

File
per James Earl

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James Earl Ray
Is No Problem in
Prison Transfer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UPI) — Nearly 200 of the most hardened criminals in the Tennessee penal system, including convicts assassin James Earl Ray, were transferred to the main penitentiary in Nashville yesterday when a labor dispute forced the closing of Brushy Mountain State Prison.

The prisoners were awakened before dawn, manacled and loaded aboard seven buses for the 200-mile trip from Brushy Mountain, a maximum security unit situated in a remote, wooded section of East Tennessee.

Ray, serving a life sentence for the sniper slaying of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., has tried on two previous occasions to escape, but officials said he was under "very heavy guard" during the trip and caused no problems.

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