

was interviewed at his office on December 21, 1976, by James R. Kieckhefer and Joseph F. Gross, Jr. was a Supervisor in the Communist Party United of the Internal Security Section, Domestic Intelligence Division, starting in the summer of 1961 and became Unit Chief in 1964. He is presently employed by the FBI. was cooperative and had a good recollection of his dealings with the intelligence investigation of Dr. King.

advised that in 1963 the Communist Party Unit was headed by Unit Chief and, in addition to himself, there were two other Supervisors, and With regard to the duties of the supervisors in his unit. stated that assignments were designated by subject matter and also by geographical location. The Section Chief of the Internal Security Section at this time was Fred J. Baumgardner and his #1 man was Dick Corman. The Domestic Intelligence Division then had as Assistant Director William C. Sullivan and as his #1 man, Joseph Sizoo.

was questioned in some detail on the events from August, 1963, until December of that year with respect to the initiation of technical surveillance and COINTELPRO activities against Dr. King. He related that in August, 1963, his unit assisted in the preparation of an analysis (the 8/23/63 analysis) of communist infiltration in the Negro population. also advised that he had prepared a synopsis for the analysis, but Mr. Sullivan later rewrote the synopsis which was forwarded to the Director noted that Sullivan had previously been Chief Inspector of the Central Research Section of the Division, and had assisted in the preparation of some of the Director's publications on communism.

Following review of this analysis, stated that the Director returned for a period of time every piece of work from the Division on King or the Communist Party with cryptic remarks. advised "there was considerable traffic of this nature at this time."

further stated that a separate record was kept of the "blue ink" (Hoover's remarks), but he believed this record was no longer available. It is opinion that both the Director and Assistant Director Sullivan believed that there was communist influence on Dr. King.

He doubts very much whether the time and manpower would have been spent if they had thought otherwise.

Several weeks later, _____ remarked, the first monograph on King was written. It was prepared by Charles D. Brennan, then Assistant Chief of the Central Research Section (Brennan later became #1 man to Baumgardner) _____ recalled that Baumgardner brought the Brennan draft to his unit in order to have each fact authenticated. Later, Baumgardner directed another check of the monograph to insure that the Bureau could substantiate this report on King and his associates.

_____ then explained the supervision of the King file. He stated that the Internal Security Section was responsible for supervision of groups or organizations while the Subversive Control Section monitored individuals. Initially, _____ a Supervisor in the Subversive Control Section had responsibility for the King file, but Baumgardner wanted the King matter under control of the Internal Security Section. For a period of time there was dual responsibility between the two sections but later the case was handled solely by the Internal Security Section.

_____ said that he was on leave when the meeting with agents from Atlanta took place concerning the use of COINTELPRO against Dr. King at the SOG. _____ said he did not know why COINTELPRO was started against King. He further stated he was told, after the decision had been made, about misur coverage of King and his associates at the Willard Hotel in January, 1964. He added that this was unusual since the Supervisor of a subject matter was held responsible for being aware of such activities, and was supposed to be able to render an accurate status report on a case at any given time.

_____ said that the Director wanted to be kept advised of King, and that the Director probably approved every COINTELPRO activity against him. Since the Director was personally involved in the handling of this intelligence case, the importance of it could not be over emphasized. It was a "hot potato." _____ remarked that he may have initiated some recommendations under COINTELPRO, but only if a previous type of a similar nature had been approved such as blocking an honorary degree to be given King.

_____ stated that he received directives from Sullivan, Sizoo and Baumgardner. Baumgardner told him that he was to be advised of all activity in this case. Yet he would at times receive an immediate order from Assistant Director Sullivan and then be pressed to decide whether he should first carry out the order or first advise his

Section Chief.

did not add anything to his previous written statement on the letter found in the "Sullivan papers."