

CIA OPERATIONS CENTER

NEWS SERVICE

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(ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE)

(BY DANIEL GILMORE)

WASHINGTON (UPI) - ATTORNEY GENERAL GRIFFIN BELL TESTIFIED TODAY THAT NOT A SINGLE U.S. CITIZEN HAS BEEN TARGETED FOR ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE FOR INTELLIGENCE REASONS SINCE HE TOOK OFFICE LAST JAN. 26.

"ZERO," BELL SAID WHEN ASKED AT A HOUSE INTELLIGENCE SUBCOMMITTEE HEARING HOW MANY AMERICAN CITIZENS HAD BEEN SUBJECTED TO BUGGING, WIRETAPPING OR INTERCEPTION OF THEIR PHONE CONVERSATIONS FOR FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE OR COUNTER INTELLIGENCE REASONS SINCE HE BECAME ATTORNEY GENERAL.

HE TESTIFIED IN THE FIRST OF TWO DAYS OF OPEN HEARINGS ON PROPOSED LEGISLATION TO REGULATE THE USE OF ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE OF BOTH U.S. CITIZENS AND FOREIGNERS AND TO HELP PREVENT REPETITION OF PAST ABUSES.

SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN MORGAN MURPHY, D-ILL., CALLED ON BELL, CIA DIRECTOR STANFIELD TURNER AND OTHER WITNESSES TO GIVE THEIR VIEWS ON FOUR PROPOSED BILLS - INCLUDING ONE AUTHORED BY THE ADMINISTRATION DEALING WITH ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE.

THERE IS NO PROHIBITION AT PRESENT ON THE USE OF WIRETAP BUGGING AND OTHER TECHNIQUES IN FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE MATTERS.

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