American Civil Liberties Union
of Southern California
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AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION

22 East 40th Street New York, N.Y. 10016 (212) 725-1222

Dear Fellow American:

"The government was in jeopardy. My private information removed all doubt."

Those were the words of Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer in 1920. With that now familiar justification, Palmer led a series of night-time raids routing thousands from their beds. Aliens and other "suspect" persons were summarily imprisoned or deported.

The American Civil Liberties Union was founded that same year. One of the ACLU's first goals was to put a stop to the Palmer raids. We did. An ACLU court case, Colyer v. Skeffington was instrumental in ending the Palmer raids.

In our times, the words and deeds of A. Mitchell Palmer have been imitated by a President who sanctioned burglaries, illegal wiretapping, mail interceptions and lying. His explanation is that information available to him -- not to us -- told him the national security was at stake. The ACLU means to put a stop to this assault on constitutional liberties. With your help, we will succeed.

Will you join the ACLU? More than 250,000 of your fellow Americans find that, through their membership in ACLU, they can make their voices count in defense of constitutional liberties. Join us if you share our commitment to freedom of inquiry and expression, privacy, due process of law and equal protection of the laws. We need your help whether we are engaged in an extraordinary effort to impeach President Nixon or in the day-in-day-out defense of the Bill of Rights.

The ACLU defends freedom in the courts, in the Congress, in state and local legislatures, in the administrative proceedings of public agencies and in the forum of public opinion. Our strength is dependent on ACLU members. We hope you will add to that strength.

Join us today.

Sincerely,

Aryeh Neier

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