

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Ray's Appeal Plea Denied

Criminal Court Judge Arthur Faquin Jr. today refused to grant an appeal of his May 26 ruling in which he denied James Earl Ray's motion for a new trial.

The request for an appeal was presented by two of Ray's attorneys, Richard J. Ryan of Memphis and J. B. Stoner, Savannah, Ga.

Following the brief hearing, the lawyers said their request was a "simple formality" and it was discretionary with the judge to sign the order of appeal.

They said their next step would be to file a petition asking the Tennessee Criminal Court of Appeals to review Judge Faquin's decision in the case.

Ray pleaded guilty March 10 to the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King and is now serving a 99-year sentence in the state penitentiary at Nashville.

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

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