

(page 110)

Chronology
Assassination of Martin
Luther King

April 1968

- 4 King shot by sniper's bullet on balcony of his motel room in Memphis
- 5 N.Orleans States Item: Hunt single killer in "well-planned" slaying; quotes Memphis police director Frank Holloman as saying assassin checked into flophouse at midafternoon, shot from 2nd floor window; murder weapon was a new 30.06 Remington pump rifle with scope, one of 15 weapons stolen a night earlier from a Memphis store; 30 to 40 officers saw bullet strike and converged on scene; shot fired from 205 feet thru trees; assassin described as white male 26 to 32 years old 6 feet tall 165-175 pounds dark to sandy hair, medium build, ruddy complexion, black suit and white shirt.
- 5 NY Times, by Earl Caldwell, Memphis. Police director Frank Holloman said white man who was 50 to 100 yards away in a flophouse; chief of detectives W.P. Huston said a late model white Mustang believed getaway car of bareheaded white man in his 30's, black suit and black tie; Huston said police had chased two cars near the motel, halted one with 2 out of town men who were questioned but had nothing to do with the killing. A 30.06 rifle found about a block from the scene was thought to be the murder weapon and was turned over to FBI. King died of a gunshot wound on right side of neck, at root of the neck, a gaping wound. King had returned to Memphis Thursday morning 4 April, occupied room 306. Abernathy was present, also driver Solomon Jones, Jr. who was to drive to Rev. Samuel Kyles for dinner. Jesse Jackson, Ben Branch (a musician) were present. Jackson said police were coming from everywhere. They asked where the shot came from and he said, behind you. "The police were coming from where the shot came." Jones said he saw a man "with something white on his face" creep away from a thicket across the street. 10 or 15 minutes before Fire Department ambulance arrived. Aide Chauncey Eskridge, legal advisor, was at emergency room. Rev. Andrew Young thought shot was fired from a passing car, sounded like a firecracker. Newsman in nearby building though it was tremendous blast, like a bomb. About 15 persons in the motel courtyard; fire station nearby; police reported to have chased a late model blue or white car thru Memphis and north to Millington. A civilian in another car that had a citizens band radio also reported to have pursued fleeing car and opened fire on it. Police cordoned off five block area around Lorraine motel.

April

6

N.Orleans States Item: AP Memphis: Known as "John Willard" Three Describe Assassin Suspect: Bessie Brewer, landlady of rooming house 422½ South Main, showed room at 3:15 p.m. described suspect as clean neat man. B. L. Reeves, retired hotel clerk, saw suspect when he checked in, said he was about 5'11" dark hair neatly cut. Charlie Q. Stephens, occupant room 6, says suspect was clean shaven had a long sharp nose, normal eyes, square chin, thick hair at front, receded on each side, wearing black dress suit white shirt and very dark or black narrow tie. Combed hair straight back. At 5 pm suspect went down hall to the bathroom, 205 feet 3 inches from motel. Shot sounded at 6:01 p.m. Stephens in kitchen said shot sounded like a German 88. Went into hall, saw the suspect there with an object wrapped in newspaper in hand, he fled down 20 steps to the ground. G.W. Canipe, owner of an amusement firm, said he got glimpse of suspect "after he dropped the rifle in front of my place...He didn't seem to be running."

6

NY Post, by Ted Poston, Memphis: Search for Assassin Spreads across South: Search has spread hundreds of miles from Memphis, little doubt suspect was able to flee city eluding city police and Arkansas state troopers guarding bridges across the Mississippi. Ramsey Clark flew here to lead search, said search had now extended hundreds of miles from boundaries of Tennessee; said all evidence "indicated a single individual was involved. There is no evidence of a widespread plot." Rewards totaling \$155,000 offered for evidence leading to arrest of killer. Clark confident arrest near because authorities had considerably more evidence than police usually get in cases like this, "including a number of studies of prints that may establish identity." Suspect stopped in doorway near rooming house and discarded several objects including a 30.06 Remington rifle and a small suitcase, both now in FBI Lab Washington for examination.

6

NY Post, AP Memphis: Man Who Killed King--His 3 Hours in Memphis: says suspect gave name as John Willard, spoke with Southern drawl, paid with crisp \$20 bill. Police took receipt carbon and the \$20 to headquarters. Mrs. Brewer said man was about 6" tall. Charlie Q. Stephens described him as clean shaven with long, sharp nose. Mrs. Brewer said he spoke like any other Memphian. Willie Anchutz, room no. 4, tried to get into bath when occupied by suspect. Story accompanied by sketch of man believed to be the assassin, source not given.

April

6

NY Times, Martin Waldron, Memphis, April 5: Clark is sure killer will soon be seized: A source close to the manhunt said that FBI was close to making an arrest. Ramsey Clark said FBI searching in several states. Killer left rifle and fingerprints; witnesses saw white man in late 20's running from rooming house. Evidence collected by FBI and homicide detectives included a number of fingerprints. Bullet was a 30.06, tests were under way to establish if it had been fired from the rifle discarded near the scene. Clark said all evidence indicates it was act of single individual. Holloman said evidence showed conclusively slayer was a white man. Reports statements by Mrs. Brewer, Mr. Canipe (said he found a 30.06 rifle and small suitcase).

Inset on page 24 photograph of a Remington rifle of the type believed to have been used, caption states that its range is limited, story says 30.06 rifle found and believed used to kill MLK may have been one of several stolen from a Memphis store "a week ago." Retail for \$139.95 to \$159.95, when fired ejects a spent empty case on the rear move and automatically shifts a fresh round into firing position. NB: no reports of finding any shells. Uses 4-cartridge clip, has iron sights.

7

NY Times, Martin Waldron, Memphis April 6: Hunt for killer is "encouraging": Rumor persists that police know slayer 's identity. Frank Holloman, ex-FB I agent, refused to meet with reporters, however. Prepared statement said no details of investigation would be released now. Persistent reports that Memphis police and FBI agents know identity of the white man who shot MLK. One clue is the \$20 bill; more than \$150,000 in rewards posted by Memphis, private citizens, and newspapers. Gives text Holloman's prepared statement.

7

London Observer, Colin McGlashan, Memphis 6 April: King's murder : like Dallas all over again: foresees doubts, suspicions, rumours, and counter-theories of elaborate conspiracy as in case of JFK if no rapid arrest with conclusive evidence. Rev. Kyles says he does not believe police involved, said all day on Tuesday (?) radio and TV networks were broadcasting that MLK had arrived and was staying in room 306 Lorraine Motel. Holloman says 30-35 police guarding MLK when he was shot; later said 40-45, most in cars. Said that there was no ~~person~~ search of rooftops or buildings. Fatal bullet was on downward trajectory of 205 feet through trees and scrub. Memphis Mayor Henry Loeb under heavy police guard after threats on his life.

April

- 7 Ramsey Clark on MEET THE PRESS NBC TV said evidence still pointed very strongly in the direction that only one assassin was involved. His judgment was that it was one man on the run. There was a heavy FBI presence in Memphis before, at, and after "this incident," but no direct protection of MLK.
- 10 New Orleans States Item, AP Memphis: King's Slayer Hunt Settles Into Routine. No talk of an early arrest. Two U.S. Commissioners said they had not been approached to issue a fugitive warning by the FBI. A Mexican rumor started after Rolando Veloz, consul, said there was a resemblance between sketch of suspect and man who applied for tourist card 4/3/68, who turned out to be 19-year old student at Memphis State University. It was learned that the abandoned rifle was not one of those stolen from a store two days before the assassination. Itinerant preacher Lynn R. Cleveland, 33, picked up but released.
- 10 NY Post, by Cy Egan, King Assassin's Trail Weaves Into Mexico: Speculation that killer planted false clues to confuse the hunters. Police said large amount evidence left behind was highly unusual. A focal point of the FBI investigation was Birmingham, where gun shop records were being checked and airline passenger lists scanned. Fingerprints and handprints were found in the rooming house bathroom but no word as to what checks against official records had produced nor would authorities say anything about results of inspection of piece of blue luggage discarded near scene. Sketch of suspect distributed at Mexican border and inside Mexico. Witnesses disagreed on whether a man who ran from the rooming house fled in a white Mustang. Two said he left in the opposite direction from the parked car, others said he had doubled back to get into the car and speed off.
- 11 States Item, by Jay Bowles, Memphis: Second Car Sought in Slaying Getaway. Presence of a second white Mustang near doorway used by slayer led to reports it may have been getaway car. A car with Arkansas tags and a similar vehicle both left the scene within 15 minutes after the shooting. Canipe said he saw a young white man drop the package that had the gun but did not see his face. Police said they would investigate reports of a supposed police chase in NE Memphis, 8 miles from scene, 30 minutes after the shooting, possibly a decoy to allow killer to escape. A recording of police radio dispatcher's transmissions showed 7 calls in 12 minutes from a lieutenant's car in NE section of city but the lieutenant said on 4/9/68 that he did not make the calls. Led to speculation that someone sent the calls to draw officers away from the escape route. FBI declined comment on reports firearms dealers Birmingham being questioned about sales of Remingtons.

April

11 NY Times, Martin Waldron, Memphis: False Police Reports of Chase Give Impetus to Conspiracy Theories. Memphis policemen who were searching for killer were drawn to north side of city 34 minutes after the shooting by a false report from "police car 160" that a white Mustang was speeding along city streets. Possibility being investigated report was relayed by an accomplice. Holloman refused to say if he now believed more than one person involved. False report was broadcast at 6:35 p.m. while police were setting up road blocks around the city,, shortly after an alert broadcast for white Mustang with a radio antenna like those on cars with citizen band radio receivers. At 6:36 police radio said blue hardtopp 1966 Pontiac had joined chase for White Mustang. In next 10 minutes, progress reports were relayed from central police radio to other police cars. At 6:47 police radio said white Mustang shooting at blue Pontiac. Lt. R.W. Bradshaw of car 160 said he saw no white Mustang and did not chase one. The radio messages could not have come from actual locale of car 160, it was said by unnamed radio equipment dealer who monitored police radio. Veloz, Mexican consulate, reported 4-day delay by FBI in checking his report man resembling suspect had asked travel permit to Mexico on 4/3/68. During week previous to 4/4/68 MLK had stayed at a different motel, had been at Lorraine only one day before the shooting, which raised questions as to how it could have been so well planned in so short a time. Questions arose also from dumping by suspect of rifle, suitcase, and binoculars, as if wanting call attention to himself.

11 NY Post: New Setback in the King Probe. Bullet that killed MLK so badly deformed that FBI having difficulty proving it was fired by the rifle found nearby. Tests showed only that it was the same caliber as the 30.06 Remington but soft point, squashed so that matching was not possible. Another new twist, reports that two white Mustangs were at the scene: one with Arkansas license plates said to contain a young man who stayed at wheel while the killing was in progress. The discarded rifle was traced through its serial number to a Birmingham store, where it was purchased new over the counter a few days before. Uses same bullet as Army M-1 rifle. Not known if scope purchased too. Binoculars found in blue case on sidewalk traced to York Arms Co., about 6 blocks away, purchased there on afternoon of 4/4/68. Stephens said FBI drawing of suspect did not resemble the man he saw, who was much younger.

April

- 12 NY Times, Atlanta UPI: Maddox Thinks Reds Murdered Dr. King
- 12 NY Times, Martin Waldron, Memphis: Alabamian Named in Dr. King Inquiry.
FBI Seeking to Question 36-Year-Old White Man--Car Found in Atlanta. Man was identified as Eric Starvo Galt, 5'11" 175 lbs. Car abandoned 8:30 a.m. 4/5/68 by white man about 5'9" about 165 lbs sandy hair. Bulletin describing Galt apparently released inadvertently by FBI, withdrawn 2 hours later. Galt said to have blue eyes brown hair born 7/20/31. Last known address 2608 Highland Ave Birmingham, a shabby rooming house where other residents said they last saw Galt about 3 months ago, said FBI agents had been swarming around the area most of 4/11/68. Alabama authorities disclosed the license number for the car FBI seeking had been issued to Eric S. Galt. Before car was impounded in Atlanta FBI inspector Joseph Sullivan arrived Memphis to assist in the investigation. The FBI bulletin was issued on Florida statewide police network at 6:37 p.m. by agent Charles Bell, canceled at 8:27 p.m. by agent John Hanlon. Bullet smashed and FBI lab unable match it with Remington 30.06 rifle discarded near scene, which according to Remington Co. Bridgeport Conn. had been traced by FBI through its serial number. Employees told not to give out information on where the rifle had been shipped. Police refused to say if new developments on false police broadcasts, from "police are 160." There was speculation that Lt. Bradshaw might have been relaying information furnished to him over a citizens band radio; he refused to comment. Clark said last night he was as optimistic as ever killer will be apprehended.
- 12 States Item, front page, 2 sketches captioned: How Artists View Suspect. ~~Sketch~~ by Mexican Police HQ artist Sergio Jaubert based on FBI description; second sketch by Memphis Commercial Appeal artist Bill Herrington based on description by man in Memphis building from which shot was fired.
- Page 3, by Gaylord Shaw, Memphis AP: FBI Issues, Cancels King Suspect Order. Miami FBI refused comment. Clark said last weekend on trail of one man on run. Car abandoned in Atlanta bore stickers "turista" was towed away 5:15-5:30 p.m. Thursday 4/11/68.
- 13 NY Times, Martin Waldron, Birmingham 4/12/68: Mystery Deepens in King Inquiry: Data on Man FBI Seeks to Question Few. Public records in Birmingham and Montgomery disclose little about Eric Starvo Galt, sought by FBI for questioning: only a driver's license and a title to a white Mustang. FBI issued and recalled bulletin for Galt night of 4/11/68; FBI agents asking about Galt in Birmingham several days. FBI asked residents of Economy Grill and Rooms, Birmingham, not to comment. Cherpes said FBI told him to answer "no comment." Maritime Commission had no record Galt. In Memphis FBI and police said to be questioning 2 young white

men about the fake chase on police radio broadcast involving white Mustang and blue Pontiac. Ramsey Clark said 4/12/68 impossible to predict when the assassin would be arrested. Jesse Jackson said he did not subscribe to contention killer acted alone, was deranged, puzzled as to why police near motel failed to catch the sniper

13 States Item, Memphis AP: More Leads Reported in King Slaying. Ramsey Clark first statement in five days, impossible to predict when arrest will be made. Robert Jensen, in charge FBI Memphis, refused to answer questions, said all he could say was no comment. Daily News in NYC said FBI had established white Mustang found Atlanta was the same car seen leaving scene Memphis, said witnesses Memphis gave investigators the license number of the car. Rep. Charles W. Whalen, Jr. (R. Ohio) said welter of premature and contradictory statements = clouding the investigation and asked FBI to set the record straight.

14 NY Times, by Martin Waldron, Birmingham, 4/13/68: New Theory Told in King Inquiry: Man Sought by FBI May Have False Identity. FBI checking possibility Eric Galt an assumed name, spent several months in Birmingham last fall creating a false identity. On 3/1/68 Galt applied by mail for duplicate of his driver's license and it was sent to the Birmingham address Economy Grill and Rooms. FBI checked records Remington Arms Co. which disclosed a 30.06 rifle found on street Memphis had been shipped to a Birmingham gun store. Lease on Galt's safe deposit box at a Birmingham bank expired December 1967, was not renewed.

April

- 15 NY Post, by Ralph Blumenfeld: FBI Widens Hunt For King Killer. Phantom fugitive Eric Starvo Galt, the lone potential suspect, subject of dragnet extending into the midwest and south from Miami to Virginia. His 1966 white Mustang with Alabama plates was found abandoned in Atlanta on 4/12/68, fits description car seen speeding from motel. FBI refused comment on AP disclosure agents questioned persons named Galt in several states. Rev. Ralph Galt of Birmingham denied knowledge of Eric Starvo Galt. Galt lived briefly at a South Birmingham boarding house 1967. He bought the Mustang August 30, paying \$2000 cash and was issued plates found on abandoned car in Atlanta, tag 1-38993. His driver's license application said, unemployed seaman, 5'11" 175 lbs blue eyes brown hair. FBI withholding national distribution of the sketch. FBI description of assassin estimates age 30-32, 5'10" 165 lbs receding hairline long thin nose. C.J. Davis, 26, tenant at boarding house Birmingham, said his recollection of Galt was dim. Owner Peter Cherpes would not say what Galt paid for room; rate \$22 a day with 2 meals. Cherpes went with Galt for his driving test 9/6/67.
- 15 States Item, by Don M'Kee, Birmingham: Landlord Identifies Drawing of Suspect. Cherpes, 72, identified drawing of suspect as Eric Galt, consented to talk after FBI responded his request to be released from secrecy pledge. Cherpes said FBI showed him the sketch on Wednesday 4/10/68, two days before Mustang found Atlanta. FBI on 4/12/68 issued an alert ("locate and notify" dispatch) in Florida at about same time Mustang found and impounded at Atlanta but withdrew the alert four hours later as "erroneous." Galt stayed at boarding house in fall 1967, stated on registration card last worked at Ingalls Shipbuilding Corp. at Pascagoula, Miss. Registered August 1967 and left 10/7/67 to look for job in Mobile.
- 16 NY Times, Martin Waldron, Birmingham: Birmingham Man Says FBI Drawing of Mystery Figure Resembles Ex-Roomer. Peter Cherpes said 15 April that Eric Starvo Galt left his rooming house early October 1967. At Pascagoula, A.C. Weeks of Ingalls Shipyard said that he had no record of Eric Galt. A duplicate of Galt's driver's license believed to have been the identification given at Birmingham gunshop in March when 30.06 Remington was bought. Capt. T. L. Payne said 25¢ for duplicate driver's license received on 3/6/68 (Alabama Highway Patrol). Cherpes said Galt had no visitors but received package from Chicago, 2' x 1', which he said he intended to return, because it was wrong size. Every development in the investigation thus far suggests that Eric Starvo Galt is a fictitious name.

April

16 NY Post, AP Birmingham: Assassin Hunt Takes FBI Up Blind Alleys. Galt left Birmingham 10/7/67 but in December turned in his keys to safe deposit box at Birmingham Trust National Bank. A duplicate driver's license mailed to Galt's Birmingham address on 3/1/68 and it apparently vanished. Cherpes said Galt 6' 165-170 lbs. blue eyes light brown hair neat taciturn. Rented room from Cherpes 8/26/67 to 10/7/67 for \$22.50 a week.

16 States Item, by Don M'Kee (AP) Birmingham: FBI Views Dead-End Clues to King Case Mystery Man. Same story as in NY Post.

17 NY Times, Atlanta, 4/16/68: Atlanta Cabbies Remember Galt: Two Identify Sketch of Man Sought in Dr. King Case. Two drivers of Atlanta Million Cab Co. said they drove a man resembling the sketch of Eric Starvo Galt to and from Atlanta's hippy neighborhood on 4/5/68. It is about 450 miles from Memphis to Atlanta by highway. One driver said the FBI showed him a sketch that differed from the one in the press, and that he could identify the FBI sketch only. The man in his cab dressed very neatly, seemed to have had acne, little scars on face from pimples.

17 NY Post, by Paul Valentine, Memphis: Hired-Killer Theory Gains in King Case. Sheriff Mel Bailey of Birmingham said he believes the assassin may have planned to kill King there and that a conspiracy existed to murder him. Federal authorities in Memphis said Willard and Galt the same person.

17 States Item, Atlanta AP: Atlanta Cab Driver Identifies Drawing.

18 NY Times, by Evert Clark, Washington 4/17/68: FBI Accuses Galt of a Conspiracy in Dr. King Slaying: Alleges a Plot With Man He Said Was a Brother: Fugitive Warrant Out: Suspect is charged with murder in Memphis--Two Photos are Released. In Birmingham, Ala., former landlord saw the two photos released by FBI, when asked if they were of his former tenant, he said "I don't think so." In Memphis a witness said an FBI photo of Galt did not resemble the man who left the scene. In Atlanta a taxi driver could not identify an FBI picture. In Birmingham, William D. Paisley who sold Galt the Mustang said the FBI photos did not resemble Galt. FBI said Galt should be considered armed and dangerous.

An announcement by J. Edgar Hoover said Galt in Memphis at time of killing and then left for Atlanta, said Galt has used names of John Willard and Harvey Lowmyer in the past. Sources said Memphis police had almost run Galt down as they went to the murder scene. JEH said FBI agent had determined that the rifle and a telescopic sight found near scene had been purchased from Birmingham gun dealer 3/30/68. Galt described by FBI warrant as 5'8" to 5'11" 160-175 lbs brush-cut brown hair blue eyes neat dresser medium build, language and diction have rural quality, suggest he does not have much education, liked vodka, beer, Western and country music, has a nervous habit of pulling at an ear lobe. Left ear more protrusive than right ear. James T. Gamble chief FBI Birmingham said

the photographs had been taken in Birmingham in March, would not say how FBI got them. Galt went to Mexico after he bought the Mustang 8/30/67, JEH said. His travels included Los Angeles, New Orleans, Birmingham and Mexico as well as Memphis and Atlanta, FBI said. Left Los Angeles 12/15/67 and drove to New Orleans. Left New Orleans 12/19/67 arrived Los Angeles 12/21/67. While there he took course at a school of bartending, graduated 3/2/68. FBI said Galt in New Orleans 1964 and 1965, in Birmingham September/October 1967, in Long Beach Calif. December 1967 to Feb. 1968 and took dancing lessons all those places at the times specified. Landlord and others in Birmingham who had identified the sketches as Galt said they were not satisfied man in FBI photos was Galt. Charles Q. Stephens of Memphis said man in FBI photos not man in rooming house—hair too full, man too young. An Atlanta cabbie said he had identified Galt from an FBI photo which was different from the photos of Galt released by FBI today. DA Phil Danale, Memphis, filed murder charge against Galt, signed by General Sessions Judge Wayne Lindsay. In Hollywood, Tomas Reyes Law, director of Int'l School of Bartending, said Galt graduated 3/2/68 and disappeared. In Birmingham, a source said FBI had concluded Galt was probably a fictitious name, no trace in Internal Revenue Service or Social Security Office.

18 NY Post, cover: Is This Galt? Witnesses Say No. Story on page 4 by Cy Egan says FBI obtained the photo through the Int'l School of Bartending, Hollywood. Lau, director of the school, puzzled by Galt's desperation for a job when he applied for the course, but turned job down 3/2/68 when graduated. FBI photo was one taken on graduation from the course. Lau said he last heard from Galt about 3/9/68 by phone; he had Southern accent, paid \$220 registration fee, gave as references 2 women and 1 man, all with Los Angeles addresses. Rod Arvidson, 46, manager National Dance Studios, Long Beach, said Galt had taken classes there from mid-December 1967 to 2/12/68, carried large sums money with him, seemed to be a Southern gentleman, neatly dressed. Kathy Norton, 21, dance instructor, said Galt told her he owned a bar or restaurant on Mexican coast.

18 States Item, Memphis (AP): Mystery Man Galt Charged With Murdering King. FBI said Galt made trips to New Orleans, claimed to have a 1962 Louisiana driver's license but no record of it, also dancing lessons in New Orleans 1964 or 1965. Fugitive warrant charged Galt of conspiring with a man he alleged to be his brother against King. Ramsey Clark said he did not think FBI release of photos meant Galt trail had become cold. Repeats details given in NY Post and NY Times.

18 States Item, by Charles M'Fadden, Los Angeles, AP: Galt Described As Quiet Loner. Galt spent \$700 in 3 months on dancing and bartending lessons. Repeats NY Post story. Arvidson says Galt no mixer, had trouble coordinating one foot with the other. Dance instructor Andreas Jergensen, 46, talked with newsmen. Galt gave date of birth as 7/30/31.

19

NY Post, by David Larsen, Hollywood: Story of the King Suspect From the People Who Knew Him. Says Galt emerged today as fervent supporter of George Wallace; man who made trip to New Orleans in recent months (Garrison files being checked); steady drinker, alternately moody and contentious. Interviews with Charles Stein, songwriter, 38 and his sister Rita, who met Galt at Sultan Room, Hollywood. Robert Walters, campaign coordinator for Wallace, denied any knowledge of Galt. Stein made 2-day trip to New Orleans with Galt who made several long-distance calls while driving through Texas, spoke "touristy" Spanish to Stein, said he liked to hunt, was noncommittal on race. At time of trip to New Orleans, Galt staying at Los Angeles apt. where other residents either did not know him or are staying tight-lipped. He moved to the St. Francis Hotel, one block from Rabbits Foot Club, Hollywood. Bartender there, Bo Del Monte, says Galt was regular nightly patron at Club until about 3/19/68, drank screwdrivers. Adele Lewis, working at Club at that time, said Galt often got into arguments. Jim Morrison, who was tending bar one night, says Galt talked to young woman, got into dispute with her about Negroes. Del Monte says Galt often preached support of George Wallace. No one at the Club realized who Galt was until his photo appeared in newspapers 4/18/68, as he never gave his name. Joe Peters, bartender Sultan Room, said Galt drank vodka and cokes. In applying for bartender school, Galt gave as a reference R. J. Weiler, "Marie Deninno" (actually Marie Martin) and "Rita Steen" (actually Rita Stein).

19

NY Post, by Cy Egan: Hunt for Galt Report Aided by "Brother". Says FBI allegedly using information supplied by his alleged co-conspirator to track down Galt. Galt first purchased a 2.43 Remington rifle, returned later same day 3/30/68 to exchange it for a 30.06.

19

NY Times, by Martin Waldron, Birmingham 4/18/67: Galt Eludes FBI Agents in California; Thousands of Wanted Posters Distributed. A source said FBI agents thought they were close to Galt last night; an unidentified brother was said in FBI complaint to be Galt's co-conspirator. Source in FBI said brother might have supplied information. FBI denied having anyone in custody. Gamble said 4/17/68 photo of Galt released by FBI was taken in Birmingham last month. But 4/18/68 it was disclosed photo came from bartending school Hollywood. Ala. Hiway Patrol said Galt requested duplicate driver license by phone. Gives text complaint filed by FBI. US Commissioner Mildred F. Sprague first denied signing the complaint, then refused to explain why she had denied it. Galt Recalled on Coast: repeats interviews with Rod Arvidson et al; dance studio personnel said Galt did not appear to speak Spanish. A Suspect Released: Atlanta 4/18/68: Police arrested man said to resemble Galt but after he was questioned by FBI agents he was released.

19

States Item, Washington (AP): KING SUSPECT IS ESCAPEE, REAL NAME RAY, FBI SAYS. FBI today identified Galt as James Earl Ray, 40, escapee from Missouri State Penitentiary. FBI said he was identified through systematic and exhaustive search of latent fingerprints uncovered in the King case, against fingerprints of more than 53,000 for whom wanted notices are on file in FBI. Ray reported missing from jail at Jefferson City, Mo., on 4/23/67. He was serving 20-yr. sentence for armed robbery, had been at the prison since 3/17/60. Ray was in U.S. Army Feb. 1946 to Dec. 1948. Arrested 1949 for burglary Los Angeles. Convicted armed robbery 1952 Chicago, 1955 for forging money orders Missouri. Served terms in Los Angeles County jail, state prisons at Joliet and Pontiac, Illinois, and federal prison Leavenworth, Kansas. FBI said Ray had used names James McBride; James Walton; W. C. Herron; James O'Conner. Ray claimed born 3/10/28 Illinois; 5'10" 163 to 174 lbs blue eyes brown hair 2 scars, a small one center forehead, another palm of right hand.

- 20 NY Times, Fred Graham, Wash. 4/19/68: FBI Says "GALT" IS AN ESCAPED CONVICT. Photos from FBI show James Earl Ray in 1966 and 1960, in prison, and this year under alias Eric Starvo Galt. FBI announced today that escaped convict Ray is the man sought under alias Galt, pictured him as trouble-prone drifter with long record of erratic and violent behavior. His true identity discovered after latent fingerprints uncovered in the King investigation were compared with prints of more than 53,000 persons listed as wanted by FBI. Ray escaped from prison 4/23/67. Had served 7 years of 20-year sentence for armed robbery. Explanation of why took so long to identify the fingerprints. No indication of where they were found.
- 20 NY Times, Martin Waldron, Birmingham, 4/19/68: HOW MANY "GALTS"? WITNESSES DIFFER. THREE EARLIER DESCRIPTIONS OF SUSPECT VARY WIDELY. Descriptions make it appear that as many as 4 men may have been under suspicion. Source in Justice Dept. said that credible witnesses in Memphis and Birmingham who saw Galt seemed to be describing different men, which led FBI to change view and decide it may have been a conspiracy. 3 differing descriptions of Galt detailed, also, description of James Earl Ray.
- 20 NY Times, p. 31: SUSPECT DESCRIBED AS A DRIFTER WHO WAS FAILURE AT EVERYTHING. Gives Ray's family background, youth, and record of trouble with police.
- 20 NY Post, page 3, stories by Jerry Cohen, THE KING SUSPECT: HIS FIRST CRIME and Timothy Lee, ASSASSIN HUNT FOCUSES ON ESCAPED CON. Gives Ray's police record. Story p. 16 details his break out of jail. Essentially same story as in NY Times.
- 20 States Item, Wash. AP: RAY ON "MOST WANTED" LIST. 4 photos of Ray and/or Galt. Basically same story as in NY Times. Details conflicting descriptions and whereabouts.
- 21 NY Times, Martin Waldron, Birmingham, 4/20/68: GALT HAD MONEY WHILE IN BIRMINGHAM BUT FBI FINDS NO EVIDENCE OF A JOB. Details sale of Mustang to Galt by Paisley, sale of rifle by Aeromarine Supply Co., sale of binoculars, possible airplane trips, confiscation of Delta Airline records including ticket Birmingham to Chicago 4/3/68 used only as far as Memphis. Details Galt 2 places same time.
- 21 NY Times, News of the Week, FADING CLUES RAISE QUESTION OF CONSPIRACY. Says alarming word "conspiracy" has begun to sound loudly. Martin Waldron.
- 22 NY Times, small box UPI Washington: FBI PRESSES HUNT IN SLAYING OF DR KING. FBI says nothing new to report.
- 22 NY Post, by Ralph Blumenfeld: FBI UNDER FIRE ON KING CASE. Mounting criticism of FBI tactics, discouraged local investigations, caused confusion with varying descriptions of alleged killer, according to police in Memphis and other cities. Memphis detectives continued to work on theory Galt a myth created by the conspirators. Asst. Police Chief Bill Price, Memphis, says someone has muddied the waters. Details discrepancies in descriptions of suspect. Ray's fellow-inmates, Warden Harold Swenson, sceptical; psychiatrist Dr. Donald B. Peterson examined Ray 5 weeks 1966, said nothing to indicate he was a killer or had tendencies to kill. There is growing concern when Ray is tracked down he might be shot by his captors since FBI has labeled him dangerous and armed. Editorial in Atlanta paper questions FBI wisdom, says, imperative Ray be taken alive. Police in 4 cities practically shunted aside by Feebees. Birmingham detective who tried question a clerk who sold rifle was called off by FBI when clerk refused to talk. FBI investigation being handled "at highest level." Ramsey Clark and Hoover.
- 23 NY Times, by Douglas E. Kneeland, Jefferson City, Mo. 4/22/68: FBI HUNT FOR RAY IN KILLING STUNS PRISON OFFICIALS AND OTHERS WHO KNEW HIM.

States Item: KING KILLING SUSPECT RAY IN CITY LAST DECEMBER. Ray was registered in a French Quarter motel New Orleans 17-19 December 1967 according to Louis Lomax, writing for the North American Newspaper Alliance. Ray met a major New Orleans industrialist at the Provincial Motel, 1024 Chartres, 17 Dec. Investigators are searching for the unknown "industrialist" in the light of disclosure by a prison inmate who served time with Ray that Ray had been interested in an offer of \$100,000 by "Southern businessmen" for anyone who would kill Dr. King. Time magazine said this week that New Orleans was the pay-off point for the man hired to kill MLK, which Time said was learned from a conversation overheard by a Memphis businessman. Lomax said also that on 2/17/68 Ray delivered a package to an unidentified New Orleans family. Garrison said he was very interested in the case but had no data, federal authorities had not given him any information, nor had he asked for any. Garrison emphasized that he had no criticism of federal investigators in this instance. Lomax also reported that FBI was looking for an unnamed Hollywood blonde who had reportedly disappeared but to whom Lomax had spoken yesterday. "Jerri" was an habitue of the Sultan Room, had spent several nights perhaps weeks with Ray (Galt). Lomax said that on 12/16/67 Ray was in phone contact with a major New Orleans industrialist, with whom he met on 12/17/67.

Page 3, BOUNTY TALK \$1 MILLION--RAY CELLMATE. Dalton, Ga. (AP)--Ray was quoted by a former fellow inmate yesterday as saying he would be willing to kill MLK for a million dollar bounty. Raymond Curtis, 40, now in Whitfield County jail here, is awaiting action on appeal of a murder conviction.

NY Post, Max Lerner: LONER OR CONSPIRATOR? Lerner opines that Ramsey Clark's early description of "a lone man on the run" may no longer be true. If there were others who used him, his capture now would be intolerable to them and the indicated course for them would be to kill him before he can be caught. Inevitably the case brings to mind the JFK assassination, Garrison, and a climate of conspiracy and a climate of hate. Lerner thinks day of the loner is probably passing but warns against believing everything disastrous is the result of conspiracy.

States Item: RAY CAME HERE WITH BROTHER--GRETNA WOMAN. Mrs. Leroy Lee, former Marie Stein, saw James Earl Ray 12/17/67 when he drove in from Los Angeles with her brother Charles Stein. He was introduced to her as Eric Starvo Galt. Other developments in the case today: a mysterious Hollywood blonde disappeared from her Milwaukee hotel room; Mexican authorities questioned an American resembling Ray but released him. Mrs. Leroy Lee described Ray as skinny with light hair and light colored eyes. Shown a picture of Ray, she said he did not even look like the man introduced to her as Galt. Charles Stein reportedly has identified Ray and Galt as the same man, and FBI has tied them thru fingerprints. Mrs. Lee's mother, Clovina Alonzo, and personnel at Provincial Motel had been questioned repeatedly by the FBI, but Mrs. Lee, the only one other than Charles Stein to see Ray, has never been questioned. Lomax was retracing Ray's route Los Angeles to New Orleans, increasingly certain that a 12/16/67 phone call by Ray from Houston to New Orleans will provide the clue as to who paid for MLK's assassination. Lomax reported that Ray while living at St. Francis Hotel Los Angeles made prepaid long distance calls every day at 6 p.m. from public phonebooth in lobby. Graffitti in phone booth refers to "Martin Luther Coon." It is believed that Ray (Galt) made the doodlings "but this could be certified only when the FBI fingerprint experts match the writing on the wall with that on the back of a TV set known to have belonged to Ray." Yesterday, "Jerri" and her husband, whose appearance corresponds with Ray's, checked out of the Royal Hotel, Milwaukee, and disappeared (after a phone call from Lomax). Daniel David Kennedy of Baltimore was questioned by Mexican police and released. Lt. Roberto Fletcher of the Caborca, Sonora, police, Mexico, had taken Kennedy into custody. Mrs. Pearl Kennedy, his mother, said in Baltimore that her son was innocent.

April

- 25 NY Post, Timothy Lee: A KING SUSPECT HELD IN MEXICO. Repeats story on detention of Daniel David Kennedy. Lt. Fletcher said FBI on way to question Kennedy but John Mull, FBI agent in charge Phoenix denied knowing anything about the arrest. In Washington, FBI refused to comment.
- 26 NY Post, Washington (AP): FBI BELITTLES RAY-GALT "CONTRADICTIONS." FBI sources insisted, but not for attribution, that Ray and Galt were one person. "We know there's only one person involved here," said one FBI official, "We've got his fingerprints and we know who he is." Puzzling aspects of case continue to pop up. Newest involves Ray's smoking habits: cigaret or cigar ashes found in Mustang, but FBI bulletin issued last year after Ray's escape said that he did not smoke. Rod Arvidson of dance studio said Galt did not smoke any kind of tobacco. FBI official brushed off differing descriptions of suspect's height, weight, eyes and hair.
- 26 NY Times, Martin Waldron, Los Angeles, 4/25/68: GALT TRIP FROM COAST TO NEW ORLEANS RECALLED BY COMPANION. Reports interview with Charles Stein.
- 26 Los Angeles Free Press, by Mark Lane: MEMPHIS IN APRIL. Reviews case to date.
- 27 States Item, Louis Lomax: RAY MET N.O. CONTACT NEAR MART. Ray met with important industrialist between 2:30 and 4 P.M. on 12/17/67 inside or near the Int'l Trade Mart in New Orleans. At 3:30 that day a close friend of Ray's, "Tommie," was in the Trade Mart. That evening Ray visited Tommie and told him that he saw him in the Mart but did not approach him because he was busy. Lomax said also that Ray returned to New Orleans at end of March 1968 and delivered a package to the mother of a Los Angeles friend.
- 27 NY Post, Pittsburgh (AP): DR. KING'S BROTHER SEES CONSPIRACY . Rev.A.D. Wms.King said that he believes there was a conspiracy.

April

- 28 NY Times, Martin Waldron, Memphis: THE SEARCH: WEIRD TRAIL OF KING'S KILLER Two investigations (one in Alabama, one in Alabama and Georgia) by FBI agents seemingly on trail of 2 Eric Starvo Galts, 2 rifles, 2 white Mustangs, 2 driver's licenses, and an airplane ticket. Speculation within the FBI is that it was a hired killing. Two businessmen, one in Birmingham and one in New Orleans, mentioned privately as possible sources of the several thousands of dollars spent by Galt between August 1967 and April 1968. According to Birmingham News, FBI thought Galt may have escaped the USA and made his way to Cuba ("if he's still alive"). Re: Green Stamps, 2 attendants at Birmingham gas station remembered Galt, he bought gas there and had minor repairs on the white Mustang. They said the Mustang needed work on its clutch—but the car Galt purchased from Paisley did not have a clutch but an automatic shift. The Birmingham Galt was quiet, almost shy, did not drink; the California Galt was a loudmouth who drank vodka at dingy Hollywood bars. Warden at Missouri State prison said that when Ray escaped, the wrong fingerprints were circulated to law enforcement agencies but a new set of prints were sent out later. However, officials in Georgia and Alabama said that they never received the second set of fingerprints.
- No one who knew the California Galt or the Birmingham Galt has been able to recognize any of Ray's photographs.

States Item, Louis Lomax, San Antonio Tex: CONTRADICTIONARY INFORMATION ON RAY INCREASES. FBI search of White Mustang unearthed Green Stamps purchased at a Birmingham gas station in mid-February 1968. Gas station owner identified photo of Ray as the man who got the Green Stamps. But FBI reports consistently place Ray in Los Angeles, dancing studio and bartending school, at the time of the gas station transaction. This is one of a series of disturbing contradictions, e.g., Ray's smoking habits. Stein said Ray did not smoke, but ashes found in Mustang impounded by FBI. FBI said Ray in Los Angeles to 3/27/68 and then bought rifle in Birmingham 3/30/68 yet following disclosure by Lomax, FBI interviewed New Orleans family and confirmed Ray had delivered package to them end of March. Ray could not have driven Los Angeles to Birmingham via New Orleans 2500 miles between 3/27 and 3/30/68 unless he had a driving companion. Lomax states FBI has been forced to admit that the fingerprints circulated during the early days of the manhunt were not those of Ray. FBI blames warden of the Missouri State Penitentiary for issuing mistaken fingerprints on Ray when he escaped from prison April 1967. FBI also said Ray had taken dancing lessons in New Orleans during time he was supposedly in prison; FBI failed retrace Ray/Stein drive LA to NO; failed to investigate Ray calls to New Orleans from public phone booth in St. Francis Hotel, LA. FBI failed to uncover the TV set Ray gave to a Hollywood girl friend on or about 2/14/68, the back of which had handwriting believed to be Ray's. Lomax all but certain Ray made 3 trips to NO between 12/15/67 and end of March 1968.

Atlanta AP: HAVE NO EVIDENCE OF CONSPIRACY--RAMSEY CLARK.

- 30 NY Post, Bob Williams, "On The Air," Author Truman Capote last night suggested that the FBI was looking for more than one man, he contended James Earl Ray himself is dead. He also argued MLK assassination could have been a leftist plot resulting from disappointment with King's non-violence.

May

- 1 States Item, Canberra Australia (AP): TIP FROM FBI: RAY SEARCH TURNS TO AUSTRALIA. Australian police said FBI cabled it had information indicating Ray might have fled to Australia; police making nationwide search, have started intensive examination of all entry documents filed since 4/4/68.
- 1 NY Post, by Jack Nelson, Washington--LINK MAP TO KING CASE. A map of Atlanta with areas of MLK residence and church circled has been linked to accused assassin Ray by the FBI. Reviews history of the case. FBI still bothered by possibility Ray was a hired killer; he had some \$6-8,000 in cash after his escape.
- 2 NY Times, Editorial: SEARCH FOR DR. KING'S KILLER. Information provided by Justice Dept, FBI and Memphis police and other agencies has created welter of contradictions. Clark said no less than 4 times no evidence of conspiracy, yet FBI charged in a warrant that Ray alias Galt and an "alleged brother" entered into a conspiracy in Birmingham. Descriptions by FBI, police, and other officials, and by witnesses and acquaintances, point not to one Galt but to four, ranging in age from 20 to 40 in height from 5'8" to 6', from 160 to 175 lbs in accent from Southern to rural. No one in Memphis rooming house recognizes FBI photo of Galt from bartending school; same is true of prisoners and warden in Missouri State Penitentiary. Clark and JEHoover have responsibility to keep public as fully and accurately informed as possible, and to ensure that the suspect is brought in alive. "The case of Lee Harvey Oswald bears no repetition."
- 3 NY Post, Art Petacque, Chicago: BROTHER DOUBTS RAY IS STILL ALIVE. Jerry Ray said he and other family members fear James Earl Ray may be dead. Ray's brother found it hard to believe he had shot MLK because he never was a man of violence but conceded he could have been used by persons conspiring to kill King. He never displayed animosity toward Negroes, according to his brother, but he was interested in the political ambitions of George Wallace.
- Chicago (AP): RAY'S BROTHER DISAPPEARS. Jerry Ray has quit his job at a golf club and disappeared, a few hours after an interview with a Chicago newspaper.

May 1968

- 4 LA Times: Ray's brother believes he was framed, slain; Jerry says he doubts James assassinated Dr. King but he might have been fall guy
- 6 NY Post Rowland Evans & Robert Novak: Fear reprisal for slaying of Dr. King: Federal authorities concerned wild talk inside black extremist groups demanding revenge, discussing plans to assassinate white reactionary in retribution (Wallace, Nixon, Reagan), FBI has infiltrated black extremist groups
- 6 Newsweek: Manhunts, Hot and Cold: chagrin in Washington over early predictions Ray would be caught quickly; speculates conspiracy charge was only a gimmick to establish federal jurisdiction
- 8 NY Times, UPI Washington 5/7/68: FBI distributes two new photographs of Ray. One (sunglasses) Mexico November 1967, one (cleft chin) California this year. FBI refused to say where the photos were obtained.
- 9 Washington Evening Star, by Jeremiah O'Leary: Holed up--or buried? The Ray Mystery Deepens. FBI has some witnesses who describe Ray as "Negro-hating racist" and others who say he never mentioned race over long periods of time. Gives detailed history of Ray; he spent a few days around September 1967 in Montreal, for reasons unknown. After leaving Birmingham 10/7/67 went to Mexico, Jalisco and Puerto Vallarta, was conspicuous, had photo taken with a prostitute (the "sunglasses" photo released by FBI 5/7/68). After ditching white Mustang, Ray stayed in hippie rooming house in Atlanta; but FBI did not find the place for several days, by which time Ray had flown the coop. But in his room FBI found a TV set he had obtained in a swap with a girl, and a map of Atlanta with well-defined right thumb print--25 other prints from rifle, car, binoculars, and places he had been "too indistinct for classification" (as to finger? or as to identity?--SM). This thumb print was compared with all fugitives of same age range, which led to identification of Eric Starvo Galt as James Earl Ray.
- 10 Time: The assassination according to Capote, reports Capote's opinion of the Ray case as given on the Johnny Carson show, e.g., Ray did not kill MLK, he was not capable such a crime, only function was to throw FBI off the trail, he was probably killed afterwards.
- 12 ABC-TV, Issues and Answers: Ramsey Clark is disappointed that Ray was not quickly found, as he had led public to expect, says "most massive manhunt" is continuing, by "FBI and co-ordinated local law enforcement" (see contrary story of 4/22/68 in NY Post)...Still thinks he will be found, no evidence he is not still alive, evidence indicates "a man acting alone" but it is impossible to rule out "a conspiracy of the right or the left or the middle..."
- 16 NY Post, Drew Pearson: Convinced FBI doing most exhaustive, painstaking manhunt and no foundation for reports J. Edgar Hoover not interested in catching the killer of the man he called "the most notorious liar in the world." Claims FBI has established that Ray was a "professional killer" and speculates that he may have been murdered "by those who hired him to kill King, or that he is hiding in some remote Mexican village." Says "black extremists have not been ruled out" and that KKK or Minute Men probably would not have waited so long for results if they had put up the money spent by Ray, about \$10,000 in 7 months before 4/4/68.
- 16 N Orleans States Item: St. Louis AP: Hearing for Ray set tomorrow, on motion filed before his escape from prison 1967.
- 16 States Item, Drew Pearson column (same as NY Post of same date, but longer)... Says wrapped rifle in bedspread, in which strands of his hair were found, left behind blue zipper bag with a hairbrush with hair matching strands in bedspread

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Mar 1968

- 17 LA Free Press: Describes visit by 2 FBI agents re ad placed by Galt in 2/2/68 issue, seeking "passionate married" woman for "mutual pleasure"
- 17 States Item: Man in San Juan not suspect, FBI says, just a case of look-alikes.
- 24 NY Times, by Peter Kihss: Photos cited by research group in Kennedy death, prints sketch made by Mexico City police of MLK suspect, and photo of "tramp" in Dealey Plaza, remarkable resemblance; reports press conference held by Trent Gough and Richard Spzague.
- 24 States Item: Drew Pearson: King phone tap ordered by RFK
- 27 NY Post: Same Drew Pearson column
- 29 NY Daily Column: by Carl T. Rowan: Will the FBI ever get King's killer? Says investigation has taken on international implications, massive dragnet in Mexico, where Ray met with persons who led FBI to suspect involvement of a foreign power. However, dragnet turned up nothing at all. Those who insisted Ray was a lone assassin now have swung over to belief he was a hired killer. Has been discovered Ray was peddling dope while in State prison 1960-67. Some FBI spokesmen now conceding they will never catch the MLK killer.
- 31 NY Post, by Carl Greenbert, Los Angeles: The RFK/Pearson dispute over Dr.King. Gives history and allegations by each side.

June 1968

- 16 NY Times p. 72: U.S. seeks Tuesday to extradite Ray; long process begins with 2nd appearance in court (by Homer Bigart)
- 17 NY Post, p. 13: Ray won't talk, brother predicts. Says he will take any information he may have to his grave. Says he will plead not guilty, doubts insanity plea based on mental tests while in prison, says nothing insane about Ray, refused to give permission for him to receive shock treatments in prison, insists Ray did not kill MLK, was not that kind, never hurt anyone; feels Ray was set up as a decoy to throw police off track real assassin, could not have been his own money he was spending, would not have been so free with it, discounted dancing lessons, never danced in his life, was shy, a loner, not the bold type, could not have been in New Orleans 1964 because was then in jail.
- P.58: Doubt grows that Ray acted alone, by Richard T. Cooper (Toronto): Choice of assumed identities seems more than coincidental. Landlady says Ray left behind a map, rolls unused camera film.
- 18 NOSI: Extradition hearing for Ray is set for 6/27/68. Ray's lawyer, Arthur J. Hanes, tentatively agreed defend accused assassin MLK, nostranger to race fights.
- 18 NY Post: Ray fighting extradition. P.51: Profile of Arthur J. Hanes
- 19 NOSI, p. 6: Won't fight extradition—Ray lawyer Hanes, as boarding plane to Wash.
- 19 NY Times, p.35 by Martin Waldron: Evidence hints a conspiracy in slaying of MLK. Says fingerprints on marked map found Atlanta rooming house believed to have provided FBI with link to Ray...Where did Ray get \$\$\$\$ spent? FBI "sources" suggested he may have been in on robbery of bank at Alton, Ill., on 7/13/67 in which \$20,000 was taken...but Ray may have been living in Toronto that date. Possibility Ray had help selecting real men whose names he used being investigated.
- 19 NY Times p.1: Ray lawyer wins delay to June 27; Judge grants plea for time to study data; suspect's guard again is heavy (by Homer Bigart)
- 20 NOSI p. 31: Alabama lawyer Hanes takes Ray case
- 21 NY Times p. 18: Hanes arrives London, does not know how Ray learned of him
- 21 NOSI p. 2: Ray's lawyer denies links Right or Left; would not say where \$\$ for his fee would come from.
- 21 NY Post p. 7: Who's picking up Ray's tab? by Cy Egan.
- 21 NY Daily Column, p.2 by Paul Scott: FBI says Ray's arrest is only the beginning. Investigation of MLK assassination far from closed; one agent says privately Ray is key to determining the others involved in the plot; also being carefully checked is Ray's contact with a person whom FBI photographed with King at a major U.S. airport. \$5.million spent by FBI in first 9 weeks of MLK investigation in search for Ray.
- 24 I.F. Stone Weekly: Enough has come to light clearly to show a conspiracy in MLK killing.
- 27 NOSI front page: Didn't kill King, suspect Ray tells Court; Fingerprints of accused on gun—FBI. FBI expert George Jacob Bonebrake testifies Ray's fingerprints were found on a rifle and binoculars discarded at MLK scene—1 print on the rifle, one on the scope and also on the binoculars, he said. He compared them with fingerprints of Ray in the L.A. police file and found they belonged to one and the same individual. Ray's lawyer seeking save Ray from extradition by contending MLK killing was a political crime.
- 27 NY Post p. 1: Ray on stand; denied he killed Dr. King. Denies testimony that he said "I feel so trapped" when apprehended by Scotland Yard. Clerk who sold rifle identifies Ray in affidavit.
- 28 NY Times p. 1: Ray tells court he is not guilty. U.S. says at London hearing his fingerprints were on rifle and binoculars. Detective asserts he said "God, I feel so trapped" after arrest.

- 29 NY Post p. 26: Three important Memphis witnesses "disappeared," believed to be in protective custody.

July 1968

- 2 Ray is ordered to be returned to U.S. NOSI front page. David Calcutt, for U.S., tells court there was no conspiracy, no other man or other body was involved, it was a lone assassination for private purposes. Magistrate says no difficulty in establishing prima facie case vs Ray, says no evidence produced to show it was not an individual act.
- 2 NY Post: Ray loses, back to U.S. Faces trial in King slaying.
- 3 NY Post p. 22: Ray's lawyers working on appeal
- 5 NY Times p. 12: FBI studies order for books submitted by Eric Starvo Galt, 3-volume set on American Presidency ordered by typewriter by "Galt" late April 1968 giving Lorraine Motel, Memphis as return address. May have been prankster.
- 6 NY Times p. 19: Book tells of stern Maddox order on MLK funeral march, reports he said "shoot them down" if they tried enter capitol at MLK rites.
P. 10: American lawyer visits Ray in prison. Charles Q. Stevens has been taken into protective custody.
- 6 NY Post p. 6: Police guard key witness Charles Q. Stevens

MLK CHRONOLOGY

July 1968 (continued)

- 6 Ray's lawyer maps strategy
- 11 Man listed as Ray kin freed in drunk case
- 15 Ray to appear in court tomorrow for routine custody hearing, London
- 15 Letter ends doubt Sneyd is really Ray
- 17 Ray decides drop extradition battle
- 17 NY Post: Ray may be flown U.S. tonight; Secret plans for return Ray pursued
- 19 NY Post: Rep. Brown (R-Ohio) asks study of int'l questions raised by MLK/RFK murders
- 19 NY Post: (Cover) Ray's Back! First photo Ray in handcuffs
- 19 NY Times, by Anthony Lewis: Ray on U.S. plane leaves Britian, takeoff pt. secret
- 18 Ray charges dropped in Britain, clearing way to U.S. extradition
- 20 Ray meeting with lawyer behind screen of guards
- 22 Ray pleads innocent
- 22 Doctor says Ray feared harm (psychiatric report)
- 22 Drew Pearson: Where Ray Got The Money: Suggests Ray in 7/13/67 bank robbery
- 22 Drew Pearson: King plot theory exploded by FBI
- 23 Lawyer admits "Sneyd" is James Earl Ray
- 27 Ray trial security plan is outlined
- 30 Judge imposes strict press rules for Ray
- 30 Ray's lawyer carried gun on jail visit

August 1968

- 13 Chas. Q. Stephens, witness in MLK killing, seeking freedom, held at penal farm

ChronologyAugust 1968 (continued)

- 20 Chicago (AP): Plot to kill candidates claimed; security officials mum
- 22 NY Post: Man who saw King's killer, Charlie Q. Stephens, is released
- 22 RFK aide Walter Sheridan says bribe offered in Hoffa case
- 22 NY Post, Jimmy Breslin, column "The Last Kennedy"
- 22 (New Orleans) Ex-Detectives suspended during secret investigation of administrative violations (Torn, LeBlanc, Parta, Eisemann)
- 22 New coroner will ask four aids to stay
- 22 Evans and Novak column: Boggs in platform dispute
- 23 Coroner Dr. Carl H. Rabin won't request aides to stay, he says
- 27 St. Petersburg Independent: Mark Lane tells of "Threats" on his life, at press conference after radio broadcast; 2 threats against him Houston "2 weeks ago"

September 1968

- 3 NY Post: Sirhan Wants to air his Anti-Zionist Views, by George Lardner Jr.
- 3 NY Post: Gregory and Mark Lane on peace ticket
- 5 NY Post: Column by W. A. McGaffin, "The Violence Probe," suggests LBJ motive is to preempt the investigative field with a commission under his control
- 5 Gurvich theft hearing is continued
- 7 NY Times: by Martin Waldron. Judge says weapons charge against Ray may be dropped
- 7 " UFO in sky over Madrid eludes Spanish air force
- 9 " Coast movie scrutinized for clue on assassination of RFK; documentary film made by students being studied by L.A. police
- 11 NY Post: Press group wants Sirhan "unlocked"
- 11 NY Post: Closeup, column on Marc Raskin
- 12 " Newspaper gives a Phd the third degree: story on LBJ's friend J.H. McCrocklin of HEW, mentions Greg Olds
- 12 NY Post, Bribery investigation ordered in Hoffa case, mentions Walter Sheridan
- 12 Midlothian Mirror, reprint of Marjorie Field critique of Epstein on Garrison
- 12 Marcello gets jail term, fine, for assaulting FBI agent
- 13 NO States Item, Editorial, Gremillion unfit; should resign
- 13 " Ray may never testify--Lawyer, Arthur Hanes Sr. says
- 18 " 4 are cited in Ray case ban on news
- 17 " 4 detectives are dismissed by Ciarrusso for accepting money to withhold evidence in a burglary case

September 1968 (continued)

- 18 NY Post: Hoffa friend sues Joe and Rose Kennedy
- 18 " Johnson's panel on violence hearing Clark and Hoover
- 19 "Fair-Trial fight set in Ray case
- 19 " RFK slaying muted in quiz on violence
- 19 Midlothian Mirror, reprinted from National Enquirer, "Minister in hiding after giving police evidence of RFK plot," by William Dick; story on Reverend Jerry Owens and lawyer George T. Davis, alleging contacts with Sirhan and others
- 19 N Orleans SI: Death of RFK fades from violence probe
- 20 NY Post: Judge picked for trial of Sirhan; Judge Herbert V. Walker named
- 20 "Lights in cell said to be disturbing Ray
- 25 N Orls SI: Katzenbach tells Violence Commission "Crazed, Lonely Men" causes of assassinations
- 26 Wash. Evening Star: Historic site being vacated by tenant, Book Depository building for sale, Roy Truly says has just outgrown the building
- 27 N Orls SI: Garrison's office subpoenas diary of Florida Asst Attorney General Gelber; diary allegedly refers to man who mentioned in April 1963 possibility JFK would be killed with high-powered rifle from a building
- 27 N Orls SI: Shaw petitions Supreme Court to halt prosecution by Garrison
- 28 "Ray lawyer threatens to quit, says difficulties have arisen between himself and client

October 1968

- 1 NY Post: Judge warns press in Ray case
- 1 NY Times: Strict security for Ray upheld; Judge denies bid to ease it; 4 guilty of contempt
- 1 NY Times: Time Inc. loses suit on Dallas photos; Judge Inzer B. Wyatt rules against Time/Life in suit against J.D. Thompson and Bernard Geis publishers, stating "There is a public interest in having the fullest information available on the murder of President Kennedy. Thompson...has a theory entitled to public consideration..."
- 2 NY Post: Assassination rate highest in the U.S.
- 2 " " L.A. coroner to report RFK autopsy findings at meeting of Armed Forces Institute of Pathology
- 4 NY Post: Move to defer Sirhan trial until after 1/1/69; Book Depository leaving Dallas site, owner D. Harold Byrd Sr. in market for new client

CHRONOLOGY

(Meagher 11/24/68)

Sept. 1968

- 10 Jules Feiffer "Uncle Sam" cartoon, New Republic, "I Kill"
- 18 Newsweek, story on Esquire 35th anniversary, says, base rate of \$1000 an article
P.29 The Kennedys: Ted's Return
P.20 LBJ memoirs, asking price one million
- 26 Miami Herald, Garrison seeks attorney's diary: Florida Asst Attny General Seymour Gelber, previously provided Garrison with excerpts from the diary, says 90% of it deals with Nat'l States Rights Party
- 30 NOSI: Court holds 4 in contempt for Ray case Comments—Hanes, an investigator, 2 reporters
NOSI: Supposed CIA office at Ann Arbor is hit by blast, Washington sends investigators

October 1968

- 1 NOSI: Fortas nomination put aside by Senate
NOSI: Judge says Ray security will remain tight
- 2 NOSI: Refuse to review Gremillion ruling
NOSI: Aubrey Young suit against LIFE dismissed (re phonecalls Marcello)
- 3 NOSI: Kohn asks probe of link Marcello to Sapir; also, Gremillion ordered plane
Ray publicity review asked by newsmen
Miami Herald: Sirhan's trial may be delayed to 1969
- 4 Editorial, An Office Compromised, on Gremillion as embarrassment to Louisiana
Partin appears before Hoffa grand jury; Probe of Chicago riots recessed for 2 months
NO DA's office charge dropped against ex-cop, Goldman case shelved, re Blanchard
Sapir seeks Kohn probe, hopes to address jury
- 5 Probe asked of Marcello, Sapir contact; also, Drop charge in babysitter death case
- 5 Washington Daily News: The gag in the Ray case (editorial)
- 7 TIME: Page 61, story on James Earl Ray trial; Story on Warren and Supreme Court
- 9 Garrison to ask probe of Kohn
- 10 NY Post: Chicago and that "assassination plot" re Daley and Chicago police vs FBI
- 10 Council eyes Kohn's call for Sapir hearing; Hoffa jury recesses in bribe probe
- 10 Garrison denies owing LL&T stock
- 11 Secret service protection for Mrs. JFK until death or remarriage voted by Senate
- 11 Council refuses to probe Sapir; Legal opinion on hearing faulty, Kohn
- 11 9 Cubans charged in bombings; Anti-Castro terrorism alleged; ex-doctor accused—Miami
- 11 NY Post: It looks like Warren will stay on bench for a while; Ending the LBJ era
- 12 NY Post: Dallas today—The more things change...
- 14 NOSI: Sirhan trial set on Dec. 9, defense delay request granted
- 17 NY Post: Mrs. JFK refuses to comment on story she will marry Onassis
- 17 NOSI: Garrison asks denial of Shaw plea
- 19 NOSI: Onassis is getting wish—link to JFK
- 21 NY Post: RFK on JFK: Inside view of 1962 Cuban missile crisis published
- 21 Nat'l Observer: Mood in Memphis is curiosity as State prepares trial of James Earl Ray
- 22 NY Post: Sirhan's brother approved house search, lists among items taken from bedroom
"two cleaning patches and nitro powder solvent"
- 22 NY Post: (earlier edition) Sirhan search issue in court, does not mention cleaning stuff
- 23 NYP Editorial: Counterattack against the gun lobby
- 23 NOSI: Jackie Onassis, rise and fall of legend
- 23 9 Cubans seized; death plot alleged in 13 bombings, arrested in NYC (same group as Miami)
- 24 Report: 1967 job, called missing link in Ray case; Jackie's gems stun party
- 24 US Attny. Louis LaCour declines comment on Garrison statement that federal govt probing
Garrison's personal financial affairs, to discredit him; Garrison refusing cooperate
with IRS claiming it is obvious harrassment
- 24 NEWSWEEK: Cover story on Jackie Onassis; see also RFK on Cuban missile crisis
- 25 N.Orleans barmaid indicted on perjury count, mentions Alcock, Plotkin

October 1968

25 LI Press: Single bullet killed JFK, hit Connally, Dr. Kohn K. Lattimer says
27 Miami Herald: One-bullet JFK data supported, Professor Lattimer believes WR findings
28 NYP: Huie says a second suspect faces arrest in King murder
28 NYP: Defense says prosecution framed 3 in N.J. murder
28 NYP: Elmer Gertz book "Moment of Madness" on Ruby to be published 11/24/68
28 LOOK dated 11/12/68 first installment of Huie's exclusive on James Earl Ray
29 NYP: Ray is quoted on \$12,000 offer, on Huie LOOK story
30 Professor Luis Alvarez gets Nobel Prize for chemistry; he was expert for CBS on WR
30 Doctor says "Galt" (James Earl Ray) had plastic surgery
30 NYP: Jimmy Breslin column on Shanker and school strike
30 NYP: Convict testifying in N.J. murder, suspended police Sgt. De Grott among those charged
30 NYP: Ray linked to plastic surgery in Los Angeles
31 NOSI: P.2--MLK aide James Bevel subpoenaed to appear trial James Earl Ray
31 Garrison subpoenas industry "spy" Fred Lee Crisman of Tacoma, Washington, to appear
before N.Orleans grand jury 11/21/68, charges Crisman "cover role" of a "minister
working with Gypsies" Garrison claims he developed evidence indicating relationship
between Crisman and "persons involved in the assassination" of JFK, per Alcock

November 1968

1 EAFP: Mark Lane at California State College, Long Beach, speech, noon, no admission charge
4 NYPost: Clairvoyant Boston terrier predicted a Republican (Nixon) will win election
P. 32: RFK secretary finds D.C. grim
5 NOSI: LOOK, Huie, may be cited for contempt in James Earl Ray case
6 NOSI: Nixon is President-Elect; Prisoner slashes wrist as Judge Haggerty looks on
Black magic crooner stabbed by "friend" while performing; Church says Jackie bad girl
7 NYFP: Reprint of Nixon's "farewell" to press after defeat in election for Governor Calif.
8 NYP: Story on rules of succession before 1/5/69, what would happen if Nixon should die
8 LAFP: Garrison uncovers new figure in JFK assassination, by Steve Burton, on Crisman
8 Miami Herald: Garrison says IRS probing him on 3 fronts; Marguerite Oswald to ask new probe
9 Extradition of Edgar Eugene Bradley refused by Gov. Reagan
9 LA Times: Reagan refuses to extradite Bradley
10 Wash.Eve.Star: Ditto
10 Miami Herald: Bradley invites Garrison to coast
11 NOSI: Ray trial not seen until after holidays; Foreman replaces Hanes
11 Nixon assassination plot suspects held; Ahmed Rageh Namer of Yemen and 2 sons held
11 NYP Cover: U.S. Probes Nixon "Plot"; Page 4, Breslin column "The Plot Suspects"
11 NYP Page 2: Delay seen likely for Ray trial; Foreman famous for his fees
11 LOOK dated 11/26/68 with second installment Huie on J.E. Ray; Also cover story Rose Kennedy
12 NOSI: Ray trial postponed until 3/3/69; Page 17: Nixon plot witness to tell story
12 NYP: Behind Ray's decision to change lawyers; says, Hanes contends Ray only a decoy
13 NYP: Nixon suspects' relatives in Yemen do not believe it
NYP: Ray trial sets record for security; P. 4, Boston seeks killers of 3 in Civil Rights off.
P. 48: Dirksen says Nixon may act on Warren; P.54: Max Lerner "Death Plots"
14 NYP P. 37, by R.J. Donovan: JE Hoover seen staying--if he wants the job
P. 50, Wm.F. Buckley column on Edward M. Kennedy and K dynasty
14 NOSI: Senator asks audit on Gremillion
14 Midlothian Mirror: says Harry Dean Thomas, husband of Tippit widow, in Dallas hospital
in critical condition from a severe beating, has ruptured artery of brain
13 NOSI: 3 Arabs indicted in anti-Nixon plot
13 LATimes: Bradley will seek indictments over conspiracy "information" supplied falsely
by N.Hollywood Valley residents
13 NOSI: Kohn seeks dismissal of Sapir charge
14 NYFP: First in series of articles on how detect electronic eavesdropping

November 1968

- 15 NYP: Jackie and Ari glitter into London; Clayton Fritchey column says JFK in 1963 swung sharply away from confrontation and toward coexistence, LBJ in 1964 secretly going over plans to step up the war as soon as elected
P.54: Van Horne column on Nixon and the headshrinker; Drew Pearson column predicts probe of absentee House voters "almost certain to result in a whitewash" and two clerks will be made scapegoats
- 15 NYP: Ray's lawyer runs into a legal snag, may be grounds for change of venue
P. 24: UN staff gets a pay raise
P.4: Plot suspects stay in jail amid doubts about tip on plot vs Nixon
P.7: LBJ wounded by charges he lied about his Vietnam policy in 1964 election
P.5: JEH meets with Nixon; Warren reported ready retire; P.6: Is JEH to quit?
- 15 NOSI: Bklyn. DA denies plot tip doubts in Nixon alleged conspiracy;
Strange "ticking star" found by astronomers, Frank Drake rules out artifacts because of volume of energy generated (billion x more than all energy output on earth)
- 15 LAFF: Two-way radio rednecks defend Bradley vs Garrison (page 8)
- 16 NYP: Oswald seen too paranoid to enter plot, per Dr. J.W. Hamilton of U of Cincinnati
- 17 Miami Herald Tropic magazine: Long feature article on Hue and James Earl Ray story
- 17 "": 100 saw shooting, Sirhan attorney concedes
- 17 Wash.Post Parade magazine, feature article by Jack Anderson: Assassins on the Loose mentions Miami tape
- 18 NYP: Will Otto Otepka be "rehabilitated" at State Dept?
- 19 NEWSWEEK dated 11/25/68: Page 22, Dallas after 5 years
Page 34: Nixon "plot" Page 37: Ray trial switch, Hue series in Look
P. 111, WDSU vs Garrison Page 116D, review of Jim Bishop book on 11/22/63
- 20 NYPost: When JFK sensed the shadow of death; Family rites set for Kennedys;
P. 2: For the Kennedys, a time to prey; P.9: Africa eases stand on PTs
- = P.24: Astronaut rebuts Sir Bernard Lovell on moon trip
P. 109: WBAI to broadcast "A Shot Rang Out" sound collage events of 11/22/63
Channel 13, Jim Bishop to be interviewed; Arlington, 24 million mourners later
P.24: The Kennedy humor, column by Mary McCrory; P. 27: LBJ's yesterday and tomorrow
P.54: Van Horne column "The Time of the Assassin"

December 1968

- 1 Esquire: Article on Clay Shaw by James Kirkwood
- 2 NYP: Part VI of condensation of Jim Bishop book (Day JFK Was Shot)
- 2 " Breslia column on Daley/Lindsay; Walker Report on Chicago police riot
- 3 " Article re Khrushchev book/a CIA job?
- 3 " Grant Cooper joins Sirhan defense
- 5 " Arabs seek aid for Sirhan
- 6 Time: Review of Bishop book
- 6 NYP: Items on Mme. Onassis; TV rebuttal of Daley; Mars shot
- 10 " Items on EMK; Walker report; UFO sighting
- 10 NYT: Trial of Clay Shaw assured; supreme court refuses block action
- 11 CBS/TV News: (7-7:30 p.m.) Garrison asks trial Shaw begin 1/21/69, day after Nixon inauguration, in hope federal government will end efforts to block him; Claims government did everything from offering him judgeship to harassment re tax returns
- 12 Mid.Mirror: Editorial re: firing of Bill Boxley; also, letter to editor from "critic"
- 13 LAFP: Item on Dick Gregory/Mark Lane "inauguration" 3/9/69
- 19 NYFP: Items on Boxley; Shaw trial
- 19 NYP: Items on CIA; FBI; J. Edgar Hoover
- 25 NOSI: High court murder plot probed by FBI in Ohio
- 26 Grand jury probes breakout of 21 convicts in New Orleans; D.A. says panel to fix blame
- 26 Man is killed in scuffle with New Orleans police officer
- 26 Drew Pearson: U.S. investigates Onassis bankers
- 27 2 more prison escapees recaptured; 16 still at large
- 31 Garrison shifts quest for death photos, carrying fight to Washington
- 31 Taping of Sirhan trial is vetoed
- 31 Paris Flamonde book on Garrison, review copy, received

Chronology: James Earl Ray (MLK)

January 1969

- 3 LAFP: James Earl Ray revisited; article voices misgivings re Huie, gullibility
- 10 LIFE: Special issue on 1968 events includes MLK assassination
- 14 NYP: Authorities study security set-up for Ray
- 18 NYT: Judge orders public defender to prepare Ray trial
- 20 NYT: Aide to MLK, Rev. James Bevel, says Ray not guilty, has evidence to free him
- 22 NYT: Foreman visits Ray in jail
- 22 NOSI: Foreman declines to say if his visit to Ray is connected with Bevel telegram saying Ray innocent, offering to help
- 24 NYT: Abernathy vouches for judgment, integrity, of Rev. Bevel, who says Ray innocent
- 24 NOSI: Top MLK aide to defend Ray; SCLC approves
- 25 NOSI: Bevel refused in attempt help defend Ray; rejected because not a lawyer
- 25 NYT: Judge says Bevel cannot defend Ray; Bevel says could prove in 30 minutes Ray is innocent
- 29 NYP: Abernathy says he knows nothing that would acquit Ray, Bevel not speaking for SCLC. Cites rumors from black leaders in Memphis, negro policemen, firemen, pulled off assignments near MLK just before the murder

February 1969

- 1 Federal funds for RFK gravesite omitted by LBJ, now up to Nixon
- 3 Tomorrow: Sirhan. Defendant and mother to testify on their economic status.
4. Sirhan taking the stand.
- 4 Sirhan testifies to low income.
- 5 Mrs. Sirhan's brief day in court; Clayton Fritchey on "13 Days" by RFK on Cuban missile
- 5 Jury sworn for Sirhan trial; 6 alternates sought
- 6 Sirhan girl-watches as the trial drones on
- 6 Loch Ness monster? He put a dent in it.
- 6 James Wechsler: Questions about a prison death, suicide by hanging
- 6 Leonard Lyons: Item re Earl Warren, luncheon with JFK/LBJ
- 7 The Sirhan trial: still in search of a jury
- 7 Widow is slain in Cambridge, Mass; resembles murder co-ed recently in same place
- 7 Attorneys bare motivations for working without fee for Sirhan
- 8 SR: Review of books on RFK by Witcover, Halberstam and Ross
- 8 NYT: Wm. Bradford Huie arrested over articles on MLK case; cited for contempt of ban on pre-trial publicity. Huie told newsmen he could name others involved in MLK murder.
- 8 NYT: Jury choice lags in trial of Sirhan
- 8 NYDN: A mixed bag of hippies and grannies at Sirhan trial
- 8 NYP: A drug suspect hangs self in cell (Rafael Anef)
- 8 NYP: The Sirhan jury selection a trial to many
- 8 NOSI: Author cited for contempt in Ray case
- 8 NOSI: Manslaughter is best Sirhan hope--attorney Grant Cooper
- 9 NYT: Sirhan trial set for key appeal; 2 opening statements expected thisweek.
- 10 NOSI: Sirhan hopes for smile in middle of murder trial.
- 11 NYT: Roy Cohn charges Govt used wiretap
- 11 NYP: Sirhan trial focuses on alternates
- 12 NYT: Selection of jury for Sirhan trial complete. Step to limit trial hinted.
- 12 NOSI: Sirhan may enter new plea; change to "guilty" rumored
- 13 NYT: Sirhan appears set on not guilty plea
- 13 NYT: Ex-Kennedy men got \$131,000 in Ford grants; RFK favored as party leader, in poll.
- 13 NYP: Sirhan trial begins in earnest
- 13 NOSI: Sirhan mistrial demanded; newspaper story cited
- 14 NYT: Prosecutor says Sirhan stalked RFK days before the killing
- 14 NYP: The Sirhan DA offers 4 surprises; NOSI: Sirhan in trance, defense says.
- 14 NOSI: James Earl Ray trial today postponed from 3/3/69 to 4/7/69
- 15 NYT: Ray's lawyer wins 2nd delay of trial
- 15 NYT: Sirhan described as "in a trance" by Emile Zola Berman opening statement
- 15 NOSI: Busboy tells of aiding dying RFK

February 1969 (continued)

- 16 NYT: Group insists convicted Connecticut man innocent
- 17 NYP: Sirhan jury hearing more eyewitnesses
- 17 NOSI: Evans/Novak column: Nixon may rebuff J.E.Hoover, name Rogovin to head new crime-fighting division
- 17 NOSI: Sirhan menaced by RFK crowd, Jesse Unruh testifies
- 17 NEWSWEEK: Items on Mary Sirhan; on assassination of Eduardo Mondlane
- 18 NYT: Witnesses recount steps taken to protect Sirhan
- 18 NYP: Sirhan trial--The chaotic pantry
- 18 NYT: Ted Kupferman named to State Supreme Court vacancy
- 18 NOSI: Saw Sirhan target shots, jury told
- 19 NYT: Security chief tells Sirhan jury of losing track of RFK
- 19 NYP: Sirhan--the hours before
- 19 NOSI: Death pistol traced closely at Sirhan trial
- 20 NYP: Plimpton describes Sirhan after shooting
- 20 NOSI: Drew Pearson column "Officials' papers should be made public" (re RFK use of JFK papers) Sirhan Sober but frightened, cop testifies
- 20 NYT: Author Plimpton says Sirhan peaceful, ~~purged~~ purged amid commotion at scene RFK shooting
- 21 NYT: Policeman testifies at Sirhan trial; says he was not intoxicated
- 21 NYT: Canadian is acquitted in James Earl Ray passport case
- 21 NOSI: Sirhan threat cited, Negro garbageman says Sirhan told him planning to shoot RFK
- 21 TIME: Story on Sirhan (The Man Who Loved Kennedy); also stories on Alain Delon case, France; on Democrats against Mayor Daley
- 22 NYT: Witness testifies Sirhan told him would shoot RFK (Alvin Clark of Sanitation Dept)
- 22 NYT: Ray denies owning gun or car in trial
- 22 NOSI: 46 testify; witnesses say Sirhan confided plan to kill
- 23 NYT: 4 tell of reliving RFK slaying; friends, after ordeal as witnesses, recount pain
- 23 NYT: Sirhan trial--Why the defenders are there
- 24 NYP: Sirhan trial: politics, cash play a part
- 24 MAYDAY: Article on EMK/labor plans to assault White House and REK Memorial Foundation mentions Burke Marshall, Abram Chayes, etc.
- 25 NYT: Ballistic expert traces bullet to Sirhan's gun
- 25 NYP: Why Sirhan's lawyer had to restrain him
- 25 NOSI: Death diary shown despite Sirhan protest
- 26 NYT: Sirhan notes offered at trial say RFK must die (see references to Dallas assassination)
- 26 NYP: Sirhan diaries may be a boon to the defense
- 26 NOSI: Sirhan tells judge trial unfair
- 27 NYP: Sirhan, a day to cool off
- 28 NYT: Rumors dispelled in trial of Sirhan (story deals with moves to call certain witnesses so that lingering suspicions of a conspiracy would be publicly rebutted)
- 28 NYP: Defense team is ready, if Sirhan is.
- 28 NOSI: Fear Sirhan may misbehave on stand, attorneys declare

March 1969

- 1 NYT: Sirhan is denied demand he be executed rather than have public think his trial fair
Tries to admit guilt on all charges, judge rejects his request

March 1969

- 22 NYT: Rightist/segregationist J. B. Stoner hired as Ray lawyer, will help with plea
- 22 NOSI: Ray visited by new lawyer J.B. Stoner, bids for trial
- 23 NYT: Ray tells lawyer he did not kill MLK was was pressured into guilty plea
- 23 NYT: Ray brother assails Foreman, quotes Ray as saying he pressured him plead guilty
- 24 NYT: Foreman denies pressuring Ray
- 24 NYP: Foreman tells of film bid
- 24 NATION Editorial: Case not closed (seems regret general scepticism re lone assassins) No conspiracy in Memphis courtroom to suppress truth via 99 years
- 24 NEWSWEEK: Unsettling doubts; Ray--99 years, no explanations
- 24 NOSI: \$175,000 said offered for Ray story film rights, by Carlo Ponti to Hule, per Foreman; Jerry Ray accuses Foreman coercion of Ray; Stoner says KKK connections will be helpful to Ray's case
- 25 NYT: Deal to film Ray life story denied by Ponti's lawyer
- 25 NYP: Drew Pearson--gives reassurance was no plot, just Ray alone
- 25 NOSI: Drew Pearson--conspiracy discounted by FBI
- 25 NOSI: Report of Ray plea change, retrial, called confused
- 27 NOSI: Ray is denied a meeting with new lawyer, Richard J. Ryan

April 1969

- 1 NYT: Judge W. Preston Battle dies of heart attack; accepted Ray plea in 99-yr deal
- 1 NYT: Hule thinks Ray killed MLK for status; says in LOOK, no evidence of conspiracy; Foreman agrees; but Hanes still thinks there was a plot
- 1 NYP: Judge's death clouds Ray case; had vacation and physical check-up just before 3/10/69 hearing
- 1 NOSI: Judge in Ray case dies; new trial eyed; medical examiner (Dr. J. T. Francisco) who also did MLK autopsy says Battle died of heart attack
- 2 NYT: Hanes links Ray to files for Cuban exiles
- 2 NYP: Judges at odds on new Ray trial
- 2 Wsh.E.St: Second letter by Ray to Judge Battle is discovered; notice of intention to appeal for reversal
- 3 NYT: Letter to Editor, by Professor H.W. Ehrmann, Dartmouth College; indignant at Ray "loner" nonsense; says deal for 99 years another shameful chapter USA judicial history--an outright refusal discover the truth; court procedures Memphis, shocking
- 3 NOSI: Ray hires third lawyer to aid retrial bid; Judge Arthur Faquin, Jr., named to succeed late Judge Battle as presiding judge in Ray case; new lawyer for Ray is Richard Ryan

March 1969

- 13 NOSI: Ray quoted saying he was not alone; brother says Foreman refused to pursue any conspiracy angle
- 14 WallSt.J: Conspiracy theories in MLK, Kennedy assassinations may get new airing by new committee to investigate assassinations, led by citizens critical of the WR, accusing govt of elaborate cover-up; among directors--Garrison
- 14 NYT: Ray's brother says he is sure there was a plot to kill MLK; says there was someone else in on this deal but was hushed up by FBI; Ray has 2nd thoughts, wishes he had undergone full trial
- 14 NYT: Meeting is planned--Jack Greenberg, NAACP Legal Defense Fund, will meet on 3/17/69 with Russell X. Thompson, Memphis lawyer, who claims has evidence of a conspiracy in MLK killing
- 14 NYT Editorial: "Marketing Murder" (criticizes macabre rush of free-lancers to cash in by doing books on Ray and the "participation of defense attorneys in strange contingency fees for murder facts." Names Hanes/Huie/Foreman, says, investigation by ABA is needed)
- 14 NYP: Ray's 2nd thoughts on plea may be too late
- 15 NYT: Prosecution verified many of Ray's statements; more clothes purchases; had camera in London; moved to New Orleans
- 15 NYP: A mystery call--John McFerren, negro market-owner, overheard a Memphis businessman on phone discuss killing MLK on balcony and payment \$5000 by his brother in New Orleans; told police 4 days after killing, they discount story
- 15 NOSI (Bernard Gavser): Ray deal carefully negotiated; Mrs. King, Ramsey Clark, concurred
- 16 NYT: Co-counsel (public defender) feels Ray may have received \$\$\$ help before slaying Hugh Stanton says Ray was "dumb man" doesn't see how could be someone did not help him, at least with \$\$\$
- 16 NYT (Sidney Zien): Ray's plea--a storm of controversy over conspiracy issue
- 17 NYT: Ray judge Preston Battle says truth is hidden, doubts if trial would have produced the answers
- 17 NYT book review: Further confusion in Ray case--review of Clay Blair book
- 17 NYP: Lawyer here to unfold evidence of MLK plot; Russell X. Thompson to meet with NAACP Jack Greenberg; Mrs. King pleads again for continued investigation
- 17 NOSI: King conspiracy known, Rev. Bevel says
- 17 NEWSEEEK: Who killed MLK?
- 17 HARD Xs: FBI quietly reentered MLK murder case after Ray sentenced; agents picking up threads; trail expected lead to New Orls.
- 18 NYT: Prison no. on radio Ray left behind overlooked after MLK murdered; A new committee says evidence was ignored (press conference by Fensterwald; members his committee listed) Bevel charges lack of guard, prior knowledge by Memphis Police
- 18 NYT: Lawyer tried by Kentucky bar; critic of judge; accused 9 counts contempt
- 18 NYP: The King conspiracy theory--an analysis
- 19 NYP: Tennessee group asks probe of MLK killing, presses for investigation by a WC
- 19 NOSI: Ray to seek new hearing on MLK case plea
- 20 NYT: Ad for Clay Blair book on Ray
- 20 NYT: Ray asks review of his guilty plea

March 1969

- 1-6 Nil
- 7 WINS/CBS Radio news item 2-3 p.m. says Huntsville, Ala., paper reports James Earl Ray will plead guilty, get 99-year sentence, as only way averting death penalty
- 7 NOSI: James Earl Ray to plead guilty, Alabama newspaper says
- 8 NYT: Ray said to plan plea of guilty; deal for 99-year term hinted, would mean no chance for prosecution to present evidence of conspiracy
- 8 NOSI: Ray's hearing to be on 3/10/69; quiet on report of guilty plea
- 9 NYT: Ray must face jury trial even if he pleads guilty
- 10 NYT: Rumors in Memphis that Ray has decided plead not guilty
- 10 NYP: Cover "Ray Admits Killing MLK" Ray at hearing suddenly rose, said he did not agree with DA Canale or Foreman on "no conspiracy," Judge Battle seemed stunned
- 10 NOSI: Ray given 99 years on guilty plea; says he does not agree was no conspiracy
- 11 NYT: Editorial--Tongue-tied justice. Aborted trial Ray is shocking breach of faith with the people. Judge Battle treated whole matter as if it was a routine murder case. Nothing but outrage and suspicion can follow. Ray says publicly he does not go along with "no conspiracy." What a mockery of justice? "Unless proceedings are convened in court...we shall never know the adjudicated truth. There should be no Warren Commission necessary--a month or a year from now--to still our doubts..."
- 11 NYT: Ray admits guilt in MLK death, suggests a plot. Judge sets 99-year term. U.S. will continue inquiry but high officials do not believe was a conspiracy
- 11 NYT: Puzzlers in Ray case--Who received duplicate driver's license in his absence? Police radio report of 3 men in white Mustang? Where did he get \$15,000 or more? What motive? What about "Raoul"? How able get passport in Canada? etc.
- 11 NYT: (p.1) Transcript of Ray's remarks that he does not agree with Ramsey Clark and J. Edgar Hoover; reviews all evidence in case. Other stories same page --Change of pleas called realistic and essential. On the crime blotters, Ray was a solitary drifter
- 11 NYP: Ray and King--Is it Over? Memphis says yes, widow says no
Editorial, The case is Not Closed; Too many indications of broader conspiracy
- 11 NOSI: Ray sentenced to 99 years; doubts aired in MLK murder
- 11 NOSI: The King case--Unfortunate that the entire story has not been told
- 12 NYT: Ray starting 99 year term, assigned to maximum security section. Photo of Ray hiding face as enters State Prison Nashville. Rising speculation re plot
- 12 NYP: Ray eyewitness Chas. Q. Stephens says there was no second man. Columns by Lerner (Ray: History's loss) and H van Herne (The Assassin Within) mentions LHO
- 12 WASH. Post: Mrs. King and SCLC cleared disposition Ray case. Editorial (99 Years)
- 12 NOSI: King death conspiracy probed by Eastland's Senate Internal Security sub-committee
- 13 NYT: Several books on Ray case planned, 1st to be out next week. Lists books by Wm. Bradford Huie; Clay Blair, ex SEP; Gerold Frank (Boston Strangler) got \$100,000 advance from DDay; G.E. McMillan, free-lancer Atlanta; and J.D. Squires, Nashville newspaperman. Huie dismisses conspiracy claims by Ray.
- 13 NYP: Ray--Sorry I Pleaded Guilty. Justice Dept. also sorry Ray allowed make plea. New doubters include Eastland, Hanes, and Rep. C. C. Diggs, Jr. (D-Mich) Negro, who called on Nixon revive WC to investigate Ray/MLK case

CHRONOLOGY: MLK/James Earl Ray

April 1969

- 5 NYT: Articles on first anniversary of MLK murder
- 5 Wash.POST: Editorial, mildly calls for full disclosure ("Status of JER")
- 6 Wash.Eve.STAR: Ray and new lawyer Richard J. Ryan discuss new trial
- 8 NYT: A retrial for Ray asked in Memphis by new lawyers J.B. Stoner, R.W. Hill, R. Ryan; claim Ray was exploited, pressured by ex-lawyers
- 8 NYP: Ray signed over \$165,000 to Foreman, per new trial motion filed Memphis
- 8 WES: Ray scores lawyers in new trial petition
- 9 NYP: Ray told British detectives he acted alone, hated negroes
- 11 NOSI: Ray asks pact with Foreman be voided; writer deal also at issue; R.W. Hill, Jr., acting for Ray, asks nullification his contract with Huie
- 15 LOOK: Conspiracy or Not? Why Ray killed MLK--Huie, Hanes, Foreman opinions
- 16 NOSI: Ray hearing set for 5/26/69 (on motion for new trial)
- 17 NYT: Judge sets 5/26/69 to hear Ray plea for new trial; in civil suit, Ray charges Hanes and Huie collusion to exploit him for money reasons

MLK/James Earl Ray Chronology

May 1969

- 20 NYP: Plot to kill James Earl Ray told in phone tip to prison. State Corrections Commissioner, Harry S. Avery, Nashville, says he traced the call and identified the caller; but Director of Bureau of Criminal Identification, W.E. Hepton, says it is news to him
- 21 NYP: Ad for "The Assassin Who Gave Up his Gun" novel by E.V.Cunningham "A famous black minister and a revered world leader die...illuminates what may be the terrifying truth behind...events..."
- 22 NOSI: James Earl Ray suit alleges Foreman, Huie and Hanes violated his rights
- 23 NYT: Ray suit accuses 3 of violating his civil rights
- 26 NYP: Ray may take stand in bid for trial
- 26 NOSI: New trial for Ray is denied by Judge Arthur Faquin, on ground Ray had waived all rights
- 27 NYT: Ray fails in move for second trial, judge rules he gave up right of appeal
- 27 NYP: Ray lawyer R.J. Ryan vows new move; will take case to State Court of Appeals
- 27 NESI: Ray returned to cell after trial is denied
- 31 SR "Criminal Record": Mini-review of "Strange Case of James Earl Ray" by Clay Blair Jr.

June 1969 *

- PLAYBOY: Various items or mentions of MLK assassination
- RAMPARTS: Article by Bill Turner, "Reviewing the Ray Case"
- 1 NYT: Dismissed Tennessee aide confirms an offer to Ray. Harry Avery claims Governor admitted he was fired as State Corrections Commissioner for offer he made to Ray to place any hidden money in a trust fund

* Items during June 1969 re FBI wiretap of Martin Luther King listed in RFK/Sirhan Chronology, also in omnibus Chronology

MLK / James Earl Ray

June 1969

- 25 NYP: Wiretap dispute, Carl Rowan comments on J. Edgar Hoover and RFK/MLK
- 25 NOSI: Bail case probe opens tomorrow; Garrison intends own probe of Ward, bailbond affair
- 25 NOSI: Committee charges that Garrison ignores crime data
- 25 NOSI Editorial: Public hearing on crime urged, asks City Council be forum
- 25 NOSI: Drew Pearson on RFK and MLK wiretap affair
- 25 NOSI: Oser sworn in as Orleans district judge, thanks Garrison for opportunity
- 26 NYP: Warren--the summing up; An intimate view of Jackie by her secretary
- 26 NYP: Wm. Buckley column "The King Phone Tap"
- 26 NOSI: Garrison before jury as bribe probe opens; payment affidavits in bail case revealed
- 27 NYP: Public honor for Warren. Reagan files Goldberg's Sirhan plea. NET-TV to examine record of Warren Court
- 30 NYP: Miscellaneous items on wiretap of MLK; Warren; Finch and Knowles; Jacqueline and jewelry; Herbert Marcuse, accused of being CIA agent; EMK plans quiet European tour
- 30 HARD TIMES: Item on CIA report on ABMs (not necessary, Nixon/Kissinger hysterical)
- 30 NOSI: Charges of police brutality ruled out by Giarrusso after DA investigation; Tschombe dies in Algerian jail
- 28 NOSI: Letters to editor, re: crime, Ivor Trapolin. Editorial re Finch, Knowles. Sentencing set in perjury case of barmaid Betty Jones, in strangulation of baby-sitter, ex-cop City Hall Report, column by David Snyder, says mayoral candidate Landrieu "was positive about not endorsing DA Garrison" for re-election

July 1969

- 1 NOSI: Claim bail forfeits topped 1 million; Asst DA Numa Bertel argues 4 dismissal of case An interview with Earl Warren.
- 1 NYP: For LIFE magazine a taste of hard times. Edward J. Ennis elected chairman ACLU. Column "Hoover and RFK" by Frank Mankiewicz & Tom Braden. Item re Ramsey Clark & bugging.
- 1 LAD.HOME JOURN: Condensation of book by Mary Gallagher on Jackie Kennedy
- 3 NYP: Art Buchwald on old and new Nixons in case of Knowles. Drew Pearson, on Otto Wtepka. Profile of Jacques Levy. Editorial on Knowles. Kempton on Nixon, Frank Shakespeare.
- 3 NOSI: Garrison appeals ruling against forcing Shaw lawyers to testify vs Tom Bethell Ward seeks recusal of judge in bond case. Trapolin says crime is No. 1 social ill. Parish grand jury resumes investigation of Charles Ward bribery case. Bail case jurist has conflict of interest, US attorney Connick says.

July 1969

- 4 NOSI: 2 lawyers indicted in Charles Ward bail bond case; Garrison turns down recusal offer by federal judge in \$1 million bail bond case
- 5 NOSI: Tom M'boya assassinated on Nairobi street. Drew Pearson on Jackie and jewels. Jackie and spending.
- 5 NEW REPBL: Alexander Bickel "RFK as History" also articles on wiretapping etc (filed NR)
- 7 NOSI: Garrison bail records attacked as inaccurate by bail bond company
- 10 NOSI: Edgar Eugene Bradley files \$1.5 million libel suit vs Mark Lane, San Diego AIC and A. George Abbott, Prescott Nichols, LA Free Press and Art Kunkin, NY FP, and others
- 10 MID.MIRR: Death by suicide of LBJ cousin Bert Peck, ex-deputy sheriff Dallas fired by Bill Decker, later employed as guard by Clint Murchison
- 13 NYT: Howard Rusk on WHO report on problems of adolescents. Items on assassination of Tom Mboya; Knowles and AMA; migraine headaches; Cuba; Che; jail study in S.Africa.
- 12 NOSI: Trapolin to miss crime meeting. Mystery grows as 4th boat found crewless (London AP)
- 13 NYT: Loch Ness gremlins plague yellow submarine; oceanographer delays hunt to repair craft
- 14 NOSI: Schiro drops Trapolin panel
- 14 HARD TMS: Dallas Blues by Tom Miller, on DPs and blacks
- 15 NOSI: Charles R Ward enters race for D.A. on note of change "to restore confidence" and move away from political expediency for personal gain; tough law-and-order approach
- 16 NOSI: Apollo heads for the moon. MCC move attacks Garrison, fights vs Kohn grand jury appearance
- 17 NOSI: Crime probers hear New Orleans police detective as grand jury continues inquiry
- 18 NOSI: Russians say no Luna 15/Apollo conflict. US refuses help state bring back wanted Teamster Union official from Texas. Kohn says Garrison honored no-harrassment pledge. Kohn asked to re-appear before grand jury.
- 20 BOSTON GLOBE (Sunday): Features include Kurt Vonnegut article; huge section on moon.
- 20 Boston GLOBE: Ted Kennedy escapes, woman dies as car plunges into pond. Police seek leaving-the-scene complaint. Many pages of stories on EMK, Mary Jo Kopechne, politics
- 21 NOSI (entire issue kept): EMK charged in auto case. African arrested in Mboya murder. Apollo heroes blast off, leave moon for linkup.
- 21 NYT (entire issue): MAN WALKS ON MOON. EMK to face charge in crash for leaving site. Item on Abe Fortas, Douglas, etc. Many items on latest Kennedy disaster.
- 22 NOSI: Ted, wife offer prayers at victim's funeral. No evidence of foul play in death of Rev. A.D. Williams King, younger brother of Martin Luther King
- 23 NOSI: Kennedy's license suspended over mishap; guests said to be unaware of accident until Saturday morning.
- 24 NOSI: Opponents rip Garrison, charge Shaw case hurt crime war. Charges pend in slaying of "candidate" Clyde Johnson, killed yesterday by shotgun blast on doorstep of home of Ralph McMillan, who was arrested on open charge.
- 24 NOSI: Edgartown officials say Kennedy accident probe not ended by a long shot. Evans/Novak column "Teddy's silence dismays friends" (Also: page 1 banner headline story "Moon Men Home")

July 1969

- 25 TIME: Items on EMK car accident and death of Mary Jo Kopechne, lunar landing, Mary Calderone, Greater Philadelphia Magazine, wiretaps, Venice and AMA (filed TIME)
- 25 NYP: Ted Kennedy pleads guilty; EMK's day in court; other EMK items, also, item on Jacqueline
- 27 NYT: Review of the Ted Kennedy affair, with editorial and columns by Reston, Wicker Also item on Boston WHA ("marked by political incidents") and GOP aide found dead in car with bullet wound, no weapon found, on mysterious death of Franklin Williams
- 28 NYT: Crowd applauds as EMK leaves church
- 28 NOSI: Partin declined immunity, McKeithen offer for testimony
- 28 NOSI: Aaron Kohn is sued by bondsman in Mafia link; \$75,000 defamation suit filed by Nich Christiana
- 28 NOSI: Ted reported confining aims to U.S. Senate; 7 coed murders unsolved, no leads in latest slaying; Plot claims disputed by Manila paper; Jackie is 40; editorial on police integration
- 28 NEWSWEEK: A tragic turn for EMK, says his "closest associates are known to have been powerfully concerned over his indulgent drinking habits, his daredevil driving, and his ever-ready eye for a pretty face." (filed with magazines)
- 29 Cincinnati Enquirer: Editorial on the Kennedy Drama ("...people have been manipulated...")
- 30 NOSI: EMK attends funeral of father of Burke Marshall. Column by Mankiewica "Teddy's Ordeal is not ended"
- 30 NOSI: Dr. King's brother drinking before death; medical examiner says blood had high alcohol content. Items on Drs. Sheppard (to try professional wrestling) and Christian Barnard (divorced) and on Mariner photos of Mars
- 31 MID.MIRR: Editorial on deaths nos. 62-67: Clyde Johnson, erstwhile Baton Rouge witness for Garrison, reported beaten 2/18/69 then shot to death 7/23/69. Rev. A.D.W. King, brother of MLK, found dead in swimming pool 7/21/69. Mary Jo Kopechne, who is allegedly linked indirectly to Carole Tyler, secy to Bobby Baker, also, Robert Kerr and Herman Brown...mentions also Roy Cohn, LBK. Letter to editor anti-EMK; also item on link between HL Hunt and Edward Teller.
- 31 NOSI: Orleans can't keep Garrison for another 4 years and survive, Connick says
- 31 NOSI: Variety of items re EMK/Mary Jo Kopechne--2 Parish priests advised vs autopsy, per parents, who say also that EMK 3 days after the fatal accident was still sobbing, so broken up he could not talk; column, "Ted hurt but has chance to emerge as his own man," by Nick Thimmesch; Ted leaves political trap, by Evans/Novak; letters to editor, EMK insulted intelligence of people, his behavior was cowardly, unmanly; front page story "Won't seek presidency in '72--Ted"
- 31 NOSI: US officials invited before crime probe by Parish Grand Jury
- 31 CBS/TV News Item: Dr. Thomas Noguchi, medical examiner (coroner) Los Angeles, reinstated after finding by civil service board of insufficient evidence to sustain charges made against him
- 31 NY TIMES Editorial, "Mr. Kennedy's Response": highly critical of EMK, gaping holes in story, atmosphere of calculation, effort to escape questioning

- 1 LIFE: The fateful turn for Ted Kennedy. Grave questions about his midnight car accident. (Filed with magazines)
- 2 NYT: State superior court denies request for inquest made by DA Edmund Dinis in EMK/Mary Jo Kopechne drowning; women remember two cars at Kennedy cookout; letters to editor re EMK; other items: motorcyclist charged in slaying of coed, Michigan; and variety of items on Mars and the Moon
- 2 NYP: 2nd judge denies Ted case inquest; item on Jackie Onassis, 40th birthday; Woman in the news--Helen Tyra, probation officer for Ted; Rowland/Evans column says Richard Goodwin was uninvited by EMK (allegation subsequently retracted); same column has report on FBI Hoover refusal to testify on crime
- 2 NYP: Quiz cyclist in other six coed killings
- 2 NYP: Page feature on Ruth Gordon, mentions Jones Harris, home in Edgartown, Mass. Column on Navy rebel mentions FBI Hoover
- 2 SAT.REV: Review of RFK, A Memoir, by Jack Newfield; also, review of the Warren Court (filed with magazines)
- 3 NYT: Variety of miscellaneous items (Prisoners and Medicine, by Howard Rusk, on abuses and commercial medical research; ex-PIO at Havana contends 1962 missile crisis inflated; 50 in Saigon arrested in alleged espionage; oil industry; DD 2; ex-cop re "cooping" and two Illinois judges quit over report (of corruption)
- 3 NYT: Items on Mars, the Moon; special section on the moon
- 3 NYT: DA Dinis asks second court for Kennedy case inquest; EMK losing public esteem according to Gallup poll; Kennedy aftermath; A special kind of grief in Massachusetts.
- 4 NYT: Miscellaneous items on unmanned space probes, report by 23 scientists; pro-ABM petition signers, many from defense industries; Christian Crusade/BJ Hargis to build "college"; Fire Island enclave charged with racism; US soldiers disillusioned. Also: Moon, Mars items
- 4 NYT: Poll finds public forgiving of EMK. Bloodstains led to Michigan arrest.
- 4 NOSI: Garrison perjury case dismissed; Attorney RJ Zibilich, co-opted DA for 1 case only, has dismissed an affidavit by Dean Andrews charging Garrison with perjury
- 5 NOSI: Bonding firm ban is imposed; judges cite outstanding debt. \$637,325. forfeited bail not collected by Garrison. Garrison, Ward give bail views in backlog controversy, Ward blames priority given to probe of JFK assassination by DA
- 5 NOSI: Drew Pearson, column on EMK ("Mary Jo's face haunting memory")
- 5 NOSI: Others said involved in 7 Ann Arbor murders
- 6 NYT: Ex-commander and 7 Green Berets arrested for premeditated murder, conspiracy Ruling awaited in Kennedy/Kopechne case. Movements of Ann Arbor suspect investigated. Mariner 7 sending back Mars photos.
- 6 NYP: Green berets--a murder charge. Police chief Arena sure EMK erred on time. Mars photos. Links traced from cyclist to 5 coeds. Radio schedule/Barry Gray, Milton Helporn
- 6 NOSI: Kennedy accident inquest to be held, DA Edmund Dinis tells press.
- 6 NOSI: Serious trouble indicated for bail bond system, re Garrison/Ward/Connick; Mrs. EMK appears in public first time since accident; 8 green berets charged with murder. Gervais (Pershing) disputes Chas. Ward. EMK cancels European tour.
- 7 NYT: Inquest planned in EMK/Kopechne case. Suffolk moves to exhume body of Mafia leader. Friend of Michigan suspect is arrested. Items on Mars/moon dust samples.