

9 Apr 68

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Arrest Lead A109

JOPLIN, Mo. AP - A hitch-hiker arrested and booked for vagrancy was questioned by the FBI Tuesday night in connection with the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Joplin police said.

Detective Capt. Walter Flenner said the man bore a slight resemblance to a nationally broadcast description and a penciled portrait of the man sought by the FBI in the slaying last Thursday.

Police said they picked up the hitch-hiker on U. S. 71 in Joplin on a tip by a woman at a motel. He told police he had been in Springfield, Mo., and was trying to hitch a ride to Tulsa, Okla.

The man identified himself as Lynn R. Cleveland, 33, a Baptist evangelist from St. Louis, and said he was a native of Palmer, Tex.

Police said he carried several religious pamphlets from Ozark, Ala., Harrison, Ark., and Memphis. Police in Memphis said they did not know of the man and had no hold order for him. St. Louis police said he had no record there.

NO PICKUP

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