

Activist 'target list' claimed

LEGISLATORS raised serious doubts about the Government's pledges that it had not conducted political investigations and did not have a "target list" of political activists.

Independent legislator **Anna Wu Hung-yuk** cited examples of possible political investigation conducted by the Government in the late 1970s and early 1980s of some political or pressure groups.

She said the Government had a "target list" of 14 groups at that time which included the Observers, an "embryonic" political group of which Ms Wu was an active member, and the Society for Community Organisation (SOCO), which champions the underprivileged.

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An assessment report on these groups would be compiled and sent to the Standing Committee on Pressure Groups, said Ms Wu.

"I was one of the names made known in the reports on the Observers," she said.

Veteran politician and legislator **Elsie Tu** echoed Ms Wu's comments and said she also learned of such a list, which included the Observers as among those being watched by the Government.

"I can confirm that this list exists and I have seen it. And it does have the name of the Observers and SOCO. Surprisingly enough my name is not on the

list," said Mrs Tu.

Secretary for Security **Alistair Asprey** said he had no information at hand and agreed to provide a written answer.

He reiterated to Legco members that the Government would only conduct security investigations which involved interception of telephone messages when there were threats to the security of Hong Kong.

He said examples of these threats included terrorism, nuclear arms proliferation or United Nations sanctions circumvention.

He rejected calls from legislators to disclose more details of the security investigations, saying it was important to keep the investigations strictly confidential.