Monday, July 22, 1968

PORTION OF JAIL ARRAIGNMENT ON JAMES EARL RAY PERTAINING TO INDIGENCY AND COURT REPORTER

THE COURT: Now, I think it is wise at this time too, Mr. Hanes, in this State under a recent law, the Deputy Clerks here who are the official reporters take down this, it's put on record all felony cases. That is not written up except in the case of indigency.

MR. HANES: Yes, Sir.

THE COURT: Of course, we've got a long time between now and November to decide but the Court would have to have a finding of indigency before the record would be furnished free to your client. In that event I will have to examine him. Do you want me to examine him at this time?

MR. HANES: No, Sir, I do not wish that, your Honor. I have contacted and made arrangements for a Court Reporter for the proceedings at this time but if that fails to materalize when it gets near trial time, I will discuss it with your Honor and we may have to apply for aid in this matter but as of this time --

THE COURT: You will do that in advance of the trial?

MR. HANES: Yes, Sir. I will do that in advance of trial, your Honor.

THE COURT: Alright, Sir.

RAY: Your Honor, I would like to say something. I don't want to change anything that I have said, but I just want to enter one other thing. The only thing that I have to say is that I can't agree with Mr. Clark.

MR. FOREMAN: Ramsey Clark.

THE COURT: Mr. Who?

RAY: Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, I agree with all these stipulations, and I am not trying to change anything.

THE COURT: You don't agree with whose theories?

RAY: Mr. Canale's, Mr. Clark's, and Mr. J. Edgar Hoover's about the conspiracy. I don't want to add something on that I haven't agreed to in the past.

MR. FOREMAN: I think, that what he said is that he doesn't agree that Ramsey Clark is right, or that J. Edgar Hoover is right. I didn't argue that as evidence in this case, I simply stated that under riding the statement of General Canale that they had made the same statement. You are not required to agree with it all.

THE COURT: You still, your answers to these questions that I asked you, would still be the same? Is that correct? There is nothing in these questions that I have asked you and your answers to them, you change none of them at all. In other words, you are pleading guilty to, and taking ninety nine years, I think the main question that I want to ask you is this; are you pleading guilty to Murder in the First Degree in this case because you killed Dr. Martin Luther King under such circumstances that it would make you legally guilty of Murder in the First Degree under the law as explained to you by your lawyer. Your answer is still yes? All right sir, that is all, you may swear the jury.