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MEMPHIS, Tenn. AP - Authorities say James Earl Ray will probably not have to wear a bulletproof vest when he stands trial in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

"We do not anticipate any extra type of paraphernalia in the courtroom," Sheriff William N. Morris Jr. said Friday.

"Our security will be of a perimeter type," Morris, meeting with newsmen for the first full-fledged session since Ray was returned July 19 from England, indicated that getting into the courtroom when Ray is on trial will be most difficult.

Reporters covering the trial will be given special identification cards bearing their photographs and fingerprints. But they and other spectators will have to be searched and be video taped before being admitted.

Morris said Shelby County already has spent about \$6,600 to provide special security for Ray and another \$50,000 worth of security work is going on at the jail-not directly connected with Ray's safety.

Costs directly attributable to keeping Ray safe range from \$3,000 for a closed-circuit television surveillance system to \$35 for a locked, stainless steel box in which his food is delivered to his cell.

The picture Morris painted of Ray, probably the most closely protected prisoner in Tennessee history, was of a man who is eating and sleeping well and getting his exercise.

"He does pushups and walks," Morris said. "He reads, plays gin rummy with his guards. He talks with his guards, but he doesn't discuss the case with anyone but his attorney."

And Ray's attorney, Arthur Hanes of Birmingham, Ala., agreed his client is fine. After spending two hours and 45 minutes with Ray Friday, Hanes said he was "in a good mood" and was "very optimistic. He had very little to complain about."

Morris said Ray had been examined by a physician "and the report would indicate he is in good condition." He said Ray eats the same jail food as the other prisoners "and on almost any given occasion he cleans his tray."

Only Hanes and Hanes' son, Arthur Jr., have visited Ray in his cell, Morris said. He said Ray and his attorneys would draw up a proposed list of visitors which the sheriff's department then would approve. Any visits will be in the cellblock where Ray is kept since Ray is not expected to leave there until his trial.

Morris said he understood Ray's two brothers were in Memphis, but said they had not asked to see Ray. Nor has Ray asked to see them, he said.

Ray has received some mail at the jail and a few of the letters contained money, Morris said. "There was one check for \$100," he said, but added that the total received was "much less than \$1,000."

When he was turned over to Shelby County officers at the Naval air station at Millington, north of Memphis, Ray had some money, Morris said, "English notes in the amount of about \$144."

None of the mail was threatening, Morris said, and there have been no threatening telephone calls to the sheriff's office or the jail. "We have received no threats on anybody's life," he said.

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