

rendered impossible by these attacks. If these machines are destroyed, there can be no basis for mounting an effective defense against proposed austerity measures coming from both the Bush and Carter camps.

Our sources say that the Teamsters and the International Longshoreman's Association are key targets of the Abscam/Brilab operation. These unions have been the targets of the FBI-DoJ since the early 1950s. The story that has generally appeared in the press about the corruption of the IBT and ILA is a cover for this operation—the real aim is to control these unions, to prevent them from acting as an independent force on American politics. This was the reason behind the vendetta against the late Teamster President James Hoffa—a vendetta conducted by the same FBI-DoJ networks involved in Abscam/Brilab. FBI Assistant Director Neil Welch, for example, ran the last phases of the “Get Hoffa” operation, including the investigation into Hoffa’s 1977 “disappearance.” Some people say that it was Welch who helped make Hoffa “disappear.”

### How to stop it

It is the responsibility of our elected officials to put an end to Abscam/Brilab. It would be wrong, as is being proposed now, for Congress to pass judgment on a case by case basis. It would be equally wrong, as is also proposed, to simply focus on the legal implications of the “sting” entrapment techniques from the standpoint of “overzealousness.”

The real question that must frame a proper investigation is, who benefits? The relevant Congressional committees must immediately begin an investigation of the who, the why and the how of Abscam/Brilab, before the entire 1980 election campaign is turned into a travesty.

## What is the National Intelligence Act of 1980?

Two weeks ago, in the midst of the public unveiling of the Abscam/Brilab scandals, Senator Dee Huddleston (D-Ky.) together with Senator Birch Bayh (D-Ind.), chairman of the Select Committee on Intelligence, Senator Charles Mathias (D-Md.) and Senator Barry Goldwater (R-Az.) introduced the National Intelligence Act of 1980, whose purpose is to supersede the National Security Act of 1947.

According to critics and supporters alike, the 124-page bill, which incorporates and/or amends sections of the existing Executive Orders and the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, written in the wake of the famous Church Committee Report on intelligence community abuses, the central, most radical feature of the bill is what is most commonly called the “secret court” or the “Star Chamber.”

This special court is already in existence and includes 7 federal district court judges whose function is to issue court orders for warrants requested by an intelligence agency to conduct electronic surveillance of U.S. citizens.

## Organized crime's strike force

The Justice Department's Organized Crime Strike Force has, since its inception in 1966, created more heat and less light than any other institution in the history of American law enforcement. Despite tremendous publicity on its successes in fighting organized crime, the Strike Force has avoided every single one of the central figures in the drug running and dirty money empire in the U.S.

Moreover, for their careful work in overlooking the Jacobs' family SportsSystems; Max Fisher's United Brands (formerly United Fruit); Meyer Lansky's Resorts International and Intertel; etc. many of the leading figures in the Strike Force have “retired” to high positions in these companies

The first strike force was put together in Buffalo by Attorney General Ramsey Clark in 1966. Clark chose Buffalo because of the extremely high profile of organized crime there and claimed it would be the best place to test his “concept” of bringing together a number of federal agencies in a coordinated effort.

The record of the Buffalo Strike Force during its first year set the tone for the activities of the entire Strike Force apparatus, now deployed in major cities across the country. Instead of launching the Strike Force against Max Jacobs and his associates, Clark aimed the first Strike Force campaign against Jacobs' local competition. To pull this scam off Clark appointed Robert Peloquin who had been in Attorney General Robert Kennedy's “Get Hoffa” unit, to head up the Strike Force team.

Starting out as a recruit to the Office of Naval Intelligence during the War, Peloquin spent the 1950s in the National Security Agency

The Huddleston bill would expand the function of the existing court to include provision for issuing orders for physical searches—that is, break-ins—and mail openings based on “probable cause of criminal activity by any U.S. person whose property or mail is to be searched.” In other words, the famed “Watergate” plumbers—now known to have been working for intelligence agencies—would have been conducting their political dirty work with the full blessing of the president, Congress and the law. Although one of the authors of the bill maintained throughout a recent interview that the discretion or “inherent powers” of the president would be put in check by the existence of such a court, the Act states that the “president through the attorney general, may authorize physical search or electronic surveillance *without a court order* ... is directed solely at the property or premises under the open and exclusive control of a foreign power ... (and that) there is no substantial likelihood that the search will involve the property or mail of a United States person ...” (our emphasis).

The Huddleston bill, which was five years in the making, is a liberal’s nightmare, even though its key sponsors are dyed-in-the-wool liberals. According to one source in the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, the passage of the bill is “troublesome because of the need to compromise on privacy principles. There is no question that Birch Bayh, Dee Huddleston and Mathias ... would have preferred to have more stringent protections for privacy of Americans in this bill.

Importantly too, the bill lays out the basis to both strap the functioning of the CIA, in particular, by designating the creation of a new, all-encompassing Director of National Intelligence, answerable to the president and the National Security Council, as well as continue to

burden the intelligence community with bogus forms of “accountability” like oversight committees, bureaucratic procedure and the like.

Most important, however, is the ultimate intent of the bill, on the constitutional level. The bill purports to establish the legal authorities and provisions by which to regulate the behavior of the intelligence community as well as to protect the constitutional rights of individuals.

The establishment of such a legal framework, however, whose substantive theory was developed by former attorney General Edward Levi and friends at the University of Chicago and Stanford University, would allow the courts to “innovate constitutionally,” in the words of one source who worked during Levi’s tenure on the abuses of the FBI. In Nazi Germany, such legal “innovation” simply meant that the legal system—developed by an ideological companion of the same Edward Levi, namely, Karl Schmitt—adapted the law to fulfill the goals of the Nazis’ social and economic policies, including the crime of euthanasia.

Imagine the passage of the National Intelligence Act of 1980 during the tenure of the Carter administration, an administration whose policies increasingly resemble the Nazis, up to and including refusal of the President to act on a Massachusetts case of attempted euthanasia. Consider the musings of one of the authors of the bill:

If you look down the road and you begin thinking about the kinds of pressures that come up ... we could have a pretty good bulwark against the next domestic hysteria, in which the targets are not Russians but Americans, and the concern is about domestic unrest and our domestic problems being caused by foreign powers intervening in our affairs.

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until he was brought into the Justice Department by Kennedy. In 1965, as Meyer Lansky’s “Hong Kong West” dreams were materializing in the Caribbean, Peloquin was approached by a Lansky envoy, James Crosby. At the time Lansky was facing severe competition over the purchase of Hog Island in the Bahamas. Peloquin and the Organized Crime Division of the Justice Department launched a new investigation of organized crime in the Caribbean. Lansky’s opposition fled and Hog Island was transformed into Paradise Island, a major gambling casino and money laundering operation for international drug trafficking.

Following this Robert Peloquin was named head of the first Organized Crime Strike Force in Buffalo.

With help from Neil Welch, newly appointed head of the Buffalo FBI office and the Canadian RCMP, Peloquin succeeded in putting together a net of indictments against old mafia Don, Stefano Maggadino and some of his lieutenants. Though Maggadino died before he came to trial, and many of the indictments were thrown out of court, the initial publicity splash was sufficient to “sell” the Strike Force as a new way to fight organized crime.

With his job done, Peloquin and an old associate from the “Get Hof-

fa” team, William Hundley, “retired” into Meyer Lansky’s Resorts International crime empire where he now heads up Intertel, the intelligence machine of organized crime.

Other notable figures in the Strike Force have found haven in the organized crime networks after leaving the strike force, including Thomas J. Mekeon from the Detroit Strike Force who joined Intertel; William O. Bitman who left the Strike Force for an executive position in Jacobs’ Sports Systems; and Daniel Hollman, the head of the Brooklyn Strike Force until about 1976 when he joined Sports Systems.