

Judge's order tones down beefs by Ray's attorney

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — The type of trial Judge W. Preston Battle plans to preside over for James Earl Ray apparently isn't what Ray's attorney, gabby Arthur Hanes of Birmingham, had in mind.

It has appeared obvious from the moment Hanes entered the case that he planned to play for sympathy with predictions, charges, accusations and other press relations gimmicks aimed at winning

sympathy for his client.

Judge Battle has changed all that.

He has ordered the principals in the case to limit their off the cuff remarks concerning Ray's trial for the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Hanes, who arrived in Memphis complaining because he was not allowed to accompany the accused back from London, also has claimed that the state is having witnesses it has

questioned and "stashed out. They're being paid and they're being taken care of," he fumed.

Battle ordered case principals to refrain from "extra judicial" statements.

Hanes met Saturday with Tennessee Atty. Gen. Phil Canale and Shelby County Sheriff William Morris.

Purpose of the meetings, Hanes said, was to work out details for the arraign-

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ment and ground rules for the trial.

Shelby County officials indicated it would be Monday, or later, before the 40-year-old Ray is arraigned and permitted to enter a plea. He is expected to be tried in October or November.

Hanes said his client is anxious to go on trial and "clear this matter up." It was for this reason, Hanes said, that Ray gave up his extradition fight in London.

where he was captured June 8 following a worldwide search.

Before meeting with officials, Hanes held a brief news conference in his hotel and was asked how his defense preparation were progressing.

"I'm sort of flying blind now, so to speak," he said. He refused comment on the type of defense he planned.

REINED IN by the court order, he also refused to elaborate on his accusation of Friday that witnesses in

the case were being hidden away from him.

Earlier he accused the Justice Department of "hurting my case."

Hanes had said King's murder was "political" in motivation and said he believed an "international communist conspiracy" may have been responsible.

He said Ray's "morale is good, his health is good." Ray is in an air-conditioned cell-suite on the third floor of the five-story jail. Closed-circuit television cameras monitor his every move.

Every precaution has been taken for his safety.

A garbage disposal unit filled with sandbags was placed near Ray's cell Friday for use, sources said, in the event any explosive devices are smuggled into the jail.

Outside the gray, concrete building, guarded by armed deputies, pedestrians were ordered to walk on sidewalks across the street.

THE ACCUSED assassin was flown in before dawn Friday. Clad in bullet-proof clothes, he was rushed to the jail in a silver-and-blue armored car and marched inside guarded by a phalanx of submachine-gun carrying guards. Spotlights played on possible snipers' nests.

An Air Force C135 brought Ray from Lincoln Heath Airport outside London to Millington Naval Air Station outside Memphis in a nine-hour flight. There Ray was handed over to local authorities by FBI agents.

He was dressed in a bullet-proof vest, baggy bullet-proof pants and his hands were manacled to a broad belt around his waist. He was put into a silver-and-blue armored car, borrowed from the police in Jackson, Miss., and driven in a heavily-armed motorcade of six patrol cars and seven motorcycles to the jail.

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At the jail, a county bus was pulled in front of the door to obscure the view from the street. Thirteen deputies armed with shot-guns lined the rear entrance. A car sped up to the jail and disgorged six detectives with submachine guns, who stationed themselves around the door.

THE JAIL is about a mile from the Lorraine, where exactly three and a half months ago, on April 4, Ray is accused of firing the shot that killed King as he stood on the hotel balcony.

Activity appeared normal at the Lorraine Friday. The door of Room 306 — last occupied by King — stood open. A purple cross, adorned with white lilies hung on the door.

Two blocks away, a man carried two gun cases out of the York Arms Co., where Ray allegedly bought a pair of binoculars the day King died. The man said he bought the weapons — shot-guns — for hunting, and looked sheepishly at passersby as he strode away in the direction of the Lorraine.

Sheriff Morris said the

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