

Taping of Wallace Calls Reported

Montgomery, Ala.

Governor George Wallace's personal and business telephone calls at the governor's mansion were tape-recorded without his knowledge but apparently with the knowledge of his wife, Cornelia, a television station and a radio station reported yesterday.

Wallace's press secretary, Billy Joe Camp, refused to comment on the reports. He referred inquiries to Colonel E. C. Dothard, the public safety commissioner, who denied the reports.

Both WSFA-TV in Montgomery and radio station WSGN in Birmingham said security guards at the mansion uncovered an expensive taping system sometime this summer while Mrs. Wallace was on vacation and then found hundreds of tapes of Wallace's telephone calls.

The Montgomery station said the system recorded telephone calls from Wallace's bedroom phone, and said sources indicated Mrs. Wallace was involved in installation of the system.

Many reports have circulated recently of a rift between Governor and Mrs. Wallace, which were denied by all concerned. A WSFA-TV reporter stated that Wallace threatened to divorce his wife after the taping system was uncovered, but later relented.

Dothard said he had been questioned about rumors regarding the taping system for weeks.

"We checked into all these rumors and there's nothing to them," Dothard said.

There were broadcast reports last month that Mrs. Wallace had left the mansion and was no longer living with the governor. She denied the reports, saying she was on vacation, and has since returned to the mansion.

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