

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION

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Dear Member:

The scene was a congressional hearing on warrantless wiretapping. Senator Kennedy questioned then Attorney General Saxbe:

KENNEDY: You can give that authoritative statement that there is no agency of Government in the United States which is involved in electronic surveillance today?
(emphasis added)

SAXBE: We have made diligent search.

KENNEDY: Other than the FBI, is that correct?

SAXBE: That is correct.

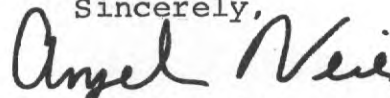
But that was not correct. We know now that the Postal Inspection Service does it. The IRS does it. The Drug Enforcement Administration does it. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the Secret Service, the Naval Investigative Service, the Defense Mapping Service, the Department of the Army--they all do it. At least 20 federal agencies other than the FBI conduct electronic surveillance, and there may be more.

Much of what we know now was discovered through over 30 major ACLU law suits against the FBI, CIA, the Army and other federal agencies. In one court ordered record search the ACLU obtained affidavits from dozens of agencies describing their procedures for electronic surveillance.

The ACLU and its state affiliates are spending hundreds of thousands of dollars to dismantle the American system of political surveillance. The time is right for an all-out effort. That is why I am asking you to send, if you can, an extra contribution, above and beyond your membership dues.

This is the year to stop Big Brother. Your support at this critical moment will give us the chance to do it.

Sincerely,



Aryeh Neier

Executive Director

AN/ag

Edward J. Ennis, Chairperson, Board of Directors • Ramsey Clark, Chairperson, National Advisory Council

Aryeh Neier, Executive Director