

(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.)

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