

# *White House Panel Refutes NSA Claims*

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Washington, January 16 (RHC)-- In the U.S., members of the White House panel reviewing government surveillance have publicly rejected some of the National Security Agency's key claims in justifying warrantless, mass spying.

Appearing before a Senate hearing, former CIA Deputy Director Michael Morell and former national security aide Richard Clarke refuted assertions the bulk collection of phone data could have prevented 9/11.

Michael Morell said it was true that spy program has not played a significant role in disrupting any terrorist attacks, but still tried to justify its existence.

U.S. President Barack Obama is expected to present his plan for reforming the National Security Agency on Friday.

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