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Ray-Memphis Bjt NL 390

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MEMPHIS, Tenn. AP - Police Director Frank Holloman, elated over the London capture of James Earl Ray, said Saturday immediate steps will be taken to return him here to stand trial for murder in the sniper slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Under normal procedure, Ray would be returned for trial in Criminal Court. How quickly the trial could be held or which judge would be assigned to the case could not be determined immediately.

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Memphis, Tenn. - Ray-Memphis NL A033ns insert after 2nd graf: immediately.

It was not clear immediately whether Ray will be returned, under the U.S.-British extradition treaty, on a federal conspiracy charge or under a Tennessee indictment for first-degree murder.

Under the latter charge, Tennessee would initiate the extradition proceeding and Gov. Buford Ellington said, "Whatever needs to be done will be done" to return Ray here as soon as possible.

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minutes after the news of Ray's arrest, city and county law enforcement officials began making plans for his incarceration here. Holloman said maximum security procedure would be observed but he declined to disclose where Ray would be held while preparations are being made for his trial.

Mayor Henry Loeb joined Holloman and civil rights leaders in expressing elation over the arrest.

"Great! I'm just delighted said Loeb. "This is good news. I hope justice will be done. Anything that the city can do to see that the culprit is brought to justice will be done."

"We certainly are glad to know the suspect has been caught," said Mrs. Maxine Smith, executive secretary of the Memphis branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

"However, the fact that Martin King is dead cannot be changed. We would certainly hope that as much time and effort would be put into the prevention of these atrocities as in the apprehension of this man."

King, the leading civil rights advocate of nonviolence, was shot by a sniper as he stood on a motel balcony April 4. He was preparing to lead a demonstration on behalf of 1,300 striking city garbage collectors.

The long walkout was settled, with the help of a presidential mediator, soon after King's death-and the workers, most of them Negroes, now are represented by the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees.

"I hope he is safely brought to local authorities where he can be completely interrogated," said Gerald Fannion, West Tennessee director of the Tennessee Council on Human Relations. "I feel he was only the man who pulled the trigger. I feel sure there were others involved."

Holloman, former head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation office here, said the FBI and the Memphis Police Department had worked in close cooperation on the case.

"We are hopeful James Earl Ray will be brought to Memphis at the earliest possible date to stand trial for murder," Holloman said.

"He will receive a fair and impartial trial."

There remained some question as to whether the public, outside of newsmen, will be able to attend the trial. The largest criminal courtroom in the city seats only 100.

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