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U.S. faces delay in retrieving Ray

LONDON (UPI) — Efforts to return James Earl Ray to the United States for trial in the slaying of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. may run into a sea of delay and difficulty because of Britain's complex extradition laws, legal sources said Saturday.

The language of the 1870 law is vague on the subject of political assassination, the sources said, and it will require U.S. authorities to present strong evidence that Ray is responsible for the civil rights leader's death.

THE LEGAL sources said framers of Britain's extradition laws sought to exclude political assassination from offenses of a "political character" — and therefore not subject to extradition — but the language used was vague.

They also said U.S. authorities must go before the court with prima facie evidence of his guilt—not just suspicion—before he can be sent to America, the sources said.

Lawyers from both nations planned to meet Monday to

set a date for the hearings on the United States' extradition request. Meanwhile Ray was under heavy guard in the maximum security wing of South London's Wandsworth Prison.

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(Signature)

Brother Hints At Conspiracy Plot For James Ray

By Art Petacque

Jerry Ray, a brother of the man accused of killing Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., hinted Friday that James Earl Ray will plead insanity when he is brought to trial for murder.



He said "something went wrong" with his older brother when he was committed for five weeks in the Missouri State Hospital at Fulton for psychiatric examination.

The examination was made in 1966 while James Ray was in the Missouri State Prison at Jefferson City.

Jerry Ray, 32, made the comments in a taped interview for Kup's Show (Channel 7, 12:45 a.m. Sunday).

Shows Improvement

He said hospital authorities asked him for permission to give James Earl Ray shock treatments but he refused to sign the necessary papers.

James Earl Ray, his brother said, was transferred back to prison after "showing improvement."

As he did in an earlier exclusive interview in The Sun-Times, Jerry Ray said he believed the Dr. King killing was "a giant conspiracy" in which his brother somehow had been "used."

He said he hoped to see his brother "as soon as possible" after he is extradited from

London, where he was captured June 8.

James Earl Ray, who has been charged with conspiracy and murder in the King slaying, had been sought since shortly after the Nobel Peace Prize winner and civil rights leader was shot down April 4 in Memphis. He was arrested by Scotland Yard police at a London airport and was carrying Canadian passports giving his name as Ramon George Sneyd.

A Killer For Pay?

It has not been explained how Ray, previously described as poor, obtained the money to travel to Europe. There has

been speculation he obtained aid from conspirators and even might have been a paid assassin.

Missouri authorities confirmed that Ray had undergone a psychiatric examination from Sept. 8, 1966, to Oct. 17, 1966.

Ray had asked the examination just before standing Circuit Court trial for his second escape attempt from the state prison where he was serving a 20-year-term for robbery.

"He was concerned about

his mental health because he said it didn't make sense for him to do what he was doing," (trying to escape) said McCormick V. Wilson, Ray's on a truck.

Only One Question

Dr. Donald B. Peterson, hospital superintendent, said he was asked to determine only whether Ray was mentally capable of standing trial.

"He showed no more ner-

vousness than the average person awaiting trial," Dr. Peterson said. "He was rather reserved but we just didn't

find anything unusual."

Dr. Peterson said examinations showed nothing in Ray's background or mental make-up to indicate anything other than a habitual criminal.

"His crimes were all associated with money," Dr. Peterson said. "We didn't find anything to indicate he was a killer or had tendencies to kill."

Repeats His Opinions

Ray escaped from the state prison on April 13, 1967, by hiding in a 3-by-5-foot breadbox on a truck.

Jerry Ray, described by authorities as the person closest

to James Earl Ray, has been living in a Lake Forest apartment while working as a night janitor at Sportsman Country Club, a suburban Northbrook.

Family Makes Plans

He repeated in the taped interview what he had told The Sun-Times previously that his brother was neither a killer nor a racist.

Jerry Ray said he hopes to be able to talk to his brother and urge him to tell the full story of his involvement, if any, in the Dr. King slaying.

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Ray will die in secret, says brother

By Jerry Lipson

James Earl Ray, accused assassin of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., will take to the grave any information he has on the slaying of his brother, Jerry, 32, told The Daily News.

Jerry Ray said police "will never find out what it's all about from Jimmy—he's not going to name names."

"Even if he goes to the electric chair, he's gonna die with that secret," Jerry said with pride as he sipped from a can of beer in a motel room on Milwaukee Av. near Wheeling.

It seemed a point of honor that his brother would not talk. Jerry said he himself had chosen to do five years

in the Missouri State Prison rather than seek a lighter sentence by identifying the two men who had joined him in a service station burglary in 1956.

"IT'S HARD not to talk," he said with a small smile, "but a person has to live with himself."

He drew satisfaction from professing he ran with the "solid" guys in prison, and not with the "rats."

Jerry Ray denied reports that he had appealed to his brother to surrender.

"I'd never ask him to do that, and he knows it."

Jerry said it would have been unwise for his brother to surrender even if he was

found innocent in the King case, he would still face 18 years on jail-break charges.

HE PREDICTED his brother would plead not guilty should he eventually come to trial in Memphis. He shrugged at reports of a possible insanity plea based on mental tests James underwent while in prison.

James was serving a 20-year term for armed robbery when he escaped April 23, 1967, from Missouri State Prison at Jefferson City by hiding in a bread box on a bakery truck.

"There was nothing insane about my brother," Jerry said in a rare display of emotion. "They wanted to give him

shock treatments, but I wouldn't let them. I know what they can do. They're supposed to break you down."

JAMES TRIED to explain why he refuses to believe his soft-spoken brother could have pulled the trigger on Dr. King.

"He just wasn't that kind. In all the jobs he pulled, he never hurt anybody," he said.

If anything, the younger Ray added, "Jimmy was set up as a 'decoy' to throw police off the trail of the real assassin."

"That's the only way I can figure the money. He never had that kind of money before. Somebody must have paid him to take the name of Galt and spread it around."

"He never used that name

before in his life," Jerry added. "and it couldn't have been his own money he was spending . . . he was conservative with that."

RAY REFERRED to reports that his accused brother had paid \$2,000 for a white Mustang car in Alabama.

"If that had been Jimmy's own money, he'd have tried to beat the man down, but I understand he just pulled out a roll of cash and gave it to the salesman."

Ray also discounted reports that James was the Eric Starvo Galt who took dancing lessons in New Orleans in 1964 and in Los Angeles in 1967.

"I never saw Jimmy dance in my life. He was not only a

loner, he was shy and the ball type."

In addition, Ray added, "this brother was in jail in New Orleans when they say he was."

DEPICTING the older Ray as a "cool and tough" character, who planned ahead but acted largely out of impulse, Jerry Ray expressed strong doubts that James' escape was planned or had anything to do with a plot to slay Dr. King.

"He probably didn't even know he was going to break out until he got into that bakery truck," Ray said, adding his brother's escape was not

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reported for several days because British authorities thought he was lying on the grounds something he had done before.

"He must have just run into someone who gave him so much money and told him to

travel around with the name of Galt and spread a trail," Ray said.

JERRY TALKED to The Daily News as he prepared to go to St. Louis where another brother, John, operates a tavern.

There they will await the return from London of the oldest of seven living children of George and Lucille Ray.

"He'll have a lawyer, but I don't think we'll have to hire one," Ray said. He expressed hope the publicity of the case would attract a top-level lawyer to take the case without

fee just to prove he's not guilty. An awful lot of people don't think he did it."

But if a Melvin Belli or an F. Lee Bailey doesn't appear, Ray said he and his brother would "come up with the money somehow" to hire their own counsel."



Jerry Ray

Walter Winchell

Hunt for Ray Cost FBI 1.4 Millions

The FBI literally covered the world
in its hunt for the alleged slayer of Dr. Martin Luther
King. The hunt cost more than 1.4 million dollars to date.

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Ray Starts His Extradition fight; British Court Sets June 27 Trial

LONDON (AP)—James Earl Ray began a legal fight Tuesday against extradition to the United States to face the charge of assassinating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The 40-year-old escaped convict sat silently in a well-guarded dock while his British lawyer asked London's Bow Street Court for as much time as possible to prepare for the extradition hearing.

Judge Frank Milton gave him until June 27, the date he set for the hearing to begin.

Shows No Emotion

As attorneys representing the United States presented their extradition request to Milton, Ray said barely a word and displayed not a flicker of emotion in the eight-minute session. He was dressed in a neat, blue-checked suit and wore heavy-rimmed glasses and was surrounded by policemen.

Milton addressed Ray only

once, to inform him of when the formal hearing on the extradition request would be held and that he would continue to be held in custody.

Ray replied quietly, "Thank you."

Roger Frisby, the British lawyer defending Ray, told Milton he wanted as much time as possible to prepare, but Milton said he thought it "highly desirable that an early date be fixed." They compromised on June 27.

Another Lawyer Due

An American lawyer is due in London later this week to discuss preparation of Ray's defense if he is extradited to Tennessee to stand trial. Dr. King was slain in Memphis on April 4.

The lawyer is Arthur J. Hanes, former mayor of Birmingham, Ala., and a segregationist who defended three men accused of murdering Viola Gregg Luizzo, a civil rights worker, in Alabama three years ago. Asked about payment for Ray's defense, Hanes said he "understands this man has funds."

2 Appeals Open

The British attorneys representing the United States said they would produce a

fingerprint expert at the extradition hearing, presumably to testify on Ray's identity. The rest of the hearing, which will probably last one day, is expected to be taken up with a review of the case against Ray.

If Milton grants extradition, Ray could still appeal to the High Court and then the House of Lords. Such appeals usually are based on the argument that the case against the defendant is a political one. British extradition law forbids surrender of suspects in political cases.

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Hints of Plot Cloud Probe of King Death

BY MARTIN WALDRON
[A NEW YORK TIMES SPECIAL]

MEMPHIS — From the moment of the assassination of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. on April 4 evidence has accumulated to suggest that he was the victim of a conspiracy.

Several bits of evidence indicate more than one person may have been involved. Others point to the possibility that the assassin may have been a hired killer.

Among the indications that there may have been a conspiracy are these items:

A vivid description broadcast over the Memphis police radio network on the night of April 4 of an auto chase that never took place.

The finding of a duplicate driver's license in Alabama.

A trail of free spending left by Eric S. Galt, an alias used by Ray.

Three other aliases the FBI contends Ray—or some other individual — used in the United States and in Canada.

KING WAS SHOT at 6:01 p. m. as he stood on the balcony of the Lorraine hotel and motel in Memphis.

Police discovered almost immediately that the assassin apparently fired from the bathroom of a cheap rooming house 200 feet from the motel. At 6:20 p. m. a description of an auto chase supposedly taking place in northeast Memphis was broadcast over the citizens band radio used by Memphis businesses.

The broadcast occurred just after the police radio broadcast information that the killer of King might have fled in a white Mustang automobile.

A 22-year-old part-time student, who asked that his identity not be made public, gave a detailed statement on April 11 about the "chase."

"ABOUT 6:20 P. M., I was eastbound on Jackson at Springdale [two Memphis streets]," the student said in his statement. "An unidentified C. B. [citizens band] mobile operator called for a phone call to the police department.

"A base station in south Memphis answered his call and wanted to know what message to give the police. At the time, skip conditions [interference] interrupted their communication and they were unable to maintain contact.

"I arrived at Jackson and Hollywood and saw a police car stopped at the red light. I motioned to the policeman to pull into the parking lot at the intersection. It was car 160."

Car 160 was driven that night by Lt. R. W. Bradshaw.

THE MOBILE operator, who said he was driving a blue Pontiac, had broadcast that he was chasing a white Mustang.

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and wanted to relay information to the police.

"I called the mobile," the student said, "and told him I had a police car beside me and would relay his message. He tried to tell the base station he was chasing a white Mustang with the man who had shot King."

Bradshaw began to relay the message over his police radio to headquarters where the messages were rebroadcast to all police cars.

SEVERAL POLICE cars that had been stopping white Mustangs in the city sped toward the scene of the chase, which by now was reported to be at 100 m. p. h.

The mobile operator who said he was following the white Mustang said he could not get the car's tag number.

"I asked him several times if he could get the license number," the student who was monitoring the calls said. "He said, 'I'm afraid to get that close. He's shooting at me.'"

It took the police less than an hour to decide that no such chase took place. A sheriff's car happened to be at the spot where the mobile operator reported that three men

in a white Mustang were shooting at him. The sheriff's men said they saw no chase.

THE STUDENT said he had been skeptical himself because he kept getting a strong reading on his radio signal meter, an indication that the broadcasts were originating at a spot close to him and that the source of the broadcasts was not moving.

Memphis Police Commissioner Frank Holloman has said only that the police department was investigating the possibility that the broadcasts were designed to draw police attention to northeast Memphis while the killer fled southward.

It was clear a white Mustang that the FBI said he bought under the name of Eric S. Galt did not carry a license and radio equipment.

ON MARCH 2, Ray graduated from a bartenders' school in Hollywood, Cal. The FBI said Ray, using the name Galt, had enrolled in the school after taking dancing lessons at Long Beach, Cal.

The day before Galt's graduation from the bartenders' school, a man using the name of Eric S. Galt called the driver's license division of the Alabama highway patrol in Montgomery and said he had lost the driver's license issued to him the previous Sept. 30. He asked that a duplicate license be mailed to the Economy Grill and Rooms in Birmingham.

Galt had stayed at this rooming house for several weeks in the summer and fall of 1967 and had listed it as his address when he had received an Alabama driver's license.

THE DUPLICATE license was mailed as requested, along with a bill for 25 cents to cover costs. The bill and the 25 cents were returned and received in Montgomery on March 6.

Peter N. Cherpes, manager of the Economy Grill and Rooms, said Galt never came back to the rooming house after Oct. 5, 1967. He said he did not recall Galt's getting any letters after he left.

The Galt who attended the bartenders' school is not believed to have left California until mid-March.

IT WOULD have been a practical impossibility for Galt to drive from Los Angeles to Birmingham after his graduation from the bartenders' school in time to pick up the duplicate driver's license and to have returned the 25 cents to Montgomery by March 5, the day the bill and the quarter were mailed. Who received the duplicate license and who mailed the 25 cents is not known.

Where Ray got the money



JAMES EARL RAY

he spent between Aug. 26, 1967, and June 8, 1968, when he was arrested in London is a puzzle.

He took dancing lessons and the bartenders' course, he bought the white Mustang, a .30-'06 caliber rifle, drove 1,900 miles in Mexico, Canada and the United States, went by plane to Europe and had his living expenses. The cost must have been \$10,000 or more.

HE HAS NOT been known to work since escaping from the Jefferson City state prison in Missouri on April 23, 1967.

No official theory to explain Ray's aliases has been advanced. He has used the names of at least four residents of Toronto. Three have a close resemblance to Ray. The fourth is a couple of inches shorter.

The aliases used by Ray, the FBI said, were Ramon George Sneyd, Eric S. Galt, Paul Bridgman, and John Willard.

Altho their ages range from 25 to 54 years, all four men appear to be about 5'6" tall, does Ray, who is 5'6" tall.

U.S. Issues Plea for Ray

Extradition

BY ARTHUR VEYSEY

[Chief of London Bureau]

[Chicago Tribune Press Service]

LONDON, June 18 — The United States today formally requested the extradition of James Earl Ray, accused assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and a British court scheduled a hearing on the application for June 27.

Since fifteen 24-hour periods must elapse before Ray can be handed over under British law, the late afternoon of July 12 is the earliest time American marshals would be able to fly Ray home to stand trial in Memphis.

Appeals Are Expected

But American officials doubted tonight that British lawyers named by the court to defend Ray will let him go without appeals first to the High court and then to the house of lords. An American rebuttal is being prepared.

The suspect was arrested at London airport 10 days ago and identified by the agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation as Ray. He was manacled when he made his second brief appearance in Bow Street court today.

He wore thick-rimmed glasses. A white dress shirt and a tie had been substituted for the dark blue sports shirt he had worn earlier. His blue-and-gray plaid sports jacket and trousers appeared to be the same.

Date Is Proposed

He said nothing. One special branch detective walked ahead of him and another, to whom he was handcuffed, followed. Police and detectives formed a human screen to separate him from about 40 reporters and 30 spectators, all of whom were searched before

being admitted into the small, dingy courtroom.

The chief magistrate, Frank Milton, 61, proposed that America's case against Ray be presented in open court Friday.

But Roger Frisby, 46, a barrister, being paid by the British treasury under a legal aid program, said he would need more time to learn about "certain aspects" of the charges.

The magistrate granted the request and set the hearing.

For the United States, Nigel Graham Maw, 35, a solicitor who handles extradition cases for the United States, read two charges:

"James Earl Ray . . . suspected and accused of the commission of the crime of murder, to wit, on April 4, 1968, in Shelby county, state of Tennessee, did unlawfully, feloniously, willfully, deliberately, premedi-

tatedly and of his malice aforethought, did kill and murder Martin Luther King Jr., within the jurisdiction of the United States."

Charge Is Read

And secondly, that Ray had been sentenced to prison for "first degree robbery with violence with means of a dangerous and deadly weapon" but now escaped and was a fugitive.

At the June 27 hearing, the

United States plans to present just two witnesses, Fred Vinson Jr., assistant attorney general, and an American finger print expert. Vinson flew to London after the airport arrest and returned to Washington Thursday.

Finger prints will make up much of the evidence establish-

ing that the man arrested at the airport as Ramon George Sneyd, 35, a Canadian, is in fact Ray, 40, an American. Finger prints have been found in the room used by the assassin, on a beer can, on a gun abandoned in a doorway near the murder scene, and on Ray's car abandoned in Atlanta.

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Did King Suspect Intend To Hide In African Army?

LONDON (UPI)—The London Daily Telegraph said Sunday night that a man calling himself Raymond Sneyd telephoned a Telegraph reporter several times in the last few weeks and asked how to become a mercenary soldier in Africa.

The accused assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was using the name Ramon Sneyd when he was arrested Saturday at London Airport.

Reporter Ian Colvin said in a front-page story that the man calling himself Sneyd first telephoned the newspaper last Tuesday and spoke with the foreign desk. The call was transferred to Colvin because he had written several stories about mercenaries in Africa.

Colvin said that when he

first spoke to the caller, the man said in a voice with a Canadian or American accent: "This is Raymond Sneyd. I want to join my brother who has been missing in Angola."

Colvin said Sneyd asked if he could be put in touch with a British mercenary officer who might be able to help. Colvin contacted a Major Alistair Wicks, former second-in-command of commandos in the Congo.

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AD ABOUT TRIP TO AFRICA Major Tells Why Ray Sought Help

BY HOMER BIGART
(A NEW YORK TIMES SPECIAL)

LONDON — Maj. Alistair Wicks, the former recruiter of white mercenary soldiers for the Congo, has explained why he thought James Earl Ray, the man accused of slaying Martin Luther King, was so desperately eager to see him.

Wicks, 50, said in an interview yesterday that he thought Ray probably noticed his name in the London newspapers of May 19.

That would have been 2 days after the fugitive Ray, an escaped American convict traveling with a Canadian passport under the name of Ramon George Sneyd, returned from an abortive mission to Lisbon where he had offered himself as a mercenary to the Lisbon mission of Biafra, the break-away eastern province of Nigeria.

Wicks was mentioned in the newspapers because he had just been released after 4 months imprisonment in Lome, the capital of Togo. As an executive of the Lisbon-based Air Trans-Africa, a small charter outfit, the major had chartered a DC-6 to a Dr. Kurt Wallersteiner, whom he described as a West German banker with a Canadian passport.

Wallersteiner was carrying 7 million pounds worth of old Nigerian currency to Lome, where a Lebanese banker was to exchange it for new Nigerian bills. The deadline for the exchange was only 2 days distant, and Wallersteiner was evidently in a hurry.

Faced Nigeria Arrest

Why the exchange had to be transacted in Lome, Wicks could not explain. But if he had landed in Lagos, the capi-

tol of Nigeria, he would certainly have been thrown in jail. His air line, he admitted, had made "small" deliveries of arms and ammunition to the Biafrans early in the secessionist struggle, and had followed with shipments of medicine and other essentials.

In any event, there was "some sort of double cross," the major said, and the Togolese arrested everyone on the plane within half an hour after landing in Lome.

Slept on Floor

Everyone was charged with "attempting fraudulently to import merchandise." The banker, the seven-man crew, Wicks, and his boss, Jack Malloch, a Rhodesian, slept the first five nights on the concrete floor of the local jail, then, Wicks related, they were transferred to a building in a camp of the national gendarmerie.

The major and two others were finally released in \$1,200 bail each and told by the Togolese magistrate that they need

not return for trial, according to Wicks.

Meanwhile, the British government had withdrawn Wicks' passport. He said that when he demanded the reason for this he was told that he "might have acted in a manner contrary to British policy."

Mentioned in Press

All this was mentioned in the local press when Wicks returned to London in May. What probably caught Ray's eye was the background information that Wicks was an ex-mercenary more recently engaged in supplying Biafra.

Ray called Ian Colvin, a writer for the Daily Telegraph, and pleaded desperately for the major's phone number. Colvin did not give the number.

"I would have told him [Ray] that I knew nothing about mer-

cenary activity, and that to the best of my belief there

weren't any mercenaries now operating in Africa," said Wicks.

He spoke with bitterness of the "massive aid" which he claimed that Britain and communist countries were giving to the Lagos regime.

No Use for Ray

Wicks said he was certain that the Biafrans would have had no use for Ray. "Biafra was never interested in white recruits," he said. "Their policy was: 'This is a private affair and if everyone will keep out of it, we can settle it ourselves.'"

From what he has learned of Ray, Wicks said, he doubted that the man would have been any use in the Congo either.

Ray, who was arrested last Saturday at London, had flown to airport while awaiting extradition for Brussels, remained in prison today while extradition proceedings were being sought.

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Ray Moves Step Closer To Extradition

LONDON (AP) — The U.S. application to return James Earl Ray to the United States moved steadily forward Thursday. The British government authorized extradition proceedings to begin.

Home Sec. James Callaghan signed an order authorizing the Bow Street Magistrate's Court to conduct the extradition proceedings against Ray, 40, accused of killing Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Frank Milton was expected to schedule a hearing in about a week.

The application was sent to the Home Office, the British equivalent of the U.S. Justice Department. Earlier, it cleared its first legal hurdle in the Foreign Office after U.S. Consul General Jack Herfurt delivered the bulky petition.

Court formalities and appeals could delay Ray's return up to six weeks or longer.

The petition contains a summary of evidence against Ray in the murder of Dr. King at a Memphis motel April 4. It also contains information on Ray's escape from the Missouri State Prison while serving a sentence for armed robbery, along with fingerprints and other identification material.

The United States is seeking extradition on both charges and must satisfy a British judge that both would be crimes under British law.

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Britain Moving to Expedite Ray's Return to U.S. for Trial

BY ARTHUR VEYSEY

[Chief of London Bureau]

[Chicago Tribune Press Service]

LONDON, June 13 — Home Secretary James Callaghan set in motion today the legal procedure in the London Chief Magistrate's court to hand over James Earl Ray for trial in Memphis for the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King.

The home secretary put before the magistrate the inch-thick American file on Ray that originated in Shelby county [Memphis], Tenn., where Ray is accused of killing the American civil rights leader on April 4.

British Warrant Next

The course of events now is: The chief magistrate, Frank Milton, issues a warrant for the arrest of Ray on the murder charge.

The court's chief clerk notifies Ray's court-appointed, government-paid, British lawyers, Michael Dresden & Co., of the new charge and authorizes the firm to employ, also at government expense, a barrister.

In Britain, lawyers are divided into solicitors, who work out of court and appear before a judge only in minor cases, and barristers, the legal elite who do the big trial work.

U. S. to Name Lawyer

The chief magistrate last Monday named Dresden & Co. solicitors, from a court list to act for a man listed on the court records as Ramon George Sneyd, accused of having a loaded gun without a certificate and a false passport when arrested by Scotland Yard's special branch at London airport last Saturday. Documents filed in the court today identify Sneyd as Ray.

To speak for the United States in court, Nigel Graham Maw, a partner in the firm of solicitors, Rowe and Maw, will select a barrister. Negotiations

are under way but the appointment may not be made before Monday.

At 10:30 a. m. Tuesday, Ray, as Sneyd, comes for a second time before the chief magistrate to answer the gun and passport charges. But instead, the magistrate will formally inform him of the King murder charge and the application for extradition. The magistrate will ask the two barristers if both sides are ready to proceed.

Expected to Ask Delay

Ray's barrister will almost certainly ask for a delay of a week or 10 days to acquaint himself with the case. British tradition demands that the delay be granted.

The chief magistrate will set a date for the extradition hearing, probably sometime during the week of June 24.

The hearing could be com-

pleted in one day. The judge need not have all the American file on Ray read out to him in open court.

The reading will, for the first time, reveal at Sneyd's the framework of the American case against Ray, the King killer.

tion that may retain the secrecy through the extradition hearing. British law demands that extradition proceedings take place in open court with members of the public present. But a brand new British law also decrees that no evidence introduced in a magistrate's court to determine whether or not a person should be com-

mitted for trial may be published unless the defendant so requests.

The chief magistrate asked last Monday whether Sneyd, as he was then formally called, wanted to waive secrecy on evidence concerning the gun and passport charges. He shook his head.

Could Raise Legal Point

The new British rule raises an immediate point of law for possible debate before the

magistrate. It is an extradition hearing, not a trial. Obviously, the hearing is not a person's trial in an American court, a common meaning as preserved in the British rule.

British tradition decrees that a foreign country seeking to extradite a person must present only evidence acceptable under British law. Rules of the magistrate's court allow an extradition only if the evidence would have been sufficient to commit the man to trial in Britain. It is a new twist to the complexity of the United States already faces from Ray's fight to appeal the first court and the course of his appeals with the compulsory and delay waiting period from extradition. Ray's return may August.



James Callaghan

pleted in one day. The judge need not have all the American file on Ray read out to him in open court.

The reading will, for the first time, reveal at Sneyd's the framework of the American case against Ray, the King killer.

Could Invoke Secrecy
Under British Law

CHICAGO TRIBUNE

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Extradition hearing set for Ray

By William H. Stoneman
Daily News Foreign Service

LONDON—A full hearing on the extradition of James Earl Ray, alleged killer of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was fixed for June 27 when Ray made his second appearance in Bow Street Magistrate Court Tuesday morning.

It is now expected that he will be extradited to the United States to stand trial in Memphis, Tenn., sometime after the middle of July. An appeal from the extradition order—if it is granted at next week's hearing—would take several weeks.

Ray appeared in the crowded little courtroom manacled to a member of the heavy escort that had accompanied him from Wandsworth maximum security prison and who guarded him throughout the proceedings. With his black hair slicked back and wearing dark glasses, he stood deadpan during the few minutes of the court session.

Reporters and members of the public were carefully frisked for weapons before being admitted to the building.

ATTORNEY Nigel Maw, who represented the United States at the hearing, explained that Ray's extradition was being sought on two charges, the murder of Dr. King and Ray's earlier escape from the Missouri State Penitentiary.

A hearing on two other charges brought against him by the British after his arrest

at London airport June 8 was fixed by Chief Magistrate Frank Milton for the same date.

But these charges—being in possession of a false passport and carrying a revolver without a permit—will be dropped later in favor of the extradition proceedings.

It had been hoped by American officials that the extradition hearing could be held this Friday, but the June 27 date was set when Ray's British lawyer, Roger Frisby, pleaded shortage of time.

UNDER the 1931 extradition treaty between Britain and the United States, British courts can grant extradition only if U.S. authorities present evidence sufficient to send Ray to trial under British law.

Extradition on the prison escape charge would be almost automatic.

Lumaine
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**Former FBI agent
plans to defend Ray**

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (UPI) — Former FBI agent Arthur J. Hanes has been chosen by the accused assassin of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. as his defense attorney.

Hanes, 61-year-old former Mayor of Birmingham, said

Monday he tentatively has accepted the case.

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First Step in Extradition Battle

Ray in Court, Defense Wins Delay

Hearing Slated June 27, Quick Ruling Expected

BY LAWRENCE MALKIN
LONDON (AP) — A British magistrate today scheduled a hearing on June 27 on the United States government's application to return James Earl Ray to Tennessee for trial on a charge of murdering the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.
Ray's British attorney, Roger Lewis, indicated today that Ray

Magistrate's court that the 40-year-old escaped convict will fight extradition. The lawyer asked Chief Magistrate Frank Milton for time to prepare his case.

Milton said he wanted to hold the hearing soon, and they compromised on Thursday of next week.

Hearings are Brief

British extradition hearings usually last a day or two, and the magistrate ordinarily gives his decision as soon as he hears all the evidence.

Ray was brought to Bow Street today for the second time since his arrest 10 days ago. The magistrate order today referred Ray to Wandsworth Prison. Two attorneys from Birmingham, Alan Arthur Thomas and John Anthony, are expected to appear tomorrow.

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The hearing today was the first in a three-day session. The court has decided on a small courtroom was filled with about 100 persons, mostly newsmen.

Says Two Words

Ray, wearing a blue checked shirt and glasses, sat impassively at the dock while attorneys and the magistrate discussed details.

After Milton fixed the extradition hearing date, Ray spoke only two words: "Thank you."

He was separated from the spectators by a wall of policemen and detectives. Police also lined the corridor thru which he reached the courtroom.

Attorneys for the United States government told the magistrate that Ray is wanted on a charge of murdering King in Memphis April 4 and on a charge of escaping from Missouri state prison while serving an armed robbery sentence.

Documentary evidence already has been produced in London, the American lawyers told the court, and a fingerprint expert will be flown over to testify at the extradition hearing.

Seized at Airport

Ray was arrested at London airport June 8 and charged then with entering the country on a forged Canadian passport and carrying an unlicensed loaded gun.

After a preliminary hearing June 10 before Milton on the passport and gun charges, he has been held under round-the-clock guard in Wandsworth

prison. Scotland Yard has been trying to reconstruct his movements and contacts in the 3 weeks he is believed to have spent in London before his arrest.

The United States embassy forwarded the request for his extradition to the British government last Wednesday.

Under the 1931 extradition treaty between Britain and the United States, British courts can grant extradition only if American authorities present

prima facie evidence to send Ray to trial under British law.

Wanted for Robbery

Extradition of Ray was also asked because he is wanted by Missouri to complete a prison term for armed robbery. While extradition on this charge would be almost automatic, the United States-British treaty specifies that a suspect can be tried only on the charges for which he has been specifically extradited. Therefore unless he is extradited for the murder of the Negro civil rights leader, he cannot be prosecuted on that charge in the United States.

The British extradition act of 1870 also says that no one can be surrendered to another country for "an offense of a political character." There has been speculation that Ray's attorney might argue his client was charged with a political killing. But Denys Holland, professor of English law at London university, said in an interview that he would be surprised if Ray succeeded in any such defense.

"The extradition law may be vague," he said, "but it usually is interpreted according to the temper of the time."

Alabama Ex-Mayor May Defend Ray

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (UPI) — Former Birmingham Mayor Arthur J. Hanes said Monday he has tentatively agreed to represent James Earl Ray, the escaped convict charged in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Hanes said he received a letter from Ray asking that he be his lawyer if he is brought to the United States from London to stand trial.

"After conferring with his London lawyer, I have tentatively accepted this case and am flying to London Wednesday to confer with this client in order to begin preparation of the case in the event he is extradited," Hanes said.

Hanes was mayor of Birmingham in the early 1960s, when the city was the center of civil rights demonstrations

led by Dr. King. Hanes later defended two Ku Klux Klansmen charged with murdering Mrs. Viola Liuzzo, a white woman who participated in civil rights activities at Selma, Ala.

Hanes said he had "no idea whatsoever" why Ray asked him to represent him. He said the letter was signed R. G. Sneyd, the name under which Ray is being held in England. Hanes said he has informed Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark and the Federal Bureau of Investigation that he has been asked to take the case.

Ray was arrested June 8 at London airport by officers of Scotland Yard. He earlier had been charged at Memphis with the April 4 slaying of Dr. King.

Drummond
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Ray's U.S. lawyers go to London

LONDON (UPI)—Two American lawyers for James Earl Ray arrived Thursday and conferred immediately with his British lawyer on ways to block his extradition and trial for the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Arthur J. Hanes, former FBI agent and ex-mayor of Birmingham, Ala., and his son, Arthur, Jr., were met at the airport by a member of the London law firm of Dresden and Co.

The younger Hanes said his father spent the morning "getting acquainted with this case," which Hanes agreed to handle if and when Ray is returned to the United States to face a jury in the April 4 death of the noted civil rights leader.

Ray will appear in Bow Street Magistrate's Court in London June 27 for a hearing on a U.S. demand for his extradition. Hanes Jr. indicated the American attorneys are not involved directly with the extradition hearing when he said, "We would not presume to interfere into the British legal aspects of the case."

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THE ALLEN-SCOTT REPORT

3,000 FBI Men Hunted Ray

WASHINGTON—FBI agents went thru one very tense period and spent more than a million dollars during their brilliantly conducted two-continent manhunt for James

Earl Ray, the accused killer of Dr. Martin Luther King. At one time, upwards of 3,000 agents were assigned to the case.

After successfully tracking and locating Ray in London early in May, the G-men temporarily lost his trail when he slipped thru their surveillance network and flew to Portugal.



Robert S. Allen
Paul Scott

While Ray's disappearance almost caused a near panic among top justice department officials here, cooler-headed FBI agents directing the search kept the search from collapsing by setting up a new dragnet.

With only the lead that Ray, alias Raymond George Sneyd, had apparently fled to Europe, the FBI agents reasoned that because of his temperament and the foreign language barrier he would soon return to an English-speaking country.

Special watches for Ray were then carefully organized at all ports of entry in Great Britain, Canada, and the United States.

Flies Back to London

Eleven days after his second disappearance, Ray, alias Sneyd, flew back to London from Lisbon. With the help of British authorities, the FBI again picked up his trail.

Ray was then kept under close surveillance until he suddenly prepared again to depart Great Britain for Europe—this time for

Brussels. He was arrested at London airport before he could board his plane.

Despite Ray's capture, the FBI investigation of King's assassination is far from closed.

One agent says privately "the arrest of Ray is only the beginning of this inquiry." He points out that "Ray is the key to determining the others involved in the assassination plot."

For instance, FBI and Canadian authorities are still investigating how Ray was able to exploit legal loopholes like a pro in obtaining his Canadian passport.

Probe Contacts with Council

Several dozen agents are probing Ray's alleged contacts with the United States-based American South African council to whom he wrote on Dec. 30, 1967, to ask about emigrating to Rhodesia. Also, being carefully checked is Ray's contact with a person whom the FBI photographed with King at a major United States airport.

One of the ironies of the FBI investigation is that just 2 months before the King assassination, the bureau was obliged to cut in half the number of agents in Europe, including those in London, as a result of President Johnson's order slashing overseas personnel of all government security and intelligence agencies.

When Ray's trail led to London, however, many of these agents were sent back overseas with instructions to forget about the economy move until the suspected assassin was picked up.

Half that number of agents still are involved in the continuing investigation. In addition to running down new leads, they are rechecking Ray's travels for and from Memphis, the scene of the assassination.

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[AP Wirephoto]

Arthur J. Hanes Sr. [right], and his son, Arthur Jr., talking with newsman in London where they announced they would defend James Earl Ray against charge of murdering Dr. Martin Luther King.

U.S. Lawyer Vows He'll Battle for Ray

LONDON, June 20 (UPI) — The Alabama lawyer hired with his son to defend James Earl Ray at any trial for the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. arrived today and announced he would "fight with my last ounce of breath for my client."

Arthur J. Hanes, former mayor of Birmingham, declined to state at a press conference whether he and his lawyer son, Arthur Jr., flew to London to advise British lawyers handling Ray's fight in London courts against extradition to the United States.

Hanes also refused to acknowledge that the man arrested at the London airport June 8 with a Canadian passport for Ramon George Sneyd actually was Ray.

The Alabama lawyer stressed he had been retained to defend the man in the event the United States wins its demand that Ray be returned to Memphis, Tenn. — for trial for the April 4 assassination.

Webster was investigating the case of preparing the defense.

the event Mr. Sneyd is extradited to the United States," Hanes said.

The father-son lawyer team conferred immediately after their arrival with lawyers handling Ray's defense at the extradition hearing next Thursday. The elder Hanes said he would not attend the hearing.

"I'm not even sure I'll have the opportunity to see this man," he said. Hanes repeatedly dodged reporters' questions as to who was paying his fees.

Asked if he would withdraw from Ray's defense if it were disclosed that a right-wing radical organization financed the assassination, Hanes replied: "No, sir, no indeed. I will fight and scrap with my last ounce of breath for my client."

The lawyer who defended two Ku Klux Klansmen in the slaying of a civil rights leader, Viola Liuzzo, rejected a reporter's question as to whether he was a "secret agent" lawyer. He said he was not a "secret agent" lawyer.

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U.S. Claims It Has Witness to Slaying

Ray Denies He

Murdered

Dr. King

**His Finger Prints
Found on Gun,
Hearing Told**

BY GODFREY ANDERSON

LONDON (AP) — James Earl Ray, fighting extradition to the United States to stand trial for the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., asserted today he did not kill the Negro civil rights leader.

The prisoner—who is charged here under the alias of Raymond George Sneyd—took the witness stand in a surprise move and testified he had never met Dr. King. He had

Dumaine
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never had any kind of grudge against him."

Earlier, a British lawyer, David Calcutt, returning the United States in the move to extradite Ray, told Chief Magistrate Frank Milton of a witness who said he heard a shot fired from the bathroom of a Memphis rooming house and then saw Ray leave the bathroom. The shot which killed King allegedly was fired from this bathroom.

FBI Man Testifies

An FBI expert, George Jacob Bonebrake, had testified Ray's fingerprints were found on a rifle and binoculars discarded in a shop doorway after King was killed at the Lorraine motel April 4.

"I found one print on the rifle and one on the sight and also on the binoculars," Bonebrake said. "I compared them with fingerprints of James Earl Ray in the Los Angeles police file. I found they belonged to one and the same individual."

Ray's lawyer indicated he would seek to save Ray from extradition by contending the assassination of King was a political crime.

Ringed By Detectives

Under the United States-British extradition treaty, political grounds are a principal reason for granting asylum to anyone and barring extradition.

Ray was ringed by detectives but did not wear handcuffs as he mounted the witness stand.

The hearing in crowded Bow Street Magistrates court was suspended for 10 minutes while Ray conferred with his British attorney, Roger Frisby.

Frisby said he would rather Ray neither took the usual oath nor affirm, meaning taking the oath without invoking God.

This tactic meant that,

under English legal procedure, Ray could not be cross-examined by Atty. Calcutt.

Wearing a dark suit and heavy horn-rimmed glasses, Ray, answered a series of questions from his lawyer. He agreed he was the man al-

rested at London airport June 8.

"Never Met King"

He said he had never met Dr. King and bore him no grudge.

"Did you kill Dr. King?"

"No sir," Ray replied.

Again on his counsel's advice, Ray said he did not wish to sign the court recording of his testimony.

The court adjourned then until Tuesday, when the hearing is expected to end.

Ray was sent back to prison. Silent thru presentation of the prosecution's case, Ray declared at the windup of that phase of the hearing that "parts of some of the testimony are false and some are exaggerated."

"I would like to disagree with them and say something about this," he said.

Chief Magistrate Milton had advised him about his right to call witnesses and give testimony in his own behalf.

When the court resumed after the brief recess, Frisby said Ray disagreed with many of the facts given by Detective Chief Supt. Thomas Butler of Scotland Yard.

In a dramatic high point of the hearing, Butler had testified that, on hearing in his prison cell that the police identified him as an American wanted for a killing rather than as Canadian George Sneyd, his alias, Ray slumped into a seat and said: "Oh God . . . I feel so trapped."

Frisby said Ray wished in particular "to state most emphatically that he did not make the observation: 'I feel so trapped.'"

Admit Some Dislike

"Nor did he say 'Oh God,' nor did he collapse on the seat in the manner which the chief superintendent described," Frisby said.

In court maneuvering, Frisby raised the matter of King's involvement in American politics. He questioned Bonebrake closely about this in an effort to get statements about such political involvement in the

record.

The FBI agent admitted under questioning there had been a "certain amount of dislike for King in the United States."

Peter Hopkirk, a correspondent of the London Times, appeared for the defense on a subpoena.

Hopkirk said he was in the United States in April covering the Presidential primaries. He went to Memphis the morning after King was killed and spent four or five days there inquiring into King's death.

"It was no secret he was disliked by many white people living in the south," Hopkirk said.

Knew of Movement

Bonebrake said he found from the print on the rifle 14 characteristics the same as on the prints on file for Ray, a fugi-

politics after his work and no bring him in contact with Ray unless they are connected with fingerprints.

He agreed that King was nationally known figure. If he believed the Negro race inspired liking or dislike in America, he replied, "More toward liking, I would think."

Bonebrake said he knew of King's movement, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. But he said that to the best of his recollection, he knew of no commitment to any political party by the conference.

Calcutt told the crowd that King was the victim of a calculated, brutal and senseless murder—a murder that was bitter with irony.

"His name was a very password for peace," Calcutt said, "he was a violent faith."

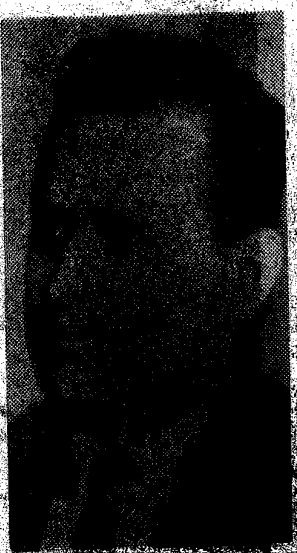
"This tragic death of Dr. King was the working of the single hand of this man," he declared, referring to Ray.

The 40-year-old suspect in the case was brought into the court today to hear the court continue the United States extradition case for his extradition.

It was Ray's third court appearance under the alias of Raymond "George" Sneyd, the name on the Canadian passport he was carrying when he was arrested June 8 in London airport. His two previous trips to Bow Street for preliminary hearings had been brief, and the proceedings today provided the first extensive look at the United States extradition case against him.

But Frisby, through his lawyer, Sneyd, Calcutt gave the court his account.

On March 23 six days before King was killed in Memphis, Ray was in London. He had been in London for some time, and he had been in contact with some of the people who were involved in the assassination. He had been in contact with some of the people who were involved in the assassination. He had been in contact with some of the people who were involved in the assassination.



JAMES EARL RAY

Denies King grudge.

tive from the Missouri state penitentiary. He found it unusual that Ray had been in London for some time, and he had been in contact with some of the people who were involved in the assassination. He had been in contact with some of the people who were involved in the assassination.

had telescopic sights attached to it. He also bought and took away a box of ammunition and a box which was not the right box for that particular gun.

"On April 3, Sneyd [Ray] booked in at the New Revel Motor hotel at Memphis," the lawyer continued. "On the following day he checked out of

this hotel and on that day in Memphis he bought a pair of binoculars."

Also on that day, Calcutt said, King was in Memphis, staying at the Lorraine motel.

As Calcutt unfolded the story, four plain clothes detectives sat on a bench facing newsmen and the public gallery. All members of the public had been searched as they came into court.

Sits in Front of Dock

Ray sat in front of the prisoner's dock with a detective on either side of him.

The court was tense as Calcutt continued his story:

"From a bathroom window at 424½ South Main st., a person could see into Dr. King's room."

"At 4 o'clock in the afternoon this defendant went to 424½ South Main st., where accommodation was available, and he booked a room. As he did this he was seen by a witness, Charles Stevens, 46."

"The defendant got a room and, between then and 6 o'clock in the evening, he used the bathroom and the lavatory. Mr. Stevens, who was in the adjoining room, says that the man used the bathroom and the lavatory on three occasions, each time for a long time."

Calcutt continued: "at 6 o'clock Mr. Stevens says he heard a shot fired from the bathroom. He came out of his room and saw a man leaving below. He says it was the man who he had seen booking in earlier."

"The defendant left in a hurry, leaving binocular straps in his room. When he got out of the hotel entrance, he turned left and dropped his kit of rifle, sights, and binoculars in the doorway."

"He then made off in a car waiting nearby."

Calcutt said the Memphis police took possession of the rifle and binoculars. They say the defendants' finger prints were on them.

Found with Rifle

"It is also likely that the strap found in his room belonged to the binoculars found with the rifle."

Calcutt said that in September, 1959, Ray — or Sneyd, as he still called him — was convicted of armed robbery.

"He was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment," he said, "but on April 23, 1967, he escaped from the Missouri State penitentiary with 12 years of his sentence left to serve."

Saw Man Buying Rifle

John Deshazo, an Alabamian, declared in a sworn affidavit read out by Calcutt that on March 29 he was in the Birmingham store when he saw a man in a dark business suit handle several weapons and buy a Remington rifle. The man said he was going hunting in Wisconsin with his brother or brother-in-law, Deshazo said.

Deshazo was visited by FBI agents on April 16 and shown pictures of seven white men. He identified one as being the man who bought the rifle, Calcutt said.

Stevens said in another affidavit read by Calcutt that from March, 1967, to June, 1968, he lived with his common-law wife in an apartment on South Main street in Memphis.

On April 4, Stevens said, he saw and heard a man standing with the manageress of the apartment building, Mrs. Essie Brewer, near Apartment 5-B

which was just down the hall from his. He assumed the man was looking for a room.

Identifies FBI Profile

On April 24, Stevens said he identified an FBI "wanted profile" as very much like the man he had seen.

His apartment was next to

the common bathroom, his statement continued. After seeing the strange man with Mrs. Brewer, he heard someone in room 5-B and assumed it had been rented by the man.

"I heard footsteps and heard them leaving and coming past my room and into the common bathroom at the end of the hall," Stevens' affidavit went on.

"I was in my kitchen working on a small radio when I heard a shot. I could tell that it came from the bathroom because it was very loud."

Saw People Milling

"I heard thru a broken pane in my window a lot of voices yelling and hollering from the building across the road. I saw a lot of people milling around near the motel."

"About a minute after hearing the shot I went to my door and opened it. The bathroom door was open. When I went to the banister, I saw a man running near the end of the hallway."

"He was carrying a bundle in his right hand. It was at least 3 or 4 feet long and 8 inches thick. It was wrapped in what looked like newspaper."

"Altho I did not get a good look at him, I think it was the same man I saw earlier with Mrs. Brewer."

U.S. says it has witness

Ray denies he killed King

Hearing in London courtroom

By William H. Stoneman
Daily News Foreign Service

LONDON — James Earl Ray denied Thursday at his extradition hearing that he was the sniper-assassin of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

In a sudden maneuver by Roger Frisby, Ray's court-appointed attorney, Ray took the witness stand to fight U.S. attempts to return him to Memphis for trial in the April 4 murder of the civil rights leader.

"Did you kill Dr. Martin Luther King," Frisby asked.

RAY, HIS face showing a 5 o'clock shadow, replied quickly without expression.

"No, sir."

Earlier, during the hearing in Bow Street Magistrate Court, the United States charged that Ray was the lone assassin in the sniper-slaying. It said it has a witness to

prove it.

The United States called for Ray's return to face charge of "calculated, brutal and senseless murder."

Ray was returned to prison when court was adjourned until next Tuesday.

RAY ENTERED the courtroom after a luncheon adjournment chewing gum. He sat almost motionless in the prisoner's dock, his shoulders hunched forward, clenching his teeth from time to time.

Ray, who has been silent since his arrest June 8 at London Airport on charges of carrying a forged passport and concealed pistol, rose quickly when Frisby startled the court by announcing:

"I call my client."

Two Scotland Yard detectives guarding the prisoner quickly

flanked him and marched alongside Ray to the witness stand. One detective then placed himself between the witness and the main body of the jammed crowd to thwart any possible assassination attempt.

MAGISTRATE Frank Milton advised Ray to take an oath as he sat in the witness stand. But attorneys and Milton immediately became involved in an argument as to what name Ray should be

sworn under. At the time of his arrest, he was using the name Ramon George Sneyd.

Milton finally ruled that Ray would not be sworn and advised him to merely answer questions put up by his counsel.

This defense tactic meant that, under English legal procedure, Ray could not be cross-examined by U.S. counsel.

"Are you the man arrested at London Airport June 8?" Frisby asked.

"Yes sir," answered Ray.

"Do you know Martin Luther King personally?"

"No, sir," replied Ray.

"Did you have a grudge against him?" Frisby asked.

"No, sir," came the reply.

"Did you kill Dr. Martin Luther King?"

In a noncommittal tone Ray replied:

"No, sir."

DURING testimony, Ray sat on a chair, his left arm resting on a railing of the witness box.

The questions and answers which had been taken down by the court clerk were read back to Ray at the completion of his testimony. Asked if they were correct, Ray answered: "Yes, that's correct."

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When asked by the U.S. attorney, he would like to sign his statement. Ray appeared to be surprised. "Leaning forward in his chair, he asked, 'Well, how would I sign it?'"

This produced a discussion between Frisby and Milton, before Frisby said Ray would not sign the statement. He then was returned to the prisoner's dock.

RAY'S ATTORNEY sought to prevent extradition of his

client by contending that Dr. King's assassination was a political crime.

"The whole burden of my case is that Dr. King is a political figure," Frisby told the court.

UNDER CLOSE questioning by Frisby, FBI fingerprint expert George Bonebrake admitted that there was a certain amount of dislike for Dr. King in the United States. But Bonebrake said he knew of no commitment to any political party by Dr. King's movement, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

Political crimes are not covered under the U.S.-British extradition treaty and, if Frisby could prove the slaying was due to politics, he might possibly prevent Ray's return to stand trial at Memphis.

At the hearing, held under security precautions unprecedented in British judicial history, David Calcutt, a British lawyer representing the United States, gave evidence that Ray's fingerprints were found on the rifle suspected of killing Dr. King.

"The bullet that killed Dr. King was examined when recovered," Calcutt said, "and there is a strong likelihood that the bullet came from the rifle found by police."

HE SAID U.S. authorities have a witness who saw Ray enter a roominghouse bathroom overlooking the motel court where Dr. King was shot. The witness heard a shot fired from the bathroom and watched Ray come out of the room a minute later, he added.

The witness was identified as Charles Stevens, 46, a heavy equipment operator, who lived with his wife in the Memphis roominghouse.

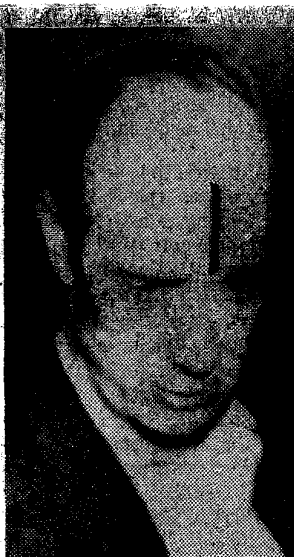
(In Memphis, United Press International reported that Stevens dropped out of sight about the time of Ray's arrest in London. The FBI denied any knowledge of his whereabouts.)

Describing the assassination as "the working of a single hand," Calcutt said Dr. King's "tragic death was the work of this criminal," and he looked at Ray in the prisoner's dock.

He said the slaying was a "bitter irony." "King's name was a passport for peace but he met a violent death," the British lawyer said.

IT WAS THE third British court appearance for the 40-year-old escaped convict since Scotland Yard detectives arrested him at a London airport June 8 and charged him with possessing false passports and a loaded pistol.

Before police officers testified Thursday about Ray's arrest, Magistrate Frank Milton ordered Ray held until July 5 on the two British charges against him. These charges, however, are expected to be



Charles Stevens

dropped if extradition is approved.

His two previous trips to Bow Street for preliminary hearings had been brief, and the proceedings Thursday provided the first extensive look at the U.S. government's case against him.

Referring throughout to Ray as Sneyd, Calcutt gave the court this account:

On March 29, six days before Dr. King was killed in Memphis, Ray went to a store in Birmingham, Ala., kept by a Mr. Wood and bought a rifle with telescopic sights and ammunition. There was another customer in the shop at the time.

The next day Ray was not satisfied and wanted to change the rifle. He took instead a Remington 760 that had telescopic sights attached to it. He also bought and took away a

box of ammunition and a box that was not the ammunition box for that particular rifle.

"On April 3, Sneyd (Ray) booked in at the New Motor Hotel at Memphis," the lawyer continued. "On the following day he checked out of the hotel and on that day in Memphis he bought a pair of binoculars."

CALCUTT QUOTED Stevens as saying he was certain the shot was fired from the bathroom window of the roominghouse, "because a partition between my kitchen and the bathroom is very thin."

"I looked through a pane of glass and heard a shot from across the street in the direction of the Lorraine Motel (where Dr. King was staying)," the lawyer quoted Stevens. "I opened my door and I looked toward the bathroom. The door was open. I saw a man running."

"He was carrying a bundle that looked to be about three to four feet long and eight inches wide. It was wrapped in newspapers."

"I think it was the same man I had seen earlier with Mrs. (Bessie) Brewer (the landlady) in room 5B. I went back to the window and looked toward the Lorraine Motel. I saw a lot of men and policemen."

Calcutt said the man who fled from the bathroom ran out of the roominghouse, "turned left and dropped his kit of rifle, sights and binoculars in the doorway. He then made off in a car waiting nearby."

As Calcutt unfolded the

story, four plainclothes detectives sat on a bench facing newsmen and the public gallery. All members of the public had been searched as they came into court.

CALCUTT, in discussing fingerprints, quoted a deposition from Bonebrake that three fingerprints found on the suspected murder rifle, its telescopic sight and the binoculars fetched prints of Ray on file with the FBI.

During cross-examination, Milton permitted Frisby to question Bonebrake at length about the U.S. racial-political situation. Representatives of the U.S. government, who included Asst. Atty. Gen. Fred M. Vinson and American Consul Gen. Jack Herfurt, did not object.

Bonebrake said he took an interest in U.S. politics although his work did not bring him into contact with politics, unless it was connected with the fingerprints he was examining.

He agreed Dr. King was a nationally known personality.

Asked if the Negro leader inspired liking or dislike in the United States, Bonebrake testified: "More toward liking, I would think." But he admitted there also was a certain amount of dislike of the civil rights leader.

MILTON WAS expected to follow up the American presentation of evidence by informing Ray that he would have 15 days to appeal against extradition to the "queen's bench," which corresponds to the American circuit court of appeals.

If Ray does appeal, a decision will probably be rendered by the queen's bench within three or four days. Thus if things go smoothly for the United States Ray may be on his way back to Memphis to face trial for murder by July 15.

AS THE HEARING began, details became known of the manner in which Ray was linked to the room from which the shot that killed Dr. King was fired.

A beer can in the room was found to have a smudge resembling a fingerprint. Minute examination indicated that it might be the print of a left thumb.

FBI experts then fed the

print into a computer containing the left thumb prints of 56,000 wanted men to spot prints in the same category as that on the beer can. This produced 1,900 prints of the same general type.

Then the FBI began an elaborate game of matching up the print with each of the 1,900. It checked with Ray's, which was in the second hundred examined.

"OH, GOD — I feel so trapped," Detective Chief Supt. Thomas Butler, of Scotland Yard, quoted Ray as saying shortly after his arrest.

The suave-looking detective was explaining to Magistrate Milton how Ray reacted when he was told soon after his arrest that he was suspected.

Butler said he spoke to Ray in his prison cell and told him: "I now believe your name is not George Sneyd, but James Earl Ray, that you are also known as Eric Starvo Galt and by other names and that you are wanted at present in the United States for serious criminal offenses including murder in which a firearm was used."

BUTLER testified the prisoner, who had been standing, "suddenly slumped down on the seat behind him and he put his head in his hands and said: 'Oh God.'"

"After a moment or so, he added: 'I feel so trapped.'"

Butler said he cautioned Ray that any statement he made could be used as evidence in subsequent court proceedings.

Ray replied, he said: "Well, yes. I should not say anything more now. I cannot think right."

SILENT THROUGH presentation of the prosecution's case, Ray declared through his attorney at the windup of that phase of the hearing that "parts of some of the testimony are false and some are exaggerated."

"I would like to disagree with them and say something about this," he said.

Frisby said Ray wished in particular "to state most emphatically that he did not make the observation: 'I feel so trapped.'"

"Nor did he say 'Oh God,' nor did he collapse on the seat in the manner which the chief superintendent described," Frisby said.



James Earl Ray

Ray did it alone: U.S. A witness in King killing!

Revelation in London courtroom

Daily News Wire Services

LONDON — The United States charged Thursday that James Earl Ray was the lone killer of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. It said it had a witness to prove it.

A British lawyer representing the United States in a formal extradition hearing called for Ray's return to Memphis, Tenn., to face charges of the "calculated, brutal and senseless murder" of the civil rights leader April 4.

Attorney David Calcutt said in Bow Street magistrate's court that fingerprints connected Ray to a rifle found by police after Dr. King was shot.

"The bullet which killed Dr. King was examined when recovered," he continued, "and there is a strong likelihood that the bullet came from the rifle found by the police."

HE SAID U.S. authorities have a witness who saw Ray

enter a rooming house bathroom overlooking the motel where Dr. King died, heard a shot fired from the bathroom and watched Ray come out of the room a minute later.

The witness was identified as Charles Stevens, 46, of no fixed address, who on April 4 was living in the rooming house.

As Ray stood—showing no apparent emotion—in the prisoner's dock, Calcutt looked at him and said: "This tragic death was the work of this criminal."

Calcutt described the crime as "the working of a single hand."

He said the slaying was a "bitter irony." "King's name was a passport for peace but he met a violent death," the British lawyer said.

IT WAS THE third British court appearance for the 40-year-old escaped convict since Scotland Yard detectives arrested him at a London airport June 8 and charged him with possessing false passports and a loaded pistol. He was travel-

ing under the name of a Toronto policeman, Ramon George Sneyd.

The two British charges have since been dropped. The United States is seeking to extradite Ray on the murder charge and a charge of having es-

caped from the Missouri State Penitentiary.

His two previous trips to Bow Street for preliminary hearings had been brief, and the proceedings Thursday provided the first extensive look at the U.S. government's case against him.

Referring throughout to Ray as Sneyd, Calcutt gave the court this account:

On March 29, six days before Dr. King was killed in Memphis, Ray went to a store in Birmingham, Ala., kept by a Mr. Wood and bought a rifle with telescopic sights and ammunition. There was another

customer in the shop at the time.

The next day Ray was not satisfied and wanted to change the rifle. He took instead a Remington 760 that had telescopic sights attached to it. He also bought and took a box of ammunition and a box that was not the right box for that particular gun.

"On April 3, Sneyd (Ray) booked in at the New River Motor Hotel at Memphis," the lawyer continued. "On the following day he checked out of the hotel and on that day in

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Memphis he bought a pair of binoculars."

CALCUTT quoted Stevens as saying that after hearing the shot from the bathroom he saw Ray leave hurriedly, leaving binocular straps in his room.

"When he got out of the hotel entrance, he turned left and dropped his kit of rifle, sights and binoculars in the doorway," Calcutt said. "He then made off in a car waiting nearby."

As Calcutt unfolded the story, four plainclothes detectives sat on a bench facing newsmen and the public gallery. All members of the public had been searched as they came into court.

The case was being heard by Chief Magistrate Frank Milton.

Also present were American Consul-general Jack Herfurt, who is in charge of the case at the American Embassy here, and Fred M. Vinson, assistant attorney general, who was here from Washington to take charge.

MILTON WAS expected to follow up the American presentation of evidence by informing Ray that he would have 15 days to appeal against extradition to the "queen's bench," which corresponds to the American circuit court of appeals.

If Ray does appeal, a decision will probably be rendered by the queen's bench within three or four days. Thus if things go smoothly for the United States Ray may be on his way back to Memphis to face trial for murder by July 15.

Also present Thursday was George Bonebreak, a top FBI fingerprint expert, who was to explain how the FBI identified Ray.

AS THE HEARING began, details became known of the manner in which Ray was

linked to the room from which the shot that killed Dr. King was fired.

A beer can in the room was found to have a smudge resembling a fingerprint. Minute examination indicated that it might be the print of a left thumb.

FBI experts then fed the print into a computer containing the left thumb prints of 56,000 wanted men to spot prints in the same category as that on the beer can. This produced 1,900 prints of the same general type.

Then the FBI began an elaborate game of matching up the print with each of the 1,900. It checked with Ray's, which was in the second hundred examined.

Claim Ray's Prints on Murder Gun

King Slaying Story

Bared in Court

British Lawyer Outlines Case for Extradition

LONDON (AP)—James Earl Ray's finger prints were found on the rifle which American police believe was used to kill the Rev. Martin Luther King

Jr., a British lawyer said in court today.

The lawyer, David Calcutt, told Chief Magistrate Frank Milton that Ray's finger prints were found on a rifle which police recovered after King was shot.

"The bullet which killed Dr. King was examined when recovered," he continued, "and there is a strong likelihood that the bullet came from the rifle found by the police."

Calcutt, representing the United States government, is asking for Ray's extradition also on charges of conspiracy to murder several other persons.

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Bitter with Irony

"Tho his name was a very password for peace," Calcutt said, "he met a violent death."

The 40-year-old escaped convict was brought into the court today to hear Calcutt outline the United States government's case for his extradition.

With two British lawyers to defend him, Ray was expected to fight extradition and appeal to the High court if Milton ruled that he should be returned to the United States. This could extend the process for weeks.

Referring thruout to Ray as Sneyd, Calcutt gave the court this account:

On March 29, six days before King was killed in Memphis, Ray went to a store in Birmingham, Ala., kept by a Mr. Wood and bought a rifle with telescopic sights and ammunition. There was another customer in the shop at the time.

stead a Remington 760 which had telescopic sights attached to it. He also bought and took away a box of ammunition and a box which was not the right box for that particular gun.

Also on that day, Calcutt said, King was in Memphis, staying at the Lorraine motel.

Sits in Front of Dock

The court was tense as Calcutt continued his story:

"At 4 o'clock in the afternoon this defendant went to 424 1/2 South Main st., where accommodation was available, and he booked a room. As he did this he was seen by a witness, a Mr. Stevens.

"The defendant got a room and, between then and 6 o'clock in the evening, he used the bathroom and the lavatory. Mr. Stevens, who was in the adjoining room, says that the man used the bathroom and the lavatory on three occasions, each time for a long time."

Calcutt continued: "at 6 o'clock Mr. Stevens says he heard a shot fired from the bathroom. He came out of his room and saw a man leaving below. He says it was the man who he had seen looking up earlier.

in his room. When he got out of the door, however, he turned left and dropped his kit of rifle, sights, and binoculars in the doorway.

"He then made off in a car waiting nearby."

Calcutt said the Memphis police took possession of the rifle and binoculars. They saw the defendants's finger prints were on them, he added.

"These tie in with the defendant's face picture and finger prints," Calcutt said.

"The bullet which killed Dr. King was examined when recovered and there is a strong likelihood that the bullet came from the rifle found by the police.

"It is also likely that the strap found in his room belonged to the binoculars found with the rifle."

Calcutt said that in September, 1959, Ray or Sneyd as he still called him — was convicted of armed robbery.

"He was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment," he said "but on April 23, 1967, he escaped from the Missouri State penitentiary with 12 years of his sentence left to serve."

Calcutt then read extracts from written testimony by Frederick Wilkes, a director of the corrections department of the Missouri penitentiary. He produced photographs and finger prints and said:

"We say we have the photos from the CIA. This is the man before he was

John Dennis, 30, of Birmingham, declared in a court affidavit read out by Calcutt that on March 29, he was with the Birmingham store which was a bar in the back of the store and handle several weapons, including a Remington-Union City .38-caliber revolver.

pictures of seven white men. He identified one as being a man who taught him the civil rights message.

Charles Swannick, 67, of 1001 S. 10th St., died of a heart attack at his home in March 1997. He died in 1985. He lived within his community in an apartment on South Street in Memphis.

On April 4, Stevens said, he saw and heard a man, a white man, in the managers' apartment building, Miss Berwer, near Area 10, which was just down the street from his. He assumed the man was looking for a room.

On April 24, Stevens said he identified an FBI "wanted" poster as very much like the man he had seen.

His apartment was in the recreation bathroom, statement continued, after giving the student room with Brewer. He heard women in room 5-B and a student had been raped in the hall.

my head and I was in
them leaning against
my room, leaning against
bathroom, and I was
tall. I was on the
on the wall.

On a small island was a shot. It was taken from the island and was very good.

SAW PEOPLE WHO
THOUGHT THEY
WERE THE ONLY
YOUNG PEOPLE

...the ...
...the ...
...the ...

one of the most important
of the world's great
and power. It is the
the first of the world's
the first of the world's

RECEIVED: APR 12 1960
REVISION: MAY 1960

Altho I did not get a good
look at him, I think it was the
same man I saw earlier with
Mrs. Brewer."

I Didn't Kill Dr. King, Ray Tells The Court

LONDON (AP)—James Earl Ray denied Thursday that he killed Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Fighting extradition to the United States to stand trial for the murder of the Negro civil rights leader, Ray professed innocence in Bow Street Magistrates Court.

The 40-year-old fugitive from the Missouri Penitentiary took the stand in his own defense after the U.S. government unveiled a carefully detailed case against him as "the single hand" in the assassination at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis on April 4.

George Jacob Bonebrake, a fingerprint expert of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, testified he found Ray's prints on the rifle, telescopic sight and binoculars that were dropped at the doorway of a shop near the motel shortly after Dr. King was slain.

Under questioning by his court-appointed British attorney, Roger Frisby, Ray declared in a soft, reedy drawl he had never met Dr. King and that he bore him no grudge.

"Did you kill Martin Luther King?" Frisby asked.

"No, sir," the prisoner replied.

Chief Magistrate Frank Milton, presiding in a gray suit with lots of white cuff showing,

later adjourned the hearing until next Tuesday. It is expected to be completed then. Ray went back to prison.

British lawyers retained by the United States told Milton of witnesses to the purchase of the rifle and of a disabled war veteran, Charles Stevens, 46, who said he heard the fatal shot fired from the common bathroom of a rooming house on S. Main St. near the Lorraine Motel.

But Ray resisted moves to extradite him to stand trial for Dr. King's murder with all the legal ammunition provided by Britain's clouded extradition laws.

If the court's decision goes against him, Frisby is expected to appeal to a higher court on the ground that Dr. King's assassination was a political crime, for which Britain does not permit extradition.

Frisby electrified the court by summoning Ray to the stand for a six-minute unsworn appearance.

Ray was formally addressed as Ramon George Sneyd, the alias under which he is held here on charges of entering Britain on a forged Canadian passport.

He sat rather than stood in the witness box to make less of a target in any attempt on his life and Scotland Yard de-

tectives clustered around him in a human screen. This was the exchange:

Frisby: Did you know Martin Luther King personally?

Ray: No, sir.

Frisby: Had you ever met him?

Ray: No, sir.

Frisby: Have you any kind of grudge against him?

Ray: No, sir.

Frisby: Did you kill Martin Luther King?

Ray: No, sir.

Asked To Sign

Asked by the court clerk to sign a summary of this far evidence, Ray turned to his lawyer and said: "How would I sign it?"

It went into the record unsigned. At no point during the hearing did his lawyer admit that the prisoner was Ray.

The U.S. case was presented by David Calcutt, a tall, bald British lawyer. It took him one hour and 10 minutes to tell the story.

This was Calcutt's version of the evidence against Ray, drawn from the documents submitted by the U.S. Embassy.

On March 29 Ray went into the Aero Marine Supply Co. in Birmingham, Ala., and bought a rifle with a telescopic sight from Donald Wood, the son of the owner.

The next day he came back and exchanged it for a Remington 760 rifle, Serial No. 461476, with a telescopic sight numbered A17350.

John Deshazo of Montgomery, Ala., another customer in the store, told FBI agents later that Ray—or a man he tentatively identified as Ray through pictures—had bought a rifle and said he was going hunting in Wisconsin with his brother or brother-in-law.

On April 3, according to a

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sworn statement by receptionist Henrietta Hagermaster, Ray booked into the new Rebel Motor Hotel in Memphis. Then he went to a Memphis store run by a Mr. York and bought a pair of Bushnell binoculars numbered DQ408664 with a case and strap, in a yellow and black box, and wrapped in a gray-blue paper bag. He got a receipt for \$41.05.

A Key Witness

The next affidavit came from Stevens, one of the government's key witnesses. On the day of Dr. King's death, he was living with his common-law wife in apartment 6-B of the rooming house at 422½ S. Main St., Memphis, which from the rear faced the motel where Dr. King was shot.

On that day, he said, he saw

the manager, Bessie Brewer, standing near apartment 5-B, just down the hall from his, with an unidentified man. Stevens' apartment was next to the common bathroom, separated from his kitchen by only a thin plywood partition.

Stevens, who spent most of his time in bed, said he heard footsteps on April 4 leading from apartment 5-B, to the bathroom.

The affidavit continued:

"On the first couple of times, he did not stay long. On the third time the person stayed there what seemed like a long time toward the end of the afternoon between 5 and 6 p.m. I wanted to use the toilet.

"I was in my kitchen working on a small radio when I heard a shot. I could tell that it came from the bathroom because it was very loud.

"Then I heard voices yelling and hollering in the Lorraine Motel. I went out and

saw a man running and carrying a bundle about three or four feet long and six or eight inches thick, wrapped in newspaper. Although I didn't get a long look, I think it was the same man I saw earlier with Mrs. Brewer."

3 King witnesses 'missing'

MEMPHIS (UPI) — Three persons believed to be key witnesses in the April 4 slaying of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. may have been taken into protective custody.

Local authorities refused comment and a special agent of the FBI said he had "no knowledge" of the whereabouts of Charles Q. Stevens, Willie Anchutz and Mrs. Bessie Brewer. Mrs. Brewer is a former manager of the down-at-heels rooming house from which the fatal shot was fired; the two men had lived there.

All three saw the man who checked into the rooming house and allegedly fired the shot that killed Dr. King. The FBI later identified that man as James Earl Ray, a fugitive from a Missouri prison arrested June 8 in London under the name George Ramson Sneyd.

IN EXTRADITION proceedings in London Thursday, barrister David Calcutt, representing the United States, said Stevens was a witness to the King assassination, a statement that sparked a search here for the witnesses.

A check of the rooming house revealed that Mrs. Brewer and her husband, Frank, had been replaced in the manager's office by Mr. and Mrs. James MacDonald; Stevens' room, No. 16, was padlocked, and there was no report on Anchutz.

Frank Holloman, director of fire and police, said he could make no comment on any facet of the case. He repeated the statement as he was ques-

tioned about the whereabouts of the three.

Robert Jensen, special agent in charge of the FBI office here, said he talked with Stevens a "few weeks" ago, but "I have no knowledge of his whereabouts at the present time."

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U.S. hopes to obtain Ray extradition soon

By William H. Stoneman
Daily News Foreign Service

LONDON—American embassy officials expressed the hope Friday that an order for the extradition of James Earl Ray, accused of killing the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., will be granted in Bow Street Magistrate's Court Tuesday when his hearing is resumed.

They did not appear unduly worried by the defense lawyer's plan to contest the granting of the order on the ground that—if Ray did, in fact, kill Dr. King—it was a "political" crime and therefore not covered under the Anglo-American extradition treaty.

"The whole burden of my case is that Dr. King is a political figure," said Roger Frisby, Ray's attorney, at the hearing's first session Thursday.

RAY, QUESTIONED by Frisby, denied that he had killed Dr. King. Since he was not under oath, U.S. attorneys did not have a chance to cross-examine him.

"Did you Martin Luther King personally?" asked Frisby.

"No, sir," said Ray.

"Have you ever met Martin Luther King personally?"

"No, sir."

"Did you have any grudge

against him?"

"No, sir."

"Did you kill Dr. Martin Luther King?"

"No, sir."

Frisby had advised the court in advance that he would not contest fingerprint evidence linking Ray to the alleged murder weapon.

THE U.S. CASE against Ray was presented by British lawyer David Calcutt, who called the slaying the "working of a single hand."

One of Calcutt's witnesses was Thomas Butler of Scotland Yard, who arrested Ray at a London airport June 8.

Butler said Ray "slumped down on a seat behind him, put his head in his hands and said, 'Oh, God, I feel so trapped.'"

If an extradition order is granted Tuesday, Ray's lawyers will have 15 days in which to appeal to the Queen's Bench, a higher court. The Queen's Bench might take four or five days to render its verdict.

If that verdict went against Ray, he might be permitted to appeal to the House of Lords, the British equivalent of the Supreme Court, for a legal judgment on whether

his crime—even if proven—was a political act.

Fund offers to pay for Ray's defense

SAVANNAH, Ga. (AP)—An organization called the Patriot Legal Fund has offered to defend James Earl Ray "free of charge" if he is tried on charges of assassinating the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The fund's secretary, Dr. Edward R. Fields, said the legal fund would defend Ray with its own attorney or would pay former Birmingham (Ala.) Mayor Arthur J. Hanes "if Mr. Hanes asks us."

"Art Hanes is a personal friend of mine and would be a good attorney to defend Ray," Fields said.

In Birmingham, Hanes said, "We've solicited no funds nor authorized anybody to collect any funds. We know nothing of this outfit."

Asked if he knew Fields, Hanes said, "I've met him once or twice. Some of the boys showed up with their storm trooper tactics at a Birmingham meeting some years ago. I refused to speak until they were cleared out."

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3 Witnesses in Ray Case Can't Be Found

Memphis, June 27 (UPI) — Three key witnesses against James Earl Ray, the accused assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., have dropped from sight and may be in protective custody, an investigation showed today.

A fourth witness has been confined to a mental institution, authoritative sources said. This witness was not identified.

A British lawyer, David Calcutt, representing the United States at an extradition hearing for Ray in London, told the court that American authorities had a witness, a "Mr. Stevens," who had seen Ray enter the boarding house bathroom that King's killer used as a sniper's post.

Scurry to House

Calcutt's disclosure sent local reporters scurrying to the boarding house to further interview Charles A. Stevens, who was known to have given authorities information concerning the April 4 killing.

But when newsmen reached the house they found Stevens missing and a padlock on his old room, No. 6. Also missing were Mrs. Bessie Brewer, former rooming house manager, and another occupant, Willie Anchutz, who had given officials information.

Mrs. Brewer and her husband, Frank, had been replaced in the manager's office by Mr. and Mrs. James MacDonald.

The MacDonalds said they had been managing the rooming house "only a few days" and did not know the Brewers.

Mrs. Brewer was still at the house June 8, when Ray, using the name George Ramon Sneyd, was arrested at the London airport. She told reporters at that time that she "had been too busy to worry about" the King assassination.

Keep Whereabouts Secret

Authorities refused to shed any light on the whereabouts of the witnesses. Frank Holloman, director of fire and police, said he could make no comment, and Robert Jensen, agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, when questioned about Stevens, said he talked to him "a few weeks ago, but 'I have no knowledge of his whereabouts at the present time.'"

Jensen refused to comment on Mrs. Brewer and Anchutz, explaining: "I'm sorry, I'm restricted, and can say nothing about the case."

Man Was Clean Shaven

Stevens, in interviews shortly after King was killed, said the man he saw was clean shaven, had sharp features, and thick hair at the front that receded on each side.

It was Steven's description, given to an artist of the Memphis Commercial Appeal that produced the first visual likeness of the man FBI agents later identified as Ray.

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Ray: 'I Did Not Kill King'; Bare Prints on Rifle

BY ARTHUR VEYSEY
[Chief of London Bureau]
[Chicago Tribune Press Service]

LONDON, June 27—In a day of high drama, the United States today meticulously unfolded a file of finger prints, photographs, and eyewitness statements in an effort to extradite James Earl Ray for trial in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. King was shot to death by a sniper April 4 as he stood on a motel balcony in Memphis.

The finger prints included thumb prints on the rifle with which Dr. King is believed to have been slain, the United States said.

But the man in the center of the dingy Bow Street court firmly declared his innocence. He said also that he had never met King and bore him no grudge.

Lawyer Takes Different Tack

However, his chief British defense lawyer, Roger Frisby, did not attempt to challenge the American web of evidence.

Instead, Frisby began building a defense on the legal, technical argument that the murder of King was political and thus does not come under the British-American extradition law.

Solovague is the new, on this complicated, under-estimated matter and so long that it takes the chief clerk to write down the names of the witnesses.



James Earl Ray



Charles Stevenson

hand used in Magistrate counts that the day ended with still another day's work ahead. The chief magistrate, deeply involved in a British crime case, doesn't have a free day until Tuesday. However, he is used to complete them Tuesday night.

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Wally to Witness...
The first moment of drama came this afternoon when the thin, tense, bespectacled defendant walked to the witness box in this oldest of all police courts. He wore a rumpled plaid suit and a blue sports shirt open at the neck. His black hair was combed straight back.

His jaws, which had been busy thru the long day chewing gum, were locked tight. Normally, witnesses stand before British judges. But to lessen the risk of anyone trying to shoot him, he was told to sit.

From across the small room,

the clipped voice of his British lawyer snapped sharply:

"Did you kill the Rev. Martin Luther King?"

The man paused only to draw a breath.

"No, sir," he replied.

He denied also that he knew King personally or that he bore the American civil rights leader any grudge.

But when the chief clerk, A. V. Mindham, writing busily with his pen, put down the quadruple denial in black and white and invited him to indorse the two pages, the witness asked almost in a whimper:

"But the trouble is, how should I sign it?"

Statement Left Unsigned

The man known to the British court as Ramon George Sneyd, the name under which he was arrested at London airport June 8, looked across the room to his lawyer. The lawyer shook his head strongly.

So the statement entered the court records unsigned.

But another statement — and a signed one — was already in the court file. The man identified by the Federal Bureau of

Investigation as Ray, said in a statement that he believed he was not Sneyd, but an alias for an effective crime master, Chief Superintendent Thomas Butler, gave the court during the morning.

Butler said he saw the man arrested as Sneyd at his cell in Cannon row police station June 8, the day he was arrested.

"I then told him, 'I now believe you are not Sneyd, but James Earl Ray, also known as Eric Starvo Galt and other names,'" Butler said. "You are wanted at present in the United States for serious criminal offenses, including murder in which a firearm was used."

"... he suddenly slumped down on the seat behind him. He put his head in his hands and said, 'Oh, God.'"

"After a moment, or so, he added, 'I feel so trapped.'"

Lawyer Denies All

As soon as London's chief magistrate, Frank Milton, gave the accused man a chance to speak, he protested that Butler "exaggerated" and demanded a chance "to tell my side."

Later, Ray's lawyer said:

"My client disagrees with a large part of the evidence given by Chief Superintendent Butler. In particular he wants to state most emphatically he did not make the observation, 'I feel so trapped,' nor did he say, 'Oh God,' nor did he collapse on the seat in the manner the chief superintendent described."

The United States case was outlined by a British barrister, David Calcutt.

Wanted by Missouri

He said the case is divided into two parts. The United States wants Ray for escaping from Missouri State penitentiary April 23, 1967, after serving 8 years of a 20-year sentence for robbery. To support that claim, Calcutt presented a statement from Fred Wilkinson, director of the Missouri Department of Corrections.

The statement

... and a statement by a man named them in order as they came into the story.

This was Calcutt's version of the evidence against Ray, drawn from the documents submitted by the United States embassy.

On March 24, Ray went to the Aero Marine Supply company in Birmingham, Ala., and bought a rifle with a telescopic sight from Donald Wood, the son of the owner.

In House Near Motel

The next day he exchanged it for a Remington 760 rifle, serial number 461476, with a telescopic sight numbered A17350.

On April 3, according to a sworn statement by receptionist Henrietta Hagernaster, Ray registered at the new Rebel Motor hotel in Memphis.

The next affidavit came from Charles Stevens, 46, one of the government's key witnesses. On the day of King's death, Stevens was in a rooming house which from the rear faced the Memphis motel where King was shot.

On that day, Stevens said, he saw the manageress, Bessie Brewer, standing in the hall with an unidentified man.

Stevens said he heard footsteps April 4 leading from a nearby apartment to the bathroom.

The affidavit continued:

"I was in my kitchen working on a small radio when I heard a shot. I could tell that it came from the bathroom because it was very loud."

"Then I heard voices yelling and hollering in the lobby of the motel. I went out and saw a man running and carrying a bundle about three or four feet long and six or eight inches thick, wrapped in a brown cloth. Although I didn't see a gun, I think it was that man who shot Ray earlier in the day."

Build is described as being 5'10" tall, 170 lbs., with dark hair, brown eyes, and a mustache. He was wearing a dark suit and a light-colored shirt.

and gave it to a police officer. The officer said that the man was wearing a dark suit and a light-colored shirt. The man was also wearing a dark hat and a light-colored scarf. The man was also wearing a dark tie and a light-colored shirt.

gun expert, developed the bullet taken from the victim. It could have come from the rifle. That completed the evidence read from the statement submitted in the United States.

The man, who was identified as George Jackson, who has worked in the fingerprint office, had examined the bullet to establish its identity.

Bessie Brewer, the manageress, said she had seen Ray when he was in the rooming house. She said she had seen him when he was in the rooming house and when he was in the rooming house.

The defense lawyer, who was identified as David Calcutt, challenged the evidence submitted by the government.

He said that the evidence was not credible and that it was not sufficient to prove that Ray was the shooter.

He also said that the evidence was not sufficient to prove that Ray was the shooter.

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He also said that the evidence was not sufficient to prove that Ray was the shooter.

In Protective Custody?

4 King Slaying Witnesses Missing

MEMPHIS (AP)—Four probable witnesses in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. here April 4 cannot be found in Memphis—and there were indications today that they may be in protective custody. City Police Director Frank Holloman declined to say.

None of the four could be found by reporters who tried to contact them yesterday in connection with United States efforts to return James Earl Ray — charged with the King slaying — from London. Proceedings in Britain have been put over until Tuesday.

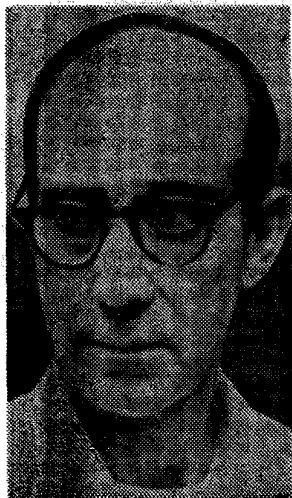
Room Padlocked

Among the missing was Charles Quitman Stephens, 46, a key witness in the case who lived in a rooming house from which police say a fatal rifle shot was fired at King as he stood on the balcony of the nearby Lorraine motel.

Neither Stephens nor his invalid wife, another possible witness, were available at the rooming house yesterday. Their former room was padlocked and if police knew of their whereabouts, they were keeping it a secret.

Seen By Witness

Also unavailable was Mrs. Bessie Brewer, the former manager of the rooming house, along with her husband, Frank. Mr. and Mrs. James MacDonald, now operating the rooming house, were asked



(AP Wirephoto)

CHARLES O. STEPHENS
In protective custody?

about the Brewers and replied: "They'll be gone a few days."

But Willie Anchutz, another rooming house resident, was reported on the job yesterday by his supervisor at a delivery service. Anchutz and Stephens both told police shortly after King was slain that they sought to use the rooming house bathroom and it was occupied for a long time by another rooming house guest.

Both men were quoted at the time of the slaying as saying they saw a man run out of the bathroom — from which police say the shot was fired which killed King.

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Ray Case Evidence: Signature

BY ARTHUR VEYSEY

[Chief of London Bureau]

[Chicago Tribune Press Service]

LONDON, June 29—A New piece of evidence obtained under the judge's own eyes will help Chief Magistrate Frank Milton decide Tuesday whether a man arrested at London airport three weeks ago under the name of Ramon George Sneyd is really James Earl Ray, wanted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation for the slaying of the Rev. Martin Luther King.

The evidence is the man's own signature at the bottom of two handwritten pages on which the clerk of Bow Street court set down the man's dispute with testimony given by the head of Scotland Yard's flying squad, Chief Superintendent Thomas Butler.

What name the man used to sign the two pages is not yet known. From the dock, the man handed the two pages to his London solicitor, Michael Eugene, who passed them on to the court clerk, who put them into a file.

"I didn't get a chance to see how he signed," Eugene said.

Nigel Graham Maw, attorney for the United States, intends to ask the chief magistrate for permission to inspect the two pages, before the extradition hearing is resumed Tuesday.

Even if the suspect did not sign "James Earl Ray," the signature is considered important. FBI handwriting experts have connected other signatures to Ray. At least two such signatures are already before the court here in the inch-thick file of documents prepared in

Memphis, where the Rev. Mr. King was slain April 4.

To help determine the suspect's identity, the judge also has before him photographs of Ray taken when he was a convict in the Missouri state penitentiary and of a man who called himself Eric Starvo Galt on his graduation from a bartender's school in Los Angeles this March.

Fingerprints in Evidence

There are also fingerprints of Ray taken by the Los Angeles police in 1949, of Ray as a Missouri convict, and of the man traveling as Sneyd taken at London airport by a Scotland Yard expert after his arrest. He was seized trying to board a plane for Brussels.

The magistrate, after deciding on likely identity, will then have to determine if the United States' case is sufficient to justify the man's being turned over to American marshals to be flown to Memphis for trial there.

In Bow street court Thursday, the United States produced fingerprints, personal identifications, and other evidence intended to show that Ray bought a rifle, sight, ammunition and binoculars shortly before the slaying, stayed overnight in a Memphis motel, and then, on the afternoon of the killing, moved into a rooming house behind the Lorraine motel, where King was living.

Aim of Evidence

The evidence tries to place Ray in the bathroom at the time the fatal shot was fired from the bathroom window and that Ray was the man who ran from the roominghouse, abandoned the rifle, sight, binoculars, and other things in an adjoining doorway, and drove away in a white car.

The evidence includes an empty cartridge in the abandoned rifle, a receipt for the binoculars and straps left in room 5B at the rooming house that fit the binocular case.

An FBI fingerprint expert, George Bonebrake, told the court he found Ray's left thumb print on the gun and the binocular case and his ring finger print on the sight.

Maxwell

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RAY TO PLEAD AS POLITICAL FOE OF U. S.

British Hearing Set Tomorrow

BY ARTHUR VEYSEY

[Chief of London Bureau]

[Chicago Tribune Press Service]

LONDON, June 30 — Defense lawyers Tuesday will seek political sanctuary in Britain for the man identified by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as James Earl Ray, wanted for the slaying of the Rev. Martin Luther King.

Treaties between Britain and the United States dating back to 1870 forbid either country from extraditing a person sought for what the treaties call "an offense of a political character."

The clause generally was inserted in extradition treaties a century ago when European monarchs and republicans were deadly rivals for power in their own countries and when men in office resorted freely to the guillotine, the scaffold, and the dungeon to reduce threats to themselves.

In Treaties a Century

In the last century, British judges were willing to accept as political refugees, under the extradition treaty, only those sought for a deed that "furthered a political uprising."

For example, in 1891 some Swiss citizens revolted, seized the local armory, and shot their way into the town hall.

British Denied Appeal

But their cause collapsed and one Swiss fled to England. The Swiss authorities asked he be handed over, saying he had shot and killed a member of the government during the at-

tack on the town hall. British judges let him stay in Britain.

A few years later, British judges said a political offense could only arise in a rivalry between two political parties, each of which was trying to impose its will on the other. At stake then were some French anarchists who blew up barracks, killing several French policemen. British handed them to the anarchists.

In 1955, Britain's then chief justice, Lord Goddard, examining the claims of a Polish seaman who mutinied against his communist trawler captain, stated that "a murder committed in the course of rebellion" might be considered a political crime.

Four years ago, the high courts said political crime need not aim at replacing a government to gain its door sanctuary in Britain. It was enough if the goal was merely changing a government's policies or advisers.

"That is precisely what Dr. King was trying to do," the chief defense lawyer, Roger Frisby, told Chief Magistrate, Frank Milton.

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Report King 'Witness' on Fishing Trip

MEMPHIS (P)—A man called a key witness in the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., is on a fishing trip in a resort area, the Commercial Appeal reported today.

The Memphis newspaper also quoted "a reliable source" as hinting the FBI knew of the whereabouts of the man, Charles Q. Stephens.

Memphis reporters tried unsuccessfully for 2 days to locate Stephens last week when he was identified as a witness in the King slaying during extradition proceedings in London for James Earl Ray, the man accused of the killing.

Stephens was quoted by a lawyer as saying he saw a man run from a bathroom at a boarding house from which police said the fatal shot was fired.

Dumaine
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Ray ordered to U.S. for trial

More delay likely with an appeal

BULLETIN

LONDON—James Earl Ray was ordered extradited Tuesday to face trial in Memphis on a charge of killing the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. last April 4. An almost certain appeal would further delay departure from Britain.

By William H. Stoneman
Daily News Foreign Service

LONDON—A verdict in the extradition hearing for James Earl Ray, the suspect in the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was to be delivered Tuesday in Bow Street Magistrate Court.

The judgment was to be handed down by Chief Magistrate Frank Milton after a 1-hour, 30-minute morning session devoted largely to legal arguments between opposing counsel.

Roger Frisby, acting in Ray's behalf, argued that

Ray's act, if indeed he did kill Dr. King, was a political crime that did not fall within

the terms of the 1941 Anglo-American extradition treaty.

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. He showed no trace of emotion.

FROM TIME to time Ray clasped his hands in front of

L. W. Stone
CHICAGO DAILY NEWS

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him, displaying what the U.S. authorities contend was the trigger finger in the slaying of Dr. King in Memphis last April 4.

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

IT WAS RAY'S second hearing on extradition in Bow Street court since his arrest on June 8 at London airport, where he was waiting to board a plane for Brussels with a Canadian passport issued to Ramon George Sneyd.

Ray at the first hearing last week denied that he killed Dr. King or even knew him.

Persons accused of political crimes are not subject to extradition under the treaty between Britain and the United States. The United States had also asked for Ray's extradition as an escaped convict from the Missouri State Penitentiary, but if he were returned on that charge only, the extradition treaty would prevent his trial on the murder charge.



James Earl Ray

King Slaying Called Just Plain Murder

BY GODFREY ANDERSON

LONDON (AP) — The United States government today denied James Earl Ray's contention that the killing of Martin Luther King Jr. was a political crime for which he could not be extradited from Britain.

"There is not a shred of evidence to show that the murder took place to further the ends of a larger enterprise," David Calcutt, a British lawyer representing the United States government, told London's chief magistrate, Frank Milton.

"There is nothing to show that this shouting was done to further the cause of the colored people," Calcutt continued. "There was no conspiracy. No other man or other body was involved."

Probably Lone Gunman

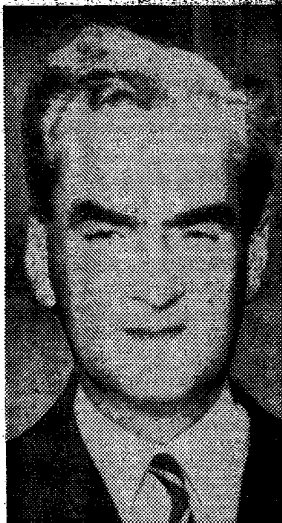
"There have been undertones that this might be so, but the evidence before this court points to a lone assassination for private purposes."

Calcutt addressed the court after Ray's British attorney, Roger Frisby, told the magistrate that whoever killed King did not do it on personal grounds but because he disapproved of the type of activity King was conducting.

Frisby made his statement at the second session in the Bow Street Magistrate's court on the United States government's application for Ray's extradition. Ray at the first hearing last week denied that he killed King or even knew him.

Political Crime Exempt

Persons accused of political crimes are not subject to extradition under the treaty between Britain and the United States. The United States has also asked for Ray's extradition as an escaped convict from the Missouri State penitentiary, but if he is returned on that charge only the extradition treaty would prevent his trial on the murder charge.



ROGER FRISBY
Attorney for Ray

could be a political offense without any attempt to overthrow the lawful government of a country. Nor was it necessary for there to be any kind of open insurrection or civil war, he contended.

King was Political

"Wherever there is a substantial body of persons in the state seeking by constitutional or other means to compel the government or the state to change its policy, you have a situation where even the crime of murder may be motivated politically," Frisby asserted.

"I have to say that the deceased man was a political

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figure engaging in political activities.

It was Ray's fourth appearance in Bow Street court since his arrest on June 8 at London airport, where he was waiting to board a plane for Brussels with a Canadian passport issued to Ramon George Sneyd.

Could File Appeal

The hearing may end today, but if the magistrate rules in favor of extradition, Ray is certain to appeal to the High court. This would extend his stay in Britain for weeks at least.

The final extradition hearing Thursday was devoted mainly to testimony on behalf of the United States government seeking to prove that Ray had purchased a rifle with telescopic sights in Birmingham, Ala., had been seen in a Memphis,

sense, a fugitive must be allied with one of two separate and identifiable political groups contending for power in a country.

Yet a 1955 case ignored this principle and refused extradition for a group of Polish seamen who mutinied on the high seas and sailed their ship to an English port. The judge conceded that there was no political group trying to take over from the communist government in Poland, but he said political offenses must be considered in the context of the times.

Tenn. rooming house overlooking the motel where King was shot, and that finger prints found on the abandoned gun were his.

Defense Ignores Evidence

David Calcutt, British lawyer for the United States government, outlined the United States case and said King's death was the work of "the single hand this man."

Frisby, in opening Ray's defense, said virtually no attention to the evidence but concentrated on trying to put the case in a political context.

To bolster his case, he has already produced testimony about the American civil rights movement, and King's role in it, from an American FBI agent and a British newspaper reporter who covered the assassination in Memphis.

Conflict in Precedents

At this stage, more British legal experts agree that Milton will order Ray's extradition, but they say that conflicting precedents give Frisby ample scope to argue the case on appeal.

Over the years, British courts have held that to be entitled to exemption for a political of-

A CURIOUS TIME FOR COMPASSION

A British court yesterday ordered the extradition of James Earl Ray to the United States to face trial for the murder of the Rev. Martin Luther King, one of the most inflammatory crimes in our history. Yet on the same day Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark urged Congress to abolish the death penalty for all federal crimes, including the assassination of the President.

Granted that Mr. Clark's position does not bear directly on what a court in Memphis might prescribe as punishment for murder under the state laws of Tennessee, which [along with the laws of 36 other states] do provide for the death penalty. The fact remains that Mr. Clark's plea is likely to have an influence beyond its immediate applicability, and that its timing is inexplicable.

The country is suffering from a dismaying and mounting wave of crimes of violence. Despite the distracting efforts of those who suggest that "society" is to blame, or that violence is somehow a part of the American way of life, the real problem is simply that our laws no longer command the respect of the people. An "activist" judiciary, encouraged by the apathy of the public, has brought a lopsided interest in the rights of the criminal at the expense of the rights of his victims.

The police are increasingly hampered by judicial caveats, and the Supreme court has even told the 37 states allowing the death penalty that they are wrong in trying to impose it. It has held that veniremen may not be excluded from juries in capital cases because of conscientious objections to the death penalty.

Nobody knows how many lives were lost in rioting as a result of the assassinations of Mr. King and Sen. Kennedy. Too much already has been done to interfere with the enforcement of our laws. This is a time for caution in dismantling them any further. The attorney general's solicitude for criminals is ill timed and may well add to our problems.

D. J. [unclear]
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

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Order Ray back to U.S. for trial

By William H. Stoneman
Daily News Foreign Service

LONDON—James Earl Ray Tuesday was ordered extradited to the United States to stand trial for the April 4 assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

But, Ray announced he would file an appeal.

In a brief statement at the close of the hearing in Bow Street Magistrate's Court, Chief Magistrate Frank Milton rejected the defense contention that the slaying of the American civil rights leader was a political crime.

Such a finding would have exempted Ray, an escapee from a Missouri prison, from extradition under terms of the 1931 Anglo-American extradition treaty.

Ray, 40, who was arrested at a London airport June 8 traveling under the name of Ramon George Sneyd on a Canadian passport, was remanded to a British prison pending his appeal.

IN CONTRAST to his composure at a hearing last week, Ray was nervous during Tuesday's 1-hour-40-minute session. His jaw twitched and he sweated profusely in the close atmosphere of the courtroom, where shades were drawn to keep out the blazing sun on a humid, sweltering London day.

Milton ruled Ray extraditable on two counts—the King slaying and his escape from the Missouri prison where he was serving a term for armed robbery.

"ALL I KNOW in this affair is that the man says he did not do it," Milton said. At last week's hearing, Ray denied in sworn testimony that he was King's assassin.

"If the only evidence is that a public figure, a political figure, a controversial figure has been killed, then this is not enough," Milton continued.

"Therefore both submissions failed to be accepted and the defendant will be committed to a prison to await extradition on both sides."

Although defense counsel Roger Frisby argued the slaying was a political crime, Milton said:

"This was the assassination of a man who was not in control of the government of his country, not as far as has been shown by the evidence. It was not part of a campaign to get rid of the government, but the act of a solitary person."

IN HIS final statement, Frisby had contended that whoever committed the slaying was acting "consciously or otherwise" as a representative of a large body of persons who disagreed with the objectives of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference headed by Dr. King.

Passage of the 1964 U.S. Civil Rights Act was the culmination of efforts by SCLC and other bodies to compel the U.S. government to change its policy and, in a sense, thus was political work, Frisby said.

RAY, WHO looked hunched and limp, displayed no emotion when Milton announced his decision. First he stared at a table before him, then raised his gaze slowly to look at the magistrate without blinking.

With a shrug of his shoulders, he rose expectantly to receive instructions from the court.

"You will not be released for 15 days. You may apply for habeas corpus," he advised Ray. Under British law, this is the form that Ray's appeal must take before the

Queen's Bench division of the High Court of Justice.

Advising the defendant that he could apply for legal aid for his appeal, Milton asked, "Do you want it?"

"Yes, sir," answered Ray, who said he understood his position and was preparing the necessary appeal application.

RAY IS BEING held by the British under charges of carrying an unlicensed pistol and two illegal passports, the charges that brought his arrest at London Airport. These charges have been held in abeyance by the British pending disposition of the extradition proceeding.

Ray's nervousness reached

at Chicago while Ray planned his escape. He was arrested in London after a long chase. He was found with his hands with fingers crossed and he collapsed. When he was found, Ray showed a look of a man who had been moved his feet about and suddenly become aware of his situation. Ray made a statement that was incoherent and nervous. He indicated he needed an attorney who was selected to represent him in any court.

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