

# Mandel asks spy charge reply

By DAVID GOELLER

Baltimore Police Commissioner Donald D. Pomerleau has been directed by Gov. Marvin Mandel to prepare a detailed reply to a legislative committee's allegations of improper and illegal surveillance activities by units of the department.

Frank A. DeFilippo said Monday that the governor made the request after a weekend reading of the 157-page report on city police activities released last week after a year-long investigation by the Senate Constitutional and Public Law Committee.

"He asked the commissioner to prepare a detailed item-by-item response to it," DeFilippo said.

The report centered on allegations that police units, including the secret Inspectional Services Division (ISD), engaged in widespread unwarranted surveillance of

persons not connected with criminal activity and possibly violated federal privacy and wiretap statutes.

Sources close to the committee have said the probe turned up sufficient evidence to enable Maryland U.S. Atty. Jervis S. Finney to bring matters before a federal grand jury.

The report charged that Pomerleau was aware of surveillance activities carried out by the ISD, created in 1966 as an adjunct of his office.

The Baltimore News-American reported Sunday that targets of ISD spying included Mandel, Baltimore Mayor William D. Schaefer, civil rights and sports figures and political candidates not tied to any crimes.

The committee report alleged that the ISD maintained dossiers on such figures. As he did last year in testimony before the committee, Pomerleau has denied that the

unit kept dossiers on persons not connected to criminal activity.

Another allegation in the report was that the police vice squad and unidentified employees of the Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Co. of Maryland participated in wiretap activity without required court orders.

The report said that in the majority of cases, telephone company personnel carried out eavesdropping at the request of senior vice squad officers. Police then disguised the source of information when they obtained search warrants from judges, it was charged.

A spokesman for the telephone company has denied the charges.

Another area criticized by the Senate panel concerned possible violations of the federal statute designed to insure the privacy of personal information in the files of credit bureaus.

The committee charged that an ISD officer planted in a Baltimore credit bureau having files on almost every

Marylanders fed private information to the ISD without the court orders required by the federal law.



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