

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Ray's Court Visit Is Canceled

Federal Judge Harry Wellford, heeding a plea by the state Attorney General's office, ruled today that James Earl Ray does not have to be brought to Memphis for a hearing on Aug. 17.

Wellford previously ordered state penitentiary officials in Nashville to deliver Ray, the convicted murderer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., to his courtroom for a 2:30 p.m. hearing.

The hearing is to consider the state's motion to dismiss Shelby County Atty. Gen. Phil M. Canale and former Asst. Atty. Gen. Robert K. Dwyer as defendants in a civil suit filed by Ray last March.

Asst. State Atty. Gen. Bart Durham of Nashville filed a written argument with Judge Wellford stating that Ray, "for security reasons," should not be moved from his solitary confinement cell at the Nashville penitentiary and brought to Memphis for the hearing.

Judge Wellford ruled today that Ray's appearance would not be needed "since it does appear that the matters to be heard . . . are primarily legal matters and that it would not be necessary under the circumstances for James E. Ray to be present in the courtroom with further notoriety and expense."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 10

MEMPHIS PRESS  
SCIMITAR

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: July 31, 1973

Edition:

Author:

Editor: CHARLES H.

Title: SCHNEIDER

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

Being Investigated

44-1987-Sub-C-525  
INDEXED  
FILED  
AUG 2 1973  
FBI - MEMPHIS  
Hester