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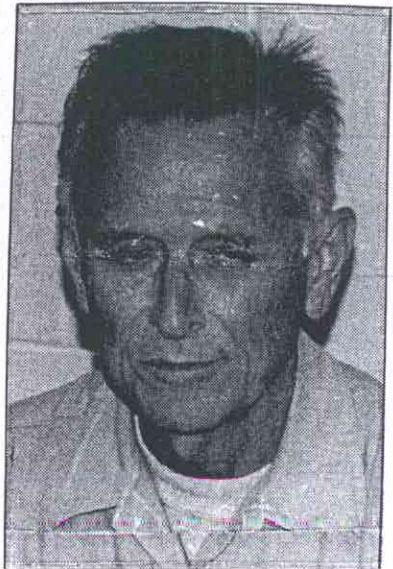
New 'Press' to publish book

By DENISE ANDERSON
News Editor

A small book written primarily for Europeans is being published in Sparta this week.

Praetorian Press, started by Mike Sherrell, will be publishing James Earl Ray's second book, *Day Of The Pathogen*, as soon as it returns from the printer.

"I laid it out and did the paste-up," Sherrell said. "Jerry, James' brother, and I worked on it about all summer, on a kitchen table with a Brother typewriter. We took it from notes and stacks of paper. The cover will be gray linen stock paperback. We don't know the cost as yet. It will be just enough to cover the cost to



James Earl Ray

publish it. James isn't interested in the money aspect. He just wants his story told."

In a private interview, James Earl Ray said, "I feel I can get more help from foreign countries. They aren't usually as quick to believe everything they read in the papers and hear on television. I didn't kill Martin Luther King, but I don't want people to take my word for it. I know most convicted prisoners claim they are innocent. I want people to know the facts of the case so they can make up their own minds."

"I didn't want a large publishing company to publish my book because I don't trust them. The large publishing companies and networks did nothing to promote a trial, and in fact did everything they could to prevent it. I feel this whole thing could be resolved in a couple of months if they declassified the records con-

cerning my case.

"That is the purpose of this book. The first third of it goes over my case, and there are copies of some of the records that have been declassified so far.

The second part discusses the large publishing companies and networks and the role they played in my case. The last third is written about American culture for Europeans. I want people to believe what the records say, not just me or the prosecution. They consider me social vermin.

"I've received only two or three hostile letters since the first book. Most of the letters I get are supportive, especially after the TV trial. I've receive some positive press in Brazil and the mid-east countries. I'm hoping this book will make a difference and will help promote a trial. That's all I'm asking for."

Opinion

Man's request worth hearing

I don't want anyone to think that I am saying he is innocent, that is for a jury to decide, but after hearing and reading everything the man has to say, I am curious.

I met James Earl Ray in September, and I talked with him for more than an hour. His brother had given me Ray's first book to read before writing a story, and I had several questions to ask him.

He seems to be intelligent and very together for a man who has spent 25 years in prison. I'm not sure what I expected, but I was surprised.

The story he tells seems plausible, and I can't help but wonder if he is telling the truth, maybe no one will ever know for sure. I

I do think it is strange how his case progressed and the things he was subjected to, things no ordinary prisoner would have done to them.

He has spent 25 years studying law books and gathering material in the hope that someday he will have a trial. He has amassed a great deal of information toward that end.

The information he put in his first book, *Who Killed Martin*

Denise Anderson



Luther King, does have some merit and it raises some question as to the prosecution's case.

When I was first introduced to Ray's brother, James, a few months ago, I knew nothing at all about the case, after all, I was only a small child when it happened. I had no preconceived ideas or prejudices at all, just curiosity.

I read his first book, interviewed him, and read his second book. I also watched the television trial and a documentary.

After all this, I must say I do have some doubts about the case. There is a chance he is telling the truth; that isn't for me to decide, but I would be very interested in watching a trial take place.

There are too many unanswered questions, and too many people "in the know" who believe him to dismiss him entirely.