

This is the first
time I have seen
with provision
That is not directly
press oriented

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: May 9, 1968

FROM : A. Rosen

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. McGowan
- 1 - Mr. McDonough
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Trotter

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Tolson _____
 DeLoach _____
 Mohr _____
 Bishop _____
 Casper _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 Felt _____
 Gale _____
 Rosen _____
 Sullivan _____
 Tavel _____
 Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

In order to cover the possibility that subject may have died since the commission of the crime, the U. S. Census Bureau and Department of Health, Education and Welfare were contacted and they advised that no central records of unidentified deceased are maintained by those agencies. It was suggested that each state may maintain such a record in their Bureau of Vital Statistics or similar agency.

There is no known Federal law requiring the maintenance of such information; and the Identification Division advises that it believes that if any record of unidentified dead is maintained, it would only be at local police departments, morgues, or medical facilities.

Attached for approval is an airtel to all offices and Legats, Mexico City and Ottawa instructing them to ascertain whether such records are maintained by the individual states or nation wide in the case of Mexico and Canada. If so, appropriate checks should be made for the period from 4-5-68 to date, and if feasible, stops should be placed on unidentified dead with appropriate agencies.

If there is no central record repository maintained in the various states or nationally in the case of Mexico and Canada, the field is being instructed that in connection with its contacts with various law enforcement agencies on this case or other Bureau matters, to make appropriate inquiries relative to unidentified dead for the period

Enclosure sent 5-10-68 REC-31 44-38861-3267

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RE: MURKIN

beginning 4-5-68; and if fingerprints on such dead are maintained, that they be compared with those on the identification order on Ray in order to effect identification or nonidentification. The field is being instructed that this should be handled in connection with the normal course of business and only reasonable investigation should be pursued along these lines.

Identification Division has already placed appropriate stop on any unidentified deceased inquiries they may receive.

ACTION:

Attached for approval is an airtel in line with the above.

Egan
R. J. Hill

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