

Assassinations

Prober to Question Ray

Nashville, Tenn.

The murderer of Martin Luther King Jr. will submit to preliminary questioning next week by a lawyer from the House Assassinations Committee, his lawyer said yesterday.

The attorney said he has new evidence that will aid the assassinations probe, but he declined to disclose it.

Jack Kershaw, the attorney, said James Earl Ray will give depositions to the committee's chief deputy counsel in a session at the Brushy Mountain State Prison at Petros, Tenn., where Ray is serving a 99-year term for King's murder.

Kershaw, whom Ray retained three weeks ago, added that Ray "wouldn't go before them just to prove he was guilty."

He said a number of questions surround the killing, including the mysterious Latin named Raoul whom Ray has said was his contact before King was killed.

"People keep asking why Ray hasn't told his story before," Kershaw said. "He hasn't had a forum before."

Ray originally pleaded guilty to the King murder, but then he asked to retract his plea. His request was refused.

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