## Ехнівіт 7



## Office of the Attorney General Washington, A. C. 20530

October 1 1973

Lt. General Lew Allen, Jr., USAF Director National Security Agency Fort George G. Meade, Maryland 20755

Dear General Allen:

- It has recently come to my attention for the first time that your Agency is disseminating to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Secret Service information obtained by NSA by means of electronic surveillance.

Recently, the Supreme Court held, in a case entitled <u>United States</u> v. <u>Keith</u>, 407 U.S. 297, that the Federal Government could not conduct electronic surveillance on citizens of this country without a warrant in certain circumstances. The practice by NSA of conducting electronic surveillance at the request of an investigative agency and disseminating the information obtained thereby raises a number of serious legal questions which have yet to be resolved.

Until I am able more carefully to assess the effect of <u>Keith</u> and other Supreme Court decisions concerning electronic surveillance upon your current practice of

disseminating to the FBI and Secret Service information acquired by you through the use of electronic devices pursuant to requests from FBI and Secret Service, it is requested that you immediately curtail the further dissemination of such information to these agencies.

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Of course, relevant information acquired by you in the routine pursuit of the collection of foreign intelligence information may continue to be furnished to appropriate Government agencies. What is to be avoided is NSA's responding to a request from another agency to monitor in connection with a matter that can only be considered one of domestic intelligence.

 $\boldsymbol{\mathbf{I}}$  will communicate with you further on this in the near future.

Sincerely,

Attorney General