

The First Ten in Jeopardy

by Alan M. Dershowitz [professor of law, Harvard]

..... The Administration has also taken aim at the Fourth Amendment's protection against "unreasonable searches and seizures." It has audaciously claimed to be exempt from the requirement that a court-approved warrant be obtained before it may tap or bug conversations involving the national security; and it has defined "national security" in the most expansive possible way to include American citizens engaged in what the Administration regards as radical activities. In 1969 and 1970 alone, more than 40,000 days\* of tapping and bugging were conducted without court approval. Fortunately, a unanimous Supreme Court has rebuffed the Administration on this practice. ....

\*54 per day