1. Record Nr. UNINA9910793702003321 Activists under surveillance: the FBI files // edited by JPat Brown, B. C. **Titolo** D. Lipton, and Michael Morisy; foreword by Jameel Jaffer Pubbl/distr/stampa Cambridge:,: The MIT Press,, 2019 **ISBN** 0-262-35638-4 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (391 pages) Disciplina 303.48/4092 Political activists - United States Soggetti Social reformers - United States Governmental investigations - United States - History - 20th century Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia

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Sommario/riassunto

Selections from FBI files on political activists including Betty Friedan, Abbie Hoffman, Martin Luther King, Aaron Swartz, and Malcolm X. The FBI has always kept tabs on political activists. During the directorship of J. Edgar Hoover, it was a Bureau-wide obsession. Did you see that guy who didn't quite look like a journalist, taking pictures at a demonstration He was probably FBI. Did you say something mildly subversive in a radio interview It went in your file. Did you attend a meeting of a left-leaning organization The attendee who didn't contribute but took copious notes was possibly an informant. This third volume of selected FBI files liberated by MuckRock documents the FBI's pursuit of activists and dissenters ranging from Margaret Sanger to Malcolm X. Despite the absence of evidence, Hoover suspected Communist influence in every political protest. He grilled Martin Luther King, Jr., about Communist sympathizers in the civil rights movement (while offering reporters off-the-record hints about King's extramarital affairs). The Bureau investigated the supposed threat posed by Cesar Chavez and the United Farm Workers but not threats to them, even after the detonation of a bomb in their office. The Bureau persevered: files on Holocaust survivor Hedy Epstein cover six decades, from unfounded rumors of Communist connections to her participation in a

Black Lives Matter demonstration. Recently, we hoped against hope that a former FBI director would save us from our current political predicament. These documents remind us of the FBI's troubling history. The Activists Roger Nash Baldwin, Cesar Chavez, Hedy Epstein, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, Betty Friedan, Thelma Glass, Fred Hampton, Abbie Hoffman, Martin Luther King, Jr., Harvey Milk, Bayard Rustin, Margaret Sanger, Aaron Swartz, John Trudell, Malcolm X, Howard Zinn.