

City Leaders Monitored by Army in '69

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Mayor Walter E. Washington, D.C. Del. Walter E. Fauntroy and school board president Marion Barry were under surveillance by members of U.S. military intelligence during 1969.

Accounts of their activities are included in computer printouts of Army intelligence files that were given to the Senate Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights, headed by Sen. Sam Ervin (D-N.C.).

Ervin charged last Tuesday that military surveillance of private citizens was carried out to a far greater extent than even had been evident during Senate investigations during 1970 and 1971.

The Pentagon said during the hearings that such surveillance has been stopped, and the records destroyed.

See WATCH, A14, Col. 1

WATCH, From A1

It was not clear from the documents whether there was a specific study being made of the individuals involved or whether the reports reflected simply a monitoring of possibly explosive events. The Army has acknowledged that it undertook a wide-ranging domestic intelligence gathering effort after it was given the mission of helping to cope with domestic disorders in the late 1960s. No comment was available yesterday from the Army.

Ervin's Subcommittee's report says that "Army intelligence was . . . collecting, disseminating, and storing large amounts of data on the private and personal affairs of law-abiding citizens. Comments about the financial affairs, sex lives, and psychiatric histories of persons unaffiliated with the armed forces appear throughout the various record systems."

It was not possible to tell from the printout, which included only a cursory description of events in which the three D.C. figures took part just what information had been gathered about them.

Reports of literally thousands of other events taking place throughout the United States and names of thousands of persons were listed in unclassified weekly or biweekly intelligence reports compiled at Ft. Monroe, Va.

The compilation of these reports, called CRIS reports, for Counterintelligence Records Information System, were the only ones made available to the press. The CRIS reports are unclassified.

It is understood that there were at least eight other computerized data systems containing information on U.S. citizens, which were controlled by five different military intelligence commands. The others, which contain biographical information, and assessments of the subject's effectiveness as a leader, were included in classified files.

What was apparent was that military intelligence operatives observed the three District of Columbia officials and others included in the reports. The reports stipulate the source of information, which included FBI and police reports, as well as news coverage, and "qualified observers."

When the information was

prepared by military intelligence the initials "MI" appear in the report. "MI" was listed as the source of reports that:

- Fauntroy led a demonstration in front of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare in June, 1969, in support of striking hospital workers in Charleston, S.C. Fauntroy was elected D.C. delegate in March, 1971.

A "meeting/gathering" was held a Murphy's Supper Club to announce a rally in support of Pride, Inc., of which Barry is executive director. Barry was elected to the school board last November. He is still director of Pride.

- Mayor Washington spoke to about 600 persons at the New Hope Baptist Church during memorial services for the late Dr. Martin Luther King. The report adds, "there were entirely clear."

In addition, the references to Fauntroy and Barry included personal identity numbers. Fauntroy's was 1,377 and Barry's was 3,204. The meaning of these numbers is not entirely clear.

In its analysis of the military intelligence operation, Sen. Ervin's Subcommittee report says, "Normally such numbers were reserved for radical students, militant black power advocates, or civil rights leaders. Nothing in the reports on these officials indicates why they should have been singled out for special attention."

Fauntroy said yesterday that he had long had reason to believe that such reports had been prepared and that he considered it a "great waste of troy's staff noted that testimony by columnist Jack Anderson at a congressional hearing had previously disclosed that an FBI investigative report had been prepared on Fauntroy.

Mayor Washington said that "in context" the report of his speech "involved routine monitoring of the day's events." He indicated that he did not feel that he personally was the target of the surveillance.

"I'm not surprised at anything that happens in this country to black people and progressive people," Barry said, "because there is a continuing effort to commit genocide in one way or another."

The three D.C. officials are only the latest in a long series of well-known persons to have come under military intelligence surveillance. It had been previously reported that

former D.C. school board member Julius Hobson was among those covered.

Sen. Adlai Stevenson III (D-Ill.), Rep. Abner Mikva (D-Ill.), Sen. Edmund S. Muskie (D-Me.), Los Angeles Mayor Sam Yorty, President Nixon, Mark Rudd, Jerry Rubin, Yale chaplain William Sloane Coffin, the Susquehanna Players (a theater group), and Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.) are among the hundreds mentioned.

The events included ranged from major demonstrations, including unrest on local campuses, to the trivial. One entry, credited to the FBI, read:

"A telephone call was received at the Air Force Command Post, the Pentagon. The caller, who had a male voice and sounded coherent, stated substantially that he just arrived in the Washington area and that he and his boys would drop satellites, bombs or missiles on the Pentagon at 10 o'clock."