

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: JUL 19 1971

FROM : SAC, PHILADELPHIA (100-53380) (RUC)

SUBJECT: SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS FOR  
SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ACTION  
SM - MISCELLANEOUS

Re Bureau letter to Philadelphia, dated 6/24/71.

Enclosed for the Bureau is one xeroxed copy of an article in the 5/9/71 edition of "The Sunday Bulletin," Philadelphia, Pa. Enclosed for Chicago and Boston is one copy of above newspaper article and one copy of referenced letter.

Philadelphia indices are negative regarding

[Redacted]

Confidential informants familiar with New Left activities in the Philadelphia area have been unable to furnish any information re captioned organization or [Redacted]

Inasmuch as there is no chapter of SESPA in the Philadelphia area, and the article reveals SESPA began in Chicago, Chicago is being considered office of origin and no further investigation being conducted by the Philadelphia Division.

b2  
b6  
b7C  
b7D

### NEGATIVE INFORMANT CONTACTS

[Redacted]

7/2/71 and 7/12/71  
6/29/71  
7/2/71

ENCLOSURE

- ② - Bureau (Enc. 1) (RM)
- 2 - Chicago (Enc. 2) (RM)
- 2 - Boston (Enc. 2) (RM)
- 1 - Philadelphia

REC-51 / 100-459865-14

EAB:caq 1cc 924D  
(7) *copy of enc 924D*

JUL 21 1971

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3-4-96 BY SP4BJA/KK  
#354028



PH 100-53380

LEADS

CHICAGO AND BOSTON

Will conduct appropriate investigation as requested in enclosed Bureau letter.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

b6  
b7c

# Scientists Ask Permit to Take Hanoi Money

By KARL ABRAHAM  
Of The Bulletin Staff

Two professors have asked the University of Chicago to let them take research money from the government of North Vietnam.

The project would be to advise the Communist government on how Vietnam can recover from the environmental effects of the war, particularly bombing raids, they said.

They anticipate a grant of \$700 from Hanoi to provide documentation on the biology of plants, forests and soils, said Dr. Richard Lewontin, professor of mathematical biology and zoology, and Dr. Richard C. Lewontin, a zoology professor, both at Chicago.

William B. Cannon, the university vice president who must approve all outside research funds, said his office was processing the application for money from North Vietnam. He said it already had cleared the head of the division of biological sciences, who is the immediate superior of Drs. Lewins and Lewontin.

## Check With Government

"We'll probably have to check this with the Federal Government also," said Cannon, who had a hunch that "the Government will have something to say about it."

Dr. Lewins said in an interview that he obtained a promise of funds from North Vietnamese officials when he visited and lectured in Hanoi last Dec. 17 to Jan. 2. He entered Hanoi on a Russian flight that originated and eventually brought him back to Moscow, he said.

Dr. Lewins said scientists and medical doctors from several European countries accompanied him. He used his American passport, stamped with a prohibition against travel to North Vietnam. "It was not enforced," he said of the travel ban.

In Hanoi, Dr. Lewins said, he asked the State Committee on Science if it would accept applications for research funds from America. "I was told they would. When I got back, Lewontin and I sat down and wrote up a proposal," he said.

## Involved in Protests

On completion, a report of his findings would be sent to the government in Hanoi or turned at publication in the North Vietnamese magazine "Science and Everyday Life" or other journals, he said.

Since his return, Dr. Lewins has become increasingly involved in an antiwar organization called "Scientists and Engineers for Social and Political Action (SESPA)" and a University of Chicago-based project to give scientific support to North Vietnam. SESPA chapters, which began on Chicago and Boston area campuses, are spreading. Dr. Peter Sterling, assistant professor of anatomy at the University of Pennsylvania, is listed by SESPA as its contact here. P.A.

After Dr. Lewins' return from Hanoi, he said in a lecture on Jan. 29, that a course on "Advanced Population Biology" taught by him and Dr. Lewontin "would be devoted to scientific work for North Vietnam."

## Born in New York

Dr. Lewins, 40 and Dr. Lewontin, 42, both were born in New York City and both have doctoral degrees from Columbia University. Dr. Lewins came to Chicago in 1967 after teaching for six years at the University of Puerto Rico.

Dr. Lewontin, one of the country's foremost population geneticists, has been at Chicago since 1964. He has done research for many American government agencies, including the Office of Naval Research and the Atomic Energy Commission.

Dr. Lewontin is a former Fulbright Fellow. In 1958 he received the highest honor that other scientists can bestow: election to the National Academy of Sciences.

Two weeks ago in Washington, he resigned from the Academy. He said he did it to press his argument that the Academy—Chartered by Congress in 1863—should stop advising the Government on classified research because it cannot let all members of the Academy see that research.

He said that he and Lewins teach the graduate seminar in population biology every year. This year they decided to devote it to ecological problems arising from the Indo-China War.

"We decided to study the problems of reforestation, the effects of herbicides, and the reconstruction of tropical soils—to take North Vietnam as a tropical environment and see what we could learn about rejuvenating it," Dr. Lewontin said.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

P.14—"The Sunday  
Bulletin"  
Philadelphia, Pa.

Date: 5/9/71  
Edition: Sunday  
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Editor: Wm. B. Dickinson  
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or  
Classification:  
Submitting Office: PH  
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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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