

# Ray '68 Location Specified

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MEMPHIS, Oct. 30—A lawyer for James Earl Ray testified today that his client was standing outside the rooming house when the shot that killed Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was fired from inside.

The statement by Arthur Hanes Sr. marked the first time that Ray's location at the moment of the murder, 6:01 p.m. on April 4, 1968, has been pinpointed in court testimony.

Up to now Ray has refused to say where he was or what he was doing. He has suggested only that he was unwittingly involved with a group of men who came to Memphis in early April, 1968, and that someone else fired the shot that killed the civil rights leader as he stood on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel, to the rear of the rooming house.

Hanes, who was mayor of Birmingham, Ala., during the police-black clashes of the civil rights movement there in the early 1960s and was Ray's lawyer in 1968, detailed Ray's movements in and around Memphis before the King murder.

But the testimony shed little light on the identity of the trigger man.

Unidentified colleagues "gave him a note to go to 422½ South Main St., Memphis [address of the rooming house] and be there at 3 p.m. on the 4th of April," Hanes said Ray told him.

There, at about 5:20 p.m., his "contact" suggested that Ray "go down and have a beer" in an adjacent bar, Hanes said he was told.

"Ray said he had a beer or two and that he then went out and was standing in front of the rooming house on the street when the shot was fired," Hanes testified.

Moments later, Ray noticed on the sidewalk a bundle containing a rifle he had purchased, Hanes said Ray told him. "He knew he was in trouble and he fled."

Hanes said Ray identified his "contact" as "Raoul," a shadowy figure who has frequently been cited in the past by Ray's attorneys as a possible participant in a conspiracy to kill King.

Hanes' testimony came in the sixth day of a federal court hearing into claims by Ray that he was coerced into pleading guilty to the King murder.

Pale and thin, Ray gazed at the floor during Hanes' testimony, rarely looking up as Hanes described Ray's actions in a low, even voice.

While Ray has steadfastly refused to talk about the crucial moments, his current attorneys have said privately that Ray was elsewhere in the city and has an alibi witness to prove it. The attorneys, Bernard Fensterwald and James Lesar of Washington, have not identified the witness.

Hanes' testimony today was

tangential to the purpose of the court hearing before U.S. District Court Judge Robert McCrae—to determine if Ray was given ineffective assistance by his earlier lawyers and was coerced into pleading guilty.

Fensterwald and Lesar contend that Hanes and later attorney Percy Foreman subordinated Ray's legal interest to financial profits they hoped to split with writer William Bradford Huie. They had contracted with Huie for exclu-

sive access to details of the murder.

Foreman ultimately browbeat Ray into a guilty plea to avoid a trial and to maintain the exclusivity of the details for Huie, Ray's present attorneys say.

Both Hanes and his son, Arthur Hanes Jr., testified today that they made a full investigation of the case and were prepared to go to trial in November, 1968, when Ray suddenly fired them and hired Foreman.