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DISTRICT ATTORNEY GENERAL

TEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF TENNESSE

FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF TENNESSEE
COUNTY OF SHELBY

SHELBY COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING 157 POPLAR AVENUE MEMPHIS, TENN. 38103

December 4, 1968

ASSISTANTS

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Mr. Robert Jensen
Special Agent in Charge
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Federal Building
Memphis, Tennessee 38103

Dear Mr. Jensen:

Judge W. Preston Battle called me this morning and reported to me the following:

At approximately 1:00 a.m. this date, Judge Battle received a telephone call at his residence (Judge Battle as sumes this was a long distance call but does not know for sure.) from a person identifying himself as Robert Clayton Cole of 1037 North Second Street, Hamilton, Ohio, telephone number 1-513-895-9878. Cole stated he had a brother that lived in Highland Springs (What state this is in was either not related by Cole or not remembered by Judge Battle.).

Cole related to Judge Battle that on January 5, 1968, he was with Ray in Winchester, Virginia, traveling in a truck. A red Volkswagen with red license plates was following the truck. According to Cole, Ray had killed a Negro who was a known communist and whom Mr. J. Edgar Hoover had called a liar. Cole stated he knows about the conspiracy to kill Dr. King. He further stated the FBI knows about his knowledge of the case, but is not treating him right. Cole mentioned the name of a Robert Longsdorf of Cincinnati, Ohio, and a FBI agent by the name of Mr. Warren. Cole stated he is interested in seeing that Ray gets a fair trial.

Judge Battle states that in his opinion Cole, at the time he was talking to Judge Battle on the phone, could have been under the influence of alcohol or something else, or could possibly be a mental case.

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I mass this on to you for your information and any

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appropriate action the FBI feel needs to be taken in the premises.

Sincerely yours,

PHIL M. CANALE, JR. District Attorney General

PMCJr:MEF

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