

# Search for Assassin Turns South of the Border

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (UPI) — The search for the killer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., extended to Mexico today. Police sought a man who obtained a Mexican visitor's

permit here the day before the civil rights leader was slain.

A hitchhiker, fitting the description of the assassin, was picked up in Joplin, Mo.,

Tuesday night but police said the suspect had all but cleared himself.

The Memphis Commercial Appeal, in a front page copyrighted story today, said con-

spirators may have faked a series of police radio calls to confuse authorities after King was shot.

The story, written by George Bryan, said police ra-

dio reports of a car chase involving a white Mustang automobile apparently were faked.

"Could someone have used a transmitter tuned to the police frequency to put out misleading information — information which would take the focus of the search north from

the city and open up escape routes . . . into Arkansas or south into Mississippi?" the story asked.

The newspaper said seven transmissions were heard over the Memphis police radio system about the chase shortly after King was slain. The messages told of a speeding

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Mustang pursued by a blue Pontiac. The reports said shots were fired at the Pontiac from the Mustang.

A conspiracy in the murder of King was denied last week by Attorney General Ramsey Clark.

In Mexico City local police were working today with agents of the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation to locate a man, fitting the assassin's description, who obtained a visitor's permit the day before King was killed.