

## BOOK REVIEW

### COINTELPRO

*The FBI's Secret War on Political Freedom*

BY NELSON BLACKSTOCK

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**Reviewed by:** Kenneth F. Krister

The FBI's counterintelligence program (COINTELPRO) supposedly ceased in 1971, but during the 1960's it illegally spied on, harassed, and disrupted dissident racial and political groups, including the Socialist Workers' Party (SWP) and the Black Panthers. The Martin Luther King smear campaign was part of this operation.

The COINTELPRO story is partially revealed in the some 100 sanitized FBI documents included in this book. Most of the documents concern SWP, the organization which secured them last year via the Freedom of Information Act. The facts and cases in this book are no longer shocking; they should, however, be available to every citizen who cares about freedom.