



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

100 West Capitol Street, Suite 1553
Jackson, Mississippi 39269
May 29, 1987

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Mr. James H. Lesar
Attorney at Law
918 F Street, N. W., Room 509
Washington, D. C. 20004

Dear Mr. Lesar:

This letter and the enclosed thirty-one (31) pages of copied material are in response to your Freedom of Information Act request.

A search of the indices to the central records system of the Jackson Office located thirty-nine (39) pages identifiable with your request for information pertaining to Mr. William Bradford Huie. There are no records responsive to your request for information pertaining to He Slew the Dreamer or They Slew the Dreamer. The ELSUR indices was negative concerning all of the above.

The thirty-nine (39) pages are contained in fifteen (15) cross-references. A cross-reference is a mention of Mr. William Bradford Huie in a file on another individual, organization, event, activity, or the like. In processing the cross-references, the pages considered for possible release included only those pages which mention Mr. Huie and any additional pages showing the context in which Mr. Huie was mentioned. When such a page also contained information about other subject matters, the information "outside the scope" of the request was marked "O/S" and bracketed. Whenever possible, the O/S material was released; however, it was withheld if consultation with another government agency would be required or if it would have been otherwise exempt from disclosure. For your information, the exemptions that would have applied to that material had it been within the scope of your request have also been noted on the document.



Excisions or deletions have been made in order to protect the material or information exempted from disclosure by Title 5, U. S. Code, Section 552:

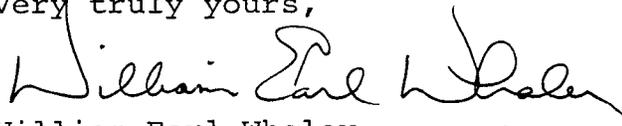
- (b) (7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information
 - (C) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy
 - (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of a confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of a record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source.

The eight (8) pages withheld in their entirety were withheld pursuant to the (b) (7) (C) and the (b) (7) (D) exemptions. The (b) (7) (C) exemption was used to withhold certain information such as names, addresses and background information of a personal nature which, if released, could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of the personal privacy of that person. Names of Special Agents and other law enforcement personnel have been customarily withheld on privacy grounds. The (b) (7) (D) exemption was used to protect the identities of confidential sources furnishing information to the FBI pursuant to an expressed and/or implied assurance of confidentiality. Data withheld includes data that would identify its source and information provided by the source.

On the enclosed pages you will find located near the excision a notation made as to the authority to withhold the deleted information. You will note that on the enclosed documents the first page has a marking that appears to be an excision without an exemption noted. This is an administrative marking that was placed on the documents in response to another matter and was marked off when it was no longer applicable.

If you desire, you may submit an appeal from any denial contained herein. Appeals should be directed in writing to the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legal Policy (Attention: Office of Information and Privacy), United States Department of Justice, Washington, D. C. 20530, within thirty days from receipt of this letter. The envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal" or "Information Appeal". Please cite the name of the office to which your original request was directed.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Earl Whaley". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

William Earl Whaley
Acting Special Agent in Charge

stated he had conceived a plan whereby he might be of assistance in the location of the bodies of the "missing three civil rights workers". He stated we would not have to make any commitment until we had heard him out; that he realized we would want time to think it over and that all he would ask from us was a yes or no answer. He stated he realized that in law enforcement and particularly the FBI, that we had a policy of being non-committal until we had something positive to say.

In summary, Mr. HUIE advised that being independently wealthy and because of his many connections in the writing and movie fields, he could afford to spend the sum of \$25,000 for information which would result in the location of the three bodies. He advised he had bought information in the past from subjects of cases, law enforcement officers and others and that he believed if he could be directed to an attorney in Neshoba County, he could make his own arrangements and would notify the FBI when he was ready to consummate the deal and lead us to the bodies.

■ asked him what his motive was and he stated he had no personal motive other than he believed it would be a good thing for the United States, the State of Mississippi and law enforcement to locate the bodies; that it would not be his personal money being spent; and that he felt a writer would be in a better position to obtain information than could representatives of law enforcement, on this basis. (b)(7)(c)

■ explained to Mr. HUIE that we would "make no deals"; that he was privileged to proceed in any manner he pleased, spend any money that he desired and that we would be readily available at any time he had something to tell us concerning the three bodies. (b)(7)(c)

Mr. HUIE was friendly when we parted. He stated he thought he would proceed on his own and should he be able to obtain any information, he would get in touch with ■ or a representative of the FBI immediately. (b)(7)(c)

■ explained to Mr. HUIE that we certainly would not be bound by any act on his part and that he should not promise any immunity to anyone at any time on our behalf, or use our name in his negotiations. (b)(7)(c)

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NOTE:

Mr. HUIE advised that he had contacted [REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)

[REDACTED] who apparently has some association with the National Lawyers Guild, and that they sent him a list of names of attorneys in Philadelphia from which he might select one to contact for the purpose set forth in this communication.

10/20/64

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI ATTENTION: CRIME RECORDS DIVISION
and GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
FROM: SAC, JACKSON (44-1) DIVISION

~~WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE~~
FREELANCE WRITER

(b)(7)(c)
Re airtel 7/27/64.

HUIE called at the Jackson Office approximately 11:00 a.m., 10/20/64. It will be recalled HUIE recently wrote a story for "Post" magazine, concerning the missing civil rights workers at Philadelphia, Miss.

HUIE opened his conversation by stating that he is "a businessman." He advised that he had a \$40,000 advance on a 70,000 word book to be published by Christmas, dealing with the three murdered civil rights workers. Twenty-five thousand words of this book are to be published in newspaper serial form prior to the publication of the first issue of the book, which will be a cheap paper-back edition. A hardback edition, to be published later by Doubleday, will follow. Backing for the book is coming through the "New York Herald Tribune" and "New York Post" and other papers. HUIE anticipates the European market will be bigger than the American market. HUIE was furnished no information. He stated at the beginning of his conversation that he did not expect to get any information from us but hoped that we would

3 - Bureau
2 - Jackson
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(5)

AIRTEL

(b)(7)(c)

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(b)(7)(c)

gathered from HUIE's conversation that his book will be an over-all enlargement of the "Post" story. He will not let the truth interfere with a good fiction portrayal. He hopes to be the recipient of a large sum of money as a result of the book sale and movie rights.

HUIE inferred that he has the backing of the two New York newspapers mentioned and others and the American Jewish Congress. He inferred that the American Jewish Congress might be the motivating force behind the approach to him to write such a book. (We would rather think that he approached the newspapers and the Congress.) Notwithstanding, he now has permission to proceed and a \$40,000 advance and intends to publish the book by the deadline, which is Christmas. He inferred that representatives of the American Jewish Congress will be in touch with "some people in the Department in Washington" who may be of some assistance in supplying information for the book.

The foregoing is being submitted for the Bureau's information, particularly that portion dealing with the possibility that certain people within the American Jewish Congress may have sources within the Department who will furnish him information for his forthcoming book.

INTERVIEW OF WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE
ON NBC "MONITOR" BROADCAST,
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1964

ANNOUNCER: Mr. Huie, how much time did you spend in Philadelphia,
Mississippi, and what conclusions have you reached?

MR. HUIE: Well, I went there for the New York Herald Tribune Syndicate
about three days after the bodies were missing and then I went
back over there about July 20th and I had some part in finding the
bodies or what we call "buying the bodies." As you know, the
bodies--the location of the bodies--was bought from one of the
men involved in the conspiracy, and that was done on August 4th.
I did a magazine piece, then I did more newspaper pieces and then
the "Herald Tribune" asked me to write a book called "Three Lives
for Mississippi" in which I tell the whole story of both the victims
and the murderers, and I'm now involved in Mississippi with the
murderers. I know who they are. I am dealing with them for
complete information as to what happened which I hope to have in
the book.

ANNOUNCER: Sir, you say you're dealing with the murderers. Are you dealing
with them as murderers?

MR. HUIE: Yes, in Philadelphia now you have this strange situation which has
to do with the words "information" and "reliable information" and
"publishable information" and "evidence." It is one thing to

44-1-3373

(b)(7)(c)

know what happened and it's another thing to have legal evidence that it happened. In other words, now these murderers know that they will never be indicted and never be tried.

ANNOUNCER: How do they know that?

MR. HUIE: Well, they know that because they have a right to be tried in--- you see murder is not a Federal offense, so for them to be tried they would first have to be indicted by a Neshoba County Jury. They would have to be tried and convicted by a Neshoba County Jury. These men know that that community is never going to convict them because that community generally blames the victims of that murder more than they blame the murderers.

ANNOUNCER: Is this an attitude--that outsiders came in and got what they deserved?

MR. HUIE: Yes, that's right. If you ask a citizen of that county now why this murder happened, they'll say, "Well, three agitators came in here-- three communists--atheists--Jewish, Negro-loving agitators came in here. We didn't invite them. They ought to of stayed in New York. They came in here looking for trouble and they found it." There are about three or four discernible attitudes among the people. First, they're the people--the people who are capable of actual murder-- a very small group. Above that, is the group that's sort of glad

that these tough boys went out and committed the murder.

ANNOUNCER: Did their work for them?

MR. HUIE: That's right. Then there is a church group of so-called decent people group who really don't like the murderers and who don't like murder. But they don't feel that they ought to do anything about it --that they would be taking certain risks. And so there's this general feeling of approval of the murder. And the group that otherwise would move against the murderers is just too small and they feel intimidated by the others.

ANNOUNCER: I'd like to get back to Neshoba County for a moment. What is its record on murders, indictments and convictions, other than civil rights?

MR. HUIE: Well, Neshoba County and Mississippi itself has a much lower crime rate than New York City, for instance. This they constantly point out to you that according to the FBI report, Mississippi has the lowest crime rate in the Nation. Once again it comes back to people of Neshoba County are good people--on every issue except the race issue. And there you have--this does not respond to reason. If you go there and challenge their old way of life and particularly if you go there and try to help a Negro to qualify

to vote, then you are inviting the lightning and if you get hurt, or your house gets bombed, or car gets destroyed, or you get killed, you simply will not get much aid from even the Mississippi police.

ANNOUNCER: To return again to these people you describe as murderers of the three civil rights people. How are you negotiating with them without prejudicing your work or your book? Are you planning to name them?

MR. HUIE: No, this is the one thing we can't do, and this has to do with our laws. You see, if a man has never been arrested for murder, or charged with murder, or tried for murder, if I then depict him as a murderer in a drama, I have libeled him. I have no defense. Moreover, I would have to defend myself in either Alabama or Mississippi before a hostile jury. And if you want me to tell you who each and every one of these men are, we can shut off the microphones and I'll tell you exactly who they are. But over the air or on the printed page our laws in the country simply prevent it happening. It is a very ironic situation. It's so much that's ironic about it. You've certainly spotted the fact-- I just told you that the people of the United States, through the FBI, have already paid these murderers \$25,000. I probably will pay

them another \$10,000 for information during the next month. So not only will we not have brought these people to trial but we will have paid them \$35,000, so this must be one of the massive ironies of our time.

ANNOUNCER: Would it possibly be you hope that the book might propel some of the moderates in the South?

MR. HUIE: Yes. That, of course, is the justification to doing these things. I felt so strongly after the bodies had been missing for a month-- I felt so strongly that we had to pay for them at that moment because we had to have evidence of a murder for just the reason you've suggested. If we were going to use this case--this unique case--for deterrents, for changing things, we had to have evidence of the murder. I don't know. You can raise questions about the morality of giving murderers \$25,000. It is a valid question. But I was for doing it. And things are changing if you can afford the luxury of the long view of waiting five years for things to change. There is a hopeful story in Alabama and a hopeful story in Mississippi. But today it's given over--it's completely in the hands of the hate groups--both states--and it is in an effort to change that and to use this horrible crime that I'm proceeding in the way that I am and

and that the Justice Department and the FBI has proceeded in the way it has proceeded.

ANNOUNCER:

Thank you very much, Mr. Huie. We've been talking with William Bradford Huie and I'm sure you found it as fascinating as I did. Bill Ryan--now back to "Monitor" in Radio Central.

FBI

Date: 11/9/64

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)

Via Airtel _____
(Priority)

To: SACs, Jackson (44-1) (Enc. 2)
New York (44-1019) (Enc. 4)

MA
From: Director, FBI (44-25706)

MIBURN

Enclosed herewith for Jackson and New York are two copies of a transcription of the interview of ~~William Bradford Huie~~ on the NBC program "Monitor" on 11/1/64. Also enclosed for New York are two copies of Jackson airtel to the Bureau dated 10/20/64 setting forth information concerning Huie's contact with the Jackson Office that day.

New York immediately interview Huie concerning remarks made by him on above radio program and obtain all information in his possession concerning this matter. It is noted that Huie indicated he knew the identities of the murderers in this case and had been dealing with them for information.

New York keep the Bureau and Jackson currently advised.

~~████████████████████~~
~~████████████████████~~

44-1-3374

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NOV 12 1964	
FBI JACKSON	

(b)(7)(C)

Sent Via _____

FBI BIRMGHAM

3-50

PM CST URGENT 11-13-64

(b)(7)(c)

TO: DIRECTOR, NEW YORK AND JACKSON
NEW YORK VIA WASHINGTON

FROM: BIRMINGHAM (44-1163)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

MIBURN.

REBUAIRTEL TO NEW YORK NOVEMBER TWELVE, LAST, REQUESTING INTERVIEW WITH WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE CONCERNING HIS REMARKS ON MONITOR RADIO PROGRAM NOVEMBER FIRST, LAST.

HUIE WAS INTERVIEWED BY BUREAU AGENTS AT HIS RESIDENCE HARTSELLE, ALABAMA, NOVEMBER THIRTEEN, INSTANT. THE FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF INFORMATION FURNISHED. THIS BROADCAST IS TECHNIQUE BEING USED AS PART OF MANEUVER WHICH HE EXPECTS WILL COMPLETELY SOLVE CASE BY CREATING ATMOSPHERE IN NESHOGA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPE. MANEUVER CONSISTS OF DRAMATIZING THE CASE AND CIRCULATING ALL ARTICLES OF NEWS MEDIA, MOTION PICTURE FILMS, AND BROADCASTS TO SOURCES AND REPORTERS IN NESHOGA COUNTY. PRESENTLY HAS TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS READY CASH AVAILABLE FOR BUYING ACCURATE INFORMATION USED IN THESE ARTICLES AND HAS ESTABLISHED SOURCES IN NESHOGA COUNTY. ALL INFORMATION IN HIS POSSESSION HAS BEEN

FURNISHED TO [REDACTED] JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, OFFICE AT LEAST ONE WEEK PRIOR TO HIS RELEASING SAME THROUGH NEWS ARTICLES AND

END PAGE ONE

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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NOV 13 1964	
FBI - JACKSON	

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This from Bureau in airtel

(b)(7)(c)

[REDACTED] IS FAMILIAR WITH HIS INTENTIONED MANEUVERS. ALL ACCURATE INFORMATION RECEIVED CONCERNING VICTIMS AND MURDERERS WILL BE INCLUDED IN HIS BOOK QUOTE THREE LIVES IN MISSISSIPPI UNQUOTE. HE IS PRESENTLY WRITING FOR NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE. HE HAS LISTS OF SUSPECTS WHICH FEELS SURE INCLUDE IDENTITY OF SUBJECTS. HOWEVER, POSITIVE IDENTITY SUBJECTS NOT KNOWN. HE USED TERM QUOTE HE BOUGHT THE BODIES UNQUOTE AS HE FEELS POSITIVE THAT INFORMATION WAS BOUGHT WHICH LEAD TO RECOVERY OF BODIES. HAS SPENT CONSIDERABLE TIME IN NESHOPA COUNTY DURING JULY AND AUGUST OF SIXTYFOUR COLLECTING INFORMATION FOR NEWS ARTICLES AT REQUEST OF NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE AND MADE AVAILABLE TWENTYFIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AFTER VICTIMS DISAPPEARANCE TO BUY INFORMATION CONCERNING LOCATION OF BODIES. HOWEVER, FBI LOCATED BODIES BEFORE THIS MONEY SPENT.

HE PLANS TO BE IN WASHINGTON, D. C. WEEK OF NOVEMBER SIXTEEN THROUGH TWENTY, SIXTYFOUR, AND EXPECTS TO BE IN TOUCH WITH JUSTICE DEPARTMENT THURSDAY AND FRIDAY NOVEMBER NINETEEN, AND TWENTY, NEXT. HE HAS APPOINTMENT WITH [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] TO DISCUSS HIS INTENTIONS OF DRAMATIZING THIS CASE WITH TRUE FACTS AS COLLECTED.

(b)(7)(c)

DETAILED AIRTEL AND LETTERHEAD MEMORANDUM FOLLOWS.

END

OTHER OFFICES WILL BE ADVISED

OK [REDACTED] (b)(7)(c)

FBI JKN MISS

TUE

FBI NEW YORK

10-17 PM URGENT 11-12-64

(b)(7)(C)

TO DIRECTOR 44-25706 AND BIRMINGHAM AND JACKSON 44-1.

FROM NEW YORK 44-1019

MIBURN.

REBUAIRTEL TO JN, NOV. NINETEEN LAST, BUTELCALL TO JN NOV. TWELVE INSTANT AND NYTELCALL TO BH THIS DATE CONCERNING INTERVIEW WITH WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE.

(b)(7)(C)
(b)(7)(D)

[REDACTED]

INQUIRY AT "NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE" REFLECTS HUIE IS PUBLISHING A BOOK IN CONJUNCTION WITH [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] BUT HUIE IS PRESENTLY AT HIS HOME IN ALABAMA.

(b)(7)(C)

BH ADVISED BY AM.

END

BH... (b)(7)(C)

FBI BIRMINGHAM

JN... (b)(7)(C)

FBI JACKSON

JR3??

alright
11-12-64
(b)(7)(C)

44-1-3378

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FBI - JACKSON	

(b)(7)(C)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1400 - 2121 Building

Birmingham, Alabama, 35203

November 14, 1964

RE: WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE

Mr. WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE, writer and publisher, appeared on the Monitor Radio Program in New York City on November 1, 1964, at which time Mr. HUIE indicated that he knew the identities of the murderers in this case and has been dealing with them for information. Excerpts from this monitor broadcast are as follows:

Question: "Mr. HUIE, how much time did you spend in Philadelphia, Mississippi, and what conclusion have you reached?"

Answer: "Well, I went there for the "New York Herald Tribune" Syndicate about three days after the bodies were missing and then I went back over there about July 20, and I had some part in finding the bodies or what we call buying the bodies. As you know, the location of the bodies was bought from one of the men involved in the conspiracy and that was done on August 4. I did a magazine piece then. I did more newspaper pieces, then the "New York Herald Tribune" asked me to write a book entitled "Three Lives in Mississippi," in which I tell the whole story of both the victims and the murderers and I am now involved in Mississippi with the murderers. I know who they are. I am dealing with them for complete information as to what happened, which I hope to have in the book."

Mr. HUIE was interviewed by Special Agents of the FBI at his residence on November 13, 1964, at Harpsville, Alabama. Mr. HUIE advised as follows:

[REDACTED]

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FBI - MOBILE	

[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)

Re: WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE

This broadcast is a technique being used as part of a maneuver which he expects will completely solve this case by creating an atmosphere in Neshoba County, Mississippi, by putting the complete facts before the people. This maneuver consists of dramatizing this case and circulating all the articles of news media, motion picture film, and broadcasts to sources and reporters in Neshoba County in an effort to continue an interest among the people in this case. He has \$10,000 ready cash available for buying accurate information used in these articles and he has established sources in Neshoba County through which he expects to receive this information. All accurate information received concerning the victims and the murderers will be included in the book which he is presently writing entitled "Three Lives in Mississippi" for the "New York Herald Tribune." However, all pertinent information received in connection with these articles will be promptly furnished to the proper authorities prior to release or publication of any article.

Mr. HUIE has spent considerable time in Neshoba County, Mississippi, during July and August of 1964 collecting information for newspaper and magazine articles at the request of the "New York Herald Tribune." The term "We bought the bodies" was used as he feels positive that information was bought which led to the recovery of these bodies; however, no one has specifically mentioned that an amount of money was spent in connection with the information leading to recovery of these bodies.

The statement was made in this broadcast that he knew the identities of the murderers; however, he cannot specifically point out the identities of these murderers as he has a list of suspects which he is confident bears the names of the individuals involved in these murders but has no definite proof.

He furnished the following names of individuals who are in his opinion, considered suspects in this case:

Re: WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE

[REDACTED]

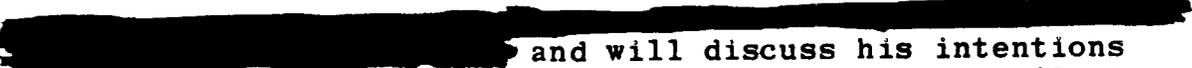
(b)(7)(c)

Mr. HUIE again advised that at the present time he does not have complete information concerning this case; however, he is of the opinion he will receive pertinent information in the future for which he plans to use in dramatizing this incident and any and all information he does receive will be available to the FBI and the Justice Department prior to release and publication.

Mr. HUIE advised that he plans to be in Washington, D. C. during the week of November 16 - 20, 1964, and expects to be in touch with the Justice Department Thursday and Friday, November 19, and 20, 1964. He stated that he has an appointment

RE: WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE

(b)(7)(c)

 and will discuss his intentions of dramatizing this case with the true facts as he collects same.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

November 14, 1964

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-25706)

FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1168) (RUC)

MURKIN.

Re: teletype to Bureau dated 11/13/64.

Forwarded herewith to the Bureau are eight copies of a letterhead memorandum regarding above-captioned matter.

Two copies of this letterhead memorandum are being forwarded to Jackson Division; and New York Division, for information, one copy.

As set forth in referenced teletype to the Bureau dated November 13, 1964, Mr. WILLIAM BRADFORD MUIR was interviewed by Special Agents [redacted] at his residence in Bartonsville, Alabama. Mr. MUIR furnished identification of his confidential sources in Neshoba County, Mississippi, along with the background information which is being set forth in this communication and is not included in the letterhead memorandum.

His main source of information in Neshoba County, Mississippi, is [redacted]

- 3-Bureau (Enc. 8) (AM) (RM)
- 2-Jackson (44-1) (Enc. 3) (AM) (RM)
- 1-New York (Info.) (Enc. 1) (AM)
- 1-Birmingham

(7)

(b)(7)(c)

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44-1-3421

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NOV 17 1964	
FBI - JACKSON	

(b)(7)(c)

(b)(7)(c)

*w/ encl
Note comments
pg 2 &
call me*

[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)

NUIE stated he has also received information on a confidential basis from [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)

NUIE stated that his confidential contact with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)

He also received helpful information from [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)

Mr. NUIE advised that he has \$10,000 in ready cash as received from the "New York Herald Tribune" to be used for the purpose of buying information in connection with his writing and expressed his willingness to co-operate fully

BH 44-1168

by furnishing any information he receives to the FBI prior to the time these articles are released for publication. He further advised that he is presently engaged in writing a book called "Three Lives in Mississippi," which will have included the complete facts concerning the victims and the murderers and all beneficial information he collects in connection with writing this book. He intends to furnish same to the FBI prior to the release or publication of same.

1/21/65

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, JACKSON (44-1)

ATTN: CRIME RECORDS DIVISION &
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

~~WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE,~~
HARTSELLE, ALABAMA
FREE-LANCE WRITER

Re JN airtel 10/20/64.

HUIE called at the Jackson Office approximately 9:30 a.m., 1/21/65. His previous visits are set forth in the airtel of reference and airtel of 7/27/64. (b)(7)(c)

HUIE advises beginning 4/15/65 45 newspapers throughout the U.S. will begin a series of 16 articles, each approximately 1,200 words long, which will be alleged excerpts from his forthcoming book "Three Lives for Mississippi." As the Bureau was previously advised, HUIE had received a \$40,000 advance for a 70,000 word book dealing with the three murdered civil rights workers in Mississippi.

The purpose of HUIE's visit to the Jackson Office of the FBI was to offer several chapters of his book for review. Mr. HUIE was advised we had no desire to review his book. While he did not so state, we feel his purpose in offering the book for review was self-serving. He states there is nothing derogatory concerning the FBI in the book but that he is going to stick as close to the truth as possible as concerns incidents involving the victims and (b)(7)(c)

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44-1-3930

members of the local and state law enforcement agencies involved. HUIE has always frankly admitted he is a dramatist, fiction writer and that he "takes more license than the average writer." HUIE advised he had purchased portrayal rights from [REDACTED]. He stated the worse thing that could happen to the movie rights (he inferred he had sold them to MGM) would be that some of the defendants would be convicted of murder which would make them eligible for portrayal rights. He states, however, he frankly doubts this will ever happen. (b)(7)(c)

HUIE states he is going to portray SCHWERNER as a boy who had latent suicidal tendencies and that the reason he exposed himself to dangerous situations was a combination of those tendencies and bad judgment. He expects criticism from the "left" as well as from the State of Mississippi. He is going to state that he has every reason to believe that the two Miss. Highway Safety Patrolmen and their immediate superior had full knowledge of the arrest of the three victims and that he doubts they held it unto themselves but passed it to their superiors, thus, making it the responsibility of the top officials of the MHSP to have taken action. He is going to state that SCHWERNER and those like him have rendered no service but have been a hindrance to the Negro's progress in the South. He is going to compare the "beatniks" to reputable members of the NAACP and explain how the "kooks" have to be eliminated from the rights movement. He stated he has had conversations with [REDACTED] (b)(7)(c)

[REDACTED] and all agreed that the movement in Mississippi and elsewhere had to rid itself of the "kooks." He stated in conversations with [REDACTED] (b)(7)(c)

[REDACTED] he had learned that the Jewish organizations are going to cut off donations to COFO. He stated CORE and SNCC are already in financial trouble and that it is doubtful, irrespective of their forthcoming campaign to raise funds in February, that they will be successful.

HUIE stated he had conferred with certain attorneys for the defendants in the MIBURN case on the afternoon of 1/20/65 in Meridian. He did not name them. I gathered from his conversation at least one of them was [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (b)(7)(c)
[REDACTED] His purpose for the conference was to purchase from two of the defendants who took part in the murders their story of what happened for \$5,000. His stipulations were that he hear the story, that he evaluate it for truth and that he would not need a statement, a witness or any other qualification other than being convinced as to the authenticity of the story. At this point, HUIE was very firmly and frankly informed that should he incorporate in any writings of his information that could be construed as evidence or admissions of the principals that we would take those steps necessary to insure that that information was treated as official evidence even if it meant subpoenaing him into court. He asked whether or not he would be allowed the privileged communication enjoyed by newspaper reporters. He was referred to attorneys of his own choice for the legal decision but again it was pointed out to him that we are investigation violations of the Federal laws and that the local officers are investigating violations of the local laws and that certainly we could not speak for the local authorities but he would be granted no immunity by Federal officials.

HUIE desired to know if [REDACTED] might furnish him (b)(7)(c) conversations between SCHWERNER and other inmates of the Neshoba County Jail during the Sunday afternoon they were detained there and prior to their release. He was informed that we could not and would not. He stated he was not asking for evidence but needed to "round out" the characterization of SCHWERNER for drama. Mr. HUIE was very frankly informed that we did not play "favorites" with any news media and that the information supplied by us was that that had been approved

by the Attorney General of the U.S. as a press release, and only that. Mr. HUIE stated he did not expect to receive preferential treatment but thought it might be possible for him to obtain information of the type indicated to assist in his writings. Mr. HUIE stated that his book in its entirety as well as the 16 articles would be reviewed by the attorneys for the publishers as well as the newspapers that would run the articles. He inferred that he would offer the book for review by members of the Department of Justice for anything that might be objectionable to keep from having the book attacked by the government after it was published which would have a derogatory effect upon its sale and the movie that will be made therefrom.

HUIE commented upon [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] He inferred, however, that he had developed sources of his own whom he had "paid well" for basic information and stated that he had endeavored to "deal with [REDACTED]

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HUIE was given no information nor were any of his ideas or statements confirmed.

10/24/67

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-25706)
ATTN: CRIME RECORDS DIVISION
FROM: SAC, JACKSON (44-1)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

MILBURN.

WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE, independent writer, Hartsville, Ala., telephone 205 - [REDACTED], contacted Jackson Office Monday, 10/23/67, to report that he was in Mississippi for the purpose of doing a follow-up story on the conviction of the defendants in captioned matter. His current story would be a profile on the 12 jurors who for the first time found someone guilty in a civil rights violation in the State of Mississippi. Mr. HUIE stated he did not want to do anything that would not be acceptable either to the FBI or to [REDACTED]. Consequently, he was going to contact [REDACTED] that afternoon and obtain [REDACTED] permission to write such a story.

(b)(7)(c)

(b)(7)(c)

On the morning of 10/24/67 Mr. HUIE advised that [REDACTED] had asked him not to write such a story at this time in that [REDACTED] preferred the members of the Jury fade into the background as rapidly as possible for their own protection. Mr. HUIE stated he was going to acquiesce. He stated, however, that he thought he would do a general story for one of the national publications (possibly LOOK magazine) concerning the "changes in Mississippi," which would result in convictions of this type.

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Mr. HUIE brought up the subject matter of [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)
(b)(7)(D)

[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)
(b)(7)(D)

Mr. HUIE appeared agreeable and indicated that he was not at all sure that he would follow through on this matter but in the event he did he certainly would never want to do anything that would interfere with the FBI's case or be prejudicial to the Bureau in that he has the utmost respect for the Bureau and its personnel, and particularly the Director.

The purpose of this airtel is to alert the Bureau that Mr. HUIE is considering preparing an article on the MIBURN Jury and [REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)
(b)(7)(D)

[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)
(b)(7)(D)