



CRIMINAL COURT CLERK **J. A. BLACKWELL** SHELBY COUNTY  
187 POPLAR  
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

May 20, 1971

Mrs Jewel Redden  
Clerk, Court of Criminal Appeals  
Jackson, Tennessee 38301

Dear Jewel:

It seems that we will forever be plagued with the James Earl Ray matter.

Counsel for James Earl Ray handed in this volume to be forwarded to the Court of Criminal Appeals on May 17, 1971.

By the way of explanation, this is a private Court Reporter's version of the same hearing on Feb 26, 1971 as previously prepared by the Criminal Court Clerk's office, which is on file in the Court of Criminal Appeals.

We in this office did not know they even had a Court Reporter until this Bill of Exceptions came. I suppose it could be added as an addition to what we already have. The Court, if it likes, can read both copies.

Very truly yours,

J A BLACKWELL,  
CRIMINAL COURT CLERK

By *Jane Matthews*  
*D.C.*