

Ray Did Not Kill King, Says Author

Munich, Germany

James Earl Ray did not kill Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a German-American author charged in an open letter to Judge W. Preston Battle of the Memphis (Tenn.) criminal court.

Joachim Joesten, author of such books as "The Dark Side of Lyndon B. Johnson," "The Garrison Inquiry" and "Oswald: Assassin or Fall Guy?" said in his letter he has prepared a 45,000-word documentation on the case which he is mailing to Battle, the American Civil Liberties Union and a few newspapers.

He claimed Ray was charged with murder by the state of Tennessee "on the basis of a deliberately false and fraudulent FBI report."

According to Joesten, "the FBI knows that Ray did not commit the murder and is trying to shield, through the sacrifice of a scapegoat, the real assassin of Dr. King whose identity is well known to the FBI."

He claimed that Ray, because of his criminal record and his involvement in the conspiracy to kill King, has been put under pressure to plead guilty in return for a promise of leniency.

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