications that it would favor Young's disclaimer of receiving the calls.

After Pitcher received the first set of documents, after appealing to top government officials, he made a new appeal for the records covering the rest of the period under investigation in 1966 and 1967 as outlined by his subpoenaes.

Epstein is the government attorney who has been handling the investigation into an alleged bribe attempt of Baton Rouge Teamster boss Edward Grady Partin. The alleged bribe reportedly was an effort to free International Teamster President James Hoffa from prison.

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