## FBI Interest Files Misused, Tunney Charges

Washington Post Staff Writer By Stan Crock

the FBI has used its computwas interested. ers to keep track of certain in-Calif.) charged yesterday that dividuals in whom the bureau Sen. John V. Tunney (D-

volving persons who intersaid the peachable political reasons." of reasons, "including possibly ested the bureau for a variety used on an experimental basis formation from an for intelligence gathering in-Saying he received the insource," computers were Tunney minu,

Judiciary Subcommittee on could not answer the ques-him if it receives one. source said. Tunney asserted gun in the early 1970s, a National Crime Information Center (NCIC) may have becriminal justice information. The experiment with the Tunney made the change af-

uty Attorney General Harter hearing testimony by Dep-R .Tyler Jr. on a similar

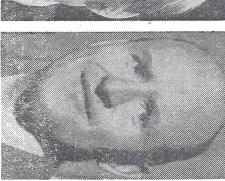
of questions about the FBI's use of a "flagging" system, routine computer request of a local police officer made a ple, that a person was wanted which would show for examthe FBI for information on for committing a crime when Tunney asked Tyler a series

lar law enforcement, for examfor purposes other than regusought to determine whether In his questions, Tunney the [bureau] had an interest ple, to locate "certain persons the FBI used the flag system

Tyler said he knew nothing



SEN. JOHN V. TUNNEY ... cites computer



HAROLD R. TYLER JR. ... to report back

during a hearing of the Senate about the experiment and and would respond directly to

experiment was cut off in into the matter and report ernment intelligence operative operation to the line said the FBI uses flags "flag" in the "interest file" watergate scandals and an im
Asked for a reaction to the in an "FBI interest file" filled registering the fact that a per-Watergate scandals and an imAsked for a reaction to the in an "FBI interest file" filled registering the fact that a perminent hearing on a bill to allegation, an FBI spokesman with information about people son with those characteristics the Justice Department shou
regulate the disclosure of said the bureau had not rethe FBI has an interest in, not had been stopped.

ment of persons listed in the troversial proposal to increa capacity to monitor the move-being sought in the FBI's co Congress and radical groups, bouts and could monitor his but it has not been understood her activity. that the FBI had the computer

worked this way: the experimental system also would send back to the files through the use of flags. computerization
The intelligence source said criminal historie

nor traffic violation, the offi-tion passed between stateer would ask the FBI through through an FBI computer. the NCIC if the car was stolen | Critics of the plan say histories, according to the committee concerns the NCI stolen securities and cars, wanted persons and criminal for a crime. The NCIC has in while the Justice Department or if the person was wanted official stopped a car for a mit the FBI to monitor inform formation about items such as says it would increase the

Judiciary Subcommittee on could not answer the queston if it receives one.

A source familiar with gove the information sent in about provisions. tions said the FBI uses flags "flag" in the "interest file" that further meetings between

If the submitted information over the bill

that it has files on members of would know his or her where The FBI has acknowledged fit a person on file, the F

If a local law enforcement now in Washington and allo states 70 per cent of the fil criminal histories. The pla The "flagging" capacity

The officer might receive an questions. The Privacy Act e states' control over the files. Critics of the plan say would increase FBI powe The legislation before

Tyler and Tunney agree