

the King slaying, Ray said he had written to British Home Sec. James Callaghan asking permission for Hanes to visit him at Wandsworth Prison but was turned down.

(AT BIRMINGHAM, Ala., United Press International reported that Hanes said Ray's charge was "absolutely right." Hanes previously had said the Home Office had not Ray. But, Tuesday Hanes denied he had said that on returning home June 24 from London.)

Ray also expressed fear that the U.S. "liberal press" would attach too much importance to testimony of Thomas Butler, Scotland Yard's chief superintendent, who quoted Ray as saying, "Oh God, I feel so trapped" at the time of his arrest.

DAVID CALCUTT representing the United States, cited judicial opinions to demonstrate that no offense could be regarded as a political crime if it could not be shown to have been committed "in the context with something larger." The something larger, he continued, "must be something that involves a challenge to the body politic or to its policy as at present established."

Calcutt argued that "not one shred of evidence" had been produced to indicate that what he called Ray's lone act of assassination was in any way associated with "something larger."

While this argument proceeded, Ray, who appeared in court in his usual blue suit and open-necked white shirt, sat listening attentively.

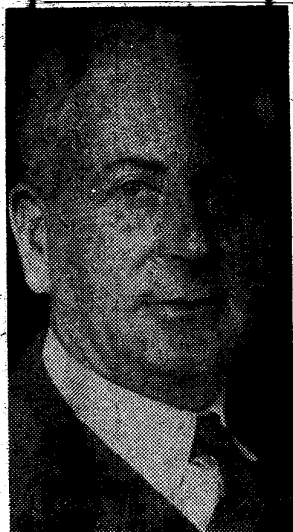
Ray was manacled to a British plainclothesman who sat to his right, facing the judge.

AFRER THE hearing, Frisby immediately said the probability of an appeal was "remote."

But when asked how he felt about Milton's ruling, Ray's British-appointed counsel smiled and said:

"In the time-honored phrase, 'No comment.'"

Calcutt would say only that the United States would wait 15 days to see if Ray goes through with his appeal.



Chief Magistrate Frank Milton, who today ordered James Earl Ray extradited to the United States, during hearing in London's Bow Street Court. (UPI)



James Earl Ray

British Judge OKs Ray Extradition

LONDON (AP) — A British judge Tuesday approved the U.S. government's request for extradition of James Earl Ray to stand trial for the killing of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Ray's lawyers said they would appeal the decision to Britain's High Court.

A 40-year-old fugitive from the Missouri State Penitentiary, Ray nodded unemotionally on learning he had lost his fight to convince Chief Magistrate Frank Milton that he should not be returned to the United States.

"Yes, sir," he told the magistrate.

Then guards escorted him back to his maximum security cell at Wandsworth Prison to await the appeal which must be filed within 15 days.

In Washington, Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark said he hoped Ray could be returned without undue delay so the prisoner

could have his "right to a speedy trial."

Milton said "there can be no doubt" that there is a prima facie case against Ray in the murder of the American civil rights leader, felled by a rifle bullet in Memphis on April 4.

The prime evidence submitted in the dingy Bow St. Magistrate's Court was testimony of an FBI fingerprint expert, George Jacob Bonebrake, at a hearing last week that Ray's prints were found on a rifle, telescopic sight and binoculars that Memphis authorities consider were used by the killer.

Conviction on a murder charge in a Tennessee court

could mean a sentence to death by electrocution.

Defense Plea Rejected

Peering through half-spectacles over lawbooks piled on his judicial bench, Milton

ruled on several major points.

He discussed and then dismissed a contention of Ray's court-appointed British attorney, Roger Frisby, that the slaying was a political crime, for which a person cannot be returned under the U.S.-British extradition treaty.

"To hold so would be to extend the meaning of this case too far," the magistrate said, though he agreed that Dr. King, who headed the politically active Southern Christian Leadership Conference, was a controversial figure.

The U.S. government had denied through its British lawyer, David Calcutt, that the killing was a political crime.

No Conspiracy

"There is not a shred of evidence to show that the murder took place to further the ends of a larger enterprise," Calcutt said. "There was no con-

spiracy. No other man or other body was involved.

"There may have been undertones that this might be so, but the evidence before this court points to a lone assassination for private purpose."

In denying there was a conspiracy, Calcutt was walking a legal tightrope. Though the extradition case was based on a Tennessee murder warrant, Ray also faces in the United States a federal charge of conspiracy to deny Dr. King his civil rights.

Dumaine
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The extradition order was issued on two grounds — that Ray was "a fugitive criminal accused of murder" and "a fugitive convicted of robbery."

He was starting the eighth year of a 20-year sentence for armed robbery when he escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City in April, 1967.

British charges on which Ray was arrested at London Airport on June 8 are due to come up in court next Tuesday. These are possession of an unlicensed gun and a forged Canadian passport made out in the name of Ramon George Sneyd. In view of the proceedings in the American case, these may be dropped.

Magistrate Milton said he was satisfied that lawyers representing the United States had made out a case against Ray as the civil rights leader's assassin, and against him as a fugitive from the Missouri prison.

Ray Complains

Ray's lawyers did not offer any serious challenge to these points, preferring not to give away anything for Ray's defense in the United States.

Ray again complained about a statement by Det. Chief Supt. Thomas Butler of Scotland Yard that had Ray saying "I feel so trapped" after his arrest.

Ray said he never made it and wanted this noted because of the wide publicity given the case in the United States, "especially in the so-called liberal press."

Ray also complained that he had not been allowed to see Arthur J. Hanes, a Birmingham (Ala.) lawyer who came here to prepare for Ray's trial defense in the United States.

Milton said the statement

made no difference to his decision. Then he turned to Frisby and complimented him on his performance as Ray's attorney.



David Calcutt, British lawyer representing the United States, enters Magistrate's Court in London Tuesday for extradition hearing of James Earl Ray. (AP)

British Court Orders Ray Returned to U.S. for Trial

BY ARTHUR VEYSEY
[Chief of London Bureau]
[Chicago Tribune Press Service]
LONDON, July 2—London's chief magistrate, Frank Milton, today ordered the extradition of James Earl Ray for trial in Memphis for the murder of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

Court-appointed British defense lawyers gave notice, however, that they would appeal to the high court presided over by the lord chief justice of England. If beaten there, they said they would ask permission to appeal to the house of lords, which acts as Queen Elizabeth's supreme legal authority.

The appeal procedure could delay Ray's return to the United States until mid-August or later.

Escapes from Prison

The chief magistrate said evidence amassed by Shelby county, Tenn., shows that the man arrested at London airport June 8, calling himself Ramon George Sneyd, 35, is in fact Ray, who is 40 and Illinois born, escaped from the Missouri state penitentiary in April, 1967.

The chief magistrate ruled also that the evidence was sufficient to put Ray into the dock of an English court for trial had the King murder occurred in Britain.

Held Not Exempt

The chief magistrate pointed out that the defense lawyers did not challenge either the man's identity as Ray or that the evidence constitutes what the law calls a prima facie case—that is, proof of guilt unless rebutted.

The chief magistrate turned down a defense plea for political sanctuary in England. The magistrate said that the defense was going too far in asserting that the murder of

King, whoever did it, was "an offense of a political character" and thus exempt from extradition under British-American treaties.

For the United States, Atty. David Calcutt said it would be "monstrous" if a person could commit a murder like that of King and find sanctuary abroad.

The magistrate asked the chief defense attorney, Roger Frisby, how far he would extend political sanctuary as provided by the extradition treaty. Would he claim immunity for someone who shot a British cabinet member and fled abroad, or for a group of politicians who robbed a bank to get funds for their cause?

Lawyer Is Commended

The attorney said he would claim such immunity, altho, he added with a small laugh, many British cabinet ministers do not stir such deep emotions as did the American Negro civil rights leader.

The magistrate commended the attorney on his "great pertinacity and persuasiveness." He agreed with Frisby that King was a nationally known figure—a controversial one and perhaps a political one—and that violence sometimes resulted from his actions.

The murder was, the magistrate said, "on the face of it, an individual act committed in a democracy where free elections take place at a time when no insurrection existed nor, as far as one knows, was in prospect."

The magistrate also rejected a subsidiary defense plea that

Ray could not be returned to the Missouri penitentiary because he was convicted on a charge of robbery in the first degree, whereas the extradition treaty included only robbery with violence.

During a noon recess, the accused man asked to make a statement. The magistrate reconvened the court.

Ray, an unironed white shirt open at the neck, said he wanted to protest again, as he did Thursday, remarks that Chief Supt. Thomas Butler attributed to him on his arrest.

He also protested what he called "the lack of freedom" in writing letters and receiving visits while he has been in Wandsworth prison. Two warders have been constantly in his cell.

Has One Visitor

He said he had written to an American lawyer, Arthur Haines of Birmingham, Ala., and that Haines came to London but was unable to visit him. He said he had written

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[Signature]

Home Secretary James Callaghan and a Conservative leader, Edward Heath.

THE TRIBUNE learned tonight the only visitor to the

cell has been Michael Eugene, a young British lawyer who was named by the court to arrange the defense.

British legal procedure requires that all relations between the client and members of the bar should pass through such counsel. Haines and Eugene met in London.

The home office said tonight it had approved a prison visit by Haines but that the permit was not used.

Has 15 Days

Calcutt denied any infringement of rights while Ray was in prison and offered to present evidence. But the magistrate said Ray's statement would not affect his decision. He pointed

out that only members of the British bar may appear in British courts.

The defense has 15 days to file its appeal in what is known as the queen's bench division. Defense lawyers said they would need the full period to prepare the appeal.

The magistrate today offered to continue having defense legal costs paid by the British treasury. "I have reason to believe you are without means," he told the defendant, who accepted the offer with a low, "Yes, Sir."

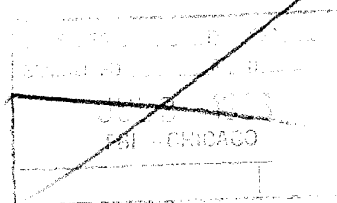
The lord chief justice, with long wig and robes, presides in an elaborate victorian chamber at one end of Fleet street.

If the defense fails to win

over the lord chief justice and his colleagues, it can then ask either the lord chief justice or the house of lords for permission to carry a further appeal to a set of judges who, called law lords, are members of the house of lords but, apart from their leader, the lord chancellor, are above politics.



James Earl Ray



Presidential Books Ordered by 'Galt' After King Slaying

BY HENRY RAYMONT

[A NEW YORK TIMES SPECIAL]

NEW YORK—The FBI is looking into an order for the purchase of a three-volume set on the American Presidency by a man who gave his name as Eric Starvo Galt, an alias used by James Earl Ray, accused as the killer of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

A typewritten order for the boxed set, "The American Heritage History of the Presidents of the United States," was received late last April—presumably after the name "Galt" had been publicized—by the Fulfillment Corporation of America in Marion, O.

The order was processed by computers and the books were sent to the return address, the Lorraine hotel and motel of Memphis, where King was shot on April 4. The books were confiscated by the FBI.

Was It "Galt?"

The bureau has declined any comment on the case. Its interest in the book order appeared to be guided by the hope of closing some of the gaps in Ray's movements after the assassination and determining whether it actually came from a man calling himself "Galt," an associate, or a prankster.

James Parton, president of American Heritage, which published the books, said yesterday he was alerted to the purchase order on Wednesday morning by agents of the FBI who visited the offices of the Fulfillment corporation.

The Fulfillment corporation, a subsidiary of American Heritage, is a computer billing and distribution service. It handles mail orders for American Heritage magazines and books as well as for several university presses and other magazines.

Envelope Was Destroyed

The order for the three books was a check order recorded on April 29. Parton

said. "Altho the list price on the mailing piece shows as \$35, we offered a pre-publication discount before May 1 which brought the obligation down to \$22.95. The books were shipped and of course their arrival noted by the FBI."

A code line on the bill that accompanied the book shipment to Memphis made it possible for the company's computer to trace the order to "Eric Starvo Galt." Partin said he doubted whether it would be possible to establish the exact date when the order was mailed because the envelope that obtained it had been destroyed.

The possibility that several days might have passed between the arrival of the order in Marion and its being processed by the computer was also raised.

Clew on Card

Parton suggested that the computer had established one potentially valuable lead: The form filled by "Galt" came from a person whose subscription to the American Heritage magazine expired in April.

"The code on the mailing card clearly established it must have come from somebody who had just been notified that his subscription was about to expire," he said. "I am not completely sure, but it may be possible to establish precisely to whom it had been sent."

American Heritage is a 100-page cover quality magazine and is over 330,000 copies a month.

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VISITING KING SUSPECT

Birmingham Lawyer Insists Client's Sneyd

BY GODFREY ANDERSON

LONDON (AP) — Arthur J. Hanes, the Birmingham, Ala., lawyer retained to defend the accused assassin of Martin Luther King Jr., arrived in London today and said he would have a first meeting with him within hours.

Hanes insisted the man he would be seeing was Ramon George Sneyd, not James Earl Ray as claimed by the United States government and accepted by the British court which agreed last Tuesday to extradite him.

Hanes said his client might plead innocent or innocent by reason of insanity to charges brought against him.

Must Prove Identity

He added: "Of course, he may not be extradited. I am not certain that he will be."

Regarding the identity of the man wanted in the slaying of King, Hanes said, "He is Ramon George Sneyd as far as I am concerned. This man has identified himself as such. I am saying that the United States government and the authorities of Tennessee have the burden to prove otherwise.

"It will have no bearing in Tennessee that the British

courts say that he is James Earl Ray."

King was assassinated April 4 in Memphis and a world-wide manhunt began for James Earl Ray.

Arrested June 8

Ray was arrested at London airport June 8 by Scotland Yard agents and accused of using a forged Canadian passport in the name of Sneyd and possessing an unlicensed gun. Those charges are still pending.

After a 2-day hearing at Bow Street court, London's chief metropolitan magistrate, Frank Milton, ordered Ray extradited as a fugitive criminal wanted for murder and armed robbery in the United States.

Ray's court-appointed British lawyers have 15 days in which to appeal to a higher court. They said they intend to file an appeal.

Will Ask Background

Hanes told newsmen he would have a first meeting with his client at Wandsworth jail within a couple of hours of his arrival by plane from Los Angeles.

"I am going to talk to him [Ray] and get some of his background," Hanes said. "As of now I am acting officially for him."

Pressed about who was paying for his services, Hanes replied: "No one, no organization, only Sneyd himself has contacted me. He has indicated that he is in a position to pay. He may be able to raise money from his family."

"This is a challenge and it is a big case. The man called on me for assistance. The man needs help. I would be glad to help anyone, black or white, if

L. Hanes
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(P)

FRIENDLESS AND PENNILESS

Ray Found No Magic In London

By Karl E. Meyer

Special from the Washington Post

LONDON—An exhaustive Scotland Yard investigation into the London life of James Earl Ray has persuaded senior police officials of three judgments about the man accused of killing Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.—that while here, he was friendless, almost penniless, and highly accident-prone.

Ten Yard detectives have been working full time on the case of Ray since his arrest on June 8 at London Airport under the name of Ramon George Sneyd. Several thousand persons have been questioned about Ray's movements in London from May 17 until his arrest.

One major blank spot remains: British police still do not know where Ray stayed for the first 10 days after his arrival. But the belief is that he was in a cheap and obscure rooming house in London and not in a private residence. Ray himself has reportedly said he does not remember where he stayed.

The major find made by the Yard detectives is that a set of fingerprints matching Ray's have turned up on a paper bag thrown to a cashier during the robbery of a London bank.

The robbery occurred on the afternoon of June 4 when a man wearing sun-glasses walked into the Trustees Savings Bank in Fulham. The man pulled out a gun and said to the counter clerk, "Put some money in this." He escaped with about \$20 in 5-pound notes.

Immediately after the robbery, the clerk described the raider as being about 40 years old, 5 feet 10 inches tall, sun-tanned with wavy black hair, and possibly of mid-European origin. He was dressed in a blue suit and his face was not masked.

The bank is a small office with five cash windows. It is on a busy shopping street in a working-class district and adjoins a narrow street.

The white bag left behind by the robber was turned in to Scotland Yard's fingerprint bureau and was first dusted with a recently developed chemical used to disclose fingerprints on paper. It was then put under heat, yielding a clear impression of prints that matched those of Ray.

British police first became aware that the 40-year-old American might be in London a week before his arrest.

The Yard was informed that the Canadian Royal Mounted Police had found that Ray was traveling under the name of Ramon George Sneyd and was London-bound.

If Ray had been traveling under a U.S. passport, it would have been easy for the Yard to determine immediately if he had entered Britain. But Canadians, as members of the commonwealth, are subject to less rigorous immigration controls.

The Scotland Yard officer in charge of the case was Chief Inspector Kenneth Thompson, who for 29 years has specialized in offenses involving illegal immigrants and

D. Sneyd
CHICAGO SUN TIMES

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false passports. When word reached Thompson that Ray might be in England, the inspector issued an "all-port warning."

There are usually only a few names on the all-port warning list, which is given to special branch detectives at every entry-point into Britain. One of the officers who had this list was Detective Sgt. Philip Birch, who at 11:30 a.m. on June 8 was standing next to the immigration desk at Building No. 2 in London Airport.

When Ray came to the desk and showed his Canadian passport, the immigration officer noticed that he had a second Canadian passport in his wallet and asked why. This was the initial warning-signal that first brought Ray to the attention of Sgt. Birch who, when he saw the name "Sneyd", immediately called Chief Inspector Thompson.

Made No Friends In Britain

Ray's apparent carelessness in letting an official see the second passport is felt to be typical of the American's proneness to accidents. The Yard believes that Ray's past record in America, and his behavior during stops in Toronto and Lisbon, are consistent with the maladroit London pattern.

British police have found no evidence that Ray had or made any friends while he was in Britain. The only time any witness saw Ray with anyone else during his London stay was on June 4, the day he left a hotel in Earls Court to find a new place to stay.

Ray turned up at a YWCA hostel on Warwick Way in Victoria. The hostel, despite its name, also provides rooms for men, and the woman at the desk saw Ray with a young blond man whom she thought was American. Ray was told that there was no room at the hostel, and was referred to the Pax Hotel, three doors down the same street.

When Ray turned up at the Pax Hotel, he was alone. He then spent most of his time in this room. The only mail he received was a postcard from Ian Colvin, a Daily Telegraph reporter whom Ray had called to seek information about getting in touch with European mercenaries.

Ray Appeals Order for His Extradition

LONDON — James Earl Ray's British lawyers today began preparing his appeal against Chief Magistrate Frank Milton's ruling that he should be extradited to the United States for trial on a charge of murdering the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

Milton yesterday rejected the argument by Roger Frisby, Ray's British attorney, that the killing of the Negro civil rights leader was a political crime and therefore not subject to extradition.

Frisby planned to enlarge this argument in his appeal to the High court. Ray remained under close guard in London's Wandsworth jail. The appeal will delay his return to the United States until late this month, at the least.

15 Days to Appeal

Ray's court-appointed attorneys have 15 days from Tuesday to file their appeal. They were expected to take advantage of almost all this period.

The court then may take several days to schedule a hear-

ing and to hold it.

Ray could appeal another adverse decision on a point of law to the house of lords, Britain's highest court, but only if either the high court or the law lords agreed to accept it.

In Memphis, where King was killed on April 4, Shelby county District Atty. Phil M. Canale said he is planning an early fall trial in Memphis for Ray.

He'll Head Prosecution

Canale said he would head the prosecution, assisted in the courtroom by assistant district attorneys Robert K. Dwyer and James Beasley. Canale seldom appears in court, usually devoting his time to the administrative aspects of his office.

Dwyer, Canale's top assistant, prosecutes most important cases and is considered a tough cross-examiner and a man who can predict the stratagems of the defense. Beasley is the office's expert on legal precedents and handles tactics and research.

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Appeal for Ray under way

LONDON (UPI)—Attorneys for the accused assassin of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., losers in the first round of an extradition fight, went to work Wednesday on an appeal to a British higher court.

If the appeal fails, legal sources said, escaped Missouri convict James Earl Ray could be on his way to Memphis by the end of the month.

Chief Justice Frank Milton of Bow St. Magistrate's Court ordered Ray's deportation to the United States Tuesday.

The magistrate rejected the argument by Ray's counsel that the sniper slaying of Dr. King in Memphis April 4 did not fall under the Anglo-American extradition treaty because the crime was "political." Political crimes are not covered by the treaty.

MILTON GAVE Ray 15 days to appeal his decision to the Queen's Bench division of the British high court of justice. The court is comparable to a U.S. Court of Appeals.

Should the high court reject Ray's appeal, a further appeal to the House of Lords is possible. But legal sources said that if the bench division upholds the magistrate's decision, it probably also will refuse recourse to the House of Lords. If this happens, Ray could be

sent to the United States before the end of July.

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Ray robbed bank

--London report

Daily News Foreign Service
By William H. Stoneman

LONDON—Informants close to Scotland Yard insist that James Earl Ray, alleged killer of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., stuck up the Trustees Savings Bank in the London district of Fulham June 4. Four days later he

was arrested at London airport.

bank with a drawn revolver, shoved a brown paper bag across the counter and muttered an order to the teller: "fill that!"

THE TELLER had put 95 pounds (the equivalent of \$228) into the bag when Ray suddenly grabbed it and dashed out of the bank into the street, according to the sources. He dropped the bag during his getaway after stuffing the contents into his pockets, they say.

Police who recovered the bag were astounded to discover that the fingerprints they found on it checked with those of James Earl Ray. Ray's fingerprints had been provided by the FBI.

Stoneman
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James Earl Ray, aka,
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(D)

William F. Buckley Jr.

Ray's unfolding story points to plot

There are strange and interesting elements in the unfolding story of James Earl Ray.

It is reported that in London, on being formally accused of the murder of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., he slumped down and sighed, "Oh my God, I feel trapped."

But Ray's demoralization was only temporary, and it soon transpired that he had hired a prominent Birmingham attorney to go to London, and that said attorney was the very same man who managed the successful defense of the KKK types who were accused of killing Mrs. Viola Liuzzo.

ALTHOUGH THIS is the land of John Birch and Mark Lane and highly inflamed political imagination, it cannot be imagined by the average American how gleefully Europeans leap to conclusions of Florentine complexity whenever political assassinations are involved. It is hard for a people whose history is watered with organized and even incestuous connivings for power to imagine individualistic assassination.

Having said all of which, there is something about the James Earl Ray case that does suggest that if indeed it was he who fired the shot, that he did not work alone in the tradition of Leon Czolgosz, and Lee Harvey Oswald. Too much is known about Ray, and he is more readily imaginable as a hired killer than a lusty fanatic.



HE HAS BEEN small-time of the kind that catches up the always, a non-ideologue, uninterested in politics, untroubled by racial differences. Moreover, the escape from

Memphis suggested the co-operation of at least one ~~any~~ underworld's code. He is His ensuing movements required a kind of cosmopolitan sophistication one does not learn at Midwest penitentiaries.

The exhaustive research necessary, for instance, to appear halfway plausible when applying for foreign passports was more likely supplied by someone other than himself.

If the FBI's contentions are validated, then Ray is the killer. As long as he is alive, he of course jeopardizes his silent partners, and it is supremely in the interest of the state to establish who they are, and to discover what was the motivation for the killing of Dr. King.

If the idea of killing Dr. King was that of the KKK, or some local white supremacist group, then in the light of the experience with the Birmingham church, the

three civil rights workers in Mississippi, Mrs. Liuzzo and the others — the killing of whom consolidated national sentiment in favor of more and more civil rights legislation — then the KKK is even more stupid than it is supposed to be, which is an extraordinary achievement.

SUCH STUPIDITY does not go hand in hand with the super-sophisticated provisions made for Ray's escape; does not explain the easy success that Ray had in eluding the greatest manhunt in the history of the world, until, by committing a foolish mistake

Ray is not the type to suffer in order to sustain the underworld's code. He is likelier to crack up when he realizes fully that he is indeed trapped.

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Hint Insanity Plea For Ray

LONDON (UPI) — The Alabama lawyer for James Earl Ray met Friday with the accused assassin for the first time and announced that if Ray is extradited he will plead innocent, possibly on the ground of insanity, to the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Arthur J. Hanes, a former mayor of Birmingham, said he felt "more confident of a successful defense" after talking for 30 to 35 minutes with Ray across a wire barrier at Wandsworth Prison in West London.

"For me a successful defense means a verdict of not guilty," the attorney told reporters.

Asked how Ray would plead, Hanes replied, "Not guilty, not guilty to anything."

Robbery Charge, Too

Earlier, after his arrival at London Airport, Hanes had said the pleas might include innocent by reason of insanity.

Hanes said the innocent plea would apply to bank robbery charges in Missouri on which the United States sought King murder charge filed in Memphis.

A London court Tuesday ordered Ray extradited to America on both charges. Ray has appealed.

Hanes qualified all discussion of appeals by saying, "only if he is extradited. I am not certain he will be."

He insisted on identifying the defendant as "R. G. Sneyd," the name on one of the two forged Canadian passports Ray was carrying at the time of his arrest.

Hanes said the U.S. government would have to prove the accused man was anybody else, including James Earl Ray.

British attorneys are appealing a magistrate's order extraditing Ray.

Asked if Ray was optimistic about the outcome of the appeal being lodged by his British lawyers against the extradition order, Hanes kept repeating:

"He feels good, he looks good, he is in good health."

The attorney added with a touch of sarcasm, "He is getting plenty of sleep—he is not going anywhere."

Hanes said he and Ray talked about Ray's defense and payment of the lawyer's fees.

The lawyer engaged in a heated argument with reporters after he insisted "no organization, no one, only Sneyd himself" had contacted him about paying his fee.

The reporters questioned how Ray would be able to take care of the expenses of Hanes' two trans-Atlantic flight plus trial costs.

"He assured me he could take care of my fee," Hanes replied, on the verge of losing his temper. "He has indicated he may be able to raise money from his family. He ain't going to pay me with love, I can tell you that."

His face reddening, the attorney almost shouted at the British reporters, "I'm not on trial. Bear that in mind. The source of any money is not relevant to the case."

Message For Family

When newsmen pressed whether Hanes would drop the

case should Sneyd turn out to be Ray, Hanes roared, "Of course I wouldn't drop the case. I am representing this man if he is extradited."

Hanes said Ray gave him a message during their meeting for "friends of the family." Ray promised to tell him at their scheduled second meeting Saturday morning about his family in America, Hanes said.

The lawyer said he had been working to fit together a file on the case. He refused to specify whether he had contacted any witnesses, but said he had not gone to Canada.

"This is a challenge and a big case," the attorney said. "The man needs help, and I intend to give it. It's a big ball game. I would do the same for anyone, black or white. I am made that way."

Hanes said he had received two letters from Ray in addition to the defendant's June 10 letter seeking to hire the attorney. In one letter Ray "was somewhat perturbed

that I could not get to see him" during the lawyer's first trip to London two weeks ago.

Hanes explained that British authorities had granted permission for the visit after he had left for the United States.

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CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

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Alabama lawyer Arthur Hanes talks to newsmen Friday outside Wandsworth Prison in South London after conferring with James Earl Ray. (AP)

Attorney visits Ray in prison

LONDON (AP)—James Earl Ray's American lawyer talked with him in prison Saturday for the second time and said he got "names and other leads" to build a case for the defense of the accused assassin of the Rev. Dr. Luther King.

Arthur J. Hanes, of Birmingham, Ala., met with Ray for an hour in an interview room at Wandsworth Prison. Hanes said afterward he found the conditions somewhat restrictive. He and his client were separated by a glass screen.

THE LAWYER said he was beginning to build his case and organize a defense for the day that Ray might be extradited by the British to stand trial for the murder of the American civil rights leader.

"Our meeting was most helpful, most fruitful and beneficial," Hanes said. "We got to know each other better. He is relaxed and feels good. He is perfectly rational, sane and lucid."

Hanes said he plans to leave London Sunday and did not foresee another trip to Britain to interview Ray.

He said Ray had been receiving "many messages of support from the United States" and he is grateful for it. He also has received many offers of help for his defense.

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Ray Gives Lawyer Names, Other Leads

LONDON (AP) — James Earl Ray's American lawyer talked with him in prison today and said he got "names and other leads" to build a case for the defense of the accused assassin of Martin Luther King Jr.

Arthur J. Hanes of Birmingham, Ala., who talked with Ray for an hour in Wandsworth prison, said he found the conditions somewhat restrictive. British prison officials did not permit a confidential interview such as usually accorded a British lawyer, he said.

Hanes and Ray were separated by a glass screen. Hanes said that when he wanted to exchange something confidential with Ray he would either whisper or pass notes to him via a prison guard.

Organizing Defense

The Alabama lawyer said he was beginning to organize a defense for the day that Ray might be extradited by the British to stand trial for the murder of the American civil rights leader.

"Our meeting was most help-

ful, most fruitful, and beneficial," Hanes said. "We got to know each other better. He is relaxed and feels good. He is perfectly rational, sane, and lucid."

Hanes told reporters he had no cause to complain about the restrictions placed upon him because "that's the system here."

Lands Security

Apparently alluding to security, Hanes said: "I think the procedure over here is rather good. There have been people hurt in other cases like this and I didn't like that at all."

Hanes declined to reveal the names or other information Ray had given him.

Hanes said he plans to leave London tomorrow and did not foresee another British interview with Ray.

He said Ray has been receiving "many messages of support from the United States and he is grateful for it. He also has received many offers of help for his defense."

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CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

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Ray Will Enter Innocent Plea in King Death, Lawyer Says

LONDON July 5 (UPI)—The Alabama lawyer for James Earl Ray met with him for the first time today and announced that his client will plead innocent, possibly by reason of insanity, if he is extradited.

Ray is charged with the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. King was shot by a sniper April 4 as he stood on a Memphis motel balcony.

The lawyer, Arthur Hanes, former mayor of Birmingham, said he felt "more confident of a successful defense" after talking for about 30 minutes with Ray at Wandsworth prison in west London.

Will Plead Not Guilty

"For me, a successful defense means a verdict of not guilty," the attorney told reporters.

Asked how Ray would plead, Hanes replied, "Not guilty, not guilty to anything."

Earlier, after his arrival at London airport, he said the pleas might include innocent by reason of insanity.

Hanes said the innocent pleas would apply to bank robbery charges in Missouri on which the United States sought extradition as well as to the King murder charge filed in Memphis. A London court Tuesday ordered Ray extradited to the United States on both charges. Ray has appealed.

Spirit of Optimism

Emerging from Wandsworth prison, Hanes exuded a spirit of optimism.

Hanes qualified all discussion of appeals by saying "only if he is extradited. I am not certain he will be."

He insisted on identifying the defendant as R. G. Sneyd, an

name on one of the two forged Canadian passports Ray was carrying at the time of his arrest. Hanes said the United States government would have to prove the accused man was anybody else, including James Earl Ray.

Answer Is Repeated

Asked if Ray was optimistic about the outcome of the appeal by his British lawyers, Hanes kept repeating:

"He feels good, he looks good, he is in good health."

The attorney added with a twinge of sarcasm, "he is getting plenty of sleep—he is not going anywhere."

Hanes said he and Ray talked about Ray's defense and payment of the lawyer's fees. The lawyer engaged in a heated argument with reporters after he insisted "no organization, no one, only Sneyd himself" had contacted him about paying his fee. The reporters questioned how Ray would be able to take care of the expenses of Hanes' two trans-Atlantic flights plus trial costs.

"Assured of Fee"

"He assured me he could take care of my fee," Hanes replied, on the verge of losing his temper. "He has indicated he may be able to raise money from his family. He ain't going to pay me with love, I can tell you that."

His face reddening, the attorney almost shouted at the British reporters, "I'm not on trial. Bear that in mind. The source of any money is not relevant to the case."

Then reporters pressed and asked whether Hanes would drop the case should Sneyd turn

out to be Ray, Hanes roared. "Of course I wouldn't drop the case. I am representing this man if he is extradited."

Message for Family

Hanes said Ray gave him a message during their meeting for "friends of family." Ray promised to tell him at their scheduled second meeting tomorrow morning about his family in America, Hanes said.

The lawyer said he had been working to build a file on the case. He refused to specify whether he had contacted any witnesses, but said he had not gone to Canada.

"This is a challenge and a big case," the attorney said. "The man needs help, and I intend to

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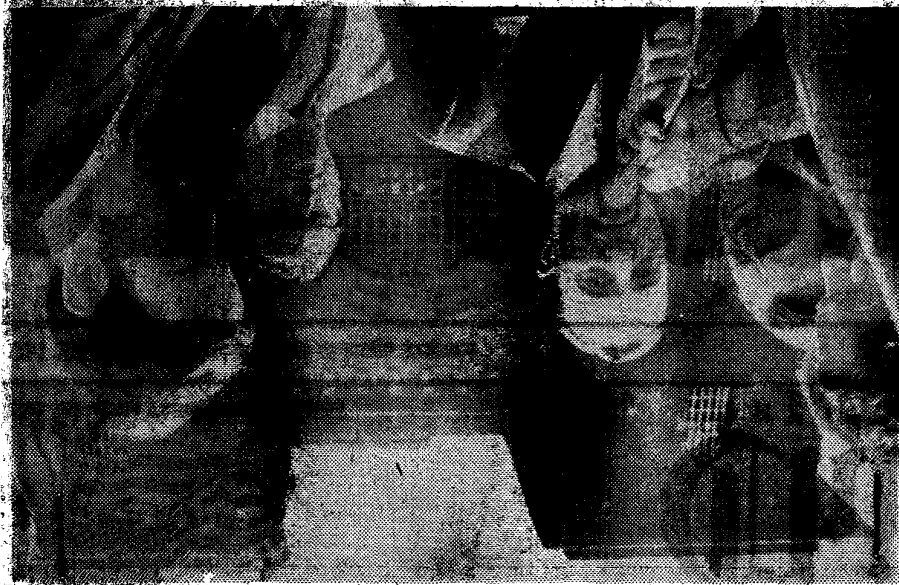
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Interview Ray's Lawyer

Arthur Hanes is interviewed by newsmen in London as he leaves Wandsworth prison where he visited James Earl Ray.



Hanes said he had received two letters from Ray in addition to the defendant's June 10 letter, seeking to hire the attorney. In one letter Ray "was somewhat perturbed that I could not get to see him" during the lawyer's first trip to London two weeks ago. Hanes explained that British authorities granted permission for the visit, after he had left for the United States.

"It's a old ball game, I would do the same for anyone black or white. I am made that way."



KUP'S COLUMN

James Earl Ray's attorney, Arthur J. Hanes, indicated the accused slayer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. may enter a plea of insanity. That was scooped by The Sun-Times' Art Petacque weeks ago, based on what Ray's brother stated on our TV show.

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CHICAGO SUNDAY SUN TIMES

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

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Ray Gives Lawyer List to Aid Defense

LONDON, July 6 [Reuters] — James Earl Ray, the man accused of killing Dr. Martin Luther King, today gave his American lawyer a list of prospective witnesses to aid in his defense if he is extradited for trial in the United States.

Atty. Arthur J. Hanes, after a second meeting with his client, said he would go Friday to Memphis, where King was killed April 3, to start work on the case.

He said he expected to leave London tomorrow for home without seeing his client again.

Killing Political Crime

The Birmingham, Ala., lawyer is believed to feel King's killing was a political crime with many unanswered questions — especially whether it was the work of one man, as alleged at an extradition hearing Tuesday.

Lawyers close to the case said it was expected Hanes would investigate conspiracy aspects of the case, including

any possible links to black or white racist groups.

The meeting today between Hanes and Ray lasted 70 minutes—twice as long as their meeting yesterday in the visitor's room at London's maximum security Wandsworth prison.

Easy to Talk

Hanes said, "We sat close to each other, only three or four feet apart, separated by a glass partition surrounded by wire mesh. It was very easy for us to carry on a conversation, with me looking him right in the eye."

The lawyer said when he wanted to ask his client a confidential question, he wrote it down and the guard in the room passed it unopened to Ray, who wrote down his answer and passed it back by the guard.

Hanes said he addressed his client as "old buddy and pal. He's looking fine, his spirit seems good, and he is grateful for his treatment by British authorities."

"Feel So Trapped"

But the attorney said his client again took exception to comments made by a Scotland Yard police superintendent, Arthur Butler, at the extradition hearing.

Butler said when he confronted the accused and told him he thought he was James Earl Ray, the accused sat down and said, "Oh God, I feel so trapped."

Hanes said his client again protested that this was not true and said it made him sound like a 10-year-old girl, not a grown man.

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May Claim A Black Plot To Kill King

By Karl E. Meyer
Washington Post Special

LONDON—Defense lawyers for James Earl Ray may contend in America that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was killed by political conspirators, but that the conspiracy was masterminded by a black instead of white extremist group.

This became known Saturday as Arthur J. Hanes, an Alabama attorney, had a second prison visit with the 40-year-old Ray, who is facing extradition to the United States on charges of murdering Dr. King in Memphis.

Hanes agreed to discuss his client's state of mind with re-

porters but declined to say anything about the precise line of defense he might argue in the event Ray is returned for trial in Memphis.

But it can be stated reliably that a likely contention will be that Dr. King was as much hated by black nationalists who regarded him as an "Uncle Tom" as he was by white supremacist groups. Such a line of argument would not necessarily preclude an admission that a white gunman could have been hired to execute the murder.

Hanes will only say that he intends to enter a "not guilty" plea if Ray is extradited and that he now has the names of

some witnesses he plans to see in America. He intends to go to Memphis, where the murder occurred, late this week.

A former mayor of Birmingham, Hanes flew to London Friday for a first visit with his client. He is due to depart Sunday. He spent 70 minutes with Ray at London's Wandsworth Prison, speaking with his client through a glass partition while two guards stood by. Hanes and Ray exchanged several written notes, since the guards could overhear their conversation.

Hanes said the prison restrictions were "austere and severe," but added, "I find this

rather good. There have been people hurt in other cases like this and I didn't like that." He said he had been frisked for possible guns and that the precaution was "fine with me."

According to the Alabamian, Ray is "quite pleased and satisfied with the treatment accorded him" by British authorities.

This referred to court testimony by Chief Supt. Thomas Butler of Scotland Yard that Ray had allegedly said, "Oh God, I feel so trapped," when he was informed that British police believed he was the man wanted for the murder of Dr. King.

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Newsbriefs

Ray appeal opens July 29

LONDON—James Earl Ray's appeal against extradition to the United States will open in the British High Court July 29, his British lawyer said Tuesday. The hearing is expected to last at least two days.

Ray, charged with assassinating the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., made a one-minute appearance in Bow Street Magistrate's Court Tuesday on the two charges on which he was arrested June 8 at London's Heathrow Airport, using a forged passport and carrying an unlicensed gun. No action was taken.

Defense attorney Michael Eugene said the High Court had agreed to the July 29 hearing although the appeal itself has not been filed formally.

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RAY IN LONDON COURT AGAIN ON 2 CHARGES

Date Set for Appeal from Extradition

BY JOSEPH CERUTTI

(Chicago Tribune Press Service)

LONDON, July 9 — James Earl Ray, 40, who is charged with the killing of Dr. Martin Luther King, made a one-minute appearance in Bow Street court today on two British charges.

The charges were not new, but under British law the accused must be returned to court periodically if he is held beyond eight days.

Ray has been accused of carrying a forged passport in the name of Ramon George Sneyd, a 35-year-old Canadian, and of possessing an unregistered gun and ammunition when arrested. The arrest was made at London airport June 8 as he sought to board a plane for Brussels.

Two Hearings Set

London's chief magistrate, Frank Milton, ordered Ray held for a further hearing next Tuesday.

In response to a question from Milton, a court official said July 29 has been set for hearing of Ray's appeal from the magistrate's order extraditing him to the United States to stand trial in the King slaying.

Ray was taken to court under a heavy guard. During his brief appearance, Scotland Yard detectives formed a tight shield around him. They were led by Britain's top crime buster, Detective Chief Superintendent Tom Butler.

15 Days to Appeal

On July 9, Milton had ordered Ray extradited to the United States to face the King charges, but defense lawyers were given 15 days to file an appeal. The lawyers said they would need the full time to prepare the case. If the appeal is refused by the high court, the lawyers are expected to seek an appeal to the house of lords, whose law members sit as the realm's highest court.

Ray has become a target for British autograph hunters. Dozens have written to him at Wandsworth jail seeking his signature. All of the letters are handed to him after examination by jail authorities.

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Ray Appeal Hearing Set for July 29

LONDON (P) — James Earl Ray's appeal against extradition to the United States will open in the British high court July 29, his British lawyer said today. The hearing is expected to last at least 2 days.

Ray, charged with assassinating the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., made a one-minute appearance in Bow street magistrate's court today on the two charges on which he was arrested June 8 at London airport, using a forged passport and carrying an unlicensed gun.

Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Frank Milton ordered him held in Wandsworth prison for another 7 days on the two charges. Ray said nothing.

Milton, who last Tuesday ruled in favor of the United States government's extradition petition, asked defense Atty. Michael Eugene when the appeal would be heard.

Eugene replied that the High Court had agreed to start the appeal hearing July 29 altho the appeal has not been filed formally.

Ray's lawyers are preparing an appeal contending that King's assassination was a political crime, an offense that is not extraditable under British law.

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CHICAGO AMERICAN

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Key King witness in police custody

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (UPI)— Charles Q. Stevens, the elusive witness in the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., is in police custody.

Stevens, accompanied by police officers, was spotted Wednesday in the upper corridors of central police headquarters. He dropped from

sight last month.

Stevens told police that seconds after the slaying he saw a man run from a communal bath in a rooming house from which the fatal shot was fired.

Stevens disappeared from his apartment June 17. He reportedly has since been in protective custody.

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Ray trial visitors face stiff ID test

MEMPHIS (AP) — Officials said Thursday that plans are being made to make a voice and picture tape of every person attending the trial of James Earl Ray, charged with assassinating the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. here on April 4.

This would be the first trial anywhere that such a security precaution has been required, Charles Holmes, aide to Sheriff William N. Morris, said.

NEWSMEN accredited to cover the trial, expected to be held in late fall, will be given identification cards bearing their photographs.

The trial is scheduled to be held in one of the Shelby County Criminal Court's rooms so Ray can be brought directly into the court through an underground corridor without being seen outside.

Ray is in jail in London awaiting a hearing on his appeal of an extradition order.

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MAXIMUM SECURITY

Ray Trial Visitors to Be Put on Tape

BY BILL JOHNSON

MEMPHIS (T)—Officials preparing for what promises to be the biggest Tennessee trial since the famous "monkey trial" of 1925 are making strict security arrangements.

Officials said yesterday that plans are being made to make a voice and picture tape of every person attending the trial of James Earl Ray, charged with assassinating the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. here on April 4.

This would be the first trial anywhere that such a security precaution has been required, Charles Holmes, public relations aid to Sheriff William N. Morris, said.

Newsmen accredited to cover the trial, expected to be held in late fall, will be given identification cards bearing their photographs.

Ray will be brought directly into court thru an underground corridor without being seen by the public.

Ray Appeals Extradition

He is in jail in London awaiting a hearing on his appeal of an extradition order.

"This is a serious matter," said Sheriff Morris, who is in charge of arrangements for the trial.

"There will be no carnival atmosphere," Morris said. "The sheriff, the judges, and the attorney general have been conferring at intervals for several weeks to assure a fair and orderly trial in a dignified atmosphere."

Photographs Ruled Out

No photographs will be allowed in the courtroom, although a ruling has not yet been made on whether pictures will be permitted in the corridors.

The "monkey trial" in the little town of Dayton tested the validity of a state law prohibiting the teaching of Darwin's theory of evolution in Tennessee public schools.

The law was upheld and was not repealed until 1967. Tennessee was criticized for what was termed the "carnival atmosphere" surrounding that trial in which John T. Scopes, a young biology teacher, was



JAMES EARL RAY

found guilty. Scopes was fined \$100 but never paid it because of a technicality.

The trial matched two of the nation's most famous trial lawyers—Clarence Darrow for the defense and William Jennings Bryan for the prosecution.

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A faint odor of Gestapo

In a police state the functions of legitimate news gathering and such other operations as those of the Nazi Gestapo or the Soviet KGB often are blurred deliberately. Reporters sometimes have opportunities of learning things the police do not. In a well-run dictatorship the reporters are expected to co-operate with the official agencies—or else. Not infrequently the reporters actually are spies in disguise.

Such a relationship is ruinous to a free press. It makes genuine reporters suspect, allying them with the bureaucracy against the public the press should be protecting. It cuts off channels of confidential communication so important to the effective conduct of news gathering that good reporters go to jail from time to time rather than expose their sources.

There have been disturbing examples recently both here and in Washington of police agents posing as reporters. In Chicago a police informer appeared mysteriously at a carefully arranged meeting between newsmen and members of the East Side Disciples, the South Side gang. The young men were to explain the truce they say they have reached with the rival Blackstone Rangers. This is important information the newspapers and public should have without interference by the police, whose interests by no means are always parallel. Witness the star chamber proceedings before the McClellan subcommittee the police have been feeding.

The Washington case involved FBI agents who posed as TV reporters at an alleged draft-card burning. The broadcasters protested, as they should

have, to Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark. Clark had the good sense in turn to issue an order prohibiting such masquerades in the future.

Police Supt. Conlisk should issue a similar directive in Chicago. Mixing the press with intelligence activities smacks too much of Gestapo methods. In everyone's interest it should be stopped.

CHICAGO DAILY NEWS

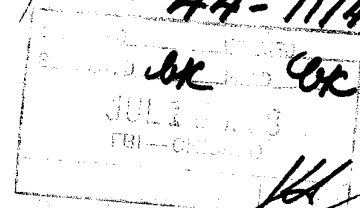
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Visitors at Ray Trial Must Go on Camera

Memphis, July 12 [UPI]—Security plans for the expected trial of accused assassin James Earl Ray call for the voices and faces of every person attending the trial to be recorded on sound and video tape.

Charles Holmes, public relations adviser to Sheriff William Morris, said it would be the first time such a precaution has been taken.

Appealing Extradition

Ray is in a London jail. He is appealing his extradition to Memphis to face charges of murdering Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. April 4.

The trial will be held in one of the five Shelby county criminal courtrooms. The largest of these courtrooms seats just over 100 persons, including the trial principals.

No Panoramic Film

Holmes said each person would be filmed at the entrance to the courtroom, and each would be asked to speak into a microphone. He said there was no plan to make a panoramic film of the courtroom while the trial was in progress and there

would be "no carnival air here."

Most of the public seats are to go to newsmen but reservations, officials say, will be assured for relatives of the defendant and of the family of Dr. King. Sheriff Morris said a segment of the general public will also be seated even if all of the newsmen present at any one time may not be seated.

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Brief Court Date for Ray

LONDON (AP)—James Earl Ray appears in court tomorrow for a routine custody hearing while British lawyers prepare his appeal against an order extraditing him to the United States to stand trial for the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Ray's court-appointed lawyers expect to file the appeal on Wednesday in Britain's High court, on the grounds that the civil rights leader's murder was a political crime and therefore Ray is barred from extradition under British law. A hearing is tentatively set for July 29.

The hearing in Bow street Magistrates court tomorrow is expected to be brief. Under British court procedure, defendants held without bail must be produced in court every seven days to be given a chance to state any objections.

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Daily News exclusive

Ray admits he is Sneyd!

Letter to sister ends puzzle

©1968, The Chicago Daily News

By Jerry Lipson

The Daily News has obtained a copy of a letter written by James Earl Ray after his arrest in connection with the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The two-page, handwritten letter is the first communication from Ray to be made public since his capture last month in London, except for brief statements during court hearings.

The letter removes any doubt that Ray and Ramon George Sneyd, the name under which he was arrested, are the same man.

It also suggests that he originally intended to return voluntarily to the United States for a trial, and implies that he has an independent source

money to cover arrangements for his defense.

THE UNDATED letter was sent from London's Heatfield Road Prison, where Ray has been held, to a married sister who lives in a suburb of St. Louis.

It was signed "Lord R. G. Sneyd."

While government officials working on the King assassination don't doubt that Ray and Sneyd are the same person, the fact that Ray was using an alias has been a point of legal confusion during extradition hearings.

Also, Ray's attorney, Arthur J. Hanes, of Birmingham, Ala., who has visited the accused slayer in London, continues to refer to Ray as Sneyd.

However, Ray's younger brother, John Ray, is convinced that the letter is genuine and was sent by Ray despite the signature "Lord R. G. Sneyd."

John Ray said he based his conclusion on the handwriting and language of the letter and on the personal comments it contained.

"I don't know where he got

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EDITOR: ROY M. FISHER

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the name of Sneyd," John said, "but he had lots of names."

ASKED ABOUT his brother's assumption of the title "Lord," John said:

"That's probably just his little joke."

Even though the letter was addressed to Ray's married sister, it was written in response to a letter sent to Heathfield Road Prison by John Ray, who wanted to assure himself that the man arrested June 9 at London Airport was actually his brother.

"I assumed he was," John said, "but I just wanted to make sure."

"At first I was going to ask him in the letter if he was my brother, but then I was afraid they might not give it to him, or that they might not let him write back."

John said he finally addressed his letter to James Earl Ray, and in it he raised the possibility of visiting his brother in the London prison.

He also said he asked about hiring Texas criminal lawyer Percy Foreman to handle Ray's defense, and discussed action on Ray's appeal of the 20-year armed robbery sentence Ray was serving when he escaped from Missouri State Prison on April 23, 1967.

John Ray, who formerly operated a tavern in southeast St. Louis, visited his brother at Missouri State Prison on April 22, 1967. He dropped out of

sight following Ray's capture in London, and was located by The Chicago Daily News last week.

THE LETTER from James Earl Ray was obtained by The Daily News, and a copy made, during the newspaper's attempt to trace John Ray.

The letter was written on blue-ruled stationery and bore a stamped letterhead reading: "H. M. Prison, Heatherfield Road, Wandsworth, London, S. W. 13."

It said, in part:

"Dear John,

"I will just write a few lines to let you know. Everything is alright. I will probably be back shortly."

"Anyway, don't come over, for one, you couldn't get in, Attorney Hanes couldn't, and two, it's too expensive."

(The reference to Hanes helps date the letter. Hanes arrived in London on June 20, was at first denied a visit with Ray, and eventually met the accused assassin on July 5.)

"ABOUT JUDGE Casey wanting to reverse my case, I don't want it reversed I will explain later, but you know their things are not doing anything to benefit me."

(This apparently is a reference to Circuit Court Judge John G. Casey of St. Louis, who originally sentenced Ray to 20 years in prison and was reported ready to rule on Ray's appeal when Ray broke out of jail.)

"If you could, I would like

for you to give the Attorney Arthur Hanes \$600.00 you can get some of it off Jerry and I will straighten it up with you when I get back."

(Jerry Ray is another brother of the accused man. While the letter inferred they would be reimbursed for the \$600, neither Jerry nor John would speculate on where the money would come from.)

"You mention Percy Foreman. He is a good attorney, but I will wait until I get back as I want some attorneys who can work together, so I will let Hanes decide on someone he thinks would be best."

"I could appeal my extradition hearing but I am getting tired of listening to these liars, so I might close it up about Tuesday."

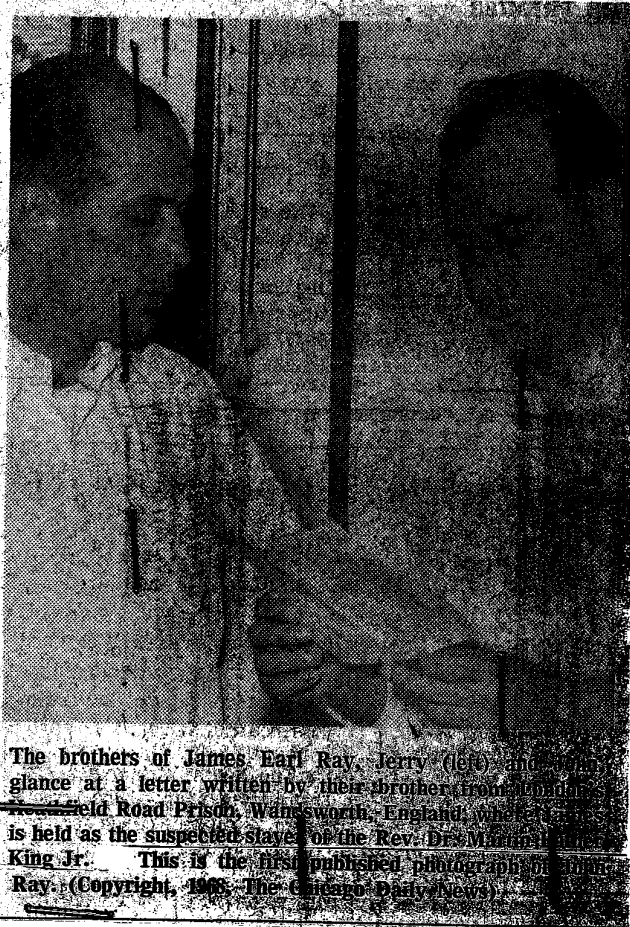
"Lord R. G. Sneyd."

JOHN RAY SAID the letter constituted "strong evidence" that his brother did not kill Dr. King.

"If he really did it, he wouldn't be thinking about signing those extradition papers, would he?" John asked.

A British court ordered Ray extradited to the United States during a hearing on July 2 at which he was represented by a court-appointed attorney.

Since that ruling, due for an appeal July 29, and since his meeting with Hanes, who has agreed to represent him, Ray apparently has decided to fight efforts to return him to this country.



The brothers of James Earl Ray, Jerry (left) and John, glance at a letter written by their brother from Heatherfield Road Prison, Wandsworth, England, where he is held as the suspected slayer of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. This is the first published photograph of John Ray. (Copyright, 1968, The Chicago Daily News)

Ray's letter from prison

In replying to this letter, please

Number 059184 Name SNEYD

H. M. PRISON
HEATHFIELD
WALSLEY
LEICESTER

Dear John

I will just write you a few lines to let you know everything is alright. I will probably be back shortly. My way don't come over for one. You couldn't get in, attorney Hines. Could not and then it is to someone about judge. Casey wants to reverse my case. I don't want it reverse. I will explain later but you know there is things we not doing anything to benefit me. I predicted I would like to pay to give the attorney Arthur Hines \$60000 you can get some of off jury and I will over.

Sincerely, if only
you the whole thing
you mention of
there is a good thing
I will wait until I
as I want to see
who can wait for
go I will let them
decide my independence
would be best
I cannot appeal my case
having the I am
times of living. I
less as I am
it up about everything

Love Dick Sneyd

at address

Arthur J. Hines
617. Brook Wilson Rd.
Birmingham, Alabama 35203
TELEPHONE 334-9536

The Daily News has obtained this copy of a letter written by James Earl Ray after his arrest in London last month. The handwritten letter is the first communication from Ray to be made public since he was taken into custody in connection with the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Ray's letter illuminates two key points: that Ray and Ramon George Sneyd are the same man, and that despite Ray's attempts to prevent his extradition to the United States, he may have originally intended to return voluntarily to face trial. The section deleted from the letter refers to personal matters that the family asked not be made public.



James Earl Ray

HOLD ~~ROUTINE~~ COURT HEARING FOR RAY TODAY

LONDON, July 15 (AP)—James Earl Ray will appear in court tomorrow for a routine custody hearing while British lawyers prepare his appeal against an order extraditing him to the United States to stand trial as the accused assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The court-appointed lawyers expect to file the appeal on Wednesday in Britain's High court, on the grounds that the murder of Dr. King was a political crime and therefore Ray is barred from extradition under British law. A hearing is tentatively set for July 29.

The hearing in Bow street Magistrates court tomorrow is expected to be brief. Under British court procedure, defendants held without bail must be produced in court every seven days to be given a chance to state any objections before a judge.

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CHICAGO TRIBUNE

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New Court Appearance Set for Ray

LONDON (AP) — James Earl Ray made another brief and routine appearance in the Bow Street Magistrate's court and was sent back to Wandsworth jail. Another court appearance for him was set for July 24.

Ray's British lawyers have indicated they will file their appeal tomorrow against Chief Magistrate Frank Milton's order on July 2 that Ray should be extradited to the United States for trial on charges of murdering the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. A hearing on the appeal is tentatively scheduled for July 29.

Ray was brought into court today because British law requires a prisoner denied bail to be brought before a magistrate each week until his case is settled. Ray was composed and chewing gum at his appearance today.

When the magistrate asked of he had anything to say, he replied: "No, sir."

As always when Ray is before the British court, there were elaborate police precautions. Newsmen and spectators were frisked as they entered the courtroom. Detectives scanned the public gallery throughout the hearing.

Hurricane
CHICAGO AMERICAN

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

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Ray ordered held for 8 more days

LONDON (UPI)—A British court Tuesday ordered James Earl Ray, accused slayer of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., held for eight more days on charges of violating gun and passport laws.

Sources close to Ray's defense said his lawyers were running into "Local difficulties" hampering his appeal against a court-ordered extradition to America to stand trial for Dr. King's murder.

Ray's appearance at Bow Street Magistrate's Court was routine. The law says he must be taken before a magistrate every eight days while held

on the charges of carrying a gun and two forged passports, charges on which Ray was arrested June 8.

DEFENSE sources said the "difficulties" they were talking about were not connected with legal obstacles to their contention that Dr. King's slaying was a political crime. Political crimes are not subject to the Anglo-American extradition treaty.

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CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

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Ray's kin will move to Memphis

©1968 Chicago Daily News

By Jerry Lipson

Two brothers of accused assassin James Earl Ray are moving to Memphis, to be near him when, and if, he stands trial for the murder of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

John Ray, 35, said he has turned over to a manager the daily operation of a tavern he owns in southeast St. Louis and expects to rent an apartment in Memphis, probably this week.

He'll be joined by another brother, Jerry, 32, who quit his job with a north suburban country club shortly after James, 40, was identified as the wanted fugitive in the King slaying.

THE RAY brothers prepared to move shortly after receiving a letter from James, written from the London prison where he has been held since his arrest June 9.

The Daily News obtained an exclusive copy of the letter, in which Ray indicated he was ready to return voluntarily to the United States to stand trial.

The letter apparently was written before July 2, when a British court ordered him extradited. Defense lawyers are appealing the decision and a hearing is set for July 29.

JOHN RAY told The Daily News his first move will be to set up a "James Ray Defense Fund" to help pay his brother's legal expenses.

John said he already has rented a post office box in Memphis and was casting about for a local bank to act

as administrator for the fund. The box, No. 938, was rented to Sept. 30.

Ray also said he would place ads in newspapers and magazines to publicize the defense fund.

"There's lots of people who would contribute," the stocky, sandy-haired tavernkeeper said, noting that "20 or 30 people who come in my place have asked about helping out."

"If it was just a question of \$3,000 or \$4,000, I could raise that," John said, "but this is going to cost a lot more than that."

JAMES, in his letter from London's Heathfield Road prison, asked that \$600 be sent to Birmingham attorney Arthur Hanes, and said he would "straighten it up . . . when I get back."

John said the money has not yet been sent.

He said the letter, written in ink on blue-lined stationery, was the first communication from his brother since he escaped April 23, 1967, from the Missouri State Prison.

John said he last saw his older brother on April 22, the day before he broke out by hiding in the bread box of an outbound bakery truck.

CLAD IN a red kni pullover shirt, dark green slacks and polished leather loafers, John Ray sat in a motel in a southern city and recalled that last meeting.

"I guess we talked about an hour. He seemed in good spirits, but I never actually saw him brood in my whole life. He wasn't that way."

John was vague on details of that meeting, but he said James gave no indication of any plans for an imminent escape.

"I knew he wanted to get out though. I could tell. They nicknamed him 'The Mole' because he tried to escape so much."

JAMES RAY twice tried to flee the forbidding grey stone fortress in Jefferson City, Mo., before he finally made it after serving 7 years of a 20-year sentence for armed robbery.

However, John Ray said he saw no connection between the escape and any plot to murder King.

"All the time I talked to him, he never mentioned King at any time. I don't know if he had any opinions on him," John said of his brother.

JOHN SAID that, despite a record of armed robbery convictions, his brother never used a pistol on any of his victims.

Recalling a police chase in 1959 after a supermarket hold-up in Alton, Ill., John said, "Even when they were shooting at him he never fired back. He threw his gun away."

This is why, he said, he doesn't believe his brother is the man who shot King as the civil rights leader stood on the

balcony of a motel in downtown Memphis.

Ray accused federal officials of trying to "frame" his brother. "Before they got him, everyone said it was a big conspiracy. Now they say he did it all by himself."

AFTER HIS brother was arrested, John said, he avoided reporters because "they were driving business away from my tavern."

He went into virtual hiding, staying away from the tavern

and having his telephone disconnected.

But now he said he is re-emerging because "I want to do all I can to help him."

Newman

CHICAGO DAILY NEWS

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

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Ray Agrees to Return to Face Trial

LONDON, July 16 (AP)—James Earl Ray abandoned his fight against extradition today. He agreed to return to the United States for trial on charges of assassinating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Michael Eugene, his British attorney, said Ray signed a statement accepting extradition rather than pursuing an appeal in the British High court. A Magistrate's court issued an order July 2 for his extradition.

The statement was signed in an irregular hand, "Ramon George Sneyd," the name under which Ray has been held here since his arrest at London airport June 8.

Flying to London

Ray's American lawyer, Arthur J. Hanes Jr. of Birmingham, Ala., is flying to London in hopes of accompanying Ray back to the United States. Hanes is due in London tomorrow morning. Ray is expected to be on a plane to the United States within a day after that.

He will be sent home under heavy guard, probably on a special aircraft, either an American military plane or a civilian jet chartered by the United States government. Then he is to be turned over to authorities in Tennessee for trial in Memphis on charges of assassinating the Negro leader there last April 4.

Ray's statement, signed this morning at a conference with his court-appointed British lawyer, cut short a complicated legal case. Ray was contending that King's murder was a political crime and therefore he could not be extradited under

British law.

Told Hopes Were Slim

Apparently he decided several days ago to drop his appeal, which had been set for the High court before three British judges on July 29. He had been advised by his lawyers here that the appeal had little chance of success, altho they wanted to go thru with it to help clarify British extradition law.

People who have talked to Ray in Wandsworth prison recently said he had been growing restless and tired of waiting, especially after two months on the run following King's murder and months before that dodging the police after escaping from the Missouri state prison. However, he has protested his innocence of the killing thruout, and his visitors said he was ready to return to the United States to start preparing for the trial.

Writes to Brother

Last week he wrote a brother in the United States telling him to arrange payment as an advance for Hanes' legal fees. Then he remarked: "I could appeal my extradition hearing, but I am getting tired of listening to these liars so I might close it up about Tuesday?"

Ray's British lawyers knew about this letter and questioned him about his feelings. The "liars" he referred to apparently were the British police, who have quoted him as saying "O. God, I feel so alone after his arrest. He denied saying anything like that." Ray's additional lawyer, who reported to have told Ray he wanted him back in the United States soon, said that was

the defense case could begin in earnest. During their meetings in prison here, the Alabama lawyer and his client have not been able to confer out of earshot of British prison officials.

Extradition Warrant Signed

Ray's formal statement will be handed to the British home office, which already has the extradition warrant signed two weeks ago by Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Frank Milton. When the two documents are submitted to Home Secretary James Callaghan, probably tomorrow, he will be able to sign the final papers turning Ray over to the United States authorities here.

The statement read:

"I, Ramon George Sneyd, state that I wish to forego my appeal to the divisional court

of the High Court of Justice for a writ of habeas corpus, and that I have decided of my own accord voluntarily to submit to the extradition order made against me.

"I have made this decision after considering all the facts, and I believe that this is the best course of action for me to adopt."

He finished by expressing his thanks for the "advice and assistance" he had received from his British lawyer, who then signed the typed one-page statement.

There was no indication of whether Ray would appeal his extradition hearing in the British High court, but it was understood that he would not. His decision was expected to speed up the extradition process. Ray's British lawyer, who reported to have told Ray he wanted him back in the United States soon, said that was

week. He has been known to be connected with various groups on charges of entering the country under a false Canadian passport and carrying an unlicensed gun.

Police say they will search on the books but not arrested. "I am going to be extradited back here to be on them," he said.

In fact, Ray had signed his statement before the court appeared

R. Hanes

CHICAGO TRIBUNE

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(Signature)

Ray Ends Court Battle, To Return To U.S.

LONDON (AP) — James Earl Ray abandoned his fight against extradition Tuesday. He agreed to return to the United States voluntarily for trial on charges of assassinating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Michael Eugene, his British attorney, said Ray signed a statement accepting extradition instead of pursuing an appeal in the British High Court. A Magistrate's Court issued an order July 2 for his extradition.

The statement was signed in an irregular hand "Ramon George Sneyd," the alias under which Ray has been held here since his arrest at London Airport June 8.

Lawyer Flies Over

Ray's American lawyer, Arthur J. Hanes Jr. of Birmingham, Ala. is flying to London in the hope of accompanying Ray back to the United States. Hanes is due in London Wednesday morning. Ray is expected to be on a plane to the United States a day or two

after that.

He will be sent home under heavy guard, probably on a special aircraft, either an American military plane or a civilian jet chartered by the U.S. government. Then he is to be turned over to authorities in Tennessee for trial in Memphis on charges of assassinating the Negro leader there last April 4.

Complicated Case

Ray's statement, signed Tuesday morning during a conference with his court appoint-

ed British lawyer, cut short a complicated legal case. Ray was contending that Dr. King's murder was a political crime and therefore he could not be extradited under British law.

Tired Of Waiting

But he apparently decided several days ago to drop his appeal, which had been set for the High Court before three judges on July 29.

People who have talked to Ray in Wandsworth Prison recently said he had been growing restless and tired of wait-

ing, especially after two months on the run following Dr. King's murder and months before that dodging the police as an escaped convict from the Missouri State Prison.

But he has protested his innocence of the killing throughout, and they said he was ready to return to the United States to start preparing for the trial.

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Ray may be back in U.S. by weekend

order issued July 2 by the
chief metropolitan magistrate,
Frank Milton.

LONDON (UPI) — James Earl Ray, giving up his fight against extradition to America to stand trial for the slaying of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., could be in a Memphis jail by this weekend, his lawyer said Wednesday.

Michael Eugene, Ray's British lawyer, said his client may be flown back to the United States Thursday or Friday.

Eugene said Ray had decided "of his own accord" not to appeal. Eugene did not say why.

(A letter to one of Ray's brothers, reported exclusively Monday by The Chicago Daily News, indicated that Ray earlier had considered giving up the fight to prevent extradition.)

Wednesday is the deadline for filing an appeal of the extradition order.

EUGENE SAID Ray's American lawyer, Arthur Hanes Sr., former mayor of Birmingham, Ala., flew from America Wednesday and probably will accompany Ray back to the United States.

"He (Ray) has decided to instruct us not to lodge any papers regarding the application for a writ of habeas corpus," Eugene said. Such a writ in Britain is the equivalent of an appeal in extradition cases.

Ray's one-page, typewritten statement used the alias with which all British proceedings have identified him.

RAY'S RETURN depends on when Home Sec. James Callaghan signs the extradition

Dumaine

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Ray Gives Up Extradition Fight

BY COLIN FROST

LONDON (P) — James Earl Ray may be on his way back to the United States tonight or early tomorrow to face trial for the killing of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

Ray cleared the way for his return by signing a declaration yesterday that he did not want to appeal the order for his extradition issued by London's chief magistrate on July 2.

It was not known whether Ray's lawyers would deliver his statement to the home office or whether they would let the 15-day period for him to file an appeal expire this afternoon without taking further action.

In either case, Home Secretary James Callaghan could sign the order for Ray's extradition before nightfall. He would then be delivered to the United States justice department for the trans-Atlantic flight.

U. S. or Chartered Plane

Informed sources said the journey would be made aboard a United States government plane or a chartered civil jet, with Ray under heavy guard.

Ray's American lawyer, Arthur J. Hanes of Birmingham, Ala., was due in London this morning. He may ask to accompany his client back to the United States, but United States officials indicated this request would be turned down.

Ray's decision not to appeal the extradition order came as a surprise after a routine court hearing yesterday at which he sat quietly while his British lawyers agreed to have him held in prison another 8 days on charges he owed Britain an alleged Canadian passport and carried an unlicensed gun.

Best Course of Action

These were the charges on which he was arrested June 8 at London airport, ending a 2-month, world-wide search after the slaying of the civil rights leader April 4 in Memphis.

Ray's British lawyers had been preparing an appeal based on the contention that King's slaying was a political crime and that Ray therefore could not be extradited under British law. A hearing on the appeal had been tentatively set for June 29 even though it had not yet been filed.

In his declaration saying he would submit to extradition, Ray wrote: "I have made this decision after considering all the facts, and I believe that this is the best course of action for me to adopt."

Restless and Tired

The declaration was signed "Ramon George Sneyd," the alias on the passport Ray used and the name under which he was held in Britain.

People who talked to Ray recently in Wandsworth jail said he had been growing restless and tired of waiting after months on the run.

They said he consistently claimed he is innocent of the killing.

Other possible factors in Ray's decision were British refusal to continue free legal aid for his appeal and the fact that, in preparing for the trial in Memphis, he and Hanes could talk only in the presence of British prison officials.

Last week Ray wrote a brother in the United States telling him to arrange an advance payment to Hanes. Then he remarked: "I could appeal my extradition hearing, but I am getting tired of listening to these liars and I might close it up about Tuesday."

Ray's British lawyers knew about this letter and questioned him about his feelings. The "liars" he referred to apparently were the British police who have charged him with slaying after his arrest.

Ray denied saying anything like that.

Since his arrest, about a dozen Scotland Yard detectives have been tracing his movements in London.

Police informants said the detectives found no evidence here that Ray was involved in any conspiracy.

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Top Secret Flight Back to U.S. Planned for Ray

BY COLIN FROST

LONDON (AP) — American authorities pursued top secret plans today for a quick return to the United States of James Earl Ray to face trial for the assassination in Memphis of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Ray may be on his way tonight or early tomorrow.

"I suspect the first word that Ray has left London will be news of his actual arrival in Memphis," one source said.

Ray cleared the way for his return by signing a declaration yesterday that he did not want to appeal the order for his extradition issued July 2 by London's chief magistrate, Frank Milton.

Under Heavy Guard

The 40-year-old prisoner, a fugitive from Missouri state penitentiary who denied he killed King, spent his remaining hours in London's Wandsworth prison under heavy guard.

Ray's American lawyer, Arthur J. Hanes of Birmingham, Ala., flew to London to have a talk with him. Hanes was believed hoping to accompany his client back to the United States, but American officials indicated such a request would be turned down.

Morale Very High

Informed sources speculated Ray would be flown back with a heavy guard aboard a United States military plane or a chartered civilian jet.

Hanes, accompanied by Ray's British lawyer, Michael Eugene, met Ray for 45 minutes inside Wandsworth.

"His morale is very high,"

Hanes said as he left the jail. "He is feeling all right."

It was not known whether Ray's lawyers would deliver his statement to the home office or whether they would let the 15-day period for him to file an appeal expire this afternoon without taking further action.

In either case, Home Secretary James Callaghan could sign the order for Ray's extradition before nightfall. He would then be delivered to the United States justice department for the trans-Atlantic flight.

Ray's decision not to appeal the extradition order came as a surprise after a routine court hearing yesterday at which he sat quietly while his British lawyers agreed to have him held in prison another 8 days on charges he entered Britain on a forged Canadian passport and carried an unlicensed gun.

"Best Course of Action"

These were the charges on which he was arrested June 8 at London airport, ending a

2-month, world-wide search after the slaying of the civil rights leader April 4 in Memphis.

In his declaration saying he would submit to extradition, Ray wrote: "I have made this decision after considering all the facts, and I believe that this is the best course of action for me to adopt."

The declaration was signed "Ramon George Sneyd," the alias on the passport Ray used and the name under which he was held in Britain.

Restless and Tired

People who talked to Ray recently in Wandsworth jail said he had been growing restless and tired of waiting after months on the run.

They said he consistently claimed he is innocent of the killing.

Last week Ray wrote a brother in the United States telling him to arrange an advance payment to Hanes. Then he remarked: "I could appeal my extradition hearing, but I am getting tired of listening to these liars and I might close it up about Tuesday."

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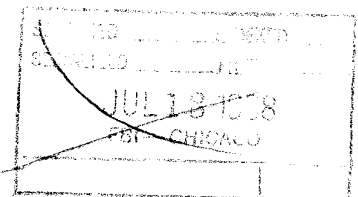
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[AP Wirephoto]

LONDON—Arthur J. Hanes [right], American attorney for James Earl Ray, walks with the suspect's British lawyer, Michael Eugene, at London airport.



Britain Speeds Steps to Return Ray for Trial

BY COLIN FROST

LONDON (P)—Minor British charges against James Earl Ray were dropped today, bringing his extradition to the United States a step closer.

Home Secretary James Callaghan prepared to sign the extradition order returning the 40-year-old escaped convict to the United States to face trial on a charge of murdering the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

The extradition order was issued by Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Frank Milton on July 2. Ray decided on Tuesday not to appeal. The 15-day period for filing an appeal expired yesterday.

Keep Timing Secret

The time of Ray's departure for America is a closely guarded secret. Unofficial reports said an air force transport was standing by at Northolt, a United States air base west of London, to take the prisoner and an escort of United States marshals to Memphis, where the Negro civil rights leader was shot April 4.

The two British charges on which Ray had been held since his arrest at London Airport June 8 were dropped at a brief hearing in the Bow Street Magistrate's court, the site of all the British legal processes concerning Ray.

Drop Gun Charge

The charges were using a forged Canadian passport, under the name of Ramon George Sneyd, and carrying a loaded

gun for which he had no license.

Ray was not in court today.

Ray's American attorney, Arthur J. Hanes, arrived in London yesterday and complained that the United States justice department had refused to let him accompany Ray back to the United States. Hanes, a former mayor of Birmingham, Ala., said his client was afraid to be alone with justice department men.

"I don't know the basis of the fear," said the lawyer, "but he says it and he wants me to be present."

Fears FBI Quiz

"I applied some weeks ago to go back in the plane with him and that he should not be questioned or interrogated by FBI men without my being present."

"This was refused. It is a violation of my client's constitutional rights."

"I shall apply again for permission to fly back with him. Even if I am not allowed on the plane, I want to be allowed to spend a few hours with my client before he will be immediately put up in court in Memphis."

Hanes spent 45 minutes with

Ray inside London's Wandsworth jail yesterday. But the lawyer said that it was difficult to talk because British prison officers always were within hearing.

"He Is Innocent"

Hanes said Ray waived appeal on the advice of Hanes "because he is innocent and wants to get back to the states as quickly as possible to prove it."

Hanes charged that Ray is the target of an "unprecedented, vicious, and libelous press and television campaign to portray him as a convicted murderer, a monster, a degenerate, and a dope addict."

Asserting that no one is guilty until proved guilty, the lawyer said, "Once my client is in Memphis, where he can confer daily with me and others, we will find the whole truth and establish it."

Security arrangements are being grushed at the Shelby County jail in downtown Memphis, where Ray will be lodged once he is returned.

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RAY IS BEING FLOWN TO U.S.

LONDON (AP)—James Earl Ray, wanted in the Memphis assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was flown out of Britain Friday to stand trial in the United States. A reliable source said Ray took off from an airfield close to London shortly after midnight. The U.S. Embassy confirmed that he had left Britain.

Arthur J. Hanes, the Birmingham (Ala.) attorney who has taken on Ray's defense, said he planned to return to the United States later Friday.

Hanes had battled without success for permission to accompany Ray on the journey back.

Taken To U.S. Base

Ray was taken late Thursday night from Wandsworth jail in London and convoyed under heavy guard to a major U.S. air base north of London, sources said.

The plane was expected to reach Memphis in the early morning darkness.

U.S. authorities were expected to hand Ray over to Tennessee officers before daylight in the United States.

In Memphis, Ray faces charges of first-degree murder

in the April 4 assassination...

The presumption in London was that Ray was flown under guard of U.S. marshals. But security around the operation was so tight that this could not be confirmed immediately and even the air base from which the takeoff was scheduled could not be named.

Top Officers Go Along

High-ranking Scotland Yard officers accompanied the hush-hush convoy that whisked Ray out of London. The convoy headed across the Thames River toward the capital's main northern exit routes.

About 60 miles to the north lies a complex of bases, built before and during World War II, which now handle much of the American Air Force flight

er and transport traffic in Britain.

At Mildenhall, on the Cambridge-Suffolk border, the United States maintains a major transport base capable of handling the largest transatlantic jets.

American officials refused a request by Hanes even to speak to Ray once he was in U.S. custody.

Hanes said U.S. officials refused to give him an explanation of their refusal. But he made it clear that Ray feared U.S. officials would try to interrogate him during the flight about circumstances surrounding Dr. King's assassination, possibly raising questions about any conspiracy.

"I just told him to keep his mouth shut," Hanes said.

British courts Friday cleared away the last of the formalities that have prevented Ray's transfer to the United States since his arrest in London June 8.

Dedmon
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Ray Flown from England to Face Memphis Trial

BY ARTHUR VEYSEY

Chief of London Bureau

[Chicago Tribune Press Service]

LONDON, July 19 [Friday]—James Earl Ray was secretly flown from Britain today under guard to stand trial in Memphis, Tenn., for the murder April 4 of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

American authorities took custody of the prisoner from his British jailers. They put him aboard an official American aircraft at an unknown point in England.

United States authorities were expected to hand Ray over to Tennessee officers before daylight in the United States.

Ray was wearing a new shirt and tie supplied by his American defense lawyer, Arthur

Hanes "to make him look smart."

Britain dropped its charges of carrying a gun and possession of a fake Canadian passport, stripped Ray of the name, Ramon George Sneyd, used on the passport when he was arrested at London airport 41 days ago. An extradition order was signed for Ray's return to the United States.

It was as James Earl Ray, an escaped convict, that Britain handed him over to American marshals.

Hanes flew here to accompany Ray to Memphis, but was barred by the American department of justice from boarding the plane. When asked today if he admitted his client was Ray

and not Sneyd, Hanes said, "I'm not admitting anything."

Hanes said his farewell advice to Ray at Wandsworth

prison yesterday morning was, "Keep your mouth shut."

"That's all I told him,"

Hanes said "I don't want him talking to justice department

agents about anything, not even the weather."

Hanes said his client feared that the Federal Bureau of Investigation might use the 7½ hours on the plane to interrogate him. Once in Memphis, Hanes said, government agents will be able to talk to Ray only when Hanes or Hanes' son, Arthur Jr., are present.

The lawyer said he expected the trial would take place in October or November. He said he was satisfied with its being held in Memphis and the

chances of his asking for a change of venue "are very remote."

Hanes said he planned to return to the United States later today.

Prepare Suite of Cells

[N. Y. Times-Chicago Tribune Service]

Memphis, July 19 [Friday]—A suite of cells with quarter-inch steel armor across the windows was prepared yesterday for James Earl Ray.

Floodlights lit the cell block

on the third floor of the Criminal Courts building last night while deputy sheriffs patrolled all sides of the five-story building.

Washington street in front of the courts and jail building was closed to traffic.



James Earl Ray

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Ray flown to Memphis for trial

MEMPHIS (UPI) — James Earl Ray was flown Friday from England to this Mississippi River city where he is charged with killing the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. April 4.

Ray arrived aboard an Air Force C-135 at Memphis's naval air station at 4:37 a.m. and was immediately taken to the Shelby County Jail.

Ray was guarded on the flight by FBI agents. Scotland Yard agents had escorted him to the British airfield, about 60 miles from London, from which the plane departed.

ONCE HE WAS in Memphis, Ray was hustled into a blue and white armored car by federal agents.

With blue dome light flashing, the armored car sped to the heavily-guarded jail in downtown Memphis. Seven patrol cars and seven motorcycles flanked the armored car.

Several minutes before the car arrived at the jail, more than a dozen sheriff's deputies several armed with shotguns, lined the back entrance to the building. Then an unmarked car roared up, and five men leaped out with submachine-guns and stationed themselves at the entrance.

When the car swerved into the jail parking lot and stopped at the jail door, several uniformed officers jumped out.

A COUNTY bus, purposely parked in front of the entrance, obscured the view of newsmen, kept across the street by

the strict security.

There were ~~gambled~~ shouts and a flurry of activity around the armored car. Then, four minutes after it arrived, the car pulled away.

Ray's handover to U.S. authorities came Thursday night after British Home Sec. James Callaghan had signed an extradition order handed down July 2 by London's Chief Magistrate Frank Milton.

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Ray flown to Memphis for trial

MEMPHIS (UPI) — James Earl Ray, the accused assassin of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was flown in secrecy from England Friday and lodged in a steel-plated cell equipped with air conditioning and a Princess telephone.

Guarded by an army of police, the 40-year-old suspect arrived at the Shelby County Jail wearing a bulletproof vest and heavy dungaree-type pants, which police referred to as "safety pants." His hands were cuffed in front of him and the cuffs attached to a broad belt around his waist.

The cell door slammed shut behind him just 3½ months to the day after King was killed by a single sniper's bullet while he stood on the balcony of a Memphis motel.

THE SECURITY attending Ray's transfer from British to U.S. authority and incarceration here was as tight as federal and local officials could make it.

Ray was handed into U.S. custody in the dead of the night in London and put aboard a special C-135 Air Force plane for the dark, non-stop, nine-hour flight across the Atlantic.

The plane left Lincoln Heath Airport 38 minutes past midnight and, because of the time difference, picked up five hours in the crossing. It landed at Millington Naval Air Station outside Memphis at 3:37 a.m. (Chicago time).

Up to this point, Ray had been in federal custody, but

11 minutes after the plane landed, the suspect was turned over to the Shelby County Sheriff's Department.

The transfer took place aboard the airplane and the suspect then was rushed by armored car to the Shelby County Jail, where he was finally placed behind bars at 4:38 a.m.

He is expected to be brought to trial in October.

SHERIFF William M. Morris Jr., 35, upon assuming custody of Ray, said the suspect appeared to be physically fit.

Morris disclosed that Criminal Court Judge W. Preston Battle had been selected as the presiding judge in the case.

Morris, speaking at a news conference, then read a long court order from Judge Battle forbidding all principals in the case to take part "in interviews for publicity and from making extra-judicial statements" until such time as a verdict is rendered.

Ray's place of confinement is a four-cell suite with a lavatory of its own, a telephone and air conditioning. It has been newly painted in green tones and equipped with two television monitors to permit police to keep a constant watch on Ray.

ONE JAIL source said the 300 other prisoners in the jail were complaining about the special facilities for Ray, but explained that the telephone is considered to be for the use of guards and to counter any charge that Ray was being held incommunicado.

The air conditioning, it was explained, was installed because steel plates had been installed over the cell windows cutting off air circulation.

Ray was arrested in London June 8 after one of the most intensive manhunts in American history.

Upon his arrival in Memphis,

he was put into a blue and white armored car. Escorted by six patrol cars and seven motorcycle policemen, the car sped directly to the jail.

Several minutes before the car arrived at the jail, more than a dozen sheriff's deputies, several armed with shotguns, lined the back entrance to the building. Then an unmarked car roared up, and five men leaped out with submachine-guns and stationed themselves at the entrance.

When the car swerved into the jail parking lot and stopped at the jail door, several uniformed officers jumped out.

A **COUNTY** bus, purposely parked in front of the entrance, obscured the view of newsmen, kept across the street by the strict security.

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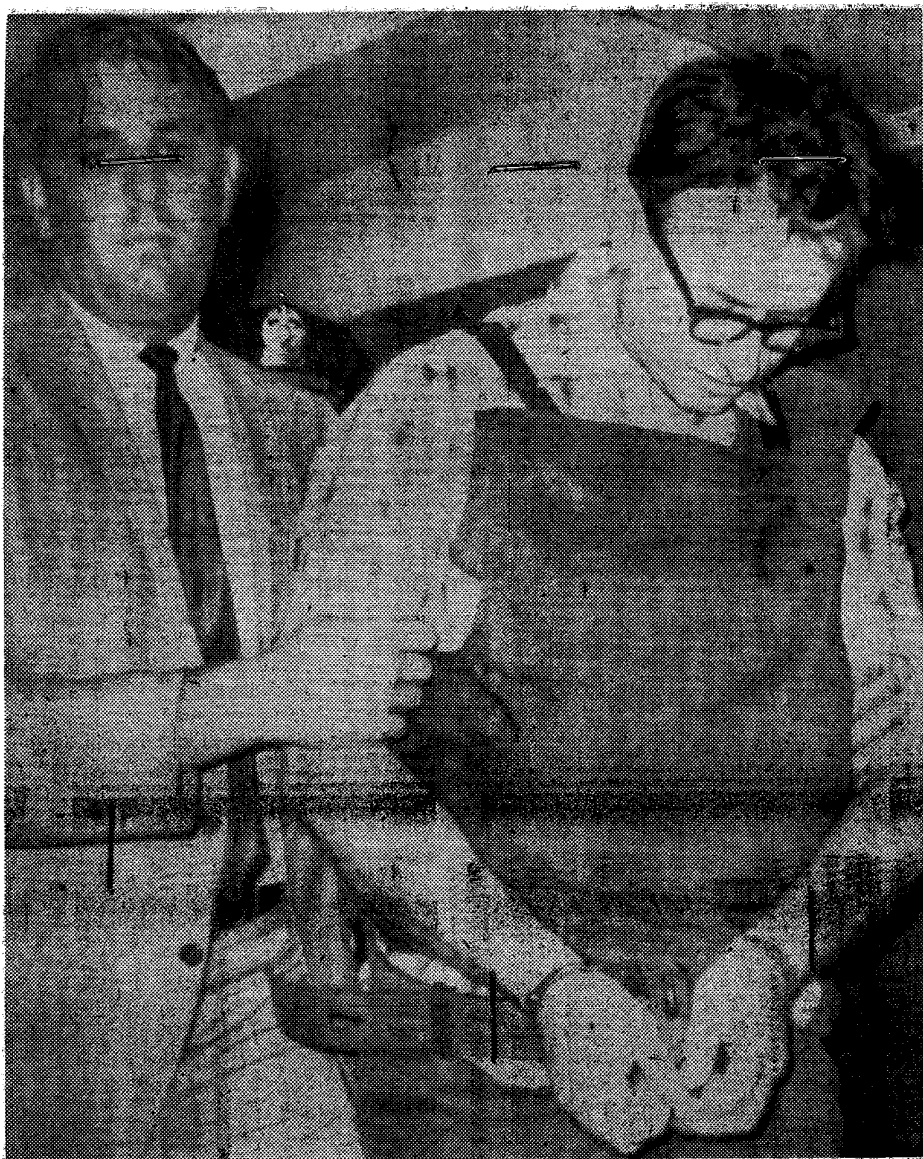
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James Earl Ray is led to a Memphis cell by Sheriff William Morris. He is wearing a bulletproof vest. (UPI)