

## SCLC Leader Says FBI Is Continuing Wiretaps

ATLANTA, Ga., Aug. 11 (AP)—The president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference charged today that the FBI still is tapping telephones of officials within the civil rights organization.

The Rev. Ralph David Abernathy responded to questions about a Time magazine story which said FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover confronted the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with wiretaps disclosing alleged extra-marital activities.

Mr. Abernathy was asked at a news conference if the FBI is continuing to tap the telephone conversations of top SCLC officials.

"Yes," he replied, "not only of SCLC officials but just about anyone who stands up

for justice in this country today."

Asked how he could tell the telephones were tapped, Mr. Abernathy replied:

"You just pick up the telephone. You don't have to be a Philadelphia lawyer to know that someone is listening."

"We don't have anything to hide," he said in the news conference which opened the annual convention of SCLC. "We have the right to stand up and fight for those rights we are guaranteed under the Constitution of the United States. We will continue to move forward in spite of these acts."

Neither the FBI nor the Justice Department had any comment on Mr. Abernathy's statements.