

II. METHODOLOGY

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The first step in our review was to find out the extent of the Bureau's files on Dr. King, his family, associates and relevant organizations. We learned that the relevant files are voluminous. For example, at FBI Headquarters the so-called security investigation of Dr. King consists of 94 sections or volumes, comprising 3967 serials (memoranda); files on SCLC consist of 106 sections of 3249 serials; files captioned Communist Influence in Racial Matters consist of 162 sections of 3767 serials; files captioned Communist Party, USA - Negro Question consist of 49 sections of 2254 serials; files on the assassination investigation consist of 84 sections of 6003 serials; files on Mrs. King consist of three sections of 75 serials; files on (deleted pursuant to 5 U.S.C. §552(b)(7)(C)) There are more files on more associates of Dr. King. (u)

There are more FBI files in the various field offices. For example, the Atlanta file of the security investigation of Dr. King consists of 80 sections of 8321 serials; the Memphis file of the assassination investigation consists of 120 sections of 8493 serials, [deleted pursuant to 5 U.S.C. §552(b)(7)(C)] (u)

There are additional FBI files, not included above, such as "subfiles" - usually newsclips, and "June" files - usually unsanitized news regarding microphone or telephone surveillance. Additionally, there are more files with hundreds more sections in the Department itself which consist primarily of what the FBI has provided and which, therefore, are sanitized and not as informative as the FBI's files. (u)

Prior to reading any files, we met with those members of the staff of the Church Committee who had been working for several months on matters relating to Dr. King. They advised us that they had found nothing to implicate the Bureau in Dr. King's death. As they put it, they had found "no smoking

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