

He'll Be Alone

Bleak Cell for Ray

NASHVILLE (Tenn.) — (UPI) — An unmade bed and 30 years of loneliness awaited James Earl Ray today in cell No. 4 in the maximum security building at the Tennessee State Prison.

On an 11-cell corridor with death row at his back, Ray will be permitted to leave the cell only on three occasions — when he is sick, when he showers and when he exercises.

There is a gold knocker on the heavy green door which opens into the lobby of the white, one-floor building. Ray will be taken through that door into the lobby and through two more locked doors before he enters the corridor leading to his cell.

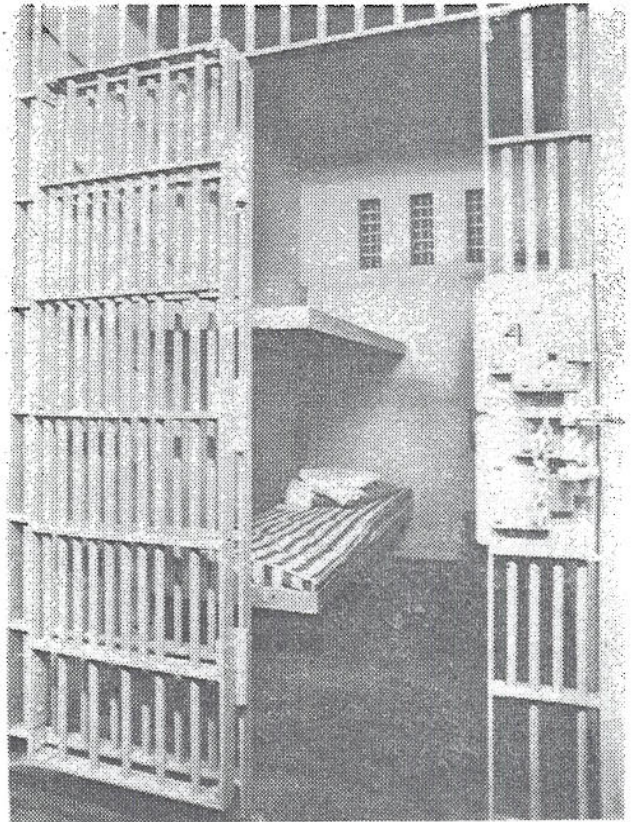
Cell No. 4 measures six by nine feet like the 33 other cells on three of the corridors. It has two bunks but only one is ever used on this corridor, because only one man is housed in each cell.

The backs and sides of the cell are eight-inch thick, steel-enforced concrete painted green. Besides the bunks the only furniture is a metal combination sink and commode. There are 18 heavy bars across the front of the cell.

Once a day Ray will be taken outside to an exercise area enclosed by high walls. Twice a week he will step out his cell door and take a dozen steps to his left and take a shower.

The door to Ray's cell was open late yesterday and newsmen were permitted to inspect it. A mattress lay on the bottom bunk but the bed was unmade. A clean white sheet and a clean white pillowcase lay on top of the striped mattress.

Warden Lake Russell and State Corrections Commissioner Harry Avery said Ray will be isolated. There will be no prisoners in adjoining cells.



JAMES EARL RAY'S FUTURE HOME
Cell assigned to killer in Tennessee State Prison