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RAY-HUIE 150

MEMPHIS, Tenn. AP - William Bradford Huie, biographer of James Earl Ray, was arrested on a contempt of court warrant Friday after testifying before the Shelby County Grand Jury. Ray is charged with murdering Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Huie, who claims knowledge of a conspiracy in the King slaying, had been directed to appear before the grand jury and tell all he knows about the case. He was with the grand jury two hours and 40 minutes.

The warrant was issued by Criminal Court Judge W. Preston Battle, who will preside at the Ray trial scheduled March 3. Huie was released after posting \$1,000 bond.

The contempt citation was based on strict no pretrial publicity order issued by Judge Battle.

Huie's articles on Ray, in which he said King's death was the outgrowth of a conspiracy, appeared in Look Magazine. He purportedly paid Ray up to \$35,000 for the material he used in writing them.

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MEMPHIS-RAY-HUIE, A274, insert after 5th graph: them.

Battle also turned down a defense motion that Huie be allowed to meet privately with Ray in his jail cell.

The judge said he was convinced the Look articles have "caused tremendous damage" to the Ray trial and would render it difficult to obtain a jury "within a reasonable length of time."

"In light of what has happened in the past, I don't trust Mr. Huie not to violate those orders again in the future when he feels like it," Battle said.

Battle also denied a motion that Ray be photographed in his cell for a magazine.

Percy Foreman, Ray's lawyer, had said money gained from the sale of such photos would go toward paying Ray's defense. But Battle said making pictures available on an exclusive basis would be "desecrating the temple of justice."

Battle said if any photos are made of Ray, they will be taken by the sheriff's department and distributed evenly to all news media. He said the sheriff and Foreman should confer on whether pictures should be made.

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Before going before the jury, Huie told newsmen he could name others he said were involved in King's slaying - but probably wouldn't do so before the grand jury.

"I can't name people who I think may be involved until they are arrested. I could be sued for libel," said the dapper Alabama author.

"I am not in the law enforcement business," Huie said.

"The only information I have is information given me by James Earl Ray.

All of it has been made available to the FBI and the State of Tennessee."

Judge Battle has cited several other persons for violating his no-publicity edict.

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