

BOGGS TO ASSERT A TAP WAS FOUND

Plans to Tell House Today
That Phone Man Saw
Evidence of Device
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WASHINGTON, April 21— Representative Hale Boggs of Louisiana, the House majority leader, will tell his colleagues tomorrow that a telephone company investigator found a tap on the Boggs home telephone last summer.

According to sources close to Mr. Boggs, he will explain that he, his family and members of his staff became suspicious of interference on the telephone at his home in Bethesda, Md., and asked the Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Company to investigate.

According to the sources, Mr. Boggs will tell the House that the investigator from the phone company found that there had been a tap on the phone, but that it had been removed before his inspection.

Mr. Boggs will also reportedly say that the telephone company wrote in its official report to him that there had been no tap. He will add, however, that he has learned that it is the policy of the company to deny the existence of a tap

Continued on Page 22, Column 3

Continued From Page 1, Col. 2

if the tap was placed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The Congressman will reportedly make an hour-long speech to support the charges he made on April 5 that the F.B.I. has tapped the telephones of Congressmen. In that brief speech on the House floor, he called for the resignation of J. Edgar Hoover, the director of the F.B.I.

As of tonight, the sources said, Mr. Boggs was trying to decide whether to include in tomorrow's speech the transcripts of tape recordings said to have been made by the F.B.I. of conversations involving other members of Congress.

The sources said Mr. Boggs had the F.B.I. transcripts but had not decided whether to include them in his speech, since

they involved other officials. The sources also said the conversations involved F.B.I. informants, so the bureau might have obtained the consent of one or more parties to the conversations before recording them. The Supreme Court decided recently that such "consensual" eavesdropping did not require a court order.

In his speech tomorrow, Mr. Boggs will reportedly call again for the resignation of Mr. Hoover. To one of those who worked on the speech, it importance lies not in the evidence that Mr. Boggs will adduce to support his earlier



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Representative Hale Boggs

charge but in the fact that the Congressman is continuing to call for the resignation of Mr. Hoover.

Nevertheless, the focus of public attention tomorrow will clearly be on the evidence Mr. Boggs submits to his colleagues. From April 5 until now, the majority leader has been silent, promising that he would provide evidence in time.

Even the person who participated in the drafting of the speech conceded that it was unlikely to satisfy those who

expected or wanted "big evidence."

At some point in the speech—which will repeat a number of charges already made elsewhere against the F.B.I.—Mr. Boggs will reportedly explain how he was moved to give his first speech on the F.B.I. Sources close to him say he will attribute it to a personal experience several days before.

Mr. Boggs will say that two highly placed career officials of the Justice Department who had worked in and with the F.B.I. came to see him. He will not identify the two men to the House, but will relate that they told him the F.B.I. was being destroyed because it was not being used to fight crime but to protect the position of Mr. Hoover.

Beyond characterizing the conversation in that way, Mr. Boggs will refuse to relate specifically what the two men said, the sources said.

The majority leader will reportedly also repeated two incidents of F.B.I. activity recently made public.

The first is that the F.B.I. obtained his long-distance telephone records. The bureau got records from the Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Company, according to sources close to the Congressman, for 1966 to 1970, showing all the long-distance calls made from the Capitol Hill office of Mr. Boggs and all the long-distance telephone calls charged to his credit card.

The sources said the F.B.I. had, in some cases, called the telephone numbers in the records, some of them in Louisiana, to ask about the calls.

Other sources report that the F.B.I. took those actions at the behest of the Justice Department in the course of an investigation to determine wheth-

er Victor H. Frenkil, a Baltimore contractor, had sought to bring influence and pressure to bear to have some construction claims settled favorably. Mr. Frenkil's company, Baltimore Contractors, Inc., built the underground garage of the Rayburn House Office Building.

A grand jury in Baltimore was looking into, among several other things, construction work performed by Baltimore Contractors on the Bethesda home of Mr. Boggs. Although Attorney General John N. Mitchell refused to allow the grand jury to issue an indict-

ment in the case, the jury concluded that Mr. Frenkil had done the work for a lower price than was usual in order to curry favor with Mr. Boggs.

Not Aware, He Said

Mr. Boggs has since said he was not aware that the work on his home was being done for less than the usual price.

Tomorrow, the sources said, Mr. Boggs will also mention that the F.B.I. sent an informant with a hidden tape recorder into the Capitol office of Representative John Dowdy, a Democrat of Texas, and recorded conversations between the two without the knowledge of Mr. Dowdy. As has been reported, the F.B.I. also monitored and recorded—from the informant's end—telephone conversations between the informant and Mr. Dowdy.

The F.B.I. took these actions in the Dowdy case with the approval of Attorney General Mitchell and with court orders signed by United States District Judge Roszel C. Thomsen. Mr. Dowdy was subsequently indicted on charges of perjury and accepting a \$25,000 bribe and is scheduled to go on trial May 3 in Baltimore.