

# By Court That Will Try Ray

By Bill Johnson

MEMPHIS, July 30 (AP)—Strict new guidelines enjoining "interviews or press conferences for publicity" were handed down today by the judge who will preside at the murder trial of James Earl Ray.

Judge W. Preston Battle acted after a committee of eight attorneys reported that his previous order forbidding interviews or extra-judicial statements had been violated. The committee said violations had been committed specifically by Arthur Hanes, Ray's attorney; Shelby County Sheriff Williams Morris; Attorney General Ramsey Clark and Memphis Attorney Russell X. Thompson.

The order forbids anyone connected with the case, and all persons employed in the criminal courts buildings, from participating in interviews.

It also enjoins them from making extra-judicial statements about the case which involve:

"1. The personal belief of the declarant as to the guilt or innocence of the accused;

"2. The plans of the declarant relating to the preparation or conduct of the trial . . .

"3. The jurors or potential jurors who may serve;

"4. The comments of the declarant about the merits of the case and about any evidence which may be presented;

"5. The credibility of or in

formation concerning any known or intended witnesses or the treatment, acts and attitude of the defendant, and are further enjoined from making any and all other statements which may be prejudicial to a fair trial by an impartial jury in the case, whether specified herein or not."

As for Hanes, the order mentioned statements he made "to the effect that the shooting of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. involved a Communist conspiracy and to the effect that his client's rights were being trampled in jail.

It said the violation by Sheriff Morris came when he was quoted on "the cost and expenses for the security of the prisoner and the treatment of the prisoner, and the prisoner's demeanor and attitude while in confinement."

The order said the committee's report pointed out that to the extent that Ramsey Clark, Attorney General of the United States, is "a lawyer participating in this case" through his staff, he violated the previous order by saying for publication "that there

was no evidence of a conspiracy in the shooting of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr."

DATE 7/31/68  
PAGE A8

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- \_\_\_ THE EVENING STAR
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