

Ontario to Query Travel Agent On How Ray Obtained Passport

By JAY WALZ

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OTTAWA, Nov. 17—Henry Moos, the Toronto travel agent who is alleged to have helped James Earl Ray obtain a fraudulent Canadian passport, faces an Ontario provincial magistrate next Friday.

At that time, the public should learn for the first time the official details of how Ray, accused of killing the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. last April 4, was issued the travel documents enabling him to flee to Europe and eventually to London, where he was arrested June 8. Ray is in prison in Memphis awaiting trial.

While the Moos case goes ahead under provincial auspices in Toronto, the Federal Government is under attack in the House of Commons for failing to take the lead in bringing charges against Mr. Moos and any others involved in the passport matter. The Department of External Affairs in Ottawa issued the passport to Ray, using the name Ramon George Sneyd, but the Government has rejected efforts to make public the documents on which the case of fraud is based.

Charges Are Challenged

Mr. Moos, manager of the Kennedy Travel Bureau Ltd., in Toronto, has been charged with signing a declaration "without the due administration of the declaration" in a passport application. When he appeared at a preliminary hearing last Wednesday, his lawyer, S. N. Goldfar, said he would challenge the validity of the charges. The case was remanded to next Friday.

According to the police, Ray came to Canada four days after the killing of Dr. King in Memphis. Representing himself as Sneyd, Ray appeared on April 16 at the Kennedy Travel Agency, asking for a passport and airplane ticket to London.

A birth certificate from the authorities in Toronto, showing him to be a natural-born Canadian, and a passport application, accompanied by an affidavit signed by a notary, were mailed to Ottawa on April 17. The application was approved and the passport to Sneyd mailed back to the travel agency on April 25.

The police said that on the affidavit, signed by Mr. Moos, Sneyd declared he did not know any Toronto official who could sign his application as a reference. He said that, although a Canadian, he had been in Toronto only three weeks.

Reports Only One Charge

Justice Minister John Turner

told the House of Commons that to his knowledge the only Canadian charged in connection with the Ray case was Mr. Moos.

But members of the opposition parties have been pressing Mr. Turner for more information and more names.

Eldon Woolliams, a Conservative from Alberta, contended that Ray reportedly had not one but two Canadian passports when arrested in Britain. Every passport application,

he noted, requires an oath by a guarantor signing a statement that he had known the applicant for at least two years. He asked what Canadian could have said he had known James Earl Ray for two years. During part of that time, Ray was in prison in the United States.

"Some Canadian or Canadians took a solemn declaration" on the passport application and the public has a right to know who it was, said Mr. Woolliams, a lawyer.

Mr. Woolliams and others contend that the Federal Criminal Code had been violated and that Federal charges should be brought and prosecuted. He accused the Government in Ottawa of evading its responsibilities by letting the passport case go before Ontario courts, where, said Mr. Woolliams, "the upshot of the case would probably be a \$25 fine."

In reply, Jean-Charles Cantin, Mr. Turner's parliamentary secretary, said the papers Mr. Woolliams wanted made public were connected with a matter before the courts and would become public knowledge when the case came up.