S.F. CHRONSLE

Mystery in Sketch of King's Killer

Memphis, Tenn.

The FBI is withholding nationwide distribution of a composite drawing of Dr. Martin Luther King's assassin, police sources said yesterday.

"They haven't given us anything but a physical description," said one police official.

"They aren't handing out pictures of the man. They either don't have a good one, or they're going it alone."

BAN

The official asked that his name not be used, citing the FBI's ban on comment about the investigation.

The sketch prepared by a newspaper artist from the description given at the slaying was not released — nor endorsed — by the FBI.

Residents of the Memphis rooming house from which Dr. King was shot April 4 reported last week that investigators had shown them composite drawings. But they said the sketches were the same — or at least very similar — as those prepared by newspaper artists.

FBI officials rejected reporters' requests for a composite drawing of the man they are seeking in what perhaps in the most massive manhunt of modern times. They refuse to say whether they have prepared such a sketch.

DESCRIPTION

Agents have a good physical description of the King assassin: 30 to 32 years old, 5 feet, 10 inches tall, weighing 165 pounds, with a receding hairline and a long, thin nose.

A impounded white Mustang license tags issued in Birmingham, Ala., to Eric Starvo Galt, 37, who identified himself as an unemployed merchant' seaman when he applied for an Alabama driving license last year.

At almost the same moment last week that they were impounding the car in Atlanta, the FBI sent over the Florida teletypewriter circuit a request to locate Galt. The message was withdrawn four hours later with the explanation it was erroneous. The FBI refuses to say why it was seeking Galt. Associated Press