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ATLANTA CABBIES REMEMBER GALT

Two Identify Sketch of Man Sought in Dr. King Case

Special to The New York Times

ATLANTA, April 16—Two Atlanta cab drivers identified today a sketch of a man believed to be Eric Starvo Galt, an elusive 36-year-old white man sought by the Federal Bureau of Investigation for questioning in the murder April 4 of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The drivers, both employed by the Atlanta Million Cab Company, said that they drove a man resembling the sketch to and from Atlanta's hippy neighborhood on the day after Dr. King was shot to death in Memphis.

F.B.I. agents, who had been trying to trace Mr. Galt for more than a week, showed the two drivers a full-face sketch of a man they did not identify. The F.B.I. refused to comment, but the sketch was apparently the same one that a rooming-house manager in Birmingham, Ala., had identified as Mr. Galt.

A similar sketch has been shown by F.B.I. agents to hundreds of persons all through the South during the last week, but so far no trace of Mr. Galt has been reported.

Driven Two Blocks

One of the cab drivers said that he picked up the man in the sketch at the corner of 10th and Peachtree Streets in Atlanta and drove him two blocks, to 12th Street, where the man suddenly asked to be let out. The shortness of the trip caused the cab driver to remember the passenger.

The other driver said that on the night of April 5 he drove the man in the sketch to the corner of 13th Street and Crescent Avenue, a block west of Peachtree Street.

After showing the sketch to the two drivers, the F.B.I. agents departed. They returned later to check records of the cab company.

The identities of the two drivers were withheld by the cab company.

1-38993 was abandoned near a housing development, Capitol Homes, in Atlanta shortly after dawn April 5.

Issued Last October

Motor vehicle officials in Alabama have said that the tag number was issued to Eric Starvo Galt last October for a 1966 white Mustang.

The car matched the description of one seen speeding from the murder scene in Memphis within minutes after a sniper had shot Dr. King from a bathroom in a rooming house near Dr. King's motel.

It is approximately 450 miles from Memphis to Atlanta by highway. Mr. Galt's Mustang was parked in Atlanta about 12 hours after Dr. King was murdered.

The car was impounded last Thursday, almost a week later, after residents of the housing development noted that the car, apparently abandoned, matched the description of the car wanted in the murder.

Says F.B.I. Sketch Differs

ATLANTA, April 16 (AP)—One of the taxi drivers said tonight that the sketch shown him by the F.B.I. differed from one he had seen in the press.

"News reports haven't shown me any sketches of anyone I've seen," the driver said. "The F.B.I. has."

The driver, who asked that his name be withheld, said that a sketch circulated in Mexico and published in many newspapers had some features of the man he picked up. However, he said: "The picture the F.B.I. have, that's the man in my cab."

"He was very neatly dressed," the driver said. "It looked as if he had had acne. It looked like little scars on his face from pimples."