

U. S. Department of Justice

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F. O. I. P. A.

REQUEST

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INVESTIGATION

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'WE HAVE NAME'

# Feds Seek Lone Killer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark said Sunday federal investigators are on the trail of "one man on the run" in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and they are hoping for an early arrest.

"We have a name we're working on," Clark said. "Whether it proves to be the right name remains to be seen."

Clark said there is no evidence, so far, that more than one individual was involved in the fatal shooting last Thursday in Memphis of Dr. King.

King, in Memphis to lead demonstrations on behalf of demands by the city's striking sanitation workers, was killed by a single bullet which struck him in the neck and jaw as he stood on the balcony of his motel room.

A rifle was found abandoned nearby, and Clark hinted Sunday it may have been identified as the murder weapon.

Asked if ballistic tests had established such a connection, he responded, "Ballistic tests have been made and such evidence as they give will be used in court."

Clark discussed progress of the investigation on the radio-television interview program "Meet the Press", on NBC.

Since Friday, when Clark held a news conference in Memphis, additional evidence has been gathered, and "the trail has lengthened" that leads to King's killer, the attorney general said.

"We know quite a bit more than we did two days ago," he added.

But he declined to specify the places where the trail leads.

"We hope to have an early conclusion to the investigation, followed by indictment, trial and conviction," he said.

Clark indicated that, as is customary in murder cases, the eventual trial would probably be left to the courts of Tennessee.

The federal government could assume jurisdiction, Clark said, if there were evidence that justice would not be done by state courts. But he added, "I have no doubt that the authorities of Tennessee would prosecute this with all the vigor at their command."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

THE CLARION LEDGER

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: 4/9/68

Edition: HOME

Author:

Editor: T.M. HEDERMAN JR.

Title: MARTIN LUTHER  
KING

ASSASSINATION

Character:

or

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**TALKS OF ASSASSIN SEARCH** — A grim-faced Attorney General Ramsey Clark covers the microphone during an appearance on television from Washington. He said that federal investigators are on the trail of "one man on the run" ~~in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.,~~ and hope for an early arrest. — AP Wirephoto.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## Police Hunting Killer

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — A single white man, following an apparently well planned procedure, was the assassin Thursday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Police Director Frank Holloman said today.

Holloman said the investigation showed the assassin checked into a main street flop-house at midafternoon, shot King from a second floor window of the building three hours later and then disappeared in the resulting confusion.

The murder weapon apparently was a new .30-.06 Remington pump rifle with telescopic sights, Holloman said. The assassin also carried a new set of binoculars and new suitcase.

A .30-.06 Remington pump rifle was one of 15 weapons stolen a night earlier from a Memphis sporting goods store, but Holloman refused to say immediately that the stolen gun was the death weapon.

"As far as we know, and from the evidence at this time, there was only one man in the physical area of the slaying," Holloman said.

He said one of the 30 to 40 officers on duty in the vicinity of the motel saw the bullet strike

King and all immediately converged on the scene.

The fatal shot was fired from the window of a common bathroom in the flop-house, Holloman said. King's room was 205 feet away, through trees and across a street but in "clear" view of the window.

Holloman said the assassin was a white male, between 26 and 32 years of age, standing six feet tall and weighing 165-175 pounds. Police radios said he had dark to sandy hair, medium build, a ruddy complexion and was wearing a black suit and white shirt.

Holloman refused to disclose the name the man had signed on the register of the hotel, but said "certain evidence has been found."

The weapon, Holloman said, was sent to the FBI laboratory in Washington for ballistics tests.

Shelby County Sheriff William E. Morris, asked if officers had a palm print from the weapons, replied: "We hope we do."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

BILOXI GULFPORT  
DAILY HERALD

GULFPORT, MISS.

Date: 4/5/68

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Editor: E. P. WILKES

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## King's Death Deplored In State Meetings

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Negroes and whites gathered quietly in Mississippi Sunday to pay tribute to the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King as the nation paused for a day of national mourning.

In Biloxi and Hattiesburg, biracial and interdenominational audiences gathered to hear eulogies and, in Hattiesburg, a declaration of a "new dedication to the principles of honor, respect and justice for all."

In Biloxi, an integrated crowd of about 3,500 people gathered in Biloxi municipal stadium to hear the Rev. John M. Aregood, a white minister who is president of the Gulf Coast Council on Human Relations, eulogize King as a man who "will always be remembered as a man among men." He "did what needed to be done," Aregood said.

The quiet crowd, gathered beneath a leaden sky, dispersed without incident after hearing Gulfport Mayor R. B. Meadows and Dr. Gilbert R. Mason, president of the Biloxi Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

In Hattiesburg, 600 Negroes and whites crowded into a Community Center designed to hold 300 to hear City Commissioner W. T. Harrington, acting as mayor, present a resolution deplored the "unlawful and tragic taking of the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr."

The resolution said, "We declare a new dedication to the principles of honor, respect and justice for all. These concepts are the foundation of human dignity and progress."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 4

THE CLARION LEDGER

JACKSON, MISS.

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# Neat, Clean, And A Killer

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — He said his name was John Willard and he spoke with a southern drawl. He wanted a room and Mrs. Bessie Brewer, landlady of the dingy flophouse at 422½ South Main, showed him two.

The time was 3:15 p.m., 166 minutes before an assassin bul-

let felled Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on a motel balcony across Mulberry Street from the back of the rooming house.

This is the way the people of the rooming house recall the suspect, as reported by the Memphis Commercial-Appeal:

Mrs. Brewer —

"He was a clean, neat man. I showed him room 8, a \$10-a-week kitchenette, but he said, 'I only want a sleeping room.'

"I showed him room 5 and he said, 'This will be fine.'

"We went back to the office ... and I wrote out a receipt. He paid with a \$20 bill. He reached into his right pants pocket, pulled it out and unfolded it with both hands ... He spoke like any other Memphian."

B. L. Reeves, 74, retired hotel clerk—

"I saw him when she checked him in. He had his back to me, but I judge he was about 5-foot-11. He had dark hair and a pretty neat hair cut."

Charlie Q. Stephens, occupant of room 6—

"He was clean shaven and had a long, sharp nose. He had normal eyes and a square chin,

thick hair at the front and receded on each side.

"He was wearing a black (solid color) dress suit, a white shirt and a very dark or black narrow tie. He combed his hair straight back."



THE KILLER?  
He May Look Like This

When he checked in, the man did not have with him the pump-action Remington rifle and telescopic sight that killed Dr. King.

None recalled seeing him after that until about 5 p.m. Stephens said about that time the man went down the hall to the bathroom from Room 5. The distance is about 13 steps.

The second-floor bathroom window holds a commanding view of the Lorraine motel where King lodged, 205 feet and 3 inches away. Much better than from Room 5.

At 6:01 p.m. the shot cracked.

"I was in there (the kitchen) working on a radio," Stephens said. "When that explosion went off, it sounded like a German 88 I went to the door and walked out into the hall. I could see the man at the offset in the hall. He had in his hand something wrapped in a newspaper."

The man fled down 20 steps to the ground.

"I got a glimpse of him going away after he dropped the rifle in front of my place," said G. W. Canipe, owner of an amusement firm. "He didn't seem to be running."

A white Mustang with out-of-state license was parked to the north, in front of Jim's Grill, Lloyd Jones, owner of the grill, said it pulled away at 6:15 p.m.

"I didn't see who drove it," he said.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

JACKSON DAILY NEWS

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# More Violence Predicted In Wake Of King's Death

The vice chairman of the "white racist" National States Rights Party predicted here last night that Martin Luther King's death will bring more Negro demonstrations and violence than anything since the Civil War, but added that his group welcomed the violence.

"King's death, I predict, will trigger off more nigger violence than we have had in the last year or in the last 100 years," J. B. Stoner said. "The black power niggers will now say that non-violence has failed and that violence is the only answer."

Stoner, who was in Meridian for an organizational meeting of the NSRP, told a small group that his party is a "white racist, anti-Jew" organization.

"We are white racists and we are proud to be white racists," he said. "The black supremists are proud to be black supremists."

"The National States Rights Party advocates an end to all friendship between the black and white races. . . an end to all relationship between the races," he said.

Stoner charged that King was not non-violent, but that King, "like all niggers," hated the white people.

"King was not non-violent." he said. "All the time he was saying non-violence he was planning a communist revolution. King's war was bloody and violent. . . he wanted a bloody revolution."

"In this hatred for us they have brought about the second Civil War, and that's what we are now in," Stoner said.

"He has been a good nigger now since 6 or 7 o'clock tonight," Stoner said of King's death.

He said the NSRP welcomed the riots which are expected to follow and that they were glad to see others encouraging the Negroes to protest.

Stoner said that his group is planning marches and rallies of its own—beginning in May—in support of their "political" aims.

"For many years the FBI has guarded King's house and guarded him everywhere he went, and yet he is dead," Stoner said. "I'd rather die in combat than laying in a concentration camp."

He said the NSRP rallies and marches will start in Mississippi in May and "before the summer is over I think we can arouse the

majority of the white people in Mississippi."

Asked about reports that King's death might increase Sen. Robert Kennedy's chances of becoming the next president, Stoner replied:

"I wouldn't think so at all. . . I think the niggers were going to lay low all summer to help Bobby Kennedy, but now they won't be able to control them. They won't be able to control the nigger lawlessness."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 3

THE MERIDIAN STAR

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# King Prime Mover Of Social Upheaval

By JULES LOH  
AP Newsfeatures Writer

On a steamy afternoon in Selma, Ala., the apostle of nonviolence confronted a uniformed adversary who wore a badge that said "NEVER," Sheriff Jim Clark.

Toe-to-toe they stood. The sheriff's face reddened, his neck muscles bulged. The Negro, eyes downturned, scarcely moved. Neither spoke. At length Sheriff Clark turned on his heel and those watching exhaled in relief.

"I knew," Martin Luther King Jr. said later. "THAT IF I looked Clark in the eye he would have hit me. He was so worked up."

Dr. King's death Thursday, by violence, has been called ironic but the truth is that violence continually stalked his life at a distance rarely more remote than the flick of an eye.

The greater irony was that he was murdered on a quiet balcony and not a teeming street. The street, public and often bloody, was Martin Luther King's chosen battleground, brotherhood his rallying cry, di-

rect confrontation his technique.  
**BOLD TACTICS**

But his tactics, bold and unsettling when he first used them at segregated lunch counters and bus stations 13 years ago, only partly explain Dr. King's success as the prime mover of one of the most far reaching social upheavals in the nation's history.

Those who witnessed his crusades from up close tend to agree that Martin Luther King's most effective weapon was his own personal magnetism.

A crowd might be gathered, a plan charted, a dozen lieutenants on hand giving directions—rarely did the action start until Dr. King arrived and said go. "The Movement," as the civil rights struggle came to be called, was in reality Dr. King's movement.

What was the nature of his appeal? What uncanny quality of his roused an army of Negroes to confront police dogs, fire hoses, fists, billy clubs, tear gas, boot heels, to echo his prophetic challenge "We Shall Overcome" and follow him not to a promised land of happiness, but to jail.

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His repeated plea was, "If blood is to flow let it be ours," and the people in the pews said "amen."

But when violence broke out he made the same plea in taverns and pool rooms, a cane-bottom chair for a pulpit, and processions of Negroes in those places also said amen and dropped their knives and brass knuckles into his paper sack.

When Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. spoke in a Negro church, sweat glistened on his brow and his oratory often slipped into a roughcut Southern vernacular. Thus he successfully concealed his intellectual acumen while sending his message to the depths of the Negro soul.

But he was, in truth, an intellectual and his understanding of human nature was profound.

He was able to skip the ninth and 12th grades of high school and entered Morehouse College in Atlanta at 15. He earned a bachelors degree there, then a bachelor of divinity degree at Crozer Theological Seminary in Chester, Pa., then a Ph.D. from Boston University at the age of 26.

Rarely, too, did the usually austere Dr. King unveil his wit. But it was there.

During the Selma-to-Montgomery march in 1964, for example, Dr. King was at the head of the long column parading down the highway when someone at his rear cried, "Let's sing 'There is no Balm in Gilead'."

"Let's do," called back Dr. King, "and let's also pray that

~~there's no bomb in Montgomery!"~~

Once Dr. King was asked about the origins of his philosophy of nonviolence. He recalled that he once clouted his brother with a telephone, but that on the other hand he frequently did not retaliate when the class bully beat him up.

"But I don't know whether that was militant nonviolence or whether I was just plain scared," he said.

#### RINGING ORATORY

Add to his knowledge of human nature his ringing oratorical skill, all the more convincing because of his own profound belief in his message and his cause, and one begins to get a measure of Dr. King's magnetism.

His chief aide and close friend, The Rev. Ralph Abernathy, once summed it up:

"His ability to articulate, communicate, to place in words the longings, the dreams, the hopes and aspirations of an oppressed people—that," he said, "is Martin Luther King's gift."

Not everyone, of course, was swayed by his oratory or convinced of his honesty or approving of his tactics.

FBI Chief J. Edgar Hoover called him the most notorious liar in the country and former President Truman called him a troublemaker. And one white tv viewer in Mississippi became so enraged several years ago when he saw Dr. King's image on the screen he grabbed his shotgun and blasted the set into kindling.

The violent reaction was extreme but not untypical.

"We do not seek to precipitate violence," Dr. King once said. "However, we are aware that the existence of injustice in society is the existence of violence, latent violence.

"We feel we must constantly expose this evil, even if it brings violence upon us."



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Authorities 'Close' To Nabbing Sniper

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (UPI) — Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark said Friday authorities are "very close" to arresting the sniper slayer of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

"All the evidence we have is (that) this is the work of a single person," said Clark, who flew here on orders from President Johnson to help with the investigation and to express to King's widow the "very deep regret" of the chief executive and all the cabinet "at the loss of this great American."

"Real progress is being made. Substantial evidence has been discovered," said Clark. "I'm fully confident this crime will be solved."

The 39-year-old King was killed Thursday by a single shot from a .30-06 Remington pump rifle while he strolled alone on the balcony of his room at the Lorraine Hotel, in a Negro section of Memphis.

## Man In Custody

A short, balding white man was taken into custody Friday while emerging from the building in which the sniper hid — a rundown apartment building directly across the street from the hotel. Although the man did not fit the description of the sniper, he was rushed to the Federal Building and officials did not disclose his connection with the case.

The landlady of the apartment house, Mrs. Bessie Brewer, 44, said the man who is believed to have killed King registered under the name of "John Williard" and that "he had a silly smile."

"I'll never forget that smile," said Mrs. Brewer. "He paid his \$8.50 week's rent in cash, with a \$20 bill and two quarters." Repercussions from King's death shook the nation.

President Johnson pleaded again for racial peace, vowing that "America shall not be ruled by the bullet." He declared Sunday a national day of mourning.

Despite the plea, there was violence in major cities on both sides of the Mason Dixon line.

New York's 28,000 man police force was ordered on emergency duty after a night of serious looting, arson and sniping, and there was daylight looting and violence Friday in the nation's capital.

Detroit, with a heavy Negro population, also was hit, as were such widespread spots as Baton Rouge, La., Boston, Mass., Raleigh, Charlotte, New Bern, Winston-Salem and Wilmington, N. C. and Tallahassee, Fla.

Mrs. John F. Kennedy, wife of the late President who was also killed by a sniper, joined the chorus of those pleading for calm. "I pray that with the price he (King) paid — his life — will make room in peoples' hearts for love, not hate," she said.

## Ports Shut Down

Longshoremen closed down all Atlantic, Gulf and Great Lakes ports until 8 a.m. Saturday in honor of King, and the National Maritime Union also urged its 55,000 seamen to stay off the job until 5 p.m. Saturday.

King was in Memphis to lead a protest march for striking sanitation workers, most of whom are Negro, when he was slain.

A demonstration he led last week on behalf of the sanitation workers erupted in violence, raising question whether he could control the Negro masses in the present racial climate.

This issue shaped up as especially important in view of his planned "Poor Peoples" march on Washington later this month, so King returned to Memphis to prove his point that demonstrations, regardless of their size, could be peaceful.

The sanitation workers are striking for higher wages and the right to union representation.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 2

THE MERIDIAN STAR

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## Have Clues In Search For Sniper

By BILL JOHNSON

Associated Press Writer

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — A neat, clean man with a long, sharp nose—the type of man who seems out of place in a flophouse—was the object of a widening search today as the assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



### Sniper? . . .

(AP Wirephoto)

Both U.S. Atty. Gen. Ramsay Clark and Frank Holloman, city police director, said they were optimistic of a break soon. But no arrests were announced and police declined to reveal details of the investigation.

King, the chief exponent of nonviolence in the civil rights struggle, was slain by a single bullet Thursday night as he leaned over the second-floor balcony of a motel, talking with aides on the ground.

He had come back to Memphis to lead a mass march in support of striking garbage workers, and he was killed just one week after another march he led flared into brief window breaking and looting in the downtown area.

As his body was borne back to Atlanta Friday by his widow in a chartered plane, union leaders and civil rights workers throughout the country contin-

ued planning for the Monday march.

Spokesmen said they anticipated that as many as 40,000 persons from 11 states would take part, following guidelines laid down by a federal judge.

King had termed the strike by the Memphis garbage men, 98 per cent of them Negroes, as the second phase in the fight by Negroes for equal rights. He said his Montgomery bus boycott in 1955 started the first phase, the fight for desegregation, and that the garbage collectors were now engaged in the battle for economic equality.

The bullet that killed King came from a communal bathroom in a flophouse behind the motel. Police were looking for the man who had checked into the place, paying for his \$8.50 a week room with a crisp \$20 bill.

Bessie Brewer, manager of the rooming house, told police the man gave his name as John Willard. "He was a clean, neat man," about six feet tall, she said.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

BILOXI GULFPORT  
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~~Charlie~~ Q. Stephens ~~who had~~ the room between that taken by Willard and the bathroom, described the man as "clean shaven" and that he had a "long, sharp nose. He had normal eyes and a square chin, thick hair at the front and receded on each side."

Others said they saw the man walk away after the shot was fired.

Clark, who made an eight-hour visit Friday, said evidence "indicates a single individual" was involved in the assassination. ~~"There is no evidence of a~~ widespread plot."

The investigation already has widened to several states, he said, and "will spread as far as the evidence takes us. It has already spread several hundred miles from the boundaries of Tennessee now."

Clark also said that evidence in the case was considerably more than police "usually get in cases like this," but he refused to elaborate.

"A number of studies of prints that may establish the identity" of the sniper are being made by police and FBI agents with the aid of the FBI laboratory in Washington, he said.

~~The~~ object of the ~~massive~~ manhunt gave his name as John Willard when he checked into the flophouse at 422½ South Main. He spoke with a southern drawl described by the landlady as just "like any other Memphian."

B.L. Reeves, 74, a retired hotel clerk who said he watched the man as he talked with landlady Bessie Brewer, described the prospective boarder as 5-foot-11, clean-shaven, with a long, sharp nose, a square chin ~~and~~ thick dark hair ~~combed~~ straight back and receding on the sides.

Mrs. Brewer said she showed him Room 8 a \$10-a-week room with kitchenette but quoted him as saying he wanted sleeping quarters only. She took him to Room 5, told him it would cost \$8.50 a week, and he took it.

He paid for the room with a crisp \$20 bill, Mrs. Brewer said.

It was from a second floor bathroom window that he fired the shot which struck King as he leaned over the balcony railing ~~outside his motel room.~~

# \$150,000 Reward For The Slayer

By JAY BOWLES  
Associated Press Writer

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — As waves of racial violence continued to break on a number of the nation's cities, Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark said the net for the killer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. had been spread "several hundred miles from Memphis."

The nationwide death toll from the street violence stood at 14.

Police expressed optimism in their search for the sniper who shot King Thursday and the reward for his apprehension grew to \$150,000. Civil rights leaders predicted that up to 40,000 persons would take part Monday in a march originally scheduled by King.

Police Director Frank Holloman gave no indication at a news conference whether the murderer would be seized "in the next hour, six hours, or 12 hours" but said they had a large amount of physical evidence.

Clark, in a whirlwind, eight-hour trip to the city, appeared pleased with the progress of the investigation. "We've got substantial leads," he said. "We're very hopeful."

The crisis precipitated by the death of the Nobel Prize winning civil rights leader led President Johnson to cancel his trip to Hawaii, planned as a preliminary to possible peace talks with the North Vietnamese.

The President declared Sunday a day of national mourning

for King, ordered American flags to half staff at U.S. military installations over the world and scheduled an address before a joint session of Congress Monday night on new proposals to ease the plight of the Negro.

The burgeoning 1968 presidential campaign came to a virtual halt with all major candidates canceling weekend appearances. Monday's opening day baseball games in Washington and Cincinnati were postponed. A third opener at Houston remained scheduled.

Americans throughout the nation stopped work, left classes and attended impromptu memorial services Friday as they

sought ways of showing their shock and grief at the death.

Meanwhile in Memphis, 330 local, state and federal law enforcement officials pressed the feverish search for the slayer.

King had returned to this Mississippi River city to renew a demonstration in support of striking sanitationmen, most of them Negroes. After his death his body was put on public view during a brief memorial service then flown home to Atlanta where a funeral service was scheduled Tuesday in his father's church.

As racial tensions here appeared to be easing today, civil rights leaders continued plans for the march Monday.

The Rev. James Lawson, a strike leader, said the demonstration was now planned as a memorial to King with 5,000 to 40,000 marchers expected from 11 states.

"Monday's march will go on in silence in memory of our great leader," declared the Rev. Ralph Abernathy, King's closest associate and his successor as head of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

Violence in Memphis began to subside as 3,800 National Guardsmen, augmented by 800 city policemen working 12-hour shifts, patrolled the troubled Negro sections. Another 1,000 Guardsmen from eastern Tennessee are to be airlifted in Sunday.

The toll from violence following the assassination stood Friday night at 229 ~~deaths~~, 30 persons injured and 136 arrested. A full curfew remained in effect during the hours of darkness.

Mayor Henry Loeb agreed to resume negotiations in the 53-day-old garbage strike after a meeting with 300 white and Negro ministers.

However, Loeb refused to meet the ministers' demands for a relaxed stand. The mayor has strongly opposed union demands for recognition as bargaining agent and payroll deduction of union dues. The workers also seek pay raises to \$2-\$3 an hour. They now are paid \$1.60-\$2.10.

Some 350 garbage workers and their supporters staged another of the street marches occurrences since the walkout involving 1,300 garbage workers, most of them Negro, began Feb. 12. There were no incidents.

The Shelby County grand jury returned indictments Friday against 16 persons on various charges growing out of the garbage dispute. One of the indictments was the first brought under the state's new antiriot laws.



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Second Night Of Riots; Hunt For Killer Spreads

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

JACKSON DAILY NEWS

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: 4/6/68

Edition: FINAL

Author:

Editor: JAMES M. WARD

Title: NEGRO DISTURBANCE

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586st

Submitting Office: JACKSON

☐ Being Investigated

SEARCHED <i>h</i>	INDEXED <i>h</i>
SERIALIZED <i>h</i>	FILED <i>h</i>
APR - 9 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

157-9586-571-9



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

**VOICE OF THE PEOPLE****Let 'Do-Gooders' Stop Weeping  
Over Death Penalty For Murder**

Dear Editor:

We have been fed such a diet of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, since Thursday night, that we are just about surfeited. I am only complaining about the imbalance and excess. In the eyes of God, the greater tragedy is, not that Martin Luther King was no different, and no worse than the murder of Medgar Evers, or Victor Dahmer; and no worse than the murder of any other Negro, or any white person.

The ugly fact is murder, and it is the ugliest fact in the world. The only way that the assassination of Martin Luther King, or the assassination of President John F. Kennedy can have any special significance is, that it symbolizes, in a particular way, every other murder committed in our broad land. Every other murder is just as bad as they are... or were. Instead of making so much of the murder of any one man, Kennedy, King, or any other, it is becoming high time for the whole American society to wage a moral war against the whole concept of murder. It is time that every preacher preached

on 1 John 3:15, "No murderer hath eternal life;" or Revelation 21:8, or 22:15. It is time that teachers made murder, its immorality, criminality and sinfulness, a matter of class-room instruction, and assembly programming.

And it is time that editors of newspapers and magazines made some good hard teaching about murder, a part of their editorial policy. It is time that "Do-gooders" quit weeping crocodile tears about the death penalty for murder, then pardoning a murderer as soon as he pretended that he was sorry and reformed. God said, "Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man." Genesis 9:6 When any man commits murder, he should be hunted down like a mad-dog, tried, convicted, and exterminated like the devil that he is.

Dr. C. M. Stults  
Christian Minister. Baldwin,  
Miss.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 16

THE CLARION LEDGER

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: 4/11/68  
Edition: HOME  
Author:  
Editor: T.M. HEDERMAN JR  
Title: MARTIN LUTHER  
KING'S ASSINATION

Character:  
or

Classification: 157-9586 SF1  
Submitting Office: JACKSON

☐ Being Investigated

SEARCHED <i>Jo</i>	INDEXED <i>Jo</i>
SERIALIZED <i>Jo</i>	FILED <i>Jo</i>
APR 11 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

157-9586-341-10

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# King Slay

## Suspect

# Hunted In Florida?

## FBI Pickup Message Is Sent, Withdrawn

MIAMI, Fla. (AP) — The FBI distributed a teletype pickup order to Florida police Thursday for Eric Starvo Galt, then withdrew the message four hours later because it had been released by mistake.

The message gave a description for Galt matching the description they circulated for the killer of Martin Luther King and said he was driving a white Mustang similar to that believed driven by King's assassin.

When asked by The Associated Press if they were releasing the identity of the suspect in the King murder, FBI Special Agent John Hanlon said, "I cannot comment."

Hanlon issued a bulletin on the police teletypes about 9:35 p.m. withdrawing the message.

The original message signed by Special Agent Charles Bell, described Galt as a white man, born July 20, 1931, about 5'11", 175 pounds, with blue eyes and brown hair.

The message was originally put on statewide police teletypes at 5:22 p.m. Thursday.

The message said Galt was driving a white Mustang with 1968 Alabama license tags, 1-38993. The tag would have been issued in Jefferson County (Birmingham), as indicated by the "1" in front of the number. No warrant had been issued for Galt, the message said.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

—PAGE 1

—THE CLARION LEDGER

—JACKSON, MISS.

Date: 4/12/68

Edition: HOME

Author:

Editor: T.M. HEDERMAN JR.

Title: ASSASSINATION OF  
MARTIN LUTHER KING

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586 SF1

Submitting Office: JACKSON

☐ Being Investigated

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 12 1968	
FBI — JACKSON	

157-9586-SF1-11

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## Another White Auto Was Seen; 'Getaway' Car?

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — The presence of a second white Mustang near the doorway which police say the slayer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., used to escape gave rise today to published reports that it may have been the getaway car.

The Memphis Commercial Appeal said the car with Arkansas tags and a similar vehicle, parked a short distance north, both left the scene within 15 minutes after King was fatally shot a week ago today.

Both vehicles were within 100 feet of the doorway to the second-floor rooming house where police said the assassin waited and shot King as he stood on the balcony of a motel across a rear street.

The killer was believed to have walked out of the Main Street entrance to the rooming house, turned south and dropped the murder weapon in front of a business firm next door.

Guy Canipe, owner of the firm, said he saw the young white man drop the package which contained the gun, but did not see his face.

The Commercial Appeal speculated that the man then walked

a few steps farther along, got into the dirty white Mustang with Arkansas tags and sped away.

The second Mustang, parked north of the rooming house entrance, also left the scene near the time of the shooting.

Police said they would investigate reports that a supposed police chase in northeast Memphis — eight miles from the scene — 30 minutes after the shooting may have been a decoy to allow the killer to escape.

A recording of the police radio dispatcher's transmissions showed seven calls in 12 minutes from a lieutenant's car in the northeast section of the city detailing the case.

The lieutenant said Tuesday he did not make the calls. This led to speculation that someone other than police may have sent the calls on the police frequency to draw officers away from the escape route.

The Mississippi state line is about 10 miles directly south of the shooting scene, and the bridge leading to Arkansas is about two miles southwest of King's motel.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

JACKSON DAILY NEWS

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: 4/11/68  
Edition: FINAL

Author:

Editor: JAMES M. WARD

Title: ASSASSINATION OF  
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SERIALIZED <i>pb</i>	FILED <i>pb</i>
APR 12 1968	
FBI — JACKSON	

157-9586-541-12

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Hunt For Assassin Is Pressed Quietly

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — The FBI maintained a steadfast silence Thursday in the face of queries, rumors and reports about the gun and the bullet which killed Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. here a week ago. It refused comment on whether:

—Ballistics test matched the bullet with a rifle found near the scene.

—Firearms dealers in Birmingham, Ala., had been questioned about sales of Remington rifles.

Both reports have been published but the FBI says they did not originate with its agents.

Shortly after King's assassination one week ago, police found a 30-06 rifle with a telescopic sight one block away.

## DROPPED PACKAGE

Guy Canipe, owner of an amusement company, told newsmen he saw a man drop a package in front of his store and drive away in a white automobile. He said he did not see the man's face. "I looked down and saw the barrel of a gun sticking out of a package," he said.

The New York Post reported Thursday that the fatal bullet was so badly deformed on impact that the FBI was having

difficulty determining if it was fired from the rifle Canipe saw discarded.

An unidentified Memphis ballistics technician was quoted here as saying the bullet was badly damaged when it struck bones in Dr. King's neck. Another published report said the bullet may have been soft-nosed.

Meanwhile, negotiators continued efforts to settle the nine-week-old garbage strike, which brought King to Memphis. Although neither side issued statements, the Memphis Press-Scimitar said it learned that much

There has been no indication of the discussion revolved around wages. how the issues of union recognition and dues checkoff would be settled.

## OPTIMISM FADES

Frank Holloman, Memphis police director, said the morning after King's death that he was "optimistic" about the investigation, refused to comment Thursday.

"When I can make any comment without prejudicing the investigation, I will do so," he said.

King was struck by one bullet while standing on the balcony of his motel. Police said the fatal bullet was fired from a bathroom window in a rooming

house—within view of the motel balcony 205 feet away.

The killer was believed to have walked out of the rooming house, dropped the gun in front of Canipe's store next door and fled in a white Mustang.

But the Memphis Commercial Appeal reported Thursday that a second white Mustang with Arkansas license plates and also parked near the rooming house may have been the getaway car.

The newspaper speculated the man got into the second Mustang and fled. The river bridge leading to Arkansas is about two miles from the rooming house and King's motel.

Police refused to comment on their investigation into the possibility that a police chase in northeast Memphis—eight miles from the murder scene and 30 minutes after the shooting—may have been a decoy to allow the killer to escape.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 2

THE CLARION LEDGER

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: 4/12/68

Edition: HOME

Author:

Editor: T.M. HEDERMAN JR.

Title: ASSASSINATION OF  
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or

Classification: 157-9586SF1

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SEARCHED <i>h</i>	INDEXED <i>h</i>
SERIALIZED <i>h</i>	FILED <i>h</i>
APR 12 1968	
FBI — JACKSON	

157-9586-571-13



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Birmingham Man Claims 'It's Him'

## Identifies Drawing As Roomer Of His

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP)—The owner of a boarding house said Monday he had identified a drawing of a man sought in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., as a roomer known by the name of Eric Galt.

"It's him, I'm sure," said Peter Cherpes, 72, who runs a boarding house on Birmingham's South Side. Cherpes consented to talk after the FBI responded to his request to be released from a secrecy pledge.

Cherpes said FBI agents showed him drawings about last Wednesday, or two days before a car registered in the name of Eric Starvo Galt was found abandoned in Atlanta. The car, a white Mustang with an Alabama license tag, matched the description of car seen leaving the assassination scene in Memphis, Tenn., where King was shot April 4.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

JACKSON DAILY NEWS

PAGE 1

JACKSON, MISS.

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Edition: FINAL

Author:

Editor: JAMES M. WARD

Title: ASSASSINATION OF  
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Character:

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SEARCHED <i>JB</i>	INDEXED <i>JB</i>
SERIALIZED <i>JB</i>	FILED <i>JB</i>
APR 16 1968	
FBI — JACKSON	



Cherpes was shown a newspaper artist's drawing of the assassin Monday and he said it was such like the drawings exhibited by federal agents. Cherpes said the sketches "looked exactly like Galt."

The man known as Eric Starvo Galt has become the object of a widening search by FBI agents, who have been contacting persons with the same name or similar names from Virginia to Florida and sifting through dozens of stores and businesses in Birmingham for clues to the missing man.

The FBI issued an alert, called a "locate and notify" dispatch, in Florida for Galt last Friday at about the time the white Mustang was being impounded in Atlanta. The alert was withdrawn four hours later with the explanation that it had been erroneous.

Since then, the FBI has declined to say anything about Galt. There was no warrant for Galt, the FBI said last Friday.

Galt rented a room from him, Cherpes said, last fall, at about the time the hunted man obtained an Alabama driver's license.

He also purchased with cash a white Mustang from a Birmingham car salesman. He listed his occupation as merchant seaman, unemployed.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

**NO TRACE AT INGALLS****Drawing Of Killer  
Looked Like 'Galt'**

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — A boarding house owner disclosed Monday he told FBI agents investigating the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. that drawings of a man they were hunting closely resembled a roomer named Eric Galt.

"That's the man. The resemblance is close enough, I'm sure," said Peter Cherpes, 72, owner of the South Side boarding house where he said an Eric Galt lived for six weeks last fall, then dropped from sight.

Development Monday brought a deepening mystery to the background of the man called Eric Galt. He had said he was employed at a Mississippi shipyard, but there was no record of his name on the employee list.

**NO RECORD**

In Louisiana, where Galt had said he held a driver's license, there was no such record on state files. It was much the same story with other efforts to trace Galt.

Cherpes said he identified FBI drawings very similar to one ~~composed~~ by a newspaper artist from descriptions of a man seen

fleeing the assassination scene April 4 in Memphis, Tenn.

The FBI declined comment.

But, within a week after King's slaying, the FBI was hunting a man identified as Eric Starvo Galt, whose last known address was the Birmingham boarding house. The hunt had spread into several states.

An FBI "locate and notify" alert for Galt was put out last Thursday over the Florida police network, but was withdrawn four hours later as erroneous. At the same time, FBI agents impounded in Atlanta a white Ford Mustang with an Alabama tag issued to Eric Starvo Galt.

The abandoned Mustang matched the description of a suspected getaway car in Memphis.

**ASKED SILENCE**

Cherpes said he first was told not to talk about Galt. He said he asked the FBI two days ago if he could discuss the matter and was told, "We suggest you don't, but we can't keep you from it."

Cherpes said in an interview the man known as Eric Starvo

Galt had a room at the Highland Avenue boarding house from Aug. 26 to Oct. 7, 1967. "He registered here that he came from Pascagoula, Miss.," Cherpes said.

The boarder was "nice and friendly, quiet," said Cherpes. He described Galt as about 6 feet tall, 165-175 pounds, with blue eyes and light brown hair, a neat dresser and a man who kept mostly to himself.

Galt said he was employed by a shipbuilding firm, Cherpes stated, and thought it was "Ingalls iron works." Ingalls shipbuilding is at Pascagoula. A check by The Associated Press, trailing the FBI, produced no record of an employee named Eric Galt.

About a week after renting a room, Galt asked his landlord to help in getting an Alabama driver's license. "He had bought a car. He asked me if I could drive him down to take the test," Cherpes said.

Cherpes said he did so. That was Sept. 6, 1967, ~~soon after~~ Eric Galt had purchased a

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

THE CLARION LEDGER

JACKSON, MISS.

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Author:

Editor: T.M. HEDERMAN JR.

Title: ASSASSINATION OF  
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or

Classification: 157-9586 SF1  
Submitting Office: JACKSON

☐ Being Investigated

157-9586-S41-15

SEARCHED <i>PC</i>	INDEXED <i>PC</i>
SERIALIZED <i>PC</i>	FILED <i>PC</i>
APR 16 1968	
FBI — JACKSON	

white Mustang from a Birmingham car salesman. The driver's license application described Galt as 5 feet 11, 175 pounds, blue eyes and brown hair. His birthdate was July 20, 1931. The application also claimed Galt had held a 1962 Louisiana license, but no record of this was found.

#### CHICAGO PACKAGE

Within another week, Cherpes said, a package for Galt arrived from Chicago. It was a cardboard box about 2 feet long and 1 foot wide. But Galt said, "they sent me the wrong merchandise; I'm sending it back."

Cherpes said his boarder left in early August saying he had a job "in the ships" at Mobile, Ala.

About five months later, in February or March, a letter for Galt from Chicago arrived, Cherpes said, but was returned because there was no forwarding address.

The Birmingham post office could give no forwarding address for Eric Starvo Galt.

But a duplicate driver's license in that name was mailed to the boarding house address last March 1—nearly seven months after Galt had gone. State records in Montgomery showed the license was mailed upon request made in person or by telephone and was not returned through the mail.

Little trace of Galt has been found otherwise, except for a safety deposit box he rented at Birmingham Trust National Bank. He went to the bank to open the box in August and again to turn in the keys in December—more than a month after he left Cherpes' place.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## Search For Assassin Continues

By GAYLORD SHAW

Associated Press Writer

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — The FBI issued, then withdrew, a request that Florida police help locate Eric Starvo Galt, a white man, as the investigation of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. entered its second week.

Federal agents refused to say why they were seeking Galt, whose last known address was Birmingham, Ala.

A source in the Dade County Public Safety Department in Miami said the FBI bulletin began: "Reference locate and notify no warrant issued Eric Starvo Galt," then described Galt and the Mustang. The message concluded: "If located notify Agent Charles Bell FBI Miami."

"This meant they wanted him spotted, not picked up," the Miami source said. It was reported originally that a pickup order had been issued.

The bulletin distributed on the statewide police teletype network in Florida said Galt was driving a white Mustang. Witnesses in Memphis told investigators earlier they saw a man in a white Mustang drive away from the rooming house from which King was shot last Thursday night.

At about the same time the locate order was sent in Florida, federal agents in Atlanta impounded a white Mustang that had been parked since last Friday at a public housing project near the Georgia state Capitol.

The message, withdrawn with the explanation that it was released by mistake, described Galt as a white male, 36 years old, about 5-foot-11 and 175 pounds with blue eyes and brown hair.

This roughly matched the description circulated by federal authorities the night of King's slaying.

Special Agent John Hanlong of the Miami FBI office, who withdrew the pickup order about four hours after it was issued,

said, "I cannot comment," when asked for further details.

The Florida teletype message said Galt was last seen driving a white 1966 Mustang hardtop, Alabama license 1-38993. Birmingham police said this tag had been issued to Eric S. Galt, 2608 Highland Ave., Birmingham.

In Atlanta, the residents who first told police about the abandoned white Mustang said the car bore the same Alabama license as given out by the FBI and bore two stickers which said "Turista." Earlier reports indicated the investigation had spread to Mexico.

"The FBI was all over the place," before the car was impounded, an Atlanta witness said. He said the vehicle was towed away between 5:15 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Thursday—about the time the Florida teletype message was sent.

Witnesses in Memphis who reported seeing a white Mustang pull away from the rooming house said the car had a red and white license plate. Alabama tags are red and white.

The Birmingham address given for Galt is a large white two-story house in what once was an elite residential area. A red neon sign flashes the word "rooms," but a knock on the door was unanswered.

A Birmingham newspaper, the Post-Herald, said residents of the rooming house confirmed they had been questioned by the FBI. It added the residents reported they had not seen Galt for about three months and could not recall what type car he owned.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

BILOXI GULFPORT  
DAILY HERALD

GULFPORT, MISS.

Date: 4/12/68

Edition:

Author:

Editor: E. P. WILKES

Title: ASSASSINATION OF  
MARTIN LUTHER KING

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586 SF1

Submitting Office: JACKSON

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157-9586-SF1-16

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SERIALIZED <i>JS</i>	FILED <i>JS</i>
APR 16 1968	
FBI — JACKSON	



### **Artist's Views . . .**

At left is Mexican Police Headquarters artist Sergio Jaubert's re-creation of physical features of man suspected of killing Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., in Memphis, Tenn., last week. Drawing was based on description supplied by FBI authorities. At right is conception of the man made by Memphis Commercial Appeal artist Bill Herrington based on description given by man who lives in the building in Memphis from where the shot was fired.

(AP Wirephoto)



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## FBI Has Assassin Evidence

By GAYLORD SHAW  
Associated Press Writer

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — FBI agents have uncovered "very substantial" physical evidence as they work "around the clock pursuing every lead" in the search for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassin, says Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark.

"The FBI is devoting every possible resource to this investigation," Clark said. "...While it remains impossible to predict when the killer will be arrested, I remain hopeful that it will be soon."

A Justice Department spokesman said the statement issued in Washington Friday night, Clark's first public pronouncement on the case in five days, was in response to newsmen's queries.

But Clark like FBI officials, refused to answer newsmen's questions. "All I can say is no comment," said Robert Jensen, special agent in charge of the Memphis FBI office.

King was shot and killed by a sniper April 4 as he stood outside his motel room here.

In Washington, Rep. Charles W. Whalen Jr., R-Ohio, said a welter of "premature and contradictory statements" was clouding the investigation and asked the FBI to "set the record straight."

"The handling of the investigation and the efforts to apprehend the guilty person or persons hardly has been reassuring to a tense and troubled nation," Whalen said in a news release.

The search for the assassin

has spread hundreds of miles from Memphis, sources report, and involves thousands of investigators.

The scope of the investigation was evident Friday in both Memphis and Birmingham. Newsmen seeking to question persons who might have information about the case were told repeatedly: "The FBI has already been here."

At the Memphis rooming house from which the fatal shot was fired, Charles Q. Stevens said FBI agents had shown him two composite drawings of the suspected slayer—one a partial profile and the other a full face view.

Stevens said he could identify the partial view, but not the full face view. He said he saw the gunman flee after hearing a shot fired from a communal bathroom next door to his room. The bathroom window affords a clear view of the motel balcony where King was standing when shot.

And at a rooming house in Birmingham, residents said FBI agents had questioned them about Eric Starvo Galt, a white man named in an FBI bulletin issued, then withdrawn, in Florida Thursday night.

The message sent over the state police teletypewriter network in Florida asked help in locating Galt. It said Galt was driving a white Mustang.

Witnesses in Memphis told investigators earlier they saw a man in a white Mustang drive away from the rooming house. Records in Alabama show that a man named Galt bought a 1966 Mustang in August 1967.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

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DAILY HERALD

GULFPORT, MISS.

Date: 4/13/68  
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Author:  
Editor: E. P. WILKES  
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Character:

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Submitting Office: JACKSON

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157-9586-SF1-17

SEARCHED <i>h</i>	INDEXED <i>h</i>
SERIALIZED <i>h</i>	FILED <i>h</i>
APR 16 1968	
FBI — JACKSON	

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## FBI Pushing; Says Evidence Is 'Substantial'

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — FBI agents have uncovered "very substantial" physical evidence as they work "around the clock pursuing every lead" in the search for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassin, says Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark.

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(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

JACKSON DAILY NEWS

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: 4/13/68

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Author:

Editor: JAMES M. WARD

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157-9586-571-18

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SERIALIZED <i>pe</i>	FILED <i>pe</i>
APR 16 1968	
FBI — JACKSON	

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

**KING CASE****Birmingham Man  
Linked To Probe**

MEMPHIS, (AP) — Residents of a Memphis rounding house from which Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was shot eight days ago said Friday that federal agents had shown them composite drawings of the white man sought in the assassination. They were mostly noncommittal, although one said he recognized a profile drawing.

As the FBI pressed its investigation—turning aside all queries in Memphis, Atlanta, Birmingham, Miami and Washington—there were these developments:

—In Atlanta, a Methodist minister said he hesitated before telling police about an abandoned white Mustang which federal agents impounded from a parking lot near the Georgia State Capitol. Witnesses in Memphis told investigators earlier they saw a man drive away from the rooming house in a white Mustang.

—In Miami, the FBI issued, then withdrew, a request that Florida police help locate Eric Starvo Galt, whose last known address was Birmingham, Ala. The teletypewriter message, withdrawn with the explanation that it was erroneous, said Galt was driving a white Mustang.

—Records in Alabama show that Galt bought a 1966 Mustang in August 1967. Other documents show that Galt listed his occupation as "merchant seaman, unemployed," when he applied for a driver's license in Birmingham in September 1967.

—In Washington, a Justice Department spokesman said he didn't consider eight days as a long time for such an investigation. He said 12 days passed before ~~arrests~~ were made in the May 1963 slaying of civil rights

leader Medger Evers, and more than five months in the 1964 slayings of three civil rights workers in Mississippi.

Charles Q. Stevens, who lives with his wife in a two-room apartment next door to the communal bathroom from which the fatal shot was believed fired, said FBI agents had shown them two composite drawings—one a partial profile and the other a full face view.

Stevens, who reported seeing the gunman fleeing, said he recognized the side view drawing but not the full face view. He p.m., the Teletype message was sent in Florida. It was withdrawn about four hours later.

According to a source in the Dade County Public Safety Department in Miami, the FBI bulletin began: "Reference locate and notify no-warrant Eric Starvo Galt." It then described Galt and the Mustang and concluded: "If located notify Agent Charles Bell FBI Miami."

The Miami source said this meant the FBI "want him spotted, not picked up."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

—PAGE 1

—THE CLARION LEDGER

—JACKSON, MISS.

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Edition: HOMEL  
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Title: ASSASSINATION OF  
MARTIN LUTHER KING

Character:

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Classification: 157-9586 SF1  
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FBI — JACKSON	

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State records in Montgomery, capital of Alabama, showed Galt requested a duplicate driver's license and that it was mailed to him last month at 2608 Highland Ave., Birmingham.

This address is a large, two-story white rooming house. Peter Cherpes, who has managed the rooming house for the past eight months, declined to discuss the matter. "I won't comment on whether he was here—if he was here," Cherpes said. He added that he had turned over his books to the FBI. said agents had questioned him many times—"more times than the curly hairs I have on my head."

Mrs. Bessie Brewer, manager of the rooming house, also said she had been shown composite drawings. But she said she couldn't recall whether FBI agents or newsmen had shown her the drawings.

King was killed by a single rifle shot as he stood outside his rooming house bathroom. A rifle was recovered from the sidewalk next to the rooming house.

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indicated, the investigation had spread to Mexico.

"The FBI was all over the place," before the car was impounded, an Atlanta witness said. He said the vehicle was towed away between 5:15 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Thursday—about the time the Florida teletype message was sent.

Witnesses in Memphis who reported seeing a white Mustang pull away from the rooming house said the car had a red and white license plate. Alabama tags are red and white.

The Birmingham address given for Galt is a large white two-story house in what once was an elite residential area. A red neon sign flashes the word "rooms," but a knock on the door was unanswered.

A Birmingham newspaper, the Post-Herald, said residents of the rooming house confirmed they had been questioned by the FBI. It added the residents reported they had not seen Galt for about three months and could not recall what type car he owned.

King was killed as he stood outside his motel room about 200 feet from the bathroom window in the rooming house from which authorities say the fatal shot was fired. Witnesses said the assassin walked out of the rooming house, dropped a bundle including a .30.06 rifle in front of a business firm next door and then left in a white Mustang.

King had come to Memphis to aid the city's 1,300 striking garbage collectors, 98 per cent of whom are Negroes.

Negotiations in the strike continued under the mediation of Under Secretary of Labor James Reynolds. Chief issues in the strike were demands for a union contract, payroll deduction of union dues and pay increases.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

**U.S. MANHUNT****First They Wanted Him,  
Then Withdrew Bulletin****By GAYLORD SHAW**  
**Associated Press Writer**

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — The FBI issued, then withdrew, a pickup order for Eric Starvo Galt, a Birmingham, Ala., white man as the widescale investigation of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., entered its second week.

Federal agents refused to say why they were seeking Galt.

The bulletin distributed on the statewide police teletype network in Florida said Galt was driving a white Mustang. Witnesses in Memphis told investigators earlier they saw a man in a white Mustang drive away from the rooming house from which King was shot last Thursday night.

At about the same time the pickup order was sent in Florida, federal agents in Atlanta impounded a white Mustang that had been parked since last Friday at a public housing project near the Georgia state Capitol.

The message, withdrawn with

the explanation that it was released by mistake, described Galt as a white male, 36 years old, about 5-foot-11 and 175 pounds with blue eyes and brown hair.

This roughly matched the description circulated by federal authorities the night of King's slaying.

Special Agent John Hanlon of the Miami FBI office, who withdrew the pickup order about four hours after it was issued, said, "I cannot comment," when asked for further details.

The FBI in Memphis and Atlanta also refused to discuss the developments. In Washington, an aide said Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark would have no comment.

Clark said last weekend that

agents were on the trail of "one man on the run. . ." He said the man had used the name John Willard but "whether it proves to be the right name remains to be seen."

The Florida teletype message said Galt was last seen driving a white 1966 Mustang hardtop, Alabama license 1-38993. Birmingham police said this tag had been issued to Eric S. Galt, 2608 Highland Ave., Birmingham.

In Atlanta, the residents who first told police about the abandoned white Mustang said the car bore the same Alabama license as given out by the FBI and bore two stickers which said "Tourista." Earlier reports

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

JACKSON DAILY NEWS

JACKSON, MISS.

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FBI — JACKSON	

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## FBI Dragnet Spins Through The Southeast

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — FBI agents from Virginia to Florida were making an intensive hunt today for the mystery man whose abandoned white Mustang fits descriptions of a car seen leaving the scene of the Martin Luther King Jr. assassination.

The object of the widening search was Eric Starvo Galt, 37, known only as an unemployed seaman from Birmingham, Ala. A car registered in that name was seized by the FBI in Atlanta last Friday, eight days after King was shot to death in Memphis.

The FBI refused to acknowledge the hunt or to say why Galt was wanted. "No comment," was the routine reply. But Associated Press checks disclosed that FBI agents had contacted persons named Galt in several states including Virginia, Alabama and Florida.

An FBI alert for Galt was sent over the Florida police communications network last Friday, but withdrawn four hours later.

FBI agents have continued to inquire about Galt at numerous places including dry cleaners and services stations in Birmingham, where a man named Eric Starvo Galt rented a room at a Southside boarding house within the past eight months.

Meanwhile, in Jacksonville, Fla., a man picked up for questioning about the assassination was cleared, police said.

Agents have exhibited com-

posite drawings of a man's face, but no photographs, "according to persons contacted in Birmingham.

At the same time, police sources in Memphis disclosed Sunday that the FBI was withholding nationwide distribution of a composite drawing of King's killer, who fired the death shot from a dingy second-floor bathroom in a rundown rooming house. King, leader of nonviolent civil rights forces, was struck in the neck as he stood on a second floor motel balcony facing the rear of the rooming house.

"They haven't given us anything but a physical description. They aren't handing out pictures of the man," said a police official who asked that his name be withheld.

"They either don't have a good one, or they're going it alone."

There has been no indication from any source contacted by FBI agents that the FBI has a photograph.

The assassin's description given by the FBI: 30 to 32 years of age, 5-10, weighing 165, with a receding hairline and a long, thin nose.

Newsmen's requests for prints of the FBI's drawing were turned down.

Neither has there been a hint that authorities possess a photograph of the missing Eric Starvo Galt, whose name fails to appear on any official records except those showing ownership of the ~~white~~ Mustang found in Atlanta.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

JACKSON DAILY NEWS

JACKSON, MISS.

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FBI — JACKSON	

The car was sold to Galt last Aug. 30 in Birmingham, records show. Sources said he paid \$2,000 cash. His application for a driver's license last Sept. 6 gave his birthdate as July 1931 and his description as 5-11, 175 pounds, blue eyes and brown hair.

Little else has been uncovered. Thous he listed himself as an unemployed seaman, the Maritime Union had no record of an Eric Starvo Galt. Nor was there a recipient by that name in the files of the state unemployment compensation office in Birmingham.

Roomers at the Highland Avenue boarding house where Galt had a room during the past several months were unable to recall much if anything about the man, except that he was neat in appearance.

~~One striker who lives in a~~ weatherbeaten house on the out-

~~skirts of~~ Memphis talked briefly with a reporter, but asked that his name not be used because "I don't want trouble."

He said he was planning to go into the city today in search of part-time work. But he didn't have much hope of finding it. With a thousand men looking, part-time jobs are few and far between.

Inside the house, his middle-aged wife stood over an ironing board, stroking an electric iron over a child's dress. She has been taking in ironing—at \$5 a basket—to help support the family.

"It's been pretty hard but we're making it so far," she said, looking past shirts and dresses hanging from the door and window sills, watching her ~~five children~~ play barefoot in the brownish-red mud of the yard.

White businesses have been hit hard, too, by the pressure of a Negro boycott and white apprehension.

Figures on the business community's financial loss aren't available, but estimates range into the millions. On the day before Easter, clerks outnumbered shoppers in one large store.

"This thing has knocked the hell out of business," said a gloomy executive of a department store.

All this has come in a city where the white population—some 500,000—has generally

prided itself on its relations with just over 200,000 Negroes. Schools were quietly desegregated in 1961. Negroes have been on the police force since 1948. Three of 13 city councilmen are Negroes.

But today, as they have almost daily for weeks, garbage strikers plan to parade single file along the sidewalks in the business district. Carrying signs reading "I Am a Man," "Justice Now," and "Martin Luther King Did Not Die in Vain."

"I might have seen him in the daytime," said a boarder, Hill Hardy, who works the night shift at a paper plant. "But I don't remember him."

It was not too joyous an Easter for families of the garbage strikers.



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## Finding The Assassin, Grueling Police Job

By BILL JOHNSON

Associated Press Writer

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — The task of finding the person who killed Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. apparently has settled down to the grueling police routine of sifting every clue and checking every lead.

There was no talk of an early arrest, as there had been shortly after King was assassinated last Thursday night. Robert G. Drewry and John C. Moore, the two U.S. commissioners here, said they had not been approached to issue a fugitive warning by either the FBI or the U.S. attorney.

As federal officials pressed their manhunt, there were reports of arrests in various parts of the country and of a wide-spread search in Mexico.

The Mexican rumor started after Rolando Veloz, the Mexican counsel here, told authorities there was a resemblance between a composite sketch carried in a local newspaper and a young man who applied for a tourist card the day before King was shot.

The young man turned out to be a 19-year-old student at Memphis State University, Memphis police said. They said what was thought to be a false address and phone number were those of his father in Park Ridge, Ill. They dismissed the possibility that he was connected with the case.

In Washington, the Justice Department denied that the investigation had extended into Mexico. The Memphis Commercial Appeal said however it had learned that the FBI had contacted the central police office in Mexico City.

It was learned that the gun

found abandoned in a doorway next to the building from which police say the shot was fired was not among those stolen from a sporting goods store two days before the slaying.

B.C. Dowdle, proprietor of the store, said a police detective telephoned him the serial number of the Remington pump action rifle that was found and asked him to check it against the numbers of the stolen guns.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

—PAGE 18

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DAILY HERALD

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## FBI Not Circulating Picture Of Assassin

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — The FBI is withholding nationwide distribution of a composite drawing of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassin, police sources said Sunday.

"They haven't given us anything but a physical description," said one police official. "They aren't handing out pictures of the man. They either don't have a good one, or they're going it alone."

The official asked that his name not be used, citing the FBI's ban on comment about the investigation.

When Jacksonville, Fla., police questioned a Louisville, Ky., man Saturday night about the King slaying — the man since has been cleared of any connection — Police Lt. M.P. Richardson said, "It's a long shot, but he looks too much like the sketch of the man who is wanted in the King slaying."

### NOTED LIKENESS

Jacksonville police said Sunday the man was arrested after a resident noted a likeness to a composite picture which appeared in Florida newspapers. This sketch was prepared by a newspaper artist from the description given of the slaying. It was not released — nor endorsed — by the FBI.

Residents of the Memphis

rooming house from which King was shot April 4 reported last week that investigators had shown them composite drawings. But they said the sketches were the same — or at least very similar — as those prepared by newspaper artists.

FBI officials rejected reporters' requests for a composite drawing of the man they are seeking in what perhaps is the most massive manhunt of modern times. They refuse to say whether they have prepared such a sketch.

Agents have a good physical description of the King assassin: 30 to 32 years old, 5 feet, 10 inches tall, weighing 165 pounds, with a receding hairline and a long, thin nose.

### CAR DESCRIPTION

They also have a good description of the white 1966 Mustang which witnesses said sped away from the Memphis rooming house minutes after King was shot as he stood on a motel balcony 205 feet from the rear of the rooming house.

A white Mustang was impounded Thursday night from an Atlanta parking lot where it had been parked since the morning after King's slaying.

The impounded car bore license tags issued in Birmingham, Ala., to Eric Starvo Galt, 37, who identified himself as an unemployed merchant seaman when he applied for an Alabama driving license last year.

At almost the same moment last week that they were impounding the car in Atlanta, the FBI sent over the Florida Teletypewriter circuit a request to locate Galt. The message was withdrawn four hours later with the explanation it was erroneous. The FBI refuses to say why it was seeking Galt.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

THE CLARION LEDGER

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: 4/15/68

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false trail was laid by the killer or killers.

But what of Eric Starvo Galt? "My memory of him is so dim," said Charles Jack Davis, 26, a tile company employe who has a small second floor room in the boarding house where Galt lived at some time in the past year.

"I don't guess there's any such thing as a typical person," Davis went on. The best he could recall was that Galt's general description was brown hair and blue eyes, about 5-11.

Other boarders were unable to remember much if anything at all about the man who had occupied room 14 on the ground floor, but was gone apparently for weeks or months at a time.

Owner-manager Peter Cherpes has turned his records over to the FBI and refuses politely to talk about Galt. He would not even say how much rent Galt paid, whether it was paid lately or if Galt still had the room.

Cherpes probably knew Galt better than any other person who has been found in Birmingham. Cherpes accompanied Galt for his driver's license examination last Sept. 6, records show. Only last March 1, a duplicate driver's license was

mailed on request to Eric Starvo Galt at the boarding house, 2608 Highland Ave.

Otherwise, Galt seemed to be almost a phantom.

At dry cleaners, service stations, apartment houses and other places in the southside area of the boarding house, no one contacted by The Associated Press knew anything about Galt.

"The FBI has already checked our records," said a woman cashier at a cleaners on 26th Street. "I've been here two years and we have had no Galt as a customer."

The man called Galt said he was a seaman, out of work, but the Maritime Union has no record of his name. He established no credit in Birmingham, so far as is known, and maintained only a safe deposit box at a local bank—no checking or savings account.

Neither was there a trace of the man called Galt in state birth records, Veterans' Administration files or police records. No one by that name has filed out an income tax return for the state back to 1963.

Most of the Birmingham hospital files were checked and show no Eric Starvo Galt.

There is one Galt listed in the city telephone directory: The Rev. Ralph M. Galt, a white minister of the United Church of Christ and instructor at Miles College, a predominantly Negro private school in Birmingham.

"Who, and where, is Eric Starvo Galt?"

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Who Is Eric Galt? FBI Remains Silent

## Link To King Death Could Be Fictitious

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — Federal agents have scoured this city showing sketches of a man's face also asking about the name Eric Starvo Galt, the mysterious object of a hunt linked to the probe of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination.

What the agents have learned or what they want with Galt is a tightly kept FBI secret. "No comment," is all the FBI will say. Not even the local police have been asked to help in Birmingham.

Some key sources have been told by the FBI not to discuss their knowledge of Galt with anyone. The FBI has collected the records of a rooming house seized a car with an Alabama tag sold to Galt, and issued for four hours an alert for Galt in Florida.

### Who is Eric Starvo Galt?

The name came up last Thursday on the Florida police teletype system from the FBI asking authorities to locate Galt. The message said Galt was driving a 1966 white Mustang hardtop with Alabama tag 1-38993.

### SEIZED CAR

At almost the same time the Florida alert went out, FBI agents in Atlanta were taking into custody a white Mustang with Alabama tag 1-38993, sold to Galt.

The getaway car after King's April 4 slaying in Memphis was described by witnesses as a white Mustang with red and

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

THE CLARION LEDGER

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white license tags like Alabama's.

Eric Starvo Galt's name appeared in official state records when he bought a white Mustang last Aug. 30 from a car salesman, William D. Paisley of Birmingham. Paisley would not talk about it.

Sources said the man called Galt paid \$2,000 cash for the car.

When he applied for a driver's license, Galt put down "merchant seaman, unemployed." The application gave his birthdate as July 20, 1931, and his description as 5-11, 175 pounds, blue eyes and brown hair—the same general description as a man seen fleeing a Memphis rooming house after the slaying.

#### SKETCHY PICTURE

Piecing bits of information together—and assessing the huge gaps, the phantom-like quality of the man—results in a sketchy picture of a neatly dressed man whose apparent absence of any kind of official records seems strange.

There has been speculation in the Birmingham News that a false trail was laid by the killer or killers.

But what of Eric Starvo Galt? "My memory of him is so dim," said Charles Jack Davis, 26, a tile company employee who has a small second floor room in the boarding house where Galt lived at some time in the past year.

"I don't guess there's any such thing as a typical person,"

Davis went on. The best he could recall was that Galt's general description was brown hair and blue eyes, about 5-11.

Other boarders were unable to remember much if anything at all about the man who had occupied room 14 on the ground floor, but was gone apparently for weeks or months at a time.

#### REFUSES TO TALK

Owner-manager Peter Cherpes has turned his records over to the FBI and refuses politely to talk about Galt. He would not even say how much rent Galt paid, whether it was paid lately or if Galt still had the room.

Cherpes probably knew Galt better than any other person who has been found in Birmingham. Cherpes accompanied Galt for his driver's license examination last Sept. 6, records show. Only last March 1, a duplicate driver's license was mailed on request to Eric Starvo Galt at the boarding house, 2608 Highland Ave.

Otherwise, Galt seemed to be almost a phantom.

#### NO TRAIL

At dry cleaners, service stations, apartment houses and other places in the southside area of the boarding house, no one contacted by The Associated Press knew anything about Galt.

"The FBI has already checked our records," said a woman cashier at a cleaners on 26th Street. "I've been here two years and we have had no Galt as a customer."

The man called Galt said he was a seaman, out of work, but the Maritime Union has no record of his name. He established no credit in Birmingham, so far as is known, and maintained only a safe deposit box at a local bank—no checking or savings account.

A check of unemployment payment records in the State Department of Industrial Relations here disclosed no payments to Eric Starvo Galt.

#### NOT IN RECORDS

Neither was there a trace of

the man called Galt in state birth records, Veterans' Administration files or police records. No one by that name has filed out an income tax return for the state back to 1963.

Most of the Birmingham hospital files were checked and show no Eric Starvo Galt.

There is one Galt listed in the city telephone directory: The Rev. Ralph M. Galt, a white minister of the United Church of Christ and instructor at Miles College, a predominantly Negro private school in Birmingham.

"We don't know a thing about this person," said Mrs. Ralph M. Galt. "We have checked all the relatives we can think of. We've checked pictures and this man's description doesn't ring a bell."

Mrs. Ralph Galt was wondering aloud over the possibility of a fictitious name. There were others who speculated along that line.

A character in a James Bond novel, "On Her Majesty's Secret Service," has first and middle names of some possible similarity: Ernst Stavro Blofeld.

And Ayn Rand in her book titled, "Atlas Shrugged," asks a strange question: "Who is John Galt?" This question, which has left unanswered for a long time in the book, is like that being asked in Birmingham:

"Who, and where, is Eric Starvo Galt?"

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## Witnesses Cast Doubt On Picture

### FROM AP REPORTS

Two persons who have been questioned by the FBI said Wednesday night that the picture of Eric Starvo Galt released by the agency does not resemble the man they saw.

In Memphis, a witness said the photo does not resemble the man he saw leaving the scene shortly after the slaying.

And in Atlanta, a taxi driver said an FBI picture he identified as a man he hauled two blocks the night after King was assassinated was different from the picture released by the FBI Wednesday.

"Unless he was wearing a wig or had a face lift or something, it's not the man I saw," said Charles Q. Stevens, who lives in the second floor rooming house from which the fatal bullet is thought to have been fired.

"The hair is too full and the face is too young," Stevens said after viewing the picture.

Stevens, who said he got only a side view of the killer, had contributed to the description used in composite drawings of the alleged assassin.

Bessie Brewer, operator of the rooming house, said she was unable to tell if the picture was of the man who registered un-

der the name of John Willard the afternoon of April 4, three hours before King was killed, and left immediately after the shooting.

"I don't know," she said. "I couldn't tell you to save my soul."

The FBI did not indicate when the picture of Galt it released was taken, or under what circumstances the photograph was obtained.

"The one the FBI showed me was much younger. The face was much thinner. The cheeks weren't as fleshy," said the driver, who has asked that he not be identified.

Looking at an Associated Press wirephoto copy of the picture released by the FBI in Washington, he said, "That is definitely not the man I picked up and not the one they showed me. The only time I've ever seen that was on television tonight."

Describing the FBI print shown to him, he said, "It had a necktie, not a bow tie. The tie was on crooked... It had been pulled over to the side. The hair was the same color but it was flatter on top. This man looks older. The other was about 28 to 30, no older than 35."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

— PAGE 1

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## Hunt For Assassin Continues

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP)

—The owner of a boarding house said today he had identified a drawing of a man sought in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. as a roomer known by the name Eric Galt.

"It's him, I'm sure," said Peter Cherpes, 72, who runs a boarding house on Birmingham's South Side. Cherpes consented to talk after the FBI responded to his request to be released from a secrecy pledge.

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — FBI agents from Virginia to Florida were making an intensive hunt today for the mystery man whose abandoned white Mustang fits descriptions of a car seen leaving the scene of the Martin Luther King Jr. assassination.

The object of the widening search was Eric Starvo Galt, 37, known only as an unemployed seaman from Birmingham, Ala. A car registered in ~~that name~~ was seized by the FBI in Atlanta last Friday, eight days after King was shot to death in Memphis.

The FBI refused to acknowledge the hunt or to say why Galt was wanted. "No comment," was the routine reply. But Associated Press checks disclosed that FBI agents had contacted persons named Galt in several states including Virginia, Alabama and Florida.

An FBI alert for Galt was sent over the Florida police communications network last Friday, but withdrawn four hours later.

### MAKE INQUIRY

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PAGE 1

BILOXI GULFPORT  
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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## Cabbie Says Sketch Matched His Fare

ATLANTA, Ga. (AP) — An Atlanta taxi driver said Tuesday night he hauled a man matching an FBI sketch on a short trip in northeast Atlanta the night after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was slain.

The driver, who asked that his name not be used, said an FBI agent questioned him about another fare he had on Friday night, April 5, before showing him the sketch which he immediately identified.

He said he recognized the sketch, which appeared to be a composite photograph, as a man he had picked up at a coffee shop in Atlanta's "hippie" district and carried two blocks.

### IN HURRY

The driver said the man appeared to be in a hurry.

"He told me to make a right hand turn, and he'd let me know when to stop," the driver said. "I went about two blocks, and he told me he wanted to get out.

"When I stopped, he opened the door, and I turned around to make sure I got my fare. I got a good look at him. I put my hand out, but he threw the money on

the seat and it fell on the floor," the driver said. "That made me mad. That's the main reason I remember him so well."

"He just seemed to be in a hurry," the driver said, adding that he did not know where the man went after leaving the cab.

The taxi driver's report came as FBI agents continued an intensive search for the assassin of the famous civil rights leader.

### CHECKED RECORDS

The taxi driver said FBI agents had continuously pored over the taxi company's "trip sheets" since agents impounded a white Mustang last Thursday in Atlanta. The car fit the description of a car which was seen leaving the scene after King was killed April 4 by a sniper firing from a rooming house in Memphis, Tenn.

The FBI declined comment on the taxi driver's report.

The driver said the name of Eric Starvo Galt, object of a wide hunt since the Mustang was traced to a Birmingham board house where he once lived, was not mentioned by the agent who questioned him.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

THE CLARION LEDGER

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: 4/17/68

Edition: HOME

Author:

Editor: T.M. HEDERMAN JR.

Title: ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING

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Classification: 157-9586 SF1

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# Conspiracy Alleged In Federal Warrant

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — Eric Starvo Galt was charged with first degree murder late Wednesday in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. here April 4.

The state warrant was issued five hours after the FBI in Washington announced that Galt had been charged in a federal warrant with conspiracy in King's death.

In the first official mention of a conspiracy in connection with the April 4 assassination of Dr. King in Memphis, the FBI said the alleged plot involved also a man Galt described as his brother.

And the FBI issued a photograph which it identified as being one of Galt, also known as Harvey Lowmyer and John Williard.

The FBI said a warrant was issued in Birmingham, Ala., today on the basis of an FBI complaint which charged that Galt "and an individual whom he alleged to be his brother, entered into a conspiracy" which began around March 29 at Birmingham and ended about April 5 to "injure, oppress, threaten, or intimidate Martin Luther King Jr."

Galt was charged with conspiring to violate King's civil rights.



ERIC STARVO GALT

An FBI statement said Galt has given his date of birth as July 20, 1931, has brown hair, wears his hair in a brush cut, reportedly has blue eyes, a straight narrow nose, is between 5-feet-8 and 5-feet-11 and weighs between 160 and 175 pounds.

The FBI said "the fugitive is said to have a nervous habit of occasionally pulling at an ear

lobe with his left hand. His left ear protrudes farther from his head than his right ear."

The FBI statement said that Galt, on or about March 30, bought a rifle at Birmingham. The bureau did not say specifically that this was the rifle that killed King.

## RIFLE FOUND

But the statement said, "a 30.06 rifle equipped with a telescopic site was found near a rooming house on South Main Street in Memphis immediately after the fatal shooting of Dr. King occurred." The rooming house overlooks the Lorraine Hotel and Motel where King was staying.

FBI agents have determined that the rifle was purchased from a Birmingham gun dealer March 30. The sight also was said to have been bought from the same dealer, whom the FBI did not identify.

The FBI said Galt owns a 1966 white Mustang with Alabama license plates which was found abandoned in Atlanta, Ga., April 11. It was bought from a private citizen in Birmingham last Aug. 30.

The car's odometer showed it had been driven more than 19,000 miles between late August 1967 and early April 1968.

The FBI said "Galt's travel in the Mustang included trips to Los Angeles, Calif., New Orleans, La., Birmingham, Ala., and Mexico as well as to Memphis, Tenn., and Atlanta, Ga. Galt was reported to have been in Memphis on April 3 and 4, 1968 and to have departed from there for Atlanta."

## OTHER FACTS

The FBI said also its investigation had disclosed these facts:

—Galt has claimed to have been employed as a cook on Mississippi river vessels and as a merchant seaman.

—He is said to be an avid dancer and took dancing lessons in New Orleans in 1964 and 1965, in Birmingham during September and October 1967 and in Long Beach, Calif., from December 1967 to February 1968.

—Galt left Los Angeles last Dec. 15 and drove his Mustang to New Orleans where he claimed he contacted either an engineering or a contracting firm. He left there Dec. 19 and arrived in Los Angeles Dec. 21.

—While in the Los Angeles area early this year, Galt took a course at a bartending school and was graduated March 2.

An FBI description of Galt said persons who have met him "describe him as a loner and state his language and diction have a rural quality and suggest that he probably does not have a high degree of education. He is said to drink alcoholic beverages and has a preference for vodka and beer. He is a fan of Western and country music."

The bureau warned that "Galt should be considered armed and dangerous," and any information concerning him should be furnished immediately to the FBI.

The FBI gave no further identification of the man Galt has alleged to be his brother, would not say where it obtained the photograph, and would not disclose in what connection Galt used the lowmyer alias.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## FBI Question Many In Slaying But Tell Little

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — Residents of a Memphis rooming house from which Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was shot eight days ago said Friday federal agents had shown them composite drawings of the white man sought in the assassination. They were mostly noncommittal, although one said he recognized a profile drawing.

As the FBI pressed its investigation—turning aside all queries in Memphis, Atlanta, Birmingham, Miami and Washington—there were these developments:

—In Atlanta, a Methodist minister said he hesitated before telling police about an abandoned white Mustang which federal agents impounded from a parking lot near the Georgia State Capitol. Witnesses in Memphis told investigators earlier they saw a man drive away from the rooming house in a white Mustang.

—In Miami, the FBI issued, then withdrew, a request that Florida police help locate Eric Starvo Galt, whose last known address was Birmingham, Ala. The teletypewriter message, withdrawn with the explanation that it was erroneous, said Galt

was driving a white Mustang.

Records in Alabama show that Galt bought a 1966 Mustang in August 1967. Other documents show that Galt listed his occupation as "merchant seaman, unemployed," when he applied for a driver's license in Birmingham in September 1967.

Charles Q. Stevens, who lives with his wife in a two-room apartment next door to the communal bathroom from which the fatal shot was believed fired, said FBI agents had shown them two composite drawings—one a partial profile and the other a full face view.

Stevens, who reported seeing the gunman fleeing said he recognized the side view drawing but not the full face view. He said agents had questioned him many times—"more times than the curly hairs I have on my head."

Mrs. Bessie Brewer, manager of the rooming house, also said she had been shown composite drawings. But she said she couldn't recall whether FBI agents or newsmen had shown her the drawings.

From behind a locked screen door to her combination office-living quarters, she refused to answer further questions.

King was killed by a single rifle shot as he stood outside his room in a motel about 200 feet from the rooming house bathroom window. A rifle was recovered from the sidewalk next door to the rooming house.

In Atlanta, The Rev. Ike Powell told The Associated Press Friday he notified police about the abandoned white Mustang Thursday after receiving a call from a member of his Inner City Methodist Church.

"They sent two detectives over there and two more came while we were there," the Rev. Mr. Powell said. "They went over it, checked around, and didn't appear too excited."

But he said FBI agents arrived later and were "all over the place." The car bore 1968 Alabama license tags and two stickers which said "Turista," he said. Earlier reports indicated the investigation had spread to Mexico.

The Rev. Mr. Powell said the car was towed away between 5:15 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. At 5:22 p.m., the Teletype message was sent in Florida. It was withdrawn about four hours later.

According to a source in the Dade County Public Safety Department in Miami, the FBI bulletin began: "Reference locate and notify no warrant Eric Starvo Galt." It then described Galt and the Mustang and concluded: "If located notify Agent Charles Bell FBI Miami."

The Miami source said this meant the FBI "want him spotted, not picked up."

State records in Montgomery, capital of Alabama, showed Galt requested a duplicate driver's license and that it was mailed to him last month at 2608 Highland Ave., Birmingham.

This address is a large, two-story white rooming house. Peter Cherpes, who has managed the rooming house for the past eight months, declined to discuss the matter. "I won't comment on whether he was here—if he was here," Cherpes said. He added that he had turned over his books to the FBI.

Other Birmingham rooming house residents reported being questioned by the FBI, but said they had not seen Galt for about three months.

William D. Paisley of Birmingham, identified by records as the man who sold Galt a Mustang in August 1967, also declined to discuss the case.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Memphis Charges Galt With Murder

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PAGE 1

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JACKSON, MISS.

Date: 4/18/68

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Author:

Editor: T.M. HEDERMAN JR.

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But the statement said ~~the~~ ~~32.06 rifle~~ equipped with a telescopic site was found near a rooming house on South Main Street in Memphis immediately after the fatal shooting of Dr. King occurred." The rooming house overlooks the Lorraine Hotel and Motel where King was staying.

FBI agents have determined that the rifle was purchased from a Birmingham gun dealer March 30. The sight also was said to have been bought from the same dealer, whom the FBI did not identify.

The FBI said Galt owns a 1966 white Mustang with Alabama license plates which ~~was found~~ abandoned in Atlanta, Ga., April 11. It was bought from a private citizen in Birmingham last Aug. 30.

The car's odometer showed it had been driven more than 19,000 miles between late August 1967 and early April 1968.

The FBI said "Galt's travel in the Mustang included trips to Los Angeles, Calif., New Orleans, La., Birmingham, Ala., and Mexico as well as to Memphis, Tenn., and Atlanta, Ga. Galt was reported to have been in Memphis on April 3 and 4, 1968 and to have departed from there for Atlanta."

The FBI said also its investigation had disclosed these facts:

~~Galt~~ has claimed to have been employed as a cook on Mississippi River vessels and as a merchant seaman.

—He is said to be an avid dancer and took dancing lessons in New Orleans in 1964 and 1965, in Birmingham during September and October 1967 and in Long Beach, Calif., from December 1967 to February 1968.

—Galt left Los Angeles last Dec. 15 and drove his Mustang to New Orleans where he claimed he contacted either an engineering or a contracting firm. He left there Dec. 19 and arrived in Los Angeles Dec. 21.

—While in the Los Angeles area early this year, Galt took a course at a bartending school and was graduated March 2.

An FBI description of Galt said persons who have met him "describe him as a loner and state his language and diction have a rural quality and suggest that he probably does not have a high degree of education. He is said to drink alcoholic beverages and has a preference for vodka and beer. He is a fan of Western and country music."

The bureau warned that "Galt should be considered armed and dangerous," and any information concerning him should be furnished immediately to the FBI.

The FBI gave no further identification of the man ~~Galt~~ has alleged to be his brother.



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Federal Officers Draw Blank In Galt Manhunt

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — Federal agents have scoured this city showing sketches of a man's face and asking about the name Eric Starvo Galt, the mysterious object of a hunt linked to the probe of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination.

What the agents have learned or what they want with Galt is a tightly kept FBI secret. "No comment," is all the FBI will say. Not even the local police have been asked to help in Birmingham.

Some key sources have been told by the FBI not to discuss their knowledge of Galt with any one. The FBI has collected the records of a rooming house, seized a car with an Alabama tag sold to Galt, and issued for four hours an alert for Galt in Florida.

Who is Eric Starvo Galt?

The name came up last Thursday on the Florida police teletype system from the FBI asking authorities to locate Galt. The message said Galt was driving a 1966 white Mustang hardtop with Alabama tag 1-38993.

At almost the same time the Florida alert went out, FBI agents in Atlanta were taking into custody a white Mustang

with Alabama tag 1-38993, sold to Galt.

The getaway car after King's April 4 slaying in Memphis was described by witnesses as a white Mustang with red and white license tags, like Alabama's.

Eric Starvo Galt's name appeared in official state records when he bought a white Mustang last Aug. 30 from a car salesman, William D. Paisley of Birmingham. Paisley would not talk about it.

Sources said the man called Galt paid \$2,000 cash for the car.

When he applied for a driver's license, Galt put down "merchant seaman, unemployed." The application gave his birthdate as July 20, 1931, and his description as 5-11, 175 pounds, blue eyes and brown hair—the same general description as a man seen fleeing a Memphis rooming house after the slaying.

Piecing bits of information together—and assessing the huge gaps, the phantom-like quality of the man—results in a sketchy picture of a neatly dressed man whose apparent absence of any kind of official records seems strange.

There has been speculation in the Birmingham News that a

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 12

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

**KING DEATH****Atlanta Still The Center  
Of Search For Assassin**

By JOE ZELLNER

Associated Press Writer

ATLANTA, Ga. (AP) — An Atlanta taxi driver says an FBI sketch matches a rude patron who rode with him two blocks in northeast Atlanta's "hippe" section a night after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was slain.

He said the man he identified to an FBI agent in a sketch Tuesday was in a hurry and

rushed from his taxi, flinging the fare onto the seat.

The driver, who asked that his name not be used, said FBI agents have been checking taxi trip sheets since a white Mustang, matching the description of a car seen leaving the assassination scene in Memphis, was found abandoned in Atlanta last week.

The FBI continued its "no comment" policy. Atlanta police said they had received no information on the report.

In Birmingham Monday, the landlord of a boarding house said he was sure the description of Eric Starvo Galt fit that of a man sought by the FBI. "That's him, I'm sure," said Peter Chernes, 72, referring to the drawings.

The Atlanta taxi driver said the name Galt was not mentioned to him by the FBI agent.

He said the agent questioned him first about a fare he had carried from a nightclub near Peachtree and 10th Streets, but the driver said he knew the patron "and he was not the same man."

However, the agent then disclosed the sketch which appeared to be a type of composite photograph, and the driver recognized him as a fare he had picked up between 10 p.m. and midnight Friday, April 5, about four blocks away at Peachtree and 14th Streets in front of a "hippie" coffee house. He said the man appeared to be in a hurry.

"He told me to make a right-hand turn, and he'd let me know when to stop," the driver said. "I went about two blocks, and he told me he wanted to get out."

"When I stopped, he opened the door, and I turned around to make sure I got my fare. I got a good look at him. I put my hand out, but he threw the money on floor," the driver said. "That made me mad. That's the main reason I remember him so well."

He said the man left the taxi and started dawning on him two

and started away. "I don't know where he went," the driver said. "I drove off."

The driver described the man as about 5 feet 11 and 28 to 30 years old with dark brown hair.

"He was very neatly dressed," he said, adding that the man wore a sport coat with a light-colored shirt without a tie. "He looked as if he had had acne. It looked like little scars on his face from pimples."

The driver said he had seen several sketches. "News reporters haven't shown me any sketches of anyone I've seen,"

he said. "The FBI has."

However, he then looked at a sketch drawn by an artist in Mexican police headquarters after authorities in that country were drawn into the probe and said it contained some features of the FBI picture "mainly around the eyes."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

—PAGE 2

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## Search For Galt Pushed

MEMPHIS (AP) — The FBI pressed one of the most massive manhunts in its history Thursday for shadowy Eric Starvo Galt, charged in the sniper slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

But little more was known publicly about the alleged assassin of the civil rights leader than when his name first arose a week ago. It was learned, however, that a man registered as Eric S. Galt in a Memphis motel a day before King was killed.

Police agencies continued their "no comment" handling of queries—including questions about a newspaper report that the search had spread outside the country, to Mexico or Cuba. And they were silent on any details at all about a man with whom Galt may have conspired in the slaying.

A murder warrant was issued here Wednesday night for the 36-year-old Galt, five hours after the FBI charged him with conspiracy to violate the civil rights of King. The FBI warrant charged him with conspiring with a man "whom he alleged to be his brother."

King was killed by a single bullet the night of April 4 as he leaned over the second-floor railing of a Memphis motel. Police have said the shot was fired from the common bathroom of a low-cost hotel across the street.

The FBI said Galt had used the names of Harvey Lowmyer and John Willard. A man registered as "John Willard" checked into the hotel just three hours before King was killed.

Ivan B. Webb, night desk clerk at the Rebel Motel here, said a man registered there under the name of Eric S. Galt on April 3. Webb said a white mustang bearing Alabama license plates and Mexican tourist stickers was parked near the room occupied by Galt. A similar car has been impounded in Atlanta, Ga., and the FBI said that car belonged to Galt. A white mustang is believed to have been the getaway car after the slaying.

The FBI declined comment on the possibility that a man who had checked into another motel April 3 might have been Galt's brother.

In Washington, Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark described Galt Wednesday night as white, a neat dresser, of apparently limited education and a man with a taste for vodka and beer.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

—PAGE 1

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### SAYS NOT THE MAN

Charles Q. Stevens (r.), whose description of Dr. Martin Luther King's alleged Assassin played an important part in the composite drawing by Bill Herrington (l.), staff artist of the Memphis Commercial Appeal, said Wednesday night the picture released

by the FBI of Eric Starvo Galt was "not the man I saw." Stevens lives in the rooming house from which the fatal bullet was fired. Galt was charged Wednesday by the FBI with conspiracy in the case. Daily News-AP Wirephoto.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Two men say they told the FBI that a man identified as Eric Starvo Galt was a shy, quiet man who spent \$700 in three months on dancing and bartending lessons.

The managers of a dancing school and a bartending school told newsmen Wednesday they identified a former pupil to the FBI as Galt, who is wanted in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., April 4 in Memphis, Tenn.

Rod Arvidson, 46, general manager of National Dance Studios, said he notified the FBI Saturday after recognizing Galt from a composite drawing in a newspaper.

"He's certainly no mixer," Arvidson said. "He had trouble coordinating one foot with another."

A photograph of Galt circulated by the FBI was obtained Tuesday from the International School of Bartending, the school's director said. The director, Tomas Reyes Lau, said a man called Eric S. Galt was graduated from the Hollywood school March 2 after an excellent record in a \$225 four-week course, which he attended Saturday mornings and Sunday afternoons.

Galt's application listed his address as Hollywood and his birthdate as July 30, 1931 and stated he was single. The FBI in Washington, D.C., said the wanted man was 36.

As a student of bartending and dancing, not only Lau and Arvidson but two dance instructors agreed Galt was withdrawn and a loner.

"He just didn't show anything



ERIC GALT

Running From The Law?

but a crooked smile and a fidgety manner," said an instructor, Kathy Nolan, 21.

Another instructor, Andreas Jorgensen, 46, also talked with newsmen.

Arvidson said a man who signed enrollment records as Eric S. Galt took "50 or 60" lessons in social dancing over a 2½ month period ending in mid-February which cost him about \$500.

Galt told Arvidson he had operated a restaurant-bar in Mexico, the manager said. But Arvidson, who is taking Spanish lessons, said Galt failed to respond when he put questions in Spanish to him.

Lau, a Mexican-American, said he felt Galt was intelligent. But Arvidson, agreeing with an FBI description, said Galt's grammar "was less than ideal, mixing tenses, double negatives and so on" with a slight Southern accent.

At the bartending school, a three-room building in an older business district, Lau said Galt, perhaps the best of seven students in his class, turned down a job offer after graduating because he wanted to visit his brother, presumably in the East.

But Lau said Galt promised to return and take a job.

In his application to the school, Galt listed three references. A person answering to one of the names on the application form answered a newsman's telephone call but refused to say if he knew Galt. The others could not be reached.

## NOT ON LIST; HERE IS WHY

WASHINGTON (AP)—Although he's the most hunted man in the United States, the name of Eric Starvo Galt does not appear on the FBI's list of "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives."

An FBI official said the principal reason fugitives are placed on this list is to "attract publicity for a guy you're looking for and in this case there's been plenty of publicity."

Furthermore, the list currently is filled. The latest to be added—as of today—is David Stuart Neff, 31, wanted in connection with two Massachusetts bombings.



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Has Galt Reached Mexico, Havana?

## Search Spreads Out Of Country

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP)—The Birmingham News said today in a copyrighted story that a gun which the FBI said was purchased in Birmingham, has been determined by ballistics tests to be the weapon used in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The News story said also that the search for Eric Starvo Galt, who is charged with conspiracy in King's death, has spread outside the United States.

Quoting an unidentified source described only as an investigator, the News said it is believed that Galt has fled to Mexico or Cuba.

"There's no positive trace. He just vanished," the News quotes the source.

The FBI has said previously that Galt, on or about March 30, bought a rifle in Birmingham.

The statement also said that a .30-06 rifle equipped with a telescopic sight was found near the motel in Memphis, Tenn., where King was slain.

Galt resided in a Birmingham rooming house from Aug. 26 to Oct. 7, 1967. The FBI said he took dancing lessons here from September through October. Several dancing instructors said they do not remember Galt.

The FBI has issued a complaint charging Galt with conspiracy and a warrant has been issued for his arrest after Memphis authorities filed a murder charge.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

— PAGE 1

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