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ST. LOUIS AP - A brother of James Earl Ray, who is charged with murdering Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., said Saturday he was "surprised" that Ray was captured in London and added he hopes Ray "lives to stand trial."

"If my brother did kill King, he did it for a lot of money. He didn't do anything if it wasn't for money. And those who paid him won't want him sitting in a courtroom telling everything he knows," said John Larry Ray, 34, operator of a St. Louis tavern. "If he does live to stand trial," John Ray said, "I would like to see him get the same sentence as the guy who killed Rockwell." He referred to the 20-year sentence handed John Patler for the slaying of American Nazi party leader Lincoln Rockwell.

"A friend of mine in Canada called me around noon to tell me they had caught my brother in London," John Ray told an interviewer.

The brother made his comments in an interview with the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

London authorities said James Ray was carrying two Canadian passports when he was captured while going through customs.

"I wasn't surprised that he was in London, but I was surprised that he got caught," John Ray said, and added "I knew he wasn't dead."

The St. Louis Ray insisted that his 40-year-old brother, who escaped from the Missouri penitentiary last year while serving a 20-year term for armed robbery, is not a member of any racist group.

John Ray was the last family member to see James Earl Ray before the elder brother escaped from the Missouri prison in April, 1967. He said he and another brother, 32-year-old Jerry, formerly of Chicago, were the closer to James than any of the 10 sisters and brothers.

"James would do anything for us and we for him, but he wasn't very sociable with strangers," the tavern operator said.

He described James Earl as "hot-tempered toward anyone that got on him."

Ray said before his fugitive brother entered the army he did not drink or smoke and was a hard worker.

"After he came back, he drank and didn't believe in working; the army changed his whole outlook on life," Ray said.

James Earl received a general discharge in 1948 for ineptness and lack of adaptability. He served a three-month term at hard labor while in the army for being drunk and breaking arrest.

Subsequent to his discharge, James Earl began amassing a police record and served terms in Los Angeles for burglary; Illinois prisons at Joliet and Pontiac for armed robbery in Chicago; the federal penitentiary at Leavenworth for postal money order forgery in Kansas City, and the Missouri prison for a \$120 St. Louis supermarket robbery in 1959.

Ray said he did not know whether James Earl did or did not shoot King and he could have been a fugitive for a simple reason.

"He still has 13 years waiting for him to do at Jefferson City, Mo., on that 20-year sentence for robbery. That's enough reason," John Ray said.

Federal prison 9th graf A042.
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