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Show Inquiry Slips, Mr. Dies

By I. F. STONE
PM's Bureau **42**

PM WASHINGTON, May 15.—This story is a challenge to Martin Dies to make public his inquiry slips to the legislative reference room at the Library of Congress.

J. B. Matthews, chief investigator for the Dies Committee, says PM's story about a Dies investigation of Vice President Wallace's writings is a "damned lie."

Matthews asked this correspondent why he did not check for himself at the Library of Congress.

When I asked what the Library of Congress had to do with the story, Matthews said materials for a study of Wallace's writings would be obtained only through the Library.

Of course, the Library of Congress is not the only place to get material on Wallace's writings. There are plenty of other sources for that, but I decided to check the Library anyway.

I asked Matthews where I was to ask for the inquiry slips and he said:

"The legislative reference service."

When I asked whether the reference service would permit one to examine slips sent over from the office of Martin Dies, Matthews said he didn't know.

"Will you go to the reference service," I said to Matthews, "and tell them they have your permission to let me look at the request slips from Dies?"

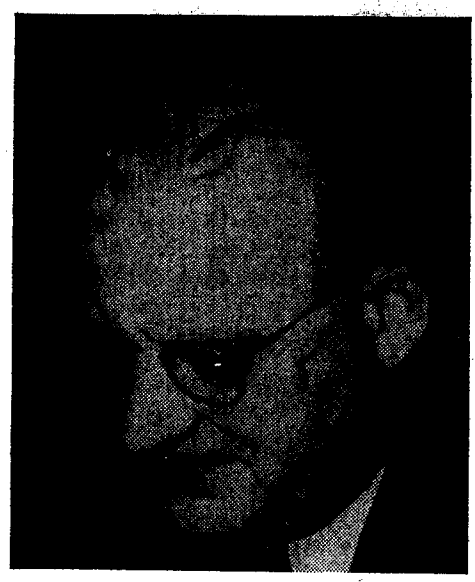
Matthews suggested that I ask the reference service first.

Can't Get Them

I reached Miss Lucy Salamanca, head of the legislative reference service, by telephone. Miss Salamanca said no one could see request slips from a Congressman's office, that these were "highly confidential," that she would release Dies's slips only to Dies himself. If Dies wanted to turn them over to me, that was his affair, Miss Salamanca said.

When I phoned Matthews to ask whether he would try to prove the story untrue by releasing the Library of Congress from the obligation to keep the inquiry slips confidential, I was told at the Dies Committee that Matthews was "out for the rest of the day."

Publication of the news that Dies was trying to get something on Wallace drew no expression of surprise from the Vice President's office.



J. B. Matthews, Dies's ace smearer, who says PM lied about the Committee.