

(Mount Clipping In Space Below)

# Envelope Is Cited By Ray Attorney

By WAYNE CHASTAIN  
Press-Scimitar Staff Writer

A battered envelope, postmarked one month before James Earl Ray escaped from the Missouri State Prison, was one of the leads obtained by Ray's defense attorneys this week after they examined in detail for the first time the state's evidence against Ray, who is now serving 99 years for the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King, one of the defense attorneys said today.

Bernard (Bud) Fensterwald, a Washington, D.C. attorney who joined Memphis attorney Richard Ryan last month in defending Ray, said the envelope was addressed to a "doctor" at a flophouse in Atlanta with a return address of a political organization.

"Marked across the top was Eric Starvo Galt," Fensterwald said. "There were some penciled notations about Galt being a man good for some odd jobs . . ."

The state contends that Galt was an alias Ray used when he registered in a Memphis motel the night before Dr. King was fatally shot on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel.

Fensterwald, who received permission from the court last month to examine the state's evidence for the first time, said the envelope was among the evidence he examined at the Memphis police department's property room where the Ray evidence is stored.

There was nothing in the state's summary of proof, Fensterwald said, about the envelope or about the individual the letter was apparently addressed to.

The attorney also said the 30 caliber metal jacketed bullet extracted from Dr. King's body was intact enough that it could be subjected to a spectrographic analysis, adding that there was no indication in the state's proof that it had ever undergone any such tests.

A new trial motion will be heard Sept. 2. Atty. Gen. Phil M. Canale will ask for dismissal of Ray's request for a new trial on the grounds that it does not allege any violations of Ray's constitutional rights.

Yesterday, Criminal Court Judge William Williams denied a defense motion by Fensterwald and Ryan for a spectrographic analysis of the bullet that killed Dr. King.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

PRESS SCIMITAR

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 7/11/70  
Edition:  
Author:  
Editor: CHARLES H.  
Title: SCHNEIDER

Character:

or

Classification: 44-1987  
Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## Ray Case Claim: 'New Evidence'

By ROY B. HAMILTON  
Press-Scimitar Staff Writer

An attorney for James Earl Ray said today he has uncovered new evidence "that runs very contrary" to the state's theory that the bullet taken from the body of Dr. Martin Luther King was fired by the rifle found at the assassination scene.

The claim was made by Bernard Fensterwald Jr. of Washington, D.C., during a brief hearing before Criminal Court Judge William H. Williams in connection with Ray's petition for a new trial under the Tennessee Post Conviction Relief Act.

Judge Williams set a hearing for oral arguments on the issue for Wednesday, Sept. 2.

Fensterwald told the judge that he had been unable to determine if a spectographic analysis had ever been made of the bullet that killed King. The attorney asked the judge to authorize such a test.

Fensterwald said the FBI evidence relating to the bullet presented at Ray's guilty plea trial on March 10, 1969, was "very vague."

Fensterwald did not elaborate on his new evidence claim at the hearing, but he went into some detail with reporters after the hearing.

Among the documents, he told newsmen, was a sworn statement by an FBI ballistics expert identified as Robert Frazer that the bullet recovered from King's body was so mutilated it could not be identified as having been fired by the rifle traced to Ray.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 26

PRESS SCIMITAR

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 7/10/70  
Edition:  
Author:  
Editor: CHARLES H.  
Title: SCHNEIDER

Character:

or

Classification: 44-1987  
Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## Ray Denied Court Approval For Analysis Of Fatal Bullet

By CHARLES EDMUNDSON

Criminal Court Judge William H. Williams yesterday denied a motion by an attorney for James Earl Ray, confessed slayer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., for a spectographic analysis of the bullet that killed the Negro leader.

Bernard Fensterwald Jr., the 11th attorney to be employed by Ray, contended the analysis is needed to establish whether the bullet taken from Dr. King's body here in April, 1968, is of the same composition as either of two lots of bullets left on the sidewalk at 422½ Main just after the slaying.

Judge Williams denied this and other defense motions as not in order for arguments to be made before him on a defense move for a new trial under the Tennessee post-conviction relief act. Judge Williams set the new trial hearing for Sept. 2.

Atty. Gen. Phil M. Canale will contend Ray's motion for a new trial should be dismissed because it alleges no violation of Ray's constitutional rights.

Mr. Fensterwald, executive director of the Committee to Investigate Assassinations, with offices in Washington, contends Ray did not fire the shot that killed Dr. King. A spectographic analysis of the fatal bullet might show, he maintains, that it belongs to neither of two lots 30-06-caliber cartridges left on the sidewalk in front of the rooming house from the second floor of which the state contends Dr. King was shot.

Robert A. Frazier, an FBI ballistics expert, found that the bullet extracted from Dr. King's body was a 30-caliber

metal-jacketed soft-point sporting type bullet. He found it identical to five unfired bullets the state claims Ray left behind but dissimilar from four others, also left behind, that had full metal jackets.

If the FBI made a spectrographic analysis of the bullets, the 560 word affidavit prepared by Dr. Frazier for use at the trial does not mention it.

"This is a serious flaw in the investigation and should be corrected," Mr. Fensterwald said.

Judge Williams refused a defense request for Ray to be brought to Memphis from Brushy Mountain Penitentiary in East Tennessee for the Sept. 2 hearing.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 13

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 7/10/70

Edition:

Author:

Editor: GORDON HANNA

Title:

Character:

or

Classification: 44-1987

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

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*Put in Murkin  
press releases*

# Ray Case Papers Released to Press

By Paul Valentine  
Washington Post Staff Writer

The Justice Department, prodded by writer and researcher Harold Weisberg, has reversed its position and agreed to make available the record of James Earl Ray's 1968 extradition proceeding from England in the murder of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Justice officials released the 195-page packet of affidavits, photographs and various government documents to reporters yesterday.

Weisberg filed a civil suit under the Freedom of Information Act last March 11, asking for a court order compelling the Justice Department to give him access to the records.

Up to that time, Justice had contended the records, as "investigative files," were exempt from the information act and could be withheld at the Department's discretion.

However, on May 6, while Weisberg's court action was still pending, Attorney General John N. Mitchell agreed to grant access.

Weisberg and his attorney, Bernard Fensterwald (who is also Ray's most recently acquired lawyer) examined the voluminous records at the Justice Department last month. Justice officials subsequently prepared additional copies for inquiring reporters and made them available yesterday.

Ray, 42, a convicted holdup man and prison escapee, was arrested in London, England, on June 8, 1968, after a two-month international search. King, the civil rights leader,

was felled by a single bullet in Memphis, Tenn., on April 4, 1968. His murder triggered riots in more than 100 American cities.

After an elaborate extradition hearing, Ray was returned to Memphis, and on March 10, 1969, he pleaded guilty to murder and was sentenced to 99 years in prison. He is now seeking a re-opening of the case and a full trial, claiming his previous attorney, Percy Foreman, coerced him into pleading guilty. A hearing is expected this summer.

The extradition record made available yesterday contains numerous FBI affidavits claiming to link Ray to the King murder through fingerprint, handwriting, ballistic and other evidence.

Weisberg, who wrote "Whitewash," a book challenging the lone-assassin conclusion of the Warren Commission in the 1963 murder of President John F. Kennedy, has also questioned official findings in the King case.

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The Washington Post Times Herald *A-20*  
The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
The Evening Star (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_  
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Examiner (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_

Date *6-25-70*

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*put with Martin  
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UPI-67

(CANDIDATE)

ATLANTA--THE ATTORNEY FOR THE ASSASSIN OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. QUALIFIED AS A DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR OF GEORGIA YESTERDAY. HE EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO "PREVENT THE WHITE BLOODSTREAM FROM BEING POLLUTED BY THE JUNGLE BLOOD OF AFRICA."

J. B. ("I'M A RACIST") STONER, OF SAVANNAH, SAYS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HIM AND OTHER CANDIDATES FOR GOVERNOR IS "I'M NOT A HYPOCRITE."

"I LOVE THE WHITE RACE, AND I WANT TO PREVENT THE WHITE BLOODSTREAM FROM BEING POLLUTED BY THE JUNGLE BLOOD OF AFRICA."

6/2--GE1144A

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

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news it was*

## A BOOK FOR TODAY

# Why Did James Earl Ray Do It?

By JOSEPH G. O'KEEFE

## HE SLEW THE DREAMER.

By William Bradford Huie.  
Delacorte. 212 pages: \$5.95.

From the tragic moment in April 1968 in which Dr. Martin Luther King was shot to death, many Americans believed that the slaying was the result of a conspiracy.

But believers in this theory will find scant support for their ideas in William Bradford Huie's analysis of the Memphis assassination that unleashed widespread violence across the nation.

Huie's investigation of the King slaying has convinced him that James Earl Ray stalked and killed the civil rights leader alone and entirely on his own volition. He found little substantial evidence to buttress any suggestion that Ray was a hired killer or a paid agent for a criminal apparatus.

"He Slew the Dreamer" clarifies to some extent the mysterious circumstances surrounding Ray's getaway from Memphis. Because he had used several aliases, it was difficult to pin down the assassin's identity immediately. Ray, often described as "looking like everybody else," drove from Memphis to Atlanta in 11 hours. There, he abandoned his white Mustang and traveled alone by bus and by train to Windsor, Canada. Forty-eight hours after the slaying he was in Toronto. He stayed clear of airports, assuming they would be closely watched.

Huie's book does not stress the point, but by that time, fires and looting had spread in Washington, Baltimore, Chicago, Kansas City and numerous other cities, as a result of King's death. National Guardsmen and regular army troops were called to cope with the disorders.

Huie learned such facts as he did about Ray's operations

by paying the convict for them, and later confirming them as far as he was able. Ray willingly agreed to such an arrangement, wrote extensive letters to the author and sometimes sketched the route of his travels on maps. His memory approached total recall in some instances. If he failed to remember a specific address, for instance, he drew sketches of the neighborhood to indicate where he had visited.

On occasions when the letters were inaccurate, Huie and the defense attorneys usually decided the prisoner was lying.

Ray, who is now serving a 99-year sentence for the sniper slaying, had spent 13 of his 39 years behind prison walls. He escaped from Missouri state prison at Jefferson City in April 1967, and for most of the next year smuggled drugs and weapons and probably engaged in armed robbery. These operations paid his living expenses and provided him with an automobile. His employer or confederate much of this time was a man Ray had encountered in Montreal, whom he identifies only as Raoul.

Whether Raoul was one person or several Huie hasn't been able to decide. But the author personally checked out many of the persons Ray had contacted during his travels to Canada, Mexico and elsewhere. Ray made his most favorable impression during the month or so he worked as a kitchen employe in a restaurant in Winnetka, Ill.

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The Washington Post  
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The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_  
The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_  
People's World \_\_\_\_\_  
Examiner (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_

Date **JUN 1 1970**

#### Didn't Invite Attention

The fugitive didn't invite attention. He achieved protective coloration by undergoing plastic surgery to alter his features. He lived alone, had few friends and parted with money reluctantly. He changed his residence frequently, taking pains to cover his tracks, and was alert to the importance of "good I.D." (false identification). He adopted such aliases as Eric S. Galt, John L. Rains, Ramon George Sneyd and Paul E. Bridgman.

But Ray's cloak of anonymity was so effective it thwarted his desire for criminal status. He craved prestige in the world of criminals. He sought a high place on the FBI's list of ten most wanted criminals.

And right there, Huie argues, was Ray's motive for slaying King. His intent was not to acquire money, nor vent extreme racial hostility, but merely to achieve underworld status. The facts of the gunman's futile efforts to reach a country with no extradition treaty with the United States reflected his inability to plan his escape.

Despite the efforts of Huie and Ray's attorneys, the prisoner would never make a flat admission that he had fired the fatal shot. The farthest Ray would go was to insist he had driven the getaway car while the mysterious Raoul hid in the rear, and then jumped out a few blocks from the scene of the killing.

Since a guilty plea was filed and no trial took place, neither the state's evidence nor the defense was ever publicly presented. And with Ray shut away, it probably will never be known.

*put in news items in Murkin To*

## **James Earl Ray: the assassin as status-seeker**

*Edwin M. Yoder Jr. is an editor of the Greensboro Daily News of Greensboro, North Carolina.*

*Book World*

**HE SLEW THE DREAMER.** By William Bradford Huie. Delacorte. 212 pp. \$5.95.

By Edwin M. Yoder Jr.

Just as we had reluctantly accepted the dull probability that President Kennedy died at the hand of a single, self-prompting loner, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. fell in a setting that renewed the thirst for conspiracy — the feeling that so awful and ramifying a crime must spring from a demonic genius to match it. Yet our thirst went unslaked at Memphis when James Earl Ray pleaded guilty to the murder. Even *The New York Times* denounced the aborted trial as “a shocking breach of faith with the American people” — a moment of disclosure treated as “a routine murder case.”

Surely the *Times* stood on shaky legal ground there, but the anguish was widely shared. Could it be imagined, let alone set down for all time in the history books, that Dr. King had been slain by an obscure ex-convict — a man who'd spent some thirteen of his thirty-nine years in prison — acting without pay or prompting?

The Ray case may yet develop its Mark Lanes, its “grassy knoll” theories, and its intricate scholasticism of conspiracy. But it must do so without the help of William Bradford Huie, who argues here that Ray did indeed alone murder Dr. King: not for pay, and not especially out of seething hate but to establish himself on the list of the FBI's Ten Most Wanted Criminals. “Ray,” writes Huie, “regards the Top Ten the way people in show business regard Academy Award winners or . . . fashionable women regard the annual list of Ten Best-Dressed Women. Criminals too want status — as criminals.”

Ray's hunger for identity — to be somebody in the squalid pecking order of criminality — was ultimately his motive, argues Huie, for the crime. It would transform him from plain James Earl Ray — unwanted child, failed military policeman, inept petty criminal — to the hero of guardhouse gossips. For on the ladder of criminal status-seeking Ray didn't count; during the year that elapsed between his escape in a bread box from Missouri State Penitentiary in April, 1967, and his arrest in London fourteen months later, Ray could not watch his favorite television program *The FBI* of a Sunday evening without wondering why he failed to make the Top Ten. After the murder he enjoyed his triumph: In a dingy Toronto tavern on the evening of

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The Washington Post \_\_\_\_\_  
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The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_  
People's World \_\_\_\_\_  
Examiner (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_

Date **MAY 17 1970**



April 21, 1968, "James Earl Ray, the man nobody ever notices, drank vodka and orange juice and watched himself elevated by the FBI to the Top Ten. He did even better . . . A special international category was created for him."

Whether the public will accept Huie's assiduously constructed account of Ray, the assassin as status-seeker, I do not know. We all learned with deep suspicion of his strange peregrinations north and south, east and west. Where, we wondered, did he get the money, the assistance, the cars? Those who persist in asking these questions will want to inspect Huie's reconstruction for themselves. It is too intricate to duplicate here. I found it entirely persuasive.

According to Huie, Ray was far from flush with funds, although he had presumably profited from both robbery and drug-running, as well as brief employment as a dishwasher. Had he had a bit more and kept his nerve during the last stage of flight in London, he might have made good an intended escape to Portuguese West Africa, beyond the reach of extradition.

As for the fancy that Ray was the hired gunman of the Klan, or the Cubans, or the Mafia, Huie disposes of it authoritatively — one might say cocksurely — on grounds that Ray's criminal career had been "characterized by ineptitude, often ludicrous ineptitude," making him a poor risk. We have here, then, not a hired assassin but an insecure, narcissistic little man who struck his kindly employers in Chicago as "such a nice man" and the proprietor of a ballroom dancing school in Los Angeles as "a Southern gentleman"!

How long Ray might have plotted the killing, how deep the germ of it lay, Huie leaves unsettled. When Ray went to Canada in the summer of 1967, he evidently meant to skip the continent for good. That he failed to get a passport and came back, by then involved in drug-smuggling, was the fateful turn of events. And according to Huie, Ray's visit to Alabama on the eve of the fretful 1968 election "certainly did nothing to slow the growth of an idea that may have been in his mind since 1964." (In California, he had recruited signers for the petition to get George Wallace on the ballot.) It is almost certain that by mid- or late March of 1968 Ray had begun to "stalk" Dr. King: in Atlanta, in Selma, finally in Memphis.

William Bradford Huie, a veteran of such searches through the seamy world of racial violence, has done an admirable detective job — with Ray's purchased collaboration. Detailed as it is, however, the book is finally just another banal chronicle of Hannah Arendt's "banality of evil"; one's final reaction is disgust, not pity or terror.

Huie, moreover, constantly intrudes on the narrative to boast of his deductive powers or to deprecate (usually after the fact) his invasion of

the privacy of those who haplessly crossed Ray's path. It was, we are to gather, a cagey, tough, and cynical deal Huie struck with the assassin, having paid him \$30,000 for exclusive rights. So far did Huie carry his end of the bargain that he twice retailed Ray's doctored accounts (of his prison break, and of the Montreal grocery store robbery) to *Look* magazine readers, sensing that they were false but wanting to reassure Ray that he would cover him in petty lies if they could get at the big truth about the murder — a truth which Ray strenuously denies.

Huie's journalistic enterprise is admirable, but I admit that it makes me uncomfortable to find that a man accused of heinous crime must sell his story to pay his lawyers. (Not that Ray objected. Arthur Hanes, his first lawyer, found Ray more interested in libel suits than in preparing a defense to the charge of murder. To the last, Ray worried in the modern way about his "image.")

At all events the book itself, no less than the case, leaves us with questions. Huie tells us how he threatened Ray with the publication of a damaging speculation in *Look*, before the trial, if Ray didn't tell him the truth. Ray asked for it no doubt. But when contract is pressed to the point of collision with the process of trial by jury, I wonder that reputable lawyers would be parties to it. Indeed, this curious entanglement of journalism, legal fees, and justice needs clarifying — possibly more so than the conspiracy theories which, to my satisfaction, Huie has well exploded.



# Ray Accuses Trial Lawyer of 'Fraud'

James Earl Ray renewed his bid yesterday for a full trial in the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., claiming that attorney Percy Foreman used "bribery" and "fraud" in forcing him to plead guilty to the murder.

Ray's new attorneys filed papers in Shelby County Court in Memphis, Tenn., charging that Foreman subverted Ray's legal interests for his own monetary gain through a series of contracts with writer William Bradford Huie. Memphis was the scene of Dr. King's death on April 4, 1968.

The new attorneys claimed that Foreman coerced Ray to plead guilty to avoid a full trial because a trial would have revealed fuller details of the case and denied Huie exclusive access to the Ray story.

When Ray indicated at the last moment in March 1969 that he wanted to switch his plea to "not guilty," Foreman rushed to his prison cell and offered to reduce his fee—leaving more money from magazine and book royalties at Ray's disposal—if he would maintain his guilty plea, the attorneys said.

"Thus, bribery was added to duress," they charged.

Also, they said, Foreman perpetrated a "fraud on the court" when he told the judge in Ray's case that he was serving "without compensation." There are no court records indicating he ever informed officials of his contractual arrangements with Huie, they said.

The detailed petition for "post-conviction relief" is the first major action by Ray's

most recently acquired attorney, Bernard Fensterwald of Washington. He is a former counsel for a Senate Judiciary subcommittee and a vociferous critic of government wiretapping, mail opening and other covert activity.

Fensterwald is also executive director of the Committee to Investigate Assassinations. The organization is critical of the no-conspiracy conclusion of the Warren Commission in the 1963 assassination of President John F. Kennedy and is seeking a re-opening of that case.

Fensterwald says he is serving in the Ray case without fee. He joins two other attorneys for Ray—J. B. Stoner, former Ku Klux Klan organizer and chairman of the ultra rightwing National States Rights Party, and Richard J. Ryan, veteran criminal lawyer in Memphis.

Ray claimed in earlier court maneuvers that Foreman failed to represent him adequately, but yesterday's petition is far more detailed in its accusations.

It criticizes not only Foreman, but also attorney Arthur Hanes Sr., former mayor of Birmingham, who represented Ray shortly after Ray was arrested in London, England, in June, 1968.

The petition says Hanes contracted with Huie to get 42 per cent of all book and magazine earnings and that Huie would keep 40 per cent, leaving Ray with 18 per cent. A \$30,000 payment that Look magazine advanced to Huie in late 1968 went entirely to Hanes, the petition says.

When Foreman, a criminal lawyer from Houston, Tex., replaced Hanes in November, 1968, he made a new contract with Huie, demanding 60 per cent of all earnings, the petition says.

After his guilty plea, Ray received a 99-year sentence.

Foreman has said he persuaded Ray to plead guilty because he feared Ray would be convicted in a trial and executed.

A full trial, if granted, could produce evidence indicating a conspiracy involving several persons in Dr. King's death, Fensterwald says.

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The Washington Post Times Herald A-28  
The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
The Evening Star (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_  
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The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_  
People's World \_\_\_\_\_  
Examiner (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_

Date MAY 8 1970

*Put in Murkin press release*

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## Ray Moves To Brushy Prison

PETROS, Tenn.— (UPI) — James Earl Ray, after an embattled year at the state penitentiary at Nashville, moved today to the state's maximum security facility at Brushy Mountain here.

"He arrived by car about 6:30 a.m. (EST)" said Wallace Flood, assistant correction commissioner for adult programs.

"He will be housed in a single cell in one of the cell blocs," Flood said. "He will get exactly the same treatment as any other prisoner here. And we plan to work out a work program for him, but we don't know yet just what that will involve.

"Actually he will be better off here than in Nashville," Flood added. "He'll have more opportunity for recreation and exercise, because of the smaller number of prisoners here. There's a big difference between three thousand inmates and 325."

In Memphis, Richard J. Ryan, one of Ray's attorneys, said:

"If it will accord James Earl Ray more freedom of movement within the prison population, my reaction is one of approval. I have already discussed with James Earl Ray the possibility of a transfer to Brushy Mountain and this is his reaction also.

"Certainly at all times James Earl Ray will abide by the prison rules and regulations pertaining to custodial care of the inmates."

Ray is serving 99 years for the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., at Memphis, two years ago.

State Correction Department officials in Nashville said that the transfer was made in a department transfer vehicle and that no unusual security precautions were made.

He was housed at Nashville for about one year, during which time he complained of his close confinement, the lack of a work and recreation program, and launched a number of attempts at getting a new trial.

He won a federal court order giving him work to do in prison, but later complained to state officials that this work was not satisfactorily carried out.

He was generally kept away from other prisoners at the state penitentiary. Prison officials said that his isolation was aimed at protecting his own safety and life.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 37  
Memphis Press-  
Scimitar  
Memphis, Tennessee

Date: 3-25-70  
Edition: FINAL  
Author:  
Editor: CHARLES SCHNEIDER  
Title: MURKIN

Character:  
or  
Classification:  
Submitting Office:  
☐ Being Investigated

Brushy Mountain State prison became a maximum security unit for the state last September, and Flood says that plans are being formulated to set up some kind of prison industry at the facility.

At present, there is little available for the prisoners except work in the laundry, and work details in the dining room, the prison library, and doing maintenance work around the prison.

Flood said that a shoe manufacturing industry is being considered for the Petros facility.

U.S. District Court Judge William E. Miller ordered the liberalized work program for Ray after the prisoner complained bitterly about his treatment. He said, among other things, that his treatment constituted cruel and inhuman punishment.

Ray quit the program March 4 and sent a series of blistering letters to state officials complaining of harassment.

Among his duties at the prison were painting the corridors and helping serve other prisoners food.

Ray complained of constant interruptions during his work. Prison officials said they could understand the complaining but that no other prisoners were allowed to be in the corridor when Ray was there.

Ray was transferred to Nashville from Memphis March 11, one day after he pleaded guilty to the King assassination.

3-25-70

AIRTEL

AM

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P

MURKIN

Enclosed for information of the Bureau is newspaper clipping reflecting transfer of JAMES EARL RAY from Tennessee State Penitentiary to the Brushy Mountain Prison at Petros, Tennessee. Petros, Tennessee, is in the Knoxville Division.

(2) BUREAU (Enc. 2)  
1 KNOXVILLE (Enc. 1)(INFO)  
1 MEMPHIS

RGJ:BN  
(4)

*Put in Murkum To  
Press releases*

*Mr. DeLoach*

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach ☒ \_\_\_\_\_  
Walters \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop *B/S* \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen ☒ \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Soyars \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

### Ray Shifted to Another Prison

PETROS, Tenn. (AP)—Under cover of darkness and with a heavy guard, James Earl Ray was transferred yesterday from State Prison in Nashville to Brushy Mountain Prison, a maximum security facility.

Ray, serving 99 years for the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was lodged in a cell in Brushy Mountain before the transfer was disclosed. Brushy Mountain is about 200 miles east of Nashville.

Ray spent slightly more than a year in the maximum security section of the Nashville prison.

The Washington Post \_\_\_\_\_  
Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
The Evening Star (Washington) *A2* \_\_\_\_\_  
The Sunday Star (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_  
Daily News (New York) \_\_\_\_\_  
Sunday News (New York) \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Post \_\_\_\_\_  
The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_  
The Sun (Baltimore) \_\_\_\_\_  
The Daily World \_\_\_\_\_  
The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_  
The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_  
People's World \_\_\_\_\_  
Examiner (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_

Date MAR 26 1970



*Put with murder  
press releases*

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Grumbling Ray Goes on Sit-Down Strike, Refuses To Work

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Walters \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

NASHVILLE  
TENNESSEAN

NASHVILLE, TENN.

By LARRY DAUGHTREY

James Earl Ray, grumbling about his treatment at the Tennessee State Prison, has started a sit-down strike — refusing to clean hallways, serve food or paint walks.

The convicted killer of Dr. Martin Luther King is still taking his daily exercise, but

has not worked since Feb. 28, Warden W. S. Neil said yesterday.

RAY ALSO has written a blistering letter to state officials, complaining about the press, Neil, and his treatment in general. In the letter, he threatened to return to federal court to continue his battle against solitary confinement.

The work and recreation program for Ray was ordered by U.S. Dist. Judge William E. Miller after a January hearing here. The plan called for Ray to paint the interior of the maximum security building, help serve food to other prisoners and keep the corridor clean.

"He complained he was put back in his cell when other prisoners were being moved in and out of the building," Neil said yesterday. "I can understand how the interruptions could be irritating to him, but the program we had set up provided that he was not to be in the corridors when any of the other prisoners were out."

HE DID a lot of painting before he quit. Our maintenance engineer tells me he did a good job."

Ray's nine-page letter, apparently written the week before he quit work, went to Corrections Commissioner Lake Russell, Gov. Buford Ellington and the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee.

Much of the letter was devoted to criticism of the press, and particularly a press tour of the prison Feb. 6. When reporters approached his cell, Ray hid under a blanket.

"I TOLD Mr. Neil I did not want to see or talk with the press. It's been my opinion, this far, that anything

I might have to say should be said in court.

"I was then locked in a cell, the reporters were called in, and while the cameras were grinding away in a zoo-like atmosphere Warden Neil expounded on how long 'he' was going to keep me in isolation."

"After about 20 minutes of this the warden's sideshow moved on. Then about 10 hours later, while I was taking the daily walk, I was again taken to a cell for a repeat performance."

"THESE TYPE games have been the rule since my arrival at the prison. As an example, every time I enter or leave the prison the press is let inside the prison grounds; I am then chained up, officials

assume, their junior G-men poses, with me in tow, while the picture crew goes into action."

Ray also charged that "distorted information" has been given reporters by prison officials, but did not specify what information he meant.

"I personally have no objections, or a right to object, to the press doing what they have a legal right to do. But let's don't try to fool anyone, we all know what these managed news stories and sordid pictures and newsreels emanating from the prison are calculated to achieve," Ray said.

RAY POINTED out that he had removed his brother from the list of visitors he will receive because his brother quoted him to the press.

"I thought you indicated at the hearing before Judge Miller that my isolation would terminate after the post conviction hearing in Memphis," Ray continued to Russell.

"However, if my case has been turned over to Warden Neil, and since head softening is no longer in style, I assume he will apply his kill you with kindness philosophy of doing everything for 'my own good' and proceed to hold me in isolation thinking my physical or mental health will become so impaired that I might make another Pueblo type statement or, continuing some other fairy tale for the prosecution."

Date: 3/5/70

Edition:

Author:

Editor: JOHN SEIGENTHALER

Title:

Character:  
or 44-1987-

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated



~~RAY SAID~~ he has ~~lived un-~~  
der "fish bowl conditions" for  
two years and has had no  
trouble with other prisoners.

"In concluding, it's my opin-  
ion that, although I don't  
~~rate as~~ high on the prison  
social ladder with ~~some offi-~~

~~cial~~ as molesters and stool anything, will be ~~done about~~  
pigeons I should not be singled Ray's sit-down strike.

out for any harsher confine-  
ment unless a judge and jury "I'm sorry he doesn't like  
recommend such." the warden," Russell said,

"Russell said no decision has  
been reached on what, if "but every prison has to  
have one, and the prisoners  
don't elect him."

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

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By LARRY DAUGHTREY

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The convicted killer of Dr. Martin Luther King is still taking his daily exercise, but

has not worked since Feb. 23, Warden W. S. Neil said yesterday.

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The work and recreation program for Ray was ordered by U.S. Dist. Judge William E. Miller after a January hearing here. The plan called for Ray to paint the interior of the maximum security building, help serve food to other prisoners and keep the corridor clean.

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"After about 20 minutes of this the warden's sideshow moved on. Then about 10 hours later, while I was taking the daily walk, I was again taken to a cell for a repeat performance.

"THESE TYPE games have been the rule since my arrival at the prison. As an example, every time I enter or leave the prison the press is let inside the prison grounds. I am then chained up, officials

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"I thought you indicated at the hearing before Judge Miller that my isolation would terminate after the post conviction hearing in Memphis," Ray continued to Russell.

"However, if my case has been turned over to Warden Neil, and since head softening is no longer in style, I assume he will apply his kill you with kindness philosophy of doing everything for 'my own good' and proceed to hold me in isolation thinking my physical or mental health will become so impaired that I might make another Pueblo type statement or confirm some other fairy tale for the prosecution."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

NASHVILLE  
TENNESSEAN

NASHVILLE, TENN.

Date: 3/5/70

Edition:

Author:

Editor: JOHN SEIGENTHALER

Title:

Character:

or 44-1987

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

RAY SAID he has lived under "fish bowl conditions" for two years and has had no trouble with other prisoners.

"In concluding, it's my opinion that, although I don't rate as high on the prison social ladder with some offi-

cials as molesters and stool pigeons I should not be singled out for any harsher confinement unless a judge and jury recommend such."

Russell said no decision has been reached on what, if

anything, will be done about Ray's sit-down strike.

"I'm sorry he doesn't like the warden," Russell said, "but every prison has to have one, and the prisoners don't elect him."

*Put in Martin Press  
release last Vol*

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## One Of Ray's Lawyers May Leave Case

A smouldering rift between the three lawyers representing James Earl Ray could result, possibly today, in at least one of the attorneys no longer being connected with the case, THE BANNER learned today.

J. B. Stoner, a lawyer of Savannah, Ga., reportedly was slated to visit late today with the convicted slayer to discuss the case and a possible change in the attorneys representing him.

Ray, serving a 99-year sentence in the 1968 sniper-death of Dr. Martin Luther King, has been represented during the past 10 months by Stoner, Richard J. Ryan of Memphis and Robert W. Hill Jr. of Chattanooga.

It was learned, however, that both Ryan and Stoner have discussed withdrawing from further participation in the case unless Hill is no longer connected with the defense.

Although Ryan declined to comment on the reported "split" in the defense team, a source close to the case stated that it was one of the major topics to be covered during the meeting between Stoner and Ray.

Stoner could not be reached for comment. Ryan, located at his Memphis law office, said he was aware that Stoner was slated to talk with Ray, but the attorney would not discuss any particulars surrounding the meeting.

Ray, before being represented by Stoner, Ryan and Hill, had been represented by Houston lawyer Percy Foreman, who was fired after Ray pleaded guilty in Shelby County Criminal Court to the death of the civil rights leader. He previously had been represented by Arthur J. Hanes Sr. and his son, both of Birmingham, but they also were discharged by the prisoner.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 28

Nashville  
Banner

Nashville, Tenn.

Date: 2/10/70

Edition:

Author:

Editor: Alvand C.

Title: Dunkleberger

Character: 44-1987-  
or

Classification:

Submitting Office: Memphis

☐ Being Investigated

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
 Walters \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
 Soyars \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*put with  
 Martin Press releases* ✓

*McDonough  
 McLaughlin*

279A

RAY 1/26 AJ

MEMPHIS, TENN. (UPI)--A PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR MONDAY WAS AWARDED DAMAGES OF \$6,625.34--INCLUDING POSSIBLE RIGHTS TO THE GUN THAT KILLED DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.--TO PAY FOR THE MORE THAN 1,000 HOURS HE CLAIMED HE WORKED IN DEFENSE OF JAMES EARL RAY.

CHANCELLOR CHARLES NEARN SAID RENFRO T. HAYS SHOULD BE PAID A FEE OF \$4,850 AND EXPENSES OF \$1,775.34 FOR THE WORK HE PERFORMED FOR ATTORNEY ARTHUR J. HANES SR., BIRMINGHAM, ALA., WHO REPRESENTED RAY IN 1968. HAYS HAD ASKED DAMAGES OF \$11,046.84.

HANES WAS DISMISSED FROM THE CASE IN NOVEMBER, 1968 AND ATTORNEY PERCY FOREMAN RETAINED BY RAY BEFORE HE ULTIMATELY PLEADED GUILTY MARCH 10, 1969 TO THE SLAYING OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. IN EXCHANGE FOR A 99-YEAR PRISON TERM.

HOWEVER, THE SUIT NAMED ONLY RAY. THE AWARD WOULD GIVE HAYS THE RIGHT--SHOULD THE STATE EVER RELEASE THEM--TO ATTACH A 1966 WHITE MUSTANG AUTOMOBILE AND A 30.06 REMINGTON RIFLE THE POLICE SAID RAY USED IN THE KING SLAYING HERE ON APRIL 4, 1968.

THE CAR AND THE RIFLE REMAIN IN THE CUSTODY OF THE SHELBY COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE, TO BE USED AS EVIDENCE SHOULD RAY BE SUCCESSFUL IN WINNING A NEW TRIAL.

C. M. MURPHY, HAYS' ATTORNEY, INTRODUCED AS EVIDENCE A LETTER, DATED MARCH 27, 1969, WRITTEN TO HAYS BY RAY IN WHICH RAY CONCEDED THAT THE INVESTIGATOR "SHOULD BE PAID FOR WHATEVER WORK YOU PERFORMED."

"I'M NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE WORK YOU HAVE DONE," RAY WROTE, "BUT I BELIEVE IF IT WAS PERFORMED YOU SHOULD BE PAID."

HAYS, ESTIMATING THAT HIS TIME WAS WORTH \$6 AN HOUR, SAID HE SPENT 1,139 HOURS IN COMPILING EVIDENCE IN THE RAY CASE.

ATTORNEY RICHARD J. RYAN, REPRESENTING RAY, SAID THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE BEFORE THE COURT TO SHOW THAT HAYS HAD PERFORMED THE WORK HE CLAIMED.

RYAN FURTHER ARGUED THAT HAYS WAS PAID FOR A MAGAZINE ARTICLE WHICH WAS PUBLISHED AFTER RAY PLEADED GUILTY.

ML/JM853 PES

REC-10-1070012 OFFICE

FOR MR. TOLSON

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE



①

MURKIN

*Put with newsclippings  
on Murkin*

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
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Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*maffoon*

279A

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ML/JM853 PES



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Put with news clippings  
T.S.M.  
Murbine

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
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Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Civil Rights

036A

RAY 1/10 NX  
NASHVILLE, TENN. (UPI)--A FEDERAL JUDGE HAS SCHEDULED A HEARING MONDAY TO REVIEW A COURT-ORDERED PROGRAM GIVING ADDITIONAL EXERCISE, RECREATION AND WORK DUTIES TO JAMES EARL RAY. JUDGE WILLIAM E. MILLER ORDERED STATE CORRECTION OFFICIALS AT A DEC. 29 HEARING TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL TIME FOR RAY TO BE OUT OF HIS SMALL, ISOLATED CELL IN THE MAXIMUM SECURITY BUILDING AT THE STATE PRISON.

RAY, SERVING 99 YEARS FOR THE MURDER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR., HAD PETITIONED THE COURT TO BE RELEASED FROM NEAR-SOLITARY CONFINEMENT. THE COURT REFUSED TO ALLOW RAY TO MINGLE WITH THE GENERAL PRISON POPULATION, BUT DIRECTED PRISON OFFICIALS TO SUBMIT A NEW ACTIVITY PROGRAM.

RAY BEGAN HIS NEW DAILY ROUTINE THURSDAY AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME THE STATE SUPREME COURT REJECTED HIS MOTION FOR A NEW TRIAL IN THE KING MURDER.

THE PLAN CALLS FOR RAY TO PAINT THE INTERIOR OF THE MAXIMUM SECURITY BUILDING, A CHORE THE STATE ESTIMATES WILL TAKE TWO YEARS. IT ALSO CALLS FOR RAY TO ASSIST GUARDS WITH PREPARING AND SERVING FOOD TRAYS FOR OTHER INMATES IN THE BUILDING, AND SWEEPING AND CLEANING THE COORIDORS.

THE NEW SCHEDULE ALSO GIVES RAY MORE TIME IN THE ENCLOSED EXERCISE YARD AND ALLOWS HIM TO HAVE A TRANSISTOR RADIO, PLAYING CARDS AND ACCESS TO BOOKS FROM THE PRISON LIBRARY. RAY ALREADY HAS A TELEVISION SET INSIDE HIS CELL AND SUBSCRIBES TO TWO LOCAL NEWSPAPERS.

IN A PAPER FILED WITH THE COURT DETAILING THE PROGRAM, STATE OFFICIALS SAID IT IS STILL THEIR INTENT "IN THE REASONABLE FUTURE" TO TRANSFER RAY FROM THE NASHVILLE PRISON TO THE BRUSKY MOUNTAIN PRISON AT PETROS.

UNDER A RECENT REORGANIZATION BY THE STATE CORRECTION DEPARTMENT, THE BRUSKY MOUNTAIN FACILITY WAS DESIGNATED THE STATE'S MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISON WITH THE LOCAL PRISON BECOMING A MEDIUM SECURITY INSTITUTION.

THE STATE HAS OBJECTED TO RELEASING RAY INTO THE GENERAL PRISON POPULATION ON GROUNDS HE SHOULD BE KEPT IN MAXIMUM SECURITY FOR HIS OWN PROTECTION AND TO PREVENT HIM FROM ESCAPING.

AA43 OAES



Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
 Walters \_\_\_\_\_  
 ✓ Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*McGowan*

UPI-48

(RAY)

KNOXVILLE, TENN. --THE TENNESSEE SUPREME COURT TODAY DENIED A PETITION BY JAMES EARL RAY FOR A NEW TRIAL IN THE SLAYING OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

IN HANDING DOWN THE UNANIMOUS EIGHT-PAGE DECISION, THE COURT NOTED THAT RAY HAD KNOWINGLY PLEADED GUILTY IN CRIMINAL COURT IN MEMPHIS TO THE KING SLAYING, THAT HE HAD BEEN REPRESENTED BY COMPETENT AND NATIONALLY PROMINENT COUNSEL, AND THAT HE HAD WAIVED ALL RIGHTS OF APPEAL IN ENTERING HIS PLEA.

RAY IS SERVING 99 YEARS IN THE STATE PENITENTIARY FOR THE APRIL 1968 SLAYING OF THE PROMINENT CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER. SINCE ENTERING THE PRISON IN NASHVILLE LAST MARCH, HE HAS PRESENTED THE COURTS, BOTH FEDERAL AND STATE, A NUMBER OF PETITIONS, ALL OF WHICH WERE DENIED EXCEPT FOR A RECENT DECISION IN FEDERAL COURT WHICH WILL GIVE HIM WORK AND RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS TO RELIEVE THE LONELINESS OF HIS MAXIMUM SECURITY CONFINEMENT.

1/8--AR1020AES

*mm*

MR. TOLSON

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE



*Wheeler*  
Tolson ☒  
DeLoach ☒  
Walters ☒  
Mohr ☒  
Bishop ☒  
Casper ☒  
Callahan ☒  
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Tavel ☒  
Soyars ☒  
Tele. Room ☒  
Holmes ☒  
Gandy ☒

UPI-139

(RAY)

KNOXVILLE, TENN.--THE TENNESSEE SUPREME COURT WILL ANNOUNCE HERE TOMORROW MORNING A DECISION ON WHETHER JAMES EARL RAY WILL BE GRANTED A NEW TRIAL IN THE SLAYING OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

COURT CLERK JOHN A. PARKER SAID THAT THE DECISION, WHICH WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT 9 A.M. TOMORROW WILL DETERMINE IF RAY IS TO HAVE A NEW TRIAL AND WHEN THAT TRIAL WILL BE SCHEDULED.

1/7--DP743P

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

*Part in News  
Clipping on Murder*

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach ☒ \_\_\_\_\_  
Walters \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop ☒ \_\_\_\_\_  
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Rosen ☒ \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Soyars \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

## U.S. Judge Orders Tenn. Prison To Give Ray a Job and Exercise

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 29 (AP)—A federal judge ordered Tennessee State Prison officials today to provide a job and more exercise to James Earl Ray, who says he prefers the threat of death at the hands of fellow inmates to remaining in solitary confinement.

U.S. District Judge William E. Miller's order could result in Ray, the killer of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., becoming a part-time food server and janitor in the prison's maximum security section.

Miller ordered the state to submit by Jan. 12 a plan incorporating "recreation, work and exercise" for Ray, who had sought an injunction against continued maximum security confinement. He contends it is impairing his health and violating his rights.

The state said Ray, who was sentenced to 99 years in Dr. King's slaying, is being kept in a 6-foot-by-9-foot cell for his own protection.

"Enforced idleness can be cruel punishment," Miller said in handing down his order, "particularly when it is only to protect him from bodily harm."

Miller described as constructive a suggestion by Warden W. S. Neil that Ray be allowed to help serve food to other maximum security prisoners while they were locked up, and help janitors with cleaning up. Miller reserved final judgment, however, until he receives the written plan.

The Washington Post Times Herald A-7  
The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
The Evening Star (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_  
The Sunday Star (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_  
Daily News (New York) \_\_\_\_\_  
Sunday News (New York) \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Post \_\_\_\_\_  
The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_  
The Sun (Baltimore) \_\_\_\_\_  
The Daily World \_\_\_\_\_  
The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_  
The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_  
People's World \_\_\_\_\_  
Examiner (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_

DEC 30 1969

Date \_\_\_\_\_





United Press International

James Earl Ray, handcuffed and closely guarded, enters federal court for hearing.



Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 DeLoach ☒  
 Walters \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
 Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
 Soyars \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*MURKIN*

*Put with news  
clipping to on  
murder*

*McGowan*

Q21A

RAY 12/29 NX

DAY LD

BY MICHAEL WILLARD

NASHVILLE, TENN. (UPI)--MAXIMUM SECURITY WAS SET UP IN FEDERAL COURT TODAY FOR THE APPEARANCE OF JAMES EARL RAY, WHO IS TRYING TO GET OUT OF MAXIMUM SECURITY IN STATE PRISON.

ALL PERSONS, INCLUDING NEWSMEN, ENTERING U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE WILLIAM E. MILLER'S COURTROOM FOR RAY'S HEARING WERE TO BE SEARCHED.

RAY, SERVING 99 YEARS FOR KILLING DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR., SAID HIS NEAR-SOLITARY CONFINEMENT AT TENNESSEE STATE PRISON HERE "CONSTITUTES THE SORT OF CRUEL AND UNUSUAL PUNISHMENT WHICH IS PROHIBITED BY THE EIGHTH AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION."

RAY INFERRED IN HIS AFFIDAVIT THAT PERCY FOREMAN, ONE OF HIS FORMER ATTORNEYS, AND THE PROSECUTION AT MEMPHIS MAY HAVE MADE A DEAL TO KEEP HIM IN MAXIMUM SECURITY AT THE STATE PRISON.

"I SUGGEST IF STATE WANTED TO KEEP ME IN MAXIMUM SECURITY CELLS AS A FORM OF PUNISHMENT THEY SHOULD OF TOOK ME BEFORE A JURY AND TRIED TO GET THE MAXIMUM PENALTY INSTEAD OF DEALING WITH MR. PERCY FOREMAN," SAID RAY.

RAY HAS ALSO CHARGED THAT HE WAS PLACED IN MAXIMUM SECURITY BECAUSE HE REFUSED TO GIVE CERTAIN UNDISCLOSED INFORMATION TO FORMER STATE CORRECTION COMMISSIONER HARRY S. AVERY AND THE FBI.

ONE OF RAY'S ATTORNEYS, ROBERT W. HILL JR., OF CHATTANOOGA, HAS COMPARED RAY'S IMPRISONMENT SINCE HIS CAPTURE IN LONDON TO NAZI TORTURE.

IN AN EMOTIONALLY-WORDED BRIEF DEALING MAINLY WITH RAY'S IMPRISONMENT IN MEMPHIS BEFORE HIS TRIAL, HILL SAID:

"TO SYSTEMATICALLY STRIP AWAY ALL INNER PSYCHOLOGICAL DEFENSES THROUGH NINE MONTHS OF CONSTANT LIGHT, SOUND AND OBSERVATION IS AS LEGALLY DIABOLICAL AS MANY OF THE NAZI PRACTICES WHICH WE SO OFTEN CONDEMN."

HILL REFERRED TO RAY'S CONSTANT SURVEILLANCE BY CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION CAMERAS WHILE IN HIS SHELBY COUNTY JAIL CELL IN MEMPHIS.

"I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT I CAN WITHSTAND EITHER MENTALLY OR PHYSICALLY THIS TYPE OF IMPRISONMENT MUCH LONGER," SAID RAY IN AN AFFIDAVIT NOTORIZED JUNE 23, 1969, WHICH WAS ATTACHED TO THE BRIEF.

STATE CORRECTION OFFICIALS CLAIM IT IS IN RAY'S "BEST INTEREST" THAT HE BE KEPT IN MAXIMUM SECURITY UNTIL HIS VARIOUS COURT SUITS ARE SETTLED.

THE STATE, WHICH INSISTS THAT RAY'S CONFINEMENT HAS NOT AFFECTED HIS HEALTH, SAID IT WOULD SEEK TO PROVE THAT RAY'S CONFINEMENT HAS NOT AFFECTED HIS HEALTH, SAID IT WOULD SEEK TO PROVE THAT RAY'S RELEASE FROM MAXIMUM SECURITY WOULD ENDANGER HIS LIFE.

RAY COUNTERED BY SAYING HE WAS NOT ASKING TO BE LET OUT INTO THE REGULAR PRISON POPULATION, AND THAT HE KNEW OF JOBS HE COULD DO THAT WOULD MAKE HIS EXPOSURE MINIMAL.

AA330AES

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

FOR MR. TOLSON

*Put with MURKIN  
to an*

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

*news clippings*

## Ray's Suit Dismissed By McRae

Federal Judge Robert M. McRae Jr. today dismissed a suit filed on behalf of James Earl Ray seeking a ban on publication of certain information regarding the case.

McRae made the dismissal with prejudice saying, "There is not enough proof to go forward in this matter."

J. B. Stoner, Ray's attorney, said the decision would probably be appealed.

Ray, in a deposition read in court today, said his two former attorneys, Percy Foreman of Houston and Arthur J. Hanes of Birmingham, Ala., conspired along with author William Bradford Huie to further their own financial interests in handling his defense.

Ray, serving a 99-year sentence for the admitted slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis, gave the deposition in the Tennessee prison at Nashville.

Ray's present attorneys, Stoner of Savannah, Ga., and Richard J. Ryan of Memphis, said their client entered into contracts with Hanes and Huie, and later with Foreman through which he would furnish information to Huie for publication in magazine articles, books and movies.

"We contend that in a criminal case in which a man has been charged with murder . . . even though no one has been electrocuted in Tennessee for several years . . . on their face, these contracts jeopardized the criminal defense for the plaintiff (Ray)," said Stoner. "The only reason Ray signed the contracts was that they were imposed on him by his attorneys and he was given no alternative under the circumstances other than to sign."

Referring to articles published by Hanes, Huie and Foreman in an April 15, 1969 issue of Look Magazine, Stoner said, "We think the articles show very clearly that the defendants, (Foreman, Hanes and Huie) were ~~always~~ more interested in

publicity activities and in making money through these activities than in representing the plaintiff in his criminal case . . . an obvious conflict of interests."

Ray was imprisoned in London when he signed the first of a series of contracts and agreements, Stoner said. Others were signed while he was locked in the maximum security section of the Shelby County Jail, Stoner said.

"These are involuntary contracts, since he was locked up, at the mercy of his attorneys," he added.

John J. Hooker Sr. of Nashville, representing Foreman and Huie, said he has had "considerable difficulty in trying to decide what this suit is about."

"Mr. Ray first charges that his civil rights in some way were violated," Hooker continued. "As I read the statutes, any conspiracy to violate someone's rights must involve force, intimidation or threat. But there is not one line in Mr. Ray's statement to suggest that anybody threatened, attempted to intimidate or apply pressure to Ray."

Hooker said Ray took the initiative in seeking representation by Hanes and that "Huie was in it because he is a widely published writer who wanted to discover the truth about the murder of Dr. King. Foreman was in the case at the request of Ray's brother."

Mr. Tolson	_____
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Mr. Walters	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
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Mr. Conrad	_____
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Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Soyars	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 15

MEMPHIS PRESS  
SCIMITAR

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 12/1/69  
Edition:  
Author: CHARLES H.  
Editor: SCHNEIDER  
Title:

Character: 44-1987  
or  
Classification: MEMPHIS  
Submitting Office:

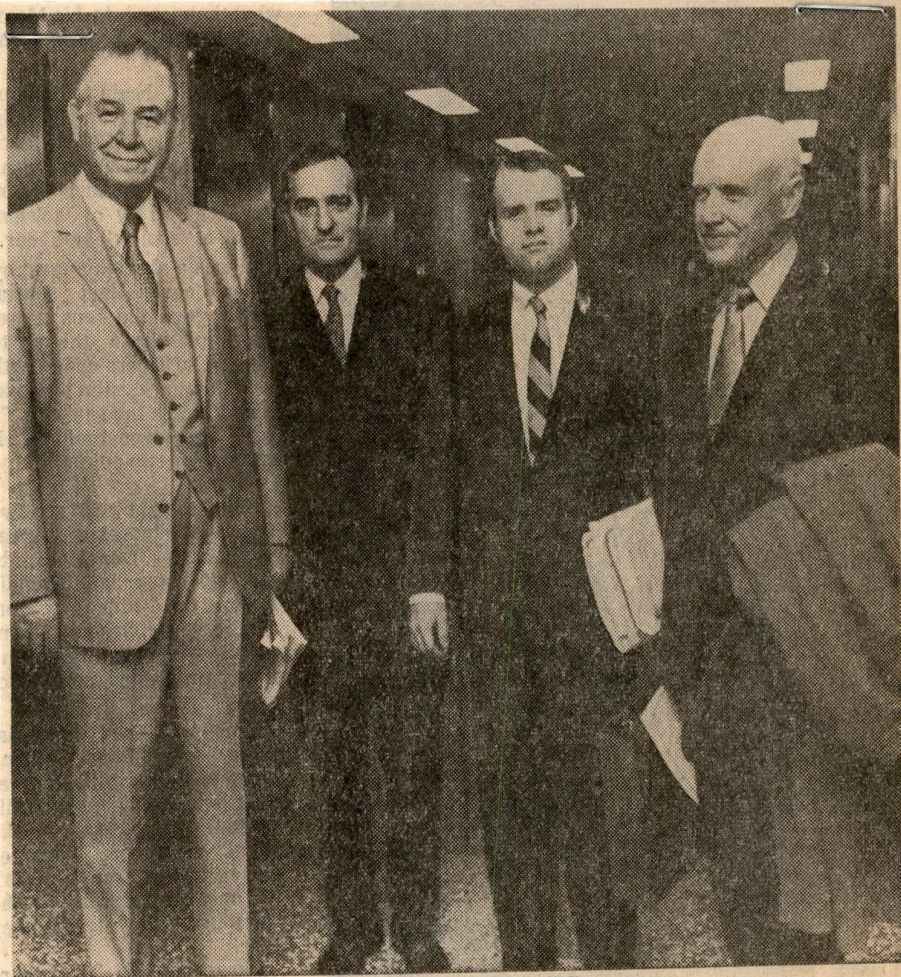
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#### RAY'S NEW ATTORNEYS

J. B. Stoner of Savannah, Ga., left, and Richard J. Ryan of Memphis presented the case of James Earl Ray today. Although not present, Ray testified through a deposition taken at the Tennessee State Prison at Nashville.



#### STRATEGY TALKS

Pausing briefly before entering a hearing on a suit filed in behalf of James Earl Ray in Federal Court today were, from left, Percy Foreman of Houston, Arthur J. Hanes Sr. and Arthur Hanes Jr. of Birmingham, Ala., and William Bradford Huie, author, of Hartsell, Ala.

—Press-Scimitar Staff Photos by James R. Reid



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*MURKIN*

## Dismissal Ruled In Suit By Ray

By ROBERT KELLETT

A federal court suit seeking to void a series of contracts between James Earl Ray and his former attorneys and to forbid publication of certain information in connection with the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King was dismissed yesterday.

United States Dist. Judge Robert M. McRae Jr., acting on a motion from attorneys for the defendants, told Ray's current attorneys: "I do not see that this proof would ever ripen into that proof of fraud that would cause this court to void these contracts."

Ray, the convicted slayer of Dr. King, did not appear in court, but said in a 118-page deposition that he had been pressured into signing the contracts which pledged revenues from writings by Alabama author William Bradford Huie first to attorney Arthur Hanes and later to attorney Percy Foreman.

Attorneys Richard J. Ryan of Memphis and J. B. Stoner of Savannah, Ga., representing Ray, said that the actions of the attorneys contributed to conflicts of interest and the contracts which they received from Ray were involuntary.

John J. Hooker, Nashville attorney representing Mr. Foreman and Mr. Huie, argued that no evidence had been presented that Ray was pressured to sign the contracts and made reference to more than 20,000 words which he wrote in long hand and sent to Mr. Huie to assist in preparing magazine articles and a book.

Mr. Hooker asked the court to "let him (Ray) explain how with all these writings in his own handwriting he can claim he was overreached."

Arthur Hanes Jr., who represented his father, sought to emphasize that his father had done everything possible to properly represent Ray before he was dismissed two days before a trial was scheduled Nov. 12, 1968.

Ray's deposition included two direct denials that he killed Dr. King.

Mr. Hooker, questioning Ray in Nashville, asked: "Did you or not, on April 4, 1968, fire a shot that fatally wounded and killed Dr. Martin Luther King?"

"No, sir," was the reply from Ray.

In his next question Mr. Hooker asked: "You deny that you fired any such shot into the head or some part of the body of Dr. Martin Luther King on that particular date or any other date?"

"Yes, sir, that's correct," was the second answer.

Mr. Stoner indicated that Judge McRae's decision will probably be appealed.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 13

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date:

Edition:

Author:

Editor: GORDON HANNA

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
CIVIL RIGHTS SECTION

\_\_\_\_\_, 1969

Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Malley  
Mr. Bolz  
Mr. McGowan  
Mr. Scatterday  
Mr. Shroder

Miss Wright  
Miss Dougherty  
Miss Eggleston  
Miss Miller  
Miss Sheredy  
Mrs. Wood

Room \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Malmfeldt  
Foreign Liaison

Mr. Bates  
Mr. Boyd  
Mr. DeBruler  
Mr. Deily  
Mr. Gehring  
Mr. Hines  
Mr. Hudson  
Mr. Kelly  
Mr. Loeffler  
Mr. Martindale  
Mr. McDonough  
Mr. Peters  
Mr. Price  
Mr. Sheets

Ident Division  
Mechanical Section  
Records Branch  
Statistical Section  
  
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For Information

until after the 1970 elec-  
tions.

• James Earl Ray will re-  
ceive a federal court hear-  
ing in Nashville, Dec. 29 on  
his complaint about the  
conditions of his confine-  
ment at the Tennessee state  
penitentiary, where he is  
serving 99 years for the mur-  
der of the Rev. Dr. Martin  
Luther King Jr.

• Trans World Airlines be-

PA-6

W. Post 12/11

C. L. MC GOWAN

SUPERVISOR

2712

*Put with News clippings*

**MURKIN**

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Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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*Civil Rights  
Section*

11-29-69

RAY 11/29 NX  
MEMPHIS, TENN. (UPI)--JAMES EARL RAY'S ATTORNEYS PLANNED MONDAY TO CHALLENGE A CONTRACT UNDER WHICH RAY PROVIDED INFORMATION ABOUT THE SLAYING OF R. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HIS CURRENT ATTORNEYS PLANNED TO ASK JUDGE ROBERT M. MCRAE JR. TO ISSUE AN INJUNCTION THAT WOULD PROHIBIT AUTHOR WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE OF HARTSELLE, ALA., AND ATTORNEYS ARTHUR J. HANES SR. OF BIRMINGHAM, ALA., AND PERCY FOREMAN OF HOUSTON, TEXM, FROM PUBLISHING ARTICLES ABOUT RAY. HANES, FOREMAN AND HUIE WILL BE IN THE COURTROOM, BUT RAY WILL NOT. MCRAE RULED HIS TESTIMONY WOULD BE BY DEPOSITION. RAY WAS A FUGITIVE FROM THE MISSOURI STATE PRISON WHEN HE WAS CHARGED IN THE SNIPER KILLING OF KING IN MEMPHIS APRIL 4, 1968. ARRESTED IN LONDON, HE IMMEDIATELY HIRED HANES, A FORMER BIRMINGHAM MAYOR, AND SAID HE WOULD FIGHT EXTRADITION. AFTER A SERIES OF HEARINGS, HE DROPPED HIS PROTESTS ABOUT THE TRANSFER AND WAS FLOWN DIRECT FROM LONDON TO MEMPHIS ABOARD A GOVERNMENT PLANE. TWO DAYS BEFORE THE TRIAL WAS TO BEGIN IN NOVEMBER 1968 RAY FIRED HANE AND REPLACED HIM WITH FOREMAN. FOREMAN SUCCESSFULLY SOUGHT A SERIES OF DELAYS, BUT THE TRIAL FINALLY WAS SCHEDULED FOR EARLY LAST APRIL. WITH LESS THAN A MONTH BEFORE HIS TRIAL, RAY PLEADED GUILTY IN EXCHANGE FOR A GUARANTEED 99-YEAR PRISON TERM. HE HAD BEEN CONFINED TO THE MAXIMUM SECURITY UNIT AT THE STATE PRISON IN NASHVILLE LESS THAN A DAY WHEN HE WROTE CRIMINAL COURT JUDGE W. PRESTON BATTLE, WHO LATER DIED, THAT HE WAS FIRING FOREMAN AND PLANNED TO SEEK A NEW TRIAL. THAT APPEAL, ALREADY REJECTED BY THE CRIMINAL COURT HERE AND BY THE TENNESSEE COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS, IS NOW PENDING BEFORE THE STATE SUPREME COURT.  
JL140PES

Tolson ☒  
 DeLoach ☒  
 Walters ☒  
 Mohr ☒  
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 Callahan ☒  
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 Rosen ☒  
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 Tavel ☒  
 Soyars ☒  
 Tele. Room ☒  
 Holmes ☒  
 Gandy ☒

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Clippings To*

UPI-94

(RAY)

NASHVILLE, TENN.--A DEPOSITION WAS BEING TAKEN SATURDAY FROM CONVICTED ASSASSIN JAMES EARL RAY IN CONNECTION WITH A FEDERAL COURT SUIT HE FILED AGAINST TWO FORMER ATTORNEYS AND AN ALABAMA AUTHOR.

JOHN J. HOOKER SR., A NASHVILLE ATTORNEY, SAID TEXAS ATTORNEY PERCY FOREMAN, WHO IS NAMED IN THE SUIT, WAS PRESENT WHILE THE DEPOSITION WAS TAKEN FROM RAY.

HOOKER IS PERCY'S ATTORNEY IN THE PROCEEDINGS BROUGHT BY THE CONVICTED SLAYER OF THE REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

ALSO NAMED IN THE SUIT ARE WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE, AN ALABAMA AUTHOR, AND ATTORNEY ARTHUR J. HANES SR. OF BIRMINGHAM, RAY'S FIRST ATTORNEY AFTER HE WAS ARRESTED IN THE KING SLAYING.

RAY IS SEEKING TO VOID CONTRACTS WITH THE MEN CONCERNING RIGHTS TO HIS STORY WHICH WAS WRITTEN BY HUIE AND PUBLISHED IN A NATIONAL MAGAZINE.

11/22--EH503 PES

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE



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clippings folder

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Walters	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
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Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

### Supreme Court won't review contempt case

WASHINGTON

The U. S. Supreme Court has refused to review the case of two Memphis, Tenn., newspapermen who were cited for contempt for their pre-trial reporting in the case of James Earl Ray.

Charges against the two, Charles Edmundson, *Memphis Commercial-Appeal* and Roy Hamilton, *Press Scimitar*, had been dismissed when Memphis Criminal Court Judge Arthur C. Faquin, Jr., said he did not have the power to impose sentences without retrying them. Judge Faquin had taken over for the late Judge W. Preston Battle, who had brought the charges against the two reporters and others. Judge Battle died shortly after sentencing Ray for the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King.

Although the reporters had been found guilty of contempt, no penalty was assessed.

*File*

EDITOR AND PUBLISHER  
October 25, 1969  
Page 41



*Put in Martin Luther  
Clipping folder*

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Tolson	_____
DeLoach	_____
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UPI-105

(RAY CENSORSHIP)

WASHINGTON--THE SUPREME COURT REFUSED TODAY TO HEAR THE COMPLAINT OF TWO MEMPHIS NEWSPAPERMEN THAT THE JUDGE IN THE TRIAL OF JAMES EARL RAY FOR THE SLAYING OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR., ILLEGALLY "CENSORED" THEIR REPORTING BY JUDICIAL DECREE.

THE BRIEF ORDER LEFT STANDING CONTEMPT CITATIONS AGAINST THE TWO FOR REPORTING CONVERSATIONS INVOLVING PRINCIPALS IN THE TRIAL.

THE REPORTERS ARE CHARLES EDMUNDSON OF THE MEMPHIS COMMERCIAL APPEAL AND ROY HAMILTON OF THE MEMPHIS PRESS SCIMITAR, BOTH SCRIPPS-HOWARD PUBLICATIONS.

THEY WERE FOUND IN CONTEMPT OF COURT BY SHELBY COUNTY CRIMINAL JUDGE W. PRESTON BATTLE, SINCE DECEASED, WHO PRESIDED OVER THE TRIAL FOR RAY FOR THE APRIL, 1968, SLAYING OF DR. KING IN MEMPHIS.

NO PENALTY WAS EVER ASSESSED AND HIGHER STATE COURTS DENIED THEM REVIEW.

IN A SERIES OF PRETRIAL ORDERS BATTLE ENJOINED LAWYERS, LAW OFFICERS, COURT AIDES AND ALL OTHER OFFICIALS INVOLVED WITH THE RAY CASE FROM MAKING STATEMENTS OR GIVING NEWS INTERVIEWS THAT MIGHT PREJUDICE HIS TRIAL.

SUBSEQUENTLY EDMUNDSON REPORTED AN INTERVIEW IN WHICH A PRIVATE DETECTIVE EMPLOYED BY THE DEFENSE WAS QUOTED AS COMMENTING CONSTANT BRIGHT LIGHTS AND OTHER SECURITY MEASURES IN RAY'S CELL COMPARED WITH "DEVICES USED BY COMMUNIST POLIC AGENTS TO DESTROY THE HEALTH AND BALANCE OF THEIR VICTIMS."

HAMILTON QUOTED REPORTS THAT RAY'S PRINCIPAL LAWYER HAD SAID HIS CLIENT HAD UNDERGONE "ENOUGH TO BUG ANYBODY" DURING CONFINEMENT.

10/13--RS206P

*mm*

FOR MR. TOLSON

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

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*Martin*

*McDermott*

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
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Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
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Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
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Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

## Ray Asks Court For New Full Trial

JACKSON, Tenn., Oct. 6. — (AP) — James Earl Ray petitioned the Tennessee Supreme Court Monday to grant him a full trial on charges he assassinated Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Ray's three lawyers filed a petition with the court clerk here, seeking to overturn a decision handed down by Criminal Court Judge Arthur C. Faquin of Memphis who denied the original new-trial motion. The State Court of Criminal Appeals later upheld Faquin's decision.

Ray, who pleaded guilty last March 10 to the sniper slaying of King, is serving a 99-year sentence in Tennessee State Prison at Nashville.

The motion asks that the Supreme Court grant a petition for certiorari — that is, that the court review Faquin's decision and order a new trial for Ray.

The motion is based on the fact that Criminal Court Judge W. Preston Battle of Memphis died a short time after accepting Ray's plea and pronouncing sentence. Tennessee law provides that any new-trial motion pending before a judge who dies must be granted.

But Faquin ruled on May 26 that that law was not applicable to the Ray case because Ray, by pleading guilty, irrevocably waived in advance any right of appeal or of a new trial.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 22

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 10/7/69  
Edition:  
Author:  
Editor: GORDON HANNA  
Title:

Character: 44-1987-  
or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

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PAGE 22

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 10/7/69  
Edition:  
Author:  
Editor: GORDON HANNA  
Title:

Character: 44-1987-  
or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

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## December Date Set For Hearing Ray's Complaint

A United States court hearing has been set for Dec. 1 on James Earl Ray's complaint that two of his former attorneys and an author conspired to capitalize financially in the case of Ray, convicted slayer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. . . . United States Dist. Judge Robert M. McRae Jr. yesterday set the date after conferring in his chambers for an hour and a half with attorneys for the plaintiff and the defendants.

The judge said he would not order Ray to appear at the hearing.

Ray is serving a 99-year sentence in the state prison in Nashville for the sniper assassination of Dr. King here April 4, 1968.

The defendants in the suit are former Ray attorneys Arthur Hanes Sr. of Birmingham and Percy Foreman of Houston and author William Bradford Huie of Hartselle, Ala.

Arthur Hanes Jr. is representing his father in the suit. John Hooker Sr. of Nashville is representing Mr. Foreman and Mr. Huie. Attorneys Robert W. Hill of Chattanooga and Richard J. Ryan of Memphis are representing Ray.

"It was just a matter of groundwork," Mr. Hanes said after the closed-door, pretrial conference.

"We haven't really gotten into the merits of the lawsuit," Judge McRae said.

The suit seeks to prevent publication of articles or books about the case by any of the three defendants.

The suit also asks that contracts Ray signed with the attorneys and author to divide publication profits be nullified. Ray charged in the suit that he was pressured to plead guilty to the King murder — an allegation denied by the defendants.

The judge, who said Ray's testimony would be taken by deposition, set Nov. 14 as the deadline for attorneys' compiling pretrial evidence.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
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Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 18

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 10/3/69  
Edition:  
Author:  
Editor: GORDON MANNA  
Title:

Character: 44-1987  
or  
Classification:  
Submitting Office: MEMPHIS  
☐ Being Investigated



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MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 10/3/68  
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Character: 44-1987  
or  
Classification:  
Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

*Put in Martin  
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✓ *R* Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*M. J. [Signature]*

*[Signature]*

UPI-208

(RAY)

NASHVILLE, TENN.--AN ATTORNEY FOR JAMES EARL RAY TODAY CHARGED THAT SOLITARY CONFINEMENT IS HARMING THE HEALTH OF HIS CLIENT AND SAID HE WOULD ASK A FEDERAL JUDGE TO HAVE RAY TRANSFERRED INTO A REGULAR CELL AT THE TENNESSEE STATE PRISON.

STATE SAFETY COMMISSIONER, LAKE RUSSELL, QUESTIONED WHETHER SOLITARY CONFINEMENT WAS HAVING AN ADVERSE EFFECT ON RAY'S HEALTH. HE SAID RAY HAD DAILY ACCESS TO A DOCTOR AND THAT HE HAD HEARD NO REPORTS THE CONVICTED KILLER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. WAS IN FAILING HEALTH.

9/25--DP749P

*mm*

TOLSON

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

*Markin*

### Ray Bars Kin

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — James Earl Ray, serving 99 years for the slaying of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., has told state prison officials he wants no more visits from his brother, Jerry Ray of Chicago. Ray's lawyer, Robert W. Hill of Chattanooga, said the prisoner's action stems from a statement Hill said the brother gave St. Louis newsmen. In the statement, Hill said, Jerry Ray quoted his brother as saying he was working for the federal government when King was slain in 1968 and blamed the death on "two federal agencies."

The Washington Post Times Herald *Page A76*  
 The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Evening Star (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Sunday Star (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Daily News (New York) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sunday News (New York) \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Post \_\_\_\_\_  
 The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Sun (Baltimore) \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Daily World \_\_\_\_\_  
 The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
 The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_  
 People's World \_\_\_\_\_  
 Examiner (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_

Date

*9/5/69*

*Jul 6 - 1969*

1cc: AAG Civil Rights Division  
 Form 8-95  
 SEP 5 1969  
 1 cc CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## Poor Sales Of First Work On Ray May Daunt Others

By CHARLES EDMUNDSON

The bonanza dreams of five writers who planned books on James Earl Ray, confessed slayer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., are fading in light of a reported slight sale of the first volume to appear.

Charles Holmes, who acted as public relations adviser for Sheriff William N. Morris during Ray's imprisonment and trial, said last night that so few copies of the first book have been purchased that the publishers are reported to have

called it off the bookstands. **James D. Squires**, a reporter for the Nashville Tennessean,

Clay Blair, once editor of the Saturday Evening Post, was scheduled to have had a book out only two weeks later than the Blair book. But the James Earl Ray on the book-presses will never roll for that stands a week after Ray pleaded guilty here March 10. An wrote the book and collected a "instant book," it was nearly liberal advance.

George E. McMillan of Atlanta was commissioned by Little, Brown & Co. to write "Portrait of an Assassin." It is still expected to be published.

What was meant to be only a first run of 300,000 copies of the paperback turned out to be the only run.

William B. Huie, who paid \$35,000 for Ray's handwritten version of part of what happened, was supposed to have had his "He Slew the Dreamer" in the bookstores in both paperback and hard cover in May. He told The Commercial Appeal yesterday the book will now appear only in hard cover and not until January.

Ray has filed a suit, awaiting trial in United States District Court at Memphis, charging that Mr. Huie conspired with Ray's first two attorneys, Arthur Hanes of Birmingham and Percy Foreman of Houston to capitalize on commercial aspects of the world famous case.

The change of plans for Mr. Huie's book is believed to be partly due to the poor showing of the Blair book and partly to questions raised in Ray's suit.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen ✓  
Mr. Sullivan ✓  
Mr. Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 11

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 8-11-69  
Edition:  
Author:  
Editor: GORDON HANNA  
Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

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Clay Blair, once editor of the late Saturday Evening Post, had his "The Strange Case of James Earl Ray" on the bookstands a week after Ray pleaded guilty here March 10. An "instant book," it was nearly all prewritten before the verdict was in. Only a few pages had to be tossed off and inserted on the afternoon Ray was allowed to plead guilty.

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janta. was commissioned by Little, Brown & Co. to write "Portrait of an Assassin." It is still expected to be published.

Gerold Frank author of "The Boston Strangler" and other best sellers, several of which have been made into movies, never meant for his book, to be published by Doubleday, to appear until 1971. He thinks his book, designed to go into Ray's mental processes and the social conditions influencing him, will have a more basic appeal than some of the others. His reported advance was \$100,000.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 11

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 8-11-69

Edition:

Author:

Editor: GORDON HANNA

Title:

Character:

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Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

### Ray Suit Gets Official Status Without Bond

A federal suit filed in behalf of James Earl Ray, was processed yesterday after a misunderstanding on \$250 was resolved.

Chattanooga attorney Robert W. Hill Jr. filed the suit through the mail, but it was held up pending payment of a \$250 cost bond. The bond, it was discovered yesterday, was not needed because Ray signed a pauper's oath.

The suit names Ray's former attorneys, Percy Foreman of Houston and Arthur Hanes of Birmingham, and author William Bradford Huie of Hartselle, Ala.

The suit is the first federal action initiated by the confessed killer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Ray is serving a 99-year sentence.

Ray has lost appeals for a new trial in Criminal Court in Memphis and before the Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals.

The suit filed yesterday, however, is a civil action and is not related to a new trial.

The suit charges that Mr. Foreman, Mr. Hanes and Mr. Huie conspired to make money on the sensational case by "taking in" Ray in an agreement that gave Mr. Huie exclusive publication rights to the Ray story.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

13

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date:

7-19-69

Edition:

Author:

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☐ Being Investigated

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*Put in Memorial #2*

*W. J. [unclear]*

## King Assassination Motel Sued Over Memorial Debt <sup>19</sup>

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (UPI)—A writ of attachment was issued yesterday against the motel where Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was shot to death.

Chancellor Charles Rond issued the writ on the Lorraine Motel to satisfy a \$1,421 debt in connection with a memorial to the slain civil rights leader.

PPG Industries, Ind., formerly known as Pittsburgh Plate Glass, Co., filed the suit against motel owner Walter Bailey. The company said it contracted with Bailey to enclose with glass the balcony on which King was standing when shot.

The company asked for a decree to settle the debt and that if payment is not made, the motel be sold to satisfy the claim.

The Washington Post Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Evening Star (Washington) **A-19**  
 The Sunday Star (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Daily News (New York) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sunday News (New York) \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Post \_\_\_\_\_  
 The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Sun (Baltimore) \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Daily World \_\_\_\_\_  
 The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
 The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_  
 People's World \_\_\_\_\_  
 Examiner (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_

Date JUL 16 1969

*Part with  
Memphis Tel*

# **Ray Is Refused Review of Denial Of a New Trial**

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., July 15 (AP)—The Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals refused today to review denial by a Memphis judge of a new murder trial for James Earl Ray on the slaying of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Presiding Judge Mark A. Walker of Covington announced the court's decision after it had deliberated the matter less than four hours. Defense Attorney J. B. Stoner of Savannah, Ga., said the ruling will be appealed to the State Supreme Court.

Ray pleaded guilty in Memphis March 10 to the slaying last year of Dr. King, and was sentenced by Criminal Court Judge W. Preston Battle to 99 years in state prison. In seeking a new trial, Ray claimed he was pressured by his former lawyer, Percy Foreman of Houston, Tex., into entering the guilty plea. Foreman denied the charge.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
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Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
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Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*Mr. DeLoach*

The Washington Post Times Herald **A-3**  
The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
The Evening Star (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_  
The Sunday Star (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_  
Daily News (New York) \_\_\_\_\_  
Sunday News (New York) \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Post \_\_\_\_\_  
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The Sun (Baltimore) \_\_\_\_\_  
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The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_  
People's World \_\_\_\_\_  
Examiner (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_

Date **JUL 16 1969**



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UPI-158

(RAY)  
 KNOXVILLE, TENN.--THE STATE COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS DEALT JAMES EARL RAY ANOTHER SETBACK TODAY IN HIS FIGHT FOR A NEW TRIAL BY REFUSING TO ASSUME JURISDICTION IN RAY'S CASE.  
 ATTORNEYS FOR RAY, WHO WANTS A NEW TRIAL IN THE SLAYING OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR., INDICATED THAT THEY WOULD NEXT ASK THE STATE SUPREME COURT TO HEAR THE APPEAL ON A WRITE OF CERTIORARI, THE SAME TYPE PETITION FILED IN THE CRIMINAL APPEALS COURT.  
 THE WRITE WOULD BE A POSSIBLE FIRST STEP IN MOVING FOR A NEW TRIAL AND APPEALING THE VERDICT OF A MEMPHIS CRIMINAL COURT IN WHICH RAY PLEADED GUILTY LAST MARCH.  
 7/15--JD504PED

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

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FOR MR. TOLSON

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE