

JL:

McMillan's letters to John Ray-new batch

12/21/74 IM

I have no trouble believing that an Establishmentarian editor ~~was~~ had a high regard for George's writing, more so if he were a "liberal" and holds traditional liberal belief and suffers common ignorance of fact. The problem with McMillan's book is that without Ray as the lone killer it is a nothing. Who cares? While I doubt it can or will graving what we are doing, the one possible chance seems to me to be what George is doing, a kind of pseudo-non-fiction, mid-West Tobacco Road.

Can you shed any light on the closing sentence of his 5/17/74: Did you know that "r. Fensterwald took one of my letters to you and showed it to the FBI?"

3/8/73 there is other than the innocent purpose McMillan has always claimed: "About Jimmy's escape plans. Jerry told me another version than the one you tell me. But I don't want to put it in a letter to you." Followed by bait. Then, "Sometimes I wonder whether Jimmy was ever in the drug business after he escaped from Jeff City."

His underscoring.

Then, portraying Jimmy as a man of violence from childhood, 3/2/73: "I've seen it printed several times that Jimmy stuck you in the ear with a knife when he was about twelve years old in Ewing."

~~XXXXX~~ He has seen in print what I don't recall. Makes me wonder if he did.

John can be negligent about things. When there is time it might be good to ask if he has heard from George since 7/1/74. If George is still trying then discovery and the hearing are times he might have been writing. It would be good if John thought of needle him about not being at the hearing when he had written for a pass and it had been granted, a what-were-you-affraid-of kind of letter. Perhaps a similar one about discovery: if you have had Jimmy's interest so much at heart why didn't you not comply with a judge's order? Or why did you not offer what you have voluntarily?