

File #:

62-HQ-116395

Serial Scope:

1146, 1148-1151, 1153-1156, 1157, 1158-1165

Released under the John F. Kennedy
Assassination Records Collection Act
of 1992 (44 USC 2107 Note).
Case#:NW 65360 Date: 06-01-2023

- 2 - Mr. J. A. Mintz
(1 - J. B. Hotis)
- 1 - Mr. W. R. Wannall
- 1 - Mr. W. O. Cregar
November 20, 1975
- 1 - Mr. J. T. Aldhizer

The Attorney General

Director, FBI

**U. S. SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES (SSC)**

Reference is made to SSC requests contained in letter of Senator Frank Church dated November 7, 1975, for materials concerning Martin Luther King, Jr.

Enclosed for your approval and forwarding to the SSC is an original of a memorandum in response to SSC requests in referenced letter.

Also enclosed for your records is a copy of the memorandum which is being delivered to you with a set of the materials which are being delivered to the SSC.

Enclosures (2)

62-116395

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/27/00 BY SP2A/M/HL

MDR 16

- 1 - The Deputy Attorney General
Attention: Michael E. Shaheen, Jr.
Special Counsel for
Intelligence Coordination

JTA:adn
(9)

NOTE:

A copy of the SSC letter 11/7/75, is attached to the file copy of enclosed letterhead memorandum. Exact copies of the materials being furnished are maintained in the office of the SENSTUDY 75 Project. Arrangements have been made for a representative of the Legal Counsel Division to deliver the attached memorandum as well as the materials being provided to the SSC.

REC-7: 62-116395-1165

DEC 12 1975

- ___ Affairs
- ___ Legal & Com.
- ___ Gen. Inv.
- ___ Ident.
- ___ Inspection
- ___ Intell.
- ___ Laboratory
- ___ Plan. & Eval.
- ___ Spec. Inv.
- ___ Training
- ___ Legal Coun.
- ___ Telephone Rm.
- ___ Director's Sec'y

ENCLOSURE
ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

MAIL ROOM

TELETYPE UNIT

ROUTED IN ENVELOPE

Jma

SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED
5-116395-1165

~~SECRET~~

- 2 - Mr. J. A. Mintz
(1 - J. B. Hotis)
- 1 - Mr. W. R. Wannall
- 1 - Mr. W. O. Cregar
- 1 - Mr. J. T. Aldhizer

62-116395

November 20, 1975

**U. S. SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE TO
STUDY GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS WITH
RESPECT TO INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES (SSC)**

Reference is made to SSC requests contained in letter of Senator Frank Church dated November 7, 1975, for materials concerning Martin Luther King, Jr.

The purpose of this memorandum is to effect delivery to the SSC of information and materials in response to requests contained in the above SSC letter.

The attention of the SSC is invited to FBI memorandum dated November 11, 1975, which referred to a highly sensitive oral briefing furnished to Senator Church and selected members of the SSC Staff by FBI personnel on November 5, 1975. This briefing was intended, in part, to serve in lieu of any written information in response to SSC requests for communications documenting Stanley David Levison as a secret member of the Communist Party, USA (CPUSA).

Because of SSC insistence in requesting items to establish factual basis for Levison's secret CPUSA membership, as set forth in referenced SSC letter, our New York office was contacted for documents representing original recordings from Bureau informants concerning Levison. As a result our New York office provided the material which is now being delivered and which has served as a basis for statements in various FBI documents that Levison was a secret member of the CPUSA.

ORIGINAL AND ONE TO AG

- Assoc. Dir. _____
- Dep. AD Adm. _____
- Dep. AD Inv. _____
- Asst. Dir.:
- Admin. _____
- Comp. Syst. _____
- Ext. Affairs _____
- Files & Com. _____
- Gen. Inv. _____
- Ident. _____
- Inspection _____
- Intell. _____
- Laboratory _____
- Plan. & Eval. _____
- Spec. Inv. _____
- Training _____
- Legal Coun. _____
- Telephone Rm. _____
- Director Sec'y _____

JTA:adm
(8)

~~SECRET~~

MDR 16
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHC
ON 10/29/00

Classified by 20478
Exempt from GDS, Category Number 2
Date of Declassification Indefinite

NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION

Unauthorized Disclosure
Subject to Criminal Sanctions

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

GPO : 1975 O - 569-920

ENCLOSURE

~~SECRET~~

SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

It is noted that referenced SSC letter requested unexcised copies of the February 22, and June 12, 1962, communications from New York which appear to have been the "articulated predicates for the 'cominfil' case." The SSC letter did not identify captions of these communications; nor identify any specific "cominfil case." Therefore, we were unable to locate any pertinent documents bearing these dates in our Headquarters files. At a meeting on November 12, 1975, between SSC Staff Member Michael Epstein and representatives of the Intelligence Division of the FBI, it was agreed that the two documents apparently referred to above are New York airtel dated February 12, 1962, captioned "Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; SM-C" and New York letter dated August 21, 1962, captioned "Communist Infiltration of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference; IS-C."

New York airtel dated February 12, 1962, is being delivered with this memorandum among those documents received from our New York office. Excisions in this document are fewer than those made in a copy previously provided the SSC. A copy bearing no or fewer excisions cannot be provided the SSC for reasons made clear during the oral briefing of Senator Church and selected SSC Staff members on November 5, 1975.

It is noted that New York letter dated August 21, 1962, which is being delivered with this memorandum, is not believed to have been previously provided the SSC.

1 - The Attorney General

~~SECRET~~

5-140 (Rev. 1-21-74) FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

Addressee: SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE

LTR LHM Memo Report dated 11/20/75

↓
Caption of Document: U.S. SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE.

11/7/75 request - KING

Originating Office: FBI ²³⁵

Delivered by: Richard Taylor Date: 11/26/75

Received by: Lynsey Oster

Title: elk

Return this receipt to the Intelligence Division, FBI

MDR 16
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/27/00 BY SP2 ARW/epk

ENCLOSURE

62 1165

FRANK CHURCH, IDAHO, CHAIRMAN.
 JOHN G. TOWEN, TEXAS, VICE CHAIRMAN
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 FREDERICK A. O. SCHWARZ, JR., CHIEF COUNSEL
 CURTIS R. SMOTHERS, MINORITY COUNSEL
 HOWARD H. BAKER, JR., OHIO
 BARRY GOLDWATER, ARIZ.
 CHARLES MC C. MATHIAS, JR., MD.
 RICHARD S. SCHWEIKER, PA.

United States Senate

SELECT COMMITTEE TO
 STUDY GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS WITH
 RESPECT TO INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

(PURSUANT TO S. RES. 21, 94TH CONGRESS)

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

November 7, 1975

Michael E. Shaheen, Jr., Esq.
 Office of Deputy Attorney General
 Room 4313
 U.S. Department of Justice
 Washington, D.C. 20530

MOR 16

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 1/27/00 BY SP5 JMM/CLL

Dear Mr. Shaheen:

I want you to know how much I appreciated the opportunity to meet with you and your associates the other day about the Martin Luther King, Jr. case. It was most helpful to have the benefit of the Bureau's knowledge concerning the background of the case, and I can assure you that we will do everything possible to avoid jeopardizing any sensitive FBI sources or ongoing operations.

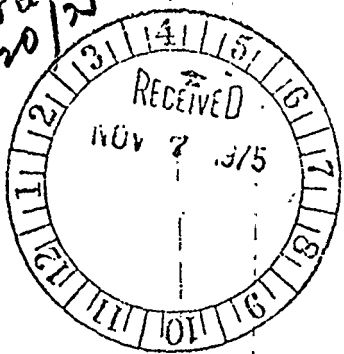
I do want to reiterate our need for the specific items set forth in earlier document requests which would presumably establish the factual basis for your conclusion as of various dates in 1962, 1963 and 1964 that Stanley Levison was a "secret member of the Communist Party, USA." Of course in the event that there is no particular document in any of those years wherein Levison was so-identified to the FBI, I think it would be helpful for you to let us know so that we may consider our outstanding requests in that context. Finally, of course, we still need unexcised copies of the February 22 and June 12, 1962 communications from New York which appear to have been the articulated predicates for the "cominfil" case.

Once again, I want to thank you for your time and I look forward to hearing from you further on this subject.

Sincerely,

Frank Church
 Frank Church
 Chairman

*Part to AG, cc DAG
 Encl-2 11/20/75
 JTA:adm*



62-116395-1165
 ENCLOSURE
5. [Signature]

TO: Intelligence Community Staff
ATTN: Central Index

FROM: **FBI**

SUBJECT: Abstract of Information Provided to Select Committees

1. HOW PROVIDED (check appropriate term. If a document was made available for review but not transmitted, so note.)

2. DATE PROVIDED

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DOCUMENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	BRIEFING	<input type="checkbox"/>	INTERVIEW	<input type="checkbox"/>	TESTIMONY	<input type="checkbox"/>	OTHER
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11/20/75

3. TO WHOM PROVIDED (check appropriate term; add specific names if appropriate)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SSC
<input type="checkbox"/>	HSC

4. IDENTIFICATION (provide descriptive data for documents; give name or identification number of briefer, interviewee, testifier and subject)

Memorandum and enclosures

MDR TO
**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/27/00 BY SP2A/KW/ELH**

5. IN RESPONSE TO (list date and item number if in response to formal request, otherwise state verbal request of (name), initiative, subpoena, etc.)

SSC letter 11/7/75

6. CLASSIFICATION OF INFORMATION (enter U, C, S, TS or Codeword)

S

7. KEY WORDS (enter the appropriate key words from the list provided separately; if key words not listed are used underline for emphasis)

**Intelligence collection
Information handling**

8. SUMMARY (see reverse side before completing this item)

Materials regarding Martin L. King, Jr., Stanley D. Levison and SCLC. Items to establish factual basis for Levison's secret CP, USA membership was obtained from FBI New York Office and furnished SSC.

62-116395

FMK:fmk

(4)

**ORIGINAL VIA LIAISON TO CENTRAL COMMUNITY INDEX
IN CONNECTION WITH SENSTUDY 75**

TREAT AS YELLOW

5-100

INSTRUCTIONS

- Type or print clearly in ink.
- Indicate classification of the abstract top and bottom.
- Date the abstract and put on any internal control numbers required.
- "FROM" entry should clearly identify the organization providing the information.
- If additions (as when a copy of document sent to SSC is later sent to HSC) or changes to a previously submitted form are necessary, submit a copy of the original abstract, with the change indicated.

SPECIFIC ITEM NO. 8. SUMMARY - enter brief narrative statement describing substance of information and showing relationship to Intelligence Community matters if appropriate. Any feedback or evidence of investigatory interests should be noted. Commitments made to supply additional information should be noted. Additionally, certain administrative information may be entered here, e.g., restrictions on review of a document, if document was paraphrased, whether interviewee is current or former employee, etc. If actual document or transcript is provided, that fact should be noted and no summary is required. Additional pages may be attached if necessary.

SSC LETTER 11-7-75

DOCUMENTS RECEIVED FROM NEW YORK OFFICE INDICATING CPUSA MEMBERSHIP
OF STANLEY DAVID LEVISON

MDR 16

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/27/02 BY SP3 ~~AKM~~ / EHL

18

62-116375-1165 Retain

ENCLOSURE

See 1165

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

~~TOP SECRET~~

TO : SAC (100-111180)

DATE: 4/17/64

FROM : SA JAMES M. KIRBY (414)

MDR 16
DECLASSIFIED BY SR2 ALM/EHL
ON 10/27/00

SUBJECT: STANLEY LEVISON
IS-C

On 4/9/64, ^{SENSITIVE FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE OPERATION (SFIO)} (NY 694-S* made the following observations with regard to the CP status of STANLEY LEVISON:

SFIO

LEVISON has been an important Party member for many years (and never at any time differed with the Party with respect to the Party line. His only difference with the Party has been with respect to the fact that in his opinion the Party was not sufficiently "militant" in defending Negro rights. In this respect, he has been to the "left" of the Party. LEVISON's differences with the Party are merely "tactical." He has never criticized the Party, except with respect to the Party's handling of the Negro question. The fact that he does not accept domination by the Party with regard to the MARTIN LUTHER KING movement should not be construed to mean that he has broken with the Party in all respects. The Party today is as anxious to reestablish friendly relations with LEVISON as it was in the past.)

SFIO

(It should be noted that LEVISON never has been officially "drummed out" of the Party, nor has anyone ever criticized him for being opposed to the Party's general principles. It further should be noted that according to the CP Constitution, it would require formal expulsion of LEVISON to state that he is officially out of the Party.

LEVISON never has said anything reflecting that he does not continue to be a CP member. It should be noted that it would be in the interests of the MARTIN LUTHER KING movement, with which he is associated, if he would publicly repudiate the Party, which he has never done. It should be further noted that in an effort to renew friendly relations

JMK:mmd
(1)

Classified by 2116
Exempt from GDS, Category 1
Date of Declassification Indefinite

100-111180-1116

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 17 1964	
FBI - NEW YORK	

~~TOP SECRET~~

NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION
Unauthorized Disclosure
Subject to Criminal Sanctions

~~TOP SECRET~~

NY 100-111180

SF10
(with LEVISON, the Party designated BEN DAVIS to contact LEVISON. LEVISON had always expressed the opinion that BEN DAVIS was the only CP functionary who had a sufficiently "militant attitude" as regards CP activities in behalf of the Negro movement. The fact that DAVIS and LEVISON as yet have not met should not be construed to mean that LEVISON has refused to confer with DAVIS. As NY 694-S* understands the situation, DAVIS has been awaiting contact by LEVISON, and LEVISON similarly has been awaiting contact by DAVIS. Each of these individuals is sufficiently egotistical to expect that the other would make the first move in an effort to establish contact. NY 694-S* believes that probably the reason why DAVIS and LEVISON have not met is that arrangements for their meeting were to be made by LEM HARRIS and that HARRIS has not made the proper efforts to effect a meeting between LEVISON and DAVIS.

NY 694-S* has never obtained any information reflecting that LEVISON has changed his thinking with regard to Marxism. Even though his present estrangement from the Party might be construed as reflecting he is no longer a CP member, there is no reason to come to the conclusion that LEVISON is no longer an ideological Communist.

JACK talked to LEM HARRIS yesterday who said he contacted STAN LEVENSON by phone and was given a cordial hello which was a change from the past when he was cool.

LEM said he had not seen LEVENSON, tried to call him and would like to see him immediately to which LEVENSON said, "I would like very much to see you but I don't have the time now. I'm leaving and packing for a trip. I will be glad to see you in six weeks."

LEVENSON implied that he was going to Ecuador but LEM doesn't know why. There was no anger shown, and LEVENSON will see LEM when he returns in six weeks.)

~~TOP SECRET~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, NEW YORK (100-111180)

DATE: 7/26/63
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FROM : SA FRANCIS T. LEONARD

SUBJECT: STANLEY DAVID LEVISON
IS-C

The following is being submitted as a revised characterization of the subject:

STANLEY LEVISON is a secret member of the Communist Party, United States of America (CPUSA).

NY T-
July 16, 1963

NY T- is ^{INFORMANT} (NY 694-S*.)

A three by five card has been prepared containing the above characterization and will be filed in the library of the NYO.

MDR 16
DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/ETH
ON 10/27/00

NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION
Unauthorized Disclosure
Subject to Criminal Sanctions

NY (100-111180) (414)
FTL: rmv K MV
(1)

main copy copy

134-11 (100)

Classified by 2116
Exempt from GDS, Category 2
Date of Declassification infinite

134-91-3819

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 6 1963	
FBI - NEW YORK	

~~TOP SECRET~~

FBI
Date: 6/13/63

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)
Via AIRTEL REGISTERED MAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-106670)

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-136585)

~~TOP SECRET~~

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING
SM - C
(OO: ATLANTA)

MDR 16
DECLASSIFIED BY OP2ALM/ELH
ON 10/27/00

(SENSITIVE FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE OPERATION (SFIO)
(Extreme caution must be exercised with respect to dissemination of the information herein inasmuch as, by its nature, said information tends to identify NY 694-S*, a valuable informant, as the source. Unless this information is obtained from a source other than NY 694-S*, it should not be included--even in paraphrased form--in the investigative section of a report.)

NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION
Unauthorized Disclosure
Subject to Criminal Sanctions

- 7 - Bureau (100-106670) (RM)
 - (1 - 100-392452) (STANLEY LEVISON)
 - ((1 - 100-358916) (HUNTER PITTS O'DELL))
 - (1 - 157-286) (MARTIN LUTHER KING)
 - ((1 - 100-) (ROY LEVISON))
- 2 - Atlanta (100-5586) (MARTIN LUTHER KING) (INFO)(RM)
 - (1 - 157-) (MARTIN LUTHER KING)
- (1 - Chicago (134-46-Inv.) (INFO)(RM))
- (1 - NY 134-91 (INV.) (41))
- (1 - NY 100-111180 (STANLEY LEVISON) (414))
- (1 - NY 100-91330 (HUNTER PITTS O'DELL) (414))
- (1 - NY 100-111203 (ROY LEVISON) (414))
- (1 - NY 100-7658 (LEM HARRIS) (414))
- 1 - NY 157-826 (MARTIN LUTHER KING) (412)
- 1 - NY 100-136585 (412)

SFIO

~~TOP SECRET~~

ACB:gmg
(20)

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

Classified by 2116
Exempt from GDS, Category _____
Date of Declassification Indefinite

NY 100-136585

SF 10

(On 6/13/63, NY 694-S* furnished the following information to SA ALEXANDER C. BURLINSON:

On 6/12/63, LEMENT HARRIS, CPUSA Reserve Fund functionary, told NY 694-S* that in a recent meeting with STANLEY LEVISON, the latter furnished him the following information:

The LEVISONs, particularly STANLEY, are still MARTIN LUTHER KING's "brain trust"--now more than ever before. This is so despite the fact that at a meeting of STANLEY LEVISON, ROY LEVISON, HUNTER PITTS O'DELL, MARTIN LUTHER KING and "the Attorney General's chief assistant", the Attorney General's assistant, pointing to the LEVISONs and HUNTER PITTS O'DELL, stated to MARTIN LUTHER KING, "These men are Party members; watch out for them."

MARTIN LUTHER KING did not "bat an eyelash" upon hearing the Assistant Attorney General's remark, and after the latter left the meeting, those in the group smiled at each other. STANLEY LEVISON said to KING, at this time, "I congratulate you on the way you acted regarding his warning. You are a real Marxist-Leninist. This is how a true Marxist-Leninist acts."

Everything that KING does he first discusses with STANLEY LEVISON and he accepts LEVISON's advice wholeheartedly. KING also wholeheartedly accepts the advice of HUNTER PITTS O'DELL as regards matters within the latter's local jurisdiction.

MARTIN LUTHER KING was asked by a group of newspaper reporters whether he takes orders from "the Communists", and also, whether he took "orders from STANLEY LEVISON." KING's response was that he took orders only from God.

By reason of the fact that the LEVISONs feel that the Party has done little, if anything, to assist the fight)

NY 100-136585

~~TOP SECRET~~

SF10 (for civil rights for Negroes, and further, since they feel that the Party, as a result of this "do nothing" attitude, has lost prestige, they will no longer permit the Party to dominate or control their activities in the MARTIN LUTHER KING movement. They are severing themselves, financially and in a disciplinary way, from the Party.) The LEVISON (and O'DELL) are still Party members, (but do not desire to be openly "linked up" with the Party. Although they are "disenchanted" with the Party, they are not quitting the Party. With respect to the MARTIN LUTHER KING movement, they will act on their own initiative, and will not accept instructions from the Party.)

SF10 (LEM HARRIS then advised that the Party, however, still would like to control the MARTIN LUTHER KING movement. BEN DAVIS has been assigned to be "liaison or intermediary" with the LEVISON and HUNTER PITTS O'DELL. Whether or not the LEVISON and O'DELL will maintain liaison regarding matters concerning the MARTIN LUTHER KING movement is a matter for them to decide. In view of LEVISON's statement with respect to advising MARTIN LUTHER KING independently of Party instructions, it would seem that DAVIS may not have any success in maintaining liaison with the LEVISON and HUNTER PITTS O'DELL. The LEVISON and O'DELL are aware of the fact that BEN DAVIS has been given this assignment by the Party.)

MARTIN LUTHER KING, according to LEM HARRIS, is referred to by such top Party functionaries as GUS HALL, BEN DAVIS, JIM JACKSON and CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT as a "true, genuine, Marxist-Leninist from the top of his head to the tips of his toes." In the Party, the report is that MARTIN LUTHER KING is following a Marxist-Leninist line.

NY 694-S* advised that he asked LEM HARRIS whether or not, to the latter's knowledge, MARTIN LUTHER KING was a member of the CPUSA. LEM HARRIS replied that he did not know.

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

SAC, NEW YORK (100-111180)

8/30/62

SA FRANCIS T. LEONARD (415)

8/31

STANLEY LEVISON
IS-C

The following characterization is being submitted for approval with respect to the subject:

NY T- who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on August 20, 1962, that STANLEY LEVISON is a secret member of the Communist Party, United States of America (CP, USA), and (contributes funds to the CP on a regular basis.)

SENSITIVE FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE OPERATION

NY T- is ^(Informant) (NY 694-S*)

MDR 16

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL
ON 10/27/00

- ① - NY 134-91-INV.) ^{SP10}
- 1 - NY 100-111180 (415)

FTL: gmm
(2)

NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION
Unauthorized Disclosure
Subject to Criminal Sanctions

104-70-296

116 2

JM

~~SECRET~~

