

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Clark Says King's Killer

'On Run'

© New York Times Service

MEMPHIS — Att. Gen., Ramsey Clark said yesterday that investigators have evidence that the killer of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is "on the run" and that "the trail has lengthened" in the last two days.

Appearing from Washington on the television program "Meet the Press," Clark was not specific. But his comments evoked the impression that FBI agents knew who had shot Dr. King in Memphis Thursday night and were pursuing him.

DID THIS mean that the FBI had a photograph of the sniper who had lain in wait for three hours in a Memphis rooming house to shoot the civil rights leader?

Photographers would furnish pictures of the man, said the attorney general. An arrest, he said, will be made "as soon as possible."

Clark said the Justice Department has the name used by the long-nosed young

white man believed to have been the sniper — John Willard. "Whether it is his right one remains to be seen", he said.

He also hinted strongly that a 30.06-caliber Remington rifle which was found in a doorway near the rooming house on S. Main Street Thursday night was the murder weapon.

THE SINGLE bullet that killed Dr. King was sent to FBI laboratories in Washington for examination.

"Ballistic tests have been made", said Clark. He added that the results of the tests "will be used as evidence" in the trial.

The attorney general, who has given the only official information since Dr. King was felled, said that there still is no evidence to indicate a conspiracy.

"This was", he said, "a carefully planned assault." But "the evidence still points very strongly" to only a single assassin.

THE FBI in Washington and Memphis refused to say how many agents were working on the slaying. A police source in Memphis said that "about 100" FBI agents were there and were carrying the burden of the investigation.

Leads have been pouring in to Memphis police since rewards amounting to more than \$100,000 have been offered for information leading to the arrest and con-

viction of the slayer. Since Friday, the police have received more than 200 tips.

Clark said that if a suspect is arrested for the slaying of Dr. King, he will probably be returned to Tennessee for prosecution. It is federal policy, he said, "that when a crime of this nature has been committed to defer to the state" unless there is reason to believe that the state will not prosecute vigorously.

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Cher Press 4-9-68

NAACP Director

Urges Non-Violence

NEW YORK — (UPI) — The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) appealed to Negroes throughout the nation to reject violence and "the shrill contention of the militants that they are taking over the Negro community."

The NAACP drive also included a program to get jobs for the unemployed by improving community relations.

Roy Wilkins, executive director of the NAACP, warned that despite exhortations of extremists to "get whitey," most of the people killed in racial disorders are Negroes.

Wilkins criticized Stokely Carmichael, the Black Power militant, suggesting Carmichael's attitude changed overnight after the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Wilkins said Carmichael talked in a calm and reasonable manner following the assassination of King.

"The next day, miraculously, as if somebody had come to see him and talked to him, comes that talk about 'get your guns,'" Wilkins said.

"If you ask me whether Carmichael is his own man," Wilkins said, "I am sorry, I don't know Carmichael and his connections well enough to guess whether he is his own man."

The NAACP also sent to its 1500 branches throughout the nation thousands of stickers with slogans appealing to reason and warning against violence.

4-10-68
Cleveland, O.

F.B.I.

Cleveland, O.

Sub. Dr King

Dear Sir:

Yesterday I talked with one of your agents
via phone about 1:15 PM suggesting to him
that the black extremist had Dr King
killed for mainly the reason that he
was cluttering up the track for them and
actually doing them more harm than good.

Of course there were many advantages
to hire a white man for the kill.

If a white extremist decided to kill a
Popular negro looks like he would rather
pick on Powell, Brown or S. Carmichael.

This new paper clipping enclosed only
suggests to me what I believe makes
~~sense~~ sense.

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Just a friend

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Conspiracy Suspected in Dr. King Murder

From Wire Reports

MEMPHIS — A possible fake Memphis police report broadcast shortly after the assassination of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. last Thursday has given rise to speculation that the civil rights leader was the victim of a murder conspiracy.

Memphis police searching for Dr. King's killer on the night he was shot were drawn to the north side of the city 34 minutes after the shooting by a false report from "Police Car 160" that a white Mustang automobile, believed to be the get-away car, was speeding along city streets.

DETECTIVES have been investigating the possibility that the report was relayed by an accomplice of the killer to the central police radio in an effort to keep attention away from Southern Memphis where the killer may have actually fled.

The Commercial Appeal, a Memphis newspaper, quoted Police Lt. R. W. Bradshaw, assigned to Police Car 160 that night, as saying that he did not see a white Mustang and did not chase one that night.

Meanwhile, it was learned that the rifle used to murder Dr. King was purchased

in Birmingham, Ala., a few days before the slaying. Informants said FBI agents traced the rifle to a store in Birmingham through its serial number.

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Who Killed Dr. King?

Memphis Talks but Doesn't Know

By SAM GIAIMO, Press Staff Writer

MEMPHIS—There is no more curfew in Memphis today. You can buy liquor. You can buy guns and ammunition. And you can buy rumors, a dime a dozen, about the assassin who killed Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

But you can't buy any facts from investigators. They simply don't know who the killer is.

I stood at the bathroom window in the flophouse from which the sniper fired his lethal shot one week ago today. I stepped out onto the motel balcony, still draped with floral wreaths, where Dr. King fell in agony.

I interviewed Police and Fire Director Frank Holloman. And I walked around Memphis, talking with people, white and black.

But I learned only two new facts.

THE BULLET THAT KILLED King was a dum-dum type, soft, tearing a gaping hole, shattering against bones.

A CARTRIDGE CASING was found in the flophouse bathroom, which gives the FBI something to test to see if it was fired from the 30-caliber Remington rifle found in a Browning Automatic Arms Co. box on the sidewalk near the flophouse.

In the absence of facts about the investigation rumors are flying thick and fast among the Memphis citizenry. I found little feeling of outrage about the assassination of the civil rights leader. I found more a sense of regret that it had to happen in Memphis of all places.

ONE RUMOR IS THAT the killing was an elaborate conspiracy, that the killer clique even put out false police radio broadcasts to confuse police after the shooting.

A story that a police lieutenant saw a white Mustang being chased by a blue Pontiac northeast of town and that the Mustang was seen near the flophouse has now been enlarged to a report that there were two white Mustangs racing from the scene.

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"In the interests of the nation I cannot comment on these reports," said Holloman. "The investigation overrides everything. We are working on it. We are optimistic."

Holloman would not comment on a report that the murder weapon had been traced to a Birmingham gun shop by the serial number.

"If you only knew the weight on these shoulders," he said, touching one of his.

As I stood in the bathroom where the sniper sat in a chair, patiently waiting for his chance to shoot at Dr. King, I looked across the street, across the vacant lot at the rear of the Lorraine motel and the King balcony, 206 feet away.

AND I THOUGHT IT MUST have been a cool, calm, collected man who had rented this room three hours before the assassination, who knew where Dr. King would be, who fired the death bullet and who walked away as police on guard rushed toward the motel, never noticing—

They had their chance to catch him right there, but their attention was attracted to the balcony.

Looking out that bathroom window, about 100 feet to the right, is a fire station. I learned that some of police assigned to guard Dr. King were in there.

BESIDE THE FIRE STATION are some bushes. It was in these bushes that Dr. King's chauffeur said he saw a man crouching just after the shot. I decided that man must have been a policeman.

Memphis citizens are sure the assassin was not a local man. "But he couldn't have been from Mississippi, he was wearing a necktie," one said. "He wasn't from Arkansas, he was wearing shoes," another joshed. That's how some residents here talk about the case.

The killer paid only \$8.50 for a week's use of the quarters that gave him his sniper vantage point.

Dr. King paid \$13 a night for the room with the convenient balcony.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Identity Not Certain on Dr. King's Killer

By SAM GIAIMO, Press Staff Writer

MEMPHIS—The identity of the sniper who assassinated Dr. Martin Luther King is probably not known.

This frustrating belief emerged today as an almost certainty after close scrutiny of the direction the King slaying investigation has taken since he was shot to death on a Memphis motel balcony.

It has now been six days since the assassination and—

NO NAME of a suspect has been announced to ask the public for help in the manhunt.

NO PHOTOGRAPH of any suspect has been published, no background facts about his life or possible whereabouts have been released.

NO FUGITIVE WARRANT has been issued or even requested, say two U. S. commissioners in Memphis.

SOME \$100,000 reward money pledged by Scripps-Howard Newspapers and the City of Memphis has so far

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ded no tangible results.

Admittedly FBI agents as well as city and state police may have more evidence than they are willing to reveal until an arrest is made but when there is a man-hunt a publicly announced identification of a suspect is vital.

TO ALL QUESTIONS about the investigation, Police and Fire Director Frank C. Holloman of Memphis replies: "I have no comment." In fact, he has a public relations man say it for him on most occasions. He is a retired FBI agent who formerly headed the Memphis FBI office.

This leaves the public only with the undoubtedly phony name, "John Willard"—used by the sniper when he rented a room for \$8.50 a week in the flophouse across the street from the Lorraine Motel less than three hours before Dr. King was slain.

And it leaves the public completely puzzled by two events closely following the shooting that authorities have never explained.

One is that just before Dr. King was shot he asked his chauffeur, Solomon Jones Jr., to go to the parking area below his balcony and start the car. Jones and another aide did so.

FROM THE GROUND Jones called up to Dr. King, "You'd better get your coat. It's chilly." Dr. King replied that he would — and was then shot.

Jones said he turned toward the source of the shot and noticed a man crouched in some bushes nearby, a white handkerchief in his hand.

Jones ran inside to reach Dr. King and never saw the skulker again.

Who was this man-in-the-bushes, the public wonders?

A lookout for the sniper who was stationed in the flophouse?

The other unanswered puzzle is that 30 minutes after the assassination a police radio call came from a lieutenant on patrol, reporting that he was passed by a white Mustang and a blue Pontiac, both going 75 mph in a 45-mph zone on the Austin-Peay Highway northeast of town.

THE REPORT was that the Pontiac seemed to be chasing the Mustang, that shots were exchanged between cars.

Who was the lieutenant? "No comment," says Director Holloman.

Police knew of threats to King's life. Forty men were assigned to the area. When the shot was heard at 6:01 p. m. officers rushed for the hotel. "Willard" apparently was able to walk undetected out of the flophouse.

On the sidewalk next to the flophouse was found a new box, marked "Browning Automatic Arms Co." Inside was a Model 760 Remington pump rifle, about 30-caliber, with telescopic sight. Box and rifle are at the FBI lab. No one will say whether test firings have been made to see if the bullet that killed Dr. King came from that gun or whether original ownership of the rifle could be established.

FINGERPRINTS and a palm print were found in the bathroom. Willard's? A previous patron's? No one will say.

U. S. Attorney Ramsey Clark was in Memphis last Saturday, later announcing investigators were concentrating on one man and he hoped to have a picture of him soon.

That hasn't developed. The feeling is the assassin is far, far from Tennessee and that his identity is unknown.

One thing is known for sure — the bullet that killed Dr. King traveled 206 feet from the bathroom window to the motel balcony.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Landlord Recalls King Suspect

From Wire Reports

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

"The resemblance is close enough," said Peter Cherpes, 72, owner of the house where he said Galt lived for six weeks last fall before dropping out of sight.

DEVELOPMENTS yester-

day added to the mystery of Galt's background.

He was supposed to have been employed at a Mississippi shipyard but there was no record of his name on the employe list.

And in Louisiana, where Galt has said he held a driver's license, there was no such record on state files.

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

assassination scene April 4 in Memphis, Tenn.

Within a week of Dr. King's slaying, the FBI was hunting a man identified as Eric Starvo Galt, whose last known address was the Birmingham boarding house.

The hunt has spread into several states.

CHERPES said he was told at first not to talk about Galt, but when he asked the FBI two days ago whether he could discuss the matter, he was told: "We suggest

you don't but we can't keep you from it."

Cherpes said that the man known as Galt had had a room in the boarding house from Aug. 26 to Oct. 7, 1967.

"He registered as having come from Pascagoula, Miss.," Cherpes said.

"He was a good-looking man. He spoke with a Southern accent and dressed well."

Cherpes said he estimated Galt to be between 25 and 30.

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Landlord Recalls King Suspect



From First Page

Galt's driver's license, issued in Birmingham Sept. 6, listed him as 36 and described him as being 5-feet-11, 175 pounds, with brown hair and blue eyes.

A WEEK after renting a

room, Galt asked his landlord to help in getting the license.

"He had bought a car. He asked me if I could drive him down to take the test," Cherpes said.

Cherpes did so, shortly after Galt had bought a white Mustang from a Birmingham car salesman.

A week later, Cherpes said, a package for Galt arrived from Chicago — a cardboard box about 2 feet long and a foot wide.

But Galt had said: "They sent me the wrong merchandise. I'm sending it back."

Cherpes said that Galt left in August saying he had a job in the ships at Mobile, Ala.

ABOUT five months later a letter arrived for him from Chicago, but was returned because there was no forwarding address.

However a duplicate driver's license in Galt's name was mailed to the boarding house in March nearly seven months after Galt had gone.

State records in Montgomery showed that the license was mailed after a request was made in person or by telephone.

Little trace of Galt has been found otherwise, except for a safety deposit box he rented at Birmingham Trust National Bank.

He turned in the keys more than a month after he left Cherpes' place.

come fully effective until 1970.

"We don't want our rights in 1970. We want them right now," he told a mass meeting of several thousand persons.

THE SPEECH marked Abernathy's first trip to Memphis since he took part in a memorial march for the assassinated King a week ago.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

In Our Opinion

How 'A.P.' Is 'A.P.B.'?

Having been exposed occasionally to Sgt. Joe Friday and other television police superheroes, we thought we knew what an "A.P.B." is.

An "All Points Bulletin," we believed, meant a message of importance that went everywhere and alerted everybody.

We also considered the brutal murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., civil rights leader, to be something of importance. His slaying, more than almost any other, would rate an "A.P.B."

So we're somewhat startled to discover nothing of the sort. No law enforcement agency in Northeastern Ohio has been provided either picture or description of the slaying suspect.

Although President Johnson's first reaction to Dr. King's death was "Get Ramsey" (Clark) and the attorney general hustled to Memphis, the simplest precaution, informing all police departments, appar-

ently was not followed.

The best picture is a drawing by a Memphis newspaper cartoonist who talked with eyewitnesses. The best descriptions—sketchy as they are—were provided by wire services. But from the attorney general, nothing.

When Ashtabula police were offered a suspect the other day, they had only a newspaper photo—which looked like many men—and newspaper descriptions—which would fit a hundred in Ashtabula alone—to follow.

Even if they had picked up the suspect, he could have told any plausible story and made it stick. Police haven't been told who to look for.

The FBI has a fine reputation it undoubtedly deserves. Its agents may pick up the killer of the Rev. Dr. King. But their work could have been made easier if they had rallied an all-out enforcement effort.

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Page 34
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Car and Gun Linked to King Suspect

Special to The Press

ATLANTA, Ga. — FBI search for the rifleman who killed Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis is focused on a shadowy figure named Eric Starvo Galt, a 36-year-old drifter and merchant seaman.

Eight days after the murder this was the picture:

A WHITE MUSTANG which may have been the assassin's getaway car has been located and impounded here.

THE CAR HAS BEEN FOUND to be listed to Galt, with records showing a man by that name bought it last August in Birmingham, Ala.

A DRIVER'S PERMIT was issued to Eric Starvo Galt in Birmingham the following month,

after he took a driver's test and reported that he already held a Louisiana driver's license.

THE RIFLE ABANDONED by the sniper outside the Memphis flophouse from which the lethal shot was fired has been traced to a Birmingham sporting goods store near that city's airport.

CLEVELAND POLICE as well as police in cities throughout the nation have been queried by the FBI for any knowledge or record of Galt. None has been forthcoming.

The drive to find the elusive Galt came to light when the FBI in Florida put out a "locate and notify us" bulletin on him.

About five hours later the query was with-

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drawn and veiled by secrecy. The belief was that it had been put out by mistake, prematurely.

THE WHITE MUSTANG, bearing 1968 Alabama license 1-38993 and two 1967 Mexico tourist stickers on its windows, was found in a parking lot.

Several residents had noticed it there since last Friday morning.

That was at 7:30 a. m., some 13 hours after Dr. King was shot. It is 382 miles from Memphis to Atlanta.

Mrs. Ernest Payne, said she saw a "nice looking" man get out of it and walk away. She said he was 5 feet, 10 inches tall and had sandy hair.

"He was carrying a little black book in his hand," she said.

The car floor was covered with red mud and cigaretts, it was reported. The car was towed into the FBI's headquarters and hidden away there. It was learned it was not reported stolen, by Galt or anyone else.

The car license was quickly traced to Galt.

HE HAD BOUGHT the 1966 white Mustang last Aug. 30 second-hand from a man named William Paisley in Birmingham. He gave 2608 Highland Ave. as his address.

Paisley told newspapermen the FBI had ordered him not to discuss the transaction with anyone.

On Sept. 6 Galt took his driver's license test at which time he gave the same name and address, listed himself as an unemployed merchant seaman. He gave his birth date as July 20, 1931, his weight as 175 pounds, his height as 5 feet, 11 inches, his eyes blue, his hair dark.

The Highland address is a rooming house. The manager said no one by the name of Galt had lived there for at least eight months.

One tenant said he vaguely remembered a man named Galt once living there but he couldn't recall anything special about him.

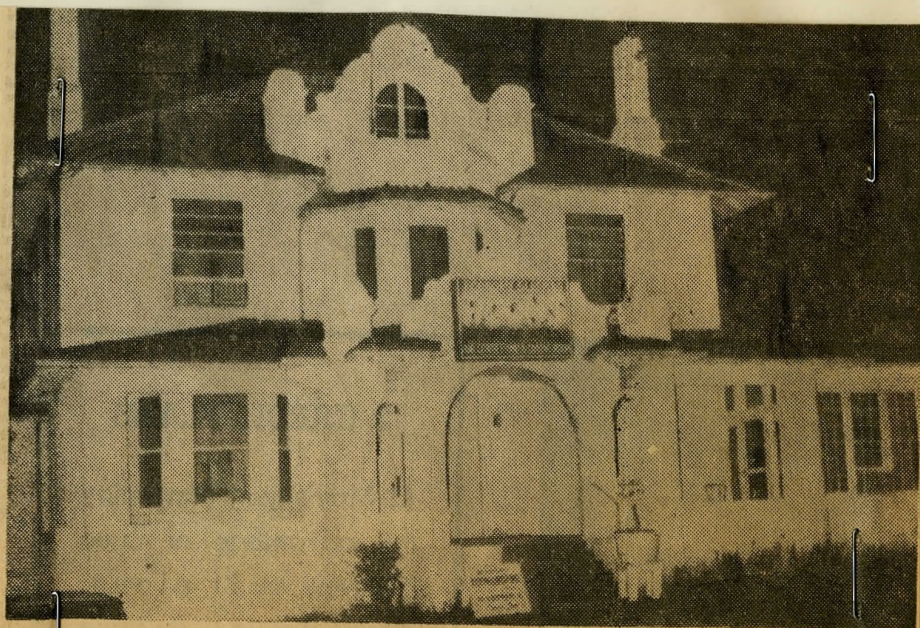
AT THE BIRMINGHAM sporting goods store, FBI agents questioned clerks for a description of whoever had bought the Remington rifle that had been traced there through its serial number. The clerks were sworn to secrecy.

There is some feeling among Birmingham police that the clues—the car, the Galt connection, even the rifle, may have been "plants" to mislead investigators. There was nothing to confirm this.

MERCHANT MARINE records were being combed for possible leads that might take the FBI to Galt.



KING SLAYING SUSPECT—Here are two sketches of the suspected killer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. that are being distributed by investigators to help them in their manhunt. The profile sketch was made by a Memphis Commercial Appeal artist from witnesses' descriptions. The other was made by Mexico police who have been asked by the FBI to be on the lookout for the fugitive.



CAR LEADS FBI TO SUSPECT'S TRAIL — This is the rooming house in Birmingham, Ala., the address of which was given by Eric Galt. (UPI Telephoto)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

FBI Hunt for Assassin Is Stronger, Still Silent

ATLANTA — (UPI) — Federal agents, intensifying the largest manhunt in FBI history, today maintained stringent silence as they followed a cold trail in the hunt for the sniper assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The hunt for elusive Eric Starvo Galt continues, although there is no warrant outstanding for the seaman.

Galt, if that is his real

name, appears to hold the key to the investigation. His car was impounded last week after it was found abandoned in a housing project here. The car answered the description of one seen near

King's Memphis, Tenn., motel about the time the Nobel Peace Prize winner leader was shot to death.

Galt apparently took a room in Birmingham last fall, but has not been seen by neighbors recently. He said he was an unemployed merchant seaman when he applied for an Alabama driver's license.

The murder weapon, a 30.06-caliber Remington automatic rifle, is believed to have been purchased in Birmingham shortly before the slaying.

FBI agents are known to be checking a theory there might have been more than one person involved in King's death. Several witnesses reported seeing two white Mustangs outside the flophouse from which the fatal shot was fired.

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Investigators Fear Galt, King Suspect, Is a Fake

ATLANTA—(UPI)—Indications mounted today that the most wanted man in the nation, Eric Starvo Galt, never actually existed but was carefully contrived months before Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated.

Authorities pressed their search—without a warrant—for the man, but indicated they feared Galt may be a kind set up to hamper the search for the killer, or killers, of King. It was learned that investigators have been unable to trace his existence beyond last summer, and have pointed out that it is ~~virtually~~ impossible for a person to leave so few traces.

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Who Is Galt, the Mystery in King Probe?

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP)—Federal agents have scoured this city showing sketches of a man's face and asking about Eric Starvo Galt, the mystery man who is the object of a manhunt in the probe of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination.

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

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

WHO IS Eric Starvo Galt?

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

As the Florida alert went out, FBI agents in Atlanta were taking into custody a white Mustang with Alabama tag 1-38993. It had been sold to Galt.

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

GALT'S NAME appeared in official state records when he bought a white Mustang last Aug. 30 from William D. Paisley, a Birmingham car salesman. Paisley would not talk about it.

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

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

PIECING bits of information together—and assessing the huge gaps, the phantom-like quality of the man—

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results in a sketchy picture of a neatly dressed man whose apparent absence from any kind of official records seems strange.

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

But what of Galt?

"My memory of him is so dim," said Charles Jack Davis, 26, who has a small second-floor room in the boarding house where Galt lived sometime 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, Hill Hardy, 29, said he had lived at the stucco house since it opened last September. But he did not 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 apparently gone for weeks or months at a time.

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

ANOTHER boarder said a room and two meals a day cost \$22 a week.

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

Otherwise, Galt seemed to be almost a phantom.

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

"THE FBI has already checked our records," said a woman cashier at a cleaner's on 26th Street. "I've been here two years and we

have had no Galt as a customer."

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

A check of state unemployment records here disclosed no payments to Galt.

Neither was there a trace of the man called Galt in state birth records, Veterans' Administration files or police records or state income tax files.

MOST Birmingham hos-

pital files were checked and show no Eric Starvo Galt.

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

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

She said her husband's family came from Iowa

where the name Galt was not uncommon. She wondered aloud over the possibility of a fictitious name. There were others who speculated along that line.

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

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

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

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Sketch Shows How King Killer Could Have Evaded Police

By SAM GIAIMO, Press Staff Writer

MEMPHIS — How Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. could have been shot before the eyes of the cordon of police guarding him and how the killer got away is better understood by studying the accompanying diagram.

The assassin, who obviously knew that Dr. King was registered in Room 306 at the Lorraine Motel on Mulberry St., rented Room 5 in a flophouse on South Main St., the next block over, at 3:15 p. m. on Apr. 4—Assassination Day.

This placed the sniper outside the police cordon. They were not on South Main St. because they couldn't see the motel from there. They were in strategic spots along Mulberry St. with the assassin overlooking their activities—from outside the police ring.

The window of the bathroom adjoining his bedroom gave the assassin an unobstructed view—across the flophouse's debris-littered yard, down a slope, across Mulberry St., across the motel parking area—of the balcony outside Dr. King's motel room.

A CLEAR VIEW, slightly from above because of the sloping terrain.

To his right the sniper could see a fire

station. Police guards were in there. There are bushes near the station. There may have been an officer using them as a screen.

To the killer's left was the main entrance of the motel. Police were there, too. All police attention was concentrated on Dr. King's motel door and balcony.

So was the sniper's.

AFTER PAYING FOR HIS room he had gone to his car or wherever else he had put the rifle, carrying it back in a box.

He pulled a chair up to the bathroom window, sat down and began his deadly vigil.

His shot rang out at 6:01 p. m. The shot drew police from their stations toward the balcony, their backs to the flophouse.

THE KILLER REPLACED his 30-caliber Remington rifle in the box, went downstairs and out the flophouse door onto South Main St.

He had a block between him and the motel. He was shielded by buildings. He didn't have to run. He turned to his left, dropped the rifle and a small bag of clothes on the sidewalk and continued on to his car.

Within seconds he was gone.

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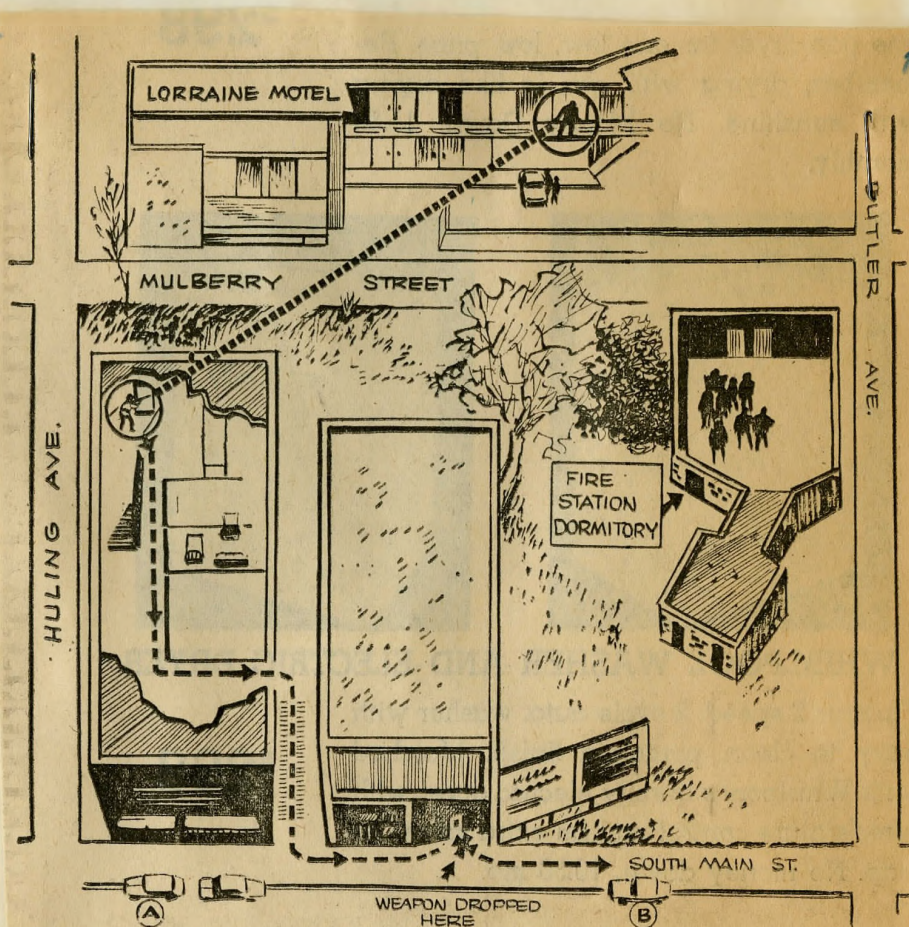
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HOW ASSASSIN ESCAPED — Artist's drawing of the assassination scene shows how police guarding Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. were concentrated along Mulberry St., mainly at a fire station. This gave the killer a chance to fire his deadly shot from a bathroom window at the rear of a flop-house (cutaway building at left) on South Main St. and walk out into the open on South Main, a block away from where police were concentrated. Parked cars A and B were reported to be Mustangs, one of which the assassin may have used to get away.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Alabamian Tied to King Slaying

© New York Times Service

MEMPHIS—The FBI last night was seeking a 37-year-old Alabama man for questioning in the slaying of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

An FBI bulletin which was released by mistake in Miami identified the man as Eric Starvo Galt. He was described as 5-feet-11-inches, and weighing 175 pounds.

The FBI in Washington refused to comment, but sources said Galt was sought in connection with the assassination of the civil rights leader in Memphis.

IT WAS THE first indication the FBI may be nearing a solution to the killing.

The FBI bulletin, withdrawn at 10:30 p.m., said Galt, who has blue eyes and brown hair, was last seen driving a white Mustang car with Alabama license plates number 1-38993. This is the license plate issued for a car in Birmingham.

The FBI bulletin gave Galt's address as 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham. A Birmingham reporter who went to that address said it was a rooming house and other residents said they had not seen Galt in about three months.

IN ATLANTA last night, police were reported to have impounded a white Mustang parked near a housing project since Friday.

Four men known to have been arrested previously for questioning about the slaying have been released.

Two were law students who were in Memphis last week to help plan a civil rights demonstration. The third was a bald-headed man arrested over the weekend near the assassination site, and the fourth was a minister arrested Tuesday in Joplin, Mo.

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FBI CHARGES GALT IN KING PLOT

From Wire Reports

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — A fugitive warrant charging Eric Starvo Galt, described as a 36-year-old "loner," with conspiracy in the murder of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was issued here yesterday by the FBI.

This was revealed in Washington by Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark in the first official confirmation that Dr. King's death in Memphis April 4 may have been the result of a conspiracy. Shortly after the murder, Clark said it was the act of one man, acting alone.

Five hours after the FBI announcement, Galt was charged with first-degree murder in Memphis in a state warrant. Tennessee has the death penalty.

The FBI released two photographs of Galt in what appeared to be a bartender's uniform. The suspect was identified as Galt, "also known as Harvey Lawmyer and John Willard."

THE FBI CHARGED that the conspiracy was hatched in Birmingham between Galt and a man he described as his brother.

Joe Gamble, special agent in charge of the FBI here, declined to comment on whether the FBI was any closer now to an arrest.

The FBI had named Galt in a lookout bulletin last week in Florida but withdrew the bulletin four hours later, saying it had been released in error.

The FBI said a warrant was issued in Birmingham on the basis of an FBI complaint which charged that Galt "and an individual whom he alleged to be his brother, entered into a conspiracy" which began around

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from which the sniper is believed to have shot King. said the FBI photograph of Galt does not resemble the man he saw leaving the scene after the shooting "unless he was wearing a wig or had a face lift or something."

Stevens contributed to the description used in unofficial composite drawings of the alleged assassin. The FBI released two photos: one showing Galt with eyes closed, the other with eyes drawn in by an FBI artist.

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

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

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

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

(Sources close to investigators in Memphis said that Memphis police had almost run Galt down as they proceeded to the murder scene there, the New York Times reported.)

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

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

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

THE FBI ALSO SAID its investigation had disclosed these facts:

- Galt has said he was employed as a cook on Mississippi river vessels and as a merchant seaman.
- He is said to be an avid dancer and took dancing lessons in New Orleans in 1964 and 1965, in Birmingham during September and October, 1967, and in Long Beach, Calif., from December, 1967, to February, 1968.
- Galt left Los Angeles last Dec. 15 and drove his Mustang to New Orleans where he has said he contacted either an engineering or a contracting firm. He left there Dec. 19 and arrived in Los Angeles Dec. 21.
- While in the Los Angeles area early this year, Galt took a course at a bartending school and was graduated March 2.

AN FBI DESCRIPTION

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

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

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



DIDN'T SEE HIM—Charles Q. Stevens, whose description of Dr. King's alleged assassin played an important part in a newspaper sketch, said the picture released by the FBI was "not the man I saw." Stevens lives in the rooming house from which the fatal bullet was fired.

AP Wirephoto

WANTED



CHARGED—The FBI released this photograph, which it identified as Eric Starvo Galt, whom it charged with conspiracy in the slaying of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The FBI said the eyes were drawn in by an FBI artist because the eyes were closed in the original picture. AP Wirephoto

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Alabama Landlord Tells of Tenant Galt

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—(UPI)

— An artist's conception of the man wanted in the sniper slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. "looked exactly like" Eric Starvo Galt, the elusive central figure in a nation-wide man hunt, according to Galt's landlord.

Federal agents, still refusing comment on the investigation, appeared no closer to locating King's assassin.

As agents continued to follow cold trails, it seemed more likely that Galt may have been an elaborately devised alias and that such a person existed only in a Birmingham rooming house and in certain Alabama state records.

Galt cannot be traced before he took a room in Birmingham last August or after his abandoned car was impounded by the FBI in Atlanta last week.

GALT, claiming to have come to Alabama from Louisiana, bought his white Mustang in Birmingham and applied for and was granted a state driver's license.

Little else is known of the figure, described as having a Southern drawl and a pointed nose—the some general description as King's assassin.

There is no warrant for Galt.

Rooming house manager Peter N. Cherpes talked with newsmen yesterday. He earlier denied he knew Galt.

Cherpes, who said the FBI asked him not to say anything about Galt, said "I know his name. He came here, that man, Aug. 26, 1967, and left Oct. 7."

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

Cherpes said Galt "was above the average roomer in dress, talk and appearance. He always wore sporty 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."

IN OCTOBER, Galt paid Cherpes a week's rent in advance, then left, saying he was going to Mobile, Ala., 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 said. He held the letter about a week, but still not knowing where to forward the mail, he returned it to Chicago.

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2 Questions: Where Is Galt and Who Is His "Brother"?

By THOMAS TALBURT, Scripps-Howard Writer

WASHINGTON — The FBI has fleshed in the phantom figure of Eric Starvo Galt, who is charged with conspiracy in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

But in filing a warrant for Galt's arrest in Birmingham, Ala., the FBI left unanswered these key questions in the case:

Where is Galt and what role did his "brother" play?

The FBI complaint says only that Galt "and an individual whom he alleged to be his brother" entered into a conspiracy against King.

Where did the FBI obtain its information about Galt and where did it get the pictures of him it released last night?

Attorney General Ramsey Clark described Galt as 36 years old, white, a neat dresser, a man of apparently limited education with a preference for vodka and beer, and Western and country music.

He has a nervous habit of occasionally pulling at an ear lobe with his hand, Clark reported, and persons who have met Galt described him as a loner.

He wears his brown hair in a brush cut, has a "straight and narrow" nose. He is said to be an avid dancer and took dancing lessons in New Orleans, Birmingham and Long Beach, Calif., at intervals between 1964 and February of this year.

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He has told people he has been employed as a cook on Mississippi River vessels and as a merchant seaman. He had attended a school for bartenders in Los Angeles early this year and was graduated Mar. 2.

The FBI says the conspiracy continued until on or about Apr. 5 — the day after King was shot on a Memphis motel balcony. This appeared to suggest that Galt's unidentified "brother" may have assisted in his getaway by acting as a decoy or leaving false leads for police after King was shot.

While FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover said a rifle with telescopic sight was found near the rooming house from which King's assassin fired the fatal shot, the FBI did not specifically identify the rifle as the murder weapon.

Viewed as the most intriguing aspect of the case now is the emergence of the suspected conspirator Galt obviously told someone was his brother.

Soon after King's murder, Clark said it appeared to be the work of one man and virtually ruled out a conspiracy.

The complaint against Galt specifically charges Galt and the "brother" with conspiring to injure, oppress, threaten, or intimidate King in his right to travel freely from state to state.

Justice Department officials said this law carries only a 10-year prison sentence and \$5000 fine on conviction, but noted Clark has indicated that when King's slayer is found he would be turned over to Tennessee authorities for trial on a murder charge.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Galt "Brother" Talks, FBI Source Reports

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — (UPI) — FBI sources indicated today that the "alleged brother" of Eric Starvo Galt may be in their custody, helping them search for the man accused of slaying Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The FBI also apparently had reason to believe that Galt, a mysterious graduate bartender with a rural accent and several aliases, may have returned to Birmingham after disappearing in Atlanta.

In Washington, an FBI spokesman denied the FBI had any one in custody.

A SOURCE IN THE FBI here said that after Galt purchased a gun at a Birmingham sporting goods store about a week before King was killed, he took it to the man he said was his brother.

His brother, the source said, told him "that's not the gun we need." The source refused to say whether the knowledge of this conversation meant that the unnamed second man in the alleged conspiracy was in their custody.

A check of rooming house operators in Birmingham revealed that within the past three days, FBI agents have been making the rounds asking them if a man answering Galt's description had stayed with them in the past two weeks.

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Eric Starvo Galt

Sought in Dr. King's assassination.

THE FBI CHARGED GALT in a warrant yesterday with conspiring to violate the civil rights of King, slain by a sniper in Memphis Apr. 4. Memphis police later filed a murder charge against Galt. Only the FBI warrant mentioned the alleged brother, and it did not include him in the charge.

The FBI also released a photograph 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 Chérpes, 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 where the killer shot King as the Negro leader stood on his motel balcony also was undecided about the picture.

"I just don't know if it's him," said Mrs. Bessie Brewer.

In Atlanta, the cab driver who reported driving Galt from a hippie neighborhood the night after 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, agent in charge of the Birmingham FBI office. He said the photograph was taken this year, "in March, I think."

IN MEMPHIS, WILLIE GREENE, an attendant at a service station about three

blocks from where King was shot, said yesterday 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." King was killed at 6:01 p. m. CST. The curfew began at 7 p. m.

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 CHARGED that Galt and an individual "whom he alleged to be his brother entered into a conspiracy" to harm King, and Galt purchased a rifle in Birmingham about Mar. 30.

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

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Man Hunted in Slaying of King Seen in Atlanta

ATLANTA — (UPI) — The mysterious fugitive in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. apparently went night - clubbing in Atlanta the night after the killing and hailed two taxis in a hippie neighborhood.

One taxi driver vividly recalled the man — whom the FBI has identified as Eric Starvo Galt — because he tossed part of his fare onto the floor of the cab.

"I remember him because he was a smart guy, the way he threw that money at me. You remember the smart guys," the driver said yesterday.

THE MAN RODE only two blocks and then hurriedly left the taxi. Apparently the same man caught another cab several blocks away and went to a modern, two-story apartment building.

Both cabs are owned by the Atlanta Million Cooperative Cab Co., which requested that the drivers not be identified.

The area, around Peachtree and 12th Sts., is about seven miles from the public housing project where a white Mustang registered to Galt was abandoned Apr. 5, more than 12 hours after King was shot to death by a white sniper at a motel in Memphis, Tenn., 382 miles away.

The 1966 Mustang had 1968 Alabama license plates and the registration gave Galt's address as a South Birmingham rooming house where residents hadn't seen him in three months.

FBI AGENTS, tracing Galt's movements after the car was left in an apartment parking lot near the Georgia capitol the Friday after King's murder, apparently followed a trail to the Playroom Night Club near Peachtree and 10th Sts.

When shown a sketch of Galt, the cab driver said he remembered picking up the man four blocks away, in front of a hippie nightspot

The other cab driver said he picked up a man resembling the FBI sketch and drove him to an apartment building one block west of the Peach-14th intersection. He did not recall whether the man entered the building or walked away.

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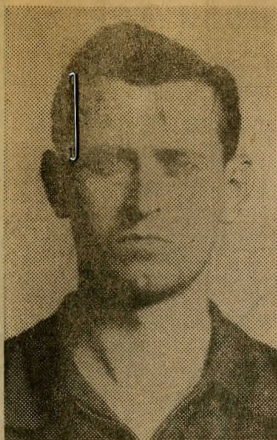
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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)



Ray in 1954



Ray in 1960

'Galt' Is James Ray

Escaped Felon Sought by FBI

© New York Times Service

WASHINGTON—The FBI announced yesterday that an escaped convict named James Earl Ray is the man being sought for the murder of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. under the alias of Eric Starvo Galt.

Background information released by the FBI pictured Ray as a trouble-prone "drifter" and habitual criminal with a long record of erratic and violent behavior.

GALT'S TRUE identity was discovered after latent fingerprints uncovered in the King investigation were compared with the prints of more than 53,000 persons listed as "wanted" by the FBI.

J. Edgar Hoover, director of the FBI said in a joint announcement with U.S. Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark that Ray escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary on April 23, 1967.

Ray, 40, a native of Illinois, had served seven years of a 20-year sentence for armed robbery and car theft in St. Louis.

THE FBI released front and side photographs of Ray taken by Missouri prison officials in 1960. They bear a close resemblance to pictures of Galt, taken in 1963, that the FBI released earlier this week.

The convict Ray had close-cropped hair and a leaner face than the Galt photo shows, but the protruding left

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Eric Galt Identified

JAMES EARL RAY IN LINEUP — The St. Louis Police Department released this picture of Ray, made in 1959 at the time of his arrest in St. Louis, on an armed robbery charge.

AP Wirephotos

'Galt' Is James Ray

Escapee Hunted by FBI



From First Page

ear, which the FBI emphasized in its initial description of Galt, appears to be the same in both photographs.

Fingerprints can be matched quickly by means of an elaborate classification and filing system when the full 10 prints of the unknown person are available on a card that identifies the finger and hand represented by each print.

BUT WHEN only a few prints are available and it is not known which fingers or thumbs made them, they can be checked only by the tedious process of comparing each latent print with all 10 prints on the card of each "wanted" person.

The FBI announcement said Ray has a known arrest record dating back to 1949 when he was convicted of burglary in Los Angeles. In 1952 he was convicted of armed robbery in Chicago and in 1955 was found guilty of forging U.S. postal money orders in Missouri.

He served a jail term in Los Angeles County in 1949 and in the Illinois state prisons at Joliet and Pontiac in 1952-54. He served a term in the federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kan., in 1955-58.

WHILE HE was serving his latest sentence Ray was confined for a time in 1966 in the maximum security ward at the state hospital at Fulton, Mo.

Missouri officials said yesterday that Ray made three unsuccessful attempts to escape before he finally got away last September. One attempt came when he bolted from sheriff's deputies who were guarding him during his trial. He was quickly caught and given 20 years as an habitual offender on Dec. 17, 1959.

He tried again in 1961 and 1966. In the attempt in

1966 he escaped from his penitentiary cell but was found two days later hiding in a ventilation shaft.

THE FBI statement said Ray was an enlisted man in the U.S. Army from February, 1946, to December, 1948, when he was given a general discharge due to "ineptness and lack of adaptability for military service." While in the Army he was given a three-month sentence at hard labor for being drunk and breaking arrest.

Ray was said to have also used the names of James McBride, James Walton, W. C. Herron and James O'Connor during his criminal career. When the FBI filed formal charges against him Wednesday in the name of Galt, it gave two other aliases, John Willard and Harvey Lowmyer.

THE FBI's description of Ray was much more detailed than that given for Galt. Ray was said to be about 5 feet 10 inches tall and to weigh about 163 to 174 pounds. He has blue eyes, brown hair and a small scar on the center of his forehead and a scar on the palm of his right hand.

ACCORDING TO the FBI, Ray claimed to have been born on March 10, 1928, in an upstate location in Illinois. He said he attended school through the 10th grade in Alton, Ill. Since then, the FBI said, "he has had the reputation of being a 'drifter.'"

The identification of Galt as the escaped convict Ray explains some of the strange circumstances about Galt that led to some speculation that he might have established a false identity in contemplation of assassinating Dr. King.

On Wednesday a fugitive warrant was obtained by the FBI accusing Galt of having conspired with a person "whom he alleged to be his brother" to injure Dr. King and violate his civil rights.

The FBI said that Ray has worked as a baker, laborer and color matcher.

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Theft Began Ray's Crime Career

L.A. Times/Washington Post Service

LOS ANGELES — The criminal career of James Earl Ray, suspected of killing Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. began in downtown Los Angeles early on an October evening 18 years ago.

He tried to steal a typewriter from the third floor office of the Forum Cafeteria.

The assistant manager caught him in the act and scuffled with him, but Ray got away—not for long, however.

AS HE FLED across a parking lot, an attendant heard the assistant manager's cries and grabbed Ray.

The two struggled. Ray broke free, but a bank savings book and his Army discharge papers fell to the pavement from his torn shirt pocket. Ray was arrested four days later, on Oct. 11, 1949.

Ray was given 90 days in the county jail and placed on two years probation by Superior Judge W. Turney Fox, now retired.

Fox's leniency was based on the report of Deputy County Probation Officer Herbert W. Audit and the plea of Deputy Public Defender Richard S. Buckley. Buckley represented Ray, who was unemployed at the time and broke.

Buckley, now chief public defender, in appealing for probation on Dec. 30, 1949, said:

"... I FEEL he not only is eligible for probation but that he is a fit subject for probation . . . This man is in a position to stand on his own feet, and apparently has done so for a period of time . . .

"He apparently is thrifty, acquired some savings and also did fairly well in the Army. In view of these circumstances, I feel he is a good risk on probation . . ."

Audit, the probation officer, had noted that Ray "spends much time on dates with girls" and admitted to "occasional excessive use of intoxicants."

Audit also observed that Ray appeared to be of normal intelligence, was a Roman Catholic but did not attend church, attended movies two or three times a week and "likes to read magazines and common ordinary books."

Ray, who had been in Los Angeles only two days when he got into the trouble at the cafeteria, was the oldest boy in a family of three, Audit reported to Judge Fox.

The probation report also disclosed that:

HE WAS reared by his parents in Alton and Quincy, Ill., across the Mississippi River from St. Louis.

His father, Gordon, died in 1946, by which time young Ray had quit high school in Ewing, Mo., across the river from his home. He got only as far as the ninth grade.

Ray joined the Army Feb. 19, 1946, got a general discharge—still a private—on Dec. 23, 1948.

He spent most of that time in Germany, and during part of his service career there he was assigned to the military police.

After his discharge, he-

apparently lived at home on his serviceman's readjustment pay, and when that ran out moved to Chicago where he got a \$55-a-week job operating a mold in a rubber plant, while attending a television repair school five nights a week.

HE WAS laid off work in September, 1949. He remained in Chicago only a few days before heading for Los Angeles.

He denied that he had entered the cafeteria here to steal. He claimed he had attended a downtown movie earlier, then had climbed a fire escape into the Forum's third-floor office because:

"I guess maybe I had some beers or something."

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Jail Mate of King Suspect Gives Clue to Phony Names

By ALAN HORTON

I talked to a 31-year-old West Sider who, for four years, was in Missouri State Pen Cell 187.

James Earl Ray, the alleged assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was in Cell 191, some 10 feet from 187.

The West Sider is in trouble with the law again. That's how I found out about his connection with Missouri State Prison.

"I guess I knew Jimmy Ray as well as any man," the West Sider said between drags on a smoke. "I rented him books in prison. One of the books he got from me was Ian Fleming's 'On Her Majesty's Secret Service.'"

"In that, Ernst Stavro Blofeld was the head of SPEC-TRE. I also rented him Agn Rand's 'Atlas Shrugged.' John Galt is in that."

IS IT COINCIDENCE that Ray used the alias Eric Starvo Galt to throw the FBI off his trail?

*original & 1 copy
sent to Bureau*

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

A1 THE CLEVELAND
PRESS
(Cleveland, Ohio)

Date: 4-23-68

Edition: FINAL

Author:

Editor: THOS L. BOARDMAN

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"We each worked in the food service in prison," the West Sider continued. "I was the second cook. He was responsible for slicing bread for each meal. He had a pass to the kitchen anytime. We were thrown together. I got to know him real well.

"I had 200 or 300 books in my cell. I sold and rented them. Mostly he read sex stories and I kept him supplied. And he read that Prussian philosopher, Friedrich Nietzsche. He believed in Nietzsche's superman. Might makes right, he said, and nothing is wrong as long as there's satisfaction for the inner man.

"THE WHOLE PRISON was segregated. He was one of those who thought Negroes should be kept separated.

"He was the original lone wolf. But no matter what you talked about or where you'd been, he knew it or he'd been there. He had a little funny smile always—like the Mona Lisa.

"He was very introverted and personally clean. He said he didn't have any people but he got mail once in a while. He worked three hours a day and the rest of the time he read or hung by himself in the prison yard.

"He was addicted mentally to stimulants, amphetamines — not the pills but the powder. He got it the way you get anything you're not supposed to get in prison and he injected it.

"BECAUSE OF THIS, he didn't eat — no appetite — and he was thin, about 150 pounds. I know he was a paranoid. Never mind what the prison psychiatrist said.

"His eyes were weaker than the ones in the FBI photo. Kind of foggy. He was always pulling on his big left ear with his left hand. Like he was nervous all the time. He had a high-pitched voice but he was very even-tempered. He was smart and cool and he didn't trust anybody."

RAY, THE ADMIRER OF SUPERMEN, may have been friendly to the West Sider because of his muscular appearance. He is nearly 6 feet tall and weighs 240 pounds.

One year ago today 40-year-old James Earl Ray escaped from the Missouri prison in a bread box. He had been serving a 20-year sentence on habitual criminal and armed robbery charges.

The West Sider is out on bond on a carrying concealed weapon charge. He told the FBI what he knows about Ray.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

King Suspect Fled Prison in Breadbox

By Press-Chicago Sun-Times Wire

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.—James Earl Ray, suspected slayer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., escaped from the Missouri State Prison 51 weeks ago by hiding in a breadbox aboard a truck.

The warden of the prison in Jefferson City, Harold Swenson, said Ray worked in the prison food service building; thus Ray had access to trucks that delivered bread baked at the prison to prison farms outside.

The warden said Ray apparently curled up in one of the large wooden bread boxes in which the bread was carried and covered himself with loaves. The box was loaded into the back of the truck and driven outside.

He apparently crawled out of the box and jumped from the truck before it made its delivery to a farm.

The nation-wide manhunt for Ray seems to be an appropriate development in a life filled with trouble, crime and running.

The man accused of killing, or at least conspiring to kill King is described by the FBI as a loner and a drifter, not unlike Richard Franklin Speck and Lee Harvey Oswald.

And like Speck and Oswald, murder appears to be the vehicle Ray used to pull himself out of obscurity.

FBI agents said Ray, 40, was identified through fingerprints after a 15-day check of the prints of more than 53,000 wanted criminals in FBI files.

THE PRINTS, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover said in Washington, prove "that Galt and Ray are identical."

Turn to Page A 2

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

A1 THE CLEVELAND
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Convict Wanted in King Death Escaped Prison in Bread Box

(Continued From Page One)

Hoover's announcement yesterday came as sources close to the investigation into King's slaying theorized the name Eric Starvo Galt may have been a code name for the murder of King at Memphis, Tenn., Apr. 4.

The name appears in too many scattered places at about the same time under varying descriptions of its user to be one man, these sources said.

U. S. and Mexican officials were reported to be hunting "unofficially" for Ray in Mexico, where rumors have spread of his presence in the past two weeks. An FBI alert has been issued in Southeast California, near Arizona and Mexico, for a man fitting Ray's description.

The FBI said Ray had assumed such aliases as Galt, Harvey Lowmeyer, John Willard, James McBride, James Walton, W. C. Herron and James O'Conner.

THE MAN who checked into a rooming house from where King was shot by a

sniper registered as John Willard.

Authorities said Ray, born in Alton, Ill., had a criminal record dating to 1949 and was serving a 20-year, habitual criminal sentence for armed robbery and automobile theft at the Missouri State Prison at Jefferson City when he escaped Apr. 23, 1967.

Warden Swenson said a 1966 mental examination showed Ray had no personality troubles or adjustment difficulties not common to confined men. "He was an evasive type person," said Swenson. "I don't think anybody either liked him or disliked him."

Probation records in Los Angeles, where he served a County Jail term for burglary, showed that Ray, eldest of three sons, quit school in Ewing, Mo., in ninth grade.

"I didn't want to go anymore," he told a probation officer who described Ray as "a Catholic who did not attend church services."

HE DRIFTED for several

years, once working as a 77-cents-an-hour laborer in a Hartford, Ill., shoe company, and joined the Army in 1946. He spent two years and four months in Germany as an infantryman and military policeman and received a general discharge in 1948 due to ineptness and a lack of adaptability for military service. He received a three-month sentence in the Army for being drunk and breaking arrest.

He was unemployed until 1949, when he held a job briefly in a Chicago rubber company. He went to Los Angeles and his trouble with the law began. In addition to his jail term, he was convicted of armed robbery in Chicago in 1952 and forging U. S. postal orders in Missouri in 1955.

The FBI said Ray was 5 feet 10 and weighs about 163 to 174 pounds, with blue eyes and brown hair. He has a small scar in the center of his forehead and a scar on the palm of his right hand.

"Ray should be considered armed and extremely dangerous," the FBI said.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

FBI Asks Help in Search for Ray

WASHINGTON — (UPI) — The FBI appealed on national television last night for any information regarding fugitive James Earl Ray, charged with conspiracy and murder in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The FBI said Ray, alias Eric Starvo Galt, was armed and "must be considered extremely dangerous."

A picture of Ray accompanied the appeal at the end of the television program, "The FBI."

EARLIER the FBI had said the search for Ray "is going along with all possible vigor." Ray, 40, is a 1967

escapee from the Missouri State Prison.

Ray was established through FBI fingerprints as the elusive Galt, sought since shortly after King was shot at a motel in Memphis, Tenn., Apr. 4. Ray also used several other alias, the FBI said, including John Willard, the name on the register of a rooming house from where the fatal shot was fired.

THE COMMERCIAL Appeal, a Memphis newspaper, said yesterday a 1966 psychiatric report on Ray by the Missouri State Hospital noted that "we didn't find anything to indicate he was a killer or had tendencies to kill."

Dr. Donald Peterson, the hospital superintendent, was quoted as saying of Ray:

"He was rather reserved, but we didn't find anything unusual. There was nothing in his mental makeup to indicate anything but a (habitual) criminal whose crimes were all associated with money."

Ray was serving a 20-year sentence for armed robbery and automobile theft when he escaped the prison at Jefferson City, Mo., Apr. 23, 1967, by hiding in a bread truck. His record also included sentences for burglary and theft of U. S. postal checks.

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

D-8 THE CLEVELAND
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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Unemployed Galt Was Well-Heeled

© New York Times Service

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Eric Starvo Galt, whom the FBI has accused of conspiracy in the murder of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., seemed well supplied with money when he lived in Birmingham last fall creating a fictitious identity.

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

The FBI has said that the man named in their warrant as Eric Starvo Galt in actuality was a habitual criminal, James Earl Ray, who escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary in April of 1967 where he had been since 1960 after being caught in a grocery store holdup.

THE OPERATOR of a Birmingham rooming house where Galt lived for six weeks last summer and fall said Galt did not work during that time and spent most of his days sitting around.

After Galt left Birmingham in October 1967, the FBI said, he drove to California and spent most of his time either there or driving to and from New Orleans.

While in Birmingham, Galt apparently kept his money in a safety deposit box at the Birmingham Trust National Bank.

On Aug. 27, 1967, William D. Paisley, sales manager

of a Birmingham lumber company, ran an advertisement in the Birmingham News to sell his 1966 Mustang.

Paisley said that a man introducing himself as Eric Galt responded, and bought the car on Aug. 30, paying the \$1,995 asking price.

PAISLEY SAID Galt went to a bank, got the money and paid cash.

During the six weeks that he lived in the Birmingham rooming house, Galt's living expenses averaged at least \$50 a week.

At \$50 a week, a figure that a source in the Justice Department said was probably low, Galt spent \$1,650 for rooms, meals and incidentals from Aug. 27 through April 4, the date that Dr. 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 from late last August through the time it was abandoned in Atlanta the day after Dr. King's murder.

THE FBI said that on March 30, 1968, Galt bought a Remington .30-'06-caliber rifle at a Birmingham gun store.

A new Remington .30-'06 rifle with a telescope sight such as the one that Galt had mounted on the rifle would cost more than \$150.

Galt also bought an expensive pair of binoculars

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13A THE PLAIN DEALER
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in Memphis on the day that King was killed.

There was an indication in Birmingham that Galt may have taken one or more airplane trips during the seven months preceding Dr. King's assassination.

The FBI continued to refuse to amplify its statement of last Wednesday that Galt and another man, alleged in a complaint by the Bureau to be Galt's brother, conspired to injure King and violated his civil rights under a 1909 law. Tennessee authorities have sworn out an arrest warrant charging Galt with murder.

A Bureau theory that more than one man may have used the name of Eric Starvo Galt was bolstered yesterday.

The bureau said last Wednesday, when it issued

a warrant for Galt's arrest, that in February of 1968 Galt was in California attending a bartender's school.

In Birmingham Friday night, two service station attendants said they had seen Galt in Birmingham in February. They said they remembered his purchasing gasoline several times last September.

The Birmingham Trust National Bank said Galt's key to his safety deposit box was returned to the bank last December.

Earlier, witnesses who had known Galt since last August gave widely varying descriptions of him to the FBI.

THE DESCRIPTION
from Memphis witnesses said that Galt was a man in his late 20s. The de-

scription from Birmingham witnesses said that Galt was a man in his mid-30s.

The FBI said that James Earl Ray was 40 years old.

The Los Angeles Times reported that Ray made his break from the Missouri prison last year apparently by hiding in a bakery truck that was making deliveries outside the wall to

prison honor farms.

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

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Trailing an Assassin

After a painfully slow start, U. S. lawmen seem to be drawing the threads together in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King. The FBI announced it is seeking James Earl Ray, alias several other things.

Ray is a misfit with a long record, including some chapters of violence. He is just now thought to be in the Southwest or Mexico, on the lam. The nation hopes the FBI is successful in catching Ray quickly, so that what he might know about the slaying can go into the record.

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

GALT IS AN ESCAPED CONVICT

WASHINGTON—(UPI)—The FBI today identified Eric Starvo Galt, sought in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., as James Earl Ray, an escapee from the Missouri State Penitentiary.

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover said a check of fingerprints uncovered in the case against the prints of more than 53,000 persons led to the determination "that Galt and Ray are identical."

Hoover said Ray, 40, was reported missing from the penitentiary at Jefferson City Apr. 23, 1967. He had been serving a 20-year sentence for armed robbery.

As Galt, Ray has been the object of a cross-country search which extended into Mexico. He is accused of conspiracy and murder in the assassination of King in Memphis Apr. 4.

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The FBI, in a warrant issued earlier this week, charged Galt and an "alleged brother" with conspiracy in King's slaying.

The FBI obtained a photograph apparently taken at the Missouri prison, where he had been an inmate since 1960. The photograph showed Ray also was known as Eric Starvo Galt, Harvey Lowmyer, John Willard, James McBride, James Walton, W. C. Herron and James O'Conner.

John Willard was the name used by the man who checked into a rooming house from where the shot that killed King apparently was fired.

The FBI said that Ray had served in the Army from 1946 to 1948 and that he had served jail sentences in Los Angeles, Leavenworth and Joliet and Pontiac, Mich.

Ray was described as approximately 5 feet 10 inches, weighing about 163 to 174 pounds with blue eyes and brown hair. The FBI said he has a small scar on the center of his forehead and a scar on the palm of his right hand.

It was reported that an informer was helping the FBI seek Ray, who was born Mar. 10, 1928, in Illinois.

An FBI alert was issued yesterday to all law enforcement agencies in Imperial County, Calif., in the southeast corner of the state, adjacent to both Arizona and Mexico, to be on the lookout for a man fitting Ray's description.

The alert said the man was seen Monday afternoon in a rural area, 4½ miles west of El Centro, Calif., and was carrying a bottle filled with water. It said he told someone he was headed for Yuma, Ariz.



JAMES EARL RAY



ERIC STARVO GALT

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Suspected Assassin Spent Money Freely

By Scripps-Howard Newspapers

WASHINGTON — An intriguing question among many that tight-lipped FBI officials refused even to discuss is how Eric Starvo Galt, characterized as a "floater," had the money to spend \$700 in three months for lessons in the bartending school and a dance studio while in California.

Months before, on Aug. 30, 1967, he also had paid \$2000 in Birmingham for a 1966 white Mustang. The car was found abandoned in Atlanta on Apr. 11 — a week after the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King.

Galt had told Rod Arvidson, general manager of the National Dance Studios in Los Angeles, that he once operated a bar and restaurant in Mexico. There has been speculation Galt fled to Mexico or Cuba after King was killed.

A strange twist in the case was that although Galt was graduated from the bartending school in California on Mar. 2, a duplicate Alabama driver's license was mailed to him at an address in Birmingham on Mar. 1.

Five days later the Alabama driver's license division received 25 cents by mail in payment for the duplicate license, but apparently the records do not show where the payment was mailed.

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

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

The FBI Takes Over

NOW THAT the FBI is engaged in a nationwide search for a man it believes was part of a conspiracy to assassinate Dr. Martin Luther King, attention will be riveted on that manhunt. But regardless of how successful the FBI is in this effort, it will not erase an impression that Attorney General Ramsey Clark was guilty of undue optimism in a series of statements he began to issue shortly after the tragedy of April 4.

Arriving in Memphis while police were still trying to piece together what had happened, Mr. Clark immediately announced that he was "confident of a quick solution" of that crime. Agents were on the trail of the killer, he said, who left "an unusually large" amount of physical evidence.

Later that same day—only 16 hours after the murder—Mr. Clark told newsmen that "all the evidence indicates this was the act of a single individual," thus pinning the deed on one person, whoever he might be.

A few hours later, Mr. Clark was saying, "We got some substantial leads. We're very hopeful. We've got some good breaks. There is no evidence at this time of any conspiracy."

Finally, three days after the assassination, Mr. Clark made one of his more remarkable statements, considering all the attention the legal profession has focused on the need for protecting the rights of suspects or defendants in criminal proceedings.

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

Having already narrowed the guilt to one individual—still uncaught—Mr. Clark was wrapping this case up; the man to be nabbed momentarily, he was implying, was already guilty in his mind, and a conviction would only await the minor details of arrest, indictment, and trial.

Someone had the good sense to suggest to the attorney general that he stop making his daily hopeful statements on this case, and the FBI quietly moved into command of the investigation. The bureau wisely stood on its "no comment" policy until it was ready to announce the search for one of the alleged conspirators, which is as it should have been. The attorney general of the United States should be the last person to indulge in rosy statements that raise false hopes of an early solution to a crime, and which could be interpreted as damaging the rights of anyone finally arrested in this case.

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

Toledo Times
Editorial Page
Toledo, Ohio

Date: 4/19/68

Edition: All

Author:

Editor: *Chas. W. Gilmore*

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*Letter of opinion from
not requested as
critical of the FBI
2 copies sent to Dir.*

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Galt Hunt Reportedly Spreads to Mexico, Cuba

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—The FBI pressed its manhunt yesterday for shadowy Eric Starvo Galt, charged in the sniper slaying of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

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

Police agencies refused to answer questions about a newspaper report that the search had spread to Mexico or Cuba. Neither would they give details about a man with whom Galt may have conspired in the slaying.

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

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

(The Los Angeles Times, after interviewing persons who said they knew Galt when he lived in the Los Angeles area, pictured him as a fervent supporter of the presidential bid of former Alabama Gov. George C. Wallace, an enemy of Negroes who once got in a wild argument in a bar with a girl who defended Ne-

groes, a man who made at least one mysterious trip to New Orleans in recent months and a steady drinker, alternately moody and contentious in public.

(The New York Times reported from Birmingham, Ala., that the FBI distributed thousands of "wanted" posters yesterday for Galt after the mystery man apparently eluded its agents in California. A source said the announcement that a warrant had been issued for Galt's arrest was made Wednesday in the belief that agents were close to Galt.

(NO WARRANT has been issued for the unnamed "alleged brother" of Galt, named by the FBI as a co-conspirator. An FBI source indicated the brother may have supplied information. Speculation that the brother was in custody was denied by the FBI in Washington.

(Galt is known to have twice mentioned a brother during the last two months. The first occasion was when he told a clerk in a Birmingham gun store that he and his brother planned to go hunting. The second was when Galt was about to be graduated from the bartenders' school. He turned down a job because, he said, he had to "go see his brother.")

The photograph of Galt released Wednesday by the FBI was obtained from the International School of Bartending in Hollywood, Calif., where Galt was graduated March 2 after a four-week course.

The FBI report said Galt took dancing lessons in New Orleans, Birmingham and Los Angeles. Rod Arvidson, general manager of the National Dance Studios in Los Angeles, said he recognized Galt from a composite drawing in a newspaper and called the FBI.

ARVIDSON described Galt as shy and quiet.

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

Arvidson said the man who enrolled as Eric S. Galt took 50 to 60 lessons in social dancing at a cost of about \$500. The lessons ended in mid-February.

Arvidson said Galt told him he operated a restaurant-bar in Mexico but that Galt failed to respond when Arvidson put questions to him in Spanish.

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

9 THE PLAIN DEALER
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Ray 'Trouble-Maker,' Says Kin of King Slaying Suspect

L.A. Times/Washington Post Service

ALTON, Ill.—James Earl Ray, sought by the FBI as the alleged slayer of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was the oldest in a family of nine children, three of whom were taken away from the mother and placed in orphanages or foster homes.

The new fact and Ray's family background was disclosed by his uncle, William E. Maher, in an interview in his bungalow here.

MAHER said he guessed the reason the children were taken away from Ray's mother was that authorities were concerned about their home environment" and the ability of the mother to take care of them.

Maher, brother of Ray's mother, who died in 1961, said he never maintained a close relationship with his sister or any of the members of her family because "when I saw them they al-

ways wanted something."

He said Ray was always a "troublemaker" but said he knew of no racial influence on Ray's life that might have provided a motive for the alleged slaying. He said he last saw Ray about 12 years ago when he visited Ray's mother in St. Louis, across the Mississippi River from Alton.

MAHER said that he did not know until Thursday that Ray had escaped a year ago from the Missouri State Penitentiary. He learned of it, he said, from a radio newscast reporting that the FBI had announced in Washington that it was seeking Ray as the alleged slayer of Dr. King.

Maher, a painting contractor, said his nephew had once called him to request that he put up bail to get him out of jail.

"It was for some traffic offense, and it cost me about

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

15 THE PLAIN DEALER
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\$45, which he never paid back."

"But I never heard him say anything about Negroes—either good or bad," he added.

Maher said that so far as he knew, six of Ray's brothers and sisters still are living, but insisted that he did not know the whereabouts of any of them.

HE LISTED the nine in their order of birth as James Earl (the suspected slayer), Marjorie burned to death at an early age), John, Melba, Carol, Jerald, Franklin D. (killed in an automobile accident), Susan and Max.

Although he handled the funeral arrangements for his sister's burial at Alton, Maher said he did not know if she had remarried and had no explanation why the obituary notice listed her as Mrs. Ryan instead of Mrs. Ray.

The Quincy Herald-Whig reported Saturday that Miss Melba Ryan, who lives at the Virginia Hotel in Quincy, had identified herself as a sister of James Earl Ray. Melba Ryan, known as an eccentric, startled the townspeople of Quincy once by lugging a heavy seven-foot wooden cross several miles through the city.

The Herald-Whig said Quincy police believe James Earl Ray's father is the late Earl Ray, alias James Ryan, arrested in Quincy three times in the 1940s.

QUINCY police said Earl Ray in 1948 pleaded guilty to throwing acid in his wife's face and was sentenced to a prison term of one to 14 years.

The hunt for Ray—the name of the man believed to have used the alias of Eric Starvo Galt—appeared to be no closer to success yesterday.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)



ACCEPTS CHECK — Former Cleveland Browns player Walter Beach, right, cochairman of the Martin Luther King Jr. Fund accepts a \$5,000 check to the fund from Morton L. Mandel of the Jewish Community Federation.

King Fund Given \$5,000 Check by Jewish Group

Morton L. Mandel, chairman of the Foundation Advisory Council of the Jewish Community Federation, yesterday presented a \$5,000 check to Walter Beach, cochairman of the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Fund.

Mandel said that the gift, the largest so far to the fund, represents only one aspect of the contributions of the Jewish community to the newly established fund created for inner city action projects following an appeal by Mayor Carl B. Stokes.

He said, "We know Catholics, Protestants, and Jews will join hands with every segment of the community in major reconstructive efforts. The Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Fund represents one significant step in that direction."

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

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