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WASH STAR 14 MAY 1972

**King Slayer Fails  
In New Trial Bid**

JACKSON, Tenn. (UPI) —  
The Tennessee Supreme Court  
has refused to consider wheth-  
er a new trial should be  
granted James Earl Ray, the  
convicted assassin of Dr. Mar-  
tin Luther King Jr.

King was killed in Memphis  
in 1968, and almost a year  
later, Ray pleaded guilty to  
the murder. He was sentenced  
to 99 years in the state  
penitentiary.

In seeking a new trial, Ray  
had contended unsuccessfully  
that he was coerced into  
pleading guilty to the murder  
of King by defense attorney  
Percy Foreman. Ray said that  
Foreman told him he could  
only escape the electric chair  
by pleading guilty.



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(When Filled In)