

LIVINGSTON 4-3

MEMPHIS, TENN. (UPI) --

AN ATTORNEY FOR JAMES EARL RAY SAID SATURDAY HE COULD WELCOME A NEW INVESTIGATION OF THE EIGHT-YEAR-OLD MURDER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

NORMAN LIVINGSTON SAID THOSE WHO INVESTIGATED THE ASSASSINATION OF KING ON APRIL 4, 1968 "STUMBLER OVER GOOD AND VALID EVIDENCE" IN THEIR HASTE TO CONNECT RAY TO THE MURDER.

RAY, SERVING A 99-YEAR PRISON TERM IN NASHVILLE, CLAIMS A FORMER ATTORNEY, FRED FOREMAN, COERCED HIM INTO PLEADING GUILTY. HE IS AWAITING A DECISION ON HIS APPEAL FOR A TRIAL FROM THE 8TH U.S. CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS IN CINCINNATI.

LIVINGSTON TOLD UPI HE WAS GLAD TO HEAR THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT WAS CONSIDERING A NEW INVESTIGATION, BUT HE SAID IT WOULD HAVE NO EFFECT ON RAY'S APPEAL.

DOESN'T THINK THE CASE EVER WAS BEEN INVESTIGATED THOROUGHLY," LIVINGSTON SAID. "THE INVESTIGATIONS STOPPED WHEN THEY FOUND A BUNDLE CONTAINING CLOTHING AND A GUN OWNED BY RAY. THEY STUMBLER OVER GOOD AND VALID EVIDENCE AT THE SCENE OF THE CRIME BECAUSE THEY WERE SO INTERESTED IN ESTABLISHING OWNERSHIP OF THAT BUNDLE."

THE STATE OF TENNESSEE HAS LITTLE VALID EVIDENCE TO PROVE RAY COMMITTED THE MURDER, AND ADDED THAT OTHERS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SHOOTING MAY HAVE ESCAPED SCOTTFIELD.

"ALL EYES OF THE WORLD WERE TURNED ON JAMES EARL RAY, AND HE BECAME THE OBJECT OF A WORLDWIDE HASSLE," LIVINGSTON SAID. "IN MY VIEW WE HAVE TREATED HIM SHAMEFULLY."

UPI 44-35 07141 PLS

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McDonough

UP-066

(RAY)

CINCINNATI (UPI) -- JAMES EARL RAY CONTENDS HE DID NOT ASSASSINATE MARTIN LUTHER KING AND ONLY PLEADED GUILTY TO THE MURDER BECAUSE HE WAS "COERCED" BY LAWYER PERCY FOREMAN, AN ATTORNEY FOR RAY ARGUED TODAY.

"RAY CONTENDS HE DID NOT SHOOT KING," ATTORNEY JAMES LESAR SAID AFTER ARGUING BEFORE A FEDERAL APPEALS COURT THAT RAY BE ALLOWED TO DROP HIS 1969 GUILTY PLEA TO KILLING KING IN MEMPHIS, TENN., ON APRIL 4, 1968.

"THE FACT IS RAY WANTS A TRIAL," ADDED LESAR. "HE CLAIMS HE WAS FRAMED."

JUDGE ANTHONY CELEBREZZE ASKED LESAR HOW RAY COULD CLAIM THAT FOREMAN "COERCED" THE GUILTY PLEA FROM HIM WHEN RAY PREVIOUSLY TOLD ANOTHER JUDGE HE WAS NOT COERCED INTO ENTERING THE PLEA.

"THE PROBLEM IN COERCION IS THAT THE PERSON UNDER COERCION WILL DENY IT," ANSWERED LESAR.

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MURKIN

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McLaughlin

4-5-75
 (KING)

MEMPHIS, TENN. (UPI) -- CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER REV. JESSE JACKSON
 TOLD MARCHERS OBSERVING THE SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SLAYING OF R.
 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. FRIDAY HE BELIEVES THE CIA AND THE FBI WERE
 INVOLVED IN THE ASSASSINATION.

"JAMES EARL RAY SAID HE WAS NOT ALONE AND I BELIEVE HIM," JACKSON
 SAID.

JACKSON SAID HE WILL MAKE A PERSONAL APPEAL TO ATTORNEY GENERAL
 EDWARD LEVI TO REOPEN THE INVESTIGATION OF THE MURDER AND WILL JOIN
 WITH A GROUP OF OTHER MINISTERS FROM ACROSS THE NATION IN ATTEMPTING
 TO INTERVIEW RAY, WHO IS NOW SERVING A 99-YEAR SENTENCE IN THE
 TENNESSEE STATE PRISON FOLLOWING HIS GUILTY PLEA IN 1969.

RAY HAS REPUDIATED HIS CONFESSION AND NOW CLAIMS HE WAS PRESSURED
 INTO IT BY DEFENSE LAWYER PERCY FOREMAN.

AFTER AN EIGHT-DAY HEARING LAST YEAR, U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE ROBERT
 MCRAE RULED RAY IS NOT ENTITLED TO A NEW TRIAL. HOWEVER, THE JUDGE'S
 RULING IS BEING APPEALED.

JACKSON, WHO WAS WITH KING IN MEMPHIS ON APRIL 4, 1968, THE DAY
 THE FOUNDER OF THE SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE WAS SHOT,
 SAID HE DID NOT UNDERSTAND HOW RAY WAS ABLE TO LEAVE THE SCENE OF THE
 SLAYING AND MAKE HIS WAY TO LONDON, WHERE HE WAS ARRESTED TWO MONTHS
 LATER.

"I BELIEVE THE CIA WAS INVOLVED," JACKSON SAID, "AND UNTIL IT'S
 PROVEN OTHERWISE I WON'T CHANGE MY OPINION."

"I THINK THE FBI WAS INVOLVED WITHOUT A DOUBT," HE SAID, "MAYBE
 MORE SO THAN THE CIA."

JACKSON SAID IN SUPPORT OF HIS CLAIM THAT THE LATE J. EDGAR
 HOOVER, DIRECTOR OF THE FBI, ISSUED A MEMO SAYING AGENTS SHOULD
 "DISRUPT, DISCREDIT OR OTHERWISE NEUTRALIZE THE CIVIL RIGHTS
 MOVEMENT."

UPI 04-05 09:39 AED

MURKIN T_D

Civil Rights

SPOTLIGHT:

THE FBI'S BIGGEST MANHUNT

BY BRUCE BAKKE

UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

AN UNUSUAL APPEAL BY THE FBI WAS FLASHED INTO THE HOMES OF MILLIONS OF AMERICANS ON A SUNDAY NIGHT IN APRIL, 1968.

AT THE END OF THE NATIONAL TELEVISION SHOW, "THE FBI," THE PICTURE OF A WANTED MAN WAS SHOWN. THE MAN WAS JAMES EARL RAY, AN ESCAPER FROM THE MISSOURI STATE PRISON, AND THE FBI ASKED FOR ANY INFORMATION THAT WOULD LEAD TO HIS ARREST.

HE WAS WANTED FOR THE MURDER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., A CRIME THAT TOUCHED OFF DAYS OF RIOTING, BURNING AND LOOTING BY BLACKS IN CITIES ACROSS THE NATION. RAY, ALIAS ERIC STARVO GALT, "MUST BE CONSIDERED EXTREMELY DANGEROUS," THE FBI WARNED.

IT WAS THE MOST INTENSIVE MANHUNT IN THE HISTORY OF THE FBI. EVERY FACET OF RAY'S LIFE WAS EXAMINED. HUNDREDS OF FALSE LEADS--FROM MEXICO AND COMMUNITIES ALL ACROSS THE UNITED STATES--WERE CAREFULLY CHECKED OUT.

THE MANHUNT LED TO NEW ORLEANS, TO LOS ANGELES AND TO ATLANTA.

IT LED TO RIVERFRONT TOWNS ALONG THE MISSISSIPPI AND TO BIRMINGHAM, ALA., WHERE THE GUN THAT KILLED KING WAS SOLD AT A SPORTING GOODS STORE.

TWO MONTHS AFTER KING WAS KILLED, THE SEARCH LED TO HEATHROW AIRPORT IN LONDON, WHERE JAMES EARL RAY WAS CAPTURED.

HE PLEADED GUILTY IN 1969 TO MURDERING KING AND WAS SENTENCED TO A 99-YEAR PRISON TERM. RAY APPEALED THE VERDICT AND SOUGHT A NEW TRIAL, SAYING HIS ATTORNEY, PERCY FOREMAN, COERCED HIM INTO PLEADING GUILTY. A FEDERAL JUDGE IN MEMPHIS THURSDAY DENIED RAY'S PLEA.

RAY, NOW 47, WAS PHILOSOPHICAL ABOUT THE DECISION.

"HE SAID HE WASN'T SURPRISED BY IT," SAID JIM GILCHRIST, AN OFFICIAL OF THE TENNESSEE CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT. "THERE WAS JUST A TRACE OF A STRAINED SMILE ON HIS FACE, BUT NO EMOTION." RAY'S NEW ATTORNEY SAID HE WOULD APPEAL FURTHER FOR A NEW TRIAL.

EVEN TODAY, DETAILS OF HOW RAY WAS TRACED TO EUROPE HAVE NOT BEEN MADE PUBLIC. IT IS ONE OF MANY MYSTERIES SURROUNDING THE ASSASSINATION OF KING, THE MAN WHO LED AMERICA'S CIVIL RIGHTS PROTESTS OF THE 1950S AND 1960S AND WAS THE WINNER OF A NOBEL PEACE PRIZE.

IN MONTGOMERY, ALA., ON DEC. 1, 1955, A BLACK WOMAN NAMED MRS. ROSA PARKS REFUSED TO GIVE UP HER SEAT ON A BUS TO A WHITE MAN. SHE WAS ARRESTED AND THE INCIDENT TOUCHED OFF A LONG, BITTER, BUT EVENTUALLY SUCCESSFUL PROTEST BY BLACKS AGAINST SEGREGATED SEATING IN MUNICIPAL BUSES. THE LEADER, KING, WAS A YOUNG MINISTER WHO HAD BEEN PASTOR OF THE DEXTER AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH IN MONTGOMERY FOR A LITTLE MORE THAN A YEAR.

THE CIVIL RIGHTS PROTESTS SURGED ACROSS THE SOUTH--TO ALEANY, GA.; ST. AUGUSTINE, FLA.; BIRMINGHAM, ALA.; SELMA, ALA.; BACK TO MONTGOMERY, TO WASHINGTON, D.C. AT THEIR HEAD WAS MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

HE WAS ONE OF THE MOST CONTROVERSIAL MEN IN AMERICA. HE PREACHED NONVIOLENCE BUT HE LIVED EACH DAY WITH THE THREAT OF DANGER.

A SHOTGUN BLAST WAS FIRED THROUGH THE DOOR OF HIS HOME IN 1956. A YEAR LATER A DYNAMITE BOMB WAS THROWN ON HIS PORCH. IT DID NOT EXPLODE.

IN ST. AUGUSTINE, A BEACH COTTAGE RENTED BY KING WAS RIDDLED WITH SHOTGUN FIRE. HE WAS AWAY AT THE TIME.

IN NEW YORK IN SEPTEMBER, 1958, A WOMAN STABBED KING WITH A LETTER OPENER AS HE AUTOGRAPHED COPIES OF ONE OF HIS BOOKS IN A HARLEM STORE. THAT CHEST WOUND BOTHERED HIM FOR THE REST OF HIS LIFE.

IN APRIL, 1968, KING WAS IN MEMPHIS, TENN., TO ORGANIZE A PROTEST MARCH OF STRIKING SANITATION WORKERS. HE WAS STAYING AT THE LORRAINE MOTEL AND IT WAS ON THE BALCONY OF THIS MOTEL THAT HE WAS SHOT AND KILLED BY A SNIPER. HIS DEATH WAS INSTANTANEOUS.

UPI 63-02 11:29 AED

McDonough

RECEIVED CIVIL RIGHTS

UP-126

MURKIN To

LAW

ADD RAY, MEMPHIS

RAY CLAIMED HIS FAMED DEFENSE ATTORNEY, PERCY FOREMAN OF HOUSTON, TEX., HAD COMPROMISED HIS RIGHTS AND PRESSURED HIM INTO ADMITTING THE 1968 MURDER IN ORDER TO PRESERVE THE COMMERCIAL VALUE OF BOOKS WRITTEN ABOUT THE MURDER OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER.

RAY IS SERVING HIS SENTENCE AT THE MAIN TENNESSEE PRISON IN NASHVILLE AND WAS NOT PRESENT FOR MCRAE'S RULING. HOWEVER, ONE OF HIS THREE DEFENSE LAWYERS, ROBERT LIVINGSTON OF MEMPHIS, WAS IN THE COURT.

"WE HAVE NO COMPLAINT AT ALL ABOUT THE FAIRNESS OF THIS COURT," LIVINGSTON SAID AS HE PREPARED TO TELEPHONE FELLOW ATTORNEYS BERNARD FENSTERWALD AND JAMES LESAR OF WASHINGTON.

"HE RULED AGAINST US, BUT WE HAVE TWO COURTS UPSTAIRS (THE 6TH U.S. CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS IN CINCINNATI AND THE U.S. SUPREME COURT) THAT COULD RULE AGAINST HIM (MCRAE)," LIVINGSTON SAID.

"IF JAMES EARL RAY'S CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS WERE NOT VIOLATED," LIVINGSTON SAID, "I DON'T KNOW OF ANY MAN IN AMERICA WHO HAS EVER HAD HIS RIGHTS VIOLATED."

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UP-0 69

(RAY)

MEMPHIS, TENN.(UPI)--JAMES EARL RAY READILY PLEADED GUILTY TO THE MURDER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. TO AVOID THE ELECTRIC CHAIR AND BECAUSE HE INTENDED TO ESCAPE FROM PRISON WITHIN TWO YEARS, PERCY FOREMAN SAID IN A DEPOSITION READ IN FEDERAL COURT TODAY.

THE FAMOUS HOUSTON, TEX., DEFENSE LAWYER'S DEPOSITION WAS READ AT A HEARING THAT COULD LEAD TO A NEW TRIAL FOR RAY. RAY CONTENDS FOREMAN PRESSURED HIM INTO PLEADING GUILTY IN EXCHANGE FOR A 99-YEAR SENTENCE, BUT THE LAWYER SAID THE CHARGE IS TOTALLY UNTRUE.

THE LAWYER SAID HE DISCUSSED WITH RAY THE DIFFERENCE IN A 99-YEAR PRISON SENTENCE AND A LIFE TERM BEFORE HE ENTERED THE GUILTY PLEA ON MARCH 10, 1969, BUT RAY WAS NOT INTERESTED IN THE TALK.

"IT DOESN'T MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE TO ME," FOREMAN SAID RAY TOLD HIM. "THERE ISN'T ANY JAIL THAT COULD KEEP ME MORE THAN TWO YEARS."

RAY ESCAPED IN 1967 FROM A MISSOURI PRISON, WHERE HE WAS SERVING AN ARMED ROBBERY SENTENCE, AND WAS A FUGITIVE AT THE TIME OF THE KING MURDER. AFTER HIS GUILTY PLEA, HE TWICE TRIED TO ESCAPE FROM A TENNESSEE PRISON, BUT WAS UNSUCCESSFUL.

FOREMAN SAID HE WAS CONVINCED RAY ACTED ALONE IN THE MURDER OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER, BUT ENCOURAGED CONSPIRACY THEORIES BECAUSE HE DID NOT UNDERSTAND THE LAW.

"HE HAD THE IDEA THAT CONSPIRACY WAS A DEFENSE TO MURDER--THAT YOU COULD PARTICIPATE IN A CONSPIRACY AND NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR A MURDER," THE LAWYER SAID.

FOREMAN SAID RAY'S MOTIVES FOR THE MURDER SPANG FROM HATE OF BLACKS.

"HE WAS A RACIST; HE IS A RACIST AND HAS ALWAYS BEEN," FOREMAN SAID. "HE COULDN'T IMAGINE ANYBODY THAT WAS WHITE NOT THINKING LIKE HE DID.

"HE THOUGHT HE WOULD BE THE CHAMPION OF THE WHITE RACE."

THE READING OF FOREMAN'S DEPOSITION WILL END THE HEARING WHICH BEGAN OCT. 22 BEFORE U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE ROBERT MCRAE JR. OPPOSING LAWYERS WILL FILE WRITTEN ARGUMENTS LATER AND MCRAE WILL RULE AT SOME TIME IN THE FUTURE WHETHER RAY WILL BE ALLOWED TO WITHDRAW HIS PLEA AND STAND TRIAL FOR THE MURDER.

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WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

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RAY 11-1-74

(PICTURE)

BY ANITA MARIE LAPHAM
 MEMPHIS, TENN. (UPI) -- THE SPECIAL HEARING FOR JAMES EARL RAY
 WOUND UP FRIDAY WITH OPPOSING LAWYERS GIVEN 40 DAYS TO FILE FINAL
 BRIEFS BEFORE THE JUDGE DECIDES WHETHER TO GRANT RAY A NEW TRIAL.
 U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE ROBERT J. MCRAE JR. INDICATED IT WOULD BE
 ABOUT THE FIRST OF NEXT YEAR BEFORE HE WOULD DECIDE WHETHER RAY
 DESERVES A RETRIAL ON THE GROUNDS THAT HIS CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS WERE
 VIOLATED, FORCING HIM TO PLEAD GUILTY MARCH 10, 1969.

RAY, WHO TESTIFIED 10 HOURS AT THE PROCEEDING, WAS TO BE RETURNED
 IN SECRET BY FEDERAL MARSHALS TO THE NASHVILLE STATE PENITENTIARY
 WHERE HE IS SERVING 99 YEARS FOR MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.'S DEATH.

IT TOOK OVER FOUR HOURS FRIDAY TO READ THE DEPOSITION FROM TEXAS
 ATTORNEY PERCY FOREMAN. RAY CONTENDS FOREMAN AND ALABAMA LAWYER
 ARTHUR HANES SR. PRESSURED HIM TO PLEAD GUILTY TO BOLSTER ROYALTIES
 FROM TWO BOOKS ON THE KING DEATH APRIL 4, 1968.

FOREMAN SAID HE ENTERED THE PLEA CONVINCED RAY ALONE FIRED THE
 SNIPER SHOT TO THE CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER'S NECK TO CHAMPION THE WHITE
 RACE.

"HE (RAY) WAS A RACIST," FOREMAN SAID. "HE IS A RACIST AND HAS
 BEEN ONE ALL HIS LIFE. HE THOUGHT KILLING MARTIN LUTHER KING WOULD
 MAKE HIM THE CHAMPION OF THE WHITE RACE.

"HE DIDN'T WANT TO BE CAUGHT," FOREMAN SAID, "BUT HE WANTED THE
 CREDIT."

FOREMAN SAID HE NEVER SHOWED ANY INTEREST IN FINANCIAL CUTS FROM
 "HE SLEW THE DREAMER," BY WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE, OR "AN AMERICAN
 DEATH," BY GEROLD FRANK BECAUSE "I NEVER EXPECTED TO GET A DAMN
 CENT."

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

THE MAN WHO NEGOTIATED THE 99-YEAR TERM IN EXCHANGE FOR THE DEATH PENALTY FOR RAY SAID UNSUBSTANTIAL BALLISTICS EVIDENCE IN THE CASE WOULD LIKELY NOT HAVE SWAYED A JURY TO ACQUIT RAY.

"I HAD HUNDREDS (OF CASES) WHERE THERE WAS A FRACTURED, FRAGMENTED MISSILE AND THE DEFENDANT WAS CONVICTED," FOREMAN SAID. "ANY JURY THAT I HAD EVER WORKED WITH BEFORE, ON THE EVIDENCE THAT WAS AVAILABLE TO THE PROSECUTION, WOULD CONVICT HIM."

RAY AGREED TO PLEAD GUILTY, FOREMAN SAID, BECAUSE HE REALIZED THAT CONSPIRACY THEORIES HE HAD HELPED DEVELOP THROUGH THE AUTHORS WERE UNSUCCESSFUL, AND BECAUSE HE INTENDED TO ESCAPE JAIL WITHIN TWO YEARS.

"THERE WASN'T ANY QUESTION IN HIS MIND, AND VERY LITTLE IN MY MIND, THAT HE COULD GET OUT OF ANY PENITENTIARY IN A MATTER OF TWO YEARS," FOREMAN SAID.

RAY TRIED TO ESCAPE TENNESSEE PRISONS TWICE UNSUCCESSFULLY.

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*MBJ
LAW*

UP-081

(RAY)

MEMPHIS (UPI) -- ONE OF JAMES EARL RAY'S FORMER LAWYERS TESTIFIED TODAY THAT HE CONSIDERED THE MURDER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. A POLITICAL KILLING AND DID NOT BELIEVE RAY SHOULD HAVE BEEN EXTRADITED FROM ENGLAND TO FACE MURDER CHARGES.

ARTHUR HANES SR., WHO REPRESENTED RAY FROM THE TIME OF HIS ARREST IN LONDON TWO MONTHS AFTER THE APRIL 4, 1968, MURDER UNTIL RAY FIRED HIM FIVE MONTHS LATER, SAID HE DID NOT FIGHT THE EXTRADITION ON ORDERS FROM HIS CLIENT.

"HE (RAY) TOLD ME AT THE TIME THAT HE WAS WEARY AND TIRED OVER THERE AND WANTED TO COME HOME," THE FORMER MAYOR OF BIRMINGHAM, ALA., SAID.

HANES' TESTIMONY CLASHED WITH THAT GIVEN LAST WEEK BY RAY. THE CONVICTED ASSASSIN SAID HE WANTED TO FIGHT EXTRADITION, BUT HANES TOLD HIM TO "JUST COME ON BACK AND STAND TRIAL."

HANES SAID TODAY HE WENT TO ENGLAND AT RAY'S REQUEST AND STRONGLY ADVISED A FIGHT IN THE LONDON COURTS.

"I ADVISED HIM -- AND I STILL THINK THAT IF THEY HAD SOMEBODY OVER THERE THAT UNDERSTOOD AMERICAN LAW -- THEY WOULD NOT HAVE EXTRADITED HIM."

"IN MY JUDGMENT, IT WAS A POLITICAL KILLING AND NOT AN EXTRADITABLE OFFENSE UNDER THE (EXISTING EXTRADITION) TREATY," HE SAID. "I AGREED WITH HIM (RAY), BUT HE WANTED TO COME BACK HOME."

BERNARD FENSTERWALD, CROSS-EXAMINING THE WITNESS FOR RAY, DID NOT ASK HANES TO EXPLAIN WHAT HE MEANT BY CALLING THE KILLING POLITICAL.

UPI 10-31 01:51 PES

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

UP-069

(RAY)

MEMPHIS, TENN. (UPI)--JAMES EARL RAY READILY PLEADED GUILTY TO THE MURDER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. TO AVOID THE ELECTRIC CHAIR AND BECAUSE HE INTENDED TO ESCAPE FROM PRISON WITHIN TWO YEARS, PERCY FOREMAN SAID IN A DEPOSITION READ IN FEDERAL COURT TODAY.

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UP-142

(RAY)

MEMPHIS, TENN. (UPI) -- JAMES EARL RAY'S FIRST DEFENSE ATTORNEYS TESTIFIED TUESDAY THAT RAY STEADFASTLY INSISTED HE WAS ONLY AN UNWITTING TOOL IN A CONSPIRACY TO KILL DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

IN THE FIRST TELLING IN A COURT OF RAY'S VERSION OF WHAT HAPPENED ON THE NIGHT THE FAMED CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER WAS KILLED, ONE ATTORNEY RELATED HOW RAY TOLD HIM ABOUT BUYING A GUN FOR A MAN NAMED "RAOUL" AND OF STANDING IN FRONT OF A ROOMING HOUSE AT THE MOMENT KING WAS SHOT FROM AMBUSH.

ARTHUR HANES SR.--ONE OF THE MEN RAY ACCUSES OF RAILROADING HIM INTO A GUILTY PLEA--AND HIS SON ARTHUR JR. APPEARED AS THE STATE'S FIRST WITNESSES IN ITS EFFORT TO PREVENT A NEW TRIAL FOR RAY. BUT THEIR INITIAL TESTIMONY APPEARED TO SUPPORT RAY'S CONTENTION THAT HE NEVER ADMITTED FIRING THE GUN THAT KILLED THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE WINNER.

THE STATE BEGAN PRESENTING ITS CASE AFTER RAY WOUND UP THREE DAYS OF TESTIMONY WITHOUT SHEDDING ANY NEW LIGHT ON KING'S SLAYING.

UNDER QUESTIONING BY ASSISTANT STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL HENRY HAILE, HANES SR. SAID RAY NEVER VARIED IN HIS STORY OF THE NIGHT KING WAS KILLED.

"I PINNED JAMES EARL RAY DOWN A NUMBER OF TIMES ABOUT WHETHER HE KILLED MARTIN LUTHER KING. INVARIABLY HIS ANSWER WAS NO," HANES SAID.

HANES SAID RAY TOLD HIM THAT UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM A MAN HE KNEW ONLY AS RAOUL HE PURCHASED A RIFLE IN BIRMINGHAM AND ON THE DAY BEFORE KING DIED THE GUN "WAS TAKEN FROM HIM IN A MOTEL IN MISSISSIPPI. AND HE NEVER SAW IT AGAIN UNTIL IT WAS THROWN DOWN NEAR HIM.

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

"THEY GAVE HIM A NOTE WITH THE ADDRESS ON MAIN STREET AND TOLD HIM TO BE THERE AT 3 O'CLOCK," HANES RECOUNTED THE STORY HE SAID RAY TOLD HIM.

HANES SAID RAY SAID THAT WHEN HE ARRIVED AT THE ADDRESS, THE ROOMING HOUSE FROM WHICH AUTHORITIES SAY KING WAS KILLED, HIS CONTACT TOLD HIM TO PARK HIS CAR IN FRONT OF THE HOUSE AND THEN SENT HIM TO BUY A PAIR OF BINOCULARS.

"AT 5:30 P.M., THE CONTACT SAID 'JIM, YOU GO DOWN AND GET YOURSELF A COUPLE OF BEERS,' AND HE WAS STANDING IN FRONT OF THE ROOMING HOUSE AT 6 OR 6:01 P.M. WHEN THE SHOT WAS FIRED. HE SAID WHEN HE SAW THAT RIFLE ON THE GROUND HE KNEW HE WAS IN TROUBLE AND HE FLED."

HANES' SON TESTIFIED, "I FEEL NOW AND I FELT THEN THAT THERE WAS A CONSPIRACY INVOLVED." HE SAID THAT RATHER THAN URGING RAY TO PLEAD GUILTY TO AVOID CERTAIN ELECTROCUTION, HE WAS PREPARED TO GO TO TRIAL AND BEG THE JURY NOT TO PUT THE ENTIRE BLAME "ON THIS LITTLE MAN."

DURING HIS FINAL TESTIMONY, RAY SAID HE "HAD A COUPLE OF PHONE NUMBERS" BUT "WAS NEVER ASSOCIATED WITH MORE THN ONE PERSON" DURING THE COURSE OF THE OPERATION THAT RESULTED IN KING'S DEATH.

UPI 10-30 06:37 PES

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286A

RAY 10-30

INSERT 1ST NIGHT LD RAY MEMPHIS 264A AFTER 10TH PGH X X X HE FLED."

THE TESTIMONY CONFLICTED SOMEWHAT WITH RAY'S STORY TO A MEMPHIS REPORTER LAST SUMMER, IN WHICH HE SAID HE WAS GETTING AIR IN A TIRE OF HIS WHITE MUSTANG WHEN THE GUNSHOT PIERCED THE CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER'S NECK.

RAY SAID IN THE INTERVIEW AT THE NASHVILLE STATE PRISON HE RETURNED TO THE AREA OF THE ROOMINGHOUSE AND, FINDING THE STREET SWARMING WITH POLICEMEN, MADE A U-TURN AND HEADED SOUTH.

PICKUP 11TH PGH: HANES' SON

UPI 10-30 08:04 PES

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UP-142

(RAY)

MEMPHIS, TENN. (UPI) -- FOUR DAYS AFTER PLEADING GUILTY TO THE MURDER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR., JAMES EARL RAY WROTE SEN. JAMES EASTLAND, D-MISS., TO SAY HE "PERSONALLY DID NOT SHOOT" THE CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER, RAY TESTIFIED TUESDAY.

THE LETTER, INTRODUCED INTO EVIDENCE AT A FEDERAL COURT HEARING THAT COULD LEAD TO A NEW TRIAL FOR THE CONVICTED ASSASSIN, SUGGESTED RAY WILL ARGUE HE WAS AN UNWILLING PARTICIPANT IN A PLOT THAT BROUGHT ABOUT KING'S DEATH ON APRIL 4, 1968.

"I PERSONALLY DID NOT SHOOT MARTIN LUTHER KING," RAY WROTE THE MISSISSIPPI SENATOR ON MARCH 14, 1969, "BUT I BELIEVE I AM PARTIALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS DEATH."

"WHAT DID YOU MEAN WHEN YOU SAID YOU WERE PARTIALLY RESPONSIBLE?" ASKED JAMES LESAR, ONE OF RAY'S THREE LAWYERS.

"I BELIEVE YOU COULD BE INVOLVED IN SOME TYPE OF CRIME AND NOT HAVE ANY DIRECT KNOWLEDGE OF IT," RAY ANSWERED.

"DO YOU KNOW IF YOU ARE PARTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATH OF MARTIN LUTHER KING JR?" LESAR ASKED.

"I DON'T HAVE NO DIRECT KNOWLEDGE," RAY SAID, "BUT I ASSUMED ..." HE DID NOT FINISH THE STATEMENT.

RAY SAID HE WROTE EASTLAND BECAUSE THE VETERAN LAWMAKER WAS ON A COMMITTEE CONSIDERING AN INVESTIGATION OF THE ASSASSINATION AND HIS SUBSEQUENT GUILTY PLEA. HE SAID HE OFFERED TO COOPERATE WITH THE PROBE.

UPI 10-29 06:13 PES

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(RAY)

MEMPHIS, TENN. (UPI) -- FOUR DAYS AFTER PLEADING GUILTY TO THE MURDER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR., JAMES EARL RAY WROTE SEN. JAMES EASTLAND, D-MISS., TO SAY HE "PERSONALLY DID NOT SHOOT" THE CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER, RAY TESTIFIED TUESDAY.

THE LETTER, INTRODUCED INTO EVIDENCE AT A FEDERAL COURT HEARING THAT COULD LEAD TO A NEW TRIAL FOR THE CONVICTED ASSASSIN, SUGGESTED RAY WILL ARGUE HE WAS AN UNWILLING PARTICIPANT IN A PLOT THAT BROUGHT ABOUT KING'S DEATH ON APRIL 4, 1968.

"I PERSONALLY DID NOT SHOOT MARTIN LUTHER KING," RAY WROTE THE MISSISSIPPI SENATOR ON MARCH 14, 1969, "BUT I BELIEVE I AM PARTIALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS DEATH."

"WHAT DID YOU MEAN WHEN YOU SAID YOU WERE PARTIALLY RESPONSIBLE?" ASKED JAMES LESAR, ONE OF RAY'S THREE LAWYERS.

"I BELIEVE YOU COULD BE INVOLVED IN SOME TYPE OF CRIME AND NOT HAVE ANY DIRECT KNOWLEDGE OF IT," RAY ANSWERED.

"DO YOU KNOW IF YOU ARE PARTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATH OF MARTIN LUTHER KING JR?" LESAR ASKED.

"I DON'T HAVE NO DIRECT KNOWLEDGE," RAY SAID, "BUT I ASSUMED ..."
 HE DID NOT FINISH THE STATEMENT.

RAY SAID HE WROTE EASTLAND BECAUSE THE VETERAN LAWMAKER WAS ON A COMMITTEE CONSIDERING AN INVESTIGATION OF THE ASSASSINATION AND HIS SUBSEQUENT GUILTY PLEA. HE SAID HE OFFERED TO COOPERATE WITH THE PROBE.

UPI 10-29 06:13 PES

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

137A

RAY 10-50

DAY LD

BY ANITA MARIE LAPHAM

MEMPHIS, TENN. (UPI) -- JAMES EARL RAY DENIED TUESDAY THAT HE KILLED DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BUT CONCEDED THAT HE MAY HAVE BEEN "PARTIALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS DEATH."

TESTIFYING FOR THE SECOND DAY AT A FEDERAL COURT HEARING ON HIS PETITION FOR A NEW TRIAL, RAY HINTED AT A CONSPIRACY IN THE SNIPER SLAYING OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER AT A MEMPHIS MOTEL ON APRIL 4, 1968.

DEFENSE ATTORNEY JAMES H. LESAR ENTERED AS EVIDENCE A LETTER RAY WROTE TO SEN. JAMES O. EASTLAND, D-MISS., AFTER HIS MARCH, 1969, GUILTY PLEA THAT LED TO A 99-YEAR PRISON SENTENCE.

EASTLAND HEADED A COMMITTEE CONSIDERING A CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATION OF THE KING MURDER.

"I PERSONALLY DID NOT SHOOT MARTIN LUTHER KING," RAY SAID IN THE LETTER, "BUT I BELIEVE I AM PARTIALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS DEATH."

TUESDAY, AFTER RAY DENIED ONCE AGAIN THAT HE SHOT KING, HIS ATTORNEY ASKED HIM, "DO YOU KNOW IF YOU ARE PARTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATH OF MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.?"

"I DON'T HAVE NO DIRECT KNOWLEDGE," RAY RESPONDED, "BUT I ASSUME..." HE DID NOT FINISH THE STATEMENT.

RAY SAID HE HAD OFFERED TO COOPERATE WITH ANY PROBE OF THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE WINNER'S MURDER WHILE HE PRESSED FOR REVERSAL OF HIS GUILTY PLEA.

ASSISTANT STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL HENRY HAILE SPENT MOST OF TUESDAY AFTERNOON QUESTIONING RAY ABOUT THE TRUTH OF HIS STATEMENTS TO TWO FORMER DEFENSE ATTORNEYS WHOM HE ACCUSES OF PRESSURING HIM TO PLEAD GUILTY FOR THEIR FINANCIAL GAIN.

RAY TOLD HAILE HE OMITTED SOME FACTS ABOUT HIS ACTIONS THE NIGHT OF THE KING DEATH WHEN DISCUSSING THE CASE WITH HIS FIRST DEFENSE LAWYER, ARTHUR HANES SR., OF BIRMINGHAM, ALA., BUT RAY SAID HE TOLD ATTORNEY PERCY FOREMAN, OF HOUSTON, TEX., WHO REPLACED HANES, NEARLY EVERYTHING.

ENTERED AS EVIDENCE WAS A LETTER FROM FOREMAN TO RAY.

"IN MY OPINION," THE LETTER SAID, "THERE IS A LITTLE MORE THAN A 99 PER CENT CHANCE THAT YOU WILL BE CONVICTED AND RECEIVE THE DEATH PENALTY IF YOU GO TO TRIAL."

"IF I AM ABLE TO SAVE YOUR LIFE BY NEGOTIATING WITH THE COURT, I WILL CONSIDER IT ONE OF THE GREATEST FEATS OF MY CAREER."

RAY SAID HE AGREED TO PLEAD GUILTY, BUT DIDN'T TAKE THE PLEA AS THE LAST LEGAL EFFORT.

"I LOOKED ON THE DOCUMENT AS A HOLDING METHOD," RAY SAID, REITERATING HIS CONTENTION THAT HE WANTED TO TAKE THE STAND AT A TRIAL, BUT THAT FOREMAN REFUSED TO ALLOW HIM TO.

"IN TIME," RAY SAID, "I THOUGHT I'D TALK HIM INTO TRIAL." (IN WASHINGTON TUESDAY, THE SUPREME COURT REJECTED TENNESSEE'S EFFORTS TO BLOCK THE PRODUCTION OF EVIDENCE IN THE HEARING.)

UPI 10-30 03:35 AES

Ray Outlines Events Before Assassination

By Paul W. Valentine
Washington Post Staff Writer

MEMPHIS, Oct. 29—James Earl Ray today acknowledged being with a group of men he believes responsible for assassinating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. here in 1968—but he steadfastly denied being the “actual shooter.”

In a federal court hearing in which Ray, 46, is seeking to overturn his 1969 guilty plea to King's murder, Ray for the first time described details of events leading to the shooting at 6:01 p.m. April 4, 1968, as the civil rights leader stood on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel here.

But Ray would not say where he was or what he was doing at the moment the shot was fired, reportedly from the window of a flophouse adjacent to the motel.

“I told Arthur Hanes (one of Ray's former attorneys) the truth on everything except what I left out . . . I told him everywhere I'd been up to 10 minutes of 6 that evening,” Ray testified.

He acknowledged renting a room in the flophouse and purchasing the rifle found abandoned nearby just after the shooting and later identified as the murder weapon.

When Tennessee Assistant Attorney General Henry Haile pressed for details, Ray's attorneys protested, asking for a private bench conference with U.S. District Court Judge Robert M. McRae. After a brief consultation, McRae ruled that Ray could continue testifying about details he had discussed with his previous attor-

neys in preparing his defense, but not about matters he had refused to discuss with them.

The ruling came in the context of Ray's attempts to show that his previous attorneys, Hanes and Percy Foreman, coerced him into pleading guilty.

Ray's current attorneys contend Foreman pushed for a guilty plea to avoid a trial so that he could share royalties from books and magazine articles with writer William Bradford Huie with whom first Hanes and then Foreman had agreed to give exclusive details of the murder.

Ray has contended since the day he pleaded guilty that there was a conspiracy to kill King. FBI, Justice Department and local law enforcement officials say there is no evidence of conspiracy.

Though Ray would not specify yesterday where he was at the moment King was shot, his attorneys have said privately he was in another part of the city and has an alibi witness to testify so if Ray wins a full-dress trial. They also contend Ray was unaware that the group he was with in Memphis intended to kill King.

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SCLC 10-26

ATLANTA (UPI)--THE SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (SCLC), FOUNDED BY DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR., SAID SATURDAY IT WAS ~~INTERESTED THAT JAMES EARL RAY AND SUBS~~ THAT "FALL BE SET UP FOR A WEATHER MATERIAL."

THE SCLC REFERRED TO RAY AS A "MINNOW" IN THE CASE AND SAID THE NEW TRIAL WAS NEEDED SO AUTHORITIES CAN GET TO THE "BIG FISH."

RAY PLEADED GUILTY TO THE MURDER OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER IN EXCHANGE FOR A 99 YEAR PRISON SENTENCE, BUT HAS SINCE CHANGED HIS STORY AND NOW CONTENDS HE WAS PRESSURED BY HIS ATTORNEY, PERCY FOREMAN, INTO ENTERING THE GUILTY PLEA. A FEDERAL COURT IN MEMPHIS CURRENTLY IS HOLDING AN EVIDENTIARY HEARING INTO RAY'S CHARGES.

IN A TWO-PAGE STATEMENT ISSUED BY SCLC HEADQUARTERS, THE CIVIL RIGHTS GROUP SAID IT IS CONVINCED THAT KING WAS KILLED BY A CONSPIRACY, AND THAT RAY IS JUST A "FALL GUY" FOR WEALTHY LEADERS OF THAT CONSPIRACY.

"WE DO NOT QUESTION JAMES EARL RAY'S GUILT OR INNOCENCE," SAID THE SCLC STATEMENT. "THAT TO US IS IMMATERIAL WITHOUT OTHER PERSONS INVOLVED IN THE CONSPIRACY BEING BROUGHT TO TRIAL."

THE SCLC SAID, "THIS IS WHY WE CALL FOR THE NEW TRIAL FOR RAY. TO CATCH AND PUNISH A MINNOW AND LET THE BIG FISH GET AWAY WOULD NOT BE JUSTICE TO ANY DEGREE."

IT CLAIMED THAT SOME WEALTHY PERSONS WHO WANTED KING DEAD "PAID A HUGE SUM OF MONEY, WE BELIEVE, TO A FEW LUNATICS WHO AGREED TO BE THE PATSIES TO CARRY OUT THE CRIME."

"EVEN THOUGH JAMES EARL RAY WAS APPREHENDED AND GIVEN A 99-YEAR SENTENCE, THIS WAS NOT JUSTICE, NOR WAS IT LAW AND ORDER, BECAUSE JAMES EARL RAY WAS THE FALL GUY," SAID SCLC. "HE WAS SET UP TO BE CAPTURED."

THE SCLC STATEMENT CLAIMED THAT RAY COOPERATED AT FIRST, "BUT FOR SOME REASON JAMES EARL RAY HAS BECOME DISSATISFIED WITH THE WAY THINGS HAVE WORKED OUT FOR HIM, AND AS WE ALL KNOW HE HAS STARTED TO TALK AND COMPLAIN ABOUT THE WAY HE WAS FORCED TO CONFESS TO THIS BRUTAL MURDER."

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UP-025

(RAY)

MEMPHIS, TENN. (UPI) -- CONFESSED ASSASSIN JAMES EARL RAY TESTIFIED FRIDAY HE INCRIMINATED HIMSELF IN THE MURDER OF CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. "FOR A FEW DOLLARS" AND WAS FORCED TO PLEAD GUILTY IN A FINANCIAL DEAL WITH HIS ATTORNEYS.

RAY, IN TWO TEDIOUS HOURS OF TESTIMONY, SAID HE HAD A "SUSPICION," HIS DEFENSE LAWYER, ARTHUR HANES SR., OF BIRMINGHAM, ALA., AND ALABAMA WRITER WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE WERE USING HIM TO MAKE BIG MONEY WHEN HE PLEADED GUILTY TO THE KING ASSASSINATION.

RAY, IN HIS FIRST COURT STATEMENTS EVER IN THE CASE, SAID HE AGREED TO A CONTRACT WITH HANES AND HUIE IN ORDER TO GET MONEY TO PAY HIS LEGAL FEES.

RAY SAID HE HAD ONLY \$150 DOLLARS WHEN HE WAS ARRESTED IN LONDON, ENGLAND, 69 DAYS AFTER THE APRIL 4, 1968, KING MURDER AND "THIS WAS THE ONLY METHOD WE COULD USE TO GET THE NECESSARY FUNDS."

SO RAY AGREED TO TELL HIS STORY TO HUIE.

"IT APPEARED I WAS BEING A STATE'S WITNESS AGAINST MYSELF FOR A FEW DOLLARS," RAY TESTIFIED.

RAY IS SEEKING A NEW TRIAL ON GROUNDS HUIE, HANES AND A LATER RAY ATTORNEY, PERCY FOREMAN, PRESSURED HIM INTO MAKING THE GUILTY PLEA FOR WHICH HE RECEIVED A 99-YEAR SENTENCE.

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UP-120

(EVERS)

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TODAY ACCUSED FAYETTE, MISS., MAYOR CHARLES EVERS, WHO IS UNDER INDICTMENT FOR INCOME TAX EVASION, WITH "INTENTIONALLY" KEEPING RECORDS THAT HIDE HIS SOURCES OF INCOME.

BECAUSE THE SOURCES OF HIS INCOME CANNOT BE IDENTIFIED, THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT SAID, IT HAS BASED ITS CASE AGAINST HIM ON COMPARISONS OF HIS NET WORTH IN 1967 AND 1970.

A FEDERAL GRAND JURY IN JACKSON, MISS., LAST AUGUST CHARGED THE FORMER CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER AND HIS FORMER WIFE, NANNIE LAURA EVERS, WITH EVADING MORE THAN \$50,000 IN FEDERAL INCOME TAXES BETWEEN 1967 AND 1970.

THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT FILED A STATEMENT ABOUT EVERS' RECORDKEEPING IN U.S. DISTRICT COURT AT JACKSON IN RESPONSE TO A MOTION BY EVERS' ATTORNEYS THAT THE GOVERNMENT BE REQUIRED TO FURNISH DETAILS OF THE ALLEGED UNREPORTED INCOME.

"...THE GOVERNMENT EXPECTS TO PROVE THAT THE DEFENDANTS INTENTIONALLY MAINTAINED THEIR RECORDS IN SUCH FASHION AS TO MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERMINE THE PRECISE SOURCE OF THEIR INCOME," THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT EXPLAINED IN A MOTION SAYING THE EXACT FIGURES WERE NOT AVAILABLE.

"THE GOVERNMENT EXPECTS TO PRODUCE EVIDENCE FROM WHICH A JURY MAY INFER THAT INCREASES IN THE DEFENDANTS' NET WORTH WERE THE RESULT OF UNREPORTED INCOME OF THE DEFENDANTS' VARIED BUSINESSES."

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UP-121

(RAY)

MEMPHIS (UPI)--A BROTHER OF JAMES EARL RAY TESTIFIED FRIDAY THAT AUTHOR WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE OFFERED TO PAY THE RAY FAMILY \$12,000 TO KEEP RAY OFF THE WITNESS STAND AND THUS PRESERVE THE VALUE OF HIS BOOK ABOUT THE MURDER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

THE STATEMENT WAS MADE BY JERRY RAY, WHO ALONG WITH ANOTHER BROTHER, JOHN, TOOK THE WITNESS STAND FRIDAY IN A FEDERAL COURT HEARING THAT COULD LEAD TO A NEW TRIAL FOR THE CONFESSED ASSASSIN OF THE FAMED CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER. JAMES EARL RAY NOW DENIES KILLING KING AND CLAIMS HE WAS PRESSURED INTO ENTERING A GUILTY PLEA IN THE CASE.

JERRY RAY TESTIFIED THAT WHEN HE ASKED HUIE WHETHER WHETHER HIS BROTHER'S ATTORNEY AT THE TIME, ARTHUR HANES SR. OF BIRMINGHAM, ALA., WOULD GO ALONG WITH KEEPING JAMES OFF THE WITNESS STAND, HUIE REPLIED:

"I'M THE BOSS. I'M THE ONE PAYING OUT MONEY. I CALL THE SHOTS."
 AS A RESULT OF THIS CONVERSATION, JERRY RAY SAID HE LATER TOLD JAMES, "YOU DON'T HAVE AN ATTORNEY REPRESENTING YOU, HE'S REPRESENTING THE BOOK WRITER." I SAID, 'I'D FIRE HIM AND GET ANOTHER LAWYER.'"

JAMES EARL RAY NOW CONTENTS ATTORNEYS HANES AND PERCY FOREMAN OF HOUSTON, TEX., FAILED TO PROVIDE HIM WITH PROPER LEGAL COUNSEL BECAUSE OF THEIR FINANCIAL DEALINGS WITH HUIE, WHO WROTE THE BOOK, "HE SLEW THE DREAMER."

HANES, ORIGINALLY REPRESENTED THE ACCUSED MURDER BUT WAS REPLACED ON NOV. 12, 1968 BY FOREMAN.

JERRY RAY TESTIFIED HE MET HUIE IN HUNTSVILLE, ALA., EARLY IN NOVEMBER 1968 AT HUIE'S REQUEST.

"HE (HUIE) SAID ARTHUR HANES WAS HAVING TROUBLE WITH JAMES BECAUSE HE (JAMES) WAS WANTING TO GET ON THE WITNESS STAND," JERRY RAY SAID. "HUIE SAID HE DIDN'T WANT JAMES ON THE STAND BECAUSE IT WOULD DESTROY THE VALUE OF HIS BOOK, BECAUSE WHAT HE TESTIFIED TO WOULD BE PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE."

JERRY RAY SAID THE WRITER TOLD HIM IF HE WOULD GET HIS BROTHER NOT TO TAKE THE STAND, HUIE WOULD GET \$12,000 FROM HANES AND GIVE IT TO THE RAY FAMILY.

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RAY 10-25

2ND LD 271A

BY JIM BALENTINE

MEMPHIS, TENN. (UPI) -- JAMES EARL RAY TESTIFIED FRIDAY THAT LAWYER PERCY FOREMAN CONVINCED HIM HE WOULD BE "BARBECUED" FOR THE KILLING OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. IF HE STUCK WITH HIS FIRST ATTORNEY, THEN ACCEPTED THE ALLEGED MURDER WEAPON AND GETAWAY CAR AS A RETAINER TO DEFEND HIM.

TESTIFYING FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER IN THE CASE, RAY SPENT A TEDIOUS TWO HOURS LATE FRIDAY COVERING THE FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS HIS ATTORNEYS CLAIM FORCED HIM INTO THE GUILTY PLEA.

RAY CONTENDS THAT AUTHOR WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE, FOREMAN AND RAY'S FIRST ATTORNEY, ARTHUR HANES SR., FORCED RAY TO PLEAD GUILTY IN ORDER TO KEEP HIM OFF THE WITNESS STAND AND PRESERVE THE FRESHNESS OF A BOOK HUIE WAS WRITING ON THE KILLING.

ATTORNEY JAMES LESAR READ INTO THE RECORD A CONTRACT BETWEEN HUIE AND DELL PUBLISHING CO. INC. OF NEW YORK, WHICH PROVIDED FOR PUBLISHING THE BOOK ON OR AFTER MARCH 15, 1969, AND STIPULATED THAT "NONE OF HIS (HUIE'S) PROCEEDS OF THE CONTRACT DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY GO TO JAMES EARL RAY."

"I DIDN'T KNOW THAT," RAY SAID, "BUT I HAD A SUSPICION."

LESAR ALSO READ A LETTER FROM HUIE TO HANES IN WHICH HUIE AGREED TO LOAN HANES \$35,000 IF HANES KEPT RAY OUT OF COURT UNTIL AT LEAST FIVE MONTHS AFTER HIS RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES FROM HIS ARREST IN LONDON.

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

"FIVE MONTHS AFTER RAY'S RETURN I EXPECT TO HAVE COMPLETED THE BOOK," THE LETTER SAID.

RAY SAID HE DECIDED HE WOULD HAVE TO CHANGE ATTORNEYS AFTER HIS BROTHER JERRY CAME TO SEE HIM AND TOLD HIM THAT "MR. HUIE TOLD HIM IF I'D TAKE THE WITNESS STAND, IT WOULD DESTROY HIS BOOK."

FOREMAN, HE SAID, CAME INTO THE PICTURE "IN A SIDE WAY."

"HE SAID IF I STUCK BY HANES AND HUIE, I'D PROBABLY BE BARBECUED (ELECTROCUTED)," RAY SAID. TO DEFEND HIM, RAY SAID, FOREMAN AGREED TO A FEE OF \$150,000, AND THEN ASKED ABOUT THE MUSTANG CAR IN WHICH RAY FLED MEMPHIS AND THE RIFLE AUTHORITIES SAID RAY USED TO KILL KING.

"I SIGNED THEM OVER TO HIM AS A RETAINER FEE," SAID RAY, CONCLUDING FRIDAY'S TESTIMONY.

RAY BEGAN HIS TESTIMONY LATE FRIDAY AFTER HIS BROTHER JERRY SAID HUIE HAD OFFERED THE RAY FAMILY \$12,000 TO HELP KEEP JAMES OFF THE WITNESS STAND.

HANES REPRESENTED RAY FROM SHORTLY AFTER HIS JUNE 8, 1968 ARREST IN LONDON UNTIL RAY FIRED HIM THE FOLLOWING NOV. 12. FOREMAN REPLACED HANES AND RAY FIRED HIM THE DAY AFTER THE GUILTY PLEA WAS MADE IN EXCHANGE FOR A 99-YEAR SENTENCE.

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UP-144

ADD RAY, MEMPHIS (UP-121)

JAMES EARL RAY LATER TESTIFIED HE SIGNED OVER TO HIS FIRST DEFENSE LAWYER 40 PER CENT OF ANY MONEY HE MIGHT GET FROM BOOKS BUT LATER BECAME "SUSPICIOUS" ABOUT HUIE.

JAMES LEANED FORWARD IN THE WITNESS CHAIR AND SPOKE INTO A MICROPHONE AS HIS PRESENT ATTORNEY, JAMES LESAR, BEGAN PROBING THE FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN HUIE AND LAWYERS FOREMAN AND HANES. HANES REPRESENTED RAY FROM SHORTLY AFTER HIS JUNE 8, 1968, ARREST UNTIL RAY FIRED HIM THE FOLLOWING NOV. 12. FOREMAN REPLACED HANES AND WAS FIRED THE DAY AFTER HE ENTERED RAY'S GUILTY PLEA ON MARCH 10, 1969.

RAY SAID HE FIRST MET HANES WHEN THE ALABAMA ATTORNEY RESPONDED TO A LETTER BY COMING TO HIM IN AN ENGLISH PRISON WHILE HE WAS AWAITING EXTRADITION. HE SAID HANES GAVE HIM TWO DOCUMENTS -- ONE GRANTING HANES POWER OF ATTORNEY AND THE OTHER GIVING HANES "40 PER CENT OF ANY REVENUE HE MIGHT RECEIVE THROUGH THE COMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY."

"I ACCEPTED AND SIGNED THE DOCUMENTS," RAY SAID.

LESAR ASKED WHEN RAY FIRST HEARD OF HUIE, WHO EVENTUALLY WROTE ON A BOOK ON HE CASE AFTER RAY'S CONVICTION ENTITLED "HE SLEW THE DREAMER".

"I HAVE NO RECOLLECTION OF EVER HEARING HIS NAME UNTIL I RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES," RAY SAID.

AFTER HE WAS EXTRADITED AND ARRIVED IN MEMPHIS ON JULY 19, 1968, RAY SAID HE BEGAN TO DISTRUST HUIE.

"I HAD READ A BOOK BY HIM, I THINK IT WAS "THREE LIVES IN MISSISSIPPI" OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT, AND I GOT SUSPICIOUS. HIS TECHNIQUE, IT WOULD SEEM TO ME, WAS TO GET SOMEONE TO INCRIMINATE THEMSELF AND THEN HE'D GIVE THEM MONEY."

THE BOOK WAS ABOUT THE TRIAL OF THE MEN ACCUSED OF KILLING THREE YOUNG CIVIL RIGHTS WORKERS AT PHILADELPHIA, MISS.

UPI 10-25 06:14 PED

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UP-121

(RAY)

MEMPHIS (UPI)--A BROTHER OF JAMES EARL RAY TESTIFIED FRIDAY THAT AUTHOR WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE OFFERED TO PAY THE RAY FAMILY \$12,000 TO KEEP RAY OFF THE WITNESS STAND AND THUS PRESERVE THE VALUE OF HIS BOOK ABOUT THE MURDER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

THE STATEMENT WAS MADE BY JERRY RAY, WHO ALONG WITH ANOTHER BROTHER, JOHN, TOOK THE WITNESS STAND FRIDAY IN A FEDERAL COURT HEARING THAT COULD LEAD TO A NEW TRIAL FOR THE CONFESSED ASSASSIN OF THE FAMED CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER. JAMES EARL RAY NOW DENIES KILLING KING AND CLAIMS HE WAS PRESSURED INTO ENTERING A GUILTY PLEA IN THE CASE.

JERRY RAY TESTIFIED THAT WHEN HE ASKED HUIE WHETHER WHETHER HIS BROTHER'S ATTORNEY AT THE TIME, ARTHUR HANES SR. OF BIRMINGHAM, ALA., WOULD GO ALONG WITH KEEPING JAMES OFF THE WITNESS STAND, HUIE REPLIED:

"I'M THE BOSS. I'M THE ONE PAYING OUT MONEY. I CALL THE SHOTS." AS A RESULT OF THIS CONVERSATION, JERRY RAY SAID HE LATER TOLD JAMES, "YOU DON'T HAVE AN ATTORNEY REPRESENTING YOU, HE'S REPRESENTING THE BOOK WRITER." I SAID, 'I'D FIRE HIM AND GET ANOTHER LAWYER.'"

JAMES EARL RAY NOW CONTENTS ATTORNEYS HANES AND PERCY FOREMAN OF HOUSTON, TEX., FAILED TO PROVIDE HIM WITH PROPER LEGAL COUNSEL BECAUSE OF THEIR FINANCIAL DEALINGS WITH HUIE, WHO WROTE THE BOOK, "HE SLEW THE DREAMER."

HANES, ORIGINALLY REPRESENTED THE ACCUSED MURDER BUT WAS REPLACED ON NOV. 12, 1968 BY FOREMAN.

JERRY RAY TESTIFIED HE MET HUIE IN HUNTSVILLE, ALA., EARLY IN NOVEMBER 1968 AT HUIE'S REQUEST.

"HE (HUIE) SAID ARTHUR HANES WAS HAVING TROUBLE WITH JAMES BECAUSE HE (JAMES) WAS WANTING TO GET ON THE WITNESS STAND," JERRY RAY SAID. "HUIE SAID HE DIDN'T WANT JAMES ON THE STAND BECAUSE IT WOULD DESTROY THE VALUE OF HIS BOOK, BECAUSE WHAT HE TESTIFIED TO WOULD BE PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE."

JERRY RAY SAID THE WRITER TOLD HIM IF HE WOULD GET HIS BROTHER NOT TO TAKE THE STAND, HUIE WOULD GET \$12,000 FROM HANES AND GIVE IT TO THE RAY FAMILY.

UPI 10-25 04:40 PED

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

UP-144

ADD RAY, MEMPHIS (UP-121)

JAMES EARL RAY LATER TESTIFIED HE SIGNED OVER TO HIS FIRST DEFENSE LAWYER 40 PER CENT OF ANY MONEY HE MIGHT GET FROM BOOKS BUT LATER BECAME "SUSPICIOUS" ABOUT HUIE.

JAMES LEANED FORWARD IN THE WITNESS CHAIR AND SPOKE INTO A MICROPHONE AS HIS PRESENT ATTORNEY, JAMES LESAR, BEGAN PROBING THE FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN HUIE AND LAWYERS FOREMAN AND HANES. HANES REPRESENTED RAY FROM SHORTLY AFTER HIS JUNE 8, 1968, ARREST UNTIL RAY FIRED HIM THE FOLLOWING NOV. 12. FOREMAN REPLACED HANES AND WAS FIRED THE DAY AFTER HE ENTERED RAY'S GUILTY PLEA ON MARCH 10, 1969.

RAY SAID HE FIRST MET HANES WHEN THE ALABAMA ATTORNEY RESPONDED TO A LETTER BY COMING TO HIM IN AN ENGLISH PRISON WHILE HE WAS AWAITING EXTRADITION. HE SAID HANES GAVE HIM TWO DOCUMENTS -- ONE GRANTING HANES POWER OF ATTORNEY AND THE OTHER GIVING HANES "40 PER CENT OF ANY REVENUE HE MIGHT RECEIVE THROUGH THE COMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY."

"I ACCEPTED AND SIGNED THE DOCUMENTS," RAY SAID. LESAR ASKED WHEN RAY FIRST HEARD OF HUIE, WHO EVENTUALLY WROTE ON A BOOK ON HIS CASE AFTER RAY'S CONVICTION ENTITLED "HE SLEW THE DREAMER".

"I HAVE NO RECOLLECTION OF EVER HEARING HIS NAME UNTIL I RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES," RAY SAID.

AFTER HE WAS EXTRADITED AND ARRIVED IN MEMPHIS ON JULY 19, 1968, RAY SAID HE BEGAN TO DISTRUST HUIE.

"I HAD READ A BOOK BY HIM, I THINK IT WAS "THREE LIVES IN MISSISSIPPI" OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT, AND I GOT SUSPICIOUS. HIS TECHNIQUE, IT WOULD SEEM TO ME, WAS TO GET SOMEONE TO INCRIMINATE HIMSELF AND THEN HE'D GIVE THEM MONEY."

THE BOOK WAS ABOUT THE TRIAL OF THE MEN ACCUSED OF KILLING THREE YOUNG CIVIL RIGHTS WORKERS AT PHILADELPHIA, MISS.

UPI 10-25 06:14 PED

304A

RAY 10-25
2ND LD 271A

BY JIM VALENTINE

MEMPHIS, TENN. (UPI) -- JAMES EARL RAY TESTIFIED FRIDAY THAT LAWYER PERCY FOREMAN CONVINCED HIM HE WOULD BE "BARBECUED" FOR THE KILLING OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. IF HE STUCK WITH HIS FIRST ATTORNEY, THEN ACCEPTED THE ALLEGED MURDER WEAPON AND GETAWAY CAR AS A RETAINER TO DEFEND HIM.

TESTIFYING FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER IN THE CASE, RAY SPENT A TEDIOUS TWO HOURS LATE FRIDAY COVERING THE FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS HIS ATTORNEYS CLAIM FORCED HIM INTO THE GUILTY PLEA.

RAY CONTENDS THAT AUTHOR WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE, FOREMAN AND RAY'S FIRST ATTORNEY, ARTHUR HANES SR., FORCED RAY TO PLEAD GUILTY IN ORDER TO KEEP HIM OFF THE WITNESS STAND AND PRESERVE THE FRESHNESS OF A BOOK HUIE WAS WRITING ON THE KILLING.

ATTORNEY JAMES LESAR READ INTO THE RECORD A CONTRACT BETWEEN HUIE AND DELL PUBLISHING CO. INC. OF NEW YORK, WHICH PROVIDED FOR PUBLISHING THE BOOK ON OR AFTER MARCH 15, 1969, AND STIPULATED THAT "NONE OF HIS (HUIE'S) PROCEEDS OF THE CONTRACT DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY GO TO JAMES EARL RAY."

"I DIDN'T KNOW THAT," RAY SAID, "BUT I HAD A SUSPICION."

LESAR ALSO READ A LETTER FROM HUIE TO HANES IN WHICH HUIE AGREED TO LOAN HANES \$35,000 IF HANES KEPT RAY OUT OF COURT UNTIL AT LEAST FIVE MONTHS AFTER HIS RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES FROM HIS ARREST IN LONDON.

"FIVE MONTHS AFTER RAY'S RETURN I EXPECT TO HAVE COMPLETED THE BOOK," THE LETTER SAID.

RAY SAID HE DECIDED HE WOULD HAVE TO CHANGE ATTORNEYS AFTER HIS BROTHER JERRY CAME TO SEE HIM AND TOLD HIM THAT "MR. HUIE TOLD HIM IF I'D TAKE THE WITNESS STAND, IT WOULD DESTROY HIS BOOK."

FOREMAN, HE SAID, CAME INTO THE PICTURE "IN A SIDE WAY."

"HE SAID IF I STUCK BY HANES AND HUIE, I'D PROBABLY BE BARBECUED (ELECTROCUTED)," RAY SAID. TO DEFEND HIM, RAY SAID, FOREMAN AGREED TO A FEE OF \$150,000, AND THEN ASKED ABOUT THE MUSTANG CAR IN WHICH RAY FLED MEMPHIS AND THE RIFLE AUTHORITIES SAID RAY USED TO KILL KING.

"I SIGNED THEM OVER TO HIM AS A RETAINER FEE," SAID RAY, CONCLUDING FRIDAY'S TESTIMONY.

RAY BEGAN HIS TESTIMONY LATE FRIDAY AFTER HIS BROTHER JERRY SAID HUIE HAD OFFERED THE RAY FAMILY \$12,000 TO HELP KEEP JAMES OFF THE WITNESS STAND.

HANES REPRESENTED RAY FROM SHORTLY AFTER HIS JUNE 8, 1968 ARREST IN LONDON UNTIL RAY FIRED HIM THE FOLLOWING NOV. 12. FOREMAN REPLACED HANES AND RAY FIRED HIM THE DAY AFTER THE GUILTY PLEA WAS MADE IN EXCHANGE FOR A 99-YEAR SENTENCE.

PICKUP 5TH PGH: RAY SAID HE

UPI 10-25 08:43 PED

RAY 10-26
DAY LD

BY ANITA MARIE LAPHAM

MEMPHIS, TENN. (UPI) -- CONFESSED ASSASSIN JAMES EARL RAY TESTIFIED FRIDAY HE INCRIMINATED HIMSELF IN THE MURDER OF CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. "FOR A FEW DOLLARS" AND WAS FORCED TO PLEAD GUILTY IN A FINANCIAL DEAL WITH HIS ATTORNEYS.

RAY, IN TWO TEDIOUS HOURS OF TESTIMONY, SAID HE HAD A "SUSPICION," HIS DEFENSE LAWYER, ARTHUR HANES SR., OF BIRMINGHAM, ALA., AND ALABAMA WRITER WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE WERE USING HIM TO MAKE BIG MONEY WHEN HE PLEADED GUILTY TO THE KING ASSASSINATION.

RAY, IN HIS FIRST COURT STATEMENTS EVER IN THE CASE, SAID HE AGREED TO A CONTRACT WITH HANES AND HUIE IN ORDER TO GET MONEY TO PAY HIS LEGAL FEES.

RAY SAID HE HAD ONLY \$150 DOLLARS WHEN HE WAS ARRESTED IN LONDON, ENGLAND, 69 DAYS AFTER THE APRIL 4, 1968, KING MURDER AND "THIS WAS THE ONLY METHOD WE COULD USE TO GET THE NECESSARY FUNDS."

SO RAY AGREED TO TELL HIS STORY TO HUIE.

"IT APPEARED I WAS BEING A STATE'S WITNESS AGAINST MYSELF FOR A FEW DOLLARS," RAY TESTIFIED.

RAY IS SEEKING A NEW TRIAL ON GROUNDS HUIE, HANES AND A LATER RAY ATTORNEY, PERCY FOREMAN, PRESSURED HIM INTO MAKING THE GUILTY PLEA FOR WHICH HE RECEIVED A 99-YEAR SENTENCE.

RAY SAID HE DID NOT KNOW UNTIL FRIDAY'S COURT SESSION OF SOME CONTRACTS READ INTO THE RECORD BY HIS DEFENSE ATTORNEYS SHOWING THAT HANES AND HUIE AGREED TO A \$35,000 ARRANGEMENT TO KEEP RAY OFF THE WITNESS STAND AT LEAST FIVE MONTHS AFTER HIS RETURN TO AMERICA FOLLOWING HIS ARREST.

"FIVE MONTHS AFTER RAY'S RETURN I EXPECT TO HAVE COMPLETED THE BOOK ('HE SLEW THE DREAMER')," HUIE SAID IN THE LETTER TO HANES.

RAY TURNED HIS DEFENSE OVER TO FOREMAN, A FAMED TEXAS LAWYER, AFTER RAY'S BROTHER, JERRY RAY, TOLD HIM OF A VISIT WITH HUIE.

"MY BROTHER SAID MR. HUIE TOLD HIM IF I'D TAKE THE WITNESS STAND IT WOULD PROBABLY DESTROY HIS BOOK," RAY SAID.

RAY SAID FOREMAN HELPED HIM PREPARE THE LETTER TO FIRE HANES, AND AT THE SAME VISIT ASKED FOR POSSESSION RIGHTS TO HIS WHITE MUSTANG AND THE ALLEGED MURDER WEAPON, A .30-06 RIFLE.

RAY SAID FOREMAN TOLD HIM HIS LEGAL FEE FOR THE CASE WOULD BE \$150,000.

"THAT WOULD INCLUDE APPEALS AND EVERYTHING," RAY SAID. "SO I SIGNED THEM (MUSTANG AND RIFLE) OVER TO HIM AS A RETAINER FEE."

HE (FOREMAN) TOLD ME MR. HUIE AND MR. HANES WERE LONGTIME FRIENDS," RAY SAID. "HE SAID IF I STUCK BY HANES AND HUIE I'D PROBABLY BE BARBEQUED (ELECTROCUTED)."

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UP-143
(RAY)

MEMPHIS, TENN. (UPI) -- JOHN RAY TESTIFIED THURSDAY THAT ATTORNEY PERCY FOREMAN ASKED HIM TO PRESSURE HIS BROTHER JAMES EARL INTO PLEADING GUILTY TO THE ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. INSTEAD OF TESTIFYING ABOUT A CONSPIRACY.

"HE SAID JIMMY WANTED TO TESTIFY, BUT HE DIDN'T WANT HIM TO," SAID RAY, WHO IS SERVING TIME IN AN ILLINOIS PRISON FOR ARMED ROBBERY. "SOMETHING ABOUT SOME CONSPIRACY OR SOMETHING."

RAY WAS THE DAY'S LAST WITNESS IN A FEDERAL COURT EVIDENTIARY HEARING THAT COULD LEAD TO A NEW TRIAL FOR JAMES EARL RAY, WHO HAS REPUDIATED HIS GUILTY PLEA AND CLAIMS FOREMAN, A FAMOUS TEXAS TRIAL LAWYER, PRESSURED HIM INTO THE GUILTY PLEA.

JOHN SAID FOREMAN MET WITH HIM AND HIS SISTER, CAROL CULPEPPER, AND TRIED TO GET THEM TO TALK JAMES EARL INTO PLEADING GUILTY. "HE SAID THEY HAD MORE EVIDENCE OR SOMETHING--THAT THEY'D PICK A BLUE RIBBON JURY, AN UPPER CLASSMAN JURY."

MUCH OF RAY'S TESTIMONY ABOUT EVENTS BEFORE HIS BROTHER'S GUILTY PLEA WAS VAGUE.

HE SAID, "FOREMAN SAID HE DIDN'T WANT TO BRING IN ANY MORE PARTIES BECAUSE EVIDENCE OF A CONSPIRACY COULD IMPLICATE JIMMY AS PART OF A CONSPIRACY."

"MR. FOREMAN CAME UP WITH ALL KINDS OF DEALS," HE SAID. ONE DEAL, HE SAID, INVOLVED JOHN JAY HOOKER JR., AN UNSUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR OF TENNESSEE BOTH IN 1966 AND 1970.

"SOMETHING WAS SUPPOSED TO BE WORKED OUT WITH HOOKER TO GIVE HIM A HALF MILLION DOLLARS PUBLICITY AND HOOKER WOULD PARDON HIM," RAY SAID. "PERCY FOREMAN WAS GOING TO ACT LIKE HOOKER WAS THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR ENTERING THE GUILTY PLEA AND AFTER HE GOT TO BE GOVERNOR HE'D PARDON HIM."

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MURKIN

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10/30

~~10/22~~~~10/25~~

McGowan

On 10/23/74 SA JOE HESTOR, ME, advised
 that State Atty will furnish pertinent info
 to be sent to FBIHQ
 On 10/24/74 SA JOE HESTOR, ME, advised he will maintain
 contact with State AG and furnish pertinent data

202A
 RAY 10-20
 NIGHT LD

BY JIM VALENTINE

MEMPHIS, TENN. (UPI) -- THE MAN WHO ONCE ADMITTED FIRING THE SHOT THAT KILLED DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. MAY HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY THIS WEEK TO RENEW A CONSPIRACY THEORY HE HINTED AT FIVE YEARS AGO.

IF ALL GOES AS SCHEDULED, JAMES EARL RAY WILL BE LED BY U.S. MARSHALS INTO THE 11TH FLOOR COURTROOM OF U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE ROBERT M. MCRAE JR. AT 9:30 A.M. TUESDAY.

THE BAILIFF'S CALL OF "ALL RISE" WILL SIGNAL THE START OF A PROCESS THAT COULD LEAD TO THE NEW TRIAL RAY SOUGHT WHEN HE PENNED A NOTE TO THE LATE CRIMINAL COURT JUDGE W. PRESTON BATTLE. THE LETTER WAS WRITTEN LESS THAN 24 HOURS AFTER HE PLEADED GUILTY TO THE MURDER OF KING IN EXCHANGE FOR A 99-YEAR SENTENCE IN THE TENNESSEE STATE PRISON.

RAY, NOW 47, WROTE BATTLE THAT HIS FAMOUS ATTORNEY, PERCY FOREMAN OF HOUSTON, TEX., HAD PRESSURED HIM INTO THE GUILTY PLEA--A MONOSYLLABIC ADMISSION THAT MENTIONED NO DETAILS.

THE LETTER REACHED BATTLE ON MARCH 15, 1969--FIVE DAYS AFTER THE ONE HOUR, 55 MINUTE TRIAL. LATE THAT AFTERNOON, BATTLE WAS FOUND DEAD IN HIS OFFICE, THE VICTIM OF A HEART ATTACK.

DURING THE TRIAL, RAY STOOD UP IN COURT UNEXPECTEDLY AND SAID, "I CAN'T AGREE WITH MR. CLARK."

BATTLE, OBVIOUSLY TAKEN BACK, ASKED, "MR. WHO?"

"RAMSAY CLARK," FOREMAN INTERJECTED. CLARK, THEN ATTORNEY GENERAL, HAD SAID SEVERAL TIMES THAT NO ONE BUT RAY WAS INVOLVED IN THE APRIL 4, 1968, MURDER.

"YOU DON'T AGREE WITH WHOSE THEORIES?" BATTLE AGAIN ASKED THE DEFENDANT.

"MR. CANALE'S, MR. CLARK'S AND J. EDGAR HOOVER'S THEORIES ABOUT THE CONSPIRACY," RAY ANSWERED. PHIL CANALE JR., CHIEF PROSECUTOR AT THE TRIAL, AND HOOVER, DIRECTOR OF THE FBI, HAD ALSO SAID RAY ACTED ALONE.

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

AFTER THE BRIEF EXCHANGE, NO MORE WAS SAID OR ASKED ABOUT A CONSPIRACY.

IN THE FIVE YEARS SINCE HIS TRIAL, RAY HAS CONTINUED TO INSIST, IN EVERY AVAILABLE COURT, THAT FOREMAN COERCED HIM INTO THE PLEA. HE SAID THE LAWYER HOPED TO MAKE MONEY BY BOOSTING THE SALE OF WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE'S BOOK, "HE SLEW THE DREAMER." RAY HAD SIGNED HIS SHARE OF THE ROYALTIES OVER TO THE ATTORNEY.

EARLY THIS YEAR, THE 6TH U.S. CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS ORDERED A FULL EVIDENTIARY HEARING TO DETERMINE THE VALIDITY OF RAY'S CLAIM. THE HEARING, TECHNICALLY A HABEAS CORPUS PROCEEDING, WILL BE TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE GUILTY PLEA SHOULD BE SET ASIDE AND A NEW TRIAL ORDERED.

ROBERT LIVINGSTON, ONE OF THREE DEFENSE LAWYERS, SAID IN AN EARLIER INTERVIEW THAT RAY WAS DUPED BY TWO PROFESSIONAL GUNMEN WHO ACTUALLY KILLED THE CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER AND NOBEL PEACE PRIZE WINNER.

THE MEMPHIS LAWYER SAID THE KILLERS WERE HIRED BY FOUR OTHER MEN WHO BELIEVED KING WAS PART OF A FOREIGN PLOT TO TOUCH OFF A REVOLUTION BY BLACK AMERICANS.

"THE GUNMEN DID IT STRICTLY FOR MONEY," LIVINGSTON SAID.

"THE MOTIVES OF THE FOUR WEALTHY, SOCIALLY PROMINENT AMERICANS WHO PAID TO HAVE DR. KING KILLED SPRANG OUT OF HATE," HE SAID, "ALTHOUGH THEY COULD PROBABLY RATIONALIZE WHAT THEY DID AS CONSISTENT WITH NATIONAL SECURITY."

FOREMAN DISPUTED THE CONSPIRACY THEORY, HOWEVER, IN A DEPOSITION GIVEN IN PREPARATION FOR THIS WEEK'S HEARING. HE SAID RAY WAS A RACIST WHO HATED BLACKS AND THOUGHT HE WOULD BE A HERO TO WHITE AMERICANS AFTER THE MURDER.

MORE

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20 5A

RAY 10-20 - 74

1ST ADD NIGHT LD RAY, MEMPHIS 202A XXX AFTER THE MURDER.

RAY, IN AN INTERVIEW EARLIER THIS YEAR, SAID HE CAME TO MEMPHIS TO JOIN WHAT HE THOUGHT WOULD BE A GUN-RUNNING ADVENTURE SET UP BY A MAN HE KNEW ONLY AS "RAOUL." HE SAID HE HAD MET RAOUL IN CANADA IN 1967 FOLLOWING HIS ESCAPE FROM A MISSOURI PRISON WHERE HE WAS SERVING AN ARMED ROBBERY SENTENCE.

RAY SAID HE WAS INSTRUCTED TO BUY A .30-06 RIFLE, LATER IDENTIFIED AS THE MURDER WEAPON.

"AFTER BUYING THE RIFLE (IN BIRMINGHAM, ALA.), I WAS THEN INSTRUCTED TO PROCEED TO MEMPHIS, BUT TAKE MY TIME, AS I WAS SUPPOSED TO DELIVER THE RIFLE EITHER ON APRIL 3 OR APRIL 4."

ON THE DAY KING WAS SHOT AS HE STOOD ON THE BALCONY OF THE BLACK-OWNED LORRAINE MOTEL NEAR DOWNTOWN MEMPHIS, RAY SAID HE CHECKED INTO A RUNDOWN ROOMING HOUSE AT 422 SOUTH MAIN STREET. THE HOUSE IS JUST ACROSS A NARROW STREET AND UP A SLIGHT HILL FROM THE MOTEL.

THE CONVICTED ASSASSIN SAID HE WAS GIVEN \$200 BY RAOUL AND TOLD TO GO TO A MOVIE, BUT NOTICED A LOW TIRE ON THE WHITE MUSTANG HE WAS DRIVING AND DECIDED INSTEAD TO TAKE THE CAR TO A SERVICE STATION.

"WHEN I GOT BACK TO THE ROOMING HOUSE," HE SAID, "THE WHOLE BLOCK WAS SEALED OFF AND POLICE WERE ALL OVER THE PLACE."

RAY SAID HE MADE A U-TURN ON MAIN STREET AND HEADED SOUTH.

"IT WASN'T UNTIL I GOT ALMOST TO GRENADA, MISS., THAT I TURNED ON THE RADIO AND HEARD WHAT HAPPENED," HE SAID. "THE RADIO BROADCAST MENTIONED 422 SOUTH MAIN STREET AND IT WASN'T UNTIL THEN I LEARNED THAT I HAD BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH THE MEN WHO CONSPIRED TO KILL DR. KING."

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POLICE SAID KING, IN MEMPHIS TO LEAD A MARCH IN SUPPORT OF STRIKING CITY SANITATION WORKERS, WAS HIT IN THE NECK BY A SINGLE SHOT FROM THE .30-06 RIFLE. THE SHOT WAS FIRED, THEY SAID, FROM THE BATHROOM OF THE ROOMING HOUSE.

RAY WAS LINKED TO THE CRIME FROM FINGERPRINTS FOUND ON THE RIFLE LEFT OUTSIDE THE FLOPHOUSE AND PRINTS FOUND IN THE BATHROOM, AUTHORITIES SAID. TWO MONTHS AFTER THE MURDER, HE WAS ARRESTED AS HE GOT OFF AN AIRPLANE AT LONDON'S HEATHROW AIRPORT.

IT HAS NEVER BEEN EXPLAINED HOW RAY GOT FROM ATLANTA, WHERE HE ABANDONED THE MUSTANG, TO LONDON. IT ALSO REMAINS A MYSTERY HOW HE FINANCED THE TRAVEL.

HOW MUCH OF THE MISSING INFORMATION WILL COME OUT AT THE EVIDENTIARY HEARING IS NOT KNOWN. MCRAE HAS SAID HE IS NOT "GOING TO TRY THE GUILT OR INNOCENCE" OF RAY, BUT ALSO HAS SAID HE INTENDS TO FOLLOW THE APPEALS COURT ORDER FOR A "FULL EVIDENTIARY HEARING."

ATTORNEYS FOR THE DEFENSE WILL TRY TO MAKE THE HEARING AS BROAD AS POSSIBLE, WHILE ATTORNEYS FOR THE STATE HAVE SAID THEY CONSIDER THE ONLY ISSUE WHETHER RAY'S GUILTY PLEA WAS MADE VOLUNTARILY.

ABOUT THE ONLY CERTAINTY IN CONNECTION WITH THE HEARING IS THAT THE DISTRICT JUDGE'S RULING WILL NOT BE FINAL. REGARDLESS OF HIS DECISION, AN APPEAL WILL BE MADE.

UPI 10-20 12:12 PED

RAY 10-21

DAY LD

(PHOTO HAS MOVED)

BY ANITA MARIE LAPHAM

MEMPHIS, TENN. (UPI) -- JAMES EARL RAY GOES TO COURT THIS WEEK TO TRY TO OVERTURN A 99-YEAR JAIL TERM FOR THE SLAYING OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

RAY, 47, IS SCHEDULED TO TESTIFY AT THE OUTSET OF THE HEARING STARTING TUESDAY THAT COULD AWARD HIM A NEW TRIAL DESPITE HIS MARCH 10, 1969, CONFESSION THAT HE SLEW THE CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER WITH A SNIPER SHOT THE NIGHT OF APRIL 4, 1968.

ATTORNEY PERCY FOREMAN SAID IN A DEPOSITION EXPECTED TO BE INTRODUCED AT THE SESSION ORDERED BY THE 6TH U.S. CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS IN CINCINNATI THAT RAY WAS A "WHITE RACIST" WHO "THOUGHT EVERYBODY WAS LIKE HIM."

"THAT ISN'T UNUSUAL FOR PEOPLE," FOREMAN SAID. "HE THOUGHT EVERYBODY THOUGHT LIKE HE THOUGHT, AND HE THOUGHT THE KILLING OF MARTIN LUTHER KING WOULD MAKE HIM THE CHAMPION OF THE WHITE RACE, THAT HE WOULD BE THE MOST POPULAR MAN IN AMERICA."

"HE WAS A RACIST. HE IS A RACIST AND HAD BEEN ONE ALL HIS LIFE. HE COULD NOT THINK OF ANYBODY NOT BEING A RACIST IF THEY WERE WHITE."

"HE NEVER INTIMATED THAT HE EXPECTED ANYBODY TO BELIEVE HE WAS INNOCENT."

THE SON OF A TRANSIENT, IMPOVERISHED MIDWESTERN FAMILY, RAY NOW BEGINS WHAT COULD BE ONLY THE SEMIFINALS OF HIS FIVE-YEAR BATTLE WITH THE COURTS.

SINCE SHORTLY AFTER HIS CONFESSION, HE HAS ACCUSED FOREMAN AND ARTHUR HANES SR., OF BIRMINGHAM, ALA., ANOTHER FORMER ATTORNEY, OF COERCING HIM TO CONFESS TO INCREASE THEIR MONETARY DIVIDENDS ON TWO BOOKS ON THE KING ASSASSINATION.

LEGAL FEES FOR HANES AND FOREMAN WERE TO COME FROM ROYALTIES OF "HE SLEW THE DREAMER," BY WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE, AND "AN AMERICAN DEATH," BY GEROLD FRANK.

HUNTED OVER TWO CONTINENTS UNDER THE NAME ERIC STARVO GALT AND ARRESTED AT HEATHROW AIRPORT IN LONDON, 69 DAYS AFTER THE KING MURDER, RAY ADMITS HE WAS IN MEMPHIS THE DAY OF THE MURDER.

HE SAID HE WAS IN THE ROOMINGHOUSE ACROSS FROM THE BALCONY WHERE KING FELL ON THE DAY KING WAS SHOT. HE ADMITS HIS FINGERPRINTS WERE ON THE .30-06 RIFLE FROM WHICH POLICE SAY THE FATAL BULLET WAS FIRED THE DAY KING WAS IN MEMPHIS TO LEAD A CITY SANITATION WORKERS STRIKE.

BUT THE 1967 MISSOURI PRISON ESCAPEE INSISTS HE KNEW NOTHING OF THE ASSASSINATION UNTIL IT WAS ALL OVER, AND THAT HE WAS THE VICTIM OF A FRAME-UP.

IN A LETTER TO HUIE, ALLEGEDLY HANDWRITTEN BY RAY DURING HIS EIGHT-MONTH INCARCERATION AT THE SHELBY COUNTY JAIL BEFORE HIS GUILTY PLEA, HE SAID HE KNEW NOTHING OF THE SLAYING UNTIL HE WAS OUT OF MEMPHIS.

"I DON'T KNOW WHEN, WHERE, THE TIME OR WHY KING WAS KILLED," THE LETTERS SAID. THEY WERE FILED IN FEDERAL COURT THIS MONTH IN PREPARATION FOR THE HEARING.

UPI 10-21 05:31 AED

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number 12*

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McRae

10/25

3274

RAY 10-7

CINCINNATI (UPI)--THE 6TH U.S. CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS MONDAY UPHOLD THE RIGHT OF ATTORNEYS FOR JAMES EARL RAY TO EXAMINE MUCH OF THE EVIDENCE COLLECTED BY THE STATE IN CONNECTION WITH THE MURDER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

THE RULING, WHICH UPHOLD AN EARLIER ORDER FROM U.S. DISTRICT COURT JUDGE ROBERT MCRAE JR., DISMISSED CLAIMS BY ATTORNEYS FOR THE STATE OF TENNESSEE THAT THE MATERIALS TO BE EXAMINED ARE NOT RELEVANT TO A HEARING FOR RAY SCHEDULED TO BEGIN BEFORE MCRAE ON OCT. 22. THE HEARING IS TO DETERMINE WHETHER RAY WAS COERCED INTO PLEADING GUILTY TO THE KING MURDER, AS HE CLAIMS, AND WHETHER HE IS ENTITLED TO A NEW TRIAL.

"WE ARE OF THE OPINION THAT THE SAID DISCOVERY ORDERS (ISSUED BY MCRAE) WERE WELL WITHIN THE EXERCISE OF THE SOUND DISCRETION OF THE DISTRICT COURT JUDGE," THE APPEALS COURT SAID IN ITS BRIEF RULING.

ASSISTANT STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL HENRY HAILE OF NASHVILLE, SAID THE RULING WILL BE APPEALED TO THE U.S. SUPREME COURT. HE ALSO SAID THE CIRCUIT COURT WILL BE ASKED TO STAY ITS ORDER UNTIL A SUPREME COURT APPEAL CAN BE PREPARED.

IF SUCH A STAY IS GRANTED, IT LIKELY WILL DELAY THE SCHEDULED HEARING.

LAWYERS BERNARD FENSTERWALD AND JAMES LESAR OF WASHINGTON AND ROBERT LIVINGSTON OF MEMPHIS CONTENDED ACCESS TO THE EVIDENCE WAS NECESSARY IN ORDER FOR THEM TO ADEQUATELY PRESENT RAY'S SIDE OF THE DISPUTE.

LAWYERS FOR THE STATE CONTENDED THE ATTORNEYS FOR RAY WERE ATTEMPTING TO SIFT THROUGH THE MOUNTAIN OF EVIDENCE IN THE HOPE OF FINDING SOMETHING THAT WOULD AID THEIR CLIENT.

DUPLICATE TO B WIRE POINTS

UPI 10-07 11:53 PED

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McGowan
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W. J. [unclear]

290A

9-10-74

RAY 9-10
 MEMPHIS, TENN. (UPI) -- WHEN JAMES EARL RAY -- CONVICTED ASSASSIN
 OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. -- COMES TO FEDERAL COURT HERE NEXT
 MONTH HIS SAFETY WILL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF A BLACK DEPUTY
 MARSHAL.

RAY, WHO IS ASKING U.S. DISTRICT COURT JUDGE ROBERT MCRAE TO SET
 ASIDE A 1969 GUILTY PLEA IN THE CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER'S SLAYING, IS
 SCHEDULED TO APPEAR IN COURT OCT. 22.

THE JUDGE HAS APPOINTED DEPUTY U.S. MARSHAL WILLIE DEAN "BIG
 WILLIE" DURHAM AS CHIEF OF SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE RAY HEARING.

DURHAM, DESCRIBED BY ASSOCIATES AS A "GREAT GUY" BUT A "TOUGH MAN
 WHO CAN TAKE CARE OF HIMSELF," SAYS HE BEARS NO HARD FEELING TOWARD
 RAY AND SEES NOTHING UNUSUAL IN HIS SELECTION FOR THE JOB.

HE RECENTLY COMPLETED SPECIAL SECURITY TRAINING IN WASHINGTON,
 D.C., AND WAS IN CHARGE OF "SECURITY FOR THE INDIANS AT THE WOUNDED
 KNEE, S.D., TRIAL."

DURHAM SAID HE WILL MAKE SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR HOUSING AND
 TRANSPORTING RAY, WHO WILL BE BROUGHT FROM TENNESSEE STATE PRISON
 WHERE HE IS SERVING HIS SENTENCE.

ALREADY DURHAM HAS ORDERED SPECIAL METAL DETECTING DEVICES FOR
 SEARCHING ALL WHO ENTER AND LEAVE THE COURTROOM. HE ALSO PLANS TO
 ISSUE PASSES TO THOSE AUTHORIZED TO ATTEND THE HEARING.

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317A

RAY 8-29

MEMPHIS, TENN. (UPI) -- JAMES EARL RAY THOUGHT HE WOULD BECOME "THE CHAMPION OF THE WHITE RACE" AND "THE MOST POPULAR MAN IN AMERICA" FOR KILLING DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR., HIS FORMER ATTORNEY WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THURSDAY.

THE MEMPHIS PRESS-SCIMITAR, IN A COPYRIGHTED STORY, SAID IT HAD OBTAINED A COPY OF A DEPOSITION ATTORNEY PERCY FOREMAN GAVE ASSISTANT STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL HENRY HAILE EARLIER THIS YEAR IN WHICH FOREMAN SAID RAY NEVER CLAIMED HE WAS INNOCENT.

FOREMAN ALSO SAID RAY HAD TOLD HIM HE DELIBERATELY LEFT THE MURDER WEAPON COVERED WITH HIS FINGERPRINTS.

RAY, SERVING A 99-YEAR SENTENCE FOR THE APRIL 4, 1968, ASSASSINATION OF KING, IS TO RECEIVE A FEDERAL COURT HEARING OCT. 22 IN HIS BID FOR A NEW TRIAL. THE PRESS-SCIMITAR SAID THE DEPOSITION WILL BE INTRODUCED AT THE HEARING.

RAY FIRED FOREMAN SHORTLY AFTER HE WAS CONVICTED ON MARCH 10, 1969. AT THE SAME TIME, RAY ALSO REPUDIATED HIS GUILTY PLEA.

THE DEPOSITION, WHICH THE NEWSPAPER SAID IT OBTAINED FROM ONE OF RAY'S CURRENT LAWYERS, CONTAINED THE FOLLOWING EXCHANGE:

FOREMAN: "THE OTHER THING THAT HE (RAY) HAD A MISAPPREHENSION ABOUT WAS THAT HE COULD, SINCE (RICHARD) NIXON AND (GEORGE) WALLACE HAD RECEIVED 70 PER CENT OF THE SHELBY COUNTY VOTE (IN 1968), THAT A JURY SHOULD BE EXPECTED TO BE 70 PER CENT IN HIS FAVOR BECAUSE HE EQUATED EVERY VOTE THEY GOT (AS BEING) ANTI-BLACK."

HAILE: "IN OTHER WORDS, IS IT FAIR TO SAY HE THOUGHT EVERYBODY WHO VOTED FOR NIXON AND WALLACE IN SHELBY COUNTY WAS IN FAVOR OF HAVING MARTIN LUTHER KING KILLED?"

FOREMAN: "WELL, THAT WOULD BE UNFAIR, BUT IT IS SORT OF A SHORTHAND RENDITION. HE THOUGHT EVERYBODY WAS LIKE HIM. THAT ISN'T UNUSUAL FOR PEOPLE. HE THOUGHT EVERYBODY THOUGHT LIKE HE THOUGHT, AND HE THOUGHT THE KILLING OF MARTIN LUTHER KING WOULD MAKE HIM THE CHAMPION OF THE WHITE RACE, THAT HE WOULD BE THE MOST POPULAR MAN IN AMERICA."

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

"HE WAS A RACIST--HE IS A RACIST AND HAD BEEN ONE ALL OF HIS LIFE. HE COULD NOT THINK OF ANYBODY NOT BEING A RACIST IF THEY WERE WHITE." HAILE: "DID HE EVER PROTEST HIS INNOCENCE TO YOU?" FOREMAN: "HE NEVER EVEN INTIMATED THAT HE EXPECTED ANYBODY TO BELIEVE HE WAS INNOCENT. THAT (PLEADING GUILTY) WOULDN'T BE MY ADVICE NOW CONSIDERING THE SUPREME COURT OUTLAWING THE DEATH PENALTY. IT (THE PLEA) WAS TO SAVE A MAN'S LIFE."

RAY NOW CONTENDS FOREMAN AND ATTORNEY ARTHUR HANES SR. OF BIRMINGHAM, ALA., COERCED HIM INTO PLEADING GUILTY BECAUSE OF A FINANCIAL DEAL WITH ALABAMA AUTHOR WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE. FOREMAN AND HANES WERE TO RECEIVE THEIR LEGAL FEES FROM ROYALTIES FROM HUIE'S BOOK ABOUT THE KING ASSASSINATION EARNED.

FOREMAN WAS ASKED SPECIFICALLY, THE NEWSPAPER SAID, IF HE COERCED RAY INTO PLEADING GUILTY BECAUSE OF THE FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENT. HE DENIED THE ASSERTION, SAYING HE DID NOT NEED THE MONEY AND ENTERED INTO A CONTRACT WITH HUIE ONLY AT RAY'S URGING.

"I AM WORTH AT LEAST \$4.5 MILLION WITH LIABILITIES OF APPROXIMATELY \$140,000," THE PAPER QUOTED FOREMAN AS SAYING.

ON THE MORNING RAY ENTERED HIS GUILTY PLEA, THE DEPOSITION SAID, THE ACCUSED ASSASSIN HAD SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS FOR HIS ATTORNEY. FOREMAN: "ONE THING HE WANTED, THE VERY MORNING OF THE TRIAL, NOTWITHSTANDING THE PLEA OF GUILTY, HE WANTED ME TO PROVE, HE DIDN'T SAY NOW, BUT HE WANTED ME TO PROVE HOW INEFFICIENT THE FBI WAS BECAUSE THEY ONLY FOUND ONE OR TWO FINGERPRINTS ON THE RIFLE BARREL. NONE ON THE SCOPE, AND ONE SOMEWHERE ELSE.

"HE SAID, MR. FOREMAN, THERE WASN'T AN INCH OF THAT GUN THAT DIDN'T HAVE MY FINGERPRINTS ON IT. THEY COULDN'T HAVE BEEN ERASED AND I WRAPPED IT CAREFULLY TO KEEP THEM FROM BEING ERASED."

JAMES LESAR OF WASHINGTON, ONE OF RAY'S CURRENT ATTORNEYS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE TAKING OF THE DEPOSITION, ASKED FOREMAN WHY RAY WOULD INTENTIONALLY PLACE HIS FINGERPRINTS ON THE RIFLE.

FOREMAN: "HE TOLD ME WHY. HE WANTED THE BOYS BACK AT JEFFERSON CITY, MO., (WHERE HE HAD ESCAPED FROM PRISON) TO KNOW THAT HE HAD DONE IT. HE DIDN'T WANT TO BE CAUGHT, BUT HE WANTED CREDIT. HE THOUGHT HE WOULD BE THE HERO OF THE WHITE SEGMENT OF AMERICA."

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RAY 8-22

MEMPHIS, TENN. (UPI) -- JAMES EARL RAY THOUGHT HE WOULD BECOME "THE CHAMPION OF THE WHITE RACE" AND "THE MOST POPULAR MAN IN AMERICA" FOR KILLING DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR., HIS FORMER ATTORNEY WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THURSDAY.

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HAILE: "IN OTHER WORDS, IS IT FAIR TO SAY HE THOUGHT EVERYBODY WHO VOTED FOR NIXON AND WALLACE IN SHELBY COUNTY WAS IN FAVOR OF HAVING MARTIN LUTHER KING KILLED?"

FOREMAN: "WELL, THAT WOULD BE UNFAIR, BUT IT IS SORT OF A SHORTHAND RENDITION. HE THOUGHT EVERYBODY WAS LIKE HIM. THAT ISN'T UNUSUAL FOR PEOPLE. HE THOUGHT EVERYBODY THOUGHT LIKE HE THOUGHT, AND HE THOUGHT THE KILLING OF MARTIN LUTHER KING WOULD MAKE HIM THE CHAMPION OF THE WHITE RACE, THAT HE WOULD BE THE MOST POPULAR MAN IN AMERICA."

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JAMES LESAR OF WASHINGTON, ONE OF RAY'S CURRENT ATTORNEYS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE TAKING OF THE DEPOSITION, ASKED FOREMAN WHY RAY WOULD INTENTIONALLY PLACE HIS FINGERPRINTS ON THE RIFLE.

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RAY 8-30

DAY 19

MEMPHIS, TENN. (UPI) -- JAMES EARL RAY THOUGHT THE SLAYING OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. WOULD MAKE HIM THE "CHAMPION OF THE WHITE RACE" ACCORDING TO THE CONFESSED ASSASSIN'S FORMER ATTORNEY.

PERCY FOREMAN, OF HOUSTON, TEX., WHO NEGOTIATED RAY'S GUILTY PLEA INTO A 99-YEAR PRISON SENTENCE, MADE THE STATEMENT IN A DEPOSITION PRINTED IN A COPYRIGHTED STORY THURSDAY IN THE MEMPHIS PRESS-SCIMITAR.

THE DEPOSITION WAS GIVEN TO AN ASSISTANT STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL, HENRY HAILE, EARLIER THIS YEAR AND WILL BE PRESENTED AS EVIDENCE IN A FEDERAL COURT HEARING OCT. 22 TO DETERMINE IF RAY IS ENTITLED TO A NEW TRIAL.

FOREMAN SAID RAY WAS CONVINCED HE WOULD NOT BE CONVICTED BY A LOCAL JURY.

"THE OTHER THING THAT HE (RAY) HAD A MISAPPREHENSION ABOUT WAS THAT HE COULD, SINCE (RICHARD) NIXON AND (GEORGE) WALLACE HAD RECEIVED 70 PER CENT OF THE SHELBY COUNTY VOTE (IN 1968), THAT A JURY SHOULD BE EXPECTED TO BE 70 PER CENT IN HIS FAVOR BECAUSE HE EQUATED EVERY VOTE THEY GOT (AS BEING) ANTI-BLACK," FOREMAN SAID.

"IN OTHER WORDS," HAILE ASKED, "IS IT FAIR TO SAY HE THOUGHT EVERYBODY WHO VOTED FOR NIXON AND WALLACE IN SHELBY COUNTY WAS IN FAVOR OF HAVING MARTIN LUTHER KING KILLED?"

"WELL, THAT WOULD BE UNFAIR," FOREMAN ANSWERED, "BUT IT IS SORT OF A SHORTHAND RENDITION. HE THOUGHT EVERYBODY WAS LIKE HIM. THAT ISN'T UNUSUAL FOR PEOPLE. HE THOUGHT EVERYBODY THOUGHT LIKE HE THOUGHT AND HE THOUGHT THE KILLING OF MARTIN LUTHER KING WOULD MAKE HIM THE CHAMPION OF THE WHITE RACE, THAT HE WOULD BE THE MOST POPULAR MAN IN AMERICA.

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"DID HE EVER PROTEST HIS INNOCENCE TO YOU?" HAILE ASKED.

"HE NEVER EVEN INTIMATED THAT HE EXPECTED ANYBODY TO BELIEVE HE WAS INNOCENT," THE ATTORNEY REPLIED.

FOREMAN, WHO WAS FIRED BY RAY SHORTLY AFTER THE GUILTY PLEA ON MARCH 10, 1969, ALSO DENIED THAT HIS FINANCIAL INVOLVEMENT WITH ALABAMA AUTHOR WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE INFLUENCED HIS REPRESENTATION OF HIS CLIENT. FOREMAN WAS TO RECEIVE 60 PER CENT OF THE ROYALTY RIGHTS TO HUIE'S BOOK "HE SLEW THE DREAMER" AND RAY'S PRESENT ATTORNEYS CONTEND HE PRESSURED RAY TO PLEAD GUILTY "TO PRESERVE THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF THE BOOK."

IN DENYING THE ASSERTION, FOREMAN SAID HE DID NOT NEED THE MONEY. "I HAVE NEVER MADE A NET WORTH STATEMENT," HE SAID. "I DON'T WANT TO MAKE ONE, BUT I AM WORTH AT LEAST \$4.5 MILLION WITH LIABILITIES OF APPROXIMATELY \$140,000."

FOREMAN SAID HE ENTERED THE CASE NOT TO MAKE MONEY, BUT TO SAVE RAY'S LIFE.

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McGOWAN

317A

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MC DONOUGH ✓

056A

RAY 8-24

8/24/74

MEMPHIS, TENN. (UPI) -- A STATE ATTORNEY SAID FRIDAY HE WILL APPEAL A COURT RULING GIVING DEFENSE ATTORNEYS FOR JAMES EARL RAY, CONVICTED ASSASSIN OF MARTIN LUTHER KING JR., PERMISSION TO LOOK AT EVIDENCE FROM THE 1968 SLAYING.

U. S. DISTRICT COURT JUDGE ROBERT M. MCRAE JR. APPROVED THE DEFENSE'S REQUEST FOR EVIDENCE -- WHICH INCLUDED A FLOPHOUSE WINDOWSILL -- EARLIER THIS WEEK DESPITE THE PROSECUTION'S CLAIMS SUCH RELEASE OF EVIDENCE WOULD ENCOURAGE RAY TO PERJURE HIMSELF.

ASSISTANT STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL HENRY HAILE SAID HE WOULD APPEAL THE DECISION TO THE U. S. 6TH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS.

THE APPELLATE COURT EARLIER GRANTED THE HEARINGS FOR RAY, WHO NOW IS SERVING 99 YEARS AT THE STATE PRISON AT NASHVILLE. RAY CLAIMS HE WAS LURED INTO THE GUILTY PLEA MARCH 10, 1969.

MCRAE SET THE HEARING, WHICH COULD LEAD TO A NEW TRIAL FOR THE 1967 MISSOURI STATE PRISON ESCAPEE, FOR OCT. 22. RAY IS SLATED TO TESTIFY THREE OR FOUR DAYS AT THE TWO-WEEK HEARING ALONG WITH A STRING OF DEFENSE WITNESSES.

HAILE SAID IN NASHVILLE FRIDAY THAT MCRAE'S APPROVAL OF RELEASE OF THE EVIDENCE FROM THE MURDER OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER WAS "RIDICULOUS."

RAY HAS ACCUSED HIS FORMER DEFENSE ATTORNEYS, PERCY FOREMAN OF HOUSTON, TEX., AND ARTHUR HANES SR., OF BIRMINGHAM, OF LETTING THEIR FINANCIAL INTERESTS IN TWO BOOKS ON THE KING SLAYING INTERFERE WITH THEIR PROPER REPRESENTATION OF HIM BEFORE HIS GUILTY PLEA.

ROBERT I. LIVINGSTON OF MEMPHIS, RAY'S PRESENT LAWYER, SAID FRIDAY HE WAS PLAGUED BY FREAKY TELEPHONE CALLS AND BELIEVED HIS HOME AND OFFICE TELEPHONES WERE BEING TAPPED BY EITHER THE STATE OF TENNESSEE OR THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

"I DON'T KNOW WHETHER IT'S THE STATE OF TENNESSEE OR THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT," LIVINGSTON SAID, "BUT THEY'RE JUST TRYING TO FIND OUT WHO I'M TALKING TO AND WHAT I'M FINDING OUT."

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RAY HAS ACCUSED HIS FORMER DEFENSE ATTORNEYS, PERCY FOREMAN OF HOUSTON, TEX., AND ARTHUR HANES SR., OF BIRMINGHAM, OF LETTING THEIR FINANCIAL INTERESTS IN TWO BOOKS ON THE KING SLAYING INTERFERE WITH THEIR PROPER REPRESENTATION OF HIM BEFORE HIS GUILTY PLEA.

ROBERT I. LIVINGSTON OF MEMPHIS, RAY'S PRESENT LAWYER, SAID FRIDAY HE WAS PLAGUED BY FREAKY TELEPHONE CALLS AND BELIEVED HIS HOME AND OFFICE TELEPHONES WERE BEING TAPPED BY EITHER THE STATE OF TENNESSEE OR THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

"I DON'T KNOW WHETHER IT'S THE STATE OF TENNESSEE OR THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT," LIVINGSTON SAID, "BUT THEY'RE JUST TRYING TO FIND OUT WHO I'M TALKING TO AND WHAT I'M FINDING OUT."

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8/18

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RAY 7-20

MEMPHIS, TENN. (UPI) -- FIVE DAYS AFTER MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. WAS MURDERED, A LATIN GUNMAN TOLD A MEMPHIS LAWYER THAT A FRIEND OF HIS, WHO "HIRED OUT HIS GUN TO KILL NEGROES," SHOT THE CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER.

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL HENRY HAILE OF NASHVILLE CONFIRMED SATURDAY THAT A TRANSCRIPT OF THE INTERVIEW GIVEN MEMPHIS ATTORNEY RUSSELL X. THOMPSON WAS FILED AS EVIDENCE IN CONNECTION WITH THE KING MURDER.

JAMES EARL RAY CONFESSED TO THE KILLING MARCH 10, 1969 AND IS SERVING 99 YEARS AT THE STATE PRISON AT NASHVILLE.

THERE IS TO BE A SPECIAL FEDERAL COURT HEARING SEPT. 30 TO DETERMINE WHETHER RAY, AS HE CLAIMS, WAS COERCED BY HIS FORMER DEFENSE ATTORNEYS INTO PLEADING GUILTY.

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THOMPSON, WHO IN 1968 REPRESENTED THE LEGAL DEFENSE FUND OF THE NAACP, SAID A MAN CALLING HIMSELF TONY BENAVIDES CAME TO HIS OFFICE FIVE DAYS AFTER THE APRIL 4, 1968 KING SLAYING, SAYING HE FEARED HE WOULD BE CHARGED WITH MURDER IN THE CASE.

THOMPSON SAID BENAVIDES TOLD HIM THAT "PETE," A FORMER ROOMMATE OF HIS IN DENVER ACTUALLY KILLED THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE WINNER AS HE STOOD ON THE BALCONY OF A DOWNTOWN MEMPHIS MOTEL.

"HE CALLED HIMSELF TONY BENAVIDES," THOMPSON SAID, "BUT ALMOST IN THE SAME BREATH HE TOLD ME THE NAME WAS AN ALIAS. HE SAID ANOTHER PROFESSIONAL GUNMAN KILLED KING, BUT THAT HE WAS AFRAID THE POLICE AND FBI WERE GOING TO CHARGE HIM WITH THE SLAYING.

"HE SAID THE POLICE HAD PICKED HIM UP THE DAY AFTER KING'S DEATH AND HAD TAKEN HIM UP TO THE ROOMING HOUSE FROM WHICH THEY WOULD LATER SAY THE BULLET THAT KILLED KING WAS FIRED," THOMPSON SAID.

"HE INSISTED HE WAS AN EXPERT ON FIREARMS AND TALKED ABOUT ELEVATION, WIND DRIFTAGE AND THEN SAID THE FATAL BULLET COULD NOT HAVE BEEN FIRED FROM THE WINDOW," THE LAWYER SAID.

THOMPSON QUOTED BENAVIDES AS SAYING THAT "PETE" FIRED THE FATAL BULLET TO KING'S NECK FROM THE BUSHES IN BACK OF THE ROOMING HOUSE WHICH FACES THE MOTEL BALCONY.

"THE MAN CALLING HIMSELF BENAVIDES SAID HIS FRIEND PETE HAD HIRED OUT HIS GUN TO KILL NEGROES," THOMPSON SAID. "MY VISITOR, HOWEVER, SAID HE WOULD NOT HIRE OUT HIS GUN FOR THE EXCLUSIVE PURPOSE OF KILLING NEGROES."

THOMPSON SAID HE INFORMED THE FBI, SHELBY COUNTY ATTORNEY GENERAL AND MEMPHIS POLICE JUST AFTER THE INTERVIEW WITH BENAVIDES, BUT THAT AUTHORITIES "LOST ALL INTEREST" AFTER RAY WAS CHARGED.

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Mr. McDonough

RAY 7-4

BY ANITA MARIE LAPHAM

MEMPHIS, TENN. (UPI)--TELEVISED TESTIMONY MAY BE INTRODUCED INTO SPECIAL EVIDENTIARY HEARING FOR JAMES EARL RAY, ACCORDING TO ONE OF THE ATTORNEYS FOR THE CONFESSED ASSASSIN OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

U. S. DISTRICT JUDGE ROBERT MCRAE JR. HAS RULED THAT WITNESSES WHO LIVE MORE THAN 100 MILES FROM MEMPHIS MAY NOT BE FORCED TO TESTIFY AT THE STILL-UNSCHEDULED HEARING. THEREFORE, ATTORNEYS MAY HAVE TO RELY ON DEPOSITIONS AND ARE CONSIDERING THE USE OF VIDEO TAPES.

"WE WOULD RATHER HAVE THE TELEVISED DEPOSITION THAN THE OLD-FASHIONED WRITTEN PAGE," ROBERT LIVINGSTON SAID WEDNESDAY. "YOU CAN SEE THE MANNER AND DEMEANOR OF THE WITNESS, OBSERVE HIS OVERALL APPEARANCE AND ATTITUDE AND TELL IF HE'S INTERESTED IN THE CASE.

"THAT OLD, COLD WRITTEN PAGE CAN'T REALLY TELL YOU MUCH," THE MEMPHIS LAWYER SAID.

THE HEARING IS TO DETERMINE WHETHER RAY WAS, AS HE CLAIMS, COERCED INTO PLEADING GUILTY TO THE SNIPER SLAYING OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER HERE ON APRIL 4, 1968. ATTORNEYS FOR THE CONFESSED ASSASSIN CONTEND THE TESTIMONY OF ATTORNEYS PERCY FOREMAN OF HOUSTON, TEX., AND ARTHUR HANES SR. OF BIRMINGHAM, ALA., AND AUTHORS WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE OF BIRMINGHAM AND GERALD FRANK OF NEW YORK IS VITAL TO THEIR CASE.

RAY'S ATTORNEYS CLAIM HANES AND HUIE WORKED TOGETHER TO GET STATEMENTS FOR HUIE'S BOOK "HE SLEW THE DREAMER" AND THAT FOREMAN ALSO HAD A FINANCIAL INTEREST IN THE BOOK. THE ATTORNEYS ALSO CONTEND FRANK'S BOOK "AN AMERICAN DEATH" LIBELED RAY.

MCRAE RULED AT A PRE-HEARING CONFERENCE THAT WITNESSES WHO LIVE MORE THAN 100 MILES FROM MEMPHIS CANNOT BE SUBPOENAED TO APPEAR AT THE HEARING, BUT LIVINGSTON SAYS HE IS HOPEFUL THE WITNESSES WILL APPEAR VOLUNTARILY.

MCRAE IS THE FIRST FEDERAL JUDGE IN WEST TENNESSEE TO ALLOW THE USE OF VIDEO TAPED DEPOSITIONS IN HIS COURTROOM. THE FIRST SUCH PRESENTATION WAS MADE EARLIER THIS WEEK.

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RAY 6-18

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6-18-74

MEMPHIS, TENN. (UPI) -- THE STATE OF TENNESSEE MONDAY BRANDED AS AN "UTTER ABSURDITY" JAMES EARL RAY'S CLAIM HE WAS COERCED INTO PLEADING GUILTY TO THE ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. "THE ONLY ISSUE IS WHETHER JAMES EARL RAY'S MARCH 19, 1969, GUILTY PLEA WAS MADE INTELLIGENTLY AND VOLUNTARILY," SAID TWO ASSISTANT ATTORNEYS GENERAL, W. HENRY HAILE AND WILLIAM J. HAYNES JR., IN A MEMORANDUM FILED IN FEDERAL COURT.

U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE ROBERT M. MCRAE JR. IS TO MEET WITH ATTORNEYS FOR BOTH SIDES FRIDAY TO SET A DATE FOR THE HEARING ORDERED BY THE 6TH U.S. CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS.

THE STATE LISTED 12 AREAS WHICH IT FEELS SHOULD BE EXPLORED AT THE HEARING, AND ALL DEAL WITH POSSIBLE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST BETWEEN RAY'S FORMER ATTORNEYS ARTHUR HAYNES OF BIRMINGHAM, ALA., AND FOREMAN OF HOUSTON, TEX., AND ALABAMA AUTHOR WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE WHO WROTE, "HE SLEW THE DREAMER."

RAY CONTENDS FOREMAN LURED HIM INTO PLEADING GUILTY IN ORDER TO INSURE THAT HUIE'S BOOK WOULD BE A BIG SELLER SO FOREMAN COULD COLLECT HIS \$150,000 LEGAL FEE FROM ROYALTIES.

"WE INTEND TO FILE AS EVIDENCE AFFIDAVITS OF OTHER WRITERS WHO HAVE WRITTEN OR INTEND TO WRITE BOOKS ABOUT THE RAY CASE TO SHOW THE UTTER ABSURDITY OF A CONFLICT OF INTEREST CLAIM THAT HAS BEEN ASSERTED BY THE PETITIONER (RAY)," THE STATE BRIEF SAID.

ATTORNEYS FOR RAY, WHO WERE SUPPOSED TO FILE A SIMILAR MEMORANDUM MONDAY BUT DID NOT DO SO, HAVE INDICATED THEY WILL ASK THAT ALL WITNESSES BE BROUGHT TO MEMPHIS TO TESTIFY IN PERSON. ONE OF HIS LAWYERS, ROBERT LIVINGSTON OF MEMPHIS, SAID HE EXPECTS TO TAKE SEVERAL WEEKS TO BUILD RAY'S ARGUMENT FOR A NEW TRIAL.

RAY PLEADED GUILTY TO THE 1968 MURDER OF KING AND WAS SENTENCED TO 99 YEARS IN PRISON, BUT ALMOST IMMEDIATELY BEGAN EFFORTS TO GAIN A NEW TRIAL, CONTENDING HE WAS COERCED INTO PLEADING GUILTY BY HIS ATTORNEYS.

RAY WON A PARTIAL VICTORY EARLIER THIS YEAR WITH THE 6TH U.S. CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS ORDERING THE HEARING TO DETERMINE WHETHER A NEW TRIAL SHOULD BE ORDERED.

RAY WILL NOT ATTEND THE PREHEARING CONFERENCE, BUT WILL BE BROUGHT TO MEMPHIS FOR THE HEARING. HE HAS SAID HE EXPECTS TO TAKE THE STAND AND TESTIFY FOR THREE OR FOUR DAYS.

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REACTION 6-3
 WITH RAY

NASHVILLE, TENN. (UPI) -- UNSHAVEN JAMES EARL RAY, SITTING IN A CLUTTERED PRISON CELL, SAID MONDAY HE WOULD PROBABLY TESTIFY FOR "THREE OR FOUR DAYS" AT A HEARING TO DETERMINE WHETHER HE WILL RECEIVE A NEW TRIAL IN THE ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

"I'M GOING TO TAKE THE STAND," RAY TOLD NASHVILLE BANNER REPORTER LARRY BRINTON. "I'LL PROBABLY TESTIFY THREE OR FOUR DAYS, BUT I DON'T PARTICULARLY WANT TO."

BRINTON, WHO INTERVIEWED RAY THROUGH THE HEAVY BARS OF HIS MAXIMUM SECURITY CELL AT THE TENNESSEE STATE PENITENTIARY, SAID RAY WAS WEARING A SWEATSHIRT, PRISON TROUSERS AND WAS STANDING ON THE CONCRETE FLOOR IN HIS STOCKING FEET.

RAY ACCEPTED ALMOST STOICALLY HIS CLEARANCE BY THE U.S. SUPREME COURT TO SEEK WITHDRAWAL OF HIS GUILTY PLEA IN THE 1968 SNIPER-SLAYING OF KING.

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