

SENATORS

CITE ODD

SPY FILES

Washington (UPI)-

A dog bite and a school boy's request for term paper material resulted in dossiers compiled by the Army in a massive surveillance operation, according to a Senate subcommittee.

Although Defense Secretary Melvin Laird ordered dossiers on civilians destroyed, the subcommittee cited evidence that some files may still exist.

The subcommittee said the extent of Army spying

the extent of Army spying was even more extensive than first suspected when it was uncovered in 1970. Dossiers have been kept on millions of Americans since before World War II, the Constitutional Rights subcommittee said in a report issued yesterday.

25 Million Cards

It did not estimate how many persons or groups were watched, but it said the Defense Central Index of Investigations maintained 25 million index cards on individuals and 760,000 cards on organizations and "incidents" such as the dog bite case.

Six blacks picketed a Baltimore police station after a police dog bit a girl. The schoolboy seeking information for the term paper had written to the Soviet Embassy in Washington. Dossiers were compiled on both incidents.

"These vast collections of fragmentary, incorrect and irrelevant information — composed of vague conclusions, judgments and overly detailed descriptions of insignificant facts — could not be considered 'intelligence' by any sense of the word," the report said.

'Unverified Assurance'

"The specter of military surveillance of the lawful political activity of civilians,

detailed in this report, cannot be put to rest on the unverified assurance of those now responsible," said Sen. Sam Ervin (D-N.C.), subcommittee chairman.

He called for enactment of a bill "designed to end, once and for all, these invidious invasions of an individual's right to associate and express himself."

Laird ordered the activity halted and the information gathered in computers and on millions of 3-by-3 inch index cards be destroyed. But the report notes resistance to the order and questions whether some records have not been tucked away. It said earlier orders to burn the data had been evaded.