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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: June 17, 1968

FROM : A. Rosen

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Malley
1 - Mr. Shroder
1 - Mr. Schutz
1 - Mr. McGowan
1 - Mr. Bishop
~~1 - Mr. Conrad~~
1 - Mr. Gale
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. Trotter

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF
SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

JFK

Attached is a memorandum setting forth full details relative to the story that appeared in the London Evening Standard on June 13, 1968, to the effect that "new and startling" information had been reported to American officials by an unidentified Arab Government concerning Sirhan Bishara Sirhan. The White House had previously made inquiry on June 13 concerning this release and a preliminary report was furnished the White House that date showing that the allegation had no basis in fact. This story was authored by Jon, also known as John, Kimche who has since been described by CIA as an unscrupulous free lance journalist who apparently supports official Israeli Zionists lines in his work.

JFK(1)(B)

Kimche alleged that his source identified Sirhan as having traveled to the Middle East from the United States in 1964 and 1966, during the latter visit spending time in Cairo, Egypt. It was reported that he allegedly married one Leila Ussef Mikhael at Es Salt, Jordan, during another trip to the Middle East on June 27, 1957.

Our investigation shows this to be entirely without foundation since we can definitely show Sirhan to have been either gainfully employed or in school during the periods he is alleged to have been ~~abroad~~ abroad. Furthermore, interview with each of his brothers indicate Sirhan has not left this country since his arrival on ~~June 10~~ JAN. 12, 1957.

The State Department, through its Embassy in London, contacted Kimche in an effort to pin him down relative to this story but he refused to identify his source and seemed unimpressed, according to the State Department, by the possibility this might be a simple case of mistaken identity.

ACTION:

Attached for approval is a memorandum for the White House, Vice President, and the Department setting forth full facts relative to the incident.

HAS:jls
(13)
Enclosure