September 18, 1968

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

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

We previously advised the Department that Mr. William Bradford Huie, author, whose books include, "Three Lives for Mississippi" dealing with the murder of the three Civil Rights workers in June of 1964, was interviewed at his home at Hartselle, Alabama, at his request and wanted to "bargain" with us. (He would furnish us information as provided to him by Ray in exchange for current non-publicized photographs of Ray.) We advised our Birmingham Office not to "bargain" with Mr. Huie under any circumstances.

We also advised the Department that Huie has obtained notes from James Earl Ray, and Mr. Huie is preparing an article in "Look" magazine based on these notes. The obtaining of these notes was discussed with the Department and they advised they are considering the question of obtaining a search warrant or subpoena duces tecum for Mr. Huie's notes and/or calling Mr. Huie before a grand jury.

The attached is in response to our memorandum which stated that unless promptly advised to the contrary, we would furnish information referred to the above to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Tennessee, who is handling the state's prosecution.

This will be followed with the Department.
Memorandum

TO: The Director
    Federal Bureau of Investigation

FROM: Stephen J. Pollak
      Assistant Attorney General
      Civil Rights Division

SUBJECT: Assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Thank you for your memorandum of September 10, 1968, advising that Mr. William Bradford Huie was interviewed at his home in Hartselle, Alabama, at his request and providing me with information concerning that interview.

The action to be taken by the Department now with respect to the notes from James Earl Ray reportedly in the possession of William Bradford Huie raises a number of legal questions. These questions have been under consideration by this Division since your Bureau first reported the matter on August 27, 1968, to Mr. D. Robert Owen and they are presently being considered by the Attorney General. I plan to communicate with you immediately upon the resolution of these questions. Until that time, I would appreciate your postponing any action to furnish information with respect to the matter of the Ray notes to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Tennessee, as outlined in the final paragraph of your memorandum of September 10, 1968.