

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Ray Attorneys Ask New Trial

12/4
NASHVILLE, Dec. 4. — (UPI) — Attorneys for James Earl Ray filed a petition in federal court Monday seeking to gain Ray a new trial in the murder of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The petition was technically a writ of habeas corpus, but Ray's attorneys said its intent was to gain Ray a new trial.

Ray is serving a 99-year sentence after pleading guilty to King's assassination.

Bernard Fensterwald of Washington, one of three attorneys representing Ray, said the petition asks a new trial on the merits of a case in federal court at Memphis.

A habeas corpus petition technically seeks to free someone who is incarcerated. If Ray's petition is granted the state would have 60 days to decide whether it wanted to try Ray again for the King assassination.

12/4
"If we can get him a trial there is a very good chance of getting him acquitted," Fensterwald said.

The attorney said Ray is now being kept in solitary confinement at the state prison here.

"He doesn't look anywhere near as well as he did the last time I saw him," Fensterwald said.

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

PAGE 3

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 12-5-72

Edition:

Author:

Editor: GORDON HANNA

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

Being Investigated

44-1987 Sub C 513

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
DEC 6 1972	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester 198