

Jerry Ray to Sue

Role in King Killing Denied

Atlanta

James Earl Ray's younger brother said yesterday that magazine reports he might have been involved in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. are "a bunch of bull."

Jerry Ray accused the FBI of plotting the civil right's leader's death and said the agency hounded him and his other brother, John, in an effort to get them behind bars.

Holding a magazine in the air, Jerry Ray called the charges contained in an article about his alleged involvement in the King death "a bunch of bull."

"I know that there was a lot of people involved in it, but I wasn't involved in it in no way," he said on a television show being filmed in Atlanta this week.

Jerry Ray, whose brother,

James Earl Ray, is serving a 99-year prison term in Tennessee, said he had not talked to his brother for three months before the April 4, 1968, slaying in Memphis, Tenn.

He said he is filing libel suits against everyone who has suggested he conspired with his brother, including attorney Percy Foreman.

James Earl Ray fired Foreman as his attorney and accused the attorney of convincing him to confess to the King slaying. Foreman has said James Earl Ray told him Jerry Ray was at a Birmingham, Ala., gunshop with him when he purchased the gun authorities believe was used to kill King.

Jerry Ray said other defendants in the libel suits would be New Times magazine and New Times writer David Lifton, who also appeared on the talk show.

Lifton was co-author of an

article that suggested Jerry Ray might have been the mysterious "Raoul" whom James Earl Ray says arranged for him to be in Memphis on the day of the shooting and who gave him money to travel following the assassination.

Jerry Ray said he did not know the identity of Raoul, and neither did his brother. He said the name Raoul was probably an alias, and the best his brother could do was describe him to the authorities.

Jerry Ray also said James Earl Ray was not across the street from the Lorraine Motel, where King was killed from a balcony, but was at a service station four blocks away. "We can't get in to court to prove that," he said, referring to his brother's efforts to obtain a new trial.

United Press