

SCLC

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Rosa Parks, a Negro seamstress in a downtown Montgomery, Alabama department store, rode the bus everyday to and from work. One evening in December 1955, Mrs. Parks boarded the bus as usual and found there were no seats in the rear. Negroes were required to sit in the rear of Montgomery buses or in a sort of neutral zone in the middle of the bus provided no white people required the neutral seat. Mrs. Parks sat in that neutral zone but only for a short time. Boarding white passengers demanded that she give up her seat. But she refused to budge having worked hard all day. The driver stopped the bus and had Mrs. Parks arrested. E. D. Nixon, former state NAACP President bailed Mrs. Parks out of jail and then phoned the Negro leaders in the city.

A minister at Dexter Avenue Baptist Church was called... his name was Martin Luther King. King and 40 other Montgomery influential Negroes decided to organize a boycott of the city buses. They would not simply ride them and since 15,000 Negroes rode the buses everyday they figured the boycott would hurt the city revenues. King led the boycott as head of the Montgomery Improvement Association.

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A minister at Dexter Avenue Baptist Church was called... his name was Martin Luther King. King and 40 other Montgomery influential Negroes decided to organize a boycott of the city buses. They would not simply ride them and since 15,000 Negroes rode the buses every day they figured the boycott would hurt the city revenues. King led the boycott as head of the Montgomery Improvement Association which had been formed by Dr. Fred Shuttlesworth who was also President of the Southern

Conference Educational Fund. Bayard
Rustin became the organizer of the boycott.

The boycott lasted one year. During
this time some Negroes lost their jobs, some
were beaten. King and E. D. Nixon's homes
were bombed. 89 boycotters including King
were arrested. The Supreme Court ruled the
boycott desegregated. During the boycott
King leaped into national and world prominence.

— The Southern Conference Educational Fund
had been formed from the Southern Conference
for Human Rights.

James A. Dombrowski - administrator

- identified Communist

Paul Crouch - founder

- admitted CP 25 to 42

• The Senate Internal Security Committee exposed
the SCHR + after exposure SCHR replaced by
SCEF - used same address, same publication,
same telephone number.

Dombrowski - served as administrator

Aubrey Williams - identified communist served on
board

Carl Brosden } made field secretaries
Anne Brosden }

— Bayard Rustin

— joined Young Communist League in 1936

— WWII arrested several times advocating
resistance to the war and served 26 months
for draft dodging

— worked closely with

A War Resister League

B World Peace Brigade

C Medical Aid to Cuba Committee

— [REDACTED]

— 1957 - invited CPUSA 16th national convention

— socially entertained at USSR Embassy

— 1958 went to USSR under the sponsorship

of the Nonviolent Action Committee Against Nuclear Weapons.

- 1963 "Fellowship" revealed he friend of Kwame Nkrumah
- wanted to establish a center for non-violence at Pan-a-Salam which has been proven to be a training center for communist guerrillas



— Rosa Parks

- attended Highlander Folk School in Monteagle, Tennessee.

(go back to early 1930's when the Communist Party had great dreams and expectations for using the Negro in the Party's plans. The Party organized the People's Institute of Allied Religion. As part of its program, set up Commonwealth College at Mena, Arkansas.

Organized by Dombrowski and Myler Horton. Cited by US Attorney General as fined \$2500 for violating agitation statute of state of Arkansas.

The faculty then moved to Monteagle and organized the Highlander Folk School. Spent the next 11

operating as Aubrey William (SCEF)

- Andrew Young - became program director of SCEC. The Atlanta Constitution of 27 July 1963 had this to say:

Young was headquartered part time in the Savannah office of the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers. The Subversive Activities Control Board found the union to be communist infiltrated.

- In 1957, King was photographed at the Highlander Folk School. Also in attendance and photographed were Rosa Parks, Aubrey Williams, Hugh Horton and Abner W. Berg of the Central Committee of the CPUSA.

- 1963. King was listed as a sponsor of the school in a form letter.

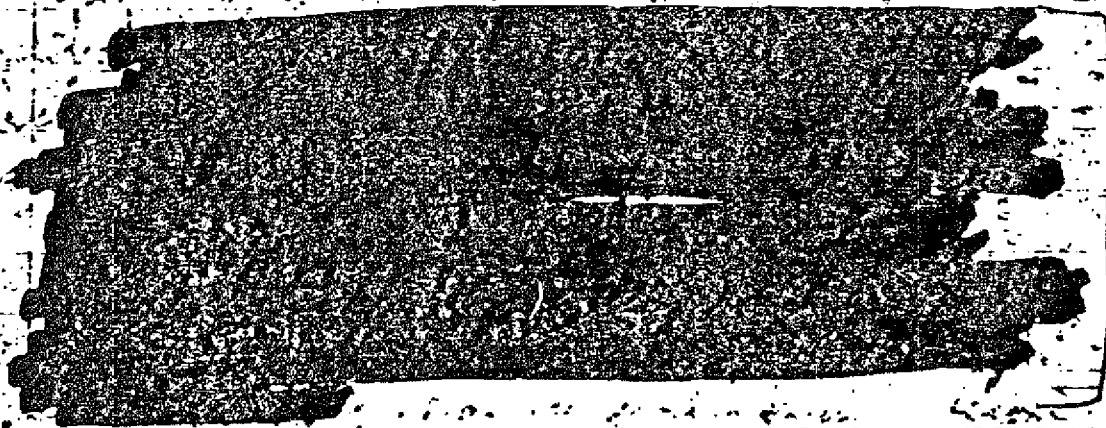
- In 1960, Hunter Pitts O'Dell replaced Ruston as King's admin. In 1962, H.U.A.C. report listed Pitts among those elected to the National Committee of CPUSA. O'Dell was district organizer CP Louisiana in 1956; was a CP member when King hired him & elected to the National Committee while on King's payroll.

- King's - American Committee For Africa
among the people

Rosen
Levinson on Executive Board

Heated Holden Roberts 1961 - Communist
leader of the war of national liberation in Angola

5 OCT 1963 - State and local police raided
the office of SCEF in New Orleans. Seized
was a check from Dombrowski made out
to and endorsed by King. There were letters
from King to Dombrowski and the Bradens.
Also a photograph of them at 5th annual
meeting of SCLC.



- April 1967 - Hubert Locke - Chairman of CPUSA
told a press conference in NY.

"King knows what is going on. He is allowing
himself to be utilized by the Communists. Mr. King
receives financial support from organizations and
individuals that are tied to the Communist Party

SCLC

17 AUG 68 - rededicated themselves to seeking an end to racial segregation through non-violent means

After Poor People's campaign SCLC went into a retreat to do some soul searching.

• Campaign came close to being a disaster
fail to bring response from Congress + Admin
left SCLC drained physically, emotionally + financially

Abernathy talked of 5 years of struggle to end poverty by getting involved in low-income housing program, organizing imbedded workers into unions, giving organizational know how to protesting university students and drawing up action programs to confront the urban crisis in six selected cities.

A staff veteran complained that SCLC is falling apart. "Let's face it SCLC was just a front for Martin Luther King. Now the front is trying to become an organization and doesn't know how."

boycotted, 89 boycotts arrested including King.

Supreme Court ordered the buses desegregated
King leaped into national + world prominence
during the boycotts

1959 - took trip with Laurence Durbor Reedick

In 1960 - after sit-in movement had
grown to such proportions that it was decided
to form a new organization to coordinate it.
King Ellis Baker of SCLC was largely
responsible for calling student leaders together.
Out of this came SCLC

Palmer
Conference

Right to Vote

Apr. 63 King led a taskforce of Negro
leaders + organizers to Birmingham Ala. When
King organized protest marches into downtown
Birmingham the city police led by
Commissioner T. Eugene "Bull" Connor broke
up the marches + arrested many of the Negro
participants. Connor promised to fill every
jail in Birmingham if the Negroes continued
to march. King then sent a new army of
marchers into Birmingham - one composed
entirely of children. Connor arrested more
than ~~several~~ seven hundred.

Day after another crusade of adults +
young students took place. Connor ordered
his men to open up on the marchers with
high powered fire hoses - followed by growling
police dogs.

Negotiations sent out ~~to~~ ^{compromise} reached

3 Days later dynamite blasted King's home,
his brother's & motel where King was staying.

May 1962 - SCLC submitted legal and
documentary material which they lodged a detailed
appeal to Pres. Kennedy. The document was the
work of several people, particularly of attorney
William Kunstler.

In 1965 March on Selma: to march for the
right to vote. When King was in Atlanta when
told the state troopers would use tear gas to block
the march. His associates told him to stay in
Atlanta to line up national support. When march
reached the troopers they were asked to turn back
when there was no response the troopers charged
directly into the column with nightsticks tear
gas was lobbed. Then the ^{cavalry} mounted patrolmen were
sent in to the rescue and pushed the marchers
back to where they started.
King criticized by militants of "chickens out"

King came to Selma to lead the next
march. The Fed gov't in the meanwhile talked with
local officials and they agreed to let the marchers
walk and when ordered back and ~~off~~ ^{off} there would be
no violence.

66 - King in Chicago shows
urgency of the conditions in the urban ghettos
One frustrating obstacle was the unclear extent

by City Hall - instead of denouncing King's campaign Mayor Daley outflanked it by sending 50 building inspectors ~~into~~ into the West Side getting & circulating a fact sheet among King's potential allies creating the impression that great strides were being made independently of the movement & hence that SCLC campaign was a minor, Johnny-come-lately affair. SCLC was not accustomed to a more direct and open confrontation rather than the behind-the-scenes sparring.

King left James Bevel and Andrew Young to wrestle with the problem and he went off to Europe.

making plans for Poor People Campaign.
But when garbage strike in Memphis boiled over, King went then to aid

4 Apr 68 struck by assassin's bullet

- Reddick - member of CPUSA 1943 called
the most unimportant member

- William Kamath -

Attorney DCA 66

Member - Americans Want To Know - CP Front

Attorney for Martin Sobell

- Stanley Levison - advisor to King
was member of the CPUSA

23 APR 1985

James H. Lesar, Esquire
1231 Fourth Street, SW
Washington, DC 20024

Dear Mr. Lesar:

This is our final response to your Freedom of Information Act request for records concerning the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. We searched for all records in existence as of and through 3 August 1981.

Enclosed, Tab A, are segregable portions of documents numbered 1 through 9. Deletions were made under exemption (b)(3) in all cases. Exemption (b)(6) also applies to document 1, and exemption (b)(1) applies to documents 2 and 3. The Federal Bureau of Investigation has deleted portions of document 1 under exemption (b)(7)(D). We also located two documents, memoranda dated 19 and 21 November 1971. They are currently and properly classified. Sanitization is not feasible, and they must be withheld in their entirety under exemptions (b)(1) and (b)(3). The CIA officials responsible for these determinations are Louis J. Dube, Information Review Officer, Directorate of Operations, and Robert J. Leonard, Information Review Officer, Office of Security. An explanation of the exemptions is enclosed at Tab B.

You have the right to appeal the above decisions by addressing your appeal to the CIA Information Review Committee, in my care. Should you decide to do this, please explain the basis of your appeal.

During our searches we located United States Government material that was not originated by the CIA. This material appears to be relevant to your request and has been referred to its originating agency for review and direct response to you. We are also enclosing copies of open source material located during our searches.

Search fees incurred in processing your request were \$13. Copying costs, @10 cents per page are \$3. You may send your check to me in the amount of \$16, made payable to the Treasurer of the United States. Please refer to our reference number F81-0449 to ensure credit to your account.

We apologize for the length of time it has taken us to complete the processing of your request, but we have been inundated by a large number of requests over the past several years. Under the

circumstances, we have done our best to be fair to all of our requesters. Thus, we established some years ago the policy of first-received, first-answered. Thank you for your patience and consideration while we were processing your request.

Sincerely,

John H. Wright

John H. Wright
Information and Privacy Coordinator

Enclosure

IPD/KVR/hlh/20 Apr 85

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