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(SPYING)

WASHINGTON (UPI) - THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT HAS SOUGHT PERMISSION FOR ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE OF FOREIGN POWERS IN THIS COUNTRY SIX TIMES SINCE THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION TOOK OFFICE AND GOTTEN A GO AHEAD IN FIVE, DEFENSE SECRETARY HAROLD BROWN TESTIFIED TODAY.

BROWN AND CIA DIRECTOR STANSFIELD TURNER APPEARED BEFORE A SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE CONSIDERING LEGISLATION THAT WOULD REQUIRE THE GOVERNMENT TO GET A COURT WARRANT TO SPY ELECTRONICALLY IN FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE CASES IN THIS COUNTRY. UNDER PRESENT LAW, ONLY APPROVAL BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL IS NEEDED.

BROWN DECLINED TO GIVE MANY DETAILS IN OPEN SESSION ABOUT THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT REQUESTS, BUT SAID THAT NONE INVOLVED U.S. CITIZENS OR INDIVIDUALS. "THEY WERE ALL FOREIGN POWERS," HE SAID.

HE INDICATED THAT SOME OF THE INSTANCES INVOLVED COUNTERINTELLIGENCE, OR OPERATIONS INTENDED TO BLOCK FOREIGN SPYING ON THE UNITED STATES, AND SAID THAT THEY WERE INCLUDED AMONG A TOTAL OF 77 WIRETAP OPERATIONS WHICH FBI DIRECTOR CLARENCE KELLEY TESTIFIED YESTERDAY ARE CURRENTLY UNDER WAY.

THE ONE REQUEST THAT WAS TURNED DOWN WAS VETOED BY AN INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL, BROWN SAID.

BOTH BROWN AND TURNER, WHO ARE NOW INVOLVED IN A DISPUTE OVER MORE CENTRALIZED CONTROL OF ALL GOVERNMENT INTELLIGENCE FUNCTIONS, SUPPORTED THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION, SAYING IT WOULD HELP RESTORE GOVERNMENT CREDIBILITY AND PUBLIC CONFIDENCE FOLLOWING PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF PAST INTELLIGENCE ABUSES.

TURNER TESTIFIED, HOWEVER, THAT "I AGREE COMPLETELY WITH SECRETARY BROWN" THAT THERE SHOULD BE A DIVERSITY OF INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION SOURCES AND THAT DIFFERENT GOVERNMENT AGENCIES HAVE DIFFERENT INTELLIGENCE NEEDS REQUIRING DIFFERENT METHODS.

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