File #: 62-HQ-116395

Serial Scope: 852
Mr. Hoover -

Obviously these are particularly delicate surveillances and we should be very cautious in terms the non-FBI people who may from time to time necessarily be involved in some aspect of installation.

Mr. Hoover -

Obviously these are particularly delicate surveillances and we should be very cautious in terms the non-FBI people who may from time to time necessarily be involved in some aspect of installation.

NdeK (Katzenbach)

REC 4 Z154

6 JAN 10 1958

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.
Mr. Hoover -

Obviously these are particularly delicate surveillances and we should be very cautious in terms the non-FBI people who may from time to time necessarily be involved in some aspect of installation.

NdeK (Katzenbach)

REC-4 2184

6 JAN 10 1965

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.
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

TO

OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

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
MISS HOLMES
MISS GANDY

SEE ME
NOTE AND RETURN
PREPARE REPLY
SEND MEMO TO ATTORNEY GENERAL
FOR YOUR RECOMMENDATION
WHAT ARE THE FACTS?

REMARKS:

7-22-69

Place in

Personal

Confidential


Martin Luther King Jr.
Nicholas W. Brothers

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.
The following facts are being furnished for your information concerning the telephone surveillance on the residence of the late Martin Luther King, Jr., authorized by former Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy and installed by this Bureau.

On July 16, 1963, an official of this Bureau saw Mr. Kennedy at the latter's request. On that occasion, Mr. Kennedy said he was considering the possibility of a telephone surveillance of King because of King's communist associations. He was advised by the Bureau official that since King was in travel status practically all the time, the productivity of such a surveillance was doubtful and he was asked to consider the repercussions if it ever became known that such a surveillance had been instituted on King. Mr. Kennedy said he was not concerned about possible repercussions and that he thought it advisable to have as complete coverage as possible in view of the possible communist influence in the racial situation. He was told that the feasibility of such coverage would be determined and an appropriate recommendation would be submitted to him.

On July 25, 1963, Mr. Kennedy changed his mind concerning his request and thought it ill advised at that time, but on October 7, 1963, a request for authority to place a telephone surveillance on King's residence was sent to Mr. Kennedy. On October 10, 1963, he authorized this.
The Attorney General

surveillance, and a surveillance on any future residence of King, by his written signature.

This telephone surveillance was installed on November 8, 1963, and was discontinued on April 30, 1965.

NOTE:

Because of the considerable publicity concerning the telephone surveillance on the residence of the late Martin Luther King, Jr., occasioned by the court hearings in the Selective Service case of Cassius Clay, the facts concerning the original request for this coverage by Robert F. Kennedy, are being furnished to the Attorney General.

 Classified "Top Secret" because of sensitive nature of the information contained therein, the unauthorized disclosure of which could result in exceptionally grave damage to the national security.

TOP SECRET

- 2 -
The following facts are being furnished for your information concerning the telephone surveillance on the residence of the late Martin Luther King, Jr., authorized by former Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy and installed by this Bureau.

On July 16, 1963, an official of this Bureau saw Mr. Kennedy at the latter's request. On that occasion, Mr. Kennedy said he was considering the possibility of a telephone surveillance of King because of King's communist associations. He was advised by the Bureau official that since King was in travel status practically all the time, the productivity of such a surveillance was doubtful and he was asked to consider the repercussions if it ever became known that such a surveillance had been instituted on King. Mr. Kennedy said he was not concerned about possible repercussions and that he thought it advisable to have as complete coverage as possible in view of the possible communist influence in the racial situation. He was told that the feasibility of such coverage would be determined and an appropriate recommendation would be submitted to him.

On July 25, 1963, Mr. Kennedy changed his mind concerning his request and thought it ill advised at that time, but on October 7, 1963, a request for authority to place a telephone surveillance on King's residence was sent to Mr. Kennedy. On October 10, 1963, he authorized this

100-106670 NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION

Unauthorized Disclosure
Subject to Criminal Sanctions

TOP SECRET
Group 1

Excluded from automatic
dowgrading and
cc is in PF - Martin Luther King, Jr.
Subject  MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS

This serial, the original memorandum from the FBI to the Attorney General dated October 7, 1963, which was returned to the Bureau signed by the Attorney General authorizing FBI to conduct electronic surveillance, has been permanently removed for retention in the National Security Electronic Surveillance File per memorandum T. J. Smith to Mr. E. S. Miller dated 7-13-73. See 62-115687-1 for details and where maintained.

Removed By  SA Russell H. Horner          Date  12/13/73

Complete File and Serial Number  100-106670-254
SSG LETTER 8/20/75
ITEM # 8

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED THEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
MANUSCRIPTED BY SPẬNTARHG

RETAIN
Memorandum

TO: Mr. Belmont
FROM: C. A. Evans
DATE: June 25, 1963

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

The Attorney General orally informed me today that he had been considering the request he made on July 16, 1963, for a technical surveillance on Martin Luther King at his home and office and was now of the opinion that this would be ill advised.

At the time the Attorney General initially asked for such a surveillance, he was told there was considerable doubt that the productivity of the surveillance would be worth the risk because King travels most of the time and that there might be serious repercussions should it ever become known the Government had instituted this coverage. These were the very thoughts that the Attorney General expressed today in withdrawing his request.

With reference to the other technical surveillance requested at the same time, namely, the one on Clarence Benjamin Jones, the Attorney General felt this was in a different category and we should go forward with this coverage. It is noted that this was previously approved in writing by the Attorney General.

The memorandum we sent to the Attorney General on July 23, 1963, requesting authority for the King surveillance has been retrieved and is attached.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

We will take no further action to effect technical coverage on Martin Luther King, either at his home or at his office at the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, in the absence of a further request from the Attorney General.

Enclosure

1. Mr. Sullivan
2. Mr. Rosen

CAE:vap
(8)

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.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

Martin Luther King, Jr., resides at 563 Johnson Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia, and is the President of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, 330 Auburn Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia. He is closely associated with Stanley Levison, a concealed member of the Communist Party, USA. Levison has described King as being a wholehearted Marxist who has studied Marxism, believes in it, agrees with it, but because of his being a minister of religion does not dare to espouse it publicly.

Pursuant to your request that in view of the possible communist influence in the racial situation consideration be given to placing a technical surveillance on King, it is requested that authority be granted to place a technical surveillance on King at his current residence or at any future address to which he may move. It is further requested that authority be granted to place a technical surveillance on the Southern Christian Leadership Conference of which King is President or at any future address to which it may be moved.

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION
Unauthorized Disclosure
Subject to Criminal Sanctions

SECRET
GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

ENCLOSURE
The AG was contacted at his request late this afternoon. He said that Clarence Benjamin Jones, a NY attorney who has had close association with Martin Luther King, and with Stanley Levinson (a concealed communist), had been in to see Burke Marshall about the racial situation. According to the AG, Jones had indicated he had some reservations about talking with Levinson on the phone. Marshall thought he might have been referring to a possible telephone tap, and passed it off by telling Jones this was something he would have to take up with Levinson.

The purpose of the AG's contact was that this brought to his attention the possibility of effecting technical coverage on both Jones and Martin Luther King. I told the AG that I was not at all acquainted with Jones, but that, in so far as King was concerned, it was obvious from the reports that he was in a travel status practically all the time, and it was, therefore, doubtful that a technical surveillance on his office or home would be very productive. I also raised the question as to the repercussions if it should ever become known that such a surveillance had been put on King.

The AG said this did not concern him at all; that in view of the possible communist influence in the racial situation, he thought it advisable to have as complete coverage as possible. I told him, under the circumstances, that we would check into the matter to see if coverage was feasible and, if so, would submit an appropriate recommendation to him.

If you approve, we will have a preliminary survey made to see if technical coverage is feasible with full security.
TO SACS ATLANTA
NEW YORK
FROM DIRECTOR FBI

JUNE. COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS.

IN VIEW OF THE POSSIBLE COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN THE RACIAL SITUATION, ATTORNEY GENERAL HAS REQUESTED THAT TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCES IMMEDIATELY BE PLACED ON MARTIN LUTHER KING, LEADER OF THE SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE, AND CLARENCE BENJAMIN JONES, A NEW YORK CITY ATTORNEY WHO IS CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH KING AS WELL AS WITH STANLEY LEVISON, A CONCEALED COMMUNIST.

THE PURPOSE OF THE COVERAGE IS TO UNCOVER EVIDENCE OF COMMUNIST PARTICIPATION, AND DIRECTION IN RACIAL MATTERS. PROVIDED FULL SECURITY IS ASSURED, NEW YORK AND ATLANTA SHOULD IMMEDIATELY MAKE MOST DISCREET SURVEYS TO DETERMINE IF TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCES ON KING AND JONES ARE FEASIBLE AND CAN BE CONDUCTED WITH FULL SECURITY.

EXPEDITE HANDLING AND SUTEL RESULTS, TOGETHER WITH YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS.

WGS: KMJ

NOTE: See memorandum Mr. Evans to Mr. Belmont 7/16/63 same caption.
See memorandum Baumgardner to Sullivan 7/17/63 same caption;
WGS: kmj.

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 written approval of the FBI.

VIA TELETYPewriter

IUL 17 1963 11:39 AM
ENCIPHERED

Tolson Belmont Meek Casper Callahan Conrad DeLoach Evans Gale Rosen Sullivan Trotter Holmes Gandy

MAIL ROOM TO TELETYPewriter UNIT
Memorandum

TO: Mr. W. C. Sullivan  
DATE: July 17, 1963

FROM: Mr. F. J. Baumgardner

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS

Memorandum Evans to Belmont 7/16/63 discloses that in view of the possible communist influence in the racial situation, the Attorney General has requested that technical surveillances be placed immediately on Martin Luther King, leader of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and Clarence Benjamin Jones, a New York City attorney, who is closely associated with King. Memorandum points out that if the Director approves, steps will be taken toward having a preliminary survey made to see if technical surveillances are feasible and can be conducted with full security. The Director noted "Yes" and also inquired "What do our files show on Jones?"

ACTION:

1. There is attached a teletype to Atlanta and New York instructing that discreet surveys to determine if technical surveillances on King and Jones are feasible and can be conducted with full security.

2. A separate memorandum is being prepared covering the Director's question relative to what our files show concerning Jones.

Enc. (8)

1. Mr. Belmont
1. Mr. Evans
1. Mr. Sullivan
1. Mr. McGowan
1. Mr. Bland
1. Mr. Donohue
1. Mr. Shaw

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.
URGENT 7-19-63 12:22 AM DE/SAV
TO DIRECTOR --1--
FROM SAC NEW YORK 190100

JUNE

COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS

REFERENCE BUREAU TELETYPING JULY 17, 1963

AUTHORIZED TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE SURVEY CONDUCTED

JULY 18, 1963 DISCLOSED COVERAGE FEASIBLE ON KINGSBRIDGE 9-2804
AT RESIDENCE OF CLARENCE BENJAMIN JONES, 5505 INDEPENDENCE AVENUE
BRONX, NEW YORK: ON LEXINGTON 2-2989, LEXINGTON 2-2990,
LEXINGTON 2-2991, AT OFFICE OF GANDHI SOCIETY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS,
15 EAST 40TH STREET, NEW YORK CITY: ON BEEKMAN 3-3690, CODED
TRUNK G 55, BEEKMAN 3-5660, BEEKMAN 3-5661, BEEKMAN 3-8340, AND
BEEKMAN 3-8314, AT OFFICE OF LUBELL, LUBELL AND JONES, 165
BROADWAY.

NECESSARY LEASED LINE LETTER TO READ FROM POLE NUMBER 2
RIVERDALE AVENUE AT CORNER OF 254TH STREET WEST, BRONX, NEW YORK.
SECOND LEASED LINE LETTER SHOULD READ FROM SUB-BASEMENT OF
15 EAST 40TH STREET, NEW YORK CITY. NO LEASED LINE LETTER
NECESSARY FOR 165 BROADWAY ADDRESS.

BUREAU AUTHORITY REQUESTED TO INSTALL TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE
ON ALL LINES. FULL SECURITY ASSURED.

JONES IS GENERAL COUNSEL FOR GANDHI SOCIETY FOR HUMAN
RIGHTS AND ALLEGEDLY IS AT THE OFFICE OF THIS SOCIETY MORE OFTEN
THAN HE IS AT HIS LAW OFFICE AT 165 BROADWAY.

INFORMATION NYS FILES REFLECTS THAT THIS SOCIETY WAS FORMED
TO SUPPORT MARTIN LUTHER KING. IT WAS TO BE A NON-ACTION AGENCY,
THE AIMS OF WHICH WERE TO BE MAINLY OF AN EDUCATIONAL NATURE.

RECEIVED: 12:55 AM JR

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

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably
paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau’s cryptographic systems.
Urgent 7-20-63  1:36 AM EST  JP
To: Director
From: SAC Atlanta 192341

June. Communist influence in racial matters.
Re: Butel July 17 last and Atlanta Rad July 18 last.
Survey reflects technical surveillance installation feasible with appropriate security on four trunks, serving Martin Luther King, Jr., Southern Christian Leadership Conference, 330 Auburn Ave., Atlanta. Technical will be monitored in Atlanta office space through use of leased line. Anticipated that four investigative clerks assigned will be used for monitoring and cost of leased line unknown.

Technical requested by attorney general to uncover evidence of communist participation and direction in racial matters.

If approved for installation, three dial recorders complete, two tape recorders and a playback unit for transcribing tapes will be required for use in Atlanta.

Received: EMP 16 2:49 AM EFH

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.

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.
Memorandum

TO: Mr. W. C. Sullivan
FROM: Mr. F. J. Baumgardner

DATE: July 22, 1963

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

This is a recommendation requesting the Attorney General's authority for the installation of a technical surveillance covering the home telephone of Martin Luther King, Jr., as well as the telephone covering the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, of which King is the President.

You will recall that on 7/16/63 the Attorney General advised Assistant Director Evans that in view of the possible communist influence in the racial situation, he desired that consideration be given to placing a technical surveillance on Martin Luther King, Jr., leader of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and Clarence Benjamin Jones, a New York City attorney, who is closely associated with King. The Attorney General indicated he was not concerned with the repercussions if it should ever become known that such surveillances had been put into effect and that he thought it advisable to have as complete coverage as possible.

King resides at 563 Johnson Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia, and is the President of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, 330 Auburn Avenue, Atlanta. King is on the Reserve Index. He is closely associated with Stanley Levison, a concealed member of the Communist Party, USA. King has been described by Levison as a wholehearted Marxist who has studied Marxism, believes in it, agrees with it, but because of his being a minister of religion does not dare to espouse it publicly.

Pursuant to the Attorney General's request that consideration be given to placing a technical surveillance on King, our Atlanta Office was requested to conduct a survey to ascertain if such coverage is feasible and could be conducted with full security. Atlanta teletype 7/20/63 discloses that technical coverage on King is feasible and can be conducted with full security.

At present there are 58 investigative-type technical surveillances in operation and 6 being installed. The limit is 75.

A separate memorandum requesting Attorney General's authority to place a technical surveillance on Clarence Benjamin Jones has previously been submitted.
Memorandum to Mr. Sullivan
RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
100-106670

OBSERVATION:

In view of the Attorney General's request that our coverage be as complete as possible, it is felt that we should institute coverage not only on King's residence, but also on his office at the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the attached memorandum for the Attorney General go forward requesting authority to install a technical surveillance on King's residence, as well as his office at the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

SEE MEMO EVANS TO BELMONT 7/25/63, CAPTION:
"MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR." WHICH STATES ATTORNEY GENERAL RECONSIDERED AND DISAPPROVED REQUEST FOR TESUR.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

Martin Luther King, Jr., resides at 563 Johnson Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia, and is the President of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, 330 Auburn Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia. He is closely associated with Stanley Levison, a concealer member of the Communist Party, USA. Levison has described King as being a wholehearted Marxist who has studied Marxism, believes in it, agrees with it, but because of his being a minister of religion does not dare to espouse it publicly.

Pursuant to your request that in view of the possible communist influence in the racial situation consideration be given to placing a technical surveillance on King, it is requested that authority be granted to place a technical surveillance on King at his current residence or at any future address to which he may move. It is further requested that authority be granted to place a technical surveillance on the Southern Christian Leadership Conference of which King is President or at any future address to which it may be moved.

Respectfully,

NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION
Unauthorized Disclosure
Subject to Criminal Sanctions

John Edgar Hoover
Director

SECRET

WGS: km

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

SECRET

1-Belmont 1-Baumgardner
1-Evans 1-Bland
1-Rosen 1-Donohue
1-Sullivan 1-Shaw

July 23, 1963
Memorandum for the Attorney General

NOTE:

This memorandum classified "Secret" since it refers to a technical surveillance, the unauthorized disclosure of which could be detrimental to the national security.

July 23, 1963

TO SAC ATLANTA

FROM DIRECTOR FBI (100-3-116)

JUNE. COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS.

REPORT JULY TWENTY LAST ADVISING TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE ON SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE, THREE THREE ZERO AUBURN AVENUE, ATLANTA, FEASIBLE AND CAN BE CONDUCTED WITH FULL SECURITY. PROVIDED FULL SECURITY ASSURED IMMEDIATELY MAKE MOST DISCREET SURVEY TO DETERMINE IF TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE ON HOME TELEPHONE OF MARTIN LUTHER KING IS FEASIBLE AND CAN BE CONDUCTED WITH FULL SECURITY. SUTEL RESULTS.

WGS: KMI (5)

NOTE:

Attorney General has requested as complete coverage as possible on Martin Luther King in view of possible communist influence in the racial situation. Atlanta has made survey relative to King's organization, Southern Christian Leadership Conference, but in order to afford complete coverage it is felt that Atlanta should also conduct survey relative to feasibility of placing technical surveillance on King's home telephone.

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.
URGENT 7-24-63
TO DIRECTOR
FROM SAC ATLANTA 242045
JUNE. COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS.
REBUTEL JULY 23 LAST.
SURVEYS COMPLETED. SERVICE FURNISHED TV RESIDENCE
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., 563 JOHNSON AVENUE, ATLANTA, BY
ONE TRUNK USING NON-LISTED NUMBER. PUBLIC UTILITY WILL
FURNISH LEASED LINE TO FIELD OFFICE HEADQUARTERS FOR
MONITORING. TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE FEASIBLE WITH FULL
SECURITY. NO OTHER TECHNICALS IN EFFECT ON RESIDENCE.
SERVICE FURNISHED TO OFFICE SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN
LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE, 330 AUBURN AVENUE, ATLANTA, BY FOUR
TRUNK LINES. PUBLIC UTILITY WILL FURNISH LEASED LINES
TO FIELD OFFICE HEADQUARTERS. TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE
FEASIBLE WITH FULL SECURITY. NO OTHER TECHNICALS IN EFFECT
ON SCLC OFFICE.
INSTALLATIONS RECOMMENDED. ADVISE IF DESIRED AND IF
SO FORWARD ATLANTA FOUR DIAL RECORDERS COMPLETE, THREE
TAPE RECORDERS AND ONE PLAYBACK UNIT.

RECEIVED: 5:36 PM FN

Teletype to Atlanta & Knoxville C/KC 1-12
Teletype to Athens & Knoxville WSS 2-7-63
Teletype to Atlanta & Knoxville WSS 5-26-63
Teletype to Atlanta & Knoxville WSS 5-25-63
Teletype to Atlanta & Knoxville WSS 11-12-62

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.

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.
TO SACS ATLANTA
MOBILE
SAVANNAH
BIRMINGHAM

FROM DIRECTOR FBI

COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS.

REATRAD JULY EIGHTEEN LAST, BULET TO ATLANTA JULY
NINETEEN LAST AND ATRAD JULY TWENTY LAST.

IF APPROVAL IS GRANTED AND INSTALLATION MADE IN REFERENCED
CASE, MOBILE WILL FURNISH ONE ADDITIONAL MAGNECORD TAPE
RECODER. SAVANNAH WILL FURNISH ONE DIAL RECORDER COMPLETE
AND BIRMINGHAM WILL FURNISH ONE K THREE TAPE TRANSCRIBER UNIT.

IN EVENT OFFICES CANNOT FURNISH EQUIPMENT, BUREAU SHOULD
BE NOTIFIED IMMEDIATELY. ALL OFFICES SUBMIT APPROPRIATE FD
TWO TWO TWO FORMS. ATLANTA WILL ADVISE OFFICES CONCERNED

NOTE: By Rule 11/19/63 Atlanta was furnished two dial
recorders and one Magnecord tape recorder.
July 26, 1963

Airtel

To: SAC, Atlanta
From: Director, FBI (LEG-S-118)

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - C

Reurtel 7/24/63 "Communist Influence in Racial Matters" advising technical surveillance feasible on residence of Martin Luther King, Jr., as well as Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

The Attorney General has disapproved technical coverage on King and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Therefore, no further action is to be taken in this matter.

1 - Birmingham
1 - Mobile

NOTE:

Memorandum Evans to Belmont 7/25/63 discloses that the Attorney General orally advised on 7/25/63 that he now considers request for technical coverage on King that he made 7/16/63 to be ill advised; that in view of King's constant travel status there was considerable doubt that productivity of technical coverage would be worth the risk. Therefore we are instructing Atlanta to take no further action in this matter.

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.
Memorandum

TO: Mr. W. C. Sullivan
FROM: Mr. J. F. Bland
SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. SECURITY MATTER - C

DATE: September 6, 1963

JUNE
1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. Sullivan 1 - Mr. Bland
1 - Mr. Evans 1 - Mr. Donohue
1 - Mr. Rosen 1 - Mr. Forsyth

Martin Luther King, Jr., the well-known Southern Negro leader who is President of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), is being closely advised by Stanley Levison, a New York attorney and secret member of the Communist Party (CP). He has made the sensational statement that King is a "wholehearted Marxist who has studied it, regards it, agrees with it, but because of his being a minister of religion does not dare to espouse it publicly." Levison has appeared before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee and refused to answer questions concerning his membership in the CP. Levison continues to act as advisor to King. In June of 1962, he recommended that King hire Hunter Pitts O'Dell as an administrative assistant. King, acting upon this advice, hired O'Dell in this capacity but on November 2, 1962, as a result of a newspaper article identifying O'Dell as a communist, King announced that O'Dell had resigned from this position and his resignation had been accepted. However, as late as August 30, 1963, O'Dell has been observed by Agents of the FBI entering and leaving the SCLC office in New York City. O'Dell, under the pseudonym Cornelius James, was elected to the National Committee of the CP in 1959.

Information developed during August, 1963, indicates that King, who is married, maintains intimate relationships with at least three women, one in Atlanta, one in Mt. Vernon, New York, and one in Washington, D.C.

Observations:

King's duplicity is amply illustrated in his public announcements concerning O'Dell's lack of connections with the SCLC. Although, as mentioned above, O'Dell was observed entering and leaving the New York office of the SCLC as late as August 30, 1963, King's extramarital affairs while posing as a minister of the gospel leave him highly susceptible to coercion and possible blackmail and, most important, in view of his continued close association and willingness to accept advice and submit to the influence of such communists as Levison and O'Dell, we should have as complete coverage as possible of King's activities. A large part of the information set out above as well as a great deal of additional information of interest has been developed through technical coverage of close

Enc. 100-106670

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 disseminated to an unauthorized person without the express approval of the FBI.
Memorandum for Mr. Sullivan
RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
100-106670

associates of King, such as Stanley Levison and Clarence B. Jones, a former member of the Labor Youth League who is head of the Gandhi Society for Human Rights of which King is honorary chairman, as well as the offices of the above society. It is believed that additional data of extreme interest in this matter could be obtained through technical coverage of King's residence in Atlanta and the Atlanta and New York offices of the SCLC.

RECOMMENDATION:

There is attached a proposed airtel instructing Atlanta to conduct a survey as to the feasibility of installing a technical surveillance on King's residence, as well as the offices of the SCLC. Copies of this airtel are also being forwarded to the New York Office with instructions to conduct a similar survey on the New York office of the SCLC.
September 6, 1963

Airtel

To: SACs, Atlanta (100-5586)
    New York (100-126585)

From: Director, FBI

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - C

Atlanta is directed to conduct a survey for treasures on the headquarters of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) and the residence of Martin Luther King, Jr.

New York is instructed to conduct a similar survey on the New York office of the SCLC.

Full security should be assured prior to making this survey.

NOTE:
See memo Bland to Sullivan, same date, same caption.

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.
TO: Mr. W. C. Sullivan  
DATE: October 4, 1963

FROM: Mr. J. F. Bland  
JUNE

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

COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN  
RACIAL MATTERS  

Surveys have been made on the residence of Martin Luther King, Jr., in Atlanta, Georgia, and the headquarters of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) in New York City. These surveys indicate it is feasible to install technical surveillances on these places with full security.

You will recall that on 7/14/63 the Attorney General advised Assistant Director Evans that in view of the possible communist influence in the racial situation, he desired that consideration be given to placing a technical surveillance on Martin Luther King, Jr., leader of the SCLC, and Clarence B. Jones, a New York City attorney who is closely associated with King and involved in the racial movement. The Attorney General at that time indicated he was not concerned with the repercussions if it should ever become known that such surveillances had been put into effect and that he thought it advisable to have complete coverage. However, when such a request was made of the Attorney General on 7/22/63, he rejected coverage on King.

King resides at 563 Johnson Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia and is president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, 330 Auburn Avenue, Atlanta. The New York office of the SCLC is located at 312 West 125th Street, New York City.

King is closely associated with Stanley Levison, a concealed member of the Communist Party, USA (CPUSA). King has been described by Levison as a wholehearted Marxist who has studied Marxism, believes in it, agrees with it, but because of his being a minister of religion does not dare to espouse it publicly.

The Attorney General has approved coverage on Stanley Levison, Clarence B. Jones, and the Gandhi Society for Human Rights. These installations have been extremely productive in showing the influence

Enc.  
100-106670  
100-3-116
Memorandum for Mr. Sullivan
RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN
RACIAL MATTERS
100-106670
100-3-116

of Levison on King as well as Levison's behind-the-scenes influence in the racial movement. At present there are 57 investigative-type technical surveillances in operation and three are awaiting installation. The limit is 75.

OBSERVATIONS:

In view of the Attorney General's request that our coverage be as complete as possible and because of the communist influence in the racial movement shown by activities of Stanley Levison as well as King's connection with him, it is believed desirable to put all possible coverage on the racial leaders in order to obtain full information.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the attached be sent to the Attorney General requesting authority to install technical surveillances on King's residence in Atlanta, Georgia, and the SCLC headquarters in New York City.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Room 5744  10/7  1963

TO:

☑ Director
☑ Mr. Belmont
☑ Mr. Mohr
☑ Mr. DeLoach
☑ Mr. Evans
☑ Mr. Rosen
☑ Mr. Callahan
☑ Mr. Casper
☑ Mr. Conrad
☑ Mr. DeLoach
☑ Mr. Evans
☑ Mr. Gale
☑ Mr. Gale
☑ Mr. Rosen
☑ Mr. Sullivan
☑ Mr. Sullivan
☑ Mr. Tavel
☑ Mr. Tavel
☑ Mr. Trotter
☑ Mr. Trotter
☑ Miss Holmes
☑ Miss Holmes
☑ Miss Gandy
☑ Miss Gandy
☑ Personnel Files Section
☑ Records Branch
☑ Mrs. Skillman
☑ Mrs. Brown
☑ John Quander

See Me
Send File
For appropriate action
Note and Return
Please Call Me

I see no point in making this recommendation
to the Attorney General in view of the fact
that he turned down a similar recommendation
on July 22, 1963.

Clyde Tolson

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.
SSC LETTER 8/20/75

ITEM # 2

[Handwritten note: "H077no"]

[Handwritten note: "#16"]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HERIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
Memorandum Sizoo to Sullivan 10-18-63 set forth certain requests of SAC McMahon of the Atlanta Office in connection with the monitoring of technical installations under consideration in connection with captioned matter.

On 10-21-63, SAC McMahon was advised that the technical installations on the residence of King and the Headquarters of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) had been approved. He was also advised that his request for the expenditure of $250 per month for a monitoring plant outside of the Atlanta Office was approved. In connection with Atlanta's request for the services of an outside sound man in connection with these installations, he was advised that the services of Special Agent William F. Heist of the Miami Office should be obtained. (SAC McMahon is to arrange with the Miami Office for the presence of Special Agent Heist when he is needed. Heist's personnel file shows nothing which would prevent such an assignment.) McMahon was also advised that his request for additional technical equipment was being handled by a separate teletype sent to him on 10-21-63. He was advised that if any question arises as to the need of the Atlanta Office for additional equipment, SA Baker of the Electronics Section of the Laboratory is thoroughly familiar with the equipment already ordered and sent to Atlanta.

None, for information. This memorandum records the following:
1) Authorization for Atlanta to install technical coverage of King at 563 Johnson Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia, and on the Headquarters of the SCLC, 330 Auburn Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia. (SAC McMahon is to furnish the date and time installed and the symbol number of each installation and is to furnish a separate, complete justification and evaluation of the results of the coverage within 30 days of installation.)

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.

ACTION:

None, for information.
Memorandum to Mr. W. C. Sullivan
Re: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - C

COMMUNIST PARTY, USA
NEGRO QUESTION
COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

2) Authorization for expenditure of $250 per month for monitoring plant.

3) Authorization to arrange with Miami Office for the services of Special Agent William F. Heist for installation of technical equipment.
October 14, 1963

Airtel

To: SAC, Atlanta (100-5586A)  
From: Director, FBI (100-108670)  

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
SECURITY MATTER - C

Beurlet dated October 10, 1963.

A review of your letter reveals the possible existence of certain security hazards in connection with the installation of a system on the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). You indicate that a switch of pairs in order to provide easier access in a more desirable location is found to be impossible. Prior to further consideration of this matter, the Bureau desires additional information as indicated below:

1) Outline in detail the exact steps necessary to effect a system installation on the office of the SCLC. Furnish a concise evaluation as to whether full security can be assured utilizing a sound man from another office.

2) It is noted that in connection with this proposed installation as well as the proposed installation in the case of King’s residence you mentioned in your airtel of October 3, 1963, you proposed to locate the monitoring plant in Headquarters facilities. In this connection, advise whether the telephone cable serving the Atlanta Office likewise serves other offices in the building occupied by your office and/or any adjacent buildings.

TDR: scp (4)  

This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. Its use is subject to official proceedings of your Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized persons without the express approval of the FBI.
Airtel to Atlanta
Re: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
100-106870

Together with your reply covering the above points, specify exactly what equipment you will need in the event authority is granted to make the installation on the SCLC office as well as the King residence.

Advise Bureau by return mail.
Memorandum

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-106670)
FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (100-5586A) (P)
SUBJECT: DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

DATE: 10/10/63

Re Atlanta airtel 10/5/63.

Enclosed herewith is a copy of FD 142 relating to proposed Tesurs on subject and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC).

Through sources, efforts were made to attempt to switch certain pairs in order to facilitate the installation of a Tesur on the four pairs serving the SCLC Office as the cross frame where these pairs appear is located on a pole immediately in front of the SCLC Office. This cross frame is visible through two large windows from within the Office of SCLC and practically on the same level as the windows.

Source at Southern Bell has advised that such a switch of pairs in order to provide easier access in a more desirable location is not possible.

The only sound trained Agent in the Atlanta Office has in the past interviewed Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., and his father, as well as other employees of SCLC. At the time of the interview of Dr. KING, JR., a signed statement was taken and the interview was of approximately two hours duration. In the event installation of instant Tesur is authorized, it is believed that a sound trained Agent should make the installation who is unknown to subject and other employees of SCLC.

It is noted that by previous communication on October 3, 1963, results of survey was forwarded the Bureau regarding Tesur on subject's residence.
If installations are approved additional equipment for plant operation is required as this office has currently assigned to it two tape recorders, one 6A amplifier and one 6AR dial recorder. There are no playback units available Atlanta for transcription of tapes.

In view of the foregoing, if this installation is approved, Laboratory is requested to send a technician to Atlanta to make installation.
Memorandum

TO: DIRECTOR (File 100-106670) DATE: 10/10/63
FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (100-5586A)

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATION FOR INSTALLATION OF TECHNICAL OR MICROPHONE SURVEILLANCE

RE: Title DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Character of Case SM-C
Field Office Atlanta
Symbol Number None
Type of Surveillance (Technical or Microphone)

1. Name and address of subject:
   Office of Southern Christian Leadership Conference, 330 Auburn Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia.

2. Location of technical operation:
   Office space of Atlanta Office.

3. Other technical surveillances on same subject:
   None at present in Atlanta.

4. Cost and manpower involved:
   Cost of four leased lines plus services of four Investigative Clerks. Exact cost of leased lines unknown but based on exact wire mileage.

5. Adequacy of security:
   Adequate security is provided if person making installation is unknown to subject, Dr. KING and staff of Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

Registered Mail

NW 55247 DocId:32989662 Page 42
6. Type of case involved:
Security matter investigation to determine degree of influence CP has on mass Negro organizations through Dr. KING.

7. Connection or status of subject in the case:
Dr. KING has in the past been in contact with concealed CP members, and former CP members. As President of SCLC, a leading Negro mass Organization, organization and subject are prime logical targets for influencing and infiltration.

8. Specific information being sought:
Degree of influence being exerted by CP on Dr. KING and Southern Christian Leadership Conference and extent of contacts.

9. Reasons for believing the specific information will be obtained by the technical surveillance:
Dr. KING's CP contacts are basically located in New York City while he normally maintains office and residence Atlanta. It is however noted Dr. KING is in almost constant travel status.

10. Importance of case and subject:
Dr. KING as President of Southern Christian Leadership Conference has been elevated to the position of "National Leader" of the Negro Civil Rights and Integration Movement as shown by recent events.
11. Possibilities of obtaining desired information by other means (Explain in detail):
With the constant travel status of Dr. KING, and his being almost completely surrounded by members of his own race who are loyal to his cause, it is considered that this is the only means by which desired information can be obtained.

12. Risks of detection involved:

Risks of detection are considered at a minimum.

13. Probable length of technical surveillance:
Indefinite

14. Request made for technical surveillance by any outside agency (name specific official, title and agency):

None known to Atlanta Office.
15. Remarks:

In past when interviews have been conducted in the office of Southern Christian Leadership Conference certain employees when asked a question, in a half joking and half serious manner replied, "You should know that already, don't you have our wires tapped?" It is noted in the past, State of Georgia has conducted investigations regarding subject and Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

16. Recommendation of Assistant Director:
Memorandum

TO: DIRECTOR (Bufile 100-106670)  
SAC, ATLANTA (100-55864)

DATE: 10/10/63

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATION FOR INSTALLATION OF TECHNICAL OR MICROPHONE SURVEILLANCE

RE: Title DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Character of Case SM-C
Field Office ATLANTA
Symbol Number None
Type of Surveillance (Technical

1. Name and address of subject:
   Residence, Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., 563 Johnson Avenue, N.E.,
   Atlanta, Georgia.

2. Location of technical operation:
   Office space of Atlanta Office.

3. Other technical surveillances on same subject:
   None at present in Atlanta.

4. Cost and manpower involved:
   Cost of one leased line, plus services of four Investigative
   Clerks. Exact cost of leased lines unknown, but based on
   exact wire mileage.

5. Adequacy of security:
   Security for installation is adequate

This document is prepared in response to your request and it may not be disseminated 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.

Registered Mail
6. Type of case involved:
Security matter investigation to determine degree of influence CP has on mass Negro organizations through Dr. KING.

7. Connection or status of subject in the case:
Dr. KING has in the past been in contact with concealed CP members, and former CP members. As President of Southern Christian Leadership Conference, a leading Negro mass organization, organization and subject are prime logical targets for influencing and infiltration.

8. Specific information being sought:
Degree of influence being exerted by CP on Dr. KING and Southern Christian Leadership Conference and extent of contacts.

9. Reasons for believing the specific information will be obtained by the technical surveillance:
Dr. KING's CP contacts are basically located in New York Office while he normally maintains office and residence Atlanta. It is however noted Dr. KING is in almost constant travel status.

10. Importance of case and subject:
Dr. KING as president of Southern Christian Leadership Conference has been elevated to the position of "National Leader" of the Negro Civil Rights and Integration Movement as shown by recent events.
11. Possibilities of obtaining desired information by other means (Explain in detail):

With the constant travel status of Dr. KING, and his being almost completely surrounded by members of his own race who are loyal to his cause, it is considered that this is the only means by which desired information can be obtained.

12. Risks of detection involved:

Risks of detection are considered at a minimum.

13. Probable length of technical surveillance:

Indefinite.

14. Request made for technical surveillance by any outside agency (name specific official, title and agency):

None known to Atlanta Office.
15. Remarks:

In the past when interviews have been conducted in office of Southern Christian Leadership Conference certain employees when asked a questions, in a half joking and half serious manner replied, "You should know that already, don't you have our wires tapped?" It is noted in the past, State of Georgia has conducted investigations regarding subject and Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

16. Recommendation of Assistant Director:
TO:  MR. W. C. SULLIVAN
FROM:  MR. J. A. SIZOZ
DATE:  10-22-63
SUBJECT:  MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
          SECURITY MATTER - C
          COMMUNIST PARTY, USA
          NEGRO QUESTION
          COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS
          INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Memorandum Sizoo to Sullivan 10-18-63 set forth certain requests of SAC McMahon of the Atlanta Office in connection with the monitoring of technical installations under consideration in connection with captioned matter.

On 10-21-63, SAC McMahon was advised that the technical installations on the residence of King and the Headquarters of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) had been approved. He was also advised that his request for the expenditure of $250 per month for a monitoring plant outside of the Atlanta Office was approved. In connection with Atlanta's request for the services of an outside sound man in connection with these installations, he was advised that the services of Special Agent William F. Heist of the Miami Office should be obtained. (SAC McMahon is to arrange with the Miami Office for the presence of Special Agent Heist when he is needed. Heist's personnel file shows nothing which would prevent such an assignment.) McMahon was also advised that his request for additional technical equipment was being handled by a separate teletype sent to him on 10-21-63. He was advised that if any question arises as to the need of the Atlanta Office for additional equipment, SA Baker of the Electronics Section of the Laboratory is thoroughly familiar with the equipment already ordered and sent to Atlanta.

ACTION:

None, for information. This memorandum records the following:
1) Authorization for Atlanta to install technical coverage of King at 563 Johnson Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia, and on the Headquarters of the SCLC, 330 Auburn Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia. (SAC McMahon is to furnish the date and time installed and the symbol number of each installation and is to furnish a separate, complete justification and evaluation of the results of the coverage within 30 days of installation.)

100-106670
1 - 100-3-116
JAS:JFB:mjt (14)

This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. It is limited to official proceedings by your Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized persons without the express permission of the FBI.
Memorandum to Mr. W. C. Sullivan
Re: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - C

COMMUNIST PARTY, USA
NEGRO QUESTION
COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

2) Authorization for expenditure of $250 per month for monitoring plant.

3) Authorization to arrange with Miami Office for the services of Special Agent William F. Heist for installation of technical equipment.
SERIAL 255
October 14, 1963

Airtel

To: SAC, Atlanta (100-5586A)
From: Director, FBI (100-106670)

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - C


A review of your letter reveals the possible existence of certain security hazards in connection with the installation of a system on the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). You indicate that a switch of pairs in order to provide easier access in a more desirable location is found to be impossible. Prior to further consideration of this matter, the Bureau desires additional information as indicated below:

1) Outline in detail the exact steps necessary to effect a system installation on the office of the SCLC. Furnish a concise evaluation as to whether full security can be assured utilizing a sound man from another office.

2) It is noted that in connection with this proposed installation as well as the proposed installation in the case of King's residence you mentioned in your airtel of October 3, 1963, you proposed to locate the monitoring plant in Headquarters facilities. In this connection, advise whether the telephone cable serving the Atlanta Office likewise serves other offices in the building occupied by your office and/or any adjacent buildings.

TDR: scp

(4) 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.
Airtel to Atlanta
Re: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
100-106670

Together with your reply covering the above points, specify exactly what equipment you will need in the event authority is granted to make the installation on the SCLC office as well as the King residence.

Advise Bureau by return mail.
TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-106670)  
FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (100-5586A) (P)  
SUBJECT: DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. SM-C  

DATE: 10/10/63  

JUNE  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  

Re Atlanta airtel 10/5/63.

Enclosed herewith is a copy of FD 142 relating to proposed Tessor on subject and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC).

Through sources, efforts were made to attempt to switch certain pairs in order to facilitate the installation of a Tessor on the four pairs serving the SCLC Office as the cross frame where these pairs appear is located on a pole immediately in front of the SCLC Office. This cross frame is visible through two large windows from within the Office of SCLC and practically on the same level as the windows.

Source at Southern Bell has advised that such a switch of pairs in order to provide easier access in a more desirable location is not possible.

The only sound trained Agent in the Atlanta Office has in the past interviewed Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., and his father, as well as other employees of SCLC. At the time of the interview of Dr. KING, JR., a signed statement was taken and the interview was of approximately two hours duration. In the event installation of instant Tessor is authorized, it is believed that a sound trained Agent should make the installation who is unknown to subject and other employees of SCLC.

It is noted that by previous communication on October 3, 1963, results of survey was forwarded the Bureau regarding Tessor on subject's residence.
AT 100-5586A
AFM/elt

If installations are approved additional equipment for plant operation is required as this office has currently assigned to it two tape recorders, one 6A amplifier and one 6AR dial recorder. There are no playback units available Atlanta for transcription of tapes.

In view of the foregoing, if this installation is approved, Laboratory is requested to send a technician to Atlanta to make installation.
Memorandum

TO: DIRECTOR (File 100-106670) DATE: 10/10/63
FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (100-5586A)

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATION FOR INSTALLATION OF TECHNICAL OR MICROPHONE SURVEILLANCE

RE: Title DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Character of Case SM-C
Field Office Atlanta
Symbol Number None
Type of Surveillance (Technical or Microphone)

1. Name and address of subject:
   Office of Southern Christian Leadership Conference, 330 Auburn Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia.

2. Location of technical operation:
   Office space of Atlanta Office.

3. Other technical surveillances on same subject:
   None at present in Atlanta.

4. Cost and manpower involved:
   Cost of four leased lines plus services of four Investigative Clerks. Exact cost of leased lines unknown but based on exact wire mileage.

5. Adequacy of security:
   Adequate security is provided if person making installation is unknown to subject, Dr. KING and staff of Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

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.

Registered Mail
6. Type of case involved:
   Security matter investigation to determine degree of
   influence CP has on mass Negro organizations through Dr.
   KING.

7. Connection or status of subject in the case:
   Dr. KING has in the past been in contact with concealed CP
   members, and former CP members. As President of SCLC, a
   leading Negro mass Organization, organization and subject
   are prime logical targets for influencing and infiltration.

8. Specific information being sought:
   Degree of influence being exerted by CP on Dr. KING and
   Southern Christian Leadership Conference and extent of contacts.

9. Reasons for believing the specific information will be obtained by the
   technical surveillance:
   Dr. KING's CP contacts are basically located in New York City
   while he normally maintains office and residence Atlanta. It is
   however noted Dr. KING is in almost constant travel status

10. Importance of case and subject:
    Dr. KING as President of Southern Christian Leadership Conference
    has been elevated to the position of "National Leader" of the
    Negro Civil Rights and Integration Movement as shown by recent
    events.
11. Possibilities of obtaining desired information by other means (Explain in detail):
With the constant travel status of Dr. KING, and his being almost completely surrounded by members of his own race who are loyal to his cause, it is considered that this is the only means by which desired information can be obtained.

12. Risks of detection involved:
Risks of detection are considered at a minimum.

13. Probable length of technical surveillance:
Indefinite

14. Request made for technical surveillance by any outside agency (name specific official, title and agency):
None known to Atlanta Office.
15. Remarks:

In past when interviews have been conducted in the office of Southern Christian Leadership Conference certain employees when asked a question, in a half joking and half serious manner replied, "You should know that already, don't you have our wires tapped?" It is noted in the past, State of Georgia has conducted investigations regarding subject and Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

16. Recommendation of Assistant Director:
Memorandum

TO: DIRECTOR (File 100-106670) DATE: 10/10/63
FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (100-5586A)

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATION FOR INSTALLATION OF TECHNICAL OR MICROPHONE SURVEILLANCE

RE: Title DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Character of Case SM-C
Field Office ATLANTA
Symbol Number None
Type of Surveillance (Technical

1. Name and address of subject:
   Residence, Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., 563 Johnson Avenue, N.E.,
   Atlanta, Georgia.

2. Location of technical operation:
   Office space of Atlanta Office.

3. Other technical surveillances on same subject:
   None at present in Atlanta.

4. Cost and manpower involved:
   Cost of one leased line, plus services of four Investigative
   Clerks. Exact cost of leased lines unknown, but based on
   exact wire mileage.

5. Adequacy of security:
   Security for installation is adequate.

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

Registered Mail
6. Type of case involved:
Security matter investigation to determine degree of influence CP has on mass Negro organizations through Dr. KING.

7. Connection or status of subject in the case:
Dr. KING has in the past been in contact with concealed CP members, and former CP members. As President of Southern Christian Leadership Conference, a leading Negro mass organization, organization and subject are prime logical targets for influencing and infiltration.

8. Specific information being sought:
Degree of influence being exerted by CP on Dr. KING and Southern Christian Leadership Conference and extent of contacts.

9. Reasons for believing the specific information will be obtained by the technical surveillance:
Dr. KING's CP contacts are basically located in New York Office while he normally maintains office and residence Atlanta. It is however noted Dr. KING is in almost constant travel status.

10. Importance of case and subject:
Dr. KING as president of Southern Christian Leadership Conference has been elevated to the position of "National Leader" of the Negro Civil Rights and Integration Movement as shown by recent events.
11. Possibilities of obtaining desired information by other means (Explain in detail):

With the constant travel status of Dr. KING, and his being almost completely surrounded by members of his own race who are loyal to his cause, it is considered that this is the only means by which desired information can be obtained.

12. Risks of detection involved:

Risks of detection are considered at a minimum.

13. Probable length of technical surveillance:

Indefinite.

14. Request made for technical surveillance by any outside agency (name specific official, title and agency):

None known to Atlanta Office.
15. Remarks:

In the past when interviews have been conducted in office of Southern Christian Leadership Conference certain employees when asked a question, in a half joking and half serious manner replied, "You should know that already, don't you have our wires tapped?" It is noted in the past, State of Georgia has conducted investigations regarding subject and Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

16. Recommendation of Assistant Director: