

Mustang Probed in King Death

FBI Seizes Car

ATLANTA, April 12 (UPI) — An impounded white Mustang resembling one that roared away from the scene of the sniper slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. last week in Memphis, Tenn., was under close inspection and guard by the FBI today.

"No comment," was the only word from officials, except to add that no warrant had been issued for the car's registered owner, Eric Starvo Galt, 37, of a Birmingham, Ala., address, where residents of a rooming house said they hadn't seen Mr. Galt in three months.

Florida police, at the request of the FBI, had issued a statewide "locate and notify" alert for Mr. Galt yesterday afternoon, about the time the 1966 Mustang was towed into the FBI's Atlanta headquarters and cloaked in secrecy. The FBI cancelled the alert about five hours later. There was no explanation.

SINCE FRIDAY

The Mustang, bearing 1968 Alabama license 1-36993 with two 1967 Mexican tourist stickers on its windows, was found in the parking lot of a southeast Atlanta apartment project about five blocks from the gold-domed capitol. Several residents said the car had been there since last Friday, the day after Dr. King's slaying.

Mrs. Ernest Payne said she saw "a nice looking man" get out of the car Friday morning and walk away. She said he was about 5-feet, 10-inches tall, 170 pounds with sandy hair.

Another resident, Mrs. John H. Riley, said she saw the car as early as 7 a.m. Friday, about 12 hours after Dr. King was shot 382 miles away. Joe Manus said he had seen the car since last Friday and Mrs. Mary Bridges reported seeing a well-dressed, dark-haired man near the car recently.

DESCRIPTION

Mrs. Bridges was uncertain whether the man resembled a police artist's sketch of the assassin who shot Dr. King with a 30.06 Remington rifle, reported purchased in Birmingham, after checking into a flophouse across from Dr. King's hotel in Memphis. The killer, described as a neatly dressed man with dark hair and "a silly smile," fled the rooming house after shooting Dr. King and abandoned the rifle and a suitcase in a nearby amusement center.

One Memphis witness said he saw a man get into a white Mustang and take off at high speed. Another witness theorized the Mustang was not from Tennessee because it had no front tag and a Memphis city inspection sticker.

Last night, in New York, U.S. Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark said regarding the King slaying that "we will report on some developments that should be made public soon." asked when, he replied, "when there are facts, a report will be made." Mr. Clark said, however, "I remain as optimistic as I ever have been" that the killer will be caught.

DATE 4-12-68

PAGE 3

— THE WASHINGTON POST
& TIMES HERALD

— THE EVENING STAR

— THE SUNDAY STAR

THE WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS

— WASHINGTON-AFRO AMERICAN

44-703-163

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIAL <i>PPH</i>	FILE <i>PPH</i>
APR 17 1968	
FBI - WASH.	

Rawson