

F B I

Date: 6/24/69

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-449698)

FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (100-45316)

SUBJECT: COINTELPRO - NEW LEFT

Re my airtel, 6/18/69.

For the further information of the Bureau concerning the contact of SAC M.W. JOHNSON with [REDACTED] the "Chicago Tribune," pursuant to the authority of Section Chief C.D. BRENNAN, for the purpose of having an in-depth article concerning the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), prepared, the following information is set forth. "Chicago Tribune" [REDACTED] was assigned to write an article on the forthcoming SDS National Convention.

On 6/16/69, [REDACTED] met with SAC JOHNSON, Field Supervisor [REDACTED] and SA [REDACTED] who provided background information available from public sources, and sharpened the understanding of [REDACTED] relative to the underlying political dispute between the factions vying for the control of SDS.

The story appeared on page one of the 6/17/69 "Chicago Tribune." A copy of this article was furnished the Bureau in referenced airtel.

2 - Bureau (RM)  
3 - Chicago  
(1 - 100-490903)  
(1 - 100- ) (PROGRESSIVE LABOR PARTY)

RHW:hmm  
(5)

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

70 JUL 8 - 1969

CG 100-45316

On 6/18/69, [REDACTED] advised that MIKE KLONSKY, National Secretary, SDS, was extremely irate with the article, particularly with the association of [REDACTED] with the Revolutionary Union (RU).

On 6/23/69, this source reported that there was widespread discontent among the delegates to the SDS National Convention, with politics of RU and their attempt to "take over SDS."

[REDACTED] reported numerous press inquiries concerning the article, which were generally met with a reply of "No comment."

It is noted that this article set the tone for other news media with emphasis on the factional split between SDS and the pro Progressive Labor Party factions. Articles in other papers in the Chicago area bore headlines such as:

"We Witness Decline of SDS," and

"Communism Lone Victor, Regulars Split With Progressive Labor Party."

It is the opinion of Chicago that this article created a general awareness among convention attendees of the groups' struggle for control of their organization.

It is noted that SDS and Pro Progressive Labor Party factions had split, each electing a slate of national officers. Even within the SDS Pro National Office faction there appears to be considerable friction between the followers of MIKE KLONSKY and the Revolutionary Union, and the followers of BERNARDINE DOHRN, who won all three national offices. It is felt that this article forced all groups to harden their stances, thereby alienating a large number of non-aligned members and leaving a number of disillusioned delegates who do not have a strong commitment to any of the factions.

CG 100-45316

This, it is felt, has weakened SDS severely.

Chicago is alert to the possible future use of this technique in the counter intelligence program, and if the opportunity presents itself Chicago will make appropriate recommendations to the Bureau.

Recommendation for personnel action are being submitted by separate communication.

FBI

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SUBJECT: COINTELPRO -  
NEW LEFT

*C/S - ALL  
100/111  
P 1000-100*

Enclosed is a copy of an article appearing on page 1, of the 6/17/69 "Chicago Tribune."



The enclosed copy of KOZIOL's article is captioned "RED UNIT SEEKS SDS RULE."

(It is noted that the "Chicago Tribune" has the actual reputation of being one of the most conservative newspapers in the nation.)

It is fully expected that this article will greatly encourage factional antagonisms during the SDS Convention.

- 2 - Bureau (Encl. 1)(RM)
  - 4 - Chicago
    - (1 - 100-40903)
    - (1 - 100-
    - (1 - 105-
- (REVOLUTIONARY UNION)

RHW:dmv/pag  
(6)

Approved: 51 JUL 21 1969 Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

*INTS. SEC.*

# Red Unit Seeks S.D.S. Rule

## UNDERGROUND GROUP TO ACT AT MEETING Pro-Chinese Ties Told

BY RONALD KOZIOI.

An underground communist organization is expected to vie for control of the radical Students for a Democratic Society when the S. D. S. opens its national convention here tomorrow, THE TRIBUNE has learned.

The underground group, which recently has emerged after a year of secret organizing in the San Francisco bay area, is known as the Revolutionary Union or the Red Union.

### Affiliates with Groups

In recent months, the union has affiliated with other militant groups in Chicago and Los Angeles to "educate and develop a cadre for the coming revolution," according to investigators in the San Francisco area.

The first link with the pro-Chinese communist union was learned by investigators in March when a leader of the union, Robert Avakian, attended an S. D. S. conference in Austin, Tex. Undercover agents said that Avakian was warmly

greeted by Michael Klonsky, 26, national secretary of the S. D. S.

### Indications of Support

Further evidence of the union's influence on the S. D. S. is that one of the speakers at the convention will be Chris Melton, an associate of Avakian's, who authorities say has lived in Red China for four years. Avakian, while there, was a member of the Red Guards, a revolutionary group.

There are indications, investigators said, that Klonsky will support Avakian for the post he will vacate, that of national secretary.

The Revolutionary Union recently declared its principles in a 31-page booklet entitled "The Red Papers." In it, it was noted that the "main force and leader of a united front against imperialism must be the working class."

The booklet quotes extensively from the teachings of Marx and Lenin and tells of "the need of the working class to acquire arms to overthrow the power of the ruling class."

The union used its booklet to criticize the Progressive Labor party, which has been accused by S. D. S. leaders of receiving operating funds from the Chinese communist government.

Investigators noted that plans are under way by Progressive party leaders to take over the S. D. S. and indoctrinate the group with its own brand of pro-Maoist and Marxist-Leninist philosophy.

Most of the party's delegate strength to the S. D. S. convention will come from the east coast and sections of the west

coast, including a large contingent from the Berkeley (Cal.) S. D. S. chapter. This chapter was recently taken over by leaders of the Progressive party.

### Caucus Group to Work

Investigators noted that the Progressive Labor party members are well disciplined and are easily identified at S. D. S. conventions or meetings because they wear clean shirts and ties, in contrast to the slovenly appearance of other S. D. S. members and leaders.

Also working for the party at the convention will be the Workers Student alliance, which is described as a caucus group which sympathizes with the Progressive party. Its members are expected to lobby for the party among uncommitted delegates.

Federal and local authorities, who have been watching closely the activities of the S. D. S.,

believe that the factional infighting at the convention could lead to the formation of new revolutionary student groups.

### Rudd May Join Race

"At all depends which group gains control," said one investigator. "But whichever does, the same Marxist-Leninist theories of revolution will be followed."

Authorities have learned that Mark Rudd, S. D. S. activist who led the riots at Columbia university, may make a bid to run as the national secretary. If Rudd is unsuccessful, plans are under way to place him on the national interim committee of the S. D. S., which sets policy for the group.

Besides Klonsky, whose father, Robert, was the former organizational secretary for the Communist party in eastern Pennsylvania and Delaware, two other national leaders of the S. D. S. will leave office.

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EXHIBIT 1712

They are Bernadine Dohrn, the interorganizational secretary, and Fred Gordon, education secretary, who has been known to sympathize with the aims of the Progressive Labor party.

Miss Dohrn played an active role in organizing a legal defense campaign thru the leftist National Lawyers guild for those arrested in the Democratic convention disorders last August, and was among 28 American students who traveled to Budapest to confer with leaders of the National Liberation front in the fall of 1968.



Michael Klonsky