

The FBI's Illegal Mail Openings

Washington

The FBI said yesterday it had illegally opened mail in Los Angeles, San Francisco and six other cities in a program paralleling that of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Providing the first details of its mail surveillance project, James B. Adams, deputy associate FBI director, said Bureau agents opened mail for "national security" purposes for varying periods between 1940 and 1966.

In New York City an estimated 42 million pieces of mail were examined by agents from Oct. 1, 1959, to July 22, 1966, he said. Of these, 1011 pieces were opened, Adams told members of a House postal facilities subcommittee.

[Representative Charles H. Wilson (Dem-Calif.) is the chairman of the subcommittee.]

This and later clippings ~~will be filed~~ on the opening of mail will be filed ~~SURV.~~ CIA (D)