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Ray Will Plead July 29 To Escape Extradition

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LONDON, July 9 — The next phase in James Earl Ray's legal effort to escape extradition to the United States for trial on the charge of murdering the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. will begin July 29.

The High Court will then hear argument on an application for a writ of habeas corpus in Ray's behalf. The application is a device to obtain High Court review of a magistrate's order that Ray be held for extradition.

Ray's lawyers are expected to renew their contention that he should escape extradition because the killing of Dr. King was a "political" offense. The 1931 Anglo-American extradition treaty excluded such offenses. Ray has denied committing the assassination.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., July 9

MEMPHIS, Tenn., July 9 (UPI)—Gerald William Ray, brother of James Earl Ray, was arested on a charge of drunkenness today a few blocks from where Dr. King was slain. However, City Court Judge Bernie Weinman dismissed the charge.