



Why did we bother debating the Patriot Act if President Bush could make up his own rules about spying on U.S. citizens?

“The Patriot Act was written with clear safeguards to ensure the law is applied fairly. The judicial branch has a strong oversight role. Law enforcement officers need a federal judge’s permission to wiretap a foreign terrorist’s phone, a federal judge’s permission to track his calls, or a federal judge’s permission to search his property. Officers must meet strict standards to use any of these tools. And these standards are fully consistent with the Constitution of the U.S.” —George W. Bush, June 9, 2005

He lied to us. Even Nixon’s lawyer is troubled.

“In acting here without Congressional approval, Bush has underlined that his Presidency is unchecked — in his and his attorneys’ view, utterly beyond the law. Now that he has turned the truly awesome powers of the NSA on Americans, what asserted powers will Bush use next?” —John W. Dean, former legal counsel to the President, December 30, 2005

A special counsel must be appointed to determine whether oaths of office were broken and federal laws violated through the Bush National Security Agency spying program.

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