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Denies Ray Sold Drugs In Missouri Prison

JEFFERSON CITY, Jan. 29 (AP) — Charges in a yet-to-be published book that James Earl Ray financed the killing of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. by selling drugs while an inmate at the Missouri State Prison are "totally unsubstantiated," says the state's corrections chief.

George M. Camp said yesterday that he had been trying to get in touch with author George McMillan for details on his book. "I want him to either put up or shut up," Camp said.

Time magazine, quoting excerpts from McMillan's book, says Ray made the money by selling drugs inside the prison walls. Time says Ray paid guards to import contraband drugs from St. Louis and Kansas City.

"I read his file back when I saw this article and I wanted to check to see if there was

anything in his file that would indicate this type of person," Camp said. "I didn't find anything in there in going through it that would lead me to believe he was a major wheelor-dealer."

Ray escaped in 1967 from the main prison in Jefferson City. The Rev. Dr. King was assassinated in Memphis in 1968. Ray was captured in London, convicted of the killing and is serving a life sentence in the Tennessee State Prison.

Camp said he had been unsuccessful so far in reaching McMillan. He said McMillan had got in touch with the Division of Corrections about 20 times in the last year for information and had been furnished it.

Camp said McMillan's publisher had not decided yet whether "to print the book because of legal questions."

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