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13 MAY 1961

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Honorable Sam J. Ervin, Jr.  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Senator Ervin:

You have requested our views on three bills, S. 1086, S. 1221 and S. 1495, dealing with the subject of wiretapping and eavesdropping.

I appreciate your interest in giving this Agency an opportunity to express its views on this proposed legislation. The National Security Act of 1947, as amended, provides that the Central Intelligence Agency shall have no police, subpoena, law-enforcement powers, or internal-security functions. Consequently, the subject of the above-mentioned bills is not within the jurisdiction of the Agency and it would be inappropriate for us to comment on them.

The Bureau of the Budget has no objection to the submission of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely,

**SEED**

Allen W. Dulles  
Director

(EXECUTIVE REPORT FILE *Ervin*)

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MEMORANDUM FOR: THE DIRECTOR

Attached is a suggested reply to a request from Senator Ervin, Chairman of the Constitutional Rights Subcommittee requesting our views on various wiretapping bills on which the Subcommittee is now holding hearings. Our reply has been prepared in consultation with the Office of Security and has been cleared with the Bureau of the Budget.

*hbn*

John S. Warner  
Legislative Counsel  
10 MAY 1961  
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(DATE)

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