

Hunt for Galt Report Aided by 'Brother'

By CY EGAN

A report that the FBI is using information supplied by his alleged co-conspirator to track down Eric Starvo Galt, prime suspect in the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, circulated today among sources close to the investigation.

The FBI refused official comment, saying only that no one was "in custody" in connection with the murder.

But a source in the bureau indicated that the co-conspirator—named in an FBI complaint as a person Galt "alleged to be his brother"—might have supplied useful data about the fugitive suspect.

Not Named in Warrant.

Belief that the alleged co-conspirator had cooperated with the FBI was strengthened by the fact that he apparently was not named in a first-degree murder warrant issued Wednesday night in Memphis, where King was slain on April 4.

Details of the murder charge, filed by the state of Tennessee, have been kept secret and a police spokesman said they would not be released until Galt is in custody.

Only yesterday, an FBI agent was quoted as saying "we know more" about Galt than the sketchy details about the suspect that have thus far been revealed.

While the FBI complaint, filed before a federal judge in Birmingham, Ala., said that Galt met a co-conspirator in that city on or about March 29 to plot against King, it took pains to point out that only Galt had identified the man as his brother.

Galt is known to have mentioned having a brother when he allegedly purchased a .243 Remington rifle in a Birmingham sporting goods store on March 30.

He reportedly returned to the store later the same day to exchange the weapon for a .30.06 rifle, explaining that he and his brother had decided the .243 was a heavier cartridge load and not suited for their hunting pur-

poses.

The .30.06 rifle was found outside the Memphis rooming house from which the assassin fired at King, who was standing on a nearby motel balcony. Ballistics tests are said to have established the rifle fired the fatal shot.

Galt was said to have referred to a brother a second time when he was graduated on March 2 from a bartenders school in Hollywood, Calif. He turned down a job offer with the explanation that he had to leave on a trip to see his brother.