King surveillance

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I think it is a fair inference that although previously strong in his refusal to see Manchester, Hoover changed his mind on learning that in 1955 Manchester gave wide distribution to a Hoover article.

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June 10

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1 - Mr. Glass

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Mr. Tavel
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The Attorney General

Director, FBI

JUNE

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

The following facts are being furnished for your information concerning the telephone surveillance on the residence of the late Martin Luther King, Jr., authorized by former Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy and installed by this Bureau.

On July 16, 1963, an official of this Bureau saw Mr. Kennedy at the latter's request. On that occasion, Mr. Kennedy said he was considering the possibility of a telephone surveillance of King because of King's communist associations. He was advised by the Bureau official that since King was in travel status practically all the time the productivity of such a surveillance was doubtful and he was asked to consider the repercussions if it ever became known that such a surveillance had been instituted on King. Mr. Kennedy said he was not concerned about possible repercussions and that he thought it advisable to have as complete coverage as possible in view of the possible communist influence in the racial situation. He was told that the feasibility of such coverage would be determined and an appropriate recommendation would be submitted to him.

On July 25, 1963, Mr. Kennedy changed his mind concerning his request and thought it ill advised at that time, but on October 7, 1963, a request for authority to place a telephone surveillance on King's residence was sent to Mr. Kennedy. On October 10, 1963, he authorized this

100-106670

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

CEG:ekw
(11)

SENT FROM D. O.
TIME 5:32 PM
DATE 6-10-69
BY
MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Group 1
Excluded from automatic downgrading and

cc is in PF - Martin Luther King, Jr.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/28/82 BY

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY LETTER DATED

Doc #1

surveillance, and a surveillance on any future residence of King, by his written signature.

This telephone surveillance was installed on November 8, 1963, and was discontinued on April 30, 1965.

NOTE:

Because of the considerable publicity concerning the telephone surveillance on the residence of the late Martin Luther King, Jr., occasioned by the court hearings in the Selective Service case of Cassius Clay, the facts concerning the original request for this coverage by Robert F. Kennedy, are being furnished to the Attorney General.

Classified "Top Secret" because of sensitive nature of the information contained therein, the unauthorized disclosure of which could result in exceptionally grave damage to the national security.

Serial Removal Charge Out-
National Security Electronic Surveillance File
4-674 (Rev. 7-18-73)

Subject MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS

This serial, the original memorandum from the FBI to the Attorney General dated October 7, 1963, which was returned to the Bureau signed by the Attorney General authorizing FBI to conduct electronic surveillance, has been permanently removed for retention in the National Security Electronic Surveillance File per memorandum T. J. Smith to Mr. E. S. Miller dated 7-13-73. See 62-115687-1 for details and where maintained.

Removed By SA (b)(7)(c) [redacted] Date 12/13/73

Complete File and Serial Number 100-106670-254

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/27/82 BY SP-2A
TAPES

Here is 0 & C file

Doc #2

King surveillance

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Hoover's O+C file

Doc #2