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James Earl Ray says he was framed by FBI

SECAUCUS, N.J. — James Earl Ray, who pleaded guilty to assassinating the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., says he was framed to cover up an FBI plot to kill the civil rights leader and wants the government to reopen his case.

Ray, 60, was sentenced to serve 99 years for King's murder in Memphis, Tenn., on April 4, 1968. The Tennessee parole board has scheduled a January parole hearing for him.

"I doubt very much they'll give me a parole," he said in an interview at Brushy State Prison in East Tennessee with talk show host Morton Downey Jr. "I think the only way I'll get out of here is through a jury. If they wouldn't grant me a trial I don't see how they'll grant me a parole."

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