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Says King Killer Afraid Of Life

By WILLIE L. HAMILTON

The reason that the convicted killer of the Rev. Dr. Martin L. King Jr. tried to escape early Monday morning from his maximum security cell at Brushy Mountain State Prison in Petros, Tenn., is because "he is afraid for his life."

That was first the opinion of Harold Weisburg, author of a new book, "Frame-Up", an investigative study into the actions of James Earl Ray in regards to the killing Dr. King in Memphis.

Weisburg only slightly changed his opinion at a news conference Tuesday at the Hotel Roosevelt when he said, "I really have no way of knowing why he tried to escape" although he feels that "it is easy" to get killed in jail.

In Conspiracy

Pressed on the question, Weisburg said he thought that Ray was "involved in a conspiracy" that involved criminal activity but that he didn't know his part in the matter would concern death.

Does that mean he knows the killer of Dr. King?

"Yes" answered Dr. Weisburg after first stating that Ray at least knew who had approached him about his part in the conspiracy.

Dr. Weisburg states unequivocally that Ray was at the scene of the crime, that he had

the type of car described at the time as "the get away car" and that he had lived in the hotel. He was not, Weisburg said, "at the scene of the crime at the time he was supposed to be."

Called 'Law'

Richard Kleindienst, deputy U.S. Attorney General is "a

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—King Killer

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liar" - even though he has recently gone about the country telling people about "responsibility," said Weisburg.

The deputy attorney general is a "liar" because he earlier denied that the Justice Department had the extradition paper on Ray who was captured in England and then flown back to the states for what Weisburg called a "mini-trial."

But if Ray really knows who the real killer is, why haven't they already killed him?

To much Attention

Weisburg feels that his death "would attract too much attention" especially after the killing of Jack Ruby and Lee Harvey Oswald, the latter the suspected murdered of then President John F. Kennedy.

As would be expected, the CIA and FBI did not escape some complicity in the matter, "for if they wanted to kill someone and make it look like some other group did it, they could."

Was he then charging that these agencies had been involved in the original conspiracy to kill Dr. King or did they become involved as conspirators because they attempted to cover up certain facts and events?

"That's possible" on both counts said Weisburg, although he would not go so far as to say that FBI director J. Edgar Hoover or CIA head, Richard Helms "ordered the murders."

Weisburg's investigation of the murder of Dr. King has been so extensive that he now has "proof" that Ray did not commit the murder and "at the proper place and time" he will turn that evidence over to Ray's lawyers, he said.