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Judge Denies Ray's Request To Halt Transfer Discussion

James Earl Ray's request to halt discussions on his proposed transfer to a federal penitentiary was denied yesterday by U.S. Dist. Court Judge Frank Gray Jr.

In a brief order, Gray reserved a decision on Ray's request for a preliminary injunction against the proposed transfer.

IN Washington, meantime, Atty. Gen. Griffin Bell told Gov. Ray Blanton by telephone that the governor's proposal to transfer Ray to a federal

institution will be discussed with House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill Jr. and the House Assassinations Committee. The committee has interviewed Ray six times at Brushy Mountain State Prison.

"There has been discussion at the White House [about the transfer proposal]," said Jim Russell, a spokesman for the Justice Department. "I don't know whether or not it has been at the Carter level.

Gray ruled on Ray's request for a temporary restraining order against discussion of the transfer after a hearing in chambers with Ray's attorney, Jack Kershaw, Asst. U.S. Atty. Gary Blackburn and Joe

Haynes, assistant Tennessee attorney general.

MEANWHILE, Chancellor Robert Brandt reset from tomorrow to July 5 a hearing date in a separate suit filed Monday by Kershaw on Ray's behalf. Kershaw is seeking to block the transfer at the state level in Brandt's court and at the federal level in Gray's court.

Kershaw has charged the proposed transfer would violate Ray's constitutional rights if it is carried out without a hearing. Both Kershaw and Ray also have said Ray's life might be endangered if he is placed in a federal institution.

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Numbers Linking Ray, 'Raoul' Said Stored

ST. LOUIS (UPI) — A brother of James Earl Ray says telephone numbers linking the confessed killer of Martin Luther King with a mysterious "Raoul" are stored in a safe deposit box, the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch* reported yesterday.

Jerry Ray was quoted as saying he had decided to share knowledge given to the House Select Committee on Assassinations because efforts to trace the telephone numbers had been unsuccessful.

"Critics are always saying to me, 'Why don't you finally put up or shut up?'" the newspaper quoted Ray. "But we don't have subpoena power to find out about those telephone numbers. We have given our information to the House assassinations group, but it's a one-way street. We tell them what we know, but they won't tell us anything."

James Earl Ray has claimed that a man he knew as "Raoul" told him to buy the gun which became the murder weapon in King's assassination.

Jerry Ray said his brother asked that the telephone numbers be put into a safe deposit box owned by Jerry Ray and his sister in St. Louis.

"He (James) gave us the numbers and said even if something happened to him in prison, he wanted to be cleared some day," Jerry Ray said.