

Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

August 19, 1970

Director, FBI

44-38861-5894

REC-55

GEORGE MC MILLAN
COFFIN POINT
FROGMORE, SOUTH CAROLINA 29920
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING
JAMES EARL RAY, CONVICTED ASSASSIN OF
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING

Enclosed is one copy each of a self-explanatory letter received from captioned individual dated August 14, 1970, and my reply to him.

It is noted that McMillan is a free-lance writer who appeared in the office of Mr. Thomas E. Bishop, Assistant Director of the FBI Crime Records Division, on June 4, 1968. He requested information concerning James Earl Ray for a book he was writing about the latter, and he was informed that no assistance could be given him since investigation of Ray was continuing.

Our files also disclose that McMillan was the author of an article entitled "The Birmingham Church Bombing," which appeared in "The Saturday Evening Post" issue of June 6, 1964, and that he also authored another article, "Racial Violence and Law Enforcement," which was published in pamphlet form by the Southern Regional Council, which has allegedly been affiliated with the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, an organization cited as subversive by the House Committee on Un-American Activities (now known as the House Committee on Internal Security). On several occasions during the past few years, McMillan has contacted several FBI Field Offices for information in connection with articles he was writing concerning civil rights matters. No cooperation has been extended to him by the FBI in the past.

MAILED 2
AUG 20 1970
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (2)

- 1 - Mr. Sullivan (detached)
- 1 - Mr. Bishop (detached)
- 1 - Mr. Rosen (attention: W.L. Martindale - route through for review) (detached)
- 1 - M. A. Jones (detached)

NOTE: See M. A. Jones to Bishop Memo, dated 8-18-70, captioned as above.

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Bishop	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

JHC:cl/rog

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

George E. McMillan

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

7/7/75

7/20/70

8/19/70

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TO : J. Edgar Hoover, Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: JAN 15 1971

FROM : *JL* Jerris Leonard *MURKIN*
KWOC Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

JL:MG:pg
DJ 144-72-66

SUBJECT: Assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Mr. Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Sullivan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Mohr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Bishop	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Brennan, C.D.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Callahan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Casper	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Conrad	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Felt	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Gale	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Rosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tavel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Walters	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Soyars	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input type="checkbox"/>
Miss Holmes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Miss Gandy	<input type="checkbox"/>

Reference is made to your memorandum of August 19, 1970, concerning author George McMillan's request for information pertaining to James Earl Ray, and other communications transmitting similar requests by Mr. McMillan; and to your memorandum of January 21, 1970, concerning among other things requests received by your Bureau for information pertaining to the Ray case.

While I do not believe it would yet be appropriate to make public the contents of the Ray files, a certain portion of the file has already been made available, in connection with a civil suit brought under the Public Information Act by Harold Weisberg, to Mr. Weisberg and thereafter to other individuals. Those papers consist only of the original documents filed on behalf of the States of Tennessee and Missouri in the extradition proceedings in the British Court.

It is our intention to make these papers available in the future to authors, publishers or members of the public who wish to inspect them and who make appropriate arrangements through this Division.

I am attaching for your information a copy of our letter to Mr. McMillan to this effect.

20
ENCLOSURE

*1cc Dept. of Justice
per official 1/15/71
Reg. of George McMillan
1/15/71*

REC-57 44-38861-5902

EX-111

21
12 JAN 18 1971

56 JAN 27 1971

3 folders

EXP. PROC.
JAN 18 1971

SIXT

Director, FBI

JL:KWO'C:MG:
DJ 144-72-662

JAN 15 1971

Mr. George McMillan
Coffin Point
Frogmore, South Carolina 29920

Dear Mr. McMillan:

I am writing in response to your letter of September 28, 1970, to Mr. Leonard, and to your several letters to Mr. Hoover which have been referred to this Division.

Department of Justice files pertaining to James Earl Ray are confidential, since they relate to an official investigation of a possible violation of federal law. Accordingly, we cannot comply with your request for further information based on the FBI's investigation.

I would like to advise you that the documents and exhibits which were filed on behalf of Tennessee and Missouri in the Ray extradition proceedings in the British Court do not come within this rule, and will be made available for your inspection in our offices in Washington at your request. If you wish to inspect these papers, you may make the appropriate arrangements with Miss Monica Gallagher, an attorney in the Criminal Section, Civil Rights Division.

Sincerely,

JERRIS LEONARD
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

By: K. WILLIAM O'CONNOR
Chief, Criminal Section

ENCLOSURE

44-38861-5902