

Martin Luther King Jr. was born Jan. 15, 1929, in Atlanta. As a child his name was Michael Luther King and so was his father's. His father changed both their names legally to Martin Luther King in honor of the Protestant reformer.

Auburn Avenue is one of the nation's most widely known Negro sections. Many successful Negro business or professional men have lived there. The Rev. Martin Lu-

ther King Sr. was pastor of the Ebenezer Baptist Church at Jackson Street and Auburn Avenue.

YOUNG Martin went to Atlanta's Morehouse College, a Negro institution whose students acquired what was sometimes called the "Morehouse Swank." The president of Morehouse, Dr. B. E. Mays, took a special interest in Martin, who had decided, in his junior year, to be a clergyman.

He was ordained a minister in his father's church in 1947. It was in this church he was to say, some years later.

"America, you've strayed away. You've trampled over 19 million of your brethren. All men are created equal. Not some men. Not white men. All men. America, rise up and come home."

Before Dr. King had his own church he pursued his studies in the integrated Crozier Theological Seminary, in Chester, Pa. He became the first Negro class president. He was named the outstanding student and won a fellowship to study for a doctorate. The young man enrolled at Boston College in 1951.

FOR HIS doctoral thesis he sought to resolve the differences between the Harvard theologian Paul Tillich and the Neo-naturalist philosopher Henry Nelson Wieman. During this period he also took courses at Harvard.

While he was working on his doctorate he met Coretta Scott, a graduate at Antioch College, who was doing graduate work in music. He married the singer in 1953. They had two children. Yolanda Denise, known as "Yoki," was born in 1955, and Martin Luther King 3d in 1957.

In 1954, Dr. King became pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery. At that time few of Montgomery's white residents saw any reason for a major dispute with the city's 50,000 Negroes. They did not seem to realize how deeply the Negroes resented segregated seating on buses, for instance.

On Dec. 1, 1955, they learned, almost by accident, Mrs. Rosa Parks, a Negro seamstress, refused to comply with a bus driver's order to give up her seat to a white passenger. She was tired, she said. Her feet hurt from a day of shopping.

MRS. PARKS had been a local secretary for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. She was arrested, convicted of refusing to obey the bus conductor and fined \$10 and costs, a total of \$14. Almost as spontaneous as Mrs. Parks' act was the rallying of many Negro leaders in the city to help her.

From a protest begun over a Negro woman's tired feet Dr. King began his public career.

In 1959 Dr. King and his family moved back to Atlanta where he became a copastor with his father, of the Ebenezer Baptist Church.

As his fame increased, public interest in his beliefs led him to write books. It was while he was autographing one of these books, "Stride Toward Freedom," in a Harlem department store that he was stabbed by a Negro woman.

DR. KING had a way of reducing complex issues to terms that anyone could understand.

Thus in the summer of 1965, when there was widespread discontent among Negroes about their struggle for equality of employment, he declared:

"What good does it do to be able to eat at a lunch counter if you can't buy a hamburger."

The enormous impact of Dr. King's words was one of the reasons he was in the President's room in the Capitol Aug. 6, 1965, when President Johnson signed the voting rights act that struck down literacy tests, provided federal registrars to assure the ballot to unregistered Negroes and marked the growth of the Negro as a political force in the South.

THERE WAS little of the rabble-rouser in his manner. He was not prone to extravagant gestures or loud oration. He did not have the flamboyance of a Rep. Adam Clayton Powell Jr., or the cool strategic brilliance of Roy Wilkins, head of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

What Dr. King did have was an instinct for the right moment to make his moves. Some critics looked upon this as pure opportunism. Nevertheless it was this sense of timing that raised him in 1955, from a newly arrived minister in Montgomery, with his first church, to a figure of national prominence.

After many difficulties in a Birmingham crusade Dr. King wrote:

"I have almost reached the regrettable conclusion that the Negro's great stumbling block in the stride toward freedom is not the white citizens council or the Ku Klux Klanner, but the white moderate who is more devoted to order than to justice; who prefers a negative peace, which is the absence of tension, to a positive peace, which is the presence of justice."

Counter Battles At an End

OSLO, Norway — Dr. Martin Luther King, here to receive the Nobel Peace Prize Dec. 10, 1964, said "there will be no lunch counter battles any more" in the civil rights struggle in the United States.

"What is now needed is a new dynamism of strength, a grand alliance of the civil rights movement, the religious, labor and intellectual forces to enforce the kind of political action that can end de facto segregation as regards housing, schools and job opportunity," the American civil rights leader said.

"The civil rights movement, or for that matter the Negro in America, cannot wield sufficient political power to bring about these new advances to fulfill the tremendous promise of the civil rights bill that aligned the forces of the administration and congress firmly behind our struggle," King said.

"For these advances, we will have to enter the political arena, and this we can only do through a grand alliance of progressive endeavor."



Peace Prize for Nonviolence

OSLO, Norway—Dr. King receives the Nobel Peace Prize from Gunnar Jahn, chairman of the prize committee. King, third Negro to receive the coveted award, is honored for his violent leadership of the civil rights movement.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Dr. King's Words Were: 'I Condemn Violence.'

NONVIOLENCE is still my way of life. I will continue to condemn riots because they cause more social problems than they solve."

These were the words of Dr. Martin Luther King one year ago, almost to the night, when he appeared in Nashville. Now Dr. King, minister, recipient of the Nobel Peace prize, symbol of the struggle for justice for Negroes, is dead. This disciple of nonviolence is the victim of violence, slain by an assassin.

★ ★ ★

In the wake of his death at the hands of a gunman there is great sorrow. There is great shock. There was a sudden growing sense of tension. There were incidents of violence in the city where the deed was done, in this city 200 miles away and elsewhere in the nation.

How tragic that this man, known to all the world as one who had faced physical harm without fear, should die by the act of one who fired and fled.

And how sad that his death should move anyone to any reaction that would scar with violence the memory of the man who in almost every appearance of the last two years has urged his people against acts of violence. His murder is a crime against justice and must be solved.

There is no question but what Dr. King was despised by some and disliked by others. He was hated by Klansmen and members of the White Citizens Councils. He was criticized by those in the white community who opposed his efforts to shake the status quo and his attempts to bring Negroes to full citizenship.

And he also stood at odds with some of his race who argued that his way was too slow; that the way for the Negro was through rioting and violence. When looting and chaos attended his recent march in Memphis he admitted it was impossible to control all elements. He was back in Memphis to march again—apparently hoping to show that a peaceful demonstration could be carried out there.

Many citizens could not understand why violence so often accompanied this man who talked of nonviolence. Some claimed that he knew his demonstrations would cause trouble, and that he wanted to provoke others to violence.

But today there are many who will remember him as the one leader who spoke out against rioting and looting as he did last year in Nashville.

"I will continue to condemn riots," Dr. King said.

These were his words. And whether others admired him or held him in contempt, this was the code he professed. It is one the nation needs today.

"Nonviolence is still my way of life," he said.

★ ★ ★

Whether others followed him or turned away from him, these words are more pertinent for the nation now than they ever were during his life.

If Martin Luther King's life and death mean anything to American society, they mean that out of torture and anguish can come progress and at least the hope for tranquility and justice under the rule of law. This must be the hope of every citizen today.

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

PAGE 24

NASHVILLE
TENNESSEAN

NASHVILLE, TENN.

Date: 4-5-68
Edition:
Author: JOHN
Editor: SEIGENTHALER
Title:

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: MEMPHIS
☐ Being Investigated

44-1987-Sub C-40
SEARCHED.....INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED h FILED h
APR 1 1968
FBI - MEMPHIS

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Governor Wires Sympathy Note

Gov. Buford Ellington sent this telegram to Mrs. Martin Luther King Jr. in Atlanta following the slaying of her husband:

"I am deeply saddened and shocked in this tragic hour and my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Let me assure you that every action possible is being taken to apprehend the person or persons responsible for this horrible crime. My office is at your disposal for any service we may render. (Signed) Buford Ellington."

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

PAGE 6

NASHVILLE BANNER

NASHVILLE, TENN.

Date: 4-5-68
Edition:
Author: ALVAND C.
Editor: DUNKLEBERGER
Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

44-1987-Sub-C-41
SEARCHED.....INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED *h* FILED *h*
APR 1 1968
FBI - MEMPHIS
VR

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Nashville Negro Leader Makes Plea For Unity

Dr. Dorothy Brown, the first Negro woman ever elected to the Tennessee Legislature and professor of clinical surgery at Meharry Medical College, today issued this statement entitled, "Let Us Reason Together in Our Time of Crisis."

This is the hour for all reasonable Americans to be heard. Silence now is absolutely out of tune with this time of crisis. For a great

voice of "reason" and "non-violence" is stifled—cut off in death—its owner gunned down like a hunted animal from ambush under cover of darkness.

The philosophy that Dr. Martin Luther King shouted across this land is so right and so expedient that the very thought of the absence of his voice in our midst is terrifying.

'Hour of Decision'

We are suddenly faced with a new hour of decision. Which way now, Black America?

The horror of this hour forces us to an immediate consideration of the paradoxical reaction of some in the Negro community, even at the emotional height of this great leader's death. Such behavior could only emanate from immaturity, utter lack of respect and lack of insight and experience. For no mature and serious student of the history of the "passing" of

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

PAGE /

NASHVILLE BANNER

NASHVILLE, TENN.

Date: 4-5-68

Edition:

Author: ALVAND C.

Editor: DUNKLEDERGER

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

44-1987-Sub C-42

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 1 0 1968	
FBI — MEMPHIS	

131

great world citizens would allow himself even the transient moment of the insincerity of violence and destruction, both of which were so foreign to the basic philosophy of Martin Luther King.

The paradox of villifying the memory of this gentle servant of God and the best in men both black and white, even as he lies in death, by taking advantage of the confusion and pathos of this hour with looting, destroying property and injuring innocent and unsuspecting people passing by is indescribably vicious and could not be the work of mature Nashvillians, but that of thoughtless and immature young citizens of this community.

Further, the paradox of the destruction of Negro communities by those same hot-headed Negro youth is unbelievable. Of course these young people could care less about our community because they have nothing to lose. They have no roots in Nashville anyhow.

In the setting of the current crisis, I know of only one thing that can be accomplished overnight and rather immediately and that is the total and utter destruction of our homes and

businesses, and the division and further alienation of Americans through hate, resentment and retaliation.

Many times recently I have been asked what I think about "Black nationalism" and I have replied quite thoughtfully that "Black nationalism" is a "sickness" from which the Negro American will recover, if white America will help us to recover from it. And what is more, since white Americans have the upper hand, they must see to it that without subterfuge, without the necessity for further violence and in the true spirit of the Constitution of this democracy, the children of the slaves of their foreparents get an even break at life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Support Needed

There are a lot of Martin Luther Kings in this community who also believe in non-violence and reason, who daily languish under threats of bodily harm and the destruction of their homes and the embarrassment of being called "Uncle Toms" and "super Toms" simply because they do not go along with violence. These citizens of the Negro community need to know and to be assured of the fact that they are heard and understood by the rest of the community.

This time of crisis could still be the finest hour for America's Negroes and could serve to enlarge upon and glorify the courageous life of Martin Luther King as we humbly take the very God and religion that the white American forefathers taught our slave foreparents, and drive white Americans to the

knees of their consciences, the goodness of their hearts.

The way of reason is the only true and effective way of oppressed people anywhere and their use requires good sense, a spark of courage, mature judgment, a spirit of forgiveness and one's personal ability to take plenty of abuse, even from members of your own group.

In our hour of grief, let us all pray that the spirit of the living God will move on our hearts and consciences, both black and white.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

VII Group Marches To Church

More than 200 students and faculty members of Vanderbilt University began marching shortly after noon today from the Vanderbilt campus toward St. Mary's Catholic Church, Fifth Avenue North and Charlotte Avenue, where memorial services for Dr. Martin Luther King are scheduled this afternoon.

The group of students and faculty members, both Negro and white, filed along West End Avenue, forming a two-block-long line.

Another march was scheduled later today from St. Mary's to Mayor Beverly Briley's office at the courthouse, following the memorial services.

Both Gov. Buford Ellington and Briley today received similar petitions signed by a group of faculty members and students of the Vanderbilt University Divinity School protest-

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

PAGE /

NASHVILLE BANNER

NASHVILLE, TENN.

Date: 4-5-68
Edition:
Author: ALVAND C.
Editor: DUNKLEBERGER
Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

44-1987-Sub C-43

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 1 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

131

ing the use of the National Guard in North Nashville.

Briley was urged by the petition to "ask immediately for the withdrawal of the National Guard" and to "assist Metropolitan Nashville to recognize the deep-seated nature of white racism which pervades our city and to purge our city of racial prejudice and strife."

In the petition to Ellington the group said: "We, the undersigned, deplore and condemn your response to the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr."

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Stokely Urges Retaliation

Washington (AP) — Black Power advocate Stokely Carmichael urged Negroes today to arm themselves with guns and take to the streets in retaliation for the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Carmichael told a news conference he wants black America to "kill off the real enemy."

He said there would be executions in the streets.

"When white America killed Dr. King she opened the eyes of every black man in this country," Carmichael said.

Carmichael blamed President Lyndon B. Johnson and Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, D-N.Y., along with the rest of the nation's white population, for the death of the Nobel Peace Prize winner.

"Bobby Kennedy pulled that trigger as much as anyone else," Carmichael said, charging the senator had failed to push for prosecution of slayers of Negro civil rights workers when he was attorney general.

The militant Black Power leader declared that violence that erupted in city after city across the nation after King was shot in Memphis is "just light stuff" when compared with "what will happen."

"We have to retaliate," he added.

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

PAGE 1

NASHVILLE BANNER

NASHVILLE, TENN.

Date: 4-5-68
Edition:
Author: ALVAND C.
Editor: B. KILMER
Title:

Character:
or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

44-1987-Sub C-44

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 1 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

IR

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

DR. KING**SLAIN IN****MEMPHIS**

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

PAGE /

NASHVI LE
TENNYSSHAN

NASHVILLE, TENN.

Date: 4-5-68
Edition:
Author: JOHN
Editor: EIGENTHALER
Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

44-1987-Sub-C-45

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED..b	FILED.....b
APR 1 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

IR

Search On For Young Rifleman

By WAYNE WHITT, Staff Correspondent

MEMPHIS—Dr. Martin Luther King, Nobel Peace Prize winner who made nonviolence his chief weapon in the fight for civil rights, was shot to death here last night as he stood on a balcony outside his motel room.

The 39-year-old Negro leader was felled by a sniper's bullet which struck him in the neck as he prepared to leave the Lorraine Motel for dinner.

He was rushed to St. Joseph Hospital and wheeled into the emergency room, a white towel around his neck and an oxygen mask on his face. He appeared to be breathing but died shortly after 7 p.m., despite emergency surgery, an hour after he was shot.

Memphis police immediately issued an alarm for a "young white male, well dressed," who reportedly ran out of a building across the street and fled in a car after dropping a rifle, fitted with a scope.

TWO MEN were picked up several blocks from the scene of the shooting, but were later released.

Frank Holloman, Memphis police director, said authorities believe the assassin stood in a second-floor bathroom at a flophouse on South Main Street, about 65 yards away, to shoot King.

In a press conference early today, Holloman said the suspect registered at the flophouse about 3:30 a pair

later in the day.

"FROM THE bathroom," Holloman said, "the man had a clear view of the balcony where King was standing."

Holloman declined to say what name the man used when he registered, but described the suspect as being six feet tall, weighing about 165 to 175 pounds, between the ages of 26 and 32.

The police director said police found a 30.06 Remington rifle two doors from the flophouse and believe it was the weapon used in the assassination. The FBI was checking the rifle to determine if it was the weapon used.

RIOTING ERUPTED here shortly after King was murdered. Two policemen were shot and National Guard troops and highway patrolmen were called in. Holloman went on television to report:

"Looting is rampant. The National Guard is coming back into town."

Shortly after midnight, Claude Armour, special assistant to Gov. Buford Ellington for law and order, reported that "things are now in hand in Memphis." He added:

"We had three or four bad hours, but reasonable order has now been restored."

THE 4,000 Guardsmen, who had been sent home Wednesday after five days on duty here, were rushed into Memphis as police ordered a 7 p.m. to 5 a.m. curfew back into effect "until further notice."

In addition, rioting broke out in several other cities throughout the nation, including Nashville, Raleigh, Tallahassee and Greensboro, N.C. There were demonstrations and violence in Winston-Salem and Wilmington, N.C., Newbern, S.C., Jackson, Miss., Birmingham and Huntsville, and Washington, D.C.

King's mourning associates sought to calm the Negro community by recalling the rights leader's message of peace. Standing outside the emergency room, the aides waited in forlorn hope until King's death was announced.

Paul Hess, assistant administrator at St. Joseph, said King received "a gaping wound" at the root of his neck. "Doctors did everything humanly possible," he added.

KING'S AIDES burst into tears when they learned of his death.

"He was a man full of life," said Chanuncey Eskridge, a legal advisor to King. "He was full of love and he was shot. He had always lived with that expectation—but no-

body ever expected it would happen."

The Guardsmen originally were sent into Memphis last week when a march led by King—in support of striking sanitation workers here—erupted in violence which left one dead, 63 injured and more than 200 person arrested.

KING HAD come back to Memphis yesterday morning to organize support once again for the 1,300 strikers, predominantly Negro. He had planned to lead another protest march Monday. Sympathizers from other parts of the country had announced they would join, and as many as 10,000 or more were expected for the demonstration.

Memphis labor leaders and aides of King said last night that the march will be staged Monday as planned.

King, who had walked in the shadow of death in his battle to bring about integration of the races, had told a rally Wednesday night, near the spot where he died:

"Like anybody, I would like to live a long life . . . but I'm not concerned about that."

"I JUST WANT to do God's will and He has allowed me to go up the mountain and I've looked over and I've seen the promised land."

"I may not get there with

you, but I want you to know tonight that we, as a people, will get to the promised land. So I'm happy tonight. I'm not worried about anything."

King had also told associates the night before that he was not concerned over reports of possible harm while he was in Memphis.

"He said he had reached the pinnacle of fulfillment with his nonviolent movement, and these reports did not bother him," one aide said.

KING WAS SHOT as he leaned over a second-floor railing outside his motel room, and talked to aides standing below. King had been in his room throughout the day until shortly before dusk.

Then, he emerged about 6 p.m. wearing a black suit and white shirt. It was not yet dark. He paused, leaned over the railing and began talking with an associate, Jesse Jackson, standing below.

Jackson introduced King to Ben Branch, a musician who was to play at a rally King was to address two hours later. Jackson and Branch related this conversation with King:

Jackson: "Do you know Ben?"

King: "Yes, that's my man!"

They said King then asked if Branch would play a spiritual, "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" at the rally.

Solomon Jones Jr., King's driver, said King told him to start the car because he "was ready to go to dinner."

"I SAID, 'It's cold outside, Dr. King, put your topcoat on,'" Jones said. "And he said, 'Okay, I will,' and smiled. Those were his last words."

A shot rang out, striking King in the neck and lower right part of his face.

Jackson said the only sound King uttered was, "Oh!"

"It (the bullet) knocked him down," Jackson added. "When I turned around, I saw police coming from everywhere."

Police moved into the area around the Lorraine Motel on Mulberry Street. They carried shotguns and rifles and sealed off the block, refusing to allow entry to newsmen and others.

The FBI entered the investigation at the specific request of the U.S. attorney general.

KING'S WIFE, Coretta, mother of his two children, had been in Atlanta. Atlanta Mayor Ivan Allen rushed to the King home and drove Mrs. King to the airport. She was waiting for a flight to Memphis when she received word shortly after 7 p.m. that her husband had died.

King died in St. Joseph Hospital, in the same emergency room to which James H. Meredith, first Negro enrolled in the University of Mississippi, had been taken after he was shot in ambush in June, 1965, at Hernando, Miss., a few miles south of Memphis. Meredith was not seriously hurt.

Earlier yesterday there had been lengthy discussion in federal court before Judge Bailey Brown—with King absent—on whether King should be allowed to proceed with the march planned for Monday.

KING'S LAWYERS suggested that an injunction against the march be lifted, but that a compromise place court restrictions on participants in the march.

Brown, who issued the injunction Wednesday at the urging of Memphis officials,

was to render a decision on the proposal by today.

King had indicated he was considering disobeying the injunction against his leading any marches for at least 10 days.

King, a silver-tongued orator who captured the attention of multitudes, won his first major battle in the war on segregation in Montgomery. At that time he organized and led the famed Montgomery bus boycott, a campaign that led eventually to integrated seating on city buses in the deep South.

It was a victory that launched King on an integration campaign that made him the best known civil rights leader in the world.

A FOLLOWER of the non-violent techniques preached by Mahatma Gandhi, King lived with the expectation that he might one day be killed by someone who opposed his views.

But he had survived virtually every civil rights campaign since the 1956 boycott and led many of them.

He had suffered many beatings and blows in his career. And once—in 1958—he was stabbed in a Harlem department store in New York by a Negro woman, later adjudged insane.

AT THAT TIME, he underwent a four-hour operation to remove a steel letter opener that had been plunged into his upper left chest, and for a time he was on the critical list.

King came to Memphis to help garbage men who struck Feb. 12 for union recognition, payroll deduction of dues and pay increases. Mayor Loeb had declared the strike illegal and said repeatedly that he would not give into the strikers.

In a speech here, King had said the strike symbolized a

new phase of the civil rights movement.

Aides said King felt he must return to Memphis and lead another protest march to prove that his non-violence approach to the civil rights movement was not dead.



—Staff photo by Jimmie Ellis

He Preached Tolerance

Dr. Martin Luther King speaks with passion as he urges racial tolerance in a speech at Vanderbilt University's Impact Symposium in 1967.



Stricken Widow Heads Home

ATLANTA—Mrs. Martin Luther King Jr. heads for her home in Atlanta last night shortly after her husband was killed. Holding an umbrella is Atlanta Mayor Ivan Allen. Woman at left is unidentified.



—UPI Telephoto

Fleeing Man Spotted

MEMPHIS—An unidentified witness, standing, gives police a description of a man who fled the scene where ~~Ray~~ King was shot.



—UPI Telephoto

Honored by Many

NEW YORK — This cover of the 1963 issue of Time Magazine shows Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who was selected by Time as "Man of the Year."

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

White Mustang Paired In King

By GEORGE BRYAN
There were two white Mustangs parked within 100 feet of 424 1/2 South Main when Dr. Martin Luther King was shot to death last Thursday—and The Commercial Appeal learned last night the assassin may have sped away in one bearing Arkansas license plates.

Charles Hurley, an advertising executive, said last night he saw a dirty white Mustang parked about 20 feet south of Canipe Amusement Company at 424 South Main at 5:23 p.m. that day.

"I came after my wife who works in the area and parked behind the Mustang. I just glanced at the plates as I pulled away, noting they were red and white — Arkansas plates."

Mr. Hurley said a young white man was sitting in the car at that time. The man "roughly" matched the description of the suspect.

The man was seen leaving in the car shortly after 6:01 p.m. when Dr. King was shot. The fatal bullet was believed to have been fired from an upstairs bathroom at 418 1/2 South Main.

Another Mustang was parked to the north in front of Jim's Grill at 418 South Main. Witnesses said it left the area about 6:15 p.m.

Mr. Hurley said he gave all the information he had on the dirty Mustang to the FBI. "I wanted to help as much as I could, without endangering my life and that of my family," he said.

Guy Canipe, owner of Canipe Amusement Co., who saw a man drop a parcel (with a rifle in it) in front of his store, said he saw the same man drive away in a white automobile which had been parked about 20 feet south of the store at 424 South Main.

Mr. Canipe said he didn't pay any attention at first to the man who dropped the package in his doorway because "so many drunks come by here and drop things. One of them set a TV in the doorway one day and didn't come back for a couple of hours."

"I went to the door and looked out, and saw the man's back as he walked away. I

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

PAGE /

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 4-11-68
Edition:
Author: FRANK R. AHLGREN
Editor:
Title:

Character:

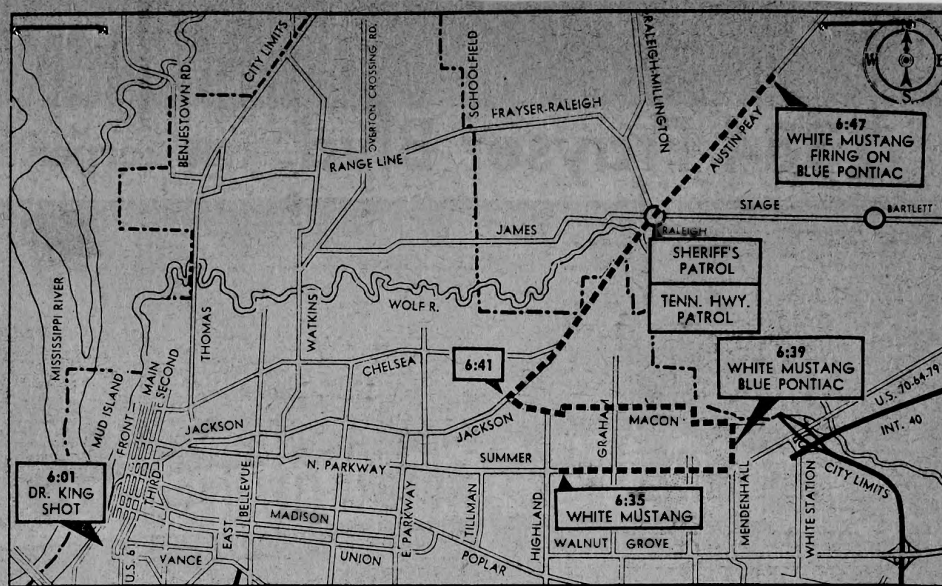
or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

☐ Being Investigated **MEMPHIS**

44-1987-Sub C-46
SEARCHED ☒ INDEXED ☒
APR 1 6 1968
FBI — MEMPHIS



Route And Times Of Mystery Chase Of Last Thursday

—Staff Map

looked down and saw what looked like a dirty green bed spread and a couple of fishing boat seat cushions lying near the door (of his store).

"There were a couple of boys in the store buying some used records. A minute or two

later, they ran to the door just as the white car was leaving, with the man who had dropped the stuff driving it. I guess the boys must have heard something happening outside.

"I didn't hear or notice anything for a few seconds, then I

went out and saw a deputy come running down the street with his gun drawn. I looked down and saw the barrel of a gun sticking out of a package with "Browning" printed on the outside. I thought it was a shotgun.

"The two boys said the car left 'Like it was going to a fire,' but it didn't seem to me to be in too much of a hurry — this street is always like a speedway."

Meanwhile, the mystery of a high-speed Mustang-Pontiac chase by "Car 160" in northeast Memphis during which shots were reportedly exchanged deepened.

Fire and Police Director Frank C. Holloman declined any comment on the chase, "or any other facet of the assassination investigation." The chase was described on the police radio frequency Thursday evening a few minutes after the shooting.

The Commercial Appeal has pressed for clarification since Thursday night. It carried a copyrighted story yesterday detailing the broadcast chase, which posed many questions about the investigation.

There is a possibility that the high-speed chase between the two automobiles never occurred and that the broadcast may have been

faked to draw attention away from southern escape routes.

Another confusing aspect arose yesterday when the man who was in Car 160 that day, Lt. R. W. Bradshaw, was quoted by reporters for a newsmagazine as saying he was hailed by a young man in a car equipped with a citizens band radio near Jackson and Hollywood during the time period in question. The officer said he then relayed information given him by the man in the other car as the "chase" progressed.

The other man, not identified, was presumably receiving information on his radio.

Tape recordings of police radio broadcasts reviewed by The Commercial Appeal yesterday placed a white Mustang driven by a white man east on Summer from Highland at 6:36 p.m. Car 160 advised his dispatcher he had information that the driver of the white Mustang was "responsible for this shooting."

Police Car 160, later was quoted by the dispatcher as saying the car was exceeding 75 miles an hour on Mendenhall from Summer.

A few seconds later, the dispatcher said "There are three white males in the car, a blue Pontiac, exceeding 75 miles an hour," also north on Mendenhall from Summer.

At 6:47, Car 160 reported the blue Pontiac and white Mustang were traveling at more than 100 miles an hour at Austin Peay Highway and Stage, exchanging gunfire. The white Mustang reportedly had a citizens band radio aerial on it.

One transmission, however, indicated the intersection at Austin Peay Highway and Stage had been blocked by officers and no Pontiac had been seen there.

Mrs. Daisy Thompson, owner of Thompson's Diner at 4443½ Jackson, said none of her employees remember seeing or hearing any unusual activity on Jackson the night of the shooting. The reported chase route would have passed the diner.

Bill Martin, who owns the Esso Servicenter at 2884 Aus-

tin Peay Highway, remembers seeing several squad cars that evening "but they were just watching the traffic. I've heard a lot of talk about a chase and some shooting, but no one I've talked to — and I've talked to a lot of people out here about it — ever saw or heard anything."

"There couldn't have been a chase with shooting out here and me not know about it."

The radio broadcasts concerning the white Mustang and blue Pontiac were as follows:

At 6:25 p.m., a white Mustang was reported proceeding north on Thomas at a high rate of speed, headed toward Highway North 51.

At 6:27 p.m., a white Mustang was stopped at Chelsea and Watkins.

At 6:35 p.m., a white Mustang was being pursued by Car 421 north on Thomas from Firestone. This car was checked by 421 at 6:36 and found to be uninvolved.

At 6:35 p.m., Car 160 reported information from "a complainant" that a white man was driving east on Summer from Highland. "White male east on Summer from Highland, in a white Mustang, responsible for this shooting. Cars 36 and 42 pull down. Subject is exceeding the speed limit east on Summer from Highland," said the dispatcher.

At 6:36 p.m., the dispatcher called for any cars in the east end of the city and said, "160, repeat. 160 you're being cut out ... it's supposed to be a blue..."

"All cars stand by ... 160 repeat."

"160 you're still being cut out, repeat."

"A blue Pontiac north on Mendenhall from Summer. 160 advises this car is speeding over 75 miles an hour north on Mendenhall from Summer."

"There are three white males in the car, a blue Pontiac ... three white males occupying a blue Pontiac exceeding 75 miles an hour, north on Mendenhall from Summer. Any location now, 160?"

At 6:41 p.m., Car 160 report-

ed to the dispatcher who said: "The subject's on the way to Raleigh, north on Jackson, north on Jackson toward Raleigh, a blue Pontiac occupied by three white males. These subjects are supposed to be wanted for the shooting."

At 6:41 p.m., the dispatcher asked Car 160 if the blue Pontiac was a convertible, apparently in response to a question

from Car 36 who had seen a blue Pontiac convertible with some white men in it going west on Macon.

At 6:44 p.m., the number of occupants of the blue Pontiac became questionable when the dispatcher, quoting Car 160, said: "This is a blue Pontiac hardtop seen northbound at Jackson and Stage approximately 100 miles an hour ... a

white male in a blue Pontiac proceeding north at Jackson and Stage at a high rate of speed.

At about 6:44 p.m., Car 160 was asked, "Do you have the complainant with you there?"

Car 160 apparently questioned the dispatcher regarding an intersection in the search area. (Both sides of the conversation on police radios are not always audible on monitoring equipment). The dispatcher said:

"Check, they've had that blocked up there and they've seen no Pontiac at all."

At 6:47 p.m., the final transmission abruptly ended all mention of a white Mustang or a blue Pontiac. The dispatcher said: "160 advising the blue Pontiac is shooting at the white Mustang following. The white Mustang has a citizens' band, following the blue Pontiac going on out Austin Peay. The subject is firing at the white Mustang."

Then came the confusing report of shooting: "160 advising that they're approaching the Millington Road that goes into the naval base. The Pontiac... correction, the blue Pontiac is firing upon the white Mustang. The white Mustang has a citizens band unit. All cars... correction... Sheriff's Department... 160 advising the white Mustang is firing at the blue Pontiac... the white Mustang is firing at the blue Pontiac. They're approaching Millington Road that goes to the naval base."

The broadcasts on the two automobiles ended.

Conflict exists also in notes made from police frequency No. 2 and taped broadcasts of frequency No. 1. The taped

broadcasts, quoted here, give varying number of occupants of the Pontiac. But the copied broadcasts indicated no knowledge of occupants of the car.

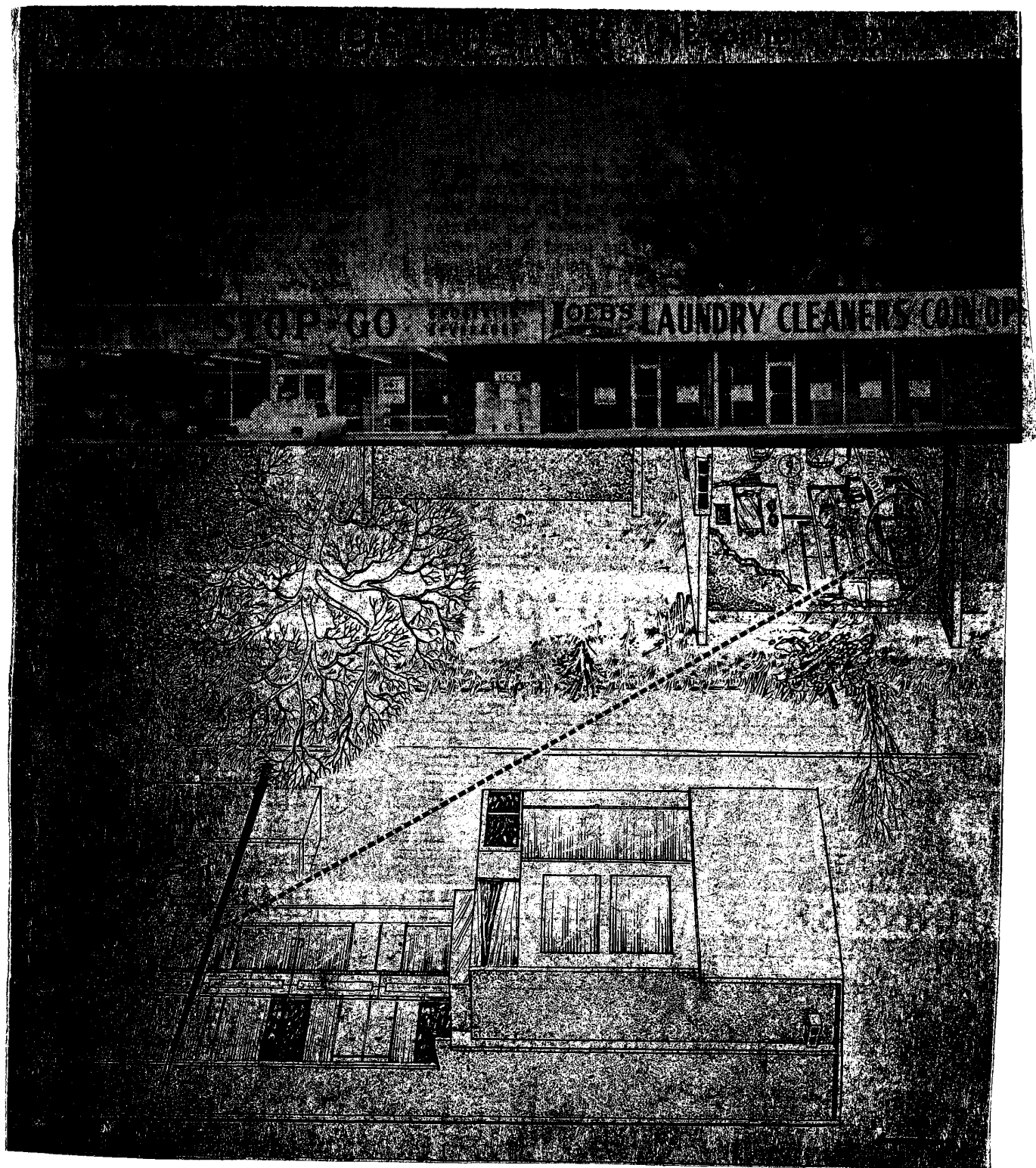
Frequency No. 1 broadcasts stated the Mustang was pursuing the Pontiac. Frequency No. 2 stated the Pontiac was following the Mustang. Both frequencies carried the confusion of the reported shooting.

The two frequencies are used to better handle the volume of traffic generated by the police activities here. Under normal conditions, cars operating out of Central Police Station use Frequency No. 1 and those working out of Armour Center use No. 2. Cars can be ordered to switch from one to the other in unusual circumstances.

The only statement forthcoming from Mr. Holloman yesterday was included in a printed memorandum which stated:

"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."

Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark had no comment yesterday on the possibility the reported chase was a deliberate attempt to confuse Memphis police and draw them away from the escaping assassin.



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Questions Resound About 'Chase' on Night of Assassination

newspaper, city and state.)

By JAMES R. REID

Press-Scimitar Staff Writer

If there were pirate broadcasts on the police radio frequency about Car 160 chasing a white Mustang and a blue 1966 Pontiac in northeast Memphis, right after the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King — there remains an equally puzzling mystery: Where was the real Car 160 and why didn't the real officer report that he was not on such a chase?

Police decline any comment on the alleged chase by Car 160.

Members of The Press-Scimitar staff have listened repeatedly to a tape recording of the police broadcasts during the time the chase was supposed to have occurred.

A recording was made by Raymond S. Greer of 4498

Almo, in Parkway Village who had just purchased a tape recorder on the day Dr. King was shot, last Thursday.

This reporter heard the original broadcast of the "chase" over his own police radio receiver in East Memphis and has listened to the recording by Greer. The transmissions are the same.

Greer has a radio capable of picking up police calls and recorded them on his new recorder. The Press-Scimitar now has a copy tape of those calls.

Car 160 is assigned to the northeast section of Memphis. Many of the calls from the dispatcher to "Car 160" were broadcast on both frequencies which the department uses.

If the real Car 160 was not

involved in such a chase, then why didn't the officer report that he knew nothing about the information going out? It would appear certain all officers were listening to their radios after a major murder.

At least three other cars were told to pull into the area and attempt to assist Car 160 on the chase. Those cars: 36, 42 and 28. At least one, if not more, should have been able to hear the officer in Car 160 talking on his radio.

The following is what was heard during the time in question.

The time relating to the chase began at 6:36 p.m. This was the time given on the call to car 4 just prior to the chase information.

All quotes are from the

PAGE 17

MEMPHIS PRESS-
SCIMITAR

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 4-11-68
Edition:
Author: CHAS. H.
Editor: SCHNEIDER
Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>h</i>	FILED <i>h</i>
APR 16 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

13

44-1987-Sub C-47

dispatcher.

"160 has information from a complainant that a white male is east on Summer from Highland, in a white Mustang, responsible for the shooting (of Dr. King).

"36, 42, 28, pull down.

"East from Highland on Summer, exceeding the speed limit.

"What's your location 413?

"Any cars in the East end?

"160 . . . repeat. You are being cut out . . . supposed to be a blue . . . all cars, stand by. Repeat 160. You are still being cut out. Repeat.

"66 Pontiac, north on Mendenhall from Summer. 6:39 (p.m.)

"150 advises over 75 mph on Mendenhall. Three white males in the car. Exceeding 75 mph. Any location now,

160?"

(During this time, if the broadcasts were from a "pirate" radio transmitter — Lt. R. W. Bradshaw in the real car 160 had not once reported to the dispatcher that he was not on the chase and knew nothing of what was happening.)

Time now is 6:40 p.m.

The dispatcher said:

"North on Mendenhall, at high rate of speed.

"160, any further information?

"North on Jackson . . . from where, 160? Toward Raleigh. 6:41 (p.m.)

"Supposed to be wanted for the shooting.

"160, is that a convertible?

"Unknown 36, at this time. 6:42 (p.m.)

"Go ahead 160.

"160 advises the blue Pon-

tiac is on Jackson at Stage . . . high rate of speed . . . 100 mph, 6:44 (p.m.)"

Heard over the other frequency was another dispatcher talking to car 201 about the gun used in the slaying, "Browning with a scope on it, 201."

More quotes from the first-frequency dispatcher on the chase by 160 again:

"160, do you have the complainant with you there?

"Sheriff office advises, it has been there . . . nothing gone through there. 6:45 (p.m.).

"160 advising the blue Pontiac is shooting at the white Mustang which has C. B. equipment.

"Out Austin Peay.

"Approaching Millington road that goes into the Millington Naval base. Pontiac

still firing at the white Mustang with C.B. equipment.

"Correction: Austin Peay Sheriff's Department, white Mustang firing at the blue Pontiac. 6:48 (p.m.)"

This is where all transmissions abruptly ended regarding the chase. Nothing else was heard of what happened to "Car 160," the blue Pontiac or white Mustang.

To complicate matters further, another white Mustang bearing Arkansas tags has been reported to have been parked in the vicinity of Dr. King's slaying and having sped away shortly afterward.

Business employees and residents along Austin Peay Highway, both in Raleigh and in Shelby County, were interviewed and none recall having seen the

speed chase.

Neither could they recall having seen a Memphis police car on Austin Peay Highway or driving through Raleigh.

Mrs. W. A. Horne, 6912 Pleasant Ridge Road, said: "We were home at the time the report said the chase occurred, but we saw nothing unusual and we didn't hear any shots."

The last transmission regarding the chase by the police dispatcher said the two cars were turning off Austin Peay and onto a road leading to the Naval Air Station. Mrs. Horne's residence is near the corner of Austin Peay and Pleasant Ridge Road, where a large sign indicates that Pleasant Ridge Road leads to the Naval Air Station.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Birmingham Man Is Sought By FBI For Questioning In King Slaying

The FBI last night revealed — inadvertently — it is seeking Eric Starvo Galt, a 37-year-old Birmingham man, for questioning in connection with the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

An FBI bulletin was released by mistake in Miami, describing Galt as driving a white 1966 Mustang with Alabama license plates. The bulletin was withdrawn about four hours later and the FBI said "no warrant has been issued."

A Mustang, answering the description on the FBI bulletin and the description of witnesses who saw such a car parked near the scene of the slaying in Memphis, the night Dr. King was ambushed, was impounded by federal officers in Atlanta yesterday. It has been parked in an Atlanta subdivision, Capitol Homes, since last Friday morning, the day after Dr. King's murder here.

Witnesses have told reporters for The Commercial Appeal a Mustang which left the slaying scene bore Arkansas plates. Both Arkansas and Alabama's plates are red and white.

Galt's description on the FBI wanted bulletin shows him to be a white man, born July 20, 1931, 5 feet 11 inches tall, 175 pounds, blue eyes and brown

hair, driving a white Mustang, license Number 1-38993. His address was listed as 2608 Highland, which is a rooming house in south Birmingham. Residents there said last night they had not seen Galt in about three months.

Birmingham police said he had no police record.

The description roughly matches that circulated by federal authorities for Dr. King's killer the night of the murder.

In Atlanta, 13-year-old Johnny Niesen said the Mustang, parked in a parking lot in a public housing area near the Georgia state Capitol, had cigarette ashes all over the car floor, and red mud on the interior of the driver's side.

He also said there were two 1967 Mexican tourist stickers on the windshield. The stickers prompted the boy's mother, Mrs. John H. Riley, to call the FBI Wednesday night. Television news programs had referred to the possibility that a Mexican visa had been granted to a man fitting the killer's description.

Another witness, Mrs. Ernest Payne, told the officers she saw the man who drove the car into the parking lot. Her description of the driver fitted Galt's description as broadcast by the inadvertent FBI bulletin.

One resident of the Birmingham boarding house, telephone repairman Percy Strickland, said he had heard the name Eric Galt plenty the last week. The FBI has talked to everybody in this rooming house.

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

PAGE 1

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

4-12-68

Date:

Edition: FRANK R. AHLGREN

Author:

Editor:

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

44-1987-Sub C-48
INDEXED
FILED
APR 10 1968
FBI - MEMPHIS

...said, "some-
one said it was hard to distin-
guish, but he remembered
Galt as being younger than
the FBI description." He lived
on the ground floor of the
two-story stucco building, and
was considered "one of the
boys."

Meanwhile, additional light
filtered in on one of the dark-
er areas of the case — the
apparently bogus radio trans-
missions that sent police cars
chasing two speeding automobiles
out the Austin Peay High-
way within minutes after the
shooting of Dr. King.

A citizens' band radio opera-
tor told The Commercial Appeal
he sat parked next to po-
lice car 160 and relayed mes-
sages to Police Lt. R. W. Brad-
shaw about the supposedly bul-
let-punctuated chase, which ob-
viously never happened.

The 22-year-old part-time
student — who cannot be iden-
tified because of threats
against him — said the chase
positively did not take place,
though he believed it was hap-
pening when he first heard the
radio report on his citizen's
band set, and flagged Lieuten-
ant Bradshaw down to tell him
what was happening.

He said he knew the mes-
sages were faked, because the
radio signals did not "fade" as
the chase progressed. "They
were never more than two
miles from us," he said, though
the route of the chase
would have taken them 15
miles away.

Police here questioned the
youth who relayed the "chase"
radio calls for five hours
Wednesday night. It was later
learned that the man who
broadcast the chase reports
may also be in custody and has
been interviewed by the FBI.

Police declined comment,
and Robert Jensen, chief FBI
official here, said: "My in-

struction officials have no
comment."

In Washington, FBI Agent
William Bailey was asked
about the possibility that the
man who made the misleading
radio calls was in custody. He
also was asked about the car
found in Atlanta.

"I can't make any com-
ment," said Mr. Bailey. Within
15 minutes Thomas E. Bishop,
inspector in charge at the FBI,
called The Commercial Appeal
with another series of "no
comments."

Asked about radio call de-
velopments and the Mustang in
Atlanta, Mr. Bishop said: "We
have no comment to make."
Then when questioned further,
he said: "You people run The
Commercial Appeal. We'll run
the investigation."

Asked who gave the official
order to withhold comments,
Mr. Bishop said: "No com-
ment."

The youth who relayed the
messages described the events
of April 4.

About 6:20 p.m. I was east-
bound on Jackson at Spring-
dale. An unidentified CB (citi-
zen band) mobile operator
called for a telephone call to
the police department.

A base station in South
Memphis answered his call
and wanted to know what mes-
sage to give the police. At the
time skip conditions (interfer-
ence) interrupted their com-
munication and they were un-
able to maintain contact.

"I arrived at Jackson and
Hollywood and saw a police
car stopped at the red light. I
motioned to the policeman to
pull into the parking lot at the
intersection. It was car 160 —
Lieutenant Bradshaw.

"I called the mobile saying
The mobile chasing the white
Mustang. I told him I had a
police car beside me and
would relay his messages. He
tried to tell the base station he
was chasing a white Mustang
with the man who shot Dr.
King."

...said, "some-
one said it was hard to distin-
guish, but he remembered
Galt as being younger than
the FBI description." He lived
on the ground floor of the
two-story stucco building, and
was considered "one of the
boys."

Meanwhile, additional light
filtered in on one of the dark-
er areas of the case — the
apparently bogus radio trans-
missions that sent police cars
chasing two speeding automobiles
out the Austin Peay High-
way within minutes after the
shooting of Dr. King.

A citizens' band radio opera-
tor told The Commercial Appeal
he sat parked next to po-
lice car 160 and relayed mes-
sages to Police Lt. R. W. Brad-
shaw about the supposedly bul-
let-punctuated chase, which ob-
viously never happened.

The 22-year-old part-time
student — who cannot be iden-
tified because of threats
against him — said the chase
positively did not take place,
though he believed it was hap-
pening when he first heard the
radio report on his citizen's
band set, and flagged Lieuten-
ant Bradshaw down to tell him
what was happening.

He said he knew the mes-
sages were faked, because the
radio signals did not "fade" as
the chase progressed. "They
were never more than two
miles from us," he said, though
the route of the chase
would have taken them 15
miles away.

Police here questioned the
youth who relayed the "chase"
radio calls for five hours
Wednesday night. It was later
learned that the man who
broadcast the chase reports
may also be in custody and has
been interviewed by the FBI.

Police declined comment,
and Robert Jensen, chief FBI
official here, said: "My in-

struction officials have no
comment."

In Washington, FBI Agent
William Bailey was asked
about the possibility that the
man who made the misleading
radio calls was in custody. He
also was asked about the car
found in Atlanta.

"I can't make any com-
ment," said Mr. Bailey. Within
15 minutes Thomas E. Bishop,
inspector in charge at the FBI,
called The Commercial Appeal
with another series of "no
comments."

Asked about radio call de-
velopments and the Mustang in
Atlanta, Mr. Bishop said: "We
have no comment to make."
Then when questioned further,
he said: "You people run The
Commercial Appeal. We'll run
the investigation."

Asked who gave the official
order to withhold comments,
Mr. Bishop said: "No com-
ment."

The youth who relayed the
messages described the events
of April 4.

About 6:20 p.m. I was east-
bound on Jackson at Spring-
dale. An unidentified CB (citi-
zen band) mobile operator
called for a telephone call to
the police department.

A base station in South
Memphis answered his call
and wanted to know what mes-
sage to give the police. At the
time skip conditions (interfer-
ence) interrupted their com-
munication and they were un-
able to maintain contact.

"I arrived at Jackson and
Hollywood and saw a police
car stopped at the red light. I
motioned to the policeman to
pull into the parking lot at the
intersection. It was car 160 —
Lieutenant Bradshaw.

"I called the mobile saying
The mobile chasing the white
Mustang. I told him I had a
police car beside me and
would relay his messages. He
tried to tell the base station he
was chasing a white Mustang
with the man who shot Dr.
King."

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Alabaman Sought In King's Killing

By RALPH DAWSON

The Federal Bureau of Investigation reportedly was searching last night for a 36-year-old Birmingham man, identified as Eric Starvo Galt, for questioning in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

An FBI bulletin, circulated by mistake on Florida teletype and later withdrawn, identified Galt and listed his address as 2608 Highland Avenue in Birmingham.

EARLIER, THE Associated

Press and United Press International had reported that a white Mustang registered to Galt was found abandoned yesterday near a public housing project in Atlanta. Federal agents impounded the car, similar to one spotted near the scene of King's slaying last Thursday in Memphis.

FBI spokesmen in Washington, Memphis and Atlanta refused to comment on the new developments.

The owner of a rooming house, listed as Galt's address,

told newsmen he did not know Galt and was "sure he never lived here."

However, Percy Strickland, who lives at the rooming house, said he had "heard about Eric Starvo Galt all week."

Strickland said federal agents had earlier questioned "everybody in the rooming house" about Galt.

STRICKLAND SAID Galt lived on the bottom floor of the two-story structure and was considered "one of the boys."

Birmingham police said Galt had no criminal record there.

UPI also reported that a 30.06 Remington repeating rifle—similar to one believed to have been used by King's killer had been purchased in Birmingham several days before the slaying.

Residents at the Atlanta housing project were quoted by the Associated Press as saying the car was parked there—near the state Capitol—early last Friday morning, about 12 hours after King was slain.

At least two residents of the project told authorities they saw a young man fitting the description of the sniper getting out of the car.

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

PAGE 1

NASHVILLE
TENNESSEAN

NASHVILLE, TENN.

Date: 4-12-68
Edition:
Author: JOHN
Editor: SEIGENTHALER
Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

44-1987-Sub C-49

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 22 1968	
FBI — MEMPHIS	

one of the residents described the man as between 25 and 30 years old, 5 feet 9 or 10 and weighing 165 to 170 pounds. She said he had sandy-colored hair. Another witness described it as dark and curly.

Johnny Nlesen, 13, a resident, said there were two 1967 Mexican 1969 stickers on the window of the car. The boy's mother, Mrs. John H. Riley, called the FBI Wednesday night, saying she called officers after hearing that "a man fitting the description of the suspected assassin had visited the Mexican consulate in Memphis prior to the murder to obtain a visitor's pass."

Federal agents swarmed around the car most of yesterday, snapping pictures and taking fingerprints. They later had the car taken to a federal building and locked up in Atlanta, the AP reported.

It is only a short walk from the housing project to the state Capitol, where a taxi service makes runs to the international airport here.

IN NEW YORK, U.S. Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark said yesterday that a progress report would be made soon to the nation on the hunt for King's killer.

"We will report on some developments that should be made public soon," Clark told newsmen. When pressed for a specific time, Clark said "when there are facts, a report will be made."

At Memphis, a young citi-

zens band radio operator confirmed yesterday that he had relayed reports of an alleged chase between a white Mustang and a blue Pontiac shortly after King's murder.

The youth, who was not identified, said he picked up signals from an unidentified citizens band "mobile operator" who "called for a telephone call to the police department."

The youth said he spotted a police car, motioned it into a parking lot and told the mobile operator that he would relay his messages.

THE YOUTH said the unknown mobile operator reported "he was chasing a white Mustang with the man who had shot King." The youth quoted the operator as saying he could not get too close to the Mustang because, "He was shooting at me."

The youth was quoted as saying he decided the messages were fake as the alleged chase progressed because the radio signals did not dim as they should have as the distances between the radios increased.

Police questioned the youth for five hours yesterday but refused to comment last night.

Police have speculated since shortly after the slaying that the killer may have left a trail of false clues to confuse his pursuers.

Shortly after the murder, the police said they had never seen a case where there was so much evidence left behind.

The assassin not only left fingerprints and hand prints in his room and in the room from which he shot King, but he also left a suitcase of luggage and a suitcase on the sidewalk outside.

"I remembered him because of his long nose," Veloz said.

A long sharp nose was the one thing most witnesses remembered about the young man who checked into the shabby rooming house about three hours before Dr. King was shot to death on the balcony of a nearby motel.

The address and telephone number given by the man on his application for the Mexican travel permit were improper.

The address given for a Chicago street needed either a North or a South to make it complete. The telephone number given was for Antioch, Wis.

The age given by the young man on his application was 21 years.

"I thought he might be a little younger," said Veloz.

Most of the witnesses at the rooming house who saw the man believed to be the assassin said that he was in his late 20s.

Veloz said that the man produced an Illinois voter registration certificate as proof of citizenship. No such name as the one on the voter certificate was contained in the Illinois files of registered voters.

Tuesday, agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation were reported to be looking in such widely diverse areas as Birmingham, Ala., Memphis, Chicago, and Mexico for the young, long-nosed man believed to have shot the civil rights leader.

In Birmingham, at the request of the F.B.I., airline agents shuffled through passenger lists at Delta and Southern Airlines for last week, checking several names.

F.B.I. agents in Birmingham were also reported to be checking the records of gun shops.

Within minutes after Dr. King's slaying, the Memphis police had confiscated the Remington 30.06-caliber rifle that the assassin dropped outside the rooming house from which he fired the fatal shot. The rifle was new.

A new weapon can almost always be traced from the manufacturer to the retailer by its serial number.

Copies of a sketch made from the descriptions furnished to the police at Memphis were distributed to officers at the United States-Mexico border and inside Mexico.

The investigation apparently spread to Mexico after the Mexican consul at Memphis, Rolando Veloz Canales, reported to the police that a young man resembling the police sketch, which he had seen in a Memphis newspaper, had got a Mexican travel card the day before Dr. King was killed.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Fog Covering Mystery Driver Fails To Clear In Birmingham

By JAMES KILLPATRICK

Staff Writer

BIRMINGHAM, April 12. — The mention of the name Eric Starvo Galt in Birmingham Friday invariably evoked a cold stare and the quick response that the "FBI has already been here."

Federal agents have conducted so intensive an investigation for the past several days, one high-ranking police officer said, that agents he normally sees three or four times a day "haven't been around at all."

The center of the investigation apparently is Eric Galt. Yet no warrant has been issued for his arrest and there has been no indication that Galt is wanted for anything other than routine questioning. The FBI in Miami issued — and then withdrew for unexplained reasons — a "locate and notify" bulletin on Galt Thursday.

Eric Galt's name first came to the surface Thursday night when a white Mustang, registered to Galt and resembling one that reportedly sped from near the scene of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis, was found parked in an Atlanta apartment complex.

The man who established an identity over the past eight or nine months here left few clues behind. A check of birth, marriage and death records in Birmingham shows no mention of him. Neither do police records here.

The only public record of his existence here concerns his acquisition of a driver's license and a state car license last fall — for a 1966 Mustang.

Meanwhile, residents of a Memphis rooming house from which Dr. King was shot eight days ago said Friday federal agents had shown them composite drawings of the white man sought in the assassination.

One Charlie Stevens said he recognized a profile drawing of Galt. Stevens were noncommittal.

The FBI pressed the investigation in Memphis, Atlanta, Miami and Washington, as well as Birmingham.

In Memphis, Charles R. Church of 1676 Central, who monitored a citizen band broadcast relayed over the police frequency April 4, said, "It had to be a hoax."

He said the signal indicated the transmission was coming from a stationary location. "It should have been varying and getting weaker if either car was moving. When you run in or out of buildings, the signal strength varies."

Mr. Church, a private guard firm employe, said he normally monitors CB channel 17, the band over which the case was broadcast and relayed to police Lt. R. W. Bradshaw in car 160.

The Commercial Appeal Thursday located and interviewed the man who parked next to Lieutenant Bradshaw and relayed the chase. He, too, said he thought it was a hoax because he received a steady signal on his signal reading meter.

Police and FBI have declined to comment.

In Atlanta, a Methodist minister said he had been telling police a man appeared white. He said he had federal agents in his church.

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

PAGE /

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 4-13-68
Edition:
Author: FRANK R. AHLGREN
Editor:
Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

1987-Sub C-58
44-1978-
APR 23 1968
FBI - MEMPHIS
IB

from a parking lot near the Georgia State Capitol.

The Rev. Ike Powell said he notified police after receiving a call from a member of his congregation. "It's funny how you almost don't want to call in on something like this," he said.

The name of Eric Galt was traced through a check of the Alabama license plate with the State Department of Public Safety. Records indicate he applied first for a driver's license last Sept. 5. After taking the test Sept. 6, Galt was issued a temporary receipt and his permanent license was mailed Sept. 29.

His application description was "white male, born 175 pounds, 5-11, blue eyes, brown hair, unemployed merchant seaman, address 2068 South Highland, Birmingham."

Sources close to The Commercial Appeal checked armed services and maritime unions and found no record of Eric Galt. They did find that federal agents had checked every source apparently without finding any trace of Galt.

On Oct. 2, 1967, an Alabama state auto tag was issued to Galt. And on March 1, 1968, the Driver's License Division of the Department of Public Safety mailed a duplicate drivers' license to the Birmingham address.

Residents of the Atlanta apartment complex, where the Mustang was found, said a neatly-dressed man drove up, got out of the car and walked away.

The Birmingham address given for Galt is a large, two-story yellow stucco house in what was once an elite neighborhood. The manager Peter Nicholas Cherpes, who accompanied Eric Galt when he took his driver's test last September, Friday said only "I have nothing to say."

"My conscience is clean but the FBI told me not to say anything."

The bulk of the Birmingham investigation of stores selling firearms seems to have centered around the Aeromarine Supply Co., a huge steel building next to the Birmingham Municipal Airport.

The firm sells Remington and Browning arms and a telephone book advertisement says it maintains "over 600 arms in stock."

The man from whom Galt bought the Mustang last Aug. 30, William D. Paisley, could not be reached for comment Friday. But a reliable source confirmed that a man using the name Eric Galt paid Mr. Paisley \$2,000 in cash for the car, after meeting him at a downtown bank.

Mr. Paisley's home is about two and a quarter miles from the rooming house on Birmingham's South Highland.



Part Of A Mystery

This is the Birmingham rooming house in which Eric Starvo Galt, apparently wanted for questioning

in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, stayed months ago.

—AP Wirephoto

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)



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

PAGE 4

NASHVILLE, BAYNE

NASHVILLE,
TENN.

Date: 4-8-68
 Edition:
 Author:
 Editor: ALVARD C.
 Title: DUNKLEBERGER

Character:
 or

Classification: 44-1987
 Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

44-1987-Sub C-51

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED...5...	FILED...5...
APR 23 1968	
FBI — MEMPHIS	

176

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Who Killed Dr. King?

The Violence It Triggered Could Supply The Clue

THE QUESTION of who killed Dr. Martin Luther King is for factual determination, and for bringing out into the open when the answer is established—regardless of the culprit's identity, or the direction in which facts ascertained point the finger of guilt.

It is no case for another "commission" treatment disclosing less than it reveals, or couched in prefatory language about the full truth not being told "within our lifetime." The nation has had a bellyful of high-flung obscurantism.

Credibility gaps are made that way: nowhere of greater public injury than those involving a curtain on instances of murder—or on relevant particulars of a presidential assassination. In several pertinent details there is a suggestive parallel between the two cases.

A valid line of inquiry relates to the question of who would profit from the murder of Dr. King. When the answer to that is reasoned out, it doesn't identify the individual who pulled the trigger—in all probability a hired killer—but it clarifies a base point.

FOR PREMEDITATED murder there has to be a purpose, and the purpose in this case could not have been peace and tranquility—law and order and public safety—in the city of its occurrence and throughout the nation. Even a mind deranged by hate could not have imagined the deed would solve any problems of domestic dispute. On the other hand, an enemy bent on destroying America by mass action within would have known that such a crime would and would trigger instant explosion.

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

PAGE 4

NASHVILLE BANNER

NASHVILLE,
TENN.

Date: 4-8-68
Edition:
Author:
Editor: ALVAND C.
Title: DUNKLEBERGER

Character:

or

Classification: 44-1987
Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

44-1987 Sub C-52

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 23 1968	
FBI — MEMPHIS	

At this point the trigger man is not identified. He may even have skipped the country. He could have originated from outside these shores. The ablest investigative agency on earth, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, can establish the facts in the case.

Beyond any question, the killing of Dr. King plunged the nation into the greatest internal crisis in its history; its horrifying aftermath guerrilla warfare tactics in the streets of its major cities, indiscriminate assault upon its institutions, death for more than a score of persons, wholesale pillage and arson in the pattern of anarchy.

★ ★ ★
WHO STOOD TO GAIN by that?

Only the enemy, singular or plural, who has been exhorting for it—or planning, pulling strings behind the scenes—to bring it about by whatever expedient circumstance. Hardly can it be a mere coincidence that it broke almost instantly in city after city, growing in scale as firebrands added fuel.

The United States is not blind. It is not dumb. It is not so impervious to reason that it will grasp at explanatory straws dished up to it in perference to the facts with which—for survival's sake—it must come to grips.

Somebody, by somebody's motive, killed Dr. King. In the chaos that followed so swiftly thereafter, suggestively the motive shows.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Landlord Says Drawing Looks Like Eric Galt

While investigators in Memphis and over the nation continued seeking information on Eric Starvo Galt, his former landlord in Birmingham said a drawing of the man sought in the Martin Luther King slaying looked like Galt.

"It's him," Peter Cherpes, the 72-year-old Birmingham landlord, told Associated Press, when shown a drawing made from a description of the man sought in the April 4 Memphis slaying.

Cherpes runs the boarding house where Galt lived for six weeks last fall.

It was then that Galt acquired the white Mustang later impounded by the FBI in Atlanta, and similar to one seen leaving the slaying scene just after Dr. King was shot.

Dr. King was killed by a sniper firing from a rooming house in Memphis.

Witnesses described the suspected assassin, who reg-

istered as John Willard at a rooming house at 420 S. Main as about six feet and sandy-haired and "a clean, neat man."

No trace of Willard has apparently been found.

An FBI alert for Galt in a white Mustang was issued in Florida last Thursday, but was later canceled. However, the FBI has continued a search for Galt's whereabouts or clues to his past.

After Cherpes disclosed what his boarder said of his work and background, Associated Press inquiries turned up blanks.

Is there a real Eric Starvo Galt? The FBI was asked the question but declined comment. Neither would the FBI say why Galt was wanted, though the Florida alert had sought only to spot the man, not arrest him. No warrant had been issued.

The man known as Eric Galt had said he was employed at a Mississippi ship-

yard, but there was no record of him. He claimed to hold a Louisiana driver's license six years ago, but no record was found in the files.

There are mysteries within the mystery: Galt left the Birmingham boarding house last Oct. 7, saying he had a ship job in Mobile, Ala., but in December, he turned in the keys to his safety deposit box at the Birmingham Trust National Bank. Galt's mail was sent to the Birmingham address March 1, nearly seven months after he left, and it apparently vanished. The Birmingham post office indicated no forwarding address was left for Galt.

"The papers said he went down March 1 to ask for a duplicate license and he put

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

PAGE 9

MEMPHIS PRESS-
SCIMITAR

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 4-16-68
Edition:
Author: CHAS. H.
Editor: SCHNEIDER
Title:

Character:

or

Classification: 44-1987

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

44-1987-Sub C-53

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 23 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

the same address, which was wrong. He wasn't here," said Cherpes, who recalls Galt as "nice and friendly, quiet."

Cherpes described Galt as about 6 feet, 165-175 pounds with blue eyes and light brown hair, a neat, taciturn man. "If somebody talked to him, he would talk," the landlord recalled.

Little else is known of the figure, described as having a southern drawl and a pointed, ski-shaped nose — the same general description as King's assassin.

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 al-

ways paid his room rent on time.

Cherpes told United Press International 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."

Galt had a room at the boarding house from Aug. 26 to Oct. 7, 1967, Cherpes said. The rent was \$22.50 a week. "He registered here that he came from Pascagoula, Miss." The boarder said he worked at Ingalls in ship-building jobs, Cherpes said.

No record of his name was found in the Mississippi Department of Transportation files, Cherpes said.

"He was here on Aug. 26 and he said he was going to stay here a few months," the landlord said. The boarder usually came until about 11 a.m. and took his meals at the house and stayed most of the time.

The second week after he arrived, Galt bought the 1966 white Mustang for cash. He needed a driver's license.

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

On the license application, Galt listed his occupation as "merchant seaman, unemployed." Maritime records have no record of his name nor was he drawing unemployment pay from the state.

About a week later, the landlord recalled, Galt got a package in the mail from Chicago: a box about two feet long, a foot wide and weighing 20 to 25 pounds. But Galt complained that it was the "wrong merchandise" and he was going to return it.

Galt left saying he had found ship work in Mobile but expected "a check from Chicago." A letter from Chicago arrived at the boarding house in February or March and was returned since there was no forwarding address, Cherpes said.

The landlord recalled that Galt had said he would send his new address. But he never did send it.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

6:30 P.M. March On Mansion Set

A "silent vigil" march to the Governor's Residence on Curtiswood Lane is scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. today, according to Whitworth Stokes Jr., local attorney.

Stokes, who said he was an "adviser" on the march plans, said the walk will begin at the Unitarian Church of Nashville, 1808 Woodmont Blvd., following a service expected to begin at 5 p.m.

The vigil and march, in memory of the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was planned before the 7 p.m. curfew was announced, Stokes said. He said he didn't know what effect the early curfew might have on tonight's plans.

It was reliably reported that plans for the march were made at a Monday night meeting attended by Carl Braden, executive director of the Southern Conference Educational Fund, and three faculty members of the Vanderbilt University Divinity School, among others.

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

PAGE 2

NASHVILLE BANNER

NASHVILLE, TENN.

Date: 4-9-68
Edition:
Author: ALVAND C.
Editor: DUNKLEBERGER
Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

44-1987-Sub C-54

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FBI - MEMPHIS	

137

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

DRAWING APPEARS CLOSER THAN PHOTO

Federal authorities yesterday narrowed their search for the assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to a man for whom they have produced a photograph and given a name — but other developments indicated that the newest FBI information may have raised as many questions as it answered.



Sketch of Suspect

A number of persons through whom authorities traced the man they named in warrants as Eric Starvo Galt said yesterday an FBI photo of the man did not look like the man known to them as Galt — not nearly so much as drawings of him they has seen earlier.

There were strong indications in the information released by the FBI that agents have talked to at least one man who knows a lot about a man he called Eric Starvo Galt.

Peter Cherpes, the landlord at the Birmingham rooming house where the man called Galt stayed last year, said "I don't think so," when he was asked if the FBI's photographs were of his former tenant. He had earlier identified sketches of the man seen leaving the vicinity of the King slaying as Galt.

Mrs. Bessie Brewer, owner-manager of the rooming house at 422½ South Main, who rented a room to a man believed to be the assassin, said, "I saw that (picture) on TV. I don't know. I couldn't tell you to save my soul if that was the man." She has also been unable to identify sketches of the man.

Charlie Stephens, a resident of the rooming house, said of the photograph: "No, the hair is too full and the face is too young. Unless he was wearing a wig or had had a face lift or something, that's not the man I saw."

Mr. Stephens, who said he got only a side view and a view from the back of the man, had contributed to a description used in a drawing of the alleged assassin by Bill Herrington, staff artist for The Commercial Appeal.

In Atlanta, a taxi driver said the photograph released by the FBI was not one he identified as a man he drove two blocks the night after Dr. King was assassinated.

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

PAGE 1

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 4-18-68
Edition:
Author: FRANK R. AHLGREN
Editor:
Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

44-1987-Sub C-55

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED 4	FILED 5
APR 24 1968	
FBI — MEMPHIS	

13

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

Federal authorities apparently know a lot more and then again not very much about the Eric Starvo Galt they are looking for.

Information released yesterday was so specific as to indicate that the man "is said to have a nervous habit of occasionally pulling at an earlobe," where he went and what he did since last August. But the FBI seems to know only that his height is somewhere between 5-foot-8 and 5-foot-11 and weighs between 160 and 175 pounds.

The small details in the life of the man being sought in the slaying apparently came from the same source whom the FBI indicated talked with Galt.

"He alleged" that the co-conspirator in the crime was his brother, the FBI complaint said, and he "claimed" while on a trip to New Orleans in December that he contacted either an engineering or a contracting firm.

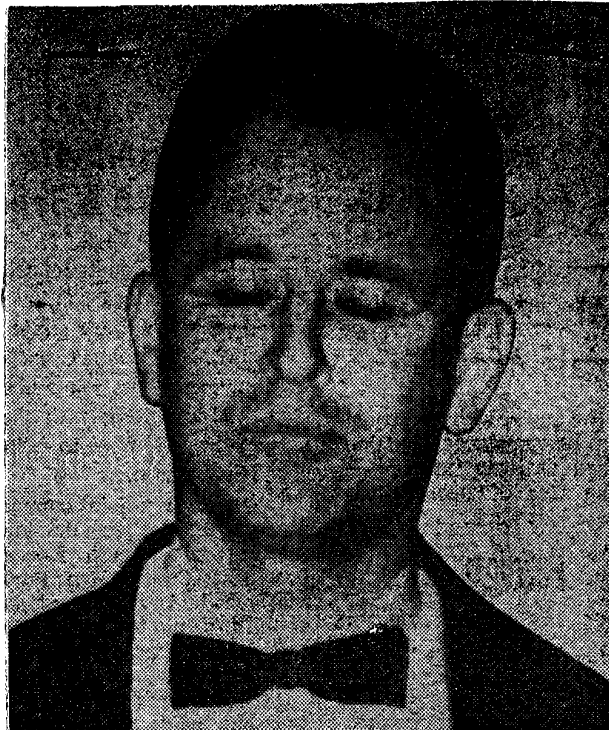
One FBI source said the agents were purposely vague about to whom the so-called allegation and claim were made.

Failure by witnesses to recognize the man as Galt apparently did not shake FBI belief that it has a picture of the right man. Special Agent Joseph H. Gamble, who swore out the warrant from United States Commissioner Mrs. Mildred Sprague in Birmingham, said, "It's him all right." He said the picture was taken this year—"probably in March."

Although some witnesses were not sure about the new picture, one man who was in the downtown area the day Dr. King was assassinated says he remembers seeing the man.

"That's the man. That's him," said Willie Green, an attendant at Nunley's Esso Servicenter at 189 Linden, about three blocks from the killing site.

"I was sitting in a chair inside there," he said, and this guy came up to the phone booth there on the street and tried to make a call. I don't think he made the call, though, but he was nervous. After he tried on the phone, he was walking up and down the street there. It was right about the time Dr. King was killed. And he kept pacing up and down the street until we closed here with the curfew."



CHARGED WITH MURDER — The FBI issued these two file pictures of a man it identified as Eric Starvo Galt, also known as Harvey Lowmyer and John Willard, sought in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The photo above, with closed eyes, is the original. The open eyes below were sketched in by FBI artists on the original.

—UPI Telephotos



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

State Acts Fast

Police Director Announces Action After Conference With State Attorney

A warrant charging Eric Starvo Galt with first-degree murder in the sniper slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was issued last night.

Fire and Police Director Frank G. Holloman announced the state charge about four hours after the FBI had obtained a federal warrant in Birmingham charging that Galt and "an individual whom he alleged to be his brother" entered into a conspiracy to deprive Dr. King of his civil rights to travel from state to state.

Mr. Holloman declined to answer any questions after announcing the murder charge, which he said was decided upon after a conference with Atty. Gen. Phil M. Canale. It was issued by General Sessions Judge Wayne H. Lindsey about 9 p.m.

Earlier, both Mr. Holloman and Atty. Gen. Canale had expressed eagerness to try Galt "or anyone else connected with the case."

A state charge of murder could carry a maximum penalty of death. The federal conspiracy charge, based on a Reconstruction era statute which has been used in other civil rights cases, has a penalty of 10 years in prison, a \$5,000 fine, or both. There apparently is no federal murder charge which would apply in this case.

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

PAGE 1

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 4-18-68
Edition:
Author: FRANK R. AHLGREN
Editor:
Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

44-1987-Sub C-56

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
FBI - MEMPHIS	

12

The murder warrant issued here, in the FBI document, noted that Galt also used the names of John Willard and Harvey Lowmyer. An FBI statement released in Washington late yesterday afternoon broke a silence on the case stretching back to Dr. King's slaying April 4 on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel.

The FBI statement said that Galt arrived here on Wednesday, April 3, the same day as Dr. King.

This was revealed in the FBI statement for the first time.

But Galt did not check into the rooming house at 422½ South Main until 3:15 p.m. April 4. The name given was John Willard.

Where he stayed in Memphis the previous night has not been revealed.

Galt traveled extensively in a 1966 white Mustang, which he bought from a "private citizen" in Birmingham, Aug. 30, 1967, and which was found abandoned in Atlanta on April 11, 1968, the FBI said.

The odometer showed the Mustang had been driven 19,000 miles between late August, 1967 and early April, 1968.

Galt's travels in the Mustang included trips to Los Angeles, New Orleans, Birmingham and Mexico, as well as to Memphis and Atlanta, the bureau reported.

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

It was in Atlanta that the Mustang, bearing Alabama license tags, was found abandoned a week later. Two Mexican tourist stickers were pasted to the windshield.

The FBI also announced that the 30.06-caliber Remington pump rifle abandoned near the assassination scene had been purchased five days earlier, on March 30, from a Birmingham gun dealer. The telescopic sight was bought at the same time. There was no announcement as to whether the rifle had been linked by any kind of ballistics test to the death of Dr. King.

The FBI said its investigation has disclosed that Galt claimed to have been employed as a cook on Mississippi River vessels and as a merchant seaman. He was described as enjoying dancing and having taken lessons in New Orleans in 1964 and 1965; in Birmingham during September and October, 1967, and in Long Beach, Calif., from December, 1967, to last February.

Galt left Los Angeles last Dec. 15, the FBI said, and drove the white Mustang to New Orleans, where he claimed he contacted either an engineering or a contracting company. The FBI did not explain why he had done so.

It said Galt went to New Orleans Dec. 17 and returned

...last ...
...early this
year. Galt took a course at a
school of bartending and was
graduated on March 2.

In Hollywood, Thomas Reyes
Lau, director of the Interna-
tional School of Bartending,
said Galt disappeared after re-
fusing a job. He rated him an
excellent student. Lau said
there were no Negroes in the
class and Galt "never said an-
thing about Negroes."

The FBI refused to say
where it obtained Galt's photo-
graph. It said he had brown
hair which he wore in a brush
cut, blue eyes, a straight and
narrow nose, and straight and
clean teeth. It said he had giv-
en his birth date as [redacted]

[redacted], making him 36 years old.

Persons who have met Galt
say he is a "loner" whose lan-
guage and diction have a "ru-
ral" quality, suggesting "that
he probably does not have a
high degree of education. He is
said to drink alcoholic bever-
ages with a preference for
vodka and beer and is a fan of
western and country music." The
FBI said he should be consid-
ered armed and dangerous.

There were some unusual
phrases in the statement. One
said "Eric Starvo Galt and an
individual whom he alleged to
be his brother, entered into a
conspiracy" in Birmingham
on March 29 which continued
"until on or about April 5."

...question to
whom did Galt talk?
A \$100,000 reward was offered
by an initial \$25,000 offer by
The Commercial Appeal. It
could be a big incentive in
getting people to talk.

Another sentence relates
that "he claimed" to have
talked to an engineering or
contracting firm in New Or-
leans.

FBI officials declined com-
ment on these points. It was
self-evident, however, that
someone had talked — and
supplied the FBI with a photo-
graph. The question of why the
"alleged" brother was not
charged with conspiracy also
went unanswered.

The Commercial Appeal
learned that dance studios and
riverfront areas had been
checked. The FBI statement
called Galt an "avid dancer."

The Washington announce-
ment was the first time the
FBI had broken its strict si-
lence on the case. There had
been much speculation that
Eric Starvo Galt did not really
exist and that a carefully
planned campaign — started
in Birmingham at least eight
months ago — had been waged
to build up a false identity un-
der that name.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Closing In On Killer

FOR SEVERAL days The Commercial Appeal has through its news columns delineated the recent events in the life of Eric Starvo Galt, a man apparently connected with the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis on April 4. Yesterday the Federal Bureau of Investigation, acting on a federal complaint filed in Birmingham, put out a fugitive call for Eric Starvo Galt.

The law used cites a conspiracy of two or more. A brother is mentioned.

FBI evidence and local police investigations apparently have culminated in a credible court case.

The FBI generally does not go this

far unless it is prepared to enter court. The fugitive still has to be found and arrested. That, too, may be imminent, since the FBI has made this much information public after days of "no comment."

WHEN and if one or more persons are taken to court, it will be in Memphis. The city and its people had best brace themselves for the trauma. This will be the nation's headline story for days to come, and the trial will be emotional.

Memphis must remain restrained and sane. Most of all, the trial — when it occurs — must not be allowed to become a circus for news media and lawyers.

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

PAGE 6

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 4-18-68
Edition:
Author: FRANK R. AHLGREN
Editor:
Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

44-1987-Sub C-57

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 18 1968	
FBI — MEMPHIS	

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Portrait of a Phantom

Eric Starvo Galt

Eric Starvo Galt, alias John Willard, alias Harvey Lowmyer, does exist.

The man accused of conspiracy in the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was still at large today, the most hunted man in America. But he is not the phantom figure that he was in the days that followed King's assassination in Memphis.

The FBI yesterday released the first photographs of Galt. In addition, a word picture being furnished by a growing number of persons is helping to bring the suspect into sharper focus and to squelch speculation that Eric Starvo Galt did not really exist, that a precisely-planned subterfuge had been carried out to build up a false identity.

In what appeared to be the first big break in the murder of King two weeks ago, 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 country and western 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.

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

PAGE 1

MEMPHIS PRESS-
SCIMITAR

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 4-18-68
Edition:
Author: CHAS. H.
Editor: SCHNEIDER
Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

44-1987-Sub C-52

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED 5	FILED 2
APR 19 1968	
FBI — MEMPHIS	