

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF • SHELBY COUNTY • TENNESSEE



WILLIAM N. MORRIS, JR., SHERIFF
ROY C. NIXON, CHIEF DEPUTY

PRESS PROCEDURES REPORT

Charles F. Holmes

July 23, 1968

July 22, 8 a.m.:

Called attached list and notified them

"J. A. Blackwell, Criminal Court Clerk, announces that an arraignment for James Earl Ray will be held at 9:30 a.m. Members of the Press should gather at the Poplar street entrance to the Shelby County Building before 9 a.m. for admission. No cameras, sketches or recording equipment will be allowed. All members of the Press will be searched."

At ~~8:30~~ 8:30-9 a.m., the press was notified as they waited in the lounge that they would be searched, given a number card, photographed and recorded and shown a seat to the Courtroom. They were told "If you have any cameras, recording equipment or any other equipment that violates the Court Order in your possession, you are given the opportunity to leave the grounds at this time or be arrested when it is discovered." There were no complaints from the press.

*The same attached list was used to call for the 6 a.m. Press Conference Friday morning announcing the confinement of James Earl Ray and the Court Order.

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July 22
- 9:30 AM



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Attending the arraignment from the press were:

Carol Kelley, Press Scimitar
Jerry Duby, WDAZ
Hank Leifermann, UPI
Martin Waldran, New York Times
Phil Cirrone, ABC
Robert Greene, Newsday
Gerold Frank, author
Charles Edmundson, Commercial Appeal
Nick Chriss, Los Angeles Times News Service
Lloyd Lewallen, WMPS

Don Oliver, NBC
George Herman, CBS
Ed Goetz, WMCTV
Tom Jarold, ABC
Don Stevens, WHBQTV
Bill Johnson, AP
M.L.Reid, Tri-State Defender
Paul Barnett, WRECTV
Larry Lala, CBS
Ray Hamilton, Press Scimitar

Jim Reid, Press Scimitar
Fred Griffith, Commercial Appeal
Bill Sartor, Time Magazine
Jim Killpatrick, Commercial Appeal
Paul Bateman, WMCTV

All were notified that they would be searched. All were told that "If you have any cameras, recording equipment or any other equipment in violation of the Court Order, you are now given the opportunity to leave with it or be arrested when it is discovered."

- 6 A.M. -

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- Bring portable equipment -

Alert call lists:

- ✓ Jimmie Covington 363 5733 *Bill Sovells: 398-6934*
- ✓ Van Pritchard MU 2 6187 *Ray Wilson - 396-4532*
- ✓ Norm Brewer 363 1846
- ✓ Bob Ratcliffe BR 6 2202
- ✓ Ernest Withers 946 3289
- ✓ Don Stevens 683 7887
- ✓ Russ Hodge 386 4443
- ✓ Charles Road 362 3272 or Bill Aucoin 327 6043
- ✓ ~~Bill Johnson~~ Bill Johnson, AP, 396 7567
- ✓ Hal Smith ~~357 3851~~ Bill Reeves 357 3851 → 363-4812
- ✓ Robert Richards 275 8395
- ✓ M.L. Reid 683 6939
- ✓ ~~Santor~~ Santor - Time - 525-5441
- ✓ Gerald Frank, ~~526 7766~~ 526 7766, room 833
- ✓ ~~Shantam~~ Shantam
- ✓ Nick Chriss, Downtowner 525-5491-523-
- ✓ Bob Garcia, AP Photo, 525 5491, #231
- ✓ Ed Rabal, CBS News, 525 1313, Room 46-D 527-5716-17-18-19
- ✓ Jerry Lubenow, 526 7766, room 1023
- ✓ Elliot Bernstein, Rivermont 912 or 530 ABC 525-0121
- ✓ Ian Brodie, Rivermont, 926 or Purton, 928 525-0121
- ✓ GIL MICHAEL 363 4575 - 323-8528

- ↓ Ce patize
- out of Van
- into Room
- into jail
- off elevator
- along Hall
- Auto Cell
- car cell (3004)
- Cell Area

Completed -
5:05 am Friday

Completed 8:20 am Monday

- to hat about courtroom photos -