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The following investigation was conducted by SA's HARLEY E. GYLFE and JOHN W. BAUER on April 18, 1968:

Mr. WILLIE GREEN, attendant, Nunley's Esso Service, 189 Linden Street, advised that on the evening of April 4, 1968, at approximately 6:00 p.m., or shortly thereafter, an individual paced back and forth in front of the telephone booth located directly in front of this station. He said this person paced back and forth as he waited to use the telephone which was being used at that time by a Negro Minister. He said this individual resembled the photographs he had seen in the newspapers of ERIC STARVO GALT. He said he had seen the pictures and then recalled this individual strongly resembled the pictures. He stated this individual, after leaving the area of the telephone booth, walked over to the Linden Lodge which is located directly across the street on Linden Street from Nunley's Esso Service. He said he does not know the name of the individual who was pacing back and forth in front of the telephone booth but is certain this individual was a white male and was registered in a room at the Linden Lodge.

Mr. GREEN stated this individual became impatient and walked up Linden Street toward Third Street and then back toward the telephone booth and again waited to use the telephone. He said shortly thereafter he walked over to the Linden Lodge, into the Lodge lobby, and he did not see this individual again. He stated he knew this was before 7:00 p.m. since due to the curfew he went home at approximately 7:00 p.m. and this individual had been pacing in front of the telephone booth prior to that time. Mr. GREEN stated he was furnishing this information inasmuch as he felt the individual he saw strongly resembled the photograph of ERIC STARVO GALT and generally fit the description as furnished by the local newspapers.

Mr. CHARLES GRIFFIN, Desk Clerk, Linden Lodge Motel, 176 Linden Street, advised he had observed photographs in the local newspapers of ERIC STARVO GALT. He stated he did not believe GALT had ever stayed at that motel.

Mr. GRIFFIN stated, however, he had a guest named LARRY KEITH registered in room 203 who had skipped his bill. He said this individual came to his mind due to the information

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published in the local newspapers concerning GALT and his working on a Mississippi River barge. Mr. GRIFFIN stated LARRY KEITH registered into this motel on March 31, 1968, and skipped his bill, possibly on April 5, 1968. He registered under the name of LARRY KEITH and furnished the address of Box 341, Boston, Georgia. He listed his occupation as being with Mississippi Valley Barge Lines but did not indicate the home office of this company. Mr. GRIFFIN stated that while LARRY KEITH was registered at the motel he made several long-distance telephone calls to area code 912 - 498-4442 which is located near Savannah, Georgia, and to area code 314 - 335-6685, which is a St. Louis, Missouri number. Mr. GRIFFIN stated that KEITH paid charges of \$11.27 on April 1, 1968, but ran up several charges subsequent to that time totaling approximately \$29, consisting of room rental at \$6 a day for the dates April 2, 3, 4, and 5, 1968, and long-distance telephone calls.

Mr. GRIFFIN stated he had not seen LARRY KEITH and could not furnish a description of this individual but suggested the night manager, Mr. BASS, be contacted since he had personal contact with LARRY KEITH.

Mr. VINTON A. BASS, 290 South Front Street, Memphis, advised he is the desk clerk at the Linden Lodge Motel, 176 Linden Street, Memphis, and works from 9:30 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. Mr. BASS stated he recalled a guest at that motel by the name of LARRY KEITH who registered into the motel on or about March 31, 1968, and skipped his bill on or about April 5, 1968. He said he had several contacts with KEITH and stated KEITH had a red moustache. Mr. BASS advised he was aware of the photographs which were recently published in the local newspapers of ERIC STARVO GALT but he did not feel LARRY KEITH resembled these photographs. He added that the general appearance of KEITH fit the description of GALT as published in the newspapers.

Mr. BASS stated he recalled that LARRY KEITH was waiting around the motel for a telephone call. He said he asked KEITH from whom he expected a call and KEITH, in turn, replied it was from Waterways Marine, Inc., concerning a job. Mr. BASS stated he then told KEITH that instead of waiting around the motel he should wait at the office of Waterways Marine, Inc., located on the Mississippi River as they have facilities and a lounge for employeess to wait in. Mr. BASS added he recalled that LARRY KEITH said he had worked as a cock

on the Mississippi River and was waiting for this type of job shortly.

Mr. J. W. GRIFFIN, owner, Linden Lodge Motel, 176 Linden Street, advised he checked LARRY KEITH of Boston, Georgia, into that motel on March 31, 1968. He said he does not recall the time of the day KEITH checked in but felt it likely around noon. Mr. GRIFFIN stated that to the best of his knowledge LARRY KEITH stayed at the motel until the evening of April 4, 1968, and it was discovered on April 5, 1968, that he had skipped his bill.

Mr. GRIFFIN stated a check of the motel registration cards indicated LARRY KEITH was employed by the Mississippi Valley Barge Lines and he, in turn, contacted this firm to determine if KEITH was, in fact, employed by this bar lines. Mr. GRIFFIN stated he was unable to determine that LARRY KEITH was at that time or had ever been an employee of this firm.

Mr. GRIFFIN stated that he had seen photographs published in the local newspaper of ERIC STARVO GALT. He said LARRY KEITH might physically resemble GALT but did not look like the picture of GALT. He stated KEITH had light colored hair and a reddish colored moustache. Mr. GRIFFIN stated he felt that LARRY KEITH and ERIC STARVO GALT were not the same individual.

Mrs. VERA SMITH, Receptionist, Waterways Marine, Inc., foot of Union Street, Memphis, advised she is not acquainted with LARRY KEITH of Boston, Georgia. She stated, however, a review of the register maintained for individuals to be hired by various firms on the Mississippi River indicated that on March 31, 1968, signed onto the Ray-A Motor Vessel as a mate. She said the Ray-A is owned and operated by the Wisconsin Barge Line of Cassville, Wisconsin. She stated since LARRY KEITH's name is in this register as of March 31, 1968, he apparently boarded this ship on March 31, 1968, and was employed as a mate on that date. Mrs. SMITH stated that according to the records of her firm, the Ray-A passed through Memphis on the Mississippi River at 3:30 a.m., March 31, 1968, and was north bound. She stated that according to the records, the next time the Ray-A went through Memphis it was south bound and this was on April 9, 1968, at 5:45 p.m.

Mr. GERALD WARD, pilot for Waterways Marine, Inc., foot of Union Street, Memphis, advised that he took supplies and a change of crew to the Ray-A at approximately 3:00 to 3:30 a.m., March 31, 1968. He stated he did not keep a record of the individuals he took out to the motor vessel but felt it was the same as registered into the log maintained by Waterways Marine, Inc. He said inasmuch as LARRY KEITH was registered in this log as a mate on the Ray-A, it is likely he took him out to the Ray-A along with two other individuals. Mr. WARD stated his records indicated three individuals reported to the Ray-A at that time.

Mr. MIKE BYBERG, Assistant Manager, Waterways Marine, Inc., foot of Union Street, Memphis, advised he recalled LARRY KEITH waiting around the office of Waterways Marine, Inc., all day of Saturday, March 30, 1968. He stated he is personally acquainted with LARRY KEITH since he talked to him on March 30, 1968. He stated he recalled seeing photographs of ERIC STARVO GALT as published in local newspapers recently. He commented that he is of the opinion that while LARRY KEITH had a similar physical description as ERIC STARVO GALT, he felt LARRY KEITH did not resemble the photograph of GALT. He stated he felt this way because KEITH had light brown hair and wore a reddish colored moustache. Mr. BYBERG stated he did not see LARRY KEITH after Saturday, March 30, 1968, and, therefore, assumes he caught some boat passing through Memphis either late Saturday, March 30, 1968, or early Sunday, March 31, 1968.

Mr. DON AUBREY, Vice President and General Manager, Island Terminal Company, and General Manager of the completely owned subsidiary of Mississippi Valley Barge Lines Company, both located at 1836 Dock Street, Memphis, advised the main office of this firm is located at St. Louis, Missouri. Mr. AUBREY advised that he contacted Mr. CATLETT, Payroll Clerk of the parent firm, Island Terminal Company, St. Louis, and Mr. CATLETT advised him that LARRY KEITH is not at the present time and never has been employed by the Mississippi Valley Barge Lines or another companies owned by Island Terminal. Mr. AUBREY stated LARRY KEITH is unknown to him and is also unknown to Mr. CATLETT.

The Atlanta Division of the FBI advised that LARRY KEITH was interviewed by Bureau Agents in Boston, Georgia, on April 18, 1968, regarding the murder of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. During the interview he furnished his name as

LARRY KEITH and stated he arrived in Memphis aboard the motor vessel Ray-A on March 29, 1968, and stayed at Waterways Marine, Inc., until the evening of March 31, 1968, when he then moved to the Linden Lodge, Memphis. KEITH stated he learned of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING's death during the evening of April 4, 1968, and after hearing the rumor that KING's murderer wore a moustache, he visited the Memphis Police Department and furnished his address and name, giving his address as the Linden Lodge.

KEITH was observed in Boston, Georgia, driving a 1968 dark blue Ford Torino GT bearing 1968 Missouri license JC2-468. Upon re-interview, KEITH admitted the theft of this car from Herff Ford, Memphis, Tennessee. He then admitted his true identity of ROBERT LEE NEWGENT.

Assistant U. S. Attorney MANLEY F. BROWN, Middle District of Georgia, Macon, Georgia, authorized prosecution and the complaint was filed on April 21, 1968, charging NEWGENT, also known as LARRY KEITH, with violation of Section 2312, Title 18, U. S. Code. He was described as follows:

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| True name | <u>ROBERT LEE NEWGENT</u> |
| Alias | <u>LARRY KEITH</u> |
| Residence | 501 North 61st Street, East St. Louis, Missouri |
| DOB | November 10, 1942 |
| POB | East St. Louis, Illinois |
| Sex | Male |
| Race | White |
| Height | 6'2" |
| Weight | 210 |
| Hair | Curly and reddish colored |
| Eyes | Blue |
| Complexion | Ruddy |
| Build | Heavy |
| Scars and marks | Operation scars on both ankles. |