

Mr. Stephen J. Pollak  
Assistant Attorney General

September 10, 1968

Director, FBI

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**ASSASSINATION OF  
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**

Mr. William Bradford Huie was interviewed at his home in Hartselle, Alabama, at his request. He advised that while James Earl Ray was incarcerated in London, England, he (Huie) entered into a contract with Ray to write the true account of Ray's activities and background concerning the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. This contract is also of interest to Arthur Hanes, Ray's attorney, inasmuch as the cost of the trial, including attorney's fees, is dependent upon the commercial success of the contract. Mr. Huie has advised that to date he has invested approximately \$20,000 in this venture.

Mr. Huie further related he is in constant contact with Ray through Attorney Hanes in the form of written questions and answers by Ray. These items include names of cities, states, places, maps and individuals contacted by Ray, as well as activities from the date of his escape from prison to his apprehension in England.

Mr. Huie stated that he has been refused personal contact with Ray by Judge W. Preston Battle, the judge who will handle the trial. Mr. Huie further stated that he desires to obtain current nonpublicized photographs of Ray and he would be most willing to divulge all information he has received to date to the Bureau on a confidential basis provided his request could be met. Mr. Huie was advised that this Bureau would not attempt to influence, interfere with, or suggest action taken by state officials or courts.

On August 27, 1968, [redacted] of your Division was advised that William Bradford Huie has obtained notes from James Earl Ray, and Mr. Huie is preparing an article in "Look" magazine based on these notes. [redacted] ADVISED that he will consider the question of obtaining a search warrant or subpoena duces tecum for Mr. Huie's notes and calling Mr. Huie before a grand jury.

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REL: JMS  
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NOTE: See cover memo Rosen to DeLoach 9/10/68 captioned "MURKIN," REL:jms.

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Mr. Stephen J. Pollak

In view of the forthcoming state trial of Ray in Memphis, Tennessee, which is scheduled to start on November 12, 1968, the Department should give consideration to the urgency of reaching a determination as to the course of action it desires to follow in this matter.

Unless you promptly advise to the contrary, we will furnish this information to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Tennessee, who is handling the state prosecution.