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of

INVESTIGATION

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ENTIRE FILE REVIEWED  
FOR HISTORICAL  
DECLASSIFICATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/14/01 BY SP1-COR/mhc

# Report Murder Rifle Purchased In Alabama

By Vincent Burke  
And Nicholas C. Chriss  
L.A. Times Special

MEMPHIS—The rifle believed to have been used to slay Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was purchased in Birmingham, Ala., it was learned Wednesday.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation refused to comment, but informants said FBI agents traced the rifle through its serial number to a store in Birmingham and that it was purchased new over the counter a few days before the slaying here last Thursday.

## Tested By FBI

The weapon, which has been undergoing tests at the FBI

laboratory in Washington, is a Remington 30.06 pump-action rifle with a telescopic sight. It fires the same bullet as the Army's M-1 rifle.

Results of the laboratory tests have not been disclosed.

It could not be determined whether the telescopic sight also was obtained in the Birmingham store or whether the purchaser left any information about his identity.

Authorities also have traced binoculars left near the scene of the assassination by the suspected slayer. The binoculars, it was learned Wednesday, were purchased at York Arms Co., a sporting goods store located about six blocks from the rundown rooming house where the slayer set up his ambush.

## Dropped On Sidewalk

The rifle and a rectangular blue leatherette case containing the binoculars were dropped on the sidewalk a few feet from the rooming house entrance by a man who was seen leaving a few minutes after the slaying.

The binoculars were purchased on the afternoon of the slaying and the clerk who sold them has been interviewed several times by Memphis police and the FBI.

If the man who purchased the rifle in Birmingham and the man who bought the binoculars in Memphis is the same person who fled from the rooming house, then at least four persons have seen his face.

## Seen By Tenant

Besides the sales clerks, the others are Mrs. Bessie Brewer, the landlady who rented an \$8.50-a-week room to the suspect, and Charlie Hugh Stephens, one of her tenants.

Mrs. Brewer and Stephens were questioned again Tuesday by FBI agents and shown a drawing of the suspect developed by the FBI from descriptions.

Stephens told the Los Angeles Times Wednesday that the drawing did not resemble the fugitive and was much younger than the man he remembered. Mrs. Brewer said Tuesday, shortly after her FBI interview, that she wasn't able to remember what the fugitive or the drawing looked like.

Stephens said the composite drawing was a full-face view

although he had seen only the man's profile. He said he recalled that the man had a long, thin nose but that the FBI drawing revealed a rather chubby face and a bulbous nose.

"It wasn't the face I recalled," Stephens said.

## Police Description

The only description of the suspect that has been made public was given Friday by Memphis Police Director

Frank G. Holloman. He said the man was between 28 and 32 years old, weighed between 165 and 175 pounds and was about 6 feet tall.

The suspect obtained a room from Mrs. Brewer between 3 and 3:30 p.m. Thursday. Dr. King was wounded fatally about 6 p.m. by one shot believed to have been fired from a bathroom on the second floor of the rooming house just a few steps from the suspect's room.

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CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

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SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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APR 11 1968	
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After the shot was fired, the man was seen walking from the direction of the bathroom down a dark hallway with rifle wrapped in a newspaper or blanket and with the blue leatherette bag in hand.

#### Report On Auto

Several witnesses at Jim's Grill, next to the rooming house, have reported seeing a white Mustang parked in front of the restaurant. Most of them said they first noticed it there between 4 and 5 p.m. and that they noticed it was gone shortly after 6 p.m. But none of them saw the suspect.

The auto has not been directly linked to the assassin, although U.S. Atty. Gen. Ram-



This sketch, distributed to police all over Mexico, is said to resemble suspected slayer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. A Mexico City police artist made sketch from description furnished by the FBI. (UPI)

sey Clark said in Memphis last Saturday that it "figured" in the investigation.

What clues the FBI has to the suspect's whereabouts are being kept secret.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Bare Klan Rumor Before King Slaying

BY THOMAS POWERS

Memphis motel and hotel operators were told to be on the lookout for a Ku Klux Klan gathering in the city the day Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was slain there, THE TRIBUNE learned yesterday.

Memphis detectives spent the morning and afternoon of April 4 going from one hostelry to another, telling room clerks to get specific information on all guests registering that day. Clerks were told to be sure to get the full names, home and business addresses, and state auto license plates of persons signing in.

## Owners Tell of Rumor

More than a dozen hotel and motel operators were interviewed by THE TRIBUNE and said they were told by the officers the reason for the police interest was a rumor that a Klan gathering would be held in the city that day.

King was shot at 6:01 p. m. as he stood on the balcony of the Lorraine motel. He was shot by a white man who aimed a high-powered rifle out of a rooming house window 200 feet away. The man is being sought by the Federal Bureau of Investigation thruout the nation.

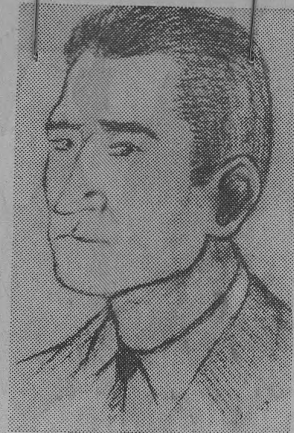
Atty. Gen Ramsey Clark has made several public statements saying the investigation has failed to disclose any Klan connection with King's murder.

## No Comment by Chief

Frank C. Holloman, Memphis police and fire director, refused to answer any questions or to give any reason why detectives were ordered to notify each hotel and motel room clerk. He issued this statement:

"The successful investigation of this case is the overriding consideration, and for that reason I have no comment to make concerning this case at

this time. When I can make any comment without preju-



[UPI Telephoto]

Sketch of suspect in rifle slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King being circulated in Mexico. It is based on information supplied by FBI.

dicing the investigation, I will do so without hesitation or delay."

A spokesman for James R.

Venable, the Imperial Mogul of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of the United States with headquarters in Atlanta, said Venable has been confined to a hospital room with a serious illness for the last three weeks, unable to receive visitors or telephone calls. The spokesman said no Klan meetings could be held in Memphis without Venable's consent or direction.

## Wouldn't Go Near King

"Besides," the spokesman said, "the Klan would never go into any city where Dr. King was having sessions and planning a demonstration."

King was in Memphis to plan a demonstration march to press demands for exclusive bargaining recognition and dues check-off for 1,300 striking sanitation workers, most of them Negroes.

Holloman also refused to

comment on the investigation the department has been conducting of the possibility a phantom police radio transmitter was used to decoy police from the trail of the murderer. The probe focuses on the validity of a series of radio messages received by squad cars during the first hunt for the killer, describing the chase of a white Mustang reported speeding from the vicinity of the rooming house. The killer fled from the building, leaving the rifle and sniper scope, a pair of binoculars, and other evidence in a doorway of a nearby building.

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

12

CHICAGO TRIBUNE

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# Landlord 'sure' King suspect identified

Daily News Wire Services

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — A boarding house owner said Monday he had indentified a drawing of a man sought in the slaying of the Rev. 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 that it released him 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 a car seen leaving the assassination scene in Memphis, Tenn., where Dr. King was shot April 4.

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 dozens of stores and businesses in Birmingham for clues to the missing man.

The FBI last Friday issued a "locate and notify" dispatch for Galt in Florida 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.

THE POSSIBILITY has been raised that the mysterious white man sought for questioning in the death of Dr. King spent several months in Birmingham creating a false identity.

Federal agents have scoured Birmingham showing sketches of a man's face and asking about the name Eric Starvo Galt.

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SEARCHED	INDEXED
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Some sources have been told by the FBI not to discuss Galt with anyone.

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

**SOURCES SAID** Galt paid \$2,000 cash for the car.

When he applied for a driver's license, Galt listed his occupation as "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 that of a man seen fleeing a Memphis rooming house after the slaying.

#### WHO IS Eric Starvo Galt?

"My memory of him is so dim," said Charles Jack Davis, 26, tile company employee who has a 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.

**ANOTHER BOARDER**, 29-year-old Hill Hardy, who works the 3 p.m. to 11:30 shift at a paper plant, said he had lived at the stucco rooming house since it opened last September. But he didn't remember ever seeing Galt.

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

Cherpes probably knew Galt better than any other person who has been found in Birmingham. Cherpes accom-

panied Galt for his driver's license examination last Sept. 6, records show. A duplicate driver's license was mailed March 1 to Eric Starvo Galt at the boarding house, 2608 Highland Av.

Otherwise, Galt seemed to be almost a phantom.

**HE DID HAVE** a safe deposit box at a Birmingham bank, but he had no checking or savings account. He isn't listed on unemployment records, police records, hospital records, Maritime Union records, state birth records, state tax records, credit records.

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

"We don't know a thing about this person," his wife said.

Hardly anyone does, it seems.



Memphis police sketch of mystery suspect.

# Identifies Sketch Of Man Named In King Case

By Ed Meagher  
L.A. Times Special

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—An elderly boardinghouse keeper said Monday that he had identified for FBI agents two sketches of a man known to him as Eric Starvo Galt, whose name has become involved in the investigation of the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis. Dr. King was slain by a sniper on April 4.

Peter N. Cherpes, 72, speaking to newsmen only after obtaining permission from the FBI to break a secrecy pledge, said he identified Galt last Tuesday or Wednesday from drawings—one profile and one full face—as the man who boarded at his place for six weeks, from Aug. 26, 1967, to Oct. 7, 1967.

Cherpes also said that Galt had received a package and a letter from Chicago during his stay at the boardinghouse. But it was not known whether the mail was connected with the investigation.

## Similar Sketches

Cherpes told reporters the profile sketch was similar to one drawn by a Memphis newspaper artist, with help from an eyewitness.

Galt's name entered the case last Thursday when the FBI office in Miami put out a "locate and notify" bulletin on him over Florida police communication facilities. The bulletin was canceled a few hours later without explanation.

Then, Thursday evening, a white Mustang similar to one believed to have been the auto used by the sniper in fleeing Memphis was found abandoned on a residential street in Atlanta. The car, registered to Galt, had been there since

the day after the shooting.

Cherpes said Galt had such a car during his stay at the boardinghouse.

## Recalls Registration

When Galt registered, Cherpes said, he listed his address as Pascagoula, Miss., and he said he planned to stay three or four months.

"He told me," said Cherpes, "that he was on a vacation. I thought that three or four months was an unusually long vacation and I asked him about it.

"He said he had been working awfully hard and needed

a long rest," Cherpes said. Cherpes said Galt told him when he registered that he had been working at Ingalls Shipbuilding Corp. in Pascagoula.

In Pascagoula, a spokesman for Ingalls said company records show that no one by the name of Galt has been employed there.

## Carefully Probed

He said it was possible that someone in a minor job, such as a sweeper, could be employed under a fictitious name. But a majority of the shipyard's employees are carefully investigated for security reasons, he said.

The spokesman said the FBI has checked company personnel records and photographs of employees.

Galt stayed only six weeks, Cherpes said, and gave no explanation when he left.

Cherpes said that in September, 1967, a package for Galt arrived from Chicago—a cardboard box about 2 feet long and 1 foot wide. Cherpes declared Galt said: "They sent me the wrong merchandise; I'm sending it back."

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

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

Cherpes said he would have estimated Galt's age at from 25 to 30. Galt's driver's license, issued in Birmingham last Sept. 6, listed him at 36 and described him as being 5 feet 11, 175 pounds, with brown hair and blue eyes.

Cherpes recalled that Galt never had any callers during his stay nor any telephone calls.

Asked if Galt paid his weekly bill in cash, Cherpes said, "Yes, he did. And on time."

Registration papers on the white Mustang indicate Galt purchased the car from a Birmingham salesman on Aug. 26, the same day he rented the room.

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King mystery

# Suspect got Chicago package

Daily News Wire Services

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Eric Starvo Galt, the mystery man in the FBI's investigation of the slaying of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., received a package mailed from Chicago while he lived at a Birmingham rooming house.

Peter Nicholas Cherpes, 72, manager of the rooming house, said Galt received the prepaid package last September. It weighed about 25 pounds and was about two feet long and a foot wide, Cherpes said.

The next day, Galt told the landlord he had received the wrong package and was returning it. "About a half hour later," Cherpes said, "I saw him carrying the box to his car."

IN OCTOBER, Cherpes said, Galt paid a week's rent in advance and left, saying he was going to Mobile to seek a job. Galt told Cherpes he would not return, but was expecting a letter from Chicago and wanted him to hold it until Galt found a new residence. Cherpes said he never saw Galt again.

But the letter from Chicago arrived in February or March. Cherpes held the letter about a week, then returned it to Chicago. He said the letter, in a light green envelope with a firm's name on it, probably included a check.

At the time he received the letter, Cherpes said, he looked at Galt's registration card in his files. He found the card then, but last week, when FBI agents tracked Galt to the rooming house, Cherpes said the registration card was missing.

CHERPES told newsmen Monday that an artist's conception of the man wanted in the sniper slaying of Dr. King

"looked exactly like Galt."

It seems likely that the name Galt was an elaborately devised alias. The man cannot be traced before he took a room in Birmingham last Aug. 26 or after his abandoned auto was impounded by the FBI last week in Atlanta. And his whereabouts between Oct. 7, when he left the rooming house, and the day his car was seized also are a mystery.

His car fits the description of one seen leaving the Memphis flophouse from which the fatal shot was fired at Dr. King April 4.

Cherpes, who had denied earlier that he knew Galt, told newsmen Monday that the FBI had asked him not to say anything about Galt. But he talked freely Monday.

CHERPES described Galt as a "natty" dresser who always paid his room rent on

time.

Galt "was above the average roomer in dress, talk and appearance," Cherpes said. "He always wore sport clothes and a tie. He was always pleasant, and I never knew of him drinking."

"He didn't say much about his family affairs, only that he was divorced. He only talked about the weather, never about politics or racial problems."

He said Galt asked him shortly after he moved into the boarding house to go with him downtown to take a driver's test.

"He was a new man to Alabama and to Birmingham and also a customer," Cherpes said "and I wanted to help him on that basis. If he had asked for my recommendation, I would have investigated him more closely."

5-5  
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# GALT NAMED BY LANDLORD IN FBI SKETCH

## Reveals He Received Chicago Package

[From Tribune Wire Services]

Birmingham, Ala., April 15—A rooming house owner said today he has identified a drawing of a man as that of a roomer known to him as "Eric Galt."

Galt is believed to be the owner of an auto seen near the scene of the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. April 4 in Memphis.

The rooming house operator, Peter Cherpes, 72, also disclosed in a copyright interview in the Birmingham News that Galt received a 20- to 25-pound package several months earlier.

Cherpes said Galt stayed at his rooming house from Aug. 26 to Oct. 7 last year.

### Gets Prepaid Package

He said that during September, Galt received a prepaid package in the mail from Chicago. He said it was about 2 feet long and 1 foot wide. Cherpes said Galt told him the next day that it was the wrong merchandise and that he planned to send it back.

"About half an hour later I saw him carrying the box to his car," Cherpes said.

[In Chicago, Marlin Johnson, Federal Bureau of Investigation agent-in-charge, refused comment. Chicago postal officials said they had not been contacted by the FBI to aid in a local investigation of mail or packages sent to Birmingham.]

Cherpes said Galt told him in October he was leaving for Mobile, Ala., to seek a job. Galt said he expected a letter from Chicago and asked Cherpes to hold it for him.

In the early part of March, Cherpes said, the letter came from Chicago. He said the envelope was ~~green~~ green.

### Sends Letter Back

"I was puzzled for a while where to mail it," Cherpes said. "I didn't have an address [for Galt]. So I held the letter for a week, and returned it."

Cherpes said it appeared to him the letter contained a check.

When he received the letter, Cherpes said, he went to his file to look for Galt's registration card and found it. But when FBI agents came to him last week, Cherpes said, it was missing.

Cherpes said he consented to talk after the FBI responded to his request to be released from a secrecy pledge. He said the FBI showed him the drawing last Wednesday, two days before a white Mustang registered to Eric Starvo Galt was found abandoned in Atlanta.

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

### Hint Contrived Identity

Meanwhile, there were hints that "Galt" never actually existed, but was a carefully contrived identity, created months before Dr. King was assassinated.

Authorities in Atlanta indicated they feared the identity might be a blind set up to hamper them in their investigation.

It was learned that investigators have been unable to trace Galt's existence beyond last summer. They pointed out that it is virtually impossible for a person to leave so few traces.

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# ILLINOIS PLAYS BRIEF ROLE IN HUNT FOR GALT

## FBI Cancels Request After 3 Hours

BY THOMAS POWERS

Illinois was brought briefly into the search for Eric Starvos Galt, 36, registered owner of the white Mustang impounded by Federal Bureau of Investigation agents in Atlanta because of possible involvement in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The TRIBUNE learned yesterday.

The nation-wide search for Galt, a mystery man who described himself as an unemployed merchant seaman in obtaining an Alabama driver's license, was extended into Illinois Thursday, when the FBI asked state police headquarters in Springfield "to locate and notify" the FBI of the whereabouts of Galt and the auto.

The FBI request was withdrawn three hours later without explanation to state officials just as mysteriously as a request was withdrawn five hours later that day in Dade county, Fla. By Friday, it was established that the auto had been found abandoned in a parking lot of an Atlanta housing project. Witnesses said they saw a man get out of the car and walk away at 8:30 a. m. April 5, 12 hours after King was slain by a sniper in Memphis, 392 miles away.

### FBI Silent on Auto

Altho FBI officials have declined comment on the white Mustang, it was learned that the auto has been identified as the one seen speeding away from a Memphis rooming house shortly after a white man fled from the building after felling King with one shot from a high-

powered hunting rifle. The rifle was aimed from a window of the rooming house at King who stood on a ~~balcony~~ balcony, 200 feet away.

The killer left a pair of binoculars at the scene. They were purchased in Memphis the day of the slaying. He also left the rifle, which was purchased in Birmingham, and other evidence, including finger and handprints.

Galt's last known address was a Birmingham rooming house, but several tenants there have stated they have not seen him for three months. He used the address in registering the auto when he purchased it last year and in obtaining a duplicate of his driver's license March 1, investigators said.

### Hint Shipping Link

Officials have shied away from any discussion of Galt except to say that no warrant has been issued for his arrest. Because of his mention of possible employment as a seaman, files of the National Maritime union, the Seafarers International union, and the United States coast guard have been checked throughout the nation, but no registration with his name has been found.

Because of the number of seamen employed in international shipping to and from the port

of Chicago, in lake commerce, and on inland waterway ships, agents may have decided that aid from Illinois police was needed. No new lookouts for Galt have been requested since the Mustang was located.

In the south, credit investigators and state employment office directors have been asked by federal agents to seek information on Galt. There has been no report of any progress.

In Memphis, where the search is being directed by Police Director Frank C. Holloman and Robert Jensen, special agent in charge of the Memphis FBI office, there has been no comment.

8-5  
CHICAGO SUNDAY TRIBUNE

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# Galt Conspiracy Charged in King Slayer Manhunt

MEMPHIS (P)—The mysterious Eric Starvo Galt has been charged with conspiracy and murder in the assassination of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

The FBI said in a fugitive warrant issued last night in Birmingham, Ala., that Galt, 36, conspired with a man "whom he alleged to be his brother" to violate King's civil rights.

The state's charge of first-degree murder was filed against Galt in Memphis, where the 39-year-old Nobel prize-winning civil rights leader was shot to death on a motel balcony April 4 by a sniper who fled from a nearby rooming house.

## Carries Death Penalty

First-degree murder in Tennessee carries the death penalty altho the electric chair has not been used in the state since 1960.

The maximum penalty under the federal charge of conspiracy to violate a person's civil rights is a \$5,000 fine and 10-year prison sentence.

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover announced in Washington that the conspiracy to "injure, oppress, threaten, or intimidate" King began "on or about March 30" in Birmingham.

## Call for Public to Help

The FBI statement said a .30.06 rifle equipped with a telescopic sight, found near the rooming house shortly after King was slain, was purchased March 30 in Birmingham.

The FBI released a photo of Galt and solicited public aid in finding him.

The picture—which had to



ERIC STARVO GALT  
The fugitive

have the eyes "opened" by an artist — brought uncertain responses from witnesses who were acquainted with Galt or saw the fleeing sniper.

"Unless he was wearing a wig or had had a face lift or something, it's not the man I saw," said Charles Q. Stevens, who lives in the Main street rooming house from which the fatal shot was fired.

## "Hair Is Too Full"

The hair is too full, and the face is too young," he said Stevens said he got only a side view of the fleeing man.

A source in Birmingham said the photo was taken within the last 3 months. The photo has sharp contrast, making hair and features dark.

"It's very near, but I'm not sure," was the reaction of Peter Cherpes, owner of a Birmingham boarding house where an Eric Galt stayed from Aug. 26 to Oct. 7 of last year.

"I don't really know," Cherpes said. "It's so hard to tell. His hair seemed to be lighter."

The FBI described the fugitive as a white man, 5-8 to 5-11, weighing 160 to 175 pounds, with brown hair in a brush cut, blue eyes, and straight nose.

## Called a Loner

Persons who have met Galt, the FBI reported, described him as a loner with a "rural"

*Humaine*  
CHICAGO AMERICAN

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speech and little schooling, fond of vodka, beer, and hillbilly music.

The FBI statement also 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 further from his head than his right ear."

"Galt should be considered armed and dangerous," the FBI warned.

Galt has used the names of John Willard and Harvey Lowmeyer, the FBI said. The assassin registered at the Memphis rooming house under the name of John Willard.

#### Owens White Mustang

The statement said Galt claimed to have been a cook on Mississippi riverboats, a merchant seaman, and "is said to be an avid dancer."

Galt, the FBI said, is the owner of a 1966 white Mustang with Alabama license plates which was abandoned in Atlanta the day after King was shot to death. The vehicle was left in the parking lot of an apartment project near the Georgia capitol.

Two white Mustangs were parked near the rooming house shortly before the shooting, witnesses have said, and both disappeared minutes later. Some witnesses told of a man in a black business suit, neatly dressed, walking down the steps to the street, dropping a rifle, and getting into a Mustang with either Alabama or Arkansas plates.

#### Driven 19,000 Miles

A business man said last night he was certain the Mustang parked farthest from the shooting scene had an Arkansas tag. "I'm clear in my own mind," he said.

The FBI said Galt's car traveled more than 19,000 miles between Aug. 30, 1967, when he bought it in Birmingham and its abandonment last week in Atlanta. There were trips to Los Angeles, New Orleans, and Mexico, the FBI said.

"Galt was reported to have been in Memphis April 3 and 4, 1968, and to have departed from there for Atlanta," the FBI said.

Galt was said to have taken dancing lessons in New Orleans in 1964 or 1965, in Birmingham during 1967, and in Long Beach, Cal., in recent months.

#### Takes Bartending Class

While in the Los Angeles area early this year, Galt took a course in bartending and was graduated March 2, the FBI said. In Hollywood, Director Tomas Reyes Lau of the International School of Bartending said Galt took a 4-week course but refused a job.

Lau said Galt turned down the job because he wanted to visit his brother.

"He never said anything about Negroes," Lau said. Similarly, residents of the Birmingham boarding house did not recall Galt talking about racial issues.

## Photo of Assassin?



[AP Wirephoto]

LONG BEACH, Cal.—Kathy Norton, 21, a dance instructor, and Rod Arvidson, 46, dance school manager, look at picture of Eric Starvo Galt. They say Galt appears to be same man who attended school here.





Eric Starvo Galt

## 2 warrants tie Galt to King killing

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (UPI)—Murder and conspiracy warrants have been issued for Eric Starvo Galt, a mysterious riverboat cook, merchant seaman and bartender accused in the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The FBI charged Galt and his "alleged brother" in a warrant Wednesday with conspiring to injure Dr. King, shot to death by a white sniper in Memphis April 4. Memphis police later filed a murder charge against Galt.

The FBI also released two photographs of Galt, 36, described as a "loner" with a "rural quality" in his voice. There was immediate conflict or uncertainty among witnesses who said they had seen Galt.

"NO, THAT'S NOT him," said Peter Cherpes, operator of

a rooming house where Galt stayed from Aug. 26 to Oct. 7, 1967.

"I can't be sure," said Percy Strickland, a roomer at the house.

The woman who runs the Memphis flophouse from which the killer shot Dr. King also was undecided about the picture. "I just don't know if it's him," said Mrs. Bessie Brewer.

In Atlanta, the cabdriver who reported driving Galt from a hippie neighborhood the night after Dr. King was slain said the FBI photograph "doesn't resemble" his passenger. "The man was younger and had shorter hair and a thinner face," the driver said.

But the FBI insisted the picture was of Galt. "It's him, all right," said Joseph H. Gamble, special agent in charge of the Birmingham FBI office. He said the photograph was taken this year, "in March, I think."

THE FBI issued two pictures of Galt, also known as Harvey Lowmyer and John Willard. Galt's eyes were closed in one

photo. The other featured eyes sketched in by an FBI artist.

The FBI complaint, filed in Birmingham, charged that Galt, and an individual whom he alleged to be his brother

entered into a conspiracy to harm Dr. King, and Galt purchased a rifle in Birmingham about March 30.

A 30.06-caliber Remington pump rifle with a telescope sight was found near the Memphis flophouse. FBI agents traced the weapon to a Birmingham sporting goods store where records showed it was sold to Galt.

A WHITE Mustang car, resembling one seen speeding from the murder scene, was found abandoned in Atlanta the day after the slaying. It was registered to Galt at a Birmingham rooming house,

where residents had not seen him since last fall. The FBI said Galt purchased the 1966 car from a private citizen in Birmingham last August and put 19,000 miles on it—driving to such places as Los Angeles, New Orleans and Mexico.

According to the FBI, Galt said he was a riverboat cook and merchant seaman and was an avid dancer with a preference for country and western music. He also likes beer and vodka, the FBI said, and "probably does not have a high degree of education."

Agents said Galt took a course at a bartending school in Los Angeles this year and graduated March 2. Thomas Lau, owner of the International School of Bartending, said

Wednesday an Eric S. Galt had attended the school.

"He had a Southern accent, but not too deep," said Lau. He was a "nice looking fellow with a nice personality," Lau said, but added that Galt was a "little bit disturbed" and "desperate to get a job."

The FBI said Galt had a nervous habit of occasionally pulling at an earlobe with his hand.

IN MEMPHIS, Willie Greene, an attendant at a service station about three blocks from where Dr. King was shot, said he remembered a nervous man using a telephone outside his station the day of the slaying.

Shown the FBI picture of Galt, Greene exclaimed: "That's him!"

Greene said the man apparently tried to make a call and didn't succeed.

"He was nervous. He kept walking up and down the street. It was right about the time Dr. King was killed and he kept pacing up and down the street until we closed with the curfew." Dr. King was killed at 6:01 p.m. The curfew began at 7.

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# TWO WARRANTS ACCUSE GALT IN DR. KING DEATH

By Laurence Stern

Special from the Washington Post

WASHINGTON—Eric Starvo Galt was charged Wednesday night with murder and conspiracy in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. April 4 in Memphis.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation first issued a fugitive warrant charging Galt with conspiracy, with another man, slaying of the Nobel Prize inner and civil rights leader.

The announcement by U.S. Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark was the first official allegation that Dr. King's death was the result of a plot. Shortly after the murder, Clark had asserted

that the act was committed by one man, acting alone.

Five hours after the FBI moved to apprehend Galt, a state issued in Galt with n the slay- Dr. King. first-

Murder is a capital offense in Tennessee.

The state warrant did not mention any conspiracy.

The FBI complaint charged that the conspiracy was

hatched in Birmingham between Galt and a man whom he alleged to be his brother."

FBI spokesmen would not elaborate on the identity of the other alleged conspirator.

The FBI released two photographs of Galt in what officials surmised to be a bartender's uniform, a formal jacket and black tie. The suspect in the photograph was

identified as Galt "also known as Harvey Lowmyer and John

But Peter Cerpes, Galt's former landlord who once identified Galt from sketches of the man seen running from the scene of the assassina-

CHICAGO SUN TIMES

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

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EDITOR: EMMETT DEEDMON

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APR 18 1968	
FBI - CHICAGO	

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tion, said "I don't think so" when asked if the photographs were of his former tenant.

In Memphis, Mrs. Bessie Brewer, who rented a room in a rooming house to Dr. King's killer, said "I just don't know, I just don't know if it's him," when she was shown the FBI picture. "All I noticed was that he was a neat dresser. That's all. Nothing else."

Charlie Stevens, who lives in the rooming house and saw the killer, said the photograph "doesn't register."

The itinerant Galt, said to have worked as a cook on Mississippi river boats, as a merchant seaman and as a professionally trained bartender, was described by the FBI as "armed and dangerous."

The FBI statement said that Galt bought a 1966 white Mustang, a major clue in the case, from a resident of Birmingham on Aug. 30, 1967. Between the time of purchase and the day the car was found abandoned in Atlanta last April 11 the Mustang's odometer rolled up 19,000 miles, according to the FBI.

Galt's travels in the Mustang included trips to Los Angeles, New Orleans, Birmingham, Mexico, Memphis and Atlanta, FBI director J. Edgar Hoover announced.

Galt was reported to have been in Memphis on April 3 and April 4, the FBI said, and then he left for Atlanta.

The complaint issued against Galt was based on a civil rights statute.

Conviction on that charge carries a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison and a \$5,000 fine. The warrant charged:

"On or about March 29, at Birmingham, Ala. . . . Eric Starvo Galt and an individual whom he alleged to be his brother, entered into a conspiracy which continued until on or about April 5, 1968, to injure, oppress, threaten or intimidate Martin Luther King

Jr. . . . in the free exercise or enjoyment of a right secured to him by the Constitution or laws of the United States; namely, the right to free travel from state to state."

The warrant also said that Galt purchased a rifle in Birmingham on or about March 30.

The FBI announcement pointed out that a 30.06 rifle equipped with a telescopic sight was found near a rooming house on S. Main St. in Memphis immediately after the murder of Dr. King. The rooming house overlooks the Lorraine Motel, where Dr. King had been staying at the time he was killed.

In Memphis, witnesses have told authorities that a man checked into a rooming house adjoining the Lorraine under the name of "John Ward," one of the aliases attributed to Galt. The suspect was charged as Galt since he has used the name for nearly a year. There still is no certainty that it is the real name of the suspected assassin.

The FBI described Galt as "an avid dancer" and said he took dancing lessons in New Orleans in 1964-1965, and in Long Beach, Calif., from December, 1967, to February, 1968. In Los Angeles he graduated from a bartending course last March 2, the bureau asserted.

The announcement pointed out that Galt traveled from Los Angeles to New Orleans and back between Dec. 19 and 21, 1967. While in New Orleans, the FBI said, Galt claimed to have contacted an engineering or a contracting firm.

He is described as white, about 5 feet 8 to 5 feet 11 inches tall, between 160 and 175 pounds in weight and a neat dresser. He has brush-cut brown hair, blue eyes, a straight narrow nose and clean regular teeth. His birth date was given as July 20, 1931.

Galt, according to the FBI, was described as a loner with

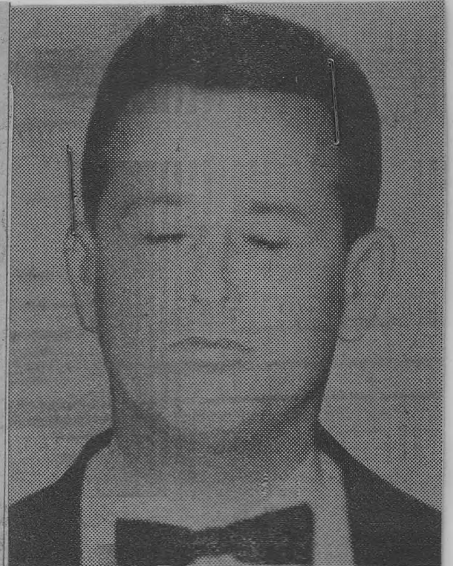
a rural flavor to his speech. He is a fan of Western and country music. He has a preference for vodka and beer.

The description further notes that Galt's left ear protrudes further from his head than his right ear.

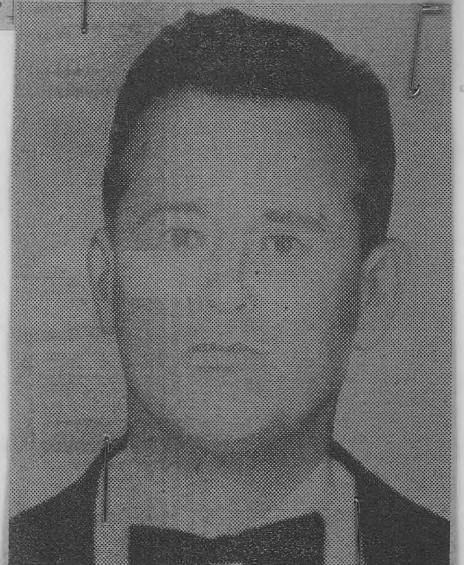
Memphis authorities said Wednesday night they will file murder charges in the case. Speaking minutes after the FBI announcement in Washington, Memphis fire and police director Frank Holloman said:

"We look forward to the apprehension of this individual and his ultimate return to Memphis for trial for the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr."

A Memphis FBI agent commented that "we have a lot of additional information that is not in the (FBI) statement. We even know what filling stations he stopped at."



Eric Starvo Galt, in an eyes-closed picture, says the FBI. (UPI)



Galt with his eyes drawn onto the photograph by an FBI artist.



# WARRANT IN KING SLAYING *FBI Charges Galt*

*with*  
**Conspiracy**

**2d PLOTTER  
ALLEGED TO  
BE BROTHER**

**Photo, Aliases of  
Fugitive Bared**

BY WILLIAM KLING

[Chicago Tribune Press Service]

Washington, April 17--A fugitive warrant for the arrest of Eric Starvo Galt was obtained today, charging conspiracy in the fatal shooting of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis on April 4.

The warrant was issued by United States Commissioner Mildred F. Sprague in Birmingham, Ala., on a complaint filed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

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*Remainder*

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SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 18 1968	
FBI — CHICAGO	



Shortly after the issuance of the warrant, Memphis police charged Galt with murder.

The federal warrant was the government's first indication that it has evidence that more than one person was involved in the assassination of the civil rights leader as he stood on the balcony of a Memphis motel.

#### Traced to March 29

Specifically, the government's complaint charges Galt with conspiring to violate King's civil rights. It says that "on or about March 29, 1968, at Birmingham, Ala., . . . Eric Starvo Galt and an individual whom he alleged to be his brother entered into a conspiracy which continued until on or about April 5, 1968, to injure, oppress, threaten, or intimidate King."

W. Ramsey Clark, United States attorney general, announced filing of the complaint in a press release issued in Washington along with a photograph of Galt.

Clark said Galt used the aliases of Harvey Lowmyer and John Willard, the name he gave a landlady when he rented a flophouse room near King's motel shortly before the murder. It is believed that the fatal shot was fired from a bathroom window in this rooming house.

#### Draws in Eyes

The picture shows Galt with his eyes closed and wearing a bow tie and what appears to be a tuxedo. An FBI artist drew in eyes on a photograph being circulated to police departments.

Peter Cherpes, Galt's former landlord in Birmingham, said he did not believe the FBI photograph was a picture of Galt. Earlier, Cherpes said sketches of the man seen running from the assassination scene definitely resembled Galt.

Mrs. Bessie Brewer, landlady of the boarding house from which the fatal shot is

believed to have been fired, also failed to recognize the photo. She said she did not believe the picture was of John Willard, the man to whom she rented a room the day before the assassination.

#### First Public Record

Charles Q. Stevens, who lives on the second floor of the rooming house, said: "Unless he was wearing a wig, or had his face lifted or something, it's not the man I saw. The hair is too full and the face is too young," Stevens said, however, that he only got a side view of the suspect.

The government's complaint, the first public record of any FBI action in the case, alleges that Galt purchased a rifle on March 30 in Birmingham. J. Edgar Hoover, FBI director, said the rifle was a 30.06 weapon equipped with a telescopic sight. The firearm was found near Galt's rooming house after King's murder.

In the first FBI statement concerning the case, Hoover confirmed that Galt is the owner of a 1966 white Mustang automobile, bearing Alabama license plates, which was found abandoned in Atlanta a week after the slaying.

#### Purchase of Car

Hoover said investigation disclosed that Galt purchased the car "from a private citizen" in Birmingham on Aug. 30. He said the odometer indicated that the vehicle had been driven more than 19,000 miles between late August and early April.

Hoover said FBI agents had traced Galt's movements in the car to Los Angeles, New Orleans, Birmingham, Memphis, Atlanta, and Mexico. He was reported to have been in Memphis on April 3 and 4 and to have left there for Atlanta, the director said.

Hoover said the FBI investigation has disclosed that Galt has claimed to have worked as a cook on Mississippi river vessels and as a merchant seaman. He is described as 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, Cal., from December, 1967, to last February, Hoover said.

#### Course in Bartending

The government statement said Galt left Los Angeles on Dec. 15 and drove the Mustang to New Orleans where he asserted he contacted either an engineering or a contracting firm. There is no indication in the statement of the source of the information.

Galt is alleged to have left New Orleans on Dec. 19 and arrived back in Los Angeles on Dec. 21. While in the Los Angeles area early this year, the statement said, Galt took a course at a bartenders' school and was graduated on March 2.

Galt is described as a white male, approximately 5 feet, 8 inches to 5 feet, 11 inches tall, and weighing between 160 and

175 pounds. He is described as a neat dresser, of medium build, with brown hair worn in a brush cut. He reportedly has blue eyes and his nose is described as straight and narrow. His teeth are straight and clean, the government said.

#### Has Nervous Habit

The FBI said Galt has given his date of birth as July 20, 1931, which would make him 36 years old. It is believed the birth date comes from his application for a driver's license to drive the Mustang.

"The fugitive is said to have a nervous habit of occasionally pulling at an ear lobe with his hand," the government statement said. "His left ear protrudes farther from his head than his right ear."

Hoover said persons who have met Galt describe him as a "loner" and characterize his language and diction as "rural." He suggested Galt "probably does not have a high degree of education."

FBI spokesmen refused to comment beyond the information contained in the government statement, even to disclose whether authorities believe that Galt is the fugitive's real name.

The spokesmen also refused to comment on where FBI agents obtained the Harvey Lowmyer alias for Galt, or to say whether the rifle recovered near the scene of the murder was the weapon used in the crime.

#### Reason for Charge

The government was forced to file a conspiracy complaint because there is no federal statute covering murder, except that of federal officials or murder committed on federal property. There is no indication in the government statement that the FBI knows the identity of the man whom Galt passed off as his brother, and authorities refused to comment.

The FBI said Galt "should be considered armed and dangerous." Persons with information about him were requested to get in touch with the nearest FBI office at once.



[AP Wirephoto]

## Suspect Wanted

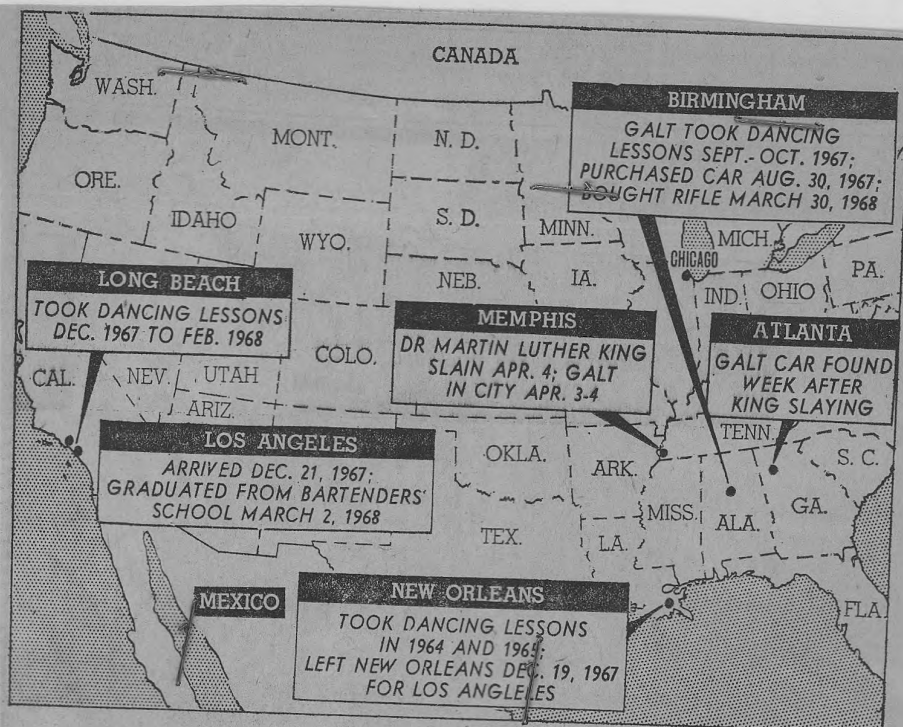
FBI says this is picture of Eric Starvo Galt, for whom warrant for arrest was issued. FBI artist drew in eyes in photograph.



[AP Wirephoto]

## Before Drawing

Closed eyes of Eric Starvo Galt in original photo.



[TRIBUNE Staff map]

## His Trail Across U. S.

FBI hunt for Eric Starvo Galt in connection with the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. has been conducted thruout United States. Map shows major points in investigation.





## 'Not the Man'

Charles Stevens [right], whose description of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was used in a composite drawing by newspaper artist Bill Harrington [left], said picture of the man he saw in rooming house on day of Dr. King's slaying.

campaign in the Pacific in World War II. The film, which was shown last night by ABC-TV, was shot by cameramen. At a price, though—more than 50 years.

Laurence E. Mascott, the one-time producer of the documentary, who produced the film, much of which had been developed under terrible conditions, and later stored in 1,800 feet he selected had shrunk to 16 mm. size [stretched back to regular 16 mm. size] then rephotographed before shrinking.

Lee Marvin, the Academy award-winning actor who narrated the special, donated his fee to a marine corps fund.

WHEN Herb Alpert and the Tijuana Brass will get their first look at Alpert's new film, which he met and started going steady in Los Angeles when Herb was still taking trumpet lessons. May 4 will receive a Distinguished Service Award from the field of television public service journalism fraternity for its video of the last year's Detroit riots, titled "Summer of '67."

At 8:30 tonight, educational channel 11 has a hour-long look at some of the delectables which will be put on Monday in WTTW's six-day Action expansion and improvement of the channel 11 has mouth-watering bidders—like a 30-day African pig aboard a charter yacht, an uncut diamond cow, a poodle, even a mynah bird with a diamond in its beak.

Being a television star certainly is not by any means. For instance, a trans-Pacific race from Los Angeles to Bermuda on July 4, in the competition will be Ebsen aboard his 35-foot catamaran, Gunsmoke. Arness aboard his 57-foot May on, chubby Jonathan Winters aboard, first in Minnesota and California in an international light tug race, Bermuda in a similar competition.



# Galt Called Shy, a Loner, Poor Mixer

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 they identified a former pupil as Galt, who is wanted in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on April 4 in Memphis.

## FBI Circulate Photo

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 photo 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.

## Fidgety Manner

Galt's application listed his address as Hollywood and his birthdate as July 30, 1931, and stated he was single. The FBI in Washington 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 but a crooked smile and a fidgety manner," said an instructor, Kathy Nolan, 21.

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SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 19 1968	
FBI — CHICAGO	

STEADY DRINKER, WALLACE FAN

# Galt Is Described As A Moody Racist

By David Larsen

L.A. Times Special

HOLLYWOOD—Eric Starvo Galt, prime suspect in the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., emerged Thursday as:



ERIC STARVO  
GALT

A fervent supporter of the presidential bid of former Alabama Gov. George C.

Wallace.

An anti-Negro who once got into a wild argument at a Hollywood cocktail lounge with a girl who defended Negroes.

A man who made at least one mysterious trip in recent months to New Orleans, a fact which appears to be of great interest to the FBI.

A steady drinker, alternately moody and contentious in public.

This picture came into focus as the result of a series of exclusive interviews conducted by the Los Angeles Times with persons who knew Galt when he lived here.

A songwriter whom Galt drove to New Orleans and back in a white Mustang in December said he had a strong impression that the suspect was not using his right name.

The statement was made by Charles Stein, 38, who was offered the free ride after he agreed to add his signature to the drive by Wallace to qualify

for a place on the California June primary ballot.

Stein said his sister, Rita, had made the arrangements. While at the Sultan Room lounge, she had let it be known that her two children had to return soon from her sister's home in New Orleans. Galt said he would be going there and agreed to take Stein along to fetch the children if Stein would sign up for Wallace.

The next day, Stein said, Galt picked him up at the sister's home and drove him to Wallace headquarters.

"I thought he was some

kind of politician," Stein recalled. "I got the impression they all knew him."

Robert Walters, campaign coordinator for Wallace in California, disputed this.

"We checked all of our name files here—particularly those from the North Hollywood office—and found nothing under the name of Galt or the other names he reportedly used," Walters said.

Stein said that after he had registered for Wallace's American Independent Party, he and Galt departed for New Orleans.

Galt did not disclose why he was making the trip. He told his passenger he "knew some people there." He said he had been there before.

While passing through Texas, according to Stein, Galt made several long-distance calls from phone booths, but declined to discuss any of them.

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CHICAGO SUN TIMES

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

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CHICAGO OFFICE

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 19 1968	
FBI — CHICAGO	

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Stein said Galt clearly attempted to impress upon him his name, emphasizing it in unnecessary ways, such as when they checked in at motels.

"I think he was establishing a fictitious identity," Stein said. "I got these vibrations. I don't think it was his real name."

Galt told his passenger he had just sold a bar in Mexico.

"I didn't believe it," Stein said. "His Spanish was too touristy."

During the drive the suspect also remarked that he liked to hunt, Stein said.

Stein said that at one point he brought up the subject of race with Galt, commenting that the same Creator made everybody and that color is just incidental. He said Galt was noncommittal.

Stein said he believes the suspect made a subsequent trip to New Orleans.

"I heard he was asking people if they wanted him to drop anything off while he was down there," Stein said.

Stein said FBI agents have been visiting him almost every day, showing great interest in the suspect's activities in New Orleans. He said, however, that he and Galt went their separate ways while in that city, and he had no idea what his companion was up to.

At the time of the trip, Galt was starving in a Los Angeles apartment. Residents there either did not know or remained tight-lipped about him.

However, Galt subsequently moved to a hotel, the St. Francis, on Hollywood Blvd. One block away is a cocktail

lounge known as the Rabbits Foot Club.

The crowd there remembers Eric Starvo Galt very well.

Until three or four weeks ago, according to bartender Bo Del Monte, Galt was a nightly patron. He would come in at around 9 p.m., perch on a stool near the door, and order the first of several screwdrivers (vodka and orange juice).

Adele Lewis, who was working there at the time, recalled that Galt often got into arguments when he tried to strike up conversations.

"He one asked if he could buy me a drink," she said. "Since I was working I said no."

"Huh, you think you're too good," Galt bristled, according to Miss Lewis.

But the thing everybody at the Rabbits Foot Club remem-

bers most about Galt is the big dispute he got into.

Jim Morrison, who was the bartender that night, recalled that Galt was talking with a young woman named Pattie. Somehow the conversation turned to Negroes, and she declared them to be "good people."

Suddenly, Galt began dragging her by the arm toward the door.

"I'll drop you off in Watts, (the predominantly Negro area of Los Angeles) and we'll see how you like it there!" Galt shouted.

Del Monte said another customer who had been dating the girl followed the pair outside, and Galt fled.

A short time later, according to Del Monte, a Negro was struck in the head by a rock in a nearby parking lot.

Morrison remembered that

as Galt would sit at the bar, sipping his screwdrivers, he often preached his support of Wallace.

"He's the man we want," the bartender quoted Galt as saying.

Del Monte said Galt once tried to begin a conversation with a Negro girl, but she walked away from him.

Nobody interviewed at the Rabbits Foot Club remembered Galt giving his name. In fact, nobody realized who he was until his picture appeared in newspapers on Thursday.

Del Monte said the photo of Galt with his eyes closed caused an immediate recollection. "That's the way he sat here," the bartender said. "When he wasn't talking, he would sit sort of dozing."

Del Monte said Galt usually had four or five screwdrivers a night.

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 19 1968	
FBI - CHICAGO	

Eric S Galt

Date 1-18-68

5533 Hollywood Blvd

2646646

3-A

1107-1131

YES

SINGLE

Number of Children NONE

Name	Address	City	State	Salary	Why did you leave?
MR WILLER	7515-FIGEROA			50.00	

Address

5533 Hollywood Blvd

This is the application Eric S. Galt submitted to a Los Angeles bartending school last Jan. 19. The application listed a Hollywood hotel as his home address and a previous work salary as "\$50.00." (AP)

# Report Informer Gives FBI Clue To Galt's Trail

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (UPI)—FBI sources indicated Thursday that information from an alleged conspirator in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. may lead them to Eric Starvo Galt, the accused killer.

An FBI spokesman in Washington said "the FBI has no one in custody in connection with Dr. King's slaying," but another source indicated the FBI was either in communication with or questioning the "alleged brother" of Eric Galt. The brother has not been charged.

After Galt bought a rifle from a sporting goods store here March 29, sources said, he took it to the "alleged brother" who was quoted as saying the .243 Remington rifle was "not the gun we need." Galt returned to the sporting goods store and swapped the first rifle for a .30-06 Remington pump action rifle on March 30, sources close to the investigation said.

## Tests Kept Secret

The FBI has refused to say what ballistics tests on that weapon, found near the Memphis flophouse that served as the sniper's post, had revealed.

FBI agents believed at one point Wednesday that they had tracked Galt down. Somewhere in California, sources close to the investigation disclosed Thursday.

The tip reportedly came from

the "alleged brother" or some other co-conspirator in the killing.

It apparently was because of the expected impending arrest that authorities obtained a first-degree murder warrant against Galt, and also a federal warrant charging him with conspiracy.

Where in California authorities expected to make the arrest was not disclosed, but Galt is known to have spent time in the Los Angeles area.

## Tip Believed Wrong

Sources said that the tip was wrong, or that Galt—if he is in California—eluded authorities.

Galt was charged Wednesday on a federal warrant signed by FBI agent Joseph H. Gamble and U.S. Comr. Mildred F. Sprague with conspiracy to violate the civil rights of Dr. King.

All copies of the warrants from the charge were in FBI hands and not being released publicly. The complaint from which the warrant was drawn said the charge was based in part on "identification" of the gun used by defendant (Galt) found at the scene of the crime.

Thousands of black-and-white wanted posters were distributed throughout the nation Thursday describing Galt as "extremely dangerous," listing his aliases as John Willard and Harvey Lowmeyer, and carrying the FBI's

special emergency phone number in Washington, NA 8-7117, for persons to call with information.

## Motel Visit Told

Although no copies of the first-degree murder warrant filed against Galt in Memphis were publicly distributed, Memphis police were known to be investigating a report by a night desk clerk at the Rebel Motel in that city that a man registered as Eric S. Galt on April 3 and a white Mustang auto with Mexican tourist stickers was parked at the motel.

The clerk, Ivan B. Webb, said the man apparently did not leave the motel room during the night, which was the night before Dr. King was shot, and that room lights remained on all night.

Peter Cherpes, operator of the rooming house where Galt stayed here from Aug.

26 to Oct. 7, 1967, was shown the FBI picture and said, "No, that's not him."

The FBI says Galt, 36, is between 5-foot-8 and 5-foot-11, weighing 160 to 170 pounds, and that he took dancing lessons when in New Orleans in 1964 and 1965; in Birmingham last September and October, and in Long Beach, Calif., from December to February.

He left Los Angeles Dec. 12, the FBI said, drove to New Orleans and contacted either an engineering or contracting firm. Then he returned to Los Angeles Dec. 21 and while there was graduated March 2

from a bartenders' school.

Galt's Mustang was found abandoned near a public housing project in Atlanta the Thursday after the assassination. Two Atlanta taxi driv-

ers told the FBI they gave rides to a man who looked like the FBI's earlier sketch of Galt, but neither could identify the FBI picture released Wednesday.

*Dumaine*  
CHICAGO SUN TIMES

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

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CHICAGO OFFICE

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 19 1968	
FBI - CHICAGO	

*044-1114-14*

# Push Search for Suspect in King Case

BY JAY BOWLES

MEMPHIS (P) — The nation's police intensified a search today for Eric Starvo Galt, sought in connection with the assassination of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

Thousands of wanted posters are just gaining wide distribution 2 days after the FBI publicly identified Galt, 36, as the man it had sought secretly since a week after the April 4 slaying.

The FBI refused to comment on whether it believes Galt is the man's real name or was simply a cover built painstakingly over a number of months.

Two Aliases — John Willard and Harvey Lowmeyer — were listed on the federal conspiracy warrant issued against Galt in Birmingham, Ala., Wednesday afternoon and the first degree murder warrant issued by the state against him here Wednesday night.

"John Willard" was the name used by the man who checked into a Main street rooming house 3 hours before King was shot as he stood on the balcony of a motel here. There has been no reference to the second alias.

The FBI denied it had taken into custody the man it said Galt described as his brother, and denied also that the brother was aiding in the search. The federal warrant, issued Wednesday, claimed Galt and the brother entered into a conspiracy March 29 to violate King's civil rights.

The FBI covered many specific details about Galt's life over the last several years, including the fact that he is an avid dancer, has "rural speech," apparently lacks education, and has a "nervous habit of pulling at an ear lobe with his left hand."

The statement disclosed for the first time that Galt was in Memphis the day before King was shot, altho he did not move into the rooming house from which the fatal bullet was fired until the day of the assassination.

*Dumaine*  
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SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 19 1968	
FBI — CHICAGO	



# FBI Hunts King Killing Suspect Here

## Ex-Convict Had Many Aliases in Life of Crime

The FBI today announced the Eric Starvo Galt sought as the assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. actually is James Earl Ray, formerly of Alton, Ill., who escaped from the Missouri state prison at Jefferson City last April 23.

J. Edgar Hoover, FBI director, notified the Chicago office that a systematic and exhaustive search of latent finger prints uncovered in the



[AP Wirephoto]  
**THIS IS FBI photo of James Earl Ray, who was known as Eric Starvo Galt, and is sought in the Dr.**

Martin Luther King Jr. slaying. FBI released this picture today.

King murder led to the determination that Galt and Ray are identical.

The federal agents said they are seeking Ray in the Chicago area because of his Illinois background. They warned that he should be considered armed and considered extremely dangerous.

Ray, who is 40, was lodged in the Missouri prison March 17, 1960, to serve a 20-year sentence for armed robbery in St. Louis. In 1966, he was confined for a time in the maximum security ward at the Missouri state hospital at Fulton, the FBI said.

Hoover said that Ray has an arrest record dating to 1949. Before his 1960 conviction, Ray had been convicted of burglary in Los Angeles in 1949.

He was convicted of armed robbery in Chicago in 1952, and for forging federal money orders in Missouri in 1955. He served terms in the Los Angeles county jail in 1949; in the

state prisons at Joliet and Pontiac, Ill., in 1952 and 1954, and in the federal prison at Leavenworth, Kas., in 1955-58.

**Dropped by Army**

A drifter since he left school in the 10th grade at Alton, Ray

served as an enlisted man in the army from February, 1946 to December, 1948, when he was given a general discharge for ineptness and lack of adaptability. During his army career he received a 3-month sentence at hard labor for being drunk and breaking arrest, the FBI reported.

### Used 2 Aliases

He is described as a white male born March 10, 1928 in Illinois. He is about 5 feet 10, weighs from 163 to 174 pounds, has blue eyes and brown hair.

He works as a baker, laborer, and color matcher. After his escape Ray's fingerprints were posted in the FBI office in Washington as one charged with unlawfully fleeing from Missouri to avoid confinement.

Anyone with information about Ray should contact the nearest FBI office.

Two aliases — John Willard and Harvey Lowmeyer — were listed on the federal conspiracy warrant issued against Galt in Birmingham, Ala., Wednesday afternoon and the first degree murder warrant issued by the state against him in Memphis

Wednesday.

Hoover said that "during his criminal career, Ray used the names of James McBride, James Walton, W. C. Harron, and James O'Conner.

The FBI covered many specific details about Ray's life over the last several years, including the fact that he is an avid dancer, has "rural speech," apparently lacks education, and has a "nervous habit of pulling at an ear lobe with his left hand."

The statement disclosed for the first time that Ray was in Memphis the day before King was shot, altho he did not move into the rooming house from which the fatal bullet was fired until the day of the assassination.

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SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED  
APR 22 1968  
FBI - CHICAGO

# Convicted of robbery here King suspect ex-Chicagoan

## 'Eric Galt' identified by FBI

Daily News Wire Services

WASHINGTON — The FBI Friday identified Eric Starvo Galt, sought in the murder of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., as James Earl Ray, an escapee from the Missouri Penitentiary who once lived in Chicago.

Ray, 40, originally of Alton, Ill., once was arrested in Chicago for armed robbery and served time in state prison at Joliet and Pontiac, Ill.

Police records in Chicago show Ray was arrested May 6, 1952, by police of the Chicago Av. district and charged with armed robbery.

He gave his address as 853 W. Fullerton, and said he was a laborer working at 409 E. Ohio. Ray told police he had

lived in Chicago for nine months.

RAY WAS charged with robbing Earl Docker, a Yellow Cab driver, and Louis Knox, who then lived at 6945 N. Paulina. The robbery took place at 2:55 a.m. in front of 19 W. Delaware.

He appeared in Felony Court before Judge Matthew Hartigan and was ordered held to the grand jury. Ray posted \$3,000 bond, and on June 13, 1952, pleaded guilty before Criminal Court Judge Wilbur J. Crowley.

Crowley sentenced Ray to a term of 1 to 2 years in Joliet penitentiary, but police records show he served his time at Pontiac penitentiary.

He was released March 12,

1954, at the expiration of his sentence.

At the time of his arrest Ray told police he was unmarried.

The FBI said Ray was identified through "a systematic and exhaustive search of latent fingerprints" uncovered in the King case against the fingerprints of the more than

*Asac*  
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SEARCHED <i>on</i>	INDEXED <i>on</i>
SERIALIZED <i>on</i>	FILED <i>on</i>
APR 22 1968	
FBI — CHICAGO	

53,000 persons for whom wanted notices are on file in the bureau's identification division.

RAY WAS reported missing from the Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City last April 23. He was serving a 20-year sentence for an armed robbery in St. Louis and operating a motor vehicle without the owner's permission.

The FBI said Ray has been a federal fugitive since last July 20, when an FBI complaint was filed at Jefferson City charging him with unlawfully fleeing from Missouri to avoid confinement.

Ras, who had been at the prison since March 17, 1960, spent some time in September, 1966, in the maximum security ward at the state hospital in Fulton, Mo.

THE MAN known as Galt was charged Wednesday with the first-degree murder of

King April 4 in Memphis, Tenn. He also is charged in a federal warrant with conspiracy and murder in the King assassination.

A drifter since he left school in the 10th grade at Alton, the FBI said Ray received a three-month sentence at hard labor for being drunk and "breaking" arrest while in the army.

Ray—who works as a baker, laborer and color matcher—has an arrest record dating at least to 1949, when he was convicted for burglary in Los Angeles. He also was convicted in 1952 for armed robbery in Chicago and in 1955 for forging U.S. postal money orders in Missouri.

He also has served terms in a Los Angeles County jail and the federal penitentiary at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

THE FBI SAID Ray has used the names of James McBride, James Walton, W. C. Herron and Jameu O'Conner.

Ray claims to have been born [redacted] in Illinois—but the FBI did not say where. He is about 5-feet-10, weighs 163 to 174 pounds, has blue eyes and brown hair and two scars: A small one on the center of his forehead and another on the palm of his right hand.



James Earl Ray, alias Eric Starvo Galt.

# FBI Adds Ray, Sought in King Slaying, to Most Wanted List

[Chicago Tribune Press Service]

Washington, April 20—James Earl Ray, 40, sought under the name of Eric Starvo Galt in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was added to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's list of "10 most wanted men" today.

The aim is to get the widest possible circulation of Ray's photograph and description in hopes of an early arrest, said J. Edgar Hoover, FBI director.

The escaped convict "has been the subject of a massive and intensive search" since King was shot from a nearby flophouse as he stood on the balcony of a Memphis motel April 4, the FBI said.

## Had Ample Funds

Actually, Ray is the 11th man on the "most wanted" list. The extraordinary move indicated that the FBI has given highest priority to his capture.

[N. Y. Times-Chicago Tribune Service]

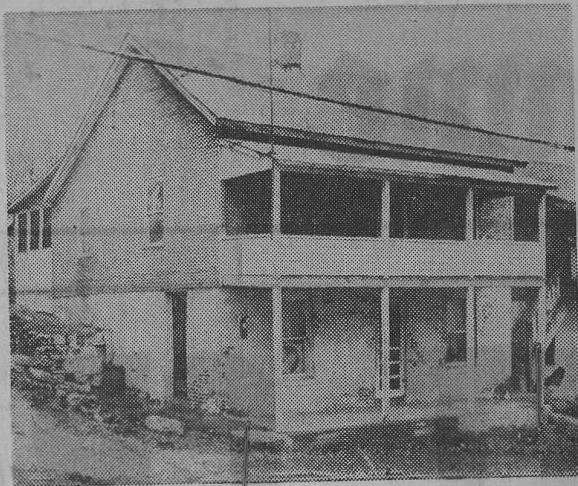
Birmingham, Ala., April 20—Eric Starvo Galt, whom the Federal Bureau of Investigation has accused of conspiring to kill Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., seemed well supplied with money when he lived in Birmingham last fall creating a fictitious identity.

FBI agents have found where he spent more than \$4,000, but they have been unable to find where he worked during that period, or if he worked at all.

## Pays Cash for Car

While he was in Birmingham, Galt apparently kept his money in a safe deposit box at the Birmingham Trust National bank.

On Aug. 27, 1967, William D.



[AP Wirephoto]

House at 1021 W. 9th st. in Alton, Ill., is believed to be the birthplace of James Earl Ray.

Paisley, the sales manager of a Birmingham lumber company, said he sold Galt a 1966 Mustang for the \$1,195 asking price. "He didn't try to cut the price at all," said Paisley. Galt paid cash, Paisley said.

During the six weeks that he resided in the Birmingham rooming house Galt's living expenses averaged at least \$50 a week. He paid \$27 a week for his room. For this he was entitled to eat dinner at the rooming house, but much of the time he ate elsewhere.

At \$50 a week, a figure which a source in the justice department said probably was low, Galt spent \$1,650 for rooms, meals, and incidentals from Aug. 27 thru April 4, the date King was shot to death in Memphis.

The FBI, which impounded Galt's Mustang in Atlanta on April 11, said that it had been driven more than 19,000 miles since he bought it. Figured at a cost of 4 cents a mile, Galt spent more than \$750 operating the car.

The FBI said that Galt last March 30 bought a 30.06 caliber rifle at a Birmingham gun store. The Remington Arms company of Bridgeport, Conn., said that it was one of their rifles.

A new Remington 30.06 rifle with a telescopic sight such as the one which Galt had mounted on the rifle would cost more than \$150. Galt also bought an expensive pair of binoculars in Memphis on the day that Dr. King was killed.

*Asac*

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SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>bx</i>	FILED <i>bx</i>
APR 22 1968	
FBI — CHICAGO	

CHICAGO OFFICE  
*C/44-1114-18*



## RECALL SEIZING OF KING FIGURE IN CASE HERE

The citizen who helped Chicago police capture James Earl Ray for an armed robbery in 1952 yesterday recalled the circumstances after he was informed that Ray was being sought for the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Robert Everhart, 48, of 7404 Overhill av., a salesman, told THE TRIBUNE that he was walking to his car on the near north side when he noticed a cab stop in the middle of the block under a street light.

"I could see that the cab driver had a gun in the back of his head," he said. "Then the cab driver got out and walked west and the passenger walked east."

### Runs Down Alley

Everhart said he began to follow the passenger, who was later identified as Ray.

"Then he began to run, and believe me he ran like the devil," recalled Everhart. "Altho I was a lot younger, I couldn't catch him, but I noticed he ran down an alley between Dearborn and State streets."

According to Everhart, he flagged down a police car containing two East Chicago avenue detectives, George Green, now a captain, and John McDonough, who retired last December.

"When I told them what had happened and pointed to the nearby alley, they knew Ray was trapped because it was a dead end alley," Everhart added.

McDonough recalled how he and Green entered the darkened alley with guns drawn and saw Ray attempting to scale a 10-foot-high wooden fence.

"When he didn't respond to our commands to come down, Green fired one shot which passed thru both of Ray's arms," he said.

### Crashes thru Window

Everhart said that Ray fell off the fence and crashed into a basement window.

"When the police led Ray from the alley, he looked at me and said, 'What are you going to get out of this?'"

"I followed the court proceedings and the sentencing of Ray very closely," Everhart said. Ray served two years in prison and was released in 1954.

"Another thing I followed closely was the time he was due out of prison because I feared that he might come back to Chicago and seek revenge against me," Everhart recalled.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE

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DATE: 4-20-68

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44-1114-19

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 22 1968	
FBI - CHICAGO	



# Got Prison for Robbing Taxi Driver

James Earl Ray, 40, the man being sought for Dr. Martin Luther King's slaying, vowed to a Chicago judge in 1952 that if he was given probation for armed robbery he would "never become involved with the law again."

Chief Justice Wilbert F. Crowley of Criminal court accepted Ray's plea of guilty and sentenced him to one to two years in prison.

Chicago police and court records indicate Ray, who also used the name Galt, was shot and wounded as he tried to escape arrest at 1:30 a. m. May 6, 1952, for robbing a taxi driver of \$11 at 19 W. Delaware st.

## Tells of Robbery

The robbery victim, Louis C. Knox, 6945 N. Paulina st., a Red Top taxicab driver, said Ray entered his cab at Maple and Clark streets and ordered him to drive to 67 E. Cedar. There, he placed a pistol at the driver's head and robbed him.

Across the street, Robert Everhart, 7404 N. Overhill av., saw the robbery in progress and began chasing Ray, calling for assistance from police.

George Green, then a Chicago avenue patrolman and now a captain, and John McDonough, then a patrolman who now is working for the Chicago civil defense office, gave chase. Green fired a warning shot.

Ray, who was trying to escape down an alley, was trapped on top of a fence. When he refused to surrender, Green fired another shot, hitting Ray in

both arms, and Ray fell thru a basement window.

## Brought to Trial

After being treated for his wounds in the Bridewell hospital, Ray was brought to trial and on June 4 was taken to the state prison in Joliet and later was transferred to the Pontiac branch. He was discharged on March 12, 1954, at expiration of sentence.

Before the court hearing, the late Leonard J. Prystalski, assistant chief of the probation office, interviewed Ray and summarized the information in the following statement:

"His father's name is George, his mother's Lucille, and he is the oldest of two brothers, John, 35, and Jerry, 32. He went as far as the 8th grade at Quincy and then enlisted in the army in 1946.

"He states he worked for the Arvey corporation but quit in June, 1951. He says his father deserted the family in 1947. He stated he was never in serious trouble before and if given probation, he would get a job and never become involved with the law again."

## Less Than Candid

Ray was less than candid with Prystalski in assessing his previous behavior pattern. Tho he insisted to Prystalski that he was honorably discharged with the rank of private first class, army records show he was discharged for "general ineptness and lack of adaptability for military service." He served three months in the guardhouse for being drunk and for "breaking arrest."

He also lied to the probation officer in denying he was convicted in Los Angeles in 1949 for burglary and in Alton in 1951 for driving without a license.

At the time of his arrest, he gave his address at 853 Fuller-

ton av. and said he was working as a laborer at 401 E. Ohio st. Mrs. Hugh Schwartzberg, who has been living at the

Fullerton address since 1966, said the building is a one-family residence.

The Schwartzberg residence is rented from the McCormick Theological seminary. An assistant to the seminary treasurer said the three-story brick home was used as a rooming or boarding house in 1952 and later was remodeled into a one-family residence.

The Callaghan Publishing company was located at 401 E. Ohio st. at the time of the arrest. A spokesman for the company, now located at 6141 N. Cicero av., said employment records of persons leaving the company are destroyed after eight years.

"We have no way of knowing if he ever worked here," the spokesman said.

Because of his Chicago residence, Federal Bureau of Investigation agents have been checking all north side rooming houses since Tuesday night, THE TRIBUNE learned.

Federal agents, pursuing the possibility that Ray, who as Galt claimed he was an unemployed seaman, checked membership records of the Seafarer's International union at 9893 Ewing av. A union office worker said a computer check of names disclosed there was a "J. E. Ray" as a member and the FBI was provided with the man's work permit number and his social security number.

The office worker said it appeared the Ray listed as a member would be much older than the man being sought.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

EDITION: 3 STAR FINAL

DATE: 4-20-68

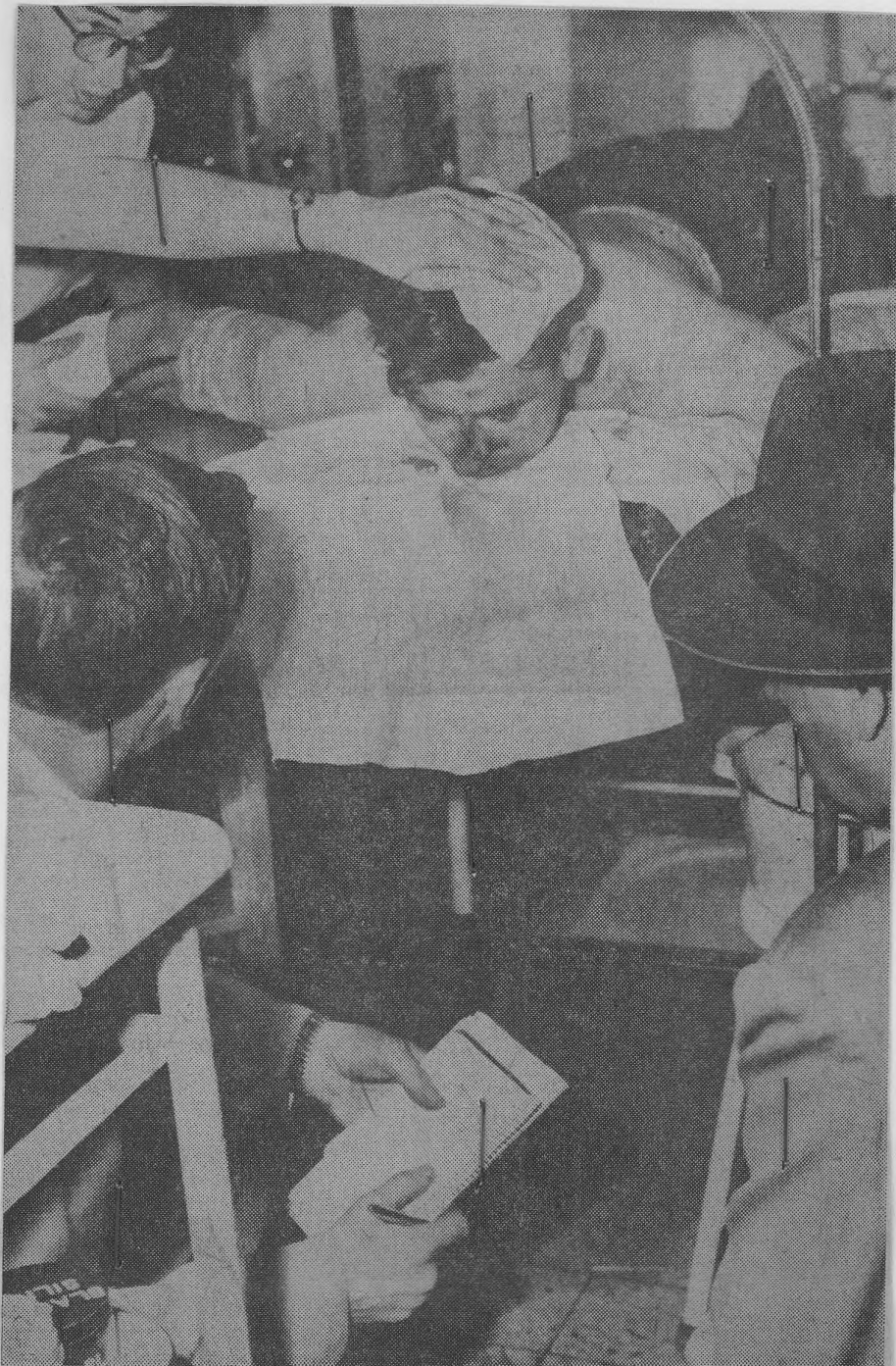
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EDITOR: W.D. MAXWELL

CHICAGO OFFICE

44-1114-20

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 22 1968	
FBI - CHICAGO	



[TRIBUNE Staff Photo]

## Ray Wounded in 1952

Policemen question James Earl Ray in picture taken in 1952 after he had been wounded by police as he tried to escape in 10-dollar holdup of cab driver. He was later sentenced on charge.

# Fugitive Called a Loner Who Likes to Dance

FBI agents describe James Earl Ray, accused slayer of Martin Luther King, as a loner who roamed thruout the country using a variety of aliases.

He is described as being 40 years old, 5 feet, 10 inches, weighing 163 to 174 pounds, with brown hair and blue eyes.

Ray has a small scar on his forehead and another on his right palm. His left ear protrudes slightly farther from his head than his right ear.

## Likes Western Music

He also reportedly speaks with a slight southern accent, likes country and western music, and has a nervous habit of pulling at an ear lobe with his left hand.

He has a reputation as a loner. Ray is a neat dresser and avid dancer. Agents have discovered he took dancing lessons in at least three cities between 1964 and 1968.

His aliases include John Willard, Harvey Lowmyer, James McBride, James Walton, W. C. Herron, and James O'Connor, in addition to Eric Starvo Galt.

Ray is known to have worked as a baker, a laborer, and a color matcher, and has claimed to be a merchant seaman, a cook, and a shipyard worker.

Altho he was an escaped convict, he was able to obtain a drivers license under the name of Galt a year ago, when he purchased a new white Mustang.

## Passes Mental Test

He has lived as far west as California and as far south as New Orleans.

Ray underwent a mental examination after an unsuccessful

escape attempt from the Missouri state prison and was found to have "no mental disease or defect within the law."

He was born in Alton, Ill., and left school after the 10th grade. Hospital records at Fulton, Mo., list his parents as deceased, but prison records list his mother as Mrs. Lucille Ryan, of St. Louis.

Ray reportedly has a brother, Jerry, living in a western suburb of Chicago, and a wife in Birmingham, Ala.

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44-1114-21

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 22 1968	
FBI — CHICAGO	



# FBI Leads Massive Hunt for Ex-Convict HINT RAY WAS HIRED TO KILL KING

## James Earl Ray Has Long Record

BY WILLIAM GARRETT

Months before James Earl Ray, 40, was being hunted in the assassination of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., the Federal Bureau of Investigation was on his trail.

That's nothing new, tho. Ray has escaped or tried to escape from authorities so many times he was given the nickname "The Mole" in the Missouri State penitentiary at Jefferson City, Mo.

The FBI has been looking for Ray since a federal warrant was issued charging him with unlawful flight across state lines after he broke out of the Missouri prison April 23, 1967.

### Worked in Food Service

Harold Swenson, the prison's warden, said Ray apparently escaped in a bread truck. Swenson said Ray worked in the prison's food service building and had access to trucks that delivered bread baked in the prison to prison farms elsewhere.

Ray must have hidden in a

big bread box in the rear of the truck, Swenson said, and jumped off before the truck got to the prison farm.

On two other occasions he was reported missing but was found in the prison both times.

Ray was found hiding in a ventilator shaft while trying to escape on March 14, 1966.

On Nov. 19, 1961, Ray tried to scramble over the wall using a ladder, but the ladder collapsed.

Except for his escape attempts, Ray had a relatively good prison record, Swenson said. He described Ray as "a loner," saying he had "no close associates or friends."

Ray was taken to the Missouri prison after being convicted for the 1959 holdup of a St. Louis supermarket. He was sentenced to 20 years.

Police said Ray and another man had robbed an Alton, Ill., supermarket of \$191 earlier that year.

Born in 1928

Ray was born in Alton on March 10, 1928. His father, James Earl Ray Sr., is listed as a laborer on birth records there. His mother is Mrs. Lucille Ryan of St. Louis.

He dropped out of school in the 10th grade, and left Alton to join the army in 1946.

Ray was given a general discharge in December, 1948, for ineptness and inability to adapt to army life.

Army records show Ray served 3 months at hard labor for drunkenness and breaking arrest.

A year after he got out of the army, Ray was arrested after he tried to steal a type-

writer from a cafeteria in downtown Los Angeles.

Ray ran after being surprised by the assistant manager. A parking lot attendant grabbed Ray, but he broke away, dropping his army discharge papers and a bank book.

Four days later, the attendant saw Ray emerging from a bank and alerted police.

Ray was sentenced to 90 days in the County jail for second degree burglary and was placed on 2 years' probation.

### Other Arrests Listed

In 1950, Ray was arrested for vagrancy in Cedar Rapids,

Ia. There is no record of a conviction.

Ray was arrested in Alton, Ill., on July 23, 1951, for having no operator's license and no city license.

Less than a year later he was seized in Chicago after

CHICAGO AMERICAN

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

DIAMOND FINAL

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CHICAGO OFFICE

44-1114-22

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 22 1968	
FBI - CHICAGO	

robbing a cab driver on the near north side.

He was sentenced to 1 to 2 years at the Illinois State penitentiary at Joliet, was transferred to the state prison at Pontiac, and was released on March 21, 1954.

#### U. S. Postal Charge

Five months later, Ray was arrested for burglary in Edwardsville, Ill.

On March 23, 1955, Ray was arrested by a Missouri highway patrolman in Hannibal, Mo., for breaking into a Kansas City postoffice.

Ray was convicted of forging government documents—postal money orders—and was sentenced to 3 years and 9 months in Fort Leavenworth, Kas., federal prison.

After his release in April, 1958, Ray returned to Alton. His arrest for the St. Louis supermarket robbery and his imprisonment followed the next year.



*This is 1952 police photo of James Earl Ray*



[AP Wirephotos]

*This is 1968 FBI photo-sketch of Ray, alias Eric Galt*



# Finger Prints Used to Identify Illinois Man, 40

BY DON HARRIS

Rivaling some of the greatest manhunts in history, the search for the killer of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. today spread across the nation.

James Earl Ray, 40, born in Alton, Ill., is identified by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as the assassination suspect.

Ray, an escapee from the Missouri State prison at Jefferson City, Mo., is being sought in Chicago, downstate Illinois, Los Angeles, New Orleans, Birmingham, Ala., St. Louis, and anywhere else he has lived.

## On "Most Wanted" List

The FBI today placed Ray on its "most wanted" list.

The suspect actually is the 11th man placed on the traditional list of "10 most wanted fugitives," but the search for Ray obviously overshadows all others.

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover leading the massive hunt with Attorney General Ramsay Clark said, the fugitive was added to the list "to insure the widest possible dissemination of Ray's photograph and description to help effect his earliest possible location."

Not since the days of the search for the Lindbergh baby kidnaper or John Dillinger, once labeled Public Enemy No. 1, have the FBI and other law enforcement agencies put so many men on the trail of a fugitive.

## Hired to Kill?

The sudden disclosure by the FBI that Ray is the "Eric Starvo Galt," named as a suspect in King's murder in a federal warrant issued Wednes-

day in Birmingham, Ala., still leaves unanswered a motive for the crime.

There is speculation that Ray was hired to kill King. The civil rights leader was shot to death April 4 while standing on the balcony of a Memphis motel.

The fatal shot was traced to a bathroom in a nearby flophouse. The suspect, using the name John Willard, had rented a room in the building. He fled, leaving behind a Remington 30.06 caliber rifle and finger prints.

Warden Harold Swenson of the Missouri prison, from which Ray escaped April 23, 1967, said there is no doubt in his mind that Ray "could be a paid assassin."

## Check Police Records

"He is extremely dangerous, cold blooded, and ruthless," Swenson said.

Information from all over the country is being channeled thru the FBI headquarters in Washington.

Now that the FBI has identified Ray as the mysterious Galt, police departments throughout the land are better able to assist in the search.

His police record in various cities, including Chicago, is being checked.

## Hundreds Face Quizzing

Hundreds of associates of Ray, including persons he met while spending 13 years and 5

months in prison, are being sought and questioned.

Former prison mates of Ray will be watched closely in case the fugitive seeks refuge with one of them.

The FBI has distributed pictures of Ray, a complete description, including his habits, such as pulling an ear lobe with his left hand, and a list of his many aliases, to police in major cities.

The next step will be to flood smaller towns and sheriff's police with information on Ray's background.

## Many Arrests Likely

Authorities expect numerous pickups of possible suspects. An unidentified man was taken from an Illinois Central railroad freight train yesterday afternoon in Clinton, Ill., after authorities received a tip that he looked like Ray.

DeWitt county Sheriff Claude Barrett said the man is being held pending identification by the FBI. Agents in Springfield, Ill., said they have no reason to believe the man is Ray, but are checking all leads.

Identification should be easier now that authorities have complete sets of Ray's finger prints available for distribution.

## Finger Prints Checked

FBI Director Hoover explained how it was determined that Galt and Ray were the same person.

"A systematic and exhaustive search of latent finger prints uncovered in the Dr. King case [were matched] against the finger prints of more than 53,000 persons for whom 'wanted notices' have been posted in FBI files," Hoover said.

The FBI did not say where it got the finger prints. There is speculation they were left in the rooming house, on the rifle, or on a 1966 white Mustang witnesses reported leaving the vicinity of the shooting.

## Other Aliases Listed

The car has since been impounded in Atlanta.

In addition to Galt and Willard, Ray used such aliases as Harvey Lowmyer, James McBride, James Walton, W. C. Herron, and James O'Connor.

The name Galt was given when the rifle that was used to kill King was purchased in Birmingham, Ala., 5 days before the assassination.

Some investigators believe Galt was a cover name used by several men in a conspiracy to murder King. The FBI still insists there was no conspiracy, tho a brother of Ray reportedly has been questioned in Chicago.

## More Than One Man?

Some of the various descriptions of Galt given by persons who met him in the last 6

months increased speculation that more than one man used the name. They include:

A long-nosed man in his late twenties who was seen in the Memphis rooming house from which the shot was fired that killed King.

A 30-year old, quiet-spoken man who talked about the weather in a Birmingham rooming house last fall.

A 36-year-old "avid dancer" who bought a rifle in Birmingham, and who took dancing lessons in New Orleans at a time when Ray was in prison.

An apparent inconsistency in the descriptions of Ray or Galt is that he is a loner, but likes to dance.

## "Very Smart Cookie"

Warden Swenson described Ray as "a very smart cookie."

"He was tough, wiry, and determined to go over the wall," Swenson said. "He would never accept confinement. He had to be out, free

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CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

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SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>ln</i>	FILED <i>ln</i>
APR 22 1968	
FBI - CHICAGO	

to do whatever he pleased. "They called him 'the mole,' because he would dig into the earth, do anything to try to get out."

The warden said Ray never showed any prejudice toward Negroes.

#### Escapes in Bread Truck

"He was a loner while in prison," Swenson said. "He was not aggressive in manner, but the general feeling among prisoners was that he was a man to be left alone."

Ray was unsuccessful in two escape attempts at the Missouri prison. He made it on his third try, hiding in a bread truck.

After one of his escape failures, Ray was sent to a prison hospital in Fulton, Mo., for a mental checkup. Dr. Donald B. Peterson, hospital superintendent, commented:

"We gave him our Grade A, Class I workup. We found no mental disease or defect within the law."

#### Served 7 Years

Ray had served 7 years of a 20-year sentence for the 1959 armed robbery of a St. Louis supermarket when he fled.

In his home town of Alton, Ill., his reputation is well known. Police Chief William H. Peterson described Ray as "a dirty-necked thief who slept all day and stole all night."

"His record is as dirty as he is," Petersen said.

#### Mystery About Lessons

The FBI has yet to explain why, in its Wednesday statement, it said Galt took dancing lessons in New Orleans in 1964 and 1965. Ray was in the Missouri prison then.

The federal warrant for Galt accused him of conspiring with an "alleged brother" in the death of King.

There are indications, however, that the FBI referred to the brother merely because this allowed them to use the conspiracy charge.

Members of Ray's family re-

portedly are cooperating with authorities.

In addition to the federal warrant Ray is sought on a Tennessee murder charge.

Tennessee authorities are expected to ask the death sentence for King's slayer.



**J. EDGAR HOOVER**  
Directs Search

# King Slaying Suspect Once Arrested Here

BY JOEL WEISMAN

CHICAGO IS NO STRANGER to James Earl Ray, 40, sought in connection with the slaying of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

Ray, a native of Alton, Ill., was arrested here at 1:30 a. m. May 6, 1952, after robbing a cab driver of \$11 in front of 19 W. Delaware st.

His capture by police was aided by a passer-by who chased Ray on foot, then flagged down a squad car.

Ray was trapped in a dead-end alley, and was shot thru both arms as he tried to climb over a fence. He fell thru a basement window and was captured.

WHEN RAY APPEARED before Chief Justice Wilbert F. Crowley of Criminal court, he begged for probation, promising that he would "never become involved with the law again."

Ray pleaded guilty to the armed robbery charge, and Crowley sentenced him to 1 to 2 years in prison.

The case was prosecuted under the direction of Chief Judge John S. Boyle of Circuit court, then Cook county state's attorney.

The witness who helped chase Ray, Robert Everhart, 48, of 7470 Overhill av., said he worried for a time that Ray might come looking for revenge. Today, Everhart said:

"I don't care if he does come back. He doesn't worry me. I don't care a bit."

EVERHART doesn't think Ray will be looking for him "because he's got other things on his mind."

Everhart, who kept Ray's prison release date marked on a pocket calendar, said he has scarcely thought of him since 1955.

Ray was discharged from Pontiac reformatory on March 12, 1954. Everhart said he threw away a clipping of the crime in June, 1955, assuming Ray would have come after him by then if he had planned to do so.

Recalling the night Ray was seized in the cab driver robbery, Everhart said he was unable to catch the fleeing thief but saw him run into an alley between State and Dearborn streets.

Then he hailed two Chicago avenue district detectives, George Green, now a captain and watch commander of the 8th district, and John McDonough, now retired.

GREEN FIRED a warning shot, but when Ray refused to surrender, Green fired another shot, hitting him in both arms.

As the detectives led the wounded Ray from the alley, he looked up at Everhart and asked:

"What are you going to get out of this?"

Everhart said his daughters, Sandra, 26, a school teacher, and Susan, an advertising agency employe, and a son, Steve, 17, a high school student, never knew of the incident.

All, including Everhart himself, were startled to learn that Ray is being sought as the suspected killer of King.

WHEN RAY WAS arrested, he gave his address as 853 Fullerton av. The building, along with others in the 800 and 900 blocks of Fullerton avenue, is owned by McCormick Theological seminary. In 1952 they were used as rooming houses. Today they are mostly single family units.

The seminary has no record of Ray ever having lived there.

Several merchants in the area were questioned by reporters, but none could positively say he recognized Ray from pictures released by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The FBI reportedly has questioned a brother of Ray who lives in a western suburb.

An FBI source said all persons who have known Ray will be questioned.

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CHICAGO AMERICAN

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

DIAMOND FINAL

DATE: 4-20-68

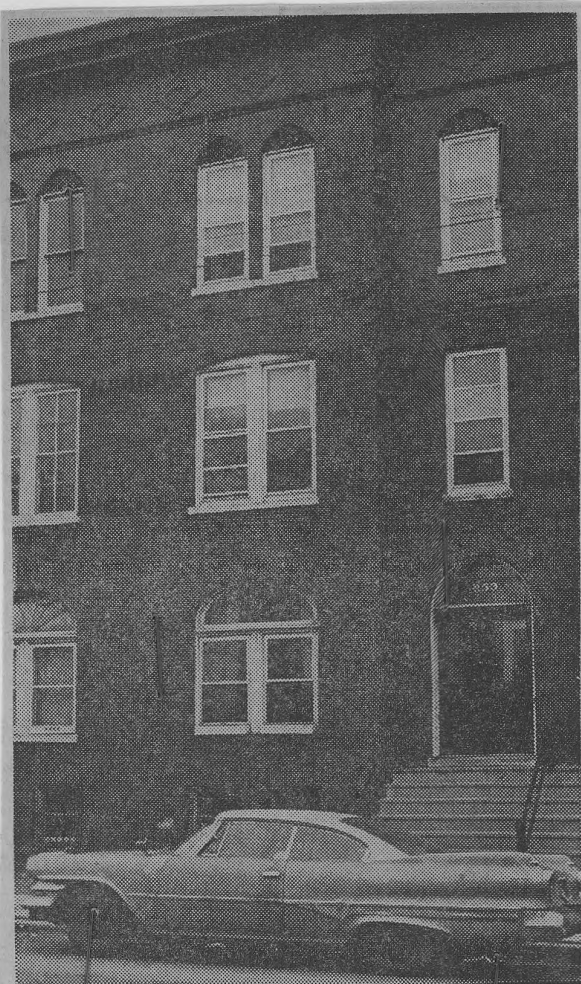
PAGE: 3 COL: 2

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44-1114-24

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>bc</i>	FILED <i>bc</i>
APR 22 1968	
FBI - CHICAGO	



[CHICAGO'S AMERICAN Photo]

**BUILDING** at 853 Fullerton av., now an apartment building, once was a rooming house. James Earl Ray, sought in connection with the assassination of the Rev. Martin Luther King, said he lived here in 1952.

# Ray's old home a fleabag

ST. LOUIS (UPI) —The place where James Earl Ray lived in St. Louis is not fit even for roaches.

It is a sad tattered place in which old, sad, tattered men live.

Ray, before he was sentenced to 20 years for armed robbery in 1959, lived at 2023 Park in what was once a fashionable part of town known as Lafayette Square.

Today, the neighborhood is run down, like the three-story

dilapidated boarding house where Ray lived.

THE MAN who lives in Ray's old room was a shabbily dressed derelict. He was playing solitaire in his 10-by-10 foot room that has one window overlooking the fire escape.

There is a single radiator in the room, dirty checkered linoleum on the floor, and dirty green wallpaper.

There is a single bed, an

old chest of drawers, a night stand and a wooden table.

The house bears a bullet hole mark, a memento of when Ray was captured by police shortly after a grocery holdup. Police warned tenants to stay in their rooms as they made the arrest inside the boarding house.

The bullet hole was patched about one year ago, a most nine years after the grocery holdup in which \$190 was taken.

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244-1114 -25

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 22 1968	
FBI — CHICAGO	





[AP Wirephoto]

## Ray in Lineup

St. Louis police department photo of James Earl Ray made in 1959 at time of his arrest on an armed robbery charge.

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CHICAGO OFFICE

44-1114-26

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>bx</i>	FILED <i>bx</i>
APR 22 1968	
FBI — CHICAGO	

# KING KILLING SUSPECT WAS ESCAPE ARTIST

## Fled Missouri Prison After Robbery

Jefferson City, Mo., April 19 [Special]—James Earl Ray, the man being sought for the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King, escaped from the Missouri state prison in Jefferson City in a bread box.

Prison officials said that on April 23, 1967, Ray apparently hid in the large box in the rear of a truck and waited for the driver to take him outside the prison walls. Then he began wandering. He had a number of aliases including that of Eric Starvo Galt.

His escape from the Missouri state prison came on his third try. On March 14, 1966, he was found hiding in a ventilator shaft while trying to escape. On Nov. 19, 1961, he tried to go over the prison walls by using a ladder. The ladder collapsed.

### Convicted of Robbery

He arrived at the prison after his conviction for the 1959 robbery of a St. Louis supermarket. Earlier that year, police said, he and another man took \$2,000 from a supermarket in Alton, Ill.

Donald B. Peterson, prison hospital superintendent, said:

"We found no mental disease or defect within the law. There was nothing outstanding about him one way or the other."

Ray had been in St. Louis only a short time before he was arrested for the robbery. Miss Helen McLaughlin, who rented a room to Ray while he was in St. Louis, remembered him as "a nice looking fellow who paid his rent just like anyone else."

### A Constant Problem

Warden Harold Swenson of the Missouri state prison said Ray "was a constant disciplinary problem. He was always trying to hide out. He always seemed to work alone."

Ray—or Galt—showed up in Birmingham, Ala., following his escape. He took up residence in a cheap rooming house. He bought an auto there—a white Mustang—and he also bought a rifle.

While wandering around, he described himself as a baker, which was a job he held in prison, and he described himself as a seaman, a job he apparently never held.

She said she talked to Ray and his accomplice on the day they were arrested for the robbery.

### Known as Racist

People who knew Galt in Los Angeles described him as a rabid racist.

Gino Clarke, a bartender, said Galt was a nightly visitor to his Hollywood boulevard club.

There he would drink screwdrivers [orange juice and vodka] and talk so strongly against Negroes, that there would have been problems if any were around.

One night, Clarke said, Galt got so steamed up about a woman praising Negroes that he grabbed her arm and pushed her to the door, shouting, "I'll drop you off in Watts and see how you like it there."

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CHICAGO TRIBUNE

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

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CHICAGO OFFICE

c) 44-1114-27

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 22 1968	
FBI — CHICAGO	

# Probers Hint 'Galt' Is Plot Code Name

Birmingham, Ala., April 19 (UPI)—Eric Starvo Galt, named in warrants as the slayer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., may have been a code phrase for the entire assassination operation rather than one person's name, investigators theorized today.

Sources close to the investigation said the name Eric Starvo Galt appears in too many widely scattered places at about the same time along with varied descriptions—thus leading to the more-than-one Galt theory.

## 2 Key Incidents

Two key incidents in the intensive manhunt for Galt, or James Earl Ray, point out that witnesses have told newsmen and Federal Bureau of Investigation agents of seeing Galt in two places at the same time.

Last March 1, the Alabama highway patrol received a call from a man identifying himself as Eric S. Galt and asking for a duplicate to a driver's license that he claimed to have lost.

Five days after the duplicate form was mailed the state patrol headquarters in Montgomery received the paid bill for the license.

## Both Saw Galt

Two gasoline station attendants in Birmingham said they saw Galt in their station as recently as mid-February.

Both these stories conflict with an earlier FBI statement that Galt was in Los Angeles at a bartending school.

To further complicate things, roomers and the manager of the boarding house in Birmingham where Galt stayed said he has not been seen since he left last Oct. 7.

The gasoline station employees, Jimmy Phillips and Henry Rowell, told the FBI a man resembling the FBI's pic-

ture of Galt, who drove a white Mustang, traded at their station last September and October and in February.

## Trace Trading Stamps

It was learned the FBI traced trading stamps found in the Mustang when it was confiscated in Atlanta to the stamp company in New York, back to Birmingham and to the district manager who would have sold stamps to the gasoline station.

The station is located only a short distance from the rooming house where Galt lived from last August to October.

Sources said the conflict may be resolved by the theory that at least two men — men who closely resembled each other, perhaps brothers — used the alias Eric Starvo Galt.

## Theory Is Supported

The widely varying descriptions seem to support the theory that there is more than one Eric Starvo Galt.

They include:

From the Memphis assassination witnesses, an artist's drawing of a man neatly dressed, in his late twenties, with a long nose.

From the Birmingham boarding house, a picture of a 30-year-old man, quiet, soft-spoken.

From the FBI, under the name Eric Galt, a 36-year-old man who is an "avid dancer" and took dancing lessons in New Orleans at the time James Earl Ray was imprisoned in Missouri.

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CHICAGO OFFICE

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SEARCHED <i>br</i>	INDEXED <i>br</i>
SERIALIZED <i>br</i>	FILED <i>br</i>
APR 22 1968	
FBI — CHICAGO	

# Bare Chicago Past

## Sought In City By FBI

By Art Petacque

James Earl Ray, 40, suspected as the slayer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., is a former Chicago resident who has been sought here during the last week by FBI agents. The Sun-Times learned Friday.

Ray, also known as Eric Starvo Galt, is a native of Alton, Ill., and apparently is an avid dancer who frequented learn-to-dance studios.

For this reason, FBI agents in the last four or five days have checked at least four dance studios in Chicago, and probably more, looking for him.

### 3 Names Checked

The Sun-Times learned that agents supplied dance studio operators here with three names to check against the

names of their registered students. One of the names was Galt. Neither of the other two was Ray.

In addition to Galt, Ray

used four aliases — James McBride, James Walton, William Herron and James O'Connor.

In their manhunt, the FBI agents checked 53,000 fingerprints with the prints found in the King killing.

Besides dance studios, they checked bartender schools and the bartenders' union, carrying with them at least two photos of Galt.

When they learned from the fingerprints that Galt really was Ray, they began a re-check of every place they had visited previously.

It was learned that agents called at the four Fred Astaire Dance Studios at 32 W. Randolph, 1623 W. Melrose, 4077 N. Milwaukee and 2144 W. 95th.

Also checked was a fifth studio, the Winn School of Music and Dancing, 3845 W. Fullerton, where agents showed employees a picture of Ray.

None could identify him.

Ray lived in Chicago for about nine months in the early 1950s. On May 6, 1952, he was arrested by Chicago Av. detective George Green, now watch commander of the 8th District, and his partner John McDonough, since retired, for armed robbery. Green is Mayor Daley's brother-in-law.

Ray was shot during the cap-

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CHICAGO OFFICE

44-1114-29

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>bx</i>	FILED <i>mc</i>
APR 22 1968	
FBI — CHICAGO	



ture and wounded in both arms.

Ray, who gave his address then as 853 W. Fullerton, told police that he worked as a laborer at 409 E. Ohio and had been in Chicago nine months. He was arrested at 19 W. Delaware, and charged with the robbery of Louis Knox, then of 6945 N. Paulina, police records show.

(No one in the area around 853 W. Fullerton remembers Ray.)

He was also charged with robbing a Yellow Cab Co. driver, Earl Docker.

Knox was a passenger in the cab driven by Docker.

The gun used in the robbery was not found.

Ray was held to the Cook County grand jury on \$3,000 bond by the late Felony Court Judge Matthew Hartigan. He was convicted and sentenced on June 4, 1952, by Judge Wilbur Crowley to one to two years in prison.

He was taken to Stateville Penitentiary at Joliet where he wore prison No. 32419, and on July 7, 1952, was transferred to Pontiac (Ill.) Reformatory, where he wore No. 19121.

He served his full term and was discharged on March 12, 1954.

It was learned that Ray was born [redacted] in Alton, Ill., in the family home at 1021 W. 9th. His father was James, a laborer, and his mother was listed as Lucy Mahler Ray.

He was their first son, records in the Madison County Courthouse at Edwardsville show.

A Dr. David Duggan delivered him.

Ray left home at the age of 16, and entered the Army in February, 1946. He received a general discharge from the

service for "ineptness and lack of adaptability for military service."

Ray's prison record says he was a military policeman while serving in Germany.

Records show his religion to be Baptist, and his ancestry English and German.

The mother apparently remarried and is listed as Mrs. Lucille Ryan, of 214 Spring, Quincy, Ill., according to Illinois prison records.

Ray also had an arrest record in Alton.

Police Chief William H. Petersen recalled him as a "dirty-necked thief who slept all day and stole all night."

Petersen said Ray held up Wegner's Foodliner there, only six blocks from the police station, in August, 1959.

"His record is as dirty as

he is," said Petersen, and it dates back to January, 1949.

On July 19, 1951, Ray was arrested for not having a driver's license. Also in July, 1951, he received a 90-day suspended sentence for vagrancy. In August, 1954, he was arrested for burglary, and in January, 1955, he received a one-year suspended sentence for vagrancy again.

Bernie Burford, 57, who said he knew Ray in Alton described him as a "happy-go-lucky" person who liked to sing with hillbilly bands.

He said he remembered Ray from the time Burford worked in a hillbilly band in the 409 Tavern in Alton.

"He used to come in all the time, whenever we played," said Burford, now a mechanic at a service station at 9th and Bell in Alton.

"He used to come in and come right up to the band and talk to us first thing. According to him (Ray), we were old buddy-buddies. That was his thinking, not mine. He was always the happy-go-lucky, jolly guy."

Ray also lived in Quincy, and later was picked up in St. Louis for armed robbery and was sentenced to 20 years in prison as a habitual criminal, Petersen recalled.

It was while serving this term that Ray escaped.

Since then, he has been sought by the FBI on a complaint filed in Jefferson City, Mo., charging him with unlawfully fleeing Missouri to avoid confinement.

A Chicago Police Department photograph of Ray showed a man with dark, straight hair parted on the left side, clean shaven, standing 5 feet 10 and weighing 150 pounds.

Cook County Circuit Court Chief Judge John S. Boyle was state's attorney at the time Ray was prosecuted here.

Ray pleaded guilty to the charge, records show.





# Galt Unmasked: Dr. King Suspect Escaped Convict

By Robert L. Jackson and Ronald J. Ostrow

Special from the Los Angeles Times

Eric Starvo Galt, the shadowy suspect in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was identified Friday by the FBI as an escaped armed robber and car thief whose real name is James Earl Ray.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation said it uncovered Ray, 40, by tediously matching faint fingerprints found in the two-week-old investigation against those of more than 53,000 fugitives described in FBI files.

Ray, who employed a variety of other aliases during an 18-year crime career, is now the object of one of the greatest manhunts in history involving FBI, and State and local police across the country.

## Escaped A Year Ago

Ray escaped April 23, 1967, from the Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City. He had served seven years of a 20-year sentence for the \$120 armed robbery of a St. Louis supermarket and for stealing a car.

His arrest record, the FBI said, traces back to 1949 when he was convicted of a Los Angeles burglary for which he served time in the county jail.

## Hit In Truck

He was convicted of a Chicago armed robbery in 1952 and served two years in Joliet and Pontiac, Ill., state pri-

sons. In 1955, he was convicted of forging postal money orders in Missouri and sentenced to the federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kan., until 1958. In 1960 he was imprisoned for the armed robbery.

After at least one unsuccessful attempt to escape from the Missouri prison, Ray made his break last year, apparently hiding in a bakery truck that was making deliveries outside the walls to prison honor farms.

An unsuccessful escape attempt in 1966 caused Ray to be transferred to the state mental hospital at Fulton, Mo., where he underwent "mental observation" from Sept. 18 to Oct. 21, 1966.

Dr. Donald Petersen, hospital superintendent, said Ray should not be considered "an ex-mental patient." He explained that many inmates

who try to escape are sent to Fulton for mental examination to determine if they view

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SEARCHED <i>brc</i>	INDEXED <i>brc</i>
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APR 22 1968	
FBI - CHICAGO	

themselves as responsible for their actions.

"There was no evidence whatsoever of any mental disease or defect," Peterson said. He said the prisoner was "well behaved with us" and exhibited no strong racial prejudices or other psychological quirks.

While at the mental hospital, Ray was confined to a maximum security ward for the criminally insane.

Ray's hospital records listed a brother, Jerry Ray, of Post Office Box 22, Wheeling, Ill. In addition, a wanted poster issued by Missouri authorities when Ray escaped from prison last year also listed a John Ray of St. Louis as a brother.

No trace of either brother could be found by reporters Friday, and the FBI declined comment when asked about them.

#### Warrants Still Apply

The FBI conspiracy charge filed Wednesday against "Galt" said he had conspired against Dr. King with an unnamed brother. Sources have since suggested, however, that only one suspect is being sought.

The conspiracy warrant against "Galt," as well as a later Tennessee first-degree murder charge against him, still apply against Ray, federal sources said.

The FBI said all activities and travel previously attributed to "Galt" actually apply to Ray—with one exception. The bureau had said "Galt" took dancing lessons in New Orleans in 1964 and 1965, but this was an error since the suspect was in prison at the time.

Authorities said Ray did attend a Long Beach (Calif.) dancing school and a Los Angeles bartender school during a three-month period starting last December, as previously reported by the FBI.

Ray has lived as far west as California, as far south as New Orleans, and in Memphis, where on April 4 Dr. King was assassinated.

The bureau's dossier on Ray indicates he has been a drifter. He has worked as a baker, laborer and color matcher.

A 1960 prison photograph released Friday by the FBI, with front and side views, showed a slightly thinner face with sharper nose than the "Galt" photo distributed Wednesday.

#### Army Record Tainted

During almost two decades of arrests and convictions, Ray has used such aliases as James McBride, James Walton, W. C. Herron and James O'Conner, in addition to Harvey Lowmyer, John Williard and Galt.

His army record, too, was tainted. After enlisting at East St. Louis, Ill., in 1946 — at the age of 17 — he was sentenced to three months' hard labor for drunkenness and breaking arrest.

He was given a general discharge in December, 1948, due to "ineptness and lack of adaptability for military service," the FBI said.



This photo of James Earl Ray was made by the St. Louis police department in 1959 after his arrest there on a charge of armed robbery. (AP)



This photo of James Earl Ray was taken in 1959 by the St. Louis police after he was arrested and charged with the armed robbery of a grocery there.



This drawing was issued by the FBI after the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. It was composed from descriptions of a man calling himself Eric Starvo Galt.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## Fugitive in King case

# Ray, alias Galt: fame from murder

By Joe Cappo

James Earl Ray passed through many places—and had run-ins with the law in several of them, including Chicago—before he became one of the nation's most wanted men.

The Illinois native wanted on charges of murder and conspiracy in the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is described by the FBI as a loner and a drifter—not unlike some other figures in recent history, Richard Speck and Lee Harvey Oswald.

As was the case with Speck and Oswald, a sensational

murder case has vaulted Ray from obscurity.

**RAY KNOWN** as Eric Starvo Galt to millions of Americans, did not spend much time in Chicago. He does not seem to have spent much time anywhere since the end of his 17th year.

Ray came here late in 1951 and moved into a modest room at 853 W. Fullerton, owned by the McCormick Theological Seminary.

At one point, Ray listed his place of employment as 409 E. Ohio, where he said he was a laborer. A publishing company located there at the time,

however, says it has no record of him.

Another employer he listed was the Avery Corp., 3500 N. Kimball, but it has no record of James Earl Ray.

**ABOUT 1:30 A.M.** on May 6, 1952, Ray hailed a Red Top taxi on the Near North Side and ordered the driver to take

him to State and Delaware in the Rush St. district.

When they reached the destination, the driver, Louis Knox, of 6945 N. Paulina, said Ray put a gun to his head and demanded money. As Knox turned over \$11 to the

bandit, Robert Evehart, of 7404 N. Overhill, saw what was happening and hailed a squad car.

The policemen, George Green, now watch commander at the Chicago Lawn District, and John McDonough, now retired, chased Ray on foot.

At 19 W. Delaware, the report reads, Ray dived through a basement window as Green fired at him. Hit in both arms, he was arrested and treated at Henrotin Hospital before being transferred to the House of Correction.

**RAY, THEN 24,** pleaded guilty to armed robbery and asked for probation, saying he would "get a job and never get involved with the law again."

Ray was sentenced to 1 to 2 years in prison by Judge Wilbert F. Crowley, and sent to a diagnostic center for convicts at Joliet.

Reports made there indicate Ray had a superior mental rating and an intelligence quotient of 120 to 128. Other sections of the report were not so favorable: "Use of alcohol:

intemperate; personality rating: unstable; psychiatric prognosis: problematic to doubtful; social type: socially inadequate."

After a month at Joliet, Ray was shipped to the state penitentiary at Pontiac. He was released March 12, 1954, at the expiration of his sentence.

**AT THE TIME,** Ray listed the address of his mother, Lucille, in Quincy, Ill. He also said he had two brothers, John and Jerry, both younger than he.

His father, listed variously as James or Gorge, was sometimes reported deceased, sometimes reported as having left home in 1947.

Ray was born [redacted] in Alton, Ill. He attended

a rural grammar school near Alton, and dropped out about the 10th grade.

In February, 1946, he enlisted in the Army, but was given a general discharge in December, 1948, because of "ineptness and lack of adaptability for military service."

**THE NEXT REPORT** of Ray comes from Los Angeles. He was arrested for burglary in 1949 and spent 90 days in the Los Angeles County Jail.

In 1950, he was arrested for vagrancy in Cedar Rapids,

Iowa, but was released. The next year, he was picked up in Alton for driving without an operator's license.

Some time after that he came to Chicago.

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

1

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