

File #:

62-116395

Serial Scope:

1426- EBF

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

(RI) 105-165706

March 20, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

RE: [BLACK PANTHER PARTY]

The [Black Panther Party] is a black extremist organization with national headquarters in Berkeley, California. It now has affiliated groups in over [25 cities] throughout the United States and a membership exceeding [1,200].

The public statements of its leaders repeatedly stress that the organization's objective is an [armed black] revolution against the Government of the United States by means of [guerrilla warfare]. Information is regularly received showing that its members are required to possess guns and have been instructed in their use. They have been trained in the preparation of fire bombs and explosives. The organization strongly supports the Cuban and Chinese Communist revolutionaries.

Reviews of telephone toll call records and information supplied by informants show that the leaders of the organization use the telephone extensively.

The largest and most active [Black Panther Party] chapter outside of the San Francisco Bay area is in Los Angeles, California. [The organization maintains several offices in the Los Angeles area and has a headquarters office at 4115 South Central Avenue, Los Angeles. The next most active Black Panther Party group is located in New York City which maintains its principal office at 2026 7th Avenue, New York City.]

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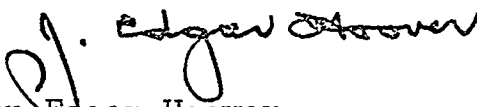
MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

The telephone surveillance on the [national headquarters of the Black Panther Party] which was authorized on February 4, 1969, has proved to be most valuable. It has provided information concerning the planned establishment of [Black Panther Party branches at Eugene, Oregon; Fresno, California; the Watts area of Los Angeles, California; Syracuse, New York; Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; and Columbus, Ohio.] It provided information concerning the removal of Joudan Ford from his leadership position in the New York City branch and, most recently, has furnished details concerning the travel of National Chairman Bobby George Seale to the Scandinavian countries where Seale is at the present time.

Live informants are furnishing information indicating that the organization will increasingly use underground methods of operation which further emphasizes the desirability of obtaining additional coverage to supplement data being furnished by our live informants.

It is requested that authority be granted for telephone surveillances on the [Black Panther Party headquarters at 4115 South Central Avenue, Los Angeles, and on the Black Panther Party office at 2026 7th Avenue, New York City,] or on any other places to which they may move.

Respectfully,


John Edgar Hoover
Director

APPROVED 

DATE 3/20/69

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

(RI) 105-165706-Sub 34

December 31, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

RE: [BLACK PANTHER PARTY]
[NEW YORK DIVISION]

You have previously authorized this Bureau to initiate and continue a telephone surveillance on the office of the extremist [Black Panther Party (BPP) in New York City located at 2026 Seventh Avenue]. This installation continues to provide significant data on this group's plans and operations, and it is apparent the [BPP in New York City is second only to the national headquarters in Berkeley, California] from the standpoint of generating plans for racial violence.

This Bureau has developed information that the [BPP in New York recently opened an office at 1370 Boston Road, Bronx, New York]. This office is known as the [Black Community Information Center] and reportedly is to function as the [East Coast Information Center for the BPP]. It is, therefore, apparent that a telephone surveillance at this location will provide access to invaluable data regarding the [BPP's] plans and activities, not only on a local level [in New York City] but on a national scale as well.

It is, therefore, requested that authority be granted for a telephone surveillance at the above location. The telephone, concerning which coverage is requested, is listed in the name of [Ronald Morris, a known BPP member in the New York area].

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

In view of the violence-prone nature of the [BPP] it can reasonably be anticipated that subjects involved in past or future criminal violations may be monitored. The guidelines to be followed, as previously furnished by you, will be strictly complied with in such instances.

If you approve, a telephone surveillance will be placed on the above [BPP] office at 1370 Boston Road, Bronx, New York. If the coverage proves productive, it will be continued for an indefinite period. There will be no trespass involved in connection with the installation of this telephone surveillance.

Respectfully,


John Edgar Hoover
Director

APPROVED 

DATE 1/2/70

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

(RI) 105-165706 Sub 34

March 25, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

 RE: [BLACK PANTHER PARTY]
 [NEW YORK DIVISION]

On December 12, 1970, you authorized this Bureau to continue for an additional three months, effective December 28, 1970, a telephone surveillance on the office of the [Black Panther Party (BPP)] in New York City located at 1370 Boston Road. This office has recently been designated the [East Coast Ministry of Information for the Eldridge Cleaver faction of the BPP]. This installation provides extremely valuable and voluminous data regarding the [BPP]. It is an invaluable source for coverage concerning dissension within the Party and the interrelationship between the [Cleaver faction in the United States, Cleaver, and other of his followers in Algeria]. Examples of significant data produced by this source are the following:

On a daily basis since December, 1970, this source furnished details concerning local, national, and international operations of the [BPP] including information on the recent internal dissension within the [BPP] terminating in the factional split between BPP leaders Huey P. Newton and Eldridge Cleaver. On January 10, 1971, this source furnished data concerning the [BPP's fortification of its office at 1370 Boston Road]. On February 8, 1971, the source provided data on the disappearance and expulsion of [BPP leaders Michael Tabor, his wife Connie Matthews Tabor, Richard Moore, and Edward Joseph. Michael Tabor, Moore, and Joseph] are currently

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

being sought as fugitives for Unlawful Flight to Avoid Prosecution on charges of conspiracy to commit arson and murder. On February 26, 1971, this source furnished information concerning [Huey Newton's expulsion of Eldridge Cleaver from the BPP.] [Cleaver, a Bureau fugitive, is residing in and operating from Algiers, Algeria.] On March 5, 1971, this source advised that [Cleaver was moving the BPP's Central Headquarters from Oakland, California, to New York City.] On March 19, 1971, the source furnished data on apparent plans of [BPP] members in Newark, New Jersey, to obtain explosive materials.

The monitoring of this surveillance will be conducted in accordance with instructions contained in your letter of July 14, 1969, entitled "Electronic Surveillances."

Your authority is requested to continue this telephone surveillance at the present location for an additional three months effective March 28, 1971.

Respectfully,

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover

Director

APPROVED

DATE

J. P. [Signature]
3/25/71

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

April 9, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

RE: STUDENTS FOR A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY
WEATHERMAN

*New Left
Oriented Campus
Group*

Reference is made to your letter dated May 6, 1969, concerning the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968.

Mark Rudd, national Weatherman leader, in a closed meeting in early February, 1970, stated the Weatherman faction of the Students for a Democratic Society would go underground, break into small groups and direct "strategic sabotage" against military and police installations by the use of bombs and confrontation with the police.

On March 6, 1970, a series of dynamite explosions occurred in a multiple residential dwelling in New York City in which Weatherman activists Theodore Gold and Diana Oughton were killed. Cathlyn Wilkerson, national Weatherman leader, was observed leaving the premises at the time of the explosions, and it is believed other Weatherman members were also in this building.

On March 18, 1970, a young Weatherman member in Washington, D. C., advised her father that one of the next things this group would become involved in was to bomb passenger airplanes, including the Boeing 747, the largest passenger plane in existence.

In late February, 1970, William Ayers was the leader of a group of Weatherman in Detroit which made plans to bomb the Detroit Police Officers Association Building. On March 6, 1970, bombs consisting of ten sticks of dynamite and thirty-four sticks of dynamite were located in an unexploded condition at this building and at the 13th Precinct of the Detroit Police Department, respectively.

NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION

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GROUP I

Unauthorized Disclosure
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MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

On March 30, 1970, the Chicago Police Department discovered a cache of fifty-nine sticks of dynamite in an apartment at 5433 North Kenmore Street, Chicago. This dynamite is identical in many respects to the dynamite found in the Detroit police buildings on March 6, 1970. Investigation has determined that this apartment was rented to Dianne Donghi, a Weatherman member who is presently in Buffalo, New York, on an unknown assignment. Also reported being seen at the North Kenmore Street address was Naomi Jaffe Safier, who is currently in Buffalo with Donghi Jaffe, as she is most commonly called, was in contact with Ayers shortly prior to March 6, 1970, when the dynamite was found in the Detroit police installations.

Two Weatherman members were scheduled to appear in a local criminal court in Detroit in early March, 1970, and did not appear. Dr. Oliver Fein, 31 Pierrepont Street, Brooklyn, New York, representing himself as their physician, advised the court by telegram that these two individuals were ill and unable to attend. Fein has been identified as a possible doctor for many Weatherman members who are in an underground status in the New York City area. He is 30 years old and has been active in Students for a Democratic Society affairs since 1964. He reportedly treated individuals injured in Chicago in August, 1968, during the Democratic National Convention. In late 1968, he was reportedly contributing \$1,400.00 monthly to Students for a Democratic Society. He was arrested in 1964 during a sit-in demonstration in Cleveland. Fein is currently connected with the Health Policy Advisory Center, 17 Murray Street, New York City, a radical medical organization. Fein is a conscientious objector and reportedly attempting to avoid the draft.

A source at Fein's residence, which is also his office, has observed photographs on his desk of Cathlyn Wilkerson and Kathie Boudin, Weatherman leaders who are currently wanted by the FBI in connection with demonstrations in Chicago on September 24, 1969, and October 9, 1969. Wilkerson is also wanted by the FBI as a fugitive in connection with the dynamite explosions at her father's residence in New York City on March 6, 1970. This source also advised there was a memorandum on Fein's desk indicating he is a doctor of a commune, not otherwise identified.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

A telephone surveillance on the address at 31 Pierrepont Street, Brooklyn would undoubtedly provide extremely valuable information concerning the possible whereabouts of Weatherman members, including those members presently being wanted by this Bureau as fugitives. Weatherman members live in unknown residences referred to as communes. Many have apparently moved to the New York City area. It is well known that these individuals have a continuing need for medical attention because of the filthy conditions under which they currently live. Many use drugs and many are known to be afflicted with venereal diseases.

Based on the information previously set forth, it can be expected that all of the individuals who have access to the phone at 31 Pierrepont Street, Brooklyn, either are or may become subjects of either local or federal criminal violations. It is also anticipated, based on this information, that results from a telephone surveillance at 31 Pierrepont Street, Brooklyn, will be introduced as evidence in court or that leads to evidence may be obtained; therefore, this request is being made not only for the purpose of obtaining intelligence-type information, but also on the basis that evidence will be obtained that will be used in court. In line with instructions on page five of your referenced letter, the following information is set forth:

1. Some of the individuals who may utilize the phone at 31 Pierrepont Street, Brooklyn are currently the subjects of Unlawful Flight to Avoid Prosecution investigations. Oliver Fein has stated he is a conscientious objector and is trying to avoid the draft. It is further believed that individuals having access to the phone at this address will become involved in violations of the Destruction of Government Property statute, the Destruction of Aircraft or Motor Vehicles statute and the Antiriot Law.

2. At the present time, we are conducting both intelligence and criminal investigations on the individuals who may utilize this address and phone number. As previously noted, many of the Weatherman members we are now investigating are fugitives. We do not have sufficient live informant coverage of these individuals.

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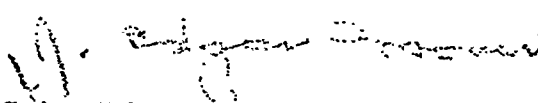
MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

3. As set forth previously in this memorandum, Alvin Karpis who has been extremely active in Students for a Democratic Society affairs and who may be in contact with Weatherman members, will utilize the phone at 31 Pierrepont Street. It is anticipated other individuals in the Weatherman group will also use this phone; however, their identities are unknown at this time.

4. It can be expected that the interceptions on the phone at 31 Pierrepont Street will furnish us with information concerning the whereabouts of Weatherman members and possibly the whereabouts of Weatherman members who are fugitives. It could possibly furnish us with plans of this group to violate Federal statutes as noted above.

I, therefore, recommend the installation of a telephone surveillance at 31 Pierrepont Street, Brooklyn, New York, for a period of thirty days. If approved, you will be advised when this installation has been made.

Respectfully,


John Edgar Hoover
Director

APPROVED

H. MITCHELL

DATE

4/9/70

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

#10

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

May 25, 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

RE: COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF THE STUDENTS
FOR A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY *New Left Oriented*
INTERNAL SECURITY - C *Campus Group*

The captioned organization is a socialist-oriented youth group which is self-described as an organization of "liberals and radicals." It claims to have a membership of 1,700 with chapters on 41 college campuses. The national headquarters of this organization is located at 1103 East 63rd Street, Chicago, Illinois.

This organization has recently been extremely active in staging protest demonstrations against United States action in Vietnam and sponsored a "Student March on Washington" in April, 1965, at which time approximately 15,000 demonstrators paraded in front of the White House. Information has recently been developed that within the Students for a Democratic Society there is a secret group known as the "Crisis Committee," the purpose of which is to organize resistance to the forces of the United States Government in the event of a crisis of a national or international scale. Members of this Committee would be called upon to block roads leading to missile bases, persuade troops to desert or lay down their arms, and blockade embarkation points.

An investigation of this organization is being conducted to determine the extent to which it is infiltrated by communists and other subversive elements.

In view of the potential threat the activities of this organization represent to the national defense interests

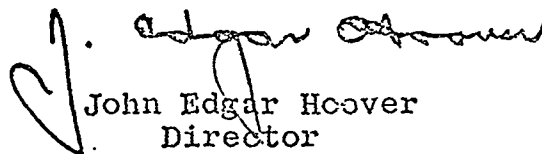
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Memorandum For the Attorney General

of the Nation, you are requested to authorize a technical surveillance at the office of the national headquarters of the Students for a Democratic Society, at 1103 East 63rd Street, Chicago, Illinois, or at any other premises it may occupy in the future.

Respectfully,


John Edgar Hoover
Director

APPROVED J. E. H.

DATE 6/8/61

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

May 14, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

RE: STUDENTS FOR A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY
INTERNAL SECURITY - STUDENTS FOR A
DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY

*New Left
 Oriented Campus
 Group*

The Students for a Democratic Society is a part of the New Left movement which is currently organized into approximately 235 chapters throughout the United States. The national headquarters is at 1608 West Madison Street, Chicago, Illinois.

The Students for a Democratic Society is a fiercely anarchistic group whose spokesmen boast of their determination to end our form of Government and destroy the traditions of democracy. Members of this organization have been in the forefront of the protest movement against United States policy in Vietnam and have called for an end to selective service as well as founding a number of antidraft unions.

During the past year drastic changes have occurred in the tactics employed by the Students for a Democratic Society to achieve their objectives. Students for a Democratic Society leaders who formerly advocated "nonviolence" and "passive dissent" are now urging the use of violence as a form of "active resistance" against the existing social order. Confrontation with school administrators now involves violence and heavy destruction of school property. Since April, 1968, major disorders precipitated by the revolutionary adherents of the Students for a Democratic Society have occurred on a number of college campuses.

At the Students for a Democratic Society National Convention held in June, 1968, one of the workshops dealt with explosives and sabotage techniques. The same militant mood was in evidence at a Students for a Democratic Society National Council meeting held in October, 1968, where pamphlets dealing with the making of various explosive devices were made available to the Students for a Democratic Society members.

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

At a National Council meeting of this organization held in Ann Arbor, Michigan, in December, 1968, a manual captioned Work-In, a National SDS Summer Project was brought to the attention of delegates to the meeting. This manual which has received wide distribution in this country sets forth a program by Students for a Democratic Society to invade industrial plants and other business organizations this summer for the purpose of disrupting operations and conducting an intensive propaganda campaign among employees geared against the United States and particularly private industry.

At an Eastern Regional Conference of the Students for a Democratic Society, held on February 1-2, 1969, at Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey, a five-page proposal entitled Smash the Military Machine in the Schools was distributed by the Columbia University Students for a Democratic Society chapter. This proposal called for fomenting student uprisings, agitational demonstrations and other disturbances and violence in universities and high schools this spring throughout the country. It strongly emphasized a nation-wide attack on Reserve Officers Training Corps on college campuses.

While this proposal has never been passed in the form of a resolution by the National Office of the Students for a Democratic Society, it nevertheless has been implemented on a number of occasions this spring by Students for a Democratic Society members and sympathizers. The major attack against Harvard University in April, 1969, was to abolish the Reserve Officers Training Corps at the University. Such attacks have also occurred at Yale University, George Washington University, Dartmouth College, Cornell University, California State College, Michigan State University and at many other colleges and universities.

At the Students for a Democratic Society National Council meeting held in Austin, Texas, in March, 1969, Michael Klonsky, Students for a Democratic Society National Secretary, advocated that Students for a Democratic Society become a strong, centralized, Marxist-Leninist, revolutionary movement. Many of the national leaders of Students for a Democratic Society support Klonsky in this regard.

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

During the six-month period from August, 1968, through January, 1969, 449 telephone calls were made from Students for a Democratic Society National Headquarters, outside of the State of Illinois. During this same period of time an additional 86 telephone calls were made in Illinois outside of the metropolitan Chicago area.

A telephone surveillance on the national headquarters of the Students for a Democratic Society would provide extremely valuable information concerning the plans of this organization with respect to its efforts to implement its programs. Such a surveillance would supply valuable data concerning the advance planning of this group, its leaders and the source of its funds.

I, therefore, recommend the installation of a telephone surveillance on the national headquarters of the Students for a Democratic Society, 1608 West Madison Street, Chicago, Illinois, or any other address to which this organization may move in the future.

Respectfully,

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

APPROVED *[Signature]*

DATE 5/14/69

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