

Memorandum

B-47
~~SECRET~~

Mr. Wick

Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bishop
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: December 15, 1966

C. D. Brennan

JUNE

- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. C.D. Brennan
- 1 - Mr. Rozamus
- 1 - Mr. D.M. Wells

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-1 JEM/WR

ON 10/28/90

This is to advise you of the microphones and wire tap coverage that we have afforded Martin Luther King, Jr., President, Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

As you are aware King has been in close association with individuals having Communist Party backgrounds since his rise to prominence in the civil rights field. Among such individuals is his principal advisor Stanley Levison, a long-time communist whose membership in the Communist Party, USA, has been established as late as July, 1963. Clarence Jones, another close advisor to King, was a former member and in a position of leadership in the Labor Youth League, a communist front organization. Bayard Rustin, another of King's close advisors, was a member of the Young Communist League in the early 1940's.

On October 10, 1963, Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy approved technical surveillances on King's current residence or at any further address to which he may move. He also approved the technical surveillance of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference New York City Office or any other address to which it may be moved.

A wire tap was installed on King's residence, 563 Johnson Avenue, Northeast, Atlanta, Georgia, on November 8, 1963, and discontinued on April 30, 1965, when King moved from this address. It was not reinstated on his new residence.

From October 24, 1963, to January 24, 1964, and from July 7, 1964, to July 31, 1964, a wire tap was maintained on the Southern Christian Leadership Conference New York City Office. In addition, on October 21, 1963, Attorney General Kennedy authorized a wire tap on the Southern Christian Leadership Conference Headquarters at Atlanta, Georgia, which was maintained from November 8, 1963, to June 21, 1966, when Attorney General Nicholas deB. Katzenbach ordered it discontinued since he thought it might be prejudicial to the possible prosecution of Keson Williams, a Southern Christian Leadership Conference official, under Interstate Transportation of Stolen Motor Vehicles Statutes.

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SENT DIRECTOR
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