

But military records and interviews with former staff members show Yarborough was convinced that Army Intelligence was engaged in a war with Communists for the minds of Americans.

While there, he argued that the elite Special Forces commandoes and Army Intelligence could "mutually support" one another in "counterinsurgency

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HOW THEY SPIED

U.S. Army domestic spying operations, 1968:

■ 304 intelligence offices across the continental United States, divided into six regional military intelligence groups (MIGs), plus the 116th MIG that operated exclusively in metropolitan Washington.

■ Fiscal 1968 budget for all MIGs — \$14.4 million, up 26 percent from the previous year, plus \$300,000 for surveillance equipment.

■ All offices connected by a state-of-the-art ASR 35 communications system, described as "an automatic sending/receiving teletype with a voice/data capability."

■ Another super-secret MIG, the 902nd, controlled directly by Maj. Gen. William P. Yarborough, assistant chief of staff for intelligence.

■ The 902nd commanded by Vietnam veteran Col. John W. Downie from offices in Falls Church, Va.

■ Classified intelligence files reviewed by The Commercial Appeal reveal the 902nd spied on politicians, activists and celebrities.

■ The eight MIGs employed 798 Army officers, 1,573 enlisted men and 1,532 civilians, including 67 black undercover agents. Of the total, 1,576 were directly involved in intelligence-gathering activities. About 260 of these spies were civilians.

■ Army Intelligence maintained "subversive/national security" dossiers on 80,731 Americans and 211,243 organizations.

■ It had access to the Defense Central Index of Investigation's (DCII) 19 million personnel dossiers; more than 2.2 million files at the FBI, Secret Service, Civil Service Commission, Passport Office and CIA; criminal files at most large police departments; credit bureau, school registration and airline reservation records; and the "Special Service Staff" files, a covert group of Internal Revenue Service agents that maintained tax dossiers on 8,585 individuals and 2,873 organizations.

■ At Fort Holabird, Md., headquarters of the Army Intelligence Command, the giant U.S. Army Investigative Records Re-

pository (USAIRR) contained 6.2 million personal and 208,972 subject files in orange folders.

■ Beginning in early 1967, a \$2 million computerized filing and retrieval system (the Randriever I) was installed. It was necessary because the previous year, the repository processed 338,613 new cases and handled another 676,628 requests for dossiers by various federal agencies.

■ Army Intelligence published green-and-white glossy paperback "mug bugs" on black radicals containing photographs, family history, political philosophy, personal finances and surveillance data to permit intelligence personnel and Army commanders in riot areas to identify the "dissident elements" within a community.

■ Intelligence units also assigned to the U.S. Strike Command at MacDill Air Force Base in Florida and the Continental Army Command (CONARC), under the direction of intelligence chief Brig. Gen. H. L. Ash.

■ These commands maintained their own files on black subversives, as did individual intelligence units attached to the 5th Mechanized Infantry Division at Fort Carson, Colo., and the 18th Airborne Corps headquartered at Fort Bragg, N.C.

■ The Army Security Agency (ASA) employed expert wiretappers, buggers and safe-crackers. In unmarked Volkswagen minibuses equipped with radio direction finders, ASA agents cruised streets searching for clandestine radio transmissions that might reveal the start of civil disturbances.

■ Air Force reconnaissance aircraft like the RF 101 sent aerial photos to the Army's Imagery Interpretation Center at Fort Holabird, while Army helicopters followed the paths of marchers or suspected armed radicals.

■ All pertinent information collected on subversives and radicals was channeled to Yarborough's staff, specifically the Counterintelligence Analysis Bureau (CIAB), secretly headquartered in a red brick warehouse at 1430 S. Eads St. in Arlington, Va.