Date: following in (Type in plaintest or code) AIRMAIL (Priority) 1 - Storage DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) Thomas SAC, BIRNINGHAM (44-1740) WRXI J (OB: MEMPHIS) On \$/1/68, WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIS, Author, Hartselle, was contacted by and t his home in Hartselle upon his request. HUIS requested that this contact be kept in confidence for reasons depicted in the information furnished. He stated as follows: While JAMES EARL RAY was incarcorated in London, ngland, he (HUIE) entered into a contract with RAY to write the true account of RAY's activities and background concerning the assassination of Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING. This contract is also of interest to RAY's attorney, ART HANES, inasmuch as the cost of the trial, including attorney fees, is dependent upon the connercial success of the contract. HUIE advised that to date he has invested approximately \$20,000 in this venture. e advised that he is is constant contact with RAY through Attorney HANES is the form of written questions and answers by RAY, which includes names of cities, states, places, maps individuals contacted by RAY, as well as activities from date of his escape from prison to his apprehension in England. In stated that to date he has been refused personal contact with RAY by Judge W. PRESTON BATTLE, Trial Judge, State of Tennesses, Memphis. Also, he highly desires obtaining eurrest non-publicized photographs of RAY of character type rather than mug shots or these depicting RAY is manacles. 5740 RITCHE (AN) mais (44-1987) L'ache aest is Charge

BUIE further advised he would be most willing te divulge all information he has received to date to the Bureau on a confidential basis, as well as all infor-mation he may receive in the future on a current basis, provided the two above requests could be met.

.....

- 70 . 75 DE

He requested that he be contacted at his residencein Hartselle, Alabama, to avoid divulging his contact with 246 the Bureau in this matter. It was suggested to Mr. HUIR that the Bureau does not attempt to influence, interfere, or suggest action taken by state officials or courts.

i. <u>≉</u>,

The above is being furnished to the Bureau and . Hemphis for information and/or action deemed advisable.