

Knoxville News-Sentinel
**Lawyer Says New
Evidence Proves
Ray's Innocence** *OCT. 14, 1978*

By **STAN DeLOZIER**
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PETROS — Mark Lane, James Earl Ray's lawyer, said Friday he has new evidence that will prove Ray did not kill Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and that he will discuss the evidence Monday with Ray and Dr. Ralph Abernathy, head of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC).

After Ray's wedding Friday at Brushy Mountain State Prison, Mr. Lane told reporters he now knows the name of one of the persons involved in the King murder in Memphis in 1968.

He said the name of that person and other evidence that will clear Ray will be released in two to three weeks. Ray presently is serving a 99-year sentence for killing Dr. King.

"The American people will be profoundly shocked to know who killed King," Mr. Lane said. "And who in high places in this country know it and who are now an accessory to the murder after the fact."

He said the new evidence shows "that a group of people were involved in the murder of Martin Luther King Jr. I believe the prime suspects in the murder are those people associated with the Federal Bureau of Investigation in 1968."

Mr. Lane said Rev. James Lawson, the minister who presided at Ray's marriage ceremony, has conducted his own investigation, which has turned up the same evidence that "confirms and corroborates what I have."

Mr. Lane refused to explain what the new evidence is.

Warden Stonney Lane said Ray had asked to be permitted to meet with Dr. Abernathy and Mark Lane at 10 a.m. Monday at the prison.

Dr. Abernathy succeeded Dr. King as head of SCLC.