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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

FROM: CI/Ober	EXTENSION 5847	NO. B-308
		DATE 17 Feb 69

	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)
	RECEIVED	FORWARDED		
1.				<p>CI/80 Internal Use Only</p> <p>Originated by: WH/7/ [redacted] (7 Feb 69)</p> <p>Based on: OEL-53,301 Paras. 12 (a) 13 (b) 14 (c)</p> <p>Disseminated to FBI on 17 Feb 69</p> <p>Passed Sam Papich a second copy of attachment (CSDB-312/00191-69) on: 18 MAR 1969 per his request.</p> <p>File: B-Memo (record copy) (w/ att) cc: 100-300-044 (JWK) cc:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">B-308 7525</p>
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17 FEB 1969

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Bahamas/United States Black Power Ties

1. The monthly report on the Bahamas for October 1968 [redacted] contains several references to ties between Black Power groups in the Bahamas and the United States, which are provided, in full, below. A summary of the report, omitting portions concerning the United States or United States citizens, is being disseminated (see attached report).

2. The items of possible interest, omitted from the dissemination, are noted below:

A. On 29 October 1968 Dr. Alfred D. King, brother of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, delivered a highly inflammatory address of a racist character at a public meeting in Nassau. He severely attacked disparities in the Bahamas between white and colored members of the population. The disparities were highly exaggerated by King who said that, while there was political freedom in the Bahamas, black Bahamians did not have economic freedom.

B. It is apparent that King came to the Bahamas on the invitation of Dudley Williams, President of the Bahamas Engineering Fuel and Allied Workers Union, and Reverend R.E. Cooper, a Baptist Minister. As King's visit was his first and was for so short a time, it is evident that he spoke from a prepared brief. Another visiting speaker, Erskine Hepburn, a Bahamian-born U.S. naturalized citizen, President of Branch No. 589 of the AFL/CIO in Jacksonville, Florida, delivered an address on similar lines as did Williams. Both indicated that King might be invited to return to the Bahamas.

C. The impression gained is that Williams is identifying the leaders of the Bahamas Federation of Trade Unions with the Government and is endeavoring to extend the struggle within the union movement into the political field. To do this he

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is prepared to exploit militant racialism for political ends with possible further activities by Dr. King and this could produce security problems.

WH/7/ [] :JSe

(7 February 1969)

Distribution:

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Based on: OEL-53,301
Paras. 12 (a)
13 (b)
14 (c)

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