

Sanitized - Approved

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

INQUIRER

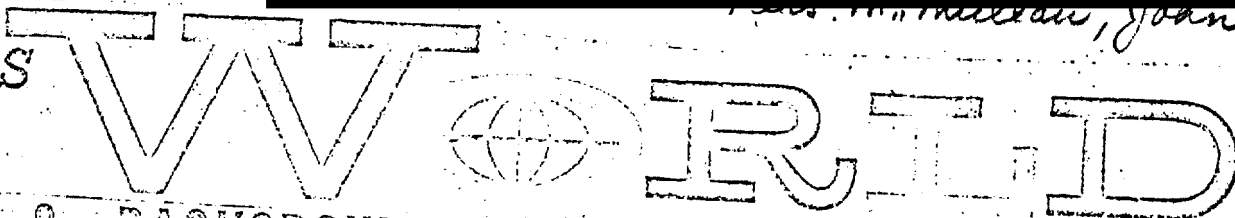
m. 642,092

S. 1,075,337

Front Edit Other
Page Page Page

Date: APR 26 1964

TODAY'S



NEWS REVIEW & BACKGROUNDS • EDITORIALS & COLUMNS
 BOOKS & ART • SCIENCE & EDUCATION

Your Privacy May Be Invaded

As Snoopers Gain in Numbers

By John McMullan

CPYRIGHT

WASHINGTON.

THE attractive 17-year-old applied at a Government agency for a job as clerk-typist, GS-2, salary \$70 a week. Hours later she emerged from what she told a Congressional investigator was a "horrible experience," including a lie-test and questions about her private life asked by a young male operator.

Is it a true experience?

The Government agency denies it. But members of the House Information subcommittee headed by Rep. John E. Moss (D., Calif.) intend to find out.

Their investigation is the latest show of concern by a Government group that the United States is slowly burrowing too far into the private lives of its citizens.

The long arm of the law, they fear, has become the long, prying nose of the snoop.

Curiosity that may arguably have a valid purpose in law enforcement has spread to other agencies and into private business.

To the wiretap and mail watch originally designed to trap criminals has been added the lie test that now screens job applicants, as well as searches for the office thief.

Some members of the House Information subcommittee are alarmed at the Government's growing reliance on polygraph machines, or lie detectors, to police the ranks of employees. The same trend is taking place in business.

Incidents Cited

"We have progressed so far scientifically, that we have not only invaded the walls of a man's castle but now are invading his mind," said Rep. Neal Gallagher (D., N. J.), a member of the committee.

"Ultimately there must be a Supreme Court decision to clear the air in this cloudy legal area. Meanwhile, we need some regulation."

The Government's invasion of its citizens' privacy has produced these publicized incidents in the last few weeks:

—Roy Cohn, the ex-counsel for the old McCarthy Committee, complained that Federal agents ordered a watch put on his mail.

—Las Vegas (Nev.) associates of Bobby Baker said their telephones were tapped. They displayed bugging devices allegedly found on the phones.

—Government surveillance during Jimmy Hoffa's recent trial produced a ludicrous radio conversation between U. S. agents and a wiretapper hired by Hoffa. "Bernie, go home," the agents advised Hoffa's man in a transcript put into the House record.

These were publicized incidents. And the Government can argue that its motives were to protect the innocent by getting evidence on those it suspects of wrongdoing.

More and more, however, the question is being asked: Are the rights and privacy of the innocent also being sacrificed in this pursuit of the suspected?

Continued