

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

COURTS OF APPEAL BUILDING
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401
974-2353

STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR
GEORGE B. RIGGIN, JR.



DEPUTY STATE COURT ADMINISTRATORS
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REPORT ON WIRETAPPING AND ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE
PURSUANT TO SEC. 10-409(C) OF THE COURTS ARTICLE

February 28, 1991

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND:

This is the fourteenth report submitted pursuant to section 10-409(c) which was enacted by Chapter 692, Acts of 1977. The report covers Calendar Year 1990.

A decrease of 62.5 percent was reported in the use of electronic surveillance during Calendar Year 1990. There were thirty-two requests for wiretapping or surveillance authorized in Calendar Year 1989 compared to only twelve requests authorized in Calendar Year 1990. Also decreasing was the number of subdivisions requesting the use of electronic surveillances. Five of the twenty-four (20.8 percent) counties filed reports for Calendar Year 1990, down from seven out of twenty-four (29.2 percent) during the previous year. Prince George's County filed the greatest number of reports, five or 41.7 percent, followed by Baltimore County with four or 33.3 percent. The remaining reports were filed in Carroll, Howard, and Montgomery Counties. There were no reports filed in either the Office of the Attorney General or the State Prosecutor's Office. It might be interesting to note at this point that many of the electronic surveillances used during Calendar Year 1990 were task force wires which were multi-jurisdictional, multi-state and were initiated by the federal government. Consequently, there were electronic surveillances used during the year in several jurisdictions that are not included in this report because they were not initiated or authorized by state agencies.

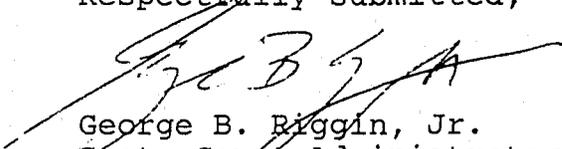
The twelve requests for electronic surveillance or wiretapping that were reported were all granted with an initial period of time of thirty days or less. Additionally, there were two extensions granted.

All of the requests for wiretapping and electronic surveillance involved violations of controlled dangerous substances laws. With respect to location, one (8.3 percent) surveillance was used in an apartment; two (16.7 percent) were used in cellular phones; three (25 percent) were used in business locations; and the remaining six (50 percent) were used in single family dwellings. Phone wiretaps were used in all twelve cases.

As a result of the use of electronic surveillances, the conversations of 369 individuals were intercepted. There was a total of 8,685 interceptions of which 906 (10.4 percent) were of an incriminating nature. The surveillances resulted in the arrest of 30 individuals; however, several investigations are still pending which could result in an even higher number of arrests. A total of \$625,673 was expended on the surveillances with an average per order cost of \$52,139. The cost for a single wiretap ranged from a low of \$6,900 in Prince George's County to a high of \$157,190 also in Prince George's County.

Following is a detailed breakdown of each order. Reporting numbers have been used to designate related reports filed by the judges and those filed by prosecuting officials.

Respectfully submitted,



George B. Riggan, Jr.
State Court Administrator

GBR/ddt
Enclosure

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U.S. Department of Justice
National Institute of Justice

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**Statewide Summary of Wiretapping and
Electronic Surveillance for January 1 - December 31, 1990**

<u>Offense</u>		<u>Location</u>	
Controlled Dangerous Substances		Apartment	- 1 (8.3%)
Drug Kingpin (Distribution of Cocaine)	- 1 (8.3%)	Business	- 3 (25.0%)
Distribution of CDS	- 2 (16.7%)	Cellular Phone	- 2 (16.7%)
Distribution of CDS		Single Family Dwelling	- 6 (50.0%)
Conspiracy to Distribute CDS	- 5 (41.7%)		12 (100.0%)
Distribution of Cocaine	- 4 (33.3%)		
	<u>12 (100.0%)</u>		

Type of Device

Phone Wiretap - 12 (100.0%)

No. of Conversations of
Individuals Intercepted

369

No. of Intercepts

8,685

No. of Incriminating Intercepts

906

No. of Arrests During Period

30

WIRETAPPING AND ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE
PURSUANT TO 10-409(c) OF THE COURTS ARTICLE
JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31, 1990

REPORTS BY JUDGES

Reporting Number*	Court	Official Authorizing Application	Offense Specified	Type of Intercept ¹	Location ²	Date of Application	AUTHORIZED LENGTH		Total Length (Days)
							Original Order (Days)	Number of Extensions	
<u>Baltimore County</u>									
1	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution of Cocaine	PW	S	07/12/90	30	-	30
2	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution of Cocaine	PW	D	07/12/90	30	-	30
3	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution of Cocaine	PW	D	07/12/90	30	-	30
4	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution of Cocaine	PW	D	07/24/90	30	-	30
<u>Carroll County</u>									
1	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Controlled Dangerous Substances - Drug Kingpin (Distribution of Cocaine)	PW	S	11/23/90	30	-	30
<u>Howard County</u>									
1	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution of CDS	PW	S	02/27/90	29	1	48
<u>Montgomery County</u>									
1	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution of CDS; Conspiracy to Distribute CDS	PW	S	06/25/90	30	1	60
<u>Prince George's County</u>									
1	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution of CDS; Conspiracy to Distribute CDS	PW	Cellular Phone	03/13/90	30	-	30
2	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution of CDS; Conspiracy to Distribute CDS	PW	Cellular Phone	04/03/90	30	-	30
3	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution of CDS; Conspiracy to Distribute CDS	PW	A	05/02/90	30	-	30
4	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution of CDS; Conspiracy to Distribute CDS	PW	S	05/22/90	30	-	30
5	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution of CDS	PW	S	12/04/90	10	-	10

*Corresponds to same number on reports by prosecuting officers.

¹TYPE: PW = Phone wire; ME = Microphone-eavesdrop.

²LOCATION: S = Single family dwelling; A = Apartment; D = Business location; PP = Pay phone; NR = Not reported.

WIRETAPPING AND ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE
PURSUANT TO 10-409(c) OF THE COURTS ARTICLE
JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31, 1990

REPORTS BY PROSECUTING OFFICERS											
Reporting Number*	Number of Days in Operation	Average Number of Intercepts Per Day	NUMBER OF		COSTS			NUMBER OF			
			Conversations of Individuals Intercepted	Intercepts	Total (\$)	Other Than Manpower (\$)	Persons Arrested	Trials	Motions to Suppress Intercepts	Persons Convicted	
<u>Baltimore County</u>											
1	25	16	23	394	28) ¹						
2	25	53	62	1,316	28)						
3	7	41	32	284	0)	\$40,600	2,200	4			-----Pending-----
4	13	18	16	233	4)						
<u>Carroll County</u>											
1	26	14	20	368	66	32,380	380	4			-----Pending-----
<u>Howard County</u>											
1	48	59	110	2,817	201	72,000	2,000	2	1	0	1
<u>Montgomery County</u>											
1	60	15	50	875	118	110,050	5,078	13			-----Pending-----
<u>Prince George's County</u>											
1	29	5	22	138	19	72,000	12,000				-----Pending-----
2	4	1	3	4	1	6,900	3,700				-----See Note-----
3	28	51	10	1,438	290	157,190	1,358) ²				
4	27	25	11	688	93	124,686	1,358)	7			-----Pending-----
5	1	130	10	130	58	9,867	700				-----Pending-----

¹These figures are the net result of four related cases constituting a single investigation.

²These interceptions are a part of a multi-jurisdictional, multi-agency investigation covering several states and federal authorities.

NOTE: Due to suppression of related wiretap, this case will not proceed further unless related wiretap ruling is overturned on appeal.

*Corresponds to same number on reports by judges.