

File #:

62-112-116395

Serial Scope:

Bulky 837

Released under the John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992 (44 USC
2107 Note). Case: NW 88248 Date: 11-27-2017

SSC LETTER 7/8/75
ITEM 1 a and b

RETTIN

Pa 837

62 116395-837.	5 encl. x 61	SFP:ihb 9/22/75
<p>The Attorney General. US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE</p> <p>Senate Select. COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES</p> <p>Committee on Intelligence Activities</p> <p>Reprior FBI communctns which have, on continuing basis, efctd delvry to SSC of materials cncrng Martin Luther King, Jr., & respnsv to SSC reqs dated 7/8 & 7/14/75. Enclsd for ur aprvl & forwrdng to SSC is orig of memo in frthr respns to afmrntnd 7/8/75 req. Also enclsd for ur records is cc of memo which is being delvrd to u w/set of materials which being delvrd to SSC.</p>		

274-10/26

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Sullivan

1 - DeLoach
1 - Wick

DATE: 10/24/66

FROM : F. J. Baumgardner

1 - Sullivan
1 - Baumgardner
1 - D. Wells

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - C

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

URGENT

BACKGROUND: On 10/19/66, AT 1387-S advised that Martin Luther King, Jr., President, Southern Christian Leadership Conference, had recently met with McGeorge Bundy, Director of the Ford Foundation. At this meeting, Bundy, on behalf of the Ford Foundation, offered King's organization a grant of three million dollars. Bundy explained that the Ford Foundation is extremely interested in various programs of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Also, the Ford Foundation is sympathetic with the financial problems of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. According to the source, the only concern of King and his associates is that if they accept this grant, whether the Ford Foundation will exercise control over the policies and operations of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. We do not know at this time if the Ford Foundation has made this grant.

OBSERVATIONS: Information has recently come to our attention indicating that King and his group are in need of financial support. This contact with the Ford Foundation would undoubtedly be of great assistance to him at this particular time.

It is felt that the Ford Foundation is not aware of the subversive backgrounds of King's principal advisers and that if the proper officials of the Ford Foundation were briefed concerning them, this might preclude any assistance being granted. Listed below are four principal advisers to King with subversive backgrounds:

Stanley Levison is a long-time communist whose membership in the Communist Party, USA, has been established as of July, 1963.

Clarence Jones has been identified as a leader in the Labor Youth League, a Communist Party front group, during late 1953 or early 1954.

This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. Its use is limited to official proceedings by your Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized persons without the express approval of the FBI.

CONTINUED - OVER

61 NOV 10 1966
F129

100-106670-2759
REC-57
TO: SAC, NEW YORK
FROM: SAC, NEW YORK
DATE: 11/1/66
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Baumgardner to Sullivan Memorandum
Re: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
100-106670

Harry Wachtel's name appeared as an active member of the National Lawyers Guild in December, 1949, according to a confidential source. The National Lawyers Guild has been cited as a communist front by the House Committee on Un-American Activities. It should be noted that Wachtel is a New York City attorney. Another confidential source advised in March, 1944, his name appeared on a list of names, significance not known, maintained at the Communist Party Headquarters of Kings County, Brooklyn, New York. Regarding Wachtel's wife, Leonora, a confidential source advised in March, 1944, that she was a newly elected officer of the Bath Beach Club of the Kings County Communist Party, Brooklyn, New York.

Bayard Rustin, during the early 1940's was a member of the Young Communist League, an organization which has been designated pursuant to Executive Order-10450. The records of this Bureau's Identification Division contain the following arrest record for Bayard Rustin: On 1/12/44 he was arrested for violation of the Selective Service Act and on 2/17/44 received a sentence of three years. On 9/15/48 he was arrested in New York City on a disorderly conduct charge and was sentenced to fifteen days. On 1/21/53 he was arrested in Pasadena, California, for offering to engage in an act of sex perversion of a homosexual nature, which he admitted and for which he was sentenced to serve 60 days.

D agree
10/25
Yes.

RECOMMENDATION: In an effort to preclude the possibility of the Southern Christian Leadership receiving Ford Foundation funds, it is recommended that a Bureau official be designated to contact John Bugas, former Special Agent in Charge of the Detroit Office and presently a vice president of the Ford Motor Company, concerning the above-set forth facts so that he might bring them to the attention of whomever he feels appropriate in either the Ford family or the Ford Foundation.

I doubt this will accomplish anything.

I doubt this will accomplish anything. D.

In the event the above recommendation is not approved, it is recommended that a Bureau official be designated to brief McGeorge Bundy of the subversive backgrounds of the advisers to King.

I Agree
10/25 ✓
I agree.
D.

See if he will contact
Bundy.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

- 1 - DeLoach
- 1 - Wick
- 1 - Sullivan
- 1 - Baumgardner

DATE: 10/25/66

- Tolson _____
- DeLoach _____
- Wick _____
- Mohr _____
- Bishop _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

TO : MR. TOLSON

FROM : C. D. DeLoach

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - C

Pursuant to the Director's instructions, I called John Bugas of the Ford Motor Company at 4:15 p.m., 10/25/66, and briefed him generally regarding the background of Martin Luther King as well as the fact that McGeorge Bundy, President, Ford Foundation, had been in touch with King relative to offering a sizeable grant to the Southern Christian Leadership Conference from the Ford Foundation.

Mr. Bugas informed me that he was very grateful for the Director having me brief him concerning this matter. He stated he would personally contact Bundy in an effort to put a stop to King receiving any funds from the Ford Foundation. He advised that the Ford Motor Company had little control over the Ford Foundation yet the Ford Motor Company was always glad to receive information which could be of service in guiding the activities of the Ford Foundation.

Mr. Bugas also brought up the fact that I had recently called him, at the Director's instructions, relative to indicating that the Ford Motor Company was about to enter into a contract with officials of a company in Mexico who were deeply involved with Communists. He stated he had put a halt to this contract and that his company was very grateful to the Director and the FBI for receiving such information in sufficient time to cancel contract negotiations.

Mr. Bugas asked that his best regards be given to you and the Director.

ACTION:

For record purposes.

CDD: hmf
(5)

EX-103

REC-57

100-106670-2756

18 NOV 7 1966

This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. Its use is limited to official proceedings by your Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized personnel without the express approval of the FBI.

56 NOV 10 1966

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson	_____
DeLoach	_____
Mohr	_____
Wick	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
Felt	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

TO : MR. TOLSON

DATE: 10/26/66

FROM : C. D. DeLoach

cc Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Wick

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING;
SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (SCLC)
POSSIBLE GRANT OF \$3,000,000 FROM FORD FOUNDATION
CONTACT WITH JOHN BUGAS, VICE PRESIDENT,
FORD MOTOR COMPANY

My memorandum to you of 10/25/66 reflected a call to Mr. Bugas, relative to confidentially advising him that McGeorge Bundy, President, Ford Foundation, had contacted Martin Luther King offering a grant of \$3,000,000 to the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). Mr. Bugas was grateful for the information I furnished him yesterday. He expressed alarm and indicated that, although the Ford Motor Company had little control over the Ford Foundation, he nevertheless would immediately attempt to get in touch with Bundy and do something about this matter.

Mr. Bugas called me back at 11:30 this morning. He stated he had contacted Bundy and had asked him for an appointment within the next several days. Bundy asked why he wanted to see him. Bugas replied he was in receipt of information concerning the fact that the Ford Foundation wanted to have dealings with the SCLC. Bundy asked for the source of his information. Bugas told him his source did not want to be divulged. Bundy stated under the circumstances he would refuse to talk to Bugas and would discuss the matter only with the source. Bundy then asked if the source was the FBI. Bugas refused to reveal the source and the conversation was terminated.

Bugas stated he thought Bundy had been rather high-handed in the conversation; however, he wanted to request that the Director give serious consideration to an FBI representative contacting Bundy, inasmuch as this matter represents one of great importance to the Ford Motor Company. Bugas indicated his company had had quite a number of "hard blows" from the Ford Foundation over the years and most certainly a liaison between this foundation and Martin Luther King would be a serious blow to the company.

REC- 61

100-106670-2754

CDD:CSH (4)

CONTINUED-----OVER

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61 NC

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-106670-2754

Mr. Tolson

I told Bugas that, in view of Bundy's attitude, it appeared rather doubtful concerning the advisability of our going further in this matter. Bugas stated he realized this; however, he wanted to express again the importance of this matter to the Ford Motor Company. He stated he did not know Bundy; however, Bundy had apparently been rather snobbish in dealing with the Ford people. He explained that when Bundy first took this job, Bundy had been invited to Detroit to meet Henry Ford III and the top people of the company. At that time Bundy was point-blank advised that he should be careful in administering the Ford Foundation, inasmuch as this Foundation had caused serious harm to the sales of the Ford Motor Company. Bundy allegedly stuck his nose in the air and stated "I have a social responsibility to fulfill."

Mr. Bugas once again stated that any liaison between the Ford Foundation and Martin Luther King would "set his company back to boat hell." He asked again that we consider contacting Bundy directly and stated he would appreciate knowing of any action taken in this regard.

ACTION:

I personally feel that Bundy is of the pseudo-intellectual, Ivy League group that has little respect for the FBI. He was friendly on the surface while at the White House and I met him frequently. Under the circumstances, it appears rather doubtful that contact with him by the FBI will convince him one way or another. It is, therefore, recommended that I advise Mr. Bugas that, while we appreciate his concern, there is some doubt that contact by us with Bundy would amount to anything. It will be suggested to him that he might desire to bring this matter to Mr. Henry Ford's attention, in the event Mr. Ford desires to attempt to exercise any control over Bundy. Mr. Bugas, during our conversation, noted that Mr. Ford was out of the country at the present time.

*Yes. We would get me
where with Bundy.*

*Handled
10/27/66*

H

RE - HOUSTUDY 62-116464-

OR

SENSTUDY: 62-116395-837

NOTE: THIS IS A PERMANENT CHARGE OUT FOR A XEROX COPY/COPIES OF "JUNE" MAIL THAT WAS INCLUDED IN COPIES OF FBI DOCUMENTS FURNISHED TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL BY MEMO/LETTER DATED 9-22-75 IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST(S) MADE BY EITHER THE U. S. SENATE OR HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEES ON INTELLIGENCE. THE COPY/COPIES OF THE "JUNE" MAIL DATED AS INDICATED BELOW HAS/HAVE BEEN REMOVED FROM THIS ENCLOSURE MATERIAL TO BE FILED IN THE APPROPRIATE HOUSTUDY OR SENSTUDY "JUNE" FILE INDICATED ABOVE, LOCATED IN THE SPECIAL FILE ROOM OF THE RECORDS SECTION.

DATE(S) OF MAIL: 3-2-65REMOVED BY: Wardlaw DATE REMOVED: 7-28-76

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Evans _____
- Malone _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

L. Smith

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan *WCS* *10/24*

DATE: October 8, 1962

FROM : Mr. F. J. Baumgardner *FJB*

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Gregg
- 1 - Mr. Baumgardner
- 1 - Mr. Ware

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA
COUNTERINTELLIGENCE PROGRAM
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

NEW YORK

B. J. [Signature]

New York Office has suggested that public source information be made available to appropriate southern newspapers to expose the communist background of Hunter Pitts O'Dell, concealed member of the National Committee of the Communist Party, USA (CPUSA). Under the alias Jack H. O'Dell, he is currently Acting Executive Director of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), the organization of Martin Luther King, Jr., prominent southern Negro leader. He is in charge of the New York Office SCLC and has more recently been operating from Atlanta, Georgia.

Gus Hall, General Secretary, CPUSA, stated on 7/23/62 that O'Dell is a "brain trust" for "Luther King" and is doing an excellent job. Hall at this time mentioned that O'Dell is still representing the CPUSA and is a member of the National Committee of the CPUSA.

New York Office observed that the exposure of O'Dell could cause other Negro organizations to clean out anyone who could cause them embarrassment because of communist affiliations or background.

Attached are copies of the following newspaper articles containing additional data about O'Dell's background and activities.

- 7/5/50 "Daily Worker" Texas NMU Ousts Seaman for Circulating Peace Plan *a*
- 4/13/56 "The New York Times" Witness Accuses Red Inquiry Head
- 7/31/58 "The New York Times" Witness Balked in Inquiry On Reds
- 7/31/58 "Atlanta Daily World" Red Hunters Accused of Trying to Stall Integration in South *13 OCT 25 1962*
- 7/31/58 "Atlanta Daily World" Hunter O'Dell, Montgomery Insurance Man Rips Probe
- 9/26/62 "The New York Times" Dr. King Says Integration at Alabama University Is Next

Enc. This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. Its use is limited to official proceedings of your Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized persons without the express approval of the FBI.

Memorandum to Mr. Sullivan
RE: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA
COUNTERINTELLIGENCE PROGRAM
100-3-104-34

OBSERVATIONS:

Although the activities of the SCLC are creating substantial controversy in the southern states, O'Dell's position in the Communist Party (CP) and close association with important CP members such as Stanley David Levison, New York attorney who is a secret CP member and source of Party funds, provide excellent reasons for his communist background to be exposed. Any influence which the CP may have acquired or may be trying to exert through O'Dell within the SCLC would undoubtedly be greatly reduced by such exposure at this time.

ACTION:

(1) It is recommended that the attached memorandum summarizing the public source information about O'Dell be forwarded to Mr. DeLoach for his consideration and possible use by his contacts in the news media field in such southern states as Alabama where King has announced that the next targets for integration of universities are located.

*Handled
An...
get...
de...
F...
D10/19*

(2) Attached for your approval is a letter to the SAC, New York, to advise him that this proposed counterintelligence plan is being handled at the Bureau.

sent

Handled

[Signature]

HUNTER PITTS O'DELL

Resorting to its typical methods of infiltration into any organization to carry out its primary objectives of building up controversy and widespread unrest, Communist Party, USA, has succeeded in getting one of its most experienced organizers in the south into the key position of consultant to the field staff of Reverend Martin Luther King's Southern Christian Leadership Conference. In an article reporting the news conference in Birmingham, Alabama, on 9/26/62 with Reverend King, "The New York Times" reported Jack H. O'Dell is the regional consultant to a staff of workers in at least six southern states engaged in helping community organizations to establish registration schools, work shops and public meetings. LA

O'Dell, who has been known as Hunter Pitts O'Dell since his birth in 1923 at Detroit, Michigan, attended Xavier University in Louisiana. He sailed as a seaman in the Merchant Marine Service until he was expelled from the National Maritime Union in 1950 at Galveston, Texas, for circulating pro-Soviet peace petitions attacking the United States Government.

During hearings before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee on the scope of Soviet activity in the United States in 1956, O'Dell took refuge in the Fifth Amendment to answer questions relating to his activities as a Communist Party organizer for the New Orleans and Gulf Coast area. Hundreds of documents seized by the New Orleans Police Department at O'Dell's residence, 2319 Louisiana Avenue, in March, 1956, when they were attempting to find him to serve him with a subpoena to testify before the Senate Subcommittee, clearly established his key position in the communist movement in the South.

On 7/30/58 at Atlanta, Georgia, O'Dell again invoked the First and Fifth Amendments of the Constitution when answering questions about his communist activities upon his appearance as a witness before the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

100-3-104-34-306

ENCLOSURE

Since the publicity in 1956 surrounding his activities on behalf of the Communist Party, O'Dell has attempted to remain quietly in the background and carry out his Party assignments through affiliation with such organizations as the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. The American people can solve their own problems more effectively and quickly if communists such as O'Dell are clearly identified and their aims and objectives fully understood by the public.

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 Belmont _____
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TEXAS NMU OUSTS SEAMAN FOR CIRCULATING PEACE PLAN

HOUSTON, Tex. (AP) — The National Maritime Union (NMU) has ousted a seaman from the union for circulating a peace plan during World War II. The plan, which was circulated from the NMU National Maritime Union, called for a cease-fire between the United States and the Soviet Union. The plan was circulated by a seaman named [Name obscured] who was a member of the NMU. The union's executive board has decided to expel [Name obscured] from the union. The union's executive board has also decided to expel [Name obscured] from the union. The union's executive board has also decided to expel [Name obscured] from the union.

Daily Worker 7-5-50
 Wednesday NY
 The Washington Post and _____
 Times Herald _____
 The Washington Daily News _____
 The Evening Star _____
 New York Herald Tribune _____
 New York Journal-American _____
 New York Mirror _____
 New York Daily News _____
 New York Post _____
 The New York Times _____
 The Worker _____
 The New Leader _____
 The Wall Street Journal _____
 The National Observer _____
 Date _____

106-3-1-1-34 306
 ENCLOSURE

Tolson _____
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 Tavel _____
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 Tele Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

THE NEW YORK TIMES, FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 1956.



Associated Press Wirephoto

REFUSES TO TESTIFY:
 Hunter Pitts O'Dell of New Orleans, who refused to say whether he was a district organizer in South for the Communist party. He appeared before Senate Internal Security subcommittee.

WITNESS ACCUSES RED INQUIRY HEAD

**New Orleans Waiter, Called
 Party Organizer, Urges
 Eastland's Expulsion**

WASHINGTON, April 12 (AP) — A Negro waiter from New Orleans, refusing to say whether he was a Southern district organizer for the Communist party, today accused the Senate Internal Security subcommittee of invading his rights as a citizen.

Hunter Pitts O'Dell accused the group's chairman, Senator James O. Eastland, Democrat of Mississippi, of being anti-labor and anti-Negro. Occasionally he switched his attack to the subcommittee's counsel, Robert Morris. At one point he asked Mr. Morris if he was "some kind of dictator or something."

Mr. Morris said the subcommittee had received information that the witness was a district organizer for the Communist party in New Orleans, "giving directives to the professional group" there and operating under three different names.

Mr. O'Dell invoked the Fifth Amendment protection against possible self-incrimination in refusing to answer questions about this. He also refused to answer questions about what Mr. Morris described as a considerable amount of "Communist party literature and directives" found in a room he formerly occupied.

The witness accused the subcommittee of unlawful search

and seizure when asked about this material. He demanded to know who had authorized the group to take the documents.

Also found in the room, Mr. Morris told the subcommittee, were Social Security cards in the names of John Vesey and Ben Jones. He said these indicated Mr. O'Dell had been "operating under three identities."

Senator Eastland directed that the cards be referred to the Justice Department to determine whether any laws had been violated.

The subcommittee says it has found a small but active "Communist underground movement" in New Orleans.

Senator Eastland refused to let Mr. O'Dell read a prepared statement he had brought with him after Mr. Morris said it had not been submitted twenty-four hours in advance as required by subcommittee rules.

In the statement Mr. O'Dell accused the Senator of leading a conspiracy to promote lawlessness in the South and urged his expulsion from the Senate.

As the hearing ended, Mr. Morris told the witness:

"We have received information that you have been writing speeches of people running for public office in Louisiana."

"What is Eastland afraid of?" Mr. O'Dell said. "Is he afraid that the people will get to know him if I write speeches?"

The Washington Post and _____
 Times Herald _____
 The Washington Daily News _____
 The Evening Star _____
 New York Herald Tribune _____
 New York Journal-American _____
 New York Mirror _____
 New York Daily News _____
 New York Post _____
 The New York Times 4-13-56
 The Worker _____
 The New Leader _____
 The Wall Street Journal _____
 The National Observer _____
 Date _____

106-3.104.34 306

ENCLOSURE

