

Ray Gives Attorney 'Names'



ARTHUR J. HANES
To make court fight

—AP Photo

LONDON — (AP) — James Earl Ray gave his American lawyer yesterday what the attorney called "names and other leads" to investigate in preparing Ray's defense against charges of assassinating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The attorney, Arthur J. Hanes, former mayor of Birmingham, Ala., conferred with Ray for 70 minutes in Wandsworth Prison.

Ray was arrested here June 8 and is being held pending a London court appeal against an extradition order to the United States signed by a British magistrate last Tuesday.

Hanes had visited Ray on Friday in company with his court-appointed British attorney, but was alone with Ray yesterday except for prison guards. The lawyer was searched before the interview.

The two men were separated by a glass panel, with a thick metal grille to allow conversation. At times they wrote notes which were passed back and forth by the guard.

Hanes told newsmen he found the interview "most helpful, most fruitful, and beneficial."

He added: "I am beginning to build a case, to organize a

defense. He gave me names and other leads to follow up back in the United States, and I am building a file."

Hanes refused to disclose anything about the information Ray gave him. He also refused to comment on how his case might work out if Ray comes to trial, or to go on record about Ray's political orientation.

Hanes said he found local security procedures restricted his freedom to talk with his client, but he did not criticize them.

Apparently alluding to conditions in Dallas after the assassination of President Kennedy — whom he met in the White House while serving as Birmingham's mayor in 1960 — 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."