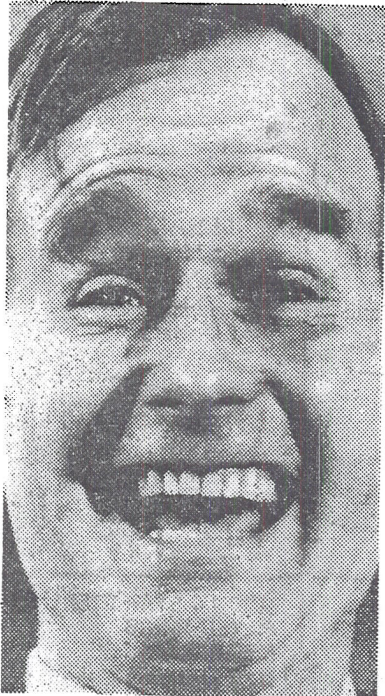


Johnson 'Knew of FBI's Attempts to Smear King'



AP Wirephoto

Bush Enters Laughing

The spy business is much the news in Washington with the Senate Intelligence Committee reporting about decades of official lawlessness by the FBI, the CIA and other agencies and the House Government Operations subcommittee holding hearings on amendments to the Privacy Act.

Yesterday, CIA Director George Bush was to testify at the hearing in the House and found something to laugh about on they way in.

Washington

Former President Lyndon B. Johnson and his attorney general, Nicholas Katzenbach, knew of FBI attempts to smear Martin Luther King Jr., but took insufficient action to stop them, the Senate intelligence committee charged yesterday.

Issuing its final report on "intelligence activities and the rights of Americans," the committee said the FBI's campaign to topple King as a civil rights leader "violated the law and fundamental decency."

The "indefensible" actions "represent a sad episode in the dark history of covert actions directed against law abiding citizens by a law enforcement agency," the committee said.

The report said "there is no question that officials in the White House and Justice Department, including President Johnson and Attorney General Katzenbach, knew that the bureau was taking steps to discredit Dr. King, although they did not know the full extent of the bureau's efforts."

"The response by top White House and Justice Department officials to strong indications of wrongdoing by the FBI was clearly inadequate," the committee declared.

Citing testimony by former FBI official Cartha DeLoach and Bill D. Moyers, a former Johnson aide, the report said Johnson apparently was more upset by a newsmen "telling all over town" that the FBI was making allegations against King than he was by the FBI's conduct.

"President Johnson apparently not only failed to order the bureau to stop, but indeed warned it not to deal with certain reporters because they had complained about the bureau's improper conduct," the report said.

As for Katzenbach, the committee noted that he was told in 1964 about the FBI allegedly offering to play for reporters "interesting tape recordings involving Dr. King."

Katzenbach "went no further than complaining to the President and asking a bureau official if the charges were true," the committee said. The official, DeLoach, denied he had made the offers.

The report traced the FBI's harassment of King, major elements of which were revealed during the committee's public hear-

2 Refuse to Sign Report On Spying

Washington

The vice-chairman and one other member of the 11-man Senate Intelligence Committee refused to sign the panel's report on domestic surveillance that was released yesterday.

Vice chairman John Tower (Rep-Tex.) said the report had not maintained a "delicate balance between individual liberties and national security."

Senator Barry Goldwater (Rep-Ariz.) said he refused to sign because the intelligence agencies "have already undertaken substantial reforms and the administration itself has piloted corrections by a thoughtful and detailed executive order."

Goldwater and Tower also refused to sign the committee's report Monday on foreign intelligence activities.

The nine other members of the committee signed both reports, but some of them expressed reservations.

United Press

ings in November, back to a December, 1963, meeting at FBI headquarters.

The nine-hour meeting was convened "to discuss various avenues of approach aimed at neutralizing King as an effective Negro leader," according to a memo from William C. Sullivan to Alan Belmont, both of whom were then high ranking FBI officials.

The meeting took place four months after the civil rights march on Washington, where King delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech, an address that Sullivan characterized as "demagogic" in an FBI memo.

After the meeting, field agents here instructed to "continue to gather information concerning King's personal activities . . . in order that we may consider using this information at an opportune time in a counterintelligence move to discredit him."

In detailing the FBI campaign against King, which included physical, electronic and photographic surveillances, scrutinizing his tax returns and monitoring his financial affairs, the report focused on some elements that were not disclosed during the public hearing.

It noted, for example, that "even after Dr. King's death, agents in the field were proposing methods for harassing his widow."

The report quoted former FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover's reaction to Time Magazine's 1963 selection of King as "man of the year."

Writing on a piece of press copy that reported King's selection, Hoover said: "They had to dig deep in the barbage to come up with this one."

Meanwhile, it was learned that high FBI officials are complaining about the report's conclusion that some of the 15 electronic bugs the FBI installed in King's Hotel rooms around the country "were planted ... for the express purpose of obtaining personal information about him."

These officials are understood to hold that Senator Frank Church (Dem-Ida.), committee chairman, concluded last fall after a secret FBI briefing on the King surveillance that the FBI had a legitimate national security basis for conducting the eavesdropping.

The FBI gave Church the briefing in an attempt to justify its refusal to turn over to the committee certain documents on the King surveillance that the bureau contended would jeopardize a source or method still being used by the FBI.

The documents are understood to involve the FBI's contention that Stanley D. Levison, a longtime associate of King, was a secret member of the Communist Party. Levison has denied ever being a Communist.