

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

[REDACTED]

Copy to: 1 - Secret Service, Los Angeles (RM)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Report of: WALTER M. BRADY  
Date: 7/28/67

Office: Los Angeles, California

Field Office File #: 100-68984

Bureau File #:

Title: MARVIN ALLEN DAVIDOV

Character: SECURITY MATTER - C

Synopsis:

Subject born 8/26/31 at Detroit, Michigan. Presently residing in Apt. B, 12020 Hoffman Street, Studio City, California. Employed as field secretary, Committee for Non-Violent Action. Honorably discharged from U.S. Army in 1961. Credit rating poor in Minneapolis in 1954. No local credit or arrest record. FBI Identification record set forth. Subject married to VICKI ESKEN on 5/15/66 in Los Angeles. Military record describes him as having a paranoid personality. Name of subject on mailing list of Southern Californians for New Politics in 1967; name of subject on mailing list of Fair Play for Cuba Committee in 1961; attended meeting of Los Angeles W.E.B. DuBois Club in 1965; attended meeting of UCLA Vietnam Day Committee in 1966; and subject was a guest at a meeting of the Committee to End the War in Vietnam in 1965. Subject attended at New Left School in Los Angeles in 1966. Description set forth.

- P -

DETAILS

This investigation is predicated upon information to the extent that one MARV DAVIDOV was to be an instructor of "Non-Violent Revolution" during the fall of 1966 at the New Left School (see appendix) at Los Angeles, California. He was described as Field Secretary of the Committee for Non-Violent action (CNVA); a Freedom Rider; a participant in many walks and conferences for peace and freedom; and a veteran of several arrests.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Classified by 6880  
Exempt from GDS, Category 2  
Date of Declassification Indefinite  
By: [Signature]  
of [Signature]

LA 100-68984

BACKGROUND

BIRTH

The files of the Bureau of Vital Statistics, Michigan State Health Department, DeWitt Road, Lansing, Michigan, under number 582-331265, reflected that MARVIN ALLEN DAVIDOV was born on August 26, 1931, at Detroit, Michigan. His father was listed as LOUIS DAVIDOV, born in Russia, and his mother was listed as GERTRUDE NECHMAN, born in Roumania.

RESIDENCE

The 1966 telephone directory for the City of Los Angeles lists MARVIN DAVIDOV, 1729 North Occidental, Los Angeles, California (666-8793).

The files of the Los Angeles Department of Water, Power and Light, Los Angeles, California, caused to be checked by SE GAREY D. POWELL on December 20, 1966, reflected that MARVIN DAVIDOV has been a tenant at 1729 North Occidental, Los Angeles, California, since February 21, 1966.

LA T-13 (7/20/67)

This source advised that MARVIN DAVIDOV on May 14, 1967, moved from 1729 North Occidental Boulevard, Los Angeles, to 12020 Hoffman Street, Studio City, California.

By means of a suitable pretext on July 24, 1967, it was determined by a Special Agent of the FBI that Mr. and Mrs. MARVIN DAVIDOV were currently residing in Apartment B, 12020 Hoffman Street, Studio City, California, with Mr. and Mrs. NATHAN ESKEN,

LA 100-68984

EMPLOYMENT

LA T-2 (12/6/66)

This source described MARVIN DAVIDOV as the Field Secretary for the CNVA in Los Angeles.

EDUCATION

Miss DORIS SOMERS, Secretary to the Registrar, Macalester College, 1600 Grand Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota, advised on March 2, 1954, that the files of her office reflect that MARVIN ALLEN DAVIDOV, born August 26, 1931, was in attendance at this college from February 2, 1950, to June, 1951; and from February, 1952 through June, 1953. He was in the liberal arts course with a major in history and a minor in political science. He did not graduate. He was rated 1.54 or c plus and stood 97th in a class of 139. It was shown that he had graduated from Central High School, Detroit Michigan, on June 22, 1949.

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

MILITARY RECORDS

A review on November 28, 1962, of the Military Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri, by [redacted] reflected that MARVIN ALLEN DAVIDOV, Army Serial No. 17335443, enlisted in the U.S. Army Enlisted Reserve Corps on January 5, 1953 at Minneapolis, Minnesota for a period of eight years. He was inducted into the U.S. Army and entered on active duty on July 27, 1953, and assigned Army Serial No. 55408864. He was honorably discharged on December 29, 1953, as a private at Ft. Riley, Kansas in order to re-enlist in the regular U.S. Army. On December 30, 1953, he re-enlisted and was assigned to the Counter Intelligence Corps (CIC) at Ft. Holabird, Maryland.

LA 100-68984

These records reflect that he was given a general discharge on February 11, 1955, as a private at Ft. Campbell, Kentucky, by reason of unsuitability and inaptness - lack of adaptability, and that he was ineligible for re-enlistment. At the time of his general discharge, DAVIDOV was retained in the Enlisted Reserve Corps. He was in inactive status from January 5, 1953 through July 26, 1953, and from February 12, 1955 to January 31, 1961, when he was honorably discharged as a private at Minneapolis, Minnesota, by reason of expiration of service.

Colonel RICHARD H. MERRICK, Commanding Officer, USACRF, Ft. Holabird, Maryland, advised SA JAMES E. BARRETT on December 11, 1962, that DAVIDOV was an applicant for enlistment for assignment to the CIC and was approved for such enlistment on December 14, 1953. He was to be transferred to the Enlisted Student Detachment, 8579th AAU, CIC Center, Ft. Holabird, Maryland, upon completion of basic training under Army Serial No. 55408864. He was approved for assignment to CIC based upon a background investigation completed on April 8, 1954; however, this approval was subsequently voided on August 30, 1954.

On December 25, 1954, Sergeant EDWARD CURTIS, Military Police Detachment, Ft. Wayne, advised that a MARTIN RAYL, 15803 Cheyenne, Detroit, Michigan, had telephonically requested an identification of MARVIN A. DAVIDOV. It was alleged by RAYL that DAVIDOV had identified himself as an Army Intelligence Officer whose services were available for an address on communism to be given before a private group in RAYL's home. At the time of the contact, DAVIDOV was in civilian clothes and at no time did he exhibit credentials of any nature.

On January 19, 1955, the facts of this matter were presented to Assistant U.S. Attorney DONALD F. WELDAY, Detroit, Michigan, who advised that he would decline prosecution inasmuch as the facts did not amount to a violation of Title 18, Section 912, U.S. Code.

LA 100-68984

RECORDS

The files of the Los Angeles Department of Water, Power and Light, caused to be checked by SE GAREY D. POWELL on December 20, 1966, reflected that MARVIN DAVIDOV, 1729 North Occidental Boulevard, Los Angeles, was listed as a tenant at this address since February 21, 1966. He indicated that he was Field Secretary for the CNVA and had previously resided at 113½ Venice Place, Venice, California. These files also reflect that DAVIDOV had been listed as a tenant at 103 Brooks Avenue, Venice, prior to November 25, 1966. His address previous to this was 6021 Eucalyptus Lane, Los Angeles. His wife was listed as VICKI DAVIDOV. He indicated that he had a Minnesota driver's license.

CREDIT

The files of the Minneapolis Credit Bureau, Minneapolis, Minnesota, reviewed by [REDACTED] FOIA(b)(7) - (D) on June 9, 1967, reflected that the last activity concerning DAVIDOV was in 1964. The record showed numerous instances of "demand cash" and collections. His credit rating was poor.

RICHARD BROWN, Assistant Manager, St. Paul Credit Bureau, St. Paul, Minnesota, advised SA M. C. WATSON on June 8, 1967, that the files of his office reflect no record for DAVIDOV. FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

The files of the Retail Merchants Credit Bureau, Los Angeles, California, caused to be check by [REDACTED] on December 16, 1966, and again on June 20, 1967, reflected no record for the subject.

WILLIAM RECKNAGEL, Credit Data Corporation, Detroit, Michigan, advised on October 4, 1962, that the files of his office reflect no information pertaining to the subject.

LA 100-68984

ARREST

The following agencies, contacted by SA M. C. WATSON on June 8, 1967, reflected no record for the subject or for his parents:

GEORGE STIMAC, Identification Division, Minneapolis Police Department (PD), Minneapolis, Minnesota.

WILLIAM GILLESPIE, Identification Division, Hennepin County Sheriff's Office (SO), Minneapolis, Minnesota.

ROSEANN DAGOSTINO, Identification Division, St. Paul PD, St. Paul, Minnesota.

THOMAS FALVEY, Deputy Sheriff, Ramsey County SO, St. Paul, Minnesota.

HAROLD GUNTZLER, Identification Division, Detroit PD, Detroit, Michigan, advised on October 4, 1962, that the files of his office reflect no information pertaining to the subject.

MILDRED DANIELSON, Wayne County SO, Detroit, Michigan, advised on October 3, 1962, that the files of her office reflect no record for the subject.

The files of the Los Angeles PD and the Los Angeles County SO, both Los Angeles, caused to be checked by [redacted] on December 19, 1966 and again on July 11, 1967, reflected no record for the subject.

IDENTIFICATION RECORD

The files of the Identification Division, FBI, Washington, D.C. under No. 688 489 E reflected the following.

LA 100-68984

<u>CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS</u>	<u>NAME &amp; NO. UNDER WHICH FINGERPRINTS SUBMITTED TO FBI</u>	<u>DATE ARRESTED OR REC'D</u>	<u>CHARGE</u>	<u>DISPOSITION</u>
SO, Jackson, Miss.	Marvin Allen Davidov #51	6/19/61	Breach of the peace	\$200 fine & 4 mos in jail (appled)
PD, Macon Ga.	Marvin Allen Davidov, #96587	11/19/63	Distr. Lit. in city.	\$15 or 3 das (served 2 & ordered out of town)
DC Jail Wash. DC	Marvin A. Davidson #150683	8/10/65	1. Disorderly 2. Fail to move	1. 25-3 2. Nollod

MARITAL STATUS

The files of the Los Angeles County Bureau of Vital Statistics, Los Angeles, under #16800, caused to be checked by SE GAREY D. POWELL on December 22, 1966, reflected that MARVIN ALLEN DAVIDOV, born on August 26, 1931 in Michigan, then residing at 1729 North Occidental Boulevard, Los Angeles, and a field secretary for a pacifist organization, was married on May 15, 1966 at Los Angeles to VICKI SHERYL ESKIN, born January 2, 1942, in Illinois, then residing at 6021 Eucalyptus Lane, Los Angeles. and a student. They were married by the Rabbi M. I. SOLOFF. His parents were shown to be LOUIS DAVIDOV, born in Russia; and GERTRUDE NACHMAN, also born in Russia. Her parents were shown to be NATHAN ESKIN, born in Illinois, and ANN GARDNER, also born in Illinois.

LA 100-68984

STATUS OF HEALTH

The records of the Military Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri, previously mentioned, reflected a letter dated November 18, 1954, from the office of the Chief of Psychiatry and Neurology, U.S. Army Hospital, Ft. Campbell, Kentucky, and bearing the signature of GERALD J. BRISKIN, First Lieutenant, MSC, concerning MARVIN DAVIDOV, "A" Battery, 508th Field Artillery Battalion. This letter states:

"This patient is currently functioning on an average level of intellectual functioning, having achieved an IQ of 104 on the Wechsler-Bellevue. This, however, is probably not an adequate appraisal of his intellectual function since the subtest scatter suggests that he may optimally function in the IQ range of 110 to 120. This patient shows strong compulsive tendencies with isolation and intellectualization as his primary defense against conflict; However, he tends to also use projection as a defense to the degree that it becomes pathological. In this fashion, he is able to handle his strong hostile impulses, perceiving them as originating in others rather than himself. The diagnostic impression is that of a paranoid personality."

ACTIVITY

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIANS FOR  
NEW POLITICS (SCNP)

The September 26, 1966, issue of the "Los Angeles Times", a daily newspaper published in Los Angeles, California, contained an article on page A-3, Part I, describing the SCNP as a newly formed coalition of peace, poverty and civil rights groups plus "disaffected" members of the California Democratic Council and "unaffiliated" individuals. SCNP urges the voters to support only those candidates who "truly represent them" and therefore concludes that "there is no one to vote for in the statewide races and in most local races." The article further indicated that the SCNP calls for a cease fire and withdrawal of troops from Vietnam, massive anti-poverty and social welfare programs "fully controlled for the poor and uncompromised political and economic equality for all minorities." The



LA 100-68984

article indicated that participants in its movements will include "welfare recipients", public service employees, the unemployed, students and others who see the value for California of a political force committed to neither major party."

LA T-3 (2/6/67)

This source furnished a mailing list of the SCNP. On this list appeared the following:

MARVIN DAVIDOV, 6447 West 77th Street, Los Angeles 45. 776-1863. CNVA.

COMMITTEE FOR NON-VIOLENT ACTION

The "Minneapolis Star", a daily newspaper published in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in its issue of August 8, 1963, carried an article captioned, "Peace March City Man on 3500 Mile Hike." The article identified MARVIN DAVIDOV as one of the Quebec to Quantanimo walkers for peace demonstrating their way down the East Coast with hopes of getting to Cuba. DAVIDOV was quoted in the article as saying, "A peace walk is the most effective, democratic, exciting way of achieving peace."

The "Minneapolis Tribune", a daily newspaper published in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in its issue of December 19, 1963, carried an article captioned "Despite Perils, He'll Rejoin Peace March." This article identified MARVIN DAVIDOV as a St. Paul pacifist who would rejoin a group of men and women from the CNVA after Christmas, probably in southern Georgia. DAVIDOV, according to the article, joined the group on July 2, 1963, in Rome, New York, and left the group on November 23, 1963, after spending three days in a Macon, Georgia, jail for violating a demonstration ordinance. The article reflected that the group was then headquartered in Americus, Georgia, at an integrated farm.

LA 100-68984

FAIR PLAY FOR CUBA  
COMMITTEE (FPCC)  
(See appendix)

LA T-4 (3/23/61)

This source advised that the name of MARV DAVIDOV, 1316 4th Street S.E., Minneapolis, Minnesota, in March, 1961, was included in a then current mailing list of the FPCC. This list was maintained at the headquarters of the Twin Cities Branch of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) in Minneapolis.

The SWP has been designated by the Attorney General of the U.S. pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

LA T-5 (5/21/61)

This source advised that MARVIN DAVIDOV, 1316 4th Street, S.E., Minneapolis, Minnesota, was identified as a signer of a petition addressed "To President John F. Kennedy" stating "We urge that you reverse the State Department policy of hostility towards Cuba. We urge that normal diplomatic and trade relations be restored, that the ban on travel to Cuba be lifted, and that the Cuban people be permitted to determine their own destiny without interference from any outside source." The bottom portion of the petition stated, "Return to Fair Play for Cuba Committee, 799 Broadway, New York 3, New York.

W.E.B. DU BOIS CLUBS  
OF AMERICA (See appendix)

LA T-6 (10/1/65)

This source advised that MARV DAVIDOV attended a meeting of the Los Angeles W.E.B. DuBois Club in June, 1965, and gave a summary of his experiences as a Freedom Rider in 1961.

LA 100-68984

UCLA VIETNAM DAY  
COMMITTEE (VDC)

On Page 10 of the November 1, 1965, edition of the "Daily Bruin", the daily newspaper at UCLA, an article concerning the UCLA VDC quoted a spokesman as saying that this organization was formed because of the need for a new group to pull together the Young Socialist Alliance (see appendix), the W.E.B. DuBois Clubs, and other groups in order to present a united front in opposition to U.S. policy in Vietnam.

LA T-7 (11/1/66)

This source advised that MARV DAVIDOV was among those in attendance at a meeting of the UCLA VDC which was held on October 27, 1966, at the Student Union at UCLA.

LA T-7 (1/20/67)

This source furnished a list of names believed to be the current mailing list of the UCLA VDC. Appearing on this list was the following names:

DAVIDOV, VICI and MARV, 103 Brooks, Venice.

LA T-7 (1/20/67)

This source advised that MARV DAVIDOV was among those present at a meeting of the UCLA VDC which was held on January 16, 1967, at the Student Union of UCLA.

FREEDOM RIDERS

LA T-8 (8/11/61)

LA 100-68984

This source advised that DAVIDOV attended a "Party for Freedom Riders" which was held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on August 8, 1961, at which time he explained to those present that many persons in the south thought the group of Freedom Riders must be communists; however, the subject denied that the Communist Party (CP) had any connection with the Freedom Rides. Several members of the Minnesota - Dakotas District of the CP were in attendance at this gathering including SAMUEL K. DAVIS, the secretary of the Minnesota - Dakotas CP.

COMMITTEE TO END THE WAR  
IN VIETNAM (CEWV)

LA T-1 (6/17/66)

This source advised that the Los Angeles CEWV, which has also been known merely as the CEWV, was an amalgamation of representatives from numerous peace-oriented and/or civil rights groups and included representatives of the Southern California District CP (SCDCP), the Los Angeles Local - SWP (see appendix), Women for Legislative Action (see appendix). Its objective was to protest the U.S. involvement in Vietnam and cause withdrawal of all American troops from that country.

LA T-1 (10/9/65)

This source advised that MARV DAVIDOV was a guest at a meeting of the DEWV on September 28, 1965, which was held at the Mt. Hollywood Congregational Church, Hollywood, California. He represented the CNVA and indicated that he would speak before any group of the "new or old left."

LA T-9 (1/25/66)

LA 100-68984

This source advised that at a southern California peace conference sponsored by the Women's International Strike for Peace (see appendix) and the CEWV on January 15, 1966, it was indicated that MARV DAVIDOV was to form a new group of the CNVA.

LA T-7 (1/27/67)

This source advised that MARV DAVIDOV was in attendance at a meeting of the Los Angeles CEWV which was held on January 22, 1967, at 936 North Hoover Street, Los Angeles. The principal speaker was BEN DOBBS, who said that the war in Vietnam was a war of aggression, a racist war, a murderous war, and an illegal war fought in our name but without our consent. He described it as a symptom of a diseased society.

LA T-10 (4/29/66)

This source described BEN DOBBS as the Executive Secretary of the SCDCP.

NEW LEFT SCHOOL (NLS)  
(See appendix)

LA T-7 (11/7/66)  
LA T-11 (11/10/66)

These sources advised that MARV DAVIDOV was among those present at the NLS in Los Angeles on November 2, 1966.

LA T-7 (11/15/66)

This source advised that MARV DAVIDOV was present at the NLS in Los Angeles, on November 9, 1966, and attended a class on Sino-Soviet Dispute which was conducted by DOROTHY HEALEY.

LA 100-68984:

LA T-7 (11/15/67)

This source described DOROTHY HEALEY as lecturer, spokesman, and chairman of the SCDCP.

SPEECHES

The "Denver Post", a daily newspaper published in Denver, Colorado, in its issue of September 22, 1965, carried an article concerning an interview of MARV DAVIDOV, described as a spokesman of the CNVA, in which he claimed that civil rights groups and pacifist organizations are working together more closely than ever before.

The "Minneapolis Tribune", a daily newspaper published in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in its issue of July 19, 1965, carried an article which indicated that MARV DAVIDOV was planning to sail to Red China in defiance of the U.S. State Department ban. It was indicated that the scheduled voyage was intended partly as a way of learning about Red China and partly as a protest of the U.S. refusal to recognize the communist regime. He and five others planned to make the trip in a 46 foot sailboat, but admitted that the chances of getting to the China mainland were dim.

The "Santa Ana Register", a daily newspaper published in Santa Ana, California, in its issue of March 4, 1960, on page A-3, indicated that MARV DAVIDOV from the VDC had spoken at the University of California campus at Irving, California, but the date of the speech was not indicated.

INTERVIEW

MARVIN ALLEN DAVIDOV, 1903 2½ Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota, was interviewed by a Special Agent of the FBI on January 4, 1963, in connection with another investigative matter. At that time he voluntarily furnished the following:

LA 100-68984

He knew of no persons of Cuban Nationality background who were active in the FPCC; that he was only passively interested in the Cuban situation; and made no acknowledgement of membership in the Minnesota FPCC.

DAVIDOV admitted participation in the Freedom Ride which he felt had the sanction of the University of Minnesota since it was sponsored by a local campus organization.

DAVIDOV advised that he had never been to Cuba; however, if the opportunity ever presented itself he would like to go "to see for myself" for in his opinion with a proper exchange of ideas, the government of the U.S. could possibly arrive at the truth of the situation in Cuba. DAVIDOV concluded that in his opinion news reporters from the U.S. should be allowed to travel to Cuba and to communist China.

DAVIDOV also volunteered that he had heard a speech by BEN J. DAVIS at the University of Minnesota in 1962. He described the speech as "ineffective" and his responses to questions as "poor". The audience was composed mostly of students.

LA T-12 (5/7/62)

This source advised that BEN J. DAVIS on May 6, 1962, while addressing the Crown Heights Forum in Brooklyn, New York, stated that he is the National Secretary of the CPUSA.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

Informants who have knowledge of phases of CP and/or SWP activities in the Minneapolis, Minnesota, area advised in June, 1967, that they had no current knowledge of the activities of the subject.

Informants who have knowledge of phases of CP and/or subversive activity in the Los Angeles area advised in July, 1967, that they had no knowledge of the subject.

LA 100-68984

A description of this person as obtained from the Bureau of Vital Statistics, Michigan State Health Department, LA T-13, LA T-2, and Military Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri, is as follows:

Name	MARVIN ALLEN DAVIDOV
Birth Data	August 26, 1931 Detroit, Michigan
Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5'7½"
Weight	141
Eyes	Hazel
Hair	Black, balding
Complexion	Olive
Build	Medium
Residence	Apartment B 12020 Hoffman Street Studio City, California
Occupation	Field Secretary
Business Address	CNVA, Los Angeles, California
Army Serial No.	RA 55 408 864
FBI No.	688 489 E
Fingerprint Classification	16 M 31 IIO 18 I 12 OOI
Marital Status	Married May 15, 1966 at Los Angeles
Wife	Nee VICKI SHERYL ESKEN
Peculiarities	Wears a mustache
Father	LOUIS DAVIDOV 927 Goodrich Avenue St. Paul, Minnesota
Mother	Nee GERTRUDE NACHMAN Same address.
Military Service	U.S. Army Inactive - January 5 to July 26, 1953. Active - July 27 to December 29, 1953. December 30, 1953 - February 11, 1955. Inactive - February 12, 1955 - January 31, 1961



LA 100-68984

Blood Group  
Scars

O positive  
Vaccination scar on upper left  
arm.

Selective Service  
No.

20-97-31-464

Local Draft Board  
Education

No. 97, Detroit, Michigan  
Four years at Macalester  
College, St. Paul, Minnesota.