

James Ray

Out of Isolation

Nashville

James Earl Ray, convicted in the assassination of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr., was released from maximum security at the Tennessee state prison yesterday.

Ray, 46, has remained in virtual isolation ever since his arrest in London in 1968, following King's death in Memphis on April 4 of that year.

"Every prisoner in maximum security comes up before the board of review," said acting Warden Robert V. Morford.

"The board recommended that he be released into the general prison population, their recommendation came to me and I approved it today."

Ray's new environment will be an overcrowded state prison with about 2500 inmates in a 70-year-old facility built for 1800.

Associated Press
