

Harold

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C.

3/20/69 - 12 o'clock

File

Bud:

Dick Sprague called and left this message:

1. Dick spoke to Manuel Chait, St. Louis, Post Dispatch in St. Louis phone: 314-993-1273 (home phone). Chait wrote story on John Ray, called him Jack. Chait is doing a lot of work, keeping in touch with both brothers and thinks they would welcome our help on their brother. Chait will contact them and call back, either you or Dick, to see how soon one or the other or both could come out to St. Louis to talk to the Rays -- brothers, mother, father, cousins, etc. He has met and talked to all of them himself. Dick says it would depend on the urgency of the situation -- if not urgent, let it be next Wednesday at the earliest; if its red hot, ~~xxxxxxx~~ maybe Budg could get out there over the weekend, Dick couldn't.
2. Dick spoke to Mr. Hanes but did not tell him about Manuel Chait. He did tell Hanes we were quite willing to offer our services and help to Hanes. Hanes' reaction: "That sounds great!"
3. Item in New York Times today to the effect that James Earl Ray might re-hire Hanes. Dick asked Hanes about it and Hanes said he not officially approached but that he had heard the same thing via the grape vine. He didn't give any re-action as to whether they were re-hirable. Dick told Hanes if they were, we would be happy to cooperate with them.