

Mr. Hugh Stanton Sr.  
att at four

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1-20-69

Dear Sir;



In the court room leaving Friday 17, you informed me you would visit me at the jail shortly to discuss the instant case, after reflecting on this and the interpretation the local press has given to Judge Buller's remarks at that time I think we should postpone our meeting until I hear from Mr. Foreman, as I expect to shortly as I am also waiting him today. He is still and will remain Chief Counsel as far as I am concerned regardless of what the court, attorney general, or press, has to say, or what Mr. Hines may desire through the attorney general's office. I think the right to choose counsel is one of the few prerogatives I love and I don't intend to relinquish it again as I did in India through ignorance. Naturally if Mr. Foreman should become incapacitated for a long period of time I would probably have to engage other counsel, however I am sure he will be all right in a few days, after all, I don't think he has been the only one to have had the flu this winter. Also, I can't go along with the hysterical press which has implied there is some kind of conspiracy to "debate justice". I also would appreciate it if you would inform all concerned, for the record that regardless of what the papers say I have no intention of firing my attorney before court dates. (Also I would my appeal in England to come back and stand trial.) I think the attorney general knows it, but the main reason I ask Mr. Hines to withdraw was that he was working for Mr. Hines to my detriment and Mr. Hines from his statement had seemed to be an impartial reporter.



but intends to aid the state to convict me.  
 I don't know if this was prearranged or not  
 but the results would have been the same.  
 I'm claiming I would like to comment on the witness  
 list. Mr. Conley appeared in court that I probably  
 know what all of the 360 witnesses are going to  
 say therefore it would not be necessary for my  
 attorney to question them. Mr. Hines showed me  
 the first list which had app. 300 names on  
 it, I could only recall about 30 on the list,  
 I would probably know what these 30 would say  
 under normal circumstances but these or not  
 normal circumstances, anyone who has ever read  
 a police manual on police interrogation methods  
 knows that the F.B.I. at the direction of the justice  
 department uses psychology and power of suggestion  
 on prospective witnesses, this is also a large record  
 affair in this case therefore I can truthfully say  
 I don't know what any of the witness will say.  
 In regards to the other 60 witnesses, the attorney  
 general's office made this list available to  
 Mr. Hines about 2 weeks before the new trial  
 date, for some reason Mr. Hines would not let  
 me see this list, I assume the reason for this  
 was that the attorney general got this list  
 of witness directly or indirectly from Mr. Hines  
 and that if I saw the list I would of known  
 that Mr. Hines lied when he said my information  
 I gave him would be privileged.  
 Mr. Foreman has told me that he will interview  
 all of these witnesses or have someone who will  
 interview them for so.

Sincerely  
 James Ray



*James H. Byrd  
County Jail  
Memphis, Tenn.*

*Mr. Hugh Strother Sr.  
Attorney at Law  
1301 - Lincoln Avenue Tower  
Memphis, Tennessee  
38103*

in & R  
by J. S. ...  
phis, Tenn.

File

Mr. Hugh  
attorney at  
1301 - Gen  
Memphis, Tenn

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