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LAWYER SAYS RAY GAVE HIM NAMES

Reports 'Leads' for Defense
—Calls Suspect 'Sane'

LONDON, July 6 (AP)—The American lawyer for James Earl Ray, accused assassin of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., talked with the suspect in prison today and said afterward that he had gotten "names and other leads" to help build a case for the defense and that he had found the prisoner "perfectly rational, sane and lucid."

The lawyer, Arthur J. Hanes of Birmingham, Ala., met with Ray for an hour in an interview room at Wandsworth Prison. Mr. Hanes said he had found the conditions there somewhat restrictive.

British prison officials did not permit him an interview in confidence, as is usually accorded a British lawyer, he said.

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

The Alabama lawyer said he was beginning to build his case and organize a defense for the day that Ray might be extradited by the British to stand trial for the murder of Dr. King.

Calls Meeting 'Fruitful'

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

Mr. Hanes spoke to reporters on emerging from the prison. He said he had no cause to complain about the restrictions placed upon him because "that's the system here."

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

Mr. Hanes declined to give any details about the names or other information Ray had given him. He also refused to answer a question about Ray's political orientation.

Mr. Hanes said he planned to leave London tomorrow and did not foresee another trip to Britain to interview Ray unless the need arose.

He said Ray had been receiving

"many messages of support from the United States and he is grateful for it."

Denies 'Trapped' Remark

LONDON, July 6 (UPI)—Mr. Hanes also said that Ray categorically denied he had collapsed when arrested in London, muttering: "Oh my God, I feel so trapped."

Mr. Hanes quoted Ray as saying: "You might expect a 10-year-old girl to make such a remark, but not a grown man."

The lawyer said that the prison guards had described Ray as "very cooperative" and with "good rapport with those around him."

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