

4 August 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Logistics Services Division, OL

SUBJECT : Telephone Listening-in Devices

REFERENCE : Memo dtd 3 Nov 61 to Legislative Counsel  
fr D/L, same subject

1. Listed below is an update of the figures contained in referenced memorandum.

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Annual Cost</u>
a. Transmitter cutoff switches		
(1) On Agency switchboard	315 ✓	\$1660.80
(2) On non-published lines	86	342.60
(3) On DOD lines	14 ✓	45.00
	<u>415</u>	<u>2,048.40</u>
	329	1,705.80
b. Listening-in circuits		
(1) On Agency switchboard	none	-0-
(2) On non-published lines	none	-0-
(3) On DOD lines	none	-0-
c. Recorder connectors		
(1) On Agency switchboard	17 18	<del>891.60</del> 900.90
(2) On non-published lines	none	-0-
(3) On DOD lines	none	-0-
	<u>17</u>	<u>891.60</u>
	432	\$2,940.00



Deputy Chief, Telephone Facilities Branch, LSD/OL

STATINTL

1,705.80

ED 41 115 11A  
DD/S 70-3317  
DEC-70-1346

21 AUG 1970

~~21~~ AUG 1970

**The Honorable John E. Moss, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Foreign Operations  
and Government Information  
Committee on Government Operations  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515**

**My dear Mr. Chairman:**

**Your letter of 29 July 1970 requests information to aid your Subcommittee in bringing up to date a long-standing study and survey of the telephone monitoring practices of Federal departments and agencies. Our response will be keyed to the numbered paragraphs in your letter.**

**1. The Agency does not prohibit the monitoring of telephone calls. Such monitoring is generally by secretaries for the purpose of taking notes to record names, addresses, dates, figures, requests for information, or where files or other memoranda may be required for use in follow up on the call. Monitoring occurs in other instances where an assistant or other member of an office is being read into a problem or activity for which he may have future responsibility. Notification may be, but is not invariably, given when notes are being taken.**

**2. The Agency currently has 329 transmitter cut-off switches on telephones assigned to it in the Washington area. The annual cost is \$1,705.80. The Agency has no listening-in circuits.**

3. The Agency has 18 recorder connectors at an annual cost of \$900.90. These recording devices are equipped with the beeper warning signals.

4. The number of telephone recording devices wired into telephone circuits is as given in paragraph 3 above--18. The Agency has not procured or issued any induction-type attachments for dictation machines or any other types of instruments which can be used to monitor or record telephone conversations.

5. The costs for the devices used by the Agency are set forth above, for a total of \$2,606.70.

6. The Agency does not have any rules or regulations governing telephone monitoring and recording.

Sincerely,

/s/ Richard Helms

Richard Helms  
Director

**Distribution:**

0 - Addressee  
1 - DDCI  
1 - ER  
✓ 1 - OGC  
1 - OLC  
1 - D/L  
1 - D/S  
2 - DD/S

OGC:LRH:jeb  
Rewritten:DD/S:RLB:es  
Retyped:OLC:JMM:jmd  
Rewritten:DD/S:RLB:llc (14 August 1970)

Executive Registry  
70-4054

DD/S 70-3398

13 AUG 1970

**MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence**

**SUBJECT : Inquiry from Congressman Moss**

1. There is attached a proposed reply to an inquiry from Congressman Moss dated 29 July 1970. This inquiry on telephone monitoring practices of Federal departments and agencies is almost identical to an inquiry dated 23 October 1961 and to which this Agency responded on 20 November 1961. The letter was printed in the Committee report of June 22, 1962, however, the report did not appear to result in any unusual interest by the Congress or the public.

2. The attached reply has been fully staffed and is consistent with the reply we made in 1961. The telephone monitoring devices referred to are rented from the telephone company, however, the main office of the telephone company does not know the location of these instruments nor the names of the individuals in the Agency to whom these devices are assigned. The Agency has established controls over the telephone units within the Agency and no information is given out except with our specific approval. Our reply should be consistent with the information at the telephone company headquarters. The Legislative Counsel will contact the staff of Moss's Committee and request that Agency statistics not be specifically identified in the report but simply be carried as part of the total.

3. Your signature to this letter is recommended.

*[Faint, mostly illegible text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]*

[Redacted signature box]

Deputy Director  
for Support

STATINTL

Att

DD/S:RLB:ilc (13 August 1970)

Distribution:

- 0 - Addressee w/O DD/S 70-3317
- 1 - DDCI w/ccy DD/S 70-3317
- 1 - ER w/ccy DD/S 70-3317
- ✓ 1 - OGC w/ccy DD/S 70-3317
- 1 - OLC w/ccy DD/S 70-3317
- 1 - D/L w/ccy DD/S 70-3317
- 1 - D/S w/ccy DD/S 70-3317
- 1 - DD/S Chrono w/ccy DD/S 70-3317
- 1 - DD/S Subject w/ccy DD/S 70-3317

AUG 13 4 53 PM '70  
AUG 13 4 53 PM '70

DD/S 70-3317: Letter to the Honorable John E. Moss, Chairman, Foreign Operations and Government Information Subcommittee, Committee on Government Operations, House of Representatives from Richard Helms, DCI, subj: Reply to survey of telephone monitoring practices of Federal departments and agencies dated \_\_\_\_\_

AUG 21 9 35 AM '70  
AUG 21 9 35 AM '70

C4

<b>TRANSMITTAL SLIP</b>		DATE 5 August 1970
TO: General Counsel		
ROOM NO. 7D-01	BUILDING Hqs.	
REMARKS:		
FROM: [Redacted]		DD/Security
ROOM NO. 4E-60	BUILDING Hqs.	EX [Redacted]
FORM NO. 241 1 FEB 53		REPLACES FORM 36-B WHICH MAY BE USED.

STATINTL

STATINTL

SENDER WILL CHECK CLASSIFICATION TOP AND BOTTOM			
UNCLASSIFIED	CONFIDENTIAL		
OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP			
TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	General Counsel		
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
ACTION	DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY	
APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION	
COMMENT	FILE	RETURN	
CONCURRENCE	INFORMATION	SIGNATURE	
<b>Remarks:</b>  1. I have shown this to Colonel White. Believe he may want to call us together to talk about how to handle it in the next day or two. 2. OGC is checking for applicable Federal laws or regulations, and some of us have the impression that some sort of survey of this kind was made several years ago, but we can't recall details. If anyone can throw light on this, it would be appreciated.			
cc: DDS Security			
<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> JOHN M. MAURY Legislative Counsel			
FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER			
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.			DATE
OLC                      7D43 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 50px; height: 15px; display: inline-block;"></div>			31 July 70
UNCLASSIFIED	CONFIDENTIAL		

FORM NO. 1-67 **237** Use previous editions (40)

STATINTL

STATINTL

JOHN E. MOSS, CALIF., CHAIRMAN  
TORBERT H. MACDONALD, MASS.  
WILLIAM J. RANDALL, MD.  
JOHN S. MONAGAN, CONN.

NINETY-FIRST CONGRESS

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

FOREIGN OPERATIONS AND GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SUBCOMMITTEE  
OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS  
RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM B371-B  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

ALL 70-0524  
Executive Register  
GODEN R. REID, N.Y.  
FRANK HORTON, N.Y.  
JOHN N. ERLBORN, ILL.  
70-4054  
225-3741

July 29, 1970

Mr. Richard Helms  
Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Director Helms:

The Foreign Operations and Government Information Subcommittee is in the process of bringing up to date a long-standing study and survey of the telephone monitoring practices of Federal departments and agencies. Two reports have resulted thus far from the study: House Report No. 1215 - "Availability of Information from Federal Departments and Agencies (Telephone Monitoring)", 87th Congress, 1st Session; and House Report No. 1898 - "Availability of Information from Federal Departments and Agencies (Telephone Monitoring - Second Review)", 87th Congress, 2nd Session.

In connection with the Subcommittee's current survey, answers to the following questions will be appreciated:

1. Does the agency permit monitoring of (a) incoming, (b) outgoing telephone calls? For the purposes of this study, monitoring is understood to include a secretary or any third person being on the line, either covertly or overtly.

2. Please state the number of transmitter cut-off switches (including Push to Talk) in use on telephones assigned to the agency in the Washington area. Please give the total rental charge or other cost for such switches during fiscal 1970. Also, please state how many listening-in circuits are installed on telephone equipment assigned to the Agency in the Washington area and the total rental charge or other cost for fiscal 1970.

3. If telephone recording devices are used to monitor or record telephone calls, how many such devices are in use in your agency in the Washington area? Is a beeper or other

CA



warning device required to notify the other party that the call is being recorded by the devices?

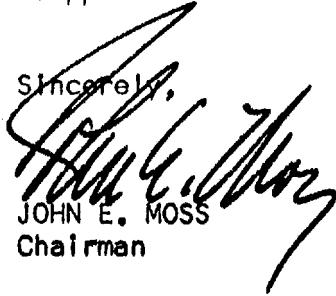
4. If telephone recording devices are used, please specify the number of recorders wired into telephone circuits, the number of induction-type attachments that can be used to record telephone conversations on dictation machines without being wired into the circuit, and any other types of instruments that can be used to monitor or record telephone conversations. Please indicate which of these devices, if any, are equipped with a beeper or warning signal.

5. Please furnish the best available estimate of the cost of these recorders and attachments.

6. Does the agency have any rules or regulations covering telephone monitoring and recording? If so, please provide two copies.

It will be appreciated if responses can be supplied to the Subcommittee by September 1, 1970.

Sincerely,



JOHN E. MOSS  
Chairman

JEM:jmm

STAINLE

Customer [redacted] brought up the  
attached material. He also said Agency  
management and supply people have never  
purchased or issued any adapters for the  
IBM Executor. J. 8/5

STAINIL

...ch...ston.  
proc...rial. He also said Agency  
...ment and supply people have never  
...chased or issued any adapters for the  
IBM Executor. J. 8/5

Mr. Houston: Mr. [redacted] brought up the  
STATINTL attached material. He also said Agency  
procurement and supply people have never  
purchased or issued any adapters for the  
IBM Executor. J. 8/5

C9

20 NOV 1961

Honorable John E. Moss  
Chairman  
Special Government Information  
Subcommittee of the Committee  
on Government Operations  
House of Representatives  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Moss:

In response to your letter of 23 October 1961, this is to advise that the Central Intelligence Agency has had installed, as normal operating equipment, 17<sup>1/2</sup> transmitter cut-off switches at an annual rental cost of \$522. The Agency is utilizing, at the present time, 10 listening-in circuits at an annual rental cost of \$90.

In order to assist in completion of the Subcommittee's initial study, you have also requested the following additional information on telephone monitoring and recording practices in this Agency.

(a) The Central Intelligence Agency does not have published regulations per se covering telephone monitoring and recording.

(b) This Agency does not prohibit the monitoring of incoming telephone calls. Such monitoring is generally for the purpose of taking of notes by secretaries to record names, addresses, dates, figures, requests for information, or, where files or other memoranda may be required for the use of the person receiving the call. Monitoring occurs in other instances where an assistant or other member of the office is being read-in on a problem or activity for which he may have future responsibility. In all cases, the caller may be advised, but is not invariably informed, when notes are being taken.

(c) The Agency also has had installed 3 recorder connectors. The 3 recorder connectors are each equipped

with a "beeper" to notify the calling party that a call is being recorded.

(d) As is indicated at (c) above, the 3 recorder connectors have been installed in Agency facilities by the telephone company and are each equipped with a beeper signal.


(e) The annual rental for the 3 recorder connectors is \$72.

This Agency has found the use of the above business equipment, which is rented from the telephone company and maintained by them, well worth the monthly rental charge. It is our judgment that the use of secretaries to assist in the conduct of the business which gives rise to the given call, or in recording appropriate conversations with the utilization of such equipment, contributes to the efficiency and expeditious handling of the Agency's business.

Although there may be merit in the argument that every Government agency control telephone monitoring by clear, written regulations, as is expressed in recommendation 1. of the Subcommittee's report, this Agency has found that the normal review and control of the activities of the offices utilizing such equipment is adequate.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

  
Legislative Counsel

STATINTL

OGC/LC:JGOJr:cdk (17 Nov 61)  
Orig & 1 - Addressee (via OGC)  
1 - IG  
1 - D/Security  
1 - D/Logistics  
3 - OGC/LC

CIA INTERNAL USE ONLY

Legislative Counsel

3 November 1961

ATTN :

Mr. 

Director of Logistics

Telephone Listening-in Devices

REFERENCE: Letter dated October 23, 1961 to DCI from Mr. John E. Moss, Chairman, Special Government Information Subcommittee of the Committee on Government Operations

1. Reference requests, among other things, the number and annual costs of any telephone listening-in devices on telephones assigned to the Agency in the Washington area. The types of devices are broken down to three categories and the requested information is given below:

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Annual Cost</u>	
<b>a. Transmitter cutoff switches</b>			
(1) On Agency switchboard	166	\$198.00	
(2) On non-published lines	42	126.00	
(3) On DOD lines	8	24.00	
	<u>216</u>	<u>648.00</u>	
<b>b. Listening-in circuits</b>			
(1) On Agency switchboard	10	90.00	
(2) On non-published lines	none	-0-	
(3) On DOD lines	none	-0-	
	<u>10</u>	<u>90.00</u>	
<b>c. Recorder connectors</b>			
(1) On Agency switchboard	3	72.00	
(2) On non-published lines	none	-0-	
(3) On DOD lines	none	-0-	
	<u>3</u>	<u>72.00</u>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>\$310.00</b>	

2. The three recorder-connectors referred to in 1 c. above are each equipped with a "beeper" to notify the calling party that the call

CIA INTERNAL USE ONLY

OL 1 5913

CIA INTERNAL USE ONLY

**SUBJECT: TELEPHONE LISTENING-IN DEVICES**

is being recorded by the device. The transmitter cutoff switches and listening-in devices do not include a "beeper."

3. As you are probably aware, practically every office telephone system in the Agency, with the exception of single-line instruments, is so wired that a secretary can monitor any call on that system without the calling party being knowledgeable that the call is being monitored. No special equipment is required. We believe this is a standard practice throughout all government agencies.

4. It is our understanding that the Office of Security will furnish you with information on induction and/or any other type of instrument that could be used to monitor or record telephone conversations. This information is not available within the Office of Logistics.

5. The third paragraph of reference raises questions in connection with Agency rules and regulations covering telephone monitoring and recording. This office is not aware of any such rules and regulations.

6. Please feel free to call upon us if we can be of further assistance.



STATINTL

**CONCURRENCES:**

Director of Security

Date

**Distribution:**

- Orig. and 1 - Addressee
- ② - DDB (w/copy basic)
- 1 - OL/File
- 1 - OL/RECD/TS
- 1 - OL/RECD/Official File
- 1 - OL/RECD/Corrobo
- 1 - D/OS

OL/RECD, 

STATINTL

STATINTL

CIA INTERNAL USE ONLY

13



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

DCI

The Honorable John E. Moss  
Chairman  
Foreign Operations and Government  
Information Subcommittee  
Committee on Government Operations  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Chairman Moss:

Your letter of July 29, 1970, requests information to aid your Subcommittee in bringing up to date a long-standing study and survey of the telephone monitoring practices of Federal departments and agencies. Our response will be keyed to the numbered paragraphs in your letter.

1. The Agency does not prohibit the monitoring of telephone calls. Such monitoring is generally by secretaries for the purpose of taking notes to record names, addresses, dates, figures, requests for information, or where files or other memoranda may be required for use in follow up on the call. Monitoring occurs in other instances where an assistant or other member of an office is being read into a problem or activity for which he may have future responsibility. Notification may be, but is not invariably, given when notes are being taken.

2. The Agency currently has 329 transmitter cut-off switches on telephones assigned to it in the Washington area. The annual cost is \$1,705.80. The Agency has no listening-in circuits.

18  
3. The Agency has ~~17~~ recorder connectors at an annual cost of \$~~891.60~~<sup>900.90</sup>. These recording devices are equipped with the beeper warning signal to notify the other party that the call is being recorded by the devices.

4. The number of telephone recording devices wired into telephone circuits is as given in 3, above--  
18-17. The Agency has not procured or issued any induction-type attachments for dictation machines or any other types of instruments which can be used to monitor or record telephone conversations.

5. The costs for the devices used by the Agency are set forth above, for a total of \$~~2,597.40~~  
2,606.70

6. The Agency does not have any rules or regulations governing telephone monitoring and recording.

Sincerely,

HELMS  
John M. Maury  
Legislative Counsel