

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Trial On Ray Suit - Will Be Written

Chancellor Charles Nearn has scheduled testimony by deposition for a trial Aug. 8 on a suit by private investigator Renfro T. Hays for an \$11,046 judgment against James Earl Ray.

Testimony will be written, rather than oral. Any statements from Ray are to be taken from him in his maximum security cell at the state prison at Nashville where he is serving a 99-year sentence for the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Hays filed suit for \$11,046, claiming this was the amount due him for investigations he made in the Ray case for Ray's former attorney, Arthur Hanes of Birmingham.

The private investigator filed attachments against a deer rifle police said was used in the sniper slaying of Dr. King and the 1966 white Mustang held as evidence as the escape car.

Ray's attorneys filed an affidavit in February, disclaiming Ray's ownership of the rifle and automobile. They also said Ray owes Hays no money for the work because the investigator's employment was not authorized by Ray himself.

Testimony in Chancery court may be either submitted in written depositions or given orally in person at the discretion of the chancellor. Chancellor Nearn did not explain his ruling requiring depositions.

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

PAGE 17

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date:

6-19-69

Edition:

Author:

GORDON HAINES

Editor:

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

MEMPHIS

Being Investigated

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