
**SURVEILLANCE ROLE
IS SHIFTED BY U.S.**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26 (UPI) — The Justice Department disclosed today that it is now up to a criminal defendant to find out whether he has been the object of illegal electronic surveillance by the Government.

The department declared in a Supreme Court brief that routine reviews of its files, conducted since 1966 to determine if any defendants in Federal cases had been put under surveillance illegally, were no longer necessary as of Oct. 15, the date the Organized Crime Control Act of 1970 became law.

From now on, a criminal case will be reviewed only at specific request of the accused, Solicitor General Erwin N. Griswold said in describing the new policy adopted under a little-noted section of the law. The disclosure came in a Government brief opposing the appeal of a man convicted on charges of placing a bomb in an airplane to try to kill his wife.

Asked how any defendant under the new policy would have reason to believe he had been a victim of illegal eavesdropping, a Justice Department spokesman said he thought such claims might become routine motions in criminal cases.
