

## PEOPLE in the News

# Alabama Lawyer Takes Ray Case

Arthur J. Hanes, an Alabama lawyer, said today in London he has accepted the case of defending James Earl Ray against charges of murdering Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the Negro civil rights leader.

The former mayor of Birmingham, Ala., said he is unlikely to be allowed to see Ray, who is being held in Wandsworth Prison pending an extradition hearing at Bay Street Magistrates Court June 27.

Hanes refused any comment on the extradition case, which is being handled by a British law firm appointed by the court. The British lawyers sat flanking Hanes at a news conference, but followed British legal rules by refusing to answer any questions on the case.

"I have been formally retained by this man," Hanes said. "He sent word to me. As of now I will be his lawyer. He retained me in the event that he is extradited."

The lawyer arrived in London today. He was accompanied by his son and partner, Arthur Jr.

The U.S. government has started extradition proceedings against Ray, and a hearing is scheduled for June 27.

Hanes cannot represent Ray in the British courts, which do not admit foreign counsel, but could advise the British defense lawyer on American aspects of the extradition proceedings.

Under British law, police holding a prisoner are entitled to prevent him from seeing anyone except his lawyers. Since only his British lawyers are recognized here as counsel, Hanes could be refused an interview.

### SEAS THWART NEWSMEN

Jet pilot Hugo Vihlen, nearing the end of his two-mile-an-hour trip from Africa to Florida, apparently is faring better with the sea than news-

men using yachts and airplanes to find him.

Vihlen, 36, of Homestead, Fla., a pilot for Delta Airlines, was last seen Monday. His wife flew in a plane over his six-foot boat just north of Cuba about 200 miles short of ending the 4,500-mile trip begun in Casablanca.

But heavy seas, squalls and winds gusting to 50 miles per hour in the Miami area stymied efforts to locate the adventurer yesterday for interviews.

A 57-foot yacht and a 60-foot yacht chartered by newsmen turned back in the face of the high seas and put out again today.