

# Doar's Plan On Domestic Spying

Washington

John Doar, the Justice Department's civil rights chief during the Johnson administration, once recommended that federal anti-poverty and neighborhood legal services programs be used to gather intelligence about civil disorders, department spokesman Robert Havel said last night.

Doar, who served as chief counsel in the House impeachment inquiry last year, made the suggestion in a 1967 memorandum to then-Attorney General Ramsey Clark, Havel said in response to questions.

Clark, in a memo Nov. 9, 1967, to other department officials, said he approved Doar's over-all recommendations. But the Clark memo, which was provided to a House committee last year, did not specifically refer to use of the poverty and legal services programs.

Deputy Attorney General Laurence H. Silberman referred to the Doar memo in a statement issued earlier this month describing the origin of an internal domestic intelligence unit formed by Clark.

Havel said the Doar memo "lays out a plan for centralizing intelligence that came in and setting up a unit to

evaluate it." But he said he did not know whether the plan was implemented or what, if any, intelligence it produced.

A department official who was involved in setting up the intelligence unit said officials from time to time contacted anti-poverty and legal services workers in their communities. However, he said there was no systematic procedure for involving those programs.

James P. Turner, currently a section chief in the civil rights division, said: "We didn't look on them as junior FBI or anything like that."

He said he was personally acquainted with several individuals working in anti-poverty or legal services programs in other cities and occasionally would contact them to check on reports of impending disturbances or ask their assessment of the mood of the poverty communities in which they worked.

Turner said the intelligence unit officials were seeking "ways of trying to get accurate information."

As part of the plan, Doar suggested that persons employed in the anti-poverty and legal services programs "might be sources of information" about potential civil disturbances, Havel said.

The Doar memo was written and the intelligence unit formed at a time of widespread rioting in American cities.

Associated Press