

FBI Thought It Had Him

# Calif. Combed for Galt

The FBI, reportedly acting on a tip from an informer, apparently thought it had a good chance of catching Eric Starvo Galt, suspected assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in California Wednesday.

On the strength of the tip, the FBI rushed to obtain a conspiracy warrant for Galt. Tennessee authorities at the same time issued a murder warrant.

Tip either was wrong or Galt eluded authorities, sources disclosed yesterday. A good part of the investigation apparently still centers in California, where Galt attended a bartending school in February and March.

### MINUTEMEN

Meanwhile an interesting twist in the case comes from Kansas City where the U. S. Attorney's office revealed yesterday that an informant of "apparent reliability" reported some time ago that Minuteman chieftain Robert B. DePugh had ordered the assassination of several persons, including Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., if he ever went to jail.

DePugh disappeared late last year. His right-wing guerrilla group believes the government is being taken over by communists.

Anthony P. Nugent Jr., assistant U. S. Attorney, said, however, that "nobody to my knowledge considers DePugh a suspect in the King murder."

The FBI in Washington yesterday said it "has no one in custody in connection with Dr. King's



—UPI Photo

Thomas R. Lau, head of the bartenders' school, attended by the suspect, holds FBI poster on Galt, slaying," but a reliable source said agents either were in communication with or questioning Galt's

"alleged brother." No co-conspirator was named in the warrants.

The FBI has traced Galt's activities to Birmingham, Memphis, Atlanta and Los Angeles. He lived in a South Birmingham Rooming house in Birmingham, apparently on the theory Galt may have returned to Alabama after the killing.

A picture of Galt, 36, described as "armed and extremely dangerous," was obtained by the FBI from the International School of Bartending in Los Angeles, where Galt graduated March 2.

"He was a nice fellow with a nice personality, very intelligent," said Mr. Lau of Galt. "I don't believe he did this. There must be some miscommunication somewhere."

There were reports from Los Angeles that added more dimensions to the profile of Galt.

### WALLACE MAN

He is believed to be a strong supporter of presidential bid of former Alabama governor George C. Wallace. His strong anti-Negro feeling once led to a violent argument with a girl in Hollywood cocktail lounge.

The FBI seems very interested in the event that he made at least one mysterious trip to Orleans recently.

It's known that he's a steady drinker, although moody and quarrelsome in public.

A devotee of hillbilly music and an avid dancer, he took lessons at several dance studios in Los Angeles.

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