

RAY, U.S. LAWYER TALK FOR HOUR IN BRITISH JAIL

By GODFREY ANDERSON

LONDON (AP) — Alabama lawyer Arthur J. Hanes spent about an

hour today in Wandsworth Prison conferring with James Earl Ray, the man wanted in Tennessee to stand trial for the

slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

When he came out of the jail gate, Hanes said: "He is feeling all right. His health is good. He is being well looked after. His mental attitude is good. We talked of many things."

HANES, WHO said on arrival at London Airport earlier today that Ray might plead innocent through reason of insanity, was asked by a reporter if Ray showed any sign of insanity.

"None," he replied and emphasized that the plea of insanity was only one of a number which might be used.

Hanes, former mayor of Birmingham, still insisted on calling Ray by the name under which he was arrested in Britain—Ramon George Sneyd—although the British court has accepted FBI testimony that he is Ray.

"This man to me is still R. G. Sneyd," Hanes said.

IN THE EYES of the British government, Hanes was only a private party and not a legal adviser in an official capacity. Home Secretary James Callaghan, referring to Hanes, said he "did not qualify for the special conditions applicable to legal ad-

See RAY Page 4

Ray--

Continued from Front Page

visers under the statutory prison rules."

Before driving back to his hotel, Hanes said he would have another meeting with Ray tomorrow morning. He was accompanied on the jail visit by Michael Eugene, one of the court-appointed British attorneys aiding in Ray's defense.

By decision of a British court last Tuesday, Ray can be extradited as a fugitive criminal wanted for murder and armed robbery. But his defense lawyers have 15 days to lodge an appeal in a higher court, which would further delay him being handed over to the American authorities.

Hanes had been in London in late June, but did not see Ray then, although he reportedly asked permission of British authorities. Callaghan said Ray had asked to receive a visitor June 24 and was given the go-ahead June 25 on the condition that he be an "ordinary visitor."

Before entering the prison, Hanes repeatedly stressed Ray's identity as Sneyd. He said: "He is Ramon George Sneyd as far as I am concerned. This man has identified himself as such. I am saying that the U.S. government and the authorities of Tennessee have the burden to prove otherwise."

King was assassinated April 4 in Memphis, Tenn., and a worldwide manhunt began for James Earl Ray.

Ray was arrested at London Airport June 8 by Scotland Yard agents and accused of using a forged Canadian passport in the name of Sneyd and possessing an unlicensed gun. Those charges are still pending.

RAMON GEORGE Sneyd is the name of a Toronto constable who has similar physical characteristics to Ray. In the two months before his arrest, Ray stayed for a time in Toronto and apparently picked up enough information about the constable to use his name.

After a two-day hearing at Bow Street Court, London's chief metropolitan magistrate, Frank Milton, ordered Ray extradited as a fugitive criminal wanted for murder and armed robbery in the United States.

Ray's court-appointed British lawyers have 15 days in which to appeal to a higher court. They said they intend to file an appeal.