

# Ray Could Be Extradited By First Week in August

LONDON, July 10 (UPI) — James Earl Ray could be extradited to the United States as early as the first week in August to stand trial for the killing of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, legal sources said today.

It was disclosed yesterday that a hearing on Ray's appeal against the extradition order has been scheduled for July 29.

Three justices of the Queen's Bench Divisional Court of the High Court of Justice will hear Ray's attorneys fight the extradition order. The court is the British equivalent of a United States Court of Appeals.

Legal sources said that should the court turn down Ray's appeal against the extradition order, he could appeal to the House of Lords. Permission to go to the House of Lords could be refused, however.

In that case, Ray would be returned to the United States about the first week in August, the sources said.

Ray appeared at Bow Street Magistrates Court yesterday to answer charges of violating British gun and immigration laws. He was arrested on charges of carrying a loaded pistol and two forged passports when he arrived June 8 at London's Heathrow Airport.

If Ray is extradited, the passport and gun charges are expected to be dropped.

Ray's extradition was ordered July 2. He appeared routinely yesterday to meet a British legal requirement that prisoners appear before a magistrate each of eight days when they are being held. He will appear again July 16 on the gun and passport charges.

Ray is being held in the maximum security wing of London's Wandsworth Prison under a 24-hour watch. He is listed as Ramon George Sneyd, the name on the passports police said they took from his coat at the airport.

Ray, 40 years old, is accused of shooting the Rev. Dr. King as the civil rights leader stood on the terrace of a motel in Memphis, Tenn., April 4. Ray is charged also with escaping from the Missouri State Penitentiary in Jefferson City.

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