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Select Committee on Assassinations

Washington, D. C.

House of Representatives

August 3, 1978

Page

Motion carried that meeting be held in executive session

3

Motion carried for an immunity order concerning three witnesses

5

Motion carried that would finalize the committee's decision to bring James Earl Ray before it and authorize the committee and counsel to use in the public hearings materials that would require committee approval before they are used and authorize the printing and release at the time of Mr. Ray's testimony a compilation of his prior statements

5

Motion carried to accept the ticket policy stated in the memorandum

22

Discussion of suggested public information policy

22

Discussion of security matters

54

Discussion of acoustical matter

63

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SHORT

E X E C U T I V E S E S S I O N

5112 CAPS CTR (COMMITTEE Business Meeting)

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1218 CAPS CTR (THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 1978)

House of Representatives,

Select Committee on Assassinations,

Washington, D. C.

The committee met, pursuant to call, at 9:45 a.m., in room H-140, the Capitol, the Hon. Louis Stokes (chairman of the committee) presiding.

Present: Representatives Stokes, Preyer, Fauntroy, Burke, Dodd, Fithian, Edgar, Devine, McKinney and Sawyer.

Staff Members Present: G. R. Blakey, E. Berning, L. W. Svendsen, P. Beeson, J. Wolf, B. Morrison, P. Miller, Ella P. Powers (Congressman Edgar) and Hank Spring (Congressman McKinney).

Mr. Preyer (presiding). The committee will come to order.

The matters under discussion today are to be matters that would be more properly discussed in a closed session, I understand.

Mr. Blakey. That is correct, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Preyer. Do I hear a motion that this session be closed?

Mr. Dodd. I so move.

Mr. Preyer. Mr. Ratner wanted to take one picture before we went into closed session. Ask him if he would come in, in a great hurry.

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1 Mr. Edgar. Mr. Chairman, are we going to be permitted to
2 have members of our staff in today's session for the issues that
3 are not related to secret information?

4 Mr. Blakey. There is only one part of the subject matter,
5 Mr. Chairman, that probably ought not to include members of the
6 staff and that will probably be later this afternoon.

7 Mr. Preyer. All right.

8 Mr. Chairman, I move that the session be closed in accordance
9 with our rules and the regulations of the House.

10 Chairman Stokes. The motion having been properly made that
11 our committee go into executive session at this time, the clerk
12 will call the roll.

13 Miss Berning. Mr. Stokes.

14 Chairman Stokes. Aye.

15 Miss Berning.

16 Mr. Devine.

17 [No response]

18 Miss Berning. Mr. Preyer.

19 Mr. Preyer. Aye.

20 Miss Berning. Mr. McKinney.

21 Mr. McKinney. Aye.

22 Miss Berning. Mr. Fauntroy.

23 [No response]

24 Miss Berning. Mr. Thone.

25 [No response]

1 Miss Berning. Mrs. Burke.

2 Mrs. Burke. Aye.

3 Miss Berning. Mr. Sawyer.

4 Mr. Sawyer. Aye.

5 Miss Berning. Mr. Dodd.

6 Mr. Dodd. Aye.

7 Miss Berning. Mr. Ford.

8 [No response]

9 Miss Berning. Mr. Fithian.

10 Mr. Fithian. Aye.

11 Miss Berning. Mr. Edgar.

12 Mr. Edgar. Aye.

13 Miss Berning. Eight Ayes, Mr. Chairman.

14 Chairman Stokes. Eight members having voted in the affirma-
15 tive, this session of the committee is now in executive session.

16 All members of the public are requested to leave the room.

17 [At this point all unauthorized persons left the room.]

18 Chairman Stokes. Mr. Blakey.

19 Mr. Blakey. Mr. Chairman, you have before you four written
20 resolutions. The first which we probably ought to vote on at this
21 time or the committee ought to vote on since it requires at least
22 seven members to be present deals with a request for an immunity
23 order. It is the staff's suggestion that the committee authorize
24 it to apply to the court for an order conferring immunity upon
25 John Paul Spica, Jr., and Anna Lee Sutherland in the King inves-

1 tigation and Balmes Barney Hidalgo in the Kennedy investigation.
2 An explanation is attached to the resolution and I would be glad
3 to respond to any questions.

4 ¶ Chairman Stokes. Are there any questions?

5 Mr. Edgar. Mr. Chairman, when do we plan to bring these
6 witnesses before us?

7 Mr. Blakey. Next week.

8 Mr. Dodd. Mr. Chairman, I would make the appropriate motion
9 for the adoption of the proposed resolution.

10 Chairman Stokes. We have before us a motion that the resolu-
11 tion be adopted. The clerk will call the roll.

12 Miss Berning. Mr. Stokes.

13 Chairman Stokes. Aye.

14 Miss Berning. Mr. Devine.

15 [No response]

16 Miss Berning. Mr. Preyer.

17 Mr. Preyer. Aye.

18 Miss Berning. Mr. McKinney.

19 Mr. McKinney. Aye.

20 Miss Berning. Mr. Fauntroy.

21 [No response]

22 Miss Berning. Mr. Thone.

23 [No response]

24 Miss Berning. Mrs. Burke.

25 Mrs. Burke. Aye.

1 Miss Berning. Mr. Sawyer.

2 Mr. Sawyer. Aye.

3 Miss Berning. Mr. Dodd.

4 Mr. Dodd. Aye.

5 Miss Berning. Mr. Ford.

6 Chairman Stokes. Aye by proxy.

7 Miss Berning. Mr. Fithian.

8 Mr. Fithian. Aye.

9 Miss Berning. Mr. Edgar.

10 Mr. Edgar. Aye.

11 Miss Berning. Nine Ayes, Mr. Chairman.

12 Chairman Stokes. Nine members having voted in the affirmative,
13 the resolution is adopted.

14 Mr. Blakey.

15 Mr. Blakey. Mr. Chairman, you have also before you three
16 separate resolutions. The first is a formal resolution that would
17 finalize the committee's decision to bring James Earl Ray before
18 it. The two resolutions that follow are subsidiary and depend
19 upon the decision in the first. The second one would authorize
20 the committee and counsel to use in the public hearings coming up
21 in August materials that require committee approval before they
22 are used and the last authorizes the printing and release at the
23 time of Mr. Ray's testimony of a compilation of Mr. Ray's prior
24 statements. I would suggest that the three resolutions might
25 appropriately be considered en bloc and I would be glad to respond

1 to anyone's comments or questions.

2 // I might add that we have available to us today three gentlemen
3 from the Marshal's office that would be more than pleased to
4 discuss with the committee the general question of Mr. Ray's
5 security.

6 Chairman Stokes. Without obj^ection, we will consider the
7 three resolutions en bloc.

8 Does the committee desire to talk with the persons who will
9 provide security? I had asked Mr. Blakey to make those indivi-
10 duals available so that if you have questions we might pose those
11 questions to those persons who will have direct custody over Mr.
12 Ray while he is here.

13 Mr. Fithian. Mr. Chairman.

14 Chairman Stokes. Mr. Fithian.

15 Mr. Fithian. Mr. Chairman, I am all in favor of hearing that
16 although I think my own personal priority for this committee,
17 having gotten this very, very late start, is to discuss the press
18 policy first in the event that the committee does not hold together
19 long enough to do everything. I would like to have that taken
20 care of.

21 Mr. Blakey. Mr. Fithian, we really need these resolutions
22 passed.

23 Mr. Fithian. I mean pass these resolutions but I am talking
24 about having the briefing on Ray's security.

25 Mr. Edgar. Will the gentleman yield?

1 9 Mr. Fithian. I yield.

2 Mr. Edgar. On our visit with James Earl Ray the security
3 question was part of their concern about bringing James Earl Ray
4 before our committee. I think you would have to agree that we
5 have to make that decision that he is going to come before hearing
6 the specific witnesses who would tell how secure that security is.
7 Do you understand what I am saying? If they are willing to not
8 listen to the security issues first before passing these resolu-
9 tions, it makes some sense but I got the impression that one of
10 the reasons we decided not to make the decision to offer the
11 invitation was that there were questions about security.

12 Chairman Stokes. Mr. Sawyer.

13 Mr. Sawyer. I am totally open on the thing, Bob, because I
14 would like to hear what they are going to do security wise ^{because}
15 I am concerned about it but I don't need to put the cart before ^{the}
16 horse or the horse before the cart. ^I It does not make any differ-
17 ence.

18 Chairman Stokes. I think I feel the same way. I just want
19 to have on record all matters relating to the security but I don't
20 condition voting for the resolution upon that.

21 Mr. Fithian. Well, to do the whole thing expeditiously, I
22 withdraw my suggestion.

23 Mr. Edgar. If there is agreement between counsel and Mr.
24 Stokes, then I would move that we pass the resolution authorizing
25 James Earl Ray's appearance before the committee.

1 Chairman Stokes. Now, you were asking that we consider all
2 three en bloc.

3 Mr. Blakey. In the interest of time, they are interrelated
4 and could be passed en bloc although I notice that the second
5 resolution for the release of information in connection with the
6 up and coming hearings applies both to King and Kennedy. It is,
7 nevertheless, basically a technical resolution.

8 Mr. Edgar. If I may make one point before we move on that
9 issue. I had made the suggestion to our Chairman and to Bob
10 Blakey and perhaps we should discuss it before we have a final
11 vote on the resolution and that is that we might consider changing
12 a previous decision that we had made to interrogate Mr. Ray only
13 from ⁹nine o'clock to ¹²twelve o'clock on the first ²two days and then
14 ⁸eight hours on the ³third day. In line with some of the security
15 concerns I was making the suggestion that we try to get the inter-
16 views over in the first ²two days, perhaps doing the cross examina-
17 tion over ²two days, the 16th and 17th, holding the 18th as an
18 option day. If we finish on the 17th, Ray could be returned. If
19 we need the 18th, we could use it.

20 I think there is going to be a lot of pressure in terms of
21 legislative pressure and pressure to get out and the 18th may not
22 be the most receptive day to have the ⁸eight-hour session. Also,
23 if we did two 8-hour sessions, that would give us 16 hours. If
24 we do it as presently determined, we would have only 14 hours of
25 cross examination of Ray. I just think that the public and the

1 press is going to be interested in what Ray has to say and that
2 we ought not to shape the appearance of Ray simply because of
3 public/press input. I guess what I am suggesting is that the
4 first ² days we go with the ³ three-hour time commitment and the
5 second ² days we go with an ⁸ eight-hour time commitment.

6 ¶ I also think that we may run into some public perception if
7 we have the preliminaries and Ray's statement, etc., and we get
8 to the hour of eleven o'clock and we are just then beginning to
9 cross examine Ray and then all of us get up and leave at ¹² twelve
10 o'clock on the first day. It is going to look silly in my
11 opinion.

12 Mrs. Burke. Mr. Chairman, may I get this straight?

13 Chairman Stokes. Mrs. Burke.

14 Mrs. Burke. The first day is going to be a summary briefing.
15 Is that on the 14th?

16 Chairman Stokes. The first day.

17 Mr. Blakey. If I might outline the entire week. The first
18 day the primary witness is Dr. Abernathy and he basically will
19 set the crime scene in terms of one who was there as an eyewitness.
20 The second witness who will take part of the first day and part
21 of the second day will probably be Mr. Eddie Evans, our chief
22 investigator, who will summarize the evidence that was in the
23 possession of the Memphis Police Department and set the scene in
24 terms of the dimensions of the buildings and description of the
25 buildings. The third witness will be the head of the medical

1 panel that will go into the details of Dr. King's death from a
2 medical point of view.

3 ¶ Those three witnesses should cover about the ~~six~~ hours of
4 the first ~~two~~ days, the assumption being that we should be able
5 to get in a full half day each day. The third day would be the
6 first day that Mark Lane and Mr. Ray would appear. Mr. Lane and
7 Mr. Ray have tentatively agreed to have an opening statement not
8 to exceed an hour. Realistically it will probably take an hour
9 and a half. That would then give us on the current schedule about
10 an hour and a half of initial cross-examination on the first day
11 with some flexibility that the ~~twelve~~ o'clock period is not some-
12 thing like from Cinderella that everybody turns into a pumpkin at
13 ~~twelve~~.

14 Then the fourth day would be the continuation of the basic
15 cross examination, the hope being that the ~~chairman's~~ work could
16 be done in ~~two~~ days and the committee would then begin on the
17 third day of the cross-examination and go the full day. That last
18 day the Congress is not in session and it should not be subjected
19 to interruptions at any time.

20 The ~~chairman~~ has graciously indicated that he would be will-
21 ing to continue his cross examination for the first ~~two~~ days
22 without regard to the state of the floor. That would then give
23 us an uninterrupted basically cross-examination for ~~three~~ days.
24 The thought that militates against running ~~two~~ full days the first
25 ~~two~~ days is if you run those days there will be interruptions on

1 the floor. The floor will cause people to come in and go out
2 with just heavy voting and that will break the continuity and
3 character of the cross-examination.

4 Mr. Fithian, Mr. Chairman.

5 Chairman Stokes. Mr. Fithian.

6 Mr. Fithian. Two quick observations. One, I am not arguing
7 for or against, I go with either way. I don't think we have any
8 assurance that given the legislative pressure we are not going to
9 start at the House at ~~nine~~ or ~~ten~~ o'clock on some of those days.

10 Second, just an observation. Gratuitous as it may seem, I
11 have spent probably ~~fifty~~ or ~~sixty~~ hours this year waiting for
12 this committee to get started. This morning is an example that
13 if we conduct ourselves in the public hearing the way we have this
14 year, I think we will go a long way to convince the American
15 people that we don't give very much of a damn for this investiga-
16 tion. I would hope that we would keep in mind that when we are
17 going to start at ~~nine~~ o'clock and the floor is going to go in at
18 ~~ten~~ o'clock that the ~~nine~~ to ~~ten~~ hour is the most productive hour
19 we have. If we have someone like Mark Lane and James Earl Ray
20 before us or any other witness before us and the national media
21 or other media want to give this serious attention and we kind of
22 straggle in to get this off at ^{9:30} ~~nine thirty~~ or ~~ten~~ or whatever, I
23 just think there are some very reluctant to participate in that
24 scene, Mr. Chairman.

25 Chairman Stokes. Mr. Fithian, let me apologize to you and

1 the committee for my having been late this morning.

2 Mr. Fithian, I was not aiming this at any person.

3 Chairman Stokes. I do want to personally apologize to you
4 and the committee for being late this morning and it is certainly
5 entirely my fault. This is the first committee business meeting
6 since this committee started ^{that} I have ever been late for and I just
7 want that on the record.

8 Mr. Fithian. I just want to underscore the schedule that we
9 set for ourselves for these public hearings I just think we really
10 have to have every member impressed with the necessity to really
11 kick it off; otherwise, the whole schedule is just going to go
12 right down the tubes.

13 Chairman Stokes. Any other further questions?

14 Mr. Edgar has a motion before the committee.

15 Mr. Blakey. I make the suggestion that that might be an
16 appropriate thing to take up in a kind of executive session as
17 the cross-examination matures and each person's role in it is
18 clarified. Those people who are directly participating might
19 want to sit in and see how that works out.

20 Mr. Edgar. I guess I have difficulty. If the American
21 people are watching and Ray makes an hour or an hour and a half
22 statement, let's say we have ~~fifteen~~ ¹⁵ minutes or ~~twenty~~ ²⁰ minutes
23 before ~~we~~ ^{we} even begins swearing him in and getting everything ready,
24 and I am sure the chairman would have an opening statement since
25 this is the beginning of our lengthy hearings and we might want to

1 put in some of the statistical data as to how often we met and
 2 what we are going to be about and then Ray speaks and then we have
 3 an hour or so or an hour and fifteen minutes of cross-examination
 4 and we whet Ray's appetite and our appetite and then we get up and
 5 leave. ~~It just seems to me that that kind of plan locked in nearly~~
 6 ^{If} ~~and~~ we wait until then to make the decision to go longer, I think
 7 it is too late. That kind of plan locked in at this point I think
 8 will make us look silly.

9 ¶ The second thing I am concerned about is, knowing Ray, just
 10 from reading some of his 28 hours before us, he is going to spend
 11 time during the night trying to figure out what he said wrong and
 12 trying to make sure he has opportunities the next day to change
 13 his testimony or to get himself out of something. We give him two
 14 evenings to restructure his story before we get to the open ques-
 15 tioning of Congress whereas if we try to get the 16 hours done in
 16 the first ~~two~~ days and if we need him on Friday we can meet; if
 17 not, we could send him back and bring him back in November if we
 18 need additional information after we have tested out his story.
 19 We only give him one night to correct his story and that just
 20 mentally seems better in my opinion.

21 I think we are going to be laughed at. I think a lot of
 22 people are going to say, well, that is the way the Congress
 23 operates; it operates three³-hours a day. It is sort of like the
 24 court system where they take four⁴-hour lunches. Congressmen are
 25 going to just get up and leave, it is not important to them, they

1 are not investing time. Particularly with somebody like James
 2 Earl Ray, I think we would be legitimate to sit there, break for
 3 lunch, come back within a quick hour and continue ^{our conversation} through the day
 4 ~~our conversation~~.

5 // Mr. Sawyer. Would the gentleman yield?

6 Mr. Edgar. I yield.

7 Mr. Sawyer. The court systems do not take ~~four~~ hour lunches,
 8 or anything like that, but I basically agree with the gentleman's
 9 position.

10 Mr. McKinney. Three hour lunch.

11 Mr. Sawyer. I think you have two advantages. One is you are
 12 not giving an additional recess to restructure, which witnesses do
 13 and their counsel do, too. Also, there is some advantage of
 14 getting a witness a little tired, too. Near the end of a day, when
 15 a witness has been on the stand very often, you can get much more
 16 production than you can earlier when the witness is fresh and
 17 combative. It is really a grueling thing to be subjected to some
 18 ~~six~~ hours or ~~five~~ hours of cross-examination, and a witness gets
 19 less agile and less able to dodge and duck, than he is earlier.

20 Mr. McKinney. My question is I don't care how you do it but
 21 I think you ought to front load one of those days with the ~~eight~~
 22 hours because it seems to me what we have done is put ourselves
 23 in the position where on the last day that is it. If we had the
 24 last day tentatively set as a ~~three~~ hour day, we have the extra
 25 time to go along rather than being up against the wall.

1 // My only other problem is Mr. Lane is going to be a thorn in
2 all of our sides. There are ladies present. I hate to give the
3 dingbat time to run around these halls and put on a press show
4 every afternoon which is what I think he is going to do. I think
5 he is going to head for the door at one o'clock in the afternoon
6 and run an all afternoon press show.

7 Mr. Blakey. Could I suggest again that this decision is made
8 by say those people who are directly participating in the cross
9 after all of the considerations can be brought in? I perceive
10 that that discussion could go on for a considerable period of
11 time. The committee does not now have before it all of the
12 considerations that can lead to have a tentative decision on the
13 other schedule and I am concerned that if the decision were made
14 now it would be made without the full and fair discussion of all
15 of those considerations and it might be detrimental to the ability
16 of the committee both to do a good cross-examination and appear to
17 do one, both of which are very important.

18 Mr. Fithian. Would it be out of order, Mr. Chairman, to move
19 the previous question before we vote on this?

20 Chairman Stokes. No. The Chair will entertain a motion.

21 Mr. Blakey. On the schedule?

22 Mr. Fithian. On the three resolutions.

23 Chairman Stokes. Does the gentleman move the previous ques-
24 tion?

25 Mr. Fithian. If there is no objection, I would move it.

1 Chairman Stokes. At this time the motion is for the adoption
2 of the three resolutions now before the committee.

3 The clerk will call the roll.

4 Miss Berning. Mr. Stokes.

5 Chairman Stokes. Aye.

6 Miss Berning. Mr. Devine.

7 [No response]

8 Miss Berning. Mr. Preyer.

9 Chairman Stokes. Aye by proxy.

10 Miss Berning. Mr. McKinney.

11 Mr. McKinney. Aye.

12 Miss Berning. Mr. Fauntroy.

13 Mr. Fauntroy. Aye.

14 Miss Berning. Mr. Thone.

15 [No response]

16 Miss Berning. Mrs. Burke.

17 Mrs. Burke. Aye.

18 Miss Berning. Mr. Sawyer.

19 Mr. Sawyer. Aye.

20 Miss Berning. Mr. Dodd.

21 Chairman Stokes. Aye by proxy.

22 Miss Berning. Mr. Ford.

23 [No response]

24 Miss Berning. Mr. Fithian.

25 Mr. Fithian. Aye.

1 Miss Berning. Mr. Edgar.

2 Mr. Edgar. Aye.

3 Mr. McKinney. Just before we pop upstairs now, are we open-
4 ing this meeting to our staff people except at some point later
5 on today?

6 Chairman Stokes. Yes.

7 Miss Berning. Nine Ayes, Mr. Chairman.

8 Chairman Stokes. Nine members having voted in the affirma-
9 tive, the motion is agreed to.

10 Mr. Edgar. I would like to have that as an executive deci-
11 sion. I think we ought to have that as a committee decision
12 because I really feel strongly that it is a policy decision that
13 we have to make as a committee whether we have Ray for ³ hours
14 or ⁸ hours or ⁶ hours on the first day. I would hope that
15 if we don't do it at this meeting that at some future meeting
16 prior to his visit we make the decision one way or the other
17 whether to accept the ⁶ six-hour day, the ⁸ eight-hour day or the
18 ³ three-hour day for the first visit of Ray.

19 Chairman Stokes. Why don't we go up and vote, ^{then} ~~and we will~~
20 come back, and your exception will be taken up at that time.

21 [Whereupon, at 10:10 a.m., the committee recessed until
22 10:22 a.m.]

23 Chairman Stokes. Can we begin?

24 Mr. Blakey. Mr. Chairman, there are several additional items
25 that can be discussed but two of which really require decision

1 from the committee and it might be appropriate to do those first
2 and then go into the briefings. We have two briefings scheduled
3 for today, one on the security considerations involving Mr. Ray
4 and the second one involving the acoustical project. I might add
5 it is only the acoustical project that we can present with staff
6 members being present.

7 The two issues that might require some committee discussion
8 are the ticket policy, a memorandum of which has been circulated
9 to all members of the committee, and the second is the press
10 policy. I would think that the press policy may occasion more
11 discussion than the ticket policy; therefore, it might be useful
12 while most of the members are present to do very quickly the
13 ticket policy and then go into the question of press policy.

14 The ticket policy is outlined in a memorandum to you dated
15 yesterday. The memorandum summarizes the basic ticket policy
16 pursued by the impeachment hearings, the Tongson Park hearings,
17 the ERA hearings and the Senate Watergate hearings and then it
18 suggests a comparable ticket policy for our own upcoming hearings
19 both in August and September. The basic issue is one of the
20 allocation of scarce resources. We have roughly 68 tickets
21 available.

22 Mrs. Burke. Where will the meeting be held?

23 Mr. Blakey. It will be held in room 2172 which is the
24 International Relations Committee hearing room.

25 Perhaps it would be most useful to have Elizabeth Berning,

1 the chief clerk, to go down the list and tell how we arrived at
2 the numbers for August.

3 Mr. Fithian. Before we do that may I ask a question, Mr.
4 Chairman?

5 Chairman Stokes. Yes, Mr. Fithian.

6 Mr. Fithian. Is it for security that we are meeting in the
7 Rayburn building or convenience?

8 Mr. Blakey. Well, a little of both. The Rayburn building
9 has an entrance in the basement and it has a room upstairs and it
10 has an access to the back room by the back door and it is a little
11 more easier to control inside the room. In addition, it was the
12 only room available. Since the last reason was sufficient,
13 probably we could have given you that one first.

14 The hearings in September will be in the Caucus Room and it
15 would be a little more appropriate there to have a full open
16 hearing.

17 Mr. Fithian. There is a freight elevator I think that was
18 unknown to the committee in the Cannon House Office Building that
19 would serve the same purpose. I don't know what they are doing
20 with the Cannon Caucus but obviously I suspect all the witnesses
21 would bear interest on James Earl Ray on the part of the press
22 and everything else and every other single witness so I would
23 defer to anybody's judgment in the case of security if that case
24 can be made.

25 Mr. Blakey. The security case can really be made. One of

1 the things that the ticket policy assumes is that for James Earl
2 Ray there will be no general public invited. Everybody would be
3 admitted with a ticket and we will know the name and address of
4 every person who is in the room those ³three days. On the other
5 days there will be rotating public seats so that even if we had
6 the Caucus Room for James Earl Ray it is unlikely for security
7 reasons that we would want to admit the general public.

8 Mr. McKinney. Also I might add that as a member of the
9 Cannon crowd the going and coming time from Rayburn is a lot
10 faster than it is from Cannon.

11 Mrs. Burke. No question.

12 Mr. McKinney. By the middle of September when we are going
13 zonkers here on the floor you are going to rue the day because I
14 do it every day. You can make it a lot faster from Rayburn. So
15 that whole issue we have of everyone just sitting there while we
16 vote, it is going to go a lot smoother.

17 Miss Berning. The Caucus Room is scheduled for renovations
18 on the 16th, 17th and 18th of August.

19 Mr. Fithian. Is that a bureaucratic device?

20 Miss Berning. They don't release the room when it is due
21 for renovations. That is the word we got.

22 Mr. Blakey. The only two points on the ticket policy that
23 should be brought to your attention is that it assumes that only
24 two tickets will be given to each member and that I thought was
25 kind of small until Miss Berning indicated that that looked rather

1 generous compared to the policy followed by most of the other
 2 committees in similar situations and second is that it assumes
 3 that only two tickets would be given to the witness. Now generally
 4 I suspect that won't present any problems with us; nevertheless,
 5 we can reasonably anticipate that Mr. Lane is probably going to
 6 insist on up to ~~fifteen~~¹⁵ tickets. In other words, if we give him
 7 ~~two~~², he will ask for ~~four~~⁴; if we give him ~~fifteen~~¹⁵, he would ask
 8 for ~~thirty~~³⁰ and use them as a method of having various people ~~1/4~~^{1/4}
 9 I don't know quite how to put this without apparently appearing
 10 to put him down, nevertheless to have more than members of Ray's
 11 immediate family present for symbolic reasons.

12 Mr. Devine. Jury selection.

13 Mr. Blakey. That may be a good way of putting it so that no
 14 matter what block we give him we are going to hear that it was not
 15 enough in which case this policy which gives everybody two. My
 16 suggestion is over the strenuous objection of Jim Wolf and some
 17 of the other people on the staff who said we are going to carry
 18 the heat for not giving him enough so we might as well give him
 19 the same as we give everybody else and carry that heat. Nonethe-
 20 less, those are the two issues it seems to me that are involved
 21 in the ticket policy which you ought to have your attention
 22 focused on.

23 Chairman Stokes. Any comments?

24 Mr. McKinney. I move we accept the ticket policy stated in
 25 the memorandum.

