

Lists Objections

Full Text of Ray's Statement

LONDON—(UPI)—Here is the full court statement of James Earl Ray as reported by the British Press Association:

I don't want to repeat myself. I would like to take the opportunity to object to Mr. Butler's testimony, especially in view of the fact that this case will probably be given wide publicity in the United States, especially in the so-called liberal press.

I would urge this court to take in the totality of the circumstances:

One — that I did not sign any kind of statement whatsoever and also the fact that I said I did not want to have the conversation with anybody connected with the United States Justice Department.

SEES CONNECTION

One other thing I object to. I'm not sure it is connected with the case. I believe there is a connection between this hearing and the trial in the States.

Shortly after I was arrested by the British authorities, I engaged an attorney in the United States, Mr. Arthur Hanes of Birmingham, Ala.

He subsequently made the trip to consult with me. This was opposed by the home secretary and I made an application to the home secretary and I received no answer.

WROTE CONSERVATIVE LEADER

I then wrote to Mr. Edward Heath (Conservative Party leader) and I was informed by the governor at Wandsworth Prison that this was not permissible and he would forward the letter to Mr. Callaghan (home secretary).

Evidently the home secretary would decide whether Mr. Heath would be permitted to read the letter.

I think that in view of the seriousness of this case, I should have a little more freedom to write and visit people in the circumstances. That is all I have to say and I would like to thank the court.