

JUN 10 1968

JUN 10 1968

Quick Extradition of Ray Studied by U.S. Officials

FAST EXTRADITION OF RAY IS STUDIED

By PETER GROSE
Special to The New York Times

Continued From Page 1, Col. 4

WASHINGTON, June 9—Justice Department officials said the extradition might be easier and quicker on terms other than Ray's alleged role in the slaying of the Dr. Martin Luther King Attorney General Ramsey touched on various alternatives during an interview on the American Broadcasting television program "Answers."

The broadcast he requested his office to study a possibility that he had

not mentioned, according to Justice aides—that extradition could be requested on the basis of a complaint that Ray was a fugitive who broke out of the Missouri State Prison 13 months ago while serving a 20-year sentence on a robbery conviction.

Legal experts believed that this might make a more straightforward extradition case than either the Tennessee murder charge or a Federal charge of conspiracy to violate Dr. King's civil rights.

State Department legal experts, Justice Department lawyers and the Governors of Tennessee and Missouri were reported to be in consultation about the procedures to be followed.

While British officials have been quoted as saying that extradition could take as long as three to six weeks, United States officials are hopeful of quicker action.

Meanwhile, Mr. Clark said that the security of the prisoner, held since yesterday by the British police, held top priority for Assistant Attorney General Fred M. Vinson Jr., who flew to London within hours of the arrest.

After conferring with Mr. Vinson by telephone, Mr. Clark said that the prisoner had made no statement about Dr. King's assassination April 4 in Memphis, for which he is under indictment in Tennessee.

Mr. Clark said that Ray's return to the United States for trial "as quickly as possible" was Mr. Vinson's second priority in his consultations with the British legal authorities.

Mr. Vinson visited London's Cannon Row police station to see Ray in his cell, Justice Department aides said, but

made no attempt to talk with him.

Mr. Clark said that Ray would not be questioned except "in strict conformity with applicable legal standards."

Asked whether the suspect's European travels, some of which are known to have been paid for in cash, suggested that Ray was being financially supported by others in a conspiracy, Mr. Clark replied:

"We have to go on evidence, on fact, not on theory or speculation. At this time we have no evidence that James Earl Ray was not acting alone. If there was a conspiracy, it will be discovered."

As to the money for Ray's travels, Mr. Clark said:

"He is a person who lived a life of crime, who obtained money through crime, and I think we can reason that this is a very plausible possibility as to the source of his funds."

The Federal Bureau of Investigation was unable to shed any light on Ray's movements just before he flew to London from Lisbon yesterday morning.

A spokesman said that the Portuguese police had not yet supplied a report on his movement so he could not explain reports that there was no one with Ray's assumed name, Ramon George Sneyd on the London-bound plane.

If he left Portugal under some other name and passport he must have destroyed the false documents, the spokesman said, because he had only two passports in his possession when he was arrested, both of them in the name of Sneyd.

Continued on Page 18, Column 3

44-703-634

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JUN 13 1968	
FBI - WASH. F.	
Dawson	