5169

September 11, 1968

AIRTEL

To: SAC, Birmingham (44-1740)

REC 46

EX 110

From: Director, FBI (44-38861) 5167

1 - Mr. Long

MURKIN

Re Birmairtel to the Bureau dated 9/2/68.

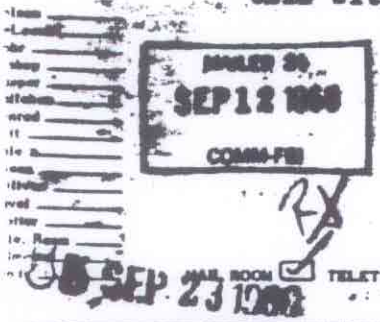
You should not honor the request of Huie as set forth in referenced communication, and under no circumstances should you "bargain" with him.

Keep the Bureau fully advised of any further contacts Huie may make with you.

1 - Memphis (44-1987)

REL:gcw (gw)
(4)

NOTE: See Rosen to DeLoach memo September 10, 1968.
We have furnished information in the memorandum to the Department, and have advised them we will furnish the the information to Memphis authorities unless they advise to the contrary. We are of course following this with the Department.



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: September 10, 1968

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: MURKIN

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Malley
1 - Mr. McGowan
1 - Mr. Long
1 - Mr. Bishop

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

On September 1, 1968, William Bradford Huie, author, whose books included "Three Lives for Mississippi," dealing with the murder of three Civil Rights workers in June of 1964, was contacted by our Birmingham Agents at his home in Hartselle, Alabama, upon his request. Huie requested that the interview be kept in confidence for reasons depicted in the information furnished.

Huie stated 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 Ray's attorney, Arthur Hanes, inasmuch as the cost of the trial, including attorney fees, is dependent upon the commercial success of the contract. Huie has advised that to date he has invested approximately $20,000 in this venture. Huie further relates he is in constant contact with subject Ray through Attorney Hanes in the form of written questions and answers by Ray, which includes 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.

Huie stated that to date he has been refused personal contact with Ray by Judge W. Preston Battle, the judge who will handle the trial, state of Tennessee. He stated that he is highly desirous in obtaining current non-publicized photographs of Ray which would be the character type rather than the mug shots.

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Huie stated he would be most willing to divulge all information he has received to date to the Bureau on a confidential basis, as well as all information he may receive in the future on a current basis, provided the requests could be met.

Enclosure sent 9-10-68

2 SEP 16 1968

RRL:jms
(7)

CONTINUED - OVER

Rosen to DeLoach memorandum
RE: MURKIN

Mr. Huie advised that the Bureau is not attempting to influence, interfere, or suggest action taken by state officials or courts.

We are running out information in Huie's possession developed through sources, regarding previously unknown activities of Ray between the time of his escape in April, 1967, and his apprehension on June 8, 1968. The Department has been alerted to Huie's contemplated "Look" story on Ray and has under consideration the question of obtaining a search warrant or subpoena duces tecum for his notes and/or calling Huie before a Federal Grand Jury. If Department declines to take any action on this information, we will furnish the information to the appropriate local authorities. This is being followed closely with the Department.

ACTION:

It is recommended that the request of Huie not be honored, and that Birmingham be instructed that under no circumstances should they "bargain" with him. It is further recommended that this new information be provided to the Department and authority be requested to furnish this information to appropriate local authorities. Attached for approval is a letter to the Department incorporating therein the results of contact with Huie as set forth in this memorandum, and requesting Department's decision on a matter previously discussed with them.