

Says White House Sought Them in National Security Cases—No Other Details

The Washington Star-News WASHINGTON, Jan. 15 Attorney General William B. Saxbe said today that he had authorized three national-secu-rity wiretaps at the request of the White House since taking office just over a week ago. He also told reporters at a breakfast meeting that he fa-vored streamlining the proce-dure now required before such wiretaps were made. "I think there is too much myering." Mr. Saxbe said. He declined to provide any additional information about the three new wiretaps except to confirm that they were of the kind that required only his approval, and not a warrant issued by a judge. Mr. Saxbe noted that there were three kinds of wiretaps: the national-security type con-nected with activities of foreign governments; domestic wire-taps, which require approval from a judge, and the bugging of a phone with the consent of one of the parties involved in a conversation. Legislation Planned Mr. Saxbe said he thought

Legislation Planned Mr. Saxbe said he thought that the three wiretaps author-ized in the last week were an unusually large number and that they had stacked up while awaiting his taking office. He also disclosed that Presi-dent Nixon's State of the Un-ion Message would include a proposal for legislation to gov-ern the distribution of criminal statistics.

statistics.

a debate over control of such a depate over control of such statistics has been growing as computerized systems, capable of retrieving large amounts of information in a brief time, have come into more common use by the Federal and state governments.

Attempts in the past to write legislation governing these sys-tems have run into a conflict between the right to privacy of persons who have criminal records and the demand by a number of elements in society for access to public records. Mr. Saxbe indicated that a key element of the legislation would be a requirement that all in formation be checked to ensure that it is accurate and Attempts in the past to write

ensure that it is accurate and up-to-date before it is released and a guarantee that persons who have criminal records canreview the record to make sure it is accurate.

Will Urge Cooperation

Mr. Saxbe said he had not

been asked by White House officials whether tapes and documents should be turned over to the House committee considering impeachment. But, he said, if he were asked, he would recommend cooperation with the committee and that he expected White House in-formation would be made avail-able to the committee.

formation would be made avail-able to the committee. In an interview last week, J. Fred Buzhardt Jr., a Presi-dential counsel, indicated the White House would resist pro-viding such information to the House committee

viding such information to the House committee. Mr. Saxbe said he did not think those who had been criti-cal of the President would "get off his back" as long as he remained in office. "Impeachment will be hang-ing over his head as long as

ing over his head as long as he is in office," Mr. Saxbe declared.

declared. The Attorney General also commented briefly on the ac-tion taken yesterday by a three-judge panel in Baltimore recommending the disbarment of former Vice President Spiro T Agnew.

of former vice resident opino T. Agnew. "I was afraid it was going to happen," Mr. Saxbe said. "I think it's a reasonable fol-low-up."