

Charges Galt 'Brothers'

King's Death 'Conspiracy'

TALBURT
Staff Writer

...fleshed in the phantom figure of Galt and charged him with conspiracy in the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

...a warrant for Mr. Galt's arrest in Alabama, the FBI left unanswered these questions in the case:

Mr. Galt?
...a mysterious suspected conspirator, what role did he play? The FBI complaint against Mr. Galt "and an individual whom it is believed to be his brother" entered into a conspiracy against Dr. King.

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

...appeared to be the first big break in the case. Attorney General Ramsey Clark described Galt as 36 years old, white, a neat dresser, a man of apparently limited education, an interest in vodka and beer, and West Coast country music.

...nervous habit of occasionally pulling at his nose with his hand, Mr. Clark reported, and that those who have met Mr. Galt described him as a nervous man.

...his brown hair in a brush cut, has a thin nose and narrow nose. He's said to be an avid dancer and took dancing lessons in New Orleans, Birmingham and Long Beach, Calif., at various times between 1964 and February of this year.

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- THE WASHINGTON POST & TIMES HERALD
- THE EVENING STAR
- THE SUNDAY STAR
- THE WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS
- WASHINGTON-AFRO AMERICAN

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

BOUGHT RIFLE
The FBI charges the conspiracy against Dr. King began in Birmingham March 29 and that the next day Mr. Galt purchased a rifle and a telescopic sight there.

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

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

Mr. Hoover did identify Mr. Galt as the owner of a 1966 white Mustang bearing Alabama license plates found abandoned in Atlanta April 11. A white Mustang was spotted leaving the murder scene.

19,000 MILES
The Mustang found in Atlanta had been driven more than 19,000 miles since last August when Mr. Galt bought it in Birmingham, Mr. Hoover said. It had been to Los Angeles, New Orleans, Birmingham and Mexico, as well as Memphis and Atlanta, he said.

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

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

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

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

The new civil rights law, had it been enacted before Dr. King's slaying, would have permitted the Justice Department to bring a Federal murder charge against the assassin. As it turned out, it was the King assassination that spurred Congress to pass the law.

The FBI said Mr. Galt has used the names of Harvey Lowmyer and John Willard — the name Dr. King's suspected killer used when he checked into the rooming house across from Dr. King's motel.

Mr. Galt's birthplace was not revealed.

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