TEL: 901-525-1972

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
P. O. BOX 326
MEMPHIS, TENN. 38101

July 16, 1968

Sheriff William N. Morris
Criminal Courts Building
Memphis, Tenn.

Dear Sheriff Morris:

I want to confirm my offer of yesterday to help you in any way you might need in preparing for news coverage of the James Earl Ray trial. The Associated Press is, as you know, the world's largest news gathering and photography agency, and we have had much experience in working on such matters, particularly in serving as the pool agency for both news and pictures.

We will be more than glad to have one of our photographers serve as the pool photographer for any pictures permitted at the trial -- in the basement corridor, etc.

I also would like to raise again the possibility of a photographer, a newsman, or both accompanying local officers on the trip to London to return Ray.

Such an arrangement would provide that the public would get complete and full information on the transfer, and the public could be kept informed factually on it.

I can promise you that any security rules you laid down would be religiously adhered to. No one would know of thettrip until Ray was back and safely in jail here, and until you gave permission for the information to be released.

Should you agree to let someone from The Associated Press go along, I or someone from my staff could be ready in a manner of minutes. I can be reached 24 hours a day either at the office here, 525-1972, or at home, 396-7567.

The Associated Press would, of course, pay the fare of any AP staffer who made the trip.

Yours sincerely,

Bill Johnson

William L. Johnson Jr.
Correspondent