



Memphis Press-Scimitar

WEATHER FORECAST: High today 84. Low tonight 62. Mostly cloudy through Friday. (Details on Page 2.)

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Galt, Using His Own Name, Stayed In Motel Here Night Before Killing



V. A. BASS
"Galt stayed at Linden Lodge."
WILLIE GREENE
"He was really nervous."
—Press-Scimitar Staff Photos by James R. Reid



IVAN B. WEBB
Saw the white Mustang.
CHRISTINE KELLY
Told of Galt registration.
—Press-Scimitar Staff Photos by William Leadritt

Alabama Tags On White Car

Eric Starvo Galt, sought over the nation by the FBI as the slayer of Dr. Martin Luther King, registered at a Memphis motel the night before King was shot, and had a white Mustang.

The car, which had Mexican tourist stickers and an Alabama license, fits the description of the car registered to Galt which was impounded by the FBI after being abandoned in Atlanta.

Christine Kelly, office manager of the Rebel Motel, 3466 Lamar, told The Press-Scimitar the man registered in Room 34 of the motel under the name of Eric S. Galt on April 3.



MRS. HAGEMASTER
She registered Galt.

LICENSE TAG

Ivan B. Webb, night desk clerk at the motel, said the license of the Mustang parked near the room matched the license number on Galt's motel registration card. The FBI picked up the registration card.

He said the man apparently did not leave the room during the night but the lights in the room remained on all night. There were no calls to or from the room through the switchboard, but a public telephone is less than 30 feet from the door of the room.

A first degree murder warrant was issued last night in Memphis charging Galt with the sniper slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on April 4.

BROTHER

Meanwhile, in Birmingham, an FBI source indicated the so-called "brother" of Galt may be assisting in the search. A federal warrant obtained by the FBI in Birmingham yesterday charges Galt and his "alleged brother" with conspiring to injure King.

The source 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."

In Washington, an FBI spokesman said "The FBI has no one in custody in connection with Dr. King's slaying." The "brother" has not been formally charged with any part in the slaying.

CHECKED IN

At the Rebel Motel, Miss Kelly said the man who registered under the name of Eric S. Galt checked in about 7:15 p.m. April 3.

He was registered by a clerk, Mrs. Henrietta Hagemaster. Mrs. Hagemaster said she did not remember what kind of car was listed on the registration card but said she did recall it being an Alabama license. A white Mustang with an Alabama license registered to Galt and resembling one seen leaving the murder scene was found abandoned in Atlanta the day after the slaying.

ing and later impounded by the FBI.

Galt paid in advance for his single room and apparently left the next morning, sometime before the 1 p.m. check-out time, Mrs. Hagemaster said.

FINGERPRINTS

Miss Kelly said the FBI took fingerprints in Galt's room at the motel and fingerprinted all employees of the motel. She said the FBI told her they fingerprinted employees to eliminate their prints from any found on the registration card or in the room.

She said the FBI agent showed her a glossy photo of a man for possible identification but that neither she nor the other employees could identify him. He said the picture did not resemble the one released by the FBI last night.

The FBI also searched both rooms on either side of room 34 and took a sample of dust from the ground in front of the room, she said.

Joyce B. Follis, a waitress

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Suspect Registered Under Own Name

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at Bunnell's Rebel Restaurant which adjoins the motel, said that the FBI questioned her last week about the man. She said the FBI said the man might have been at the restaurant on April 3, with a woman or an older man, about 60 or 65.

The FBI has also been checking the Linden Lodge, 176 Linden, where a hotel clerk said a man who resembled Galt stayed three days in the week King was murdered.

V. A. Bass, night manager at the Linden Lodge, said the man registered under a different name than Galt and stayed at the hotel from April 3 through April 5.

'COOK'

He said the man, who "strongly resembled" the FBI picture of Galt, said he was a cook on the river. Galt has claimed to be a riverboat cook, the FBI said. The man's hair was thinner and lighter in color than in the picture, Bass said.

He said the man registered as Larry Keith and gave his address as Boston, Ga. Chief of Police Wayne Wilson in Boston said that a man named Larry Keith arrived there a week ago, that he came in from Memphis and that he told of being in Memphis during the time of King's assassination.

ASKING

Chief Wilson said the FBI had been asking about Keith and that Keith said this morning he was going to talk to the FBI. "He said he was going to drive over to Thomasville (about 12 miles away) and see what they wanted," Wilson said.

The FBI office in Thomasville refused to comment on whether Keith was there or had been there.

Wilson said Keith had never lived in Boston before to his knowledge, "and I've been here 21 years." Wilson said Keith said he did river work.

When Keith arrived in Thomasville, he was wearing a mustache but is not now, the chief said. Charles Griffin, day manager of the Linden Lodge, said Keith had a mustache when he was in Memphis.

DIFFER

Griffin said the man resembled the FBI picture of Galt, but R. B. Smith, a night manager at the motel said the picture "doesn't look much like the man who was staying here."

Smith said the man mentioned something about working for the Mississippi Valley Barge Lines. A check with the personnel division of the barge line in St. Louis, however, showed no Larry Keith on the records, nor did a check of the National Maritime Union in St. Louis. The union office said the FBI had checked their files carefully.

Keith told Bass that he was expecting a call from Waterways Marine Service, but Charles Embrey of Waterways said FBI agents checked there and "there wasn't anything to it." He said there were no records or calls to or from Larry Keith.

Bass said that during his stay at the motel, Keith made four long distance phone calls, one to a shipyard in St. Louis, and made 10 local calls.

The man paid for one night's lodging but skipped out without paying the rest of the bill," Bass said.

NERVOUS MAN

Willie Greene, an attendant at a service station at 180 Linden, across the street from the Linden Lodge, said the FBI picture resembled a nervous man who used a phone booth near the station the night King was slain.

"I have never seen a fellow so nervous in all my life," Greene said. "He walked around. He went in that phone booth so nervous he acted like he couldn't

make his phone call," Greene said.

Greene looked at the picture of the man and said: "That's the man."

The first-degree murder warrant against Galt was issued about 9:30 last night by General Sessions Judge Wayne H. Lindsey at the request of Atty. Gen. Phil M. Canale.

Maximum penalty on the murder charge is death. The federal conspiracy charge has a penalty of 10 years in prison, a \$5,000 fine or both.

ALIAS NAMES

Both warrants said Galt also used the names of John Willard and Harvey Lowmyer.

The murder warrant was issued by Judge Lindsey in the office of the homicide squad at police headquarters. Judge Lindsey said "The evidence presented to me (in requesting the warrant) has been printed in the newspaper heretofore." He said no new evidence was presented to him

that he knew of, but there was sufficient evidence to justify issuing a warrant.

Atty. Gen. Canale said he could not release any information. "I'm not going to say anything at this time," Canale said. "We are yielding to the FBI."

Police Director Frank Holloman also declined to comment on the warrant except to say that the Memphis Police Department was working closely with the FBI on the case from the beginning and to commend J. Edgar Hoover, FBI special agents and Memphis police for their work.

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

GUNS CHECKED

The Birmingham News said in a copyrighted story today that a gun which the FBI said was purchased in Birmingham has been de-

termined by ballistics tests to be the weapon used in the slaying of Dr. King. A .30-06 rifle equipped with a telescopic sight was found near the Lorraine Motel where King was slain.

The News quoted an unidentified source who said it is believed that Galt has fled to Mexico or Cuba. "There's no positive trace. He just vanished..." the News quoted the source.

However, FBI agents in Birmingham have been checking rooming house operators within the past three days to ask if a man answering Galt's description had stayed with them in the past two weeks, indicating the FBI may believe Galt returned to Birmingham after disappearing in Atlanta.

In Atlanta today, Rev. Ralph Abernathy, Dr. King's successor as president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, said he would place a memorial star in the cement on the Lorraine Motel balcony in Memphis, where King was slain.