

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# 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.)

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