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Ex-Agents Tell of Duplication and Competition in

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Two former military intelligence agents disclosed today details of political surveillance operations run by Army combat divisions that duplicated and often competed with the nationwide watch on civilians of the Army intelligence command.

Like the larger effort, the division-level gathering of information was intended to support the Army's mission of helping to quell civil disorders. But it also spilled over into spying on legal political activity—and on other intelligence agents.

The operations to which the former agents referred occurred between mid-1968 and early 1970. A spokesman for the Army said that both programs had since been strictly limited and that inspections had been carried out to insure compliance with Pentagon orders.

Former Sgt. Lawrence F. Lane and Specialist Oliver A. Pierce testified before the Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights headed by Senator Sam J. Ervin Jr., Democrat of North Carolina. It was the third of nine scheduled days of hearings on the pervasive collection of information on American citizens by their Government.

Senator Ervin, whose heavy eyebrows seemed to dance in tempo, with his opening remarks, said, "The Army was not alone in keeping tabs on civilians."

He asserted that the navy was actively involved in domestic surveillance as late as December, 1970, and "had the Episcopal Bishop of California, Bishop [C. Kilmer] Myers, under surveillance for his antiwar activities" in 1969.

Air Force Office Activities

Similarly, Senator Ervin said, the Air Force Office of Special Investigations "has collected and does maintain information regarding civilians with no connection with the Air Force, such as student organizations and the Panthers, Brown Berets, and other minority groups."

In related testimony there were these developments:

¶Curtis M. Graves, a State

Representative in Texas, said a former agent had informed him that Army intelligence had watched him since 1960. He recalled evidence of phone taps and surreptitious tape recording of fund-raising speeches.

¶John A. Sullivan, an associate executive secretary of the American Friends Service Committee, told of instances in which he said that the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the police in Chicago, Philadelphia, New York and Seattle had spied on the Quaker group.

¶Morris Janowitz, head of the department of sociology and a professor of military science at the University of Chicago, tracing the history of military intelligence, asserted that "there has been a gradual, persistent and long-term intrusion of military personnel into domestic surveillance and police work."

¶Wolfgang E. Burhenne, a parliamentary secretary general of the West German Bundestag, said his country had drafted legislation to prevent invasions of privacy.

Bayh to Introduce Bill

In addition, Senator Birch Bayh, Democrat of Indiana, announced that he would introduce a citizen's privacy bill that would permit Americans to have access to all Government files kept on them, to have the right to rebut derogatory statements there, and to limit disclosure of that information without their permission.

Testimony by Mr. Lane and Mr. Pierce focused primarily on the military intelligence detachment of the Fifth Mechanized Infantry Division at Fort Carson, Colo. Other divisions in the United States had similar



Associated Press

Senator Sam J. Ervin Jr. cleans his eye glasses.

operations and fed information into the Continental Army Command Headquarters at Fort Monroe, Va., they said.

Mr. Lane, who was primarily an intelligence analyst, said his unit had obtained information from the news media, the F.B.I., the Colorado Springs Police De-

partment, the El Paso County sheriff's office, Army agent reports and research.

From this, he said, reports were prepared and circulated to the division commander, his staff and subordinate commanders. Intelligence was stored for future reference in card files on individuals, organizations, and cities, he said.

Mr. Lane, who served under four division intelligence officers, said that "the attitude of these men was fundamental

eration."

One lieutenant colonel was described by Mr. Lane as a "very driving, deeply concerned, and dedicated" officer whose initiative "prompted the buildup of an intelligence structure designed to analyze nationwide events and to monitor local activities."

Influence of Top Men

Under another lieutenant colonel, one versed in foreign counter-intelligence operations, "the intelligence gathering mechanism reached its zenith," Mr. Lane testified. But a third officer, who was not interested in intelligence work, cut the operation back, he added.

Finally, a fourth head of the

Army 'Watch' on Civilians

unit "shared the concern of many of us on the staff that intelligence operations had violated basic civil liberties," Mr. Lane said, and ordered, in early 1970, that efforts be directed at specific civil disturbance missions assigned to the division.

At times, the Fifth Division military intelligence staff worked closely with agents of the 113th military intelligence group, an independent unit under the Army intelligence command, he said. Together they covered a "symposium on violence" at Colorado College in 1969 at which many activists of the New Left spoke, Mr. Lane testified.

But at other times, the two units competed with each other and with still more intelligence organizations. Mr. Lane re-

called that in mid-September, 1969, rumors of a large demonstration outside the gate of Fort Carson had drawn agents from the Fifth Division, the 113th military intelligence group, the Air Force, law enforcement agencies, and "even two Navy intelligence officials from somewhere on the West Coast."

"To make a long story short," he continued, "119 demonstrators participated in the protest," but of those "53 were intelligence gathering personnel or representatives of the press."

In another incident, Mr. Lane told of watching a peace rally when another agent, unaware of his identity, reported him as a "dissident soldier." Mr. Lane said he discovered this when a report came across his desk later.