

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 16, 1968

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In response to a telephonic request received at 9:31 a.m. from JIMMIE DELTON GARNER, he was interviewed in front of his restaurant located at 1052 Northside Drive, Northwest, Atlanta, Georgia.

GARNER opened the conversation by stating "Lee is not Galt." He then made available the registration records for his rooming house. It was again noted these records do not reflect a registration in the name of GALT. At the same time, GARNER produced an envelope bearing the printed name "Eric S. Galt." GARNER said this name was printed thereon by GALT when GARNER requested his full name. Other handwritten notations thereon were, according to GARNER, prepared by himself.

GARNER stated that subsequent to a prior interview, he had been searching his records and his memory and had now determined that on March 24, 1968, late in the evening, an individual knocked on his apartment door, introduced himself as Mr. GALT, and requested a single room.

He was placed in Room Number 2, 113 14th Street, Northeast, Atlanta, Georgia, on noting that the room was small, was offered an adjoining storage room in which to place his surplus belongings. At this point, GALT remarked he would be able to utilize a desk in the storage room for his television set.

GARNER did not see GALT unload his automobile or bring his possessions into the room. He next saw GALT on March 31, 1968, at which time the rent was due and GALT made the statement, "I may as well pay you for another week." This was between 1:00 and 2:30 p.m.

On April 5, 1968, GARNER entered the room at approximately 11:00 a.m. to change the linens. At this time, he found a note on the bed written on a piece of cardboard, believed by him to be a laundry shirt backing, which stated in effect "I've had to go to Birmingham. I've left my TV set here and will try to return for it in

On 4/15/68 at Atlanta, Georgia File# Atlanta 44-2386

SA ROGER L. KAAS and
SA JOHN E. OGDEN :bjc

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about a week." He does not recall whether the note was printed or written and destroyed it by throwing it in the trash immediately.

GARNER described GALT as a white male, 33 to 35 years of age, approximately six feet tall, slender build, black hair, worn very short with possibly a part on the side.

GARNER had previously noted GALT to be utilizing a light colored, possibly white, automobile and on the morning of April 15, 1968, telephonically contacted Mr. HAROLD WATERS, Room Number 1, 107 14th Street, Northeast, as this automobile was parked near WATERS, at which time he asked WATERS generally if he recalled the make of car and WATERS advised him it was a late model Mustang, possibly 1966 or 1967.

GARNER estimated his total contact with GALT on both occasions did not exceed one-half hour. He stated on both occasions GALT was neatly dressed in a dark suit, white shirt, and tie. He characterized him as looking like a preacher.

The inconsistencies in the information previously furnished by GARNER and the foregoing were thoroughly discussed with him and he could attribute it only to "being confused", in that he had erroneously associated the name GALT with the roomer, WILLIAM LEE, about whom he had furnished the information.

At this time, GARNER made available a three page memorandum in his handwriting which chronologically sets forth his association with GALT. The envelope previously referred to, furnished by GARNER, on which GALT wrote his name, also contained the notation "Could do several different kinds of work." This note was prepared by GARNER.

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GARNER stated he made this notation during his initial contact with GALT, at which time he asked his usual questions of new roomers about their line of work. He said he inadvertently failed to record the information on the envelope in his permanent records. GARNER added that at the time of renting the room, he received a \$1.00 key deposit from GALT and the key was left with the note on the bed by GALT.

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JIMMIE DELTON GARNER was interviewed in the office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, 275 Peachtree Street, Northeast, Atlanta, Georgia, after voluntarily accompanying SAs ROGER L. KAAS and HARRY L. LEE from his place of business, 1052 Northside Drive, Northwest, Atlanta, Georgia. At this time, GARNER stated that he was aware of the discrepancies in the information furnished by him but insisted it was due solely to the confusion which existed in his mind in erroneously relating the name GALT with his roomer, WILLIAM LEE.

He stated he had no reason for telling the Agents that he had no items in his possession which belonged to GALT, when, in fact, he was holding a television set, other than the confusion previously referred to.

In determining the individuals in each of the rooming houses operated by him (107 14th Street, Northeast, Atlanta, Georgia) who may have been in a position to observe GALT, he advised that at the time of renting to GALT, there was no other occupant in this building.

He stated he had closed 113 14th Street on February 11, 1968; after the neighborhood hippies attempted to take it over.

He admitted that he had two double rooms vacant at the time GALT applied for a room and that he had previously rented these for the price of a single room, but GALT insisted on a single room, so he decided to open the other rooming house. He admitted it cost him more to do this than he would receive initially in rent, but that he had been planning to open it, as the other house was filling up.

On 4/15/68 at Atlanta, Georgia File # Atlanta 44-2386
 by SA HARRY L. LEE and
SA ROGER L. KAAS RLK:bjc Date dictated 4/16/68

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GALT remained the sole occupant of this building until April 1, 1968, at which time FRED C. JONES was placed in Room Number 1.

In continuing to question GARNER as to why he had denied holding property for GALT, he finally admitted that it had been his policy in the past to retain for 30 days possessions left behind by roomers, then to claim them as his own, and it was his intention to do this with the television set.

GARNER specifically denied that he had previously known GALT, that GALT had been referred to him by anyone, that he had accepted an extra amount of money from GALT for any reason, or that he had any knowledge concerning his present whereabouts.

GARNER stated that he was born and raised in Mississippi, was a member of the Baptist Church, and was "not a Communist." He denied having any knowledge of the John Birch or other right wing organizations, stating he had joined only one organization which name he could not now recall, but described by him as a civic organization.

He reiterated that it had always been his intention to cooperate with the FBI and that he had, in fact, that morning given the address and telephone number of his restaurant to a roomer, Mr. BURGESS, where he could be reached should GALT return for the television set. He stated he did this so he could immediately notify the FBI of GALT's return.

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Mr. JIMMIE DELTON GARNER observed the below identified photographs which were displayed in a rectangular form as indicated below:

First Row

1. ROGER DEAN UNDERHILL
2. GEORGE GORDON
3. FRANK S. DE NIGRIS

Second Row

4. JAMES A. MARTIN
5. DANIEL JESS GOLDMAN
6. ERIC STARVO GALT

Third Row

7. FRED HULLIS
8. DOUGLAS WALTER TROTTER
9. CHARLES WILLIAM HAVENS

Upon viewing them GARNER unhesitatingly picked up the photograph of ERIC STARVO GALT stating, "This is the best I've seen, if it isn't GALT, it sure looks like him." GARNER was reluctant to make a more positive identification, but said he felt this was a photograph

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On 4/17/68 at Atlanta, Georgia File # Atlanta 44-2386

by SA ROGER L. KAAS
SA JOHN E. GORDON RLK:sja Date dictated 4/17/68

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of the man who had rented Room Number 2 at 113 Fourteenth Street, NE, Atlanta, Georgia, from him under the name ERIC S. GALT. The photographs were displayed to GARNER in his room located at 107 Fourteenth Street, NE, Atlanta, Georgia with only GARNER and SAs JOHN E. OGDEN and ROGER L. KAAS present. At the time no indication was given him as to which photograph was GALT or the status of the investigation then being conducted.

Subsequent to the identification GARNER provided the following signed statement:

"April 17, 1968

"I, JIMMIE D. GARNER, furnish the following voluntary statement to ROGER L. KAAS and JOHN E. OGDEN who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. No threats or promises have been made or offered to cause me to make this statement

"I have this date been shown a group of nine photographs which were laid out on a chair in my room at 107 14th Street, NE, Atlanta, Ga. No hint or suggestion was made to me by these agents concerning any of the photographs on display, and I was asked only whether I recognized any of their persons depicted in these photographs.

"From this group I have selected one photograph which closely resembles the man who rented a room from me at 113 Fourteenth Street, NE, under the name of ERIC S. GALT. When I selected

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this photograph I told the agents, "If this isn't GALT, it sure looks like him". I have identified the photograph I selected by placing my initials on the back thereof.

"/s/ JIMMIE D. GARNER

"Witnessed: JOHN E. OGDEN, Special Agent, FBI
Atlanta, Ga.

ROGER L. KAAS, Special Agent, FBI
Atlanta, Ga."

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2. Interview of Other Tenants

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HENRY H. WATERS, Apartment 1, 107 14th Street, Atlanta, advised he is not acquainted with any other tenants in this building other than MC DONALD, the plumber, who lives in Room 2 at this address, and he is not acquainted with any residents of the building located at 113 14th Street.

WATERS was asked if he recalled a white Mustang which may have been parked at the rear of 107 14th Street or 113 14th Street, and he stated he recalled this car well since the owner of this car always parked in such a manner he would use up about three parking spots. WATERS stated there was a shallow ditch between the parking areas at the rear of 107 14th Street and 113 14th Street, and the individual who drove this white Mustang generally parked at the rear of 113 14th Street parallel to this ditch rather than heading into the ditch and in this manner utilized about three parking spots. WATERS said this irritated him since parking space was so short and he would have mentioned it to Mr. GARNER, but GARNER was sick at the time and he did not bother him with it. WATERS said if he had ever seen the driver of this white Mustang, he would have mentioned it to him directly, but he had never seen the driver of this Mustang. He stated he knew there was an out of state plate on this car, but did not recall the state and said it might have been white with black letters. WATERS said he always checked license plates of strange cars parked behind these two houses since roomers generally have out of state cars and local license plates generally belong to people who have no business parking in this area. For that reason he was able to recall that this white Mustang had an out of state license plate on it.

WATERS was asked at what time of the day he generally recalled this car being parked at the rear of 113 14th Street and he said he was only aware at the times when he returned from work about 5:00 p.m. He estimated that this car was in this area for about 2 weeks and he believes it was about 2 weeks since he had last seen this car.

WATERS was unable to identify anyone in the neighborhood by description or artist's composite photograph who might have been identical with the individual believed to have used the name GALT.

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On 4/15/68 at Atlanta, Georgia File# AT 44-2386
 by SA STEPHEN L. HALPIN and SA RAYMOND J. MICHEL SLH:swo Date dictated 4/17/68

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3. Search of GALT's Room

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On April 15, 1968, Mr. JAMES D. GARNER, operator of the rooming house located at 113 - Fourteenth Street, N.E., advised that the small room located at the rear of Room No. 2 was utilized by ERIC S. GALT. He said GALT's rent had expired and that GALT had not returned to claim any of his belongings.

GARNER voluntarily unlocked the door to this room and explicitly stated he had no objections to Agents searching this small room off of Room No. 2.

With the consent of GARNER, this room was searched and the removal of the below-listed articles was conducted in GARNER's presence and he observed and identified each item taken..

The following list of articles were taken from the small room as indicated above, from the locations as follows:

On Top of the Desk in the Room

- 1) Booklet "What is the John Birch Society?"
- 2) A Gulf Oil Company map of Atlanta
- 3) An Arrow map of Greater Atlanta
- 4) Box of Nabisco saltine crackers
- 5) A Jar of French's mustard
- 6) One coffee cup
- 7) One water glass
- 8) A small can of Carnation evaporated milk
- 9) Jar of Maxwell House instant coffee

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On 4/15/68 at Atlanta, Georgia File # Atlanta 44-2386
 by SAs HARRY L. LEE, JOHN G. SULLIVAN,
ROGER L. KAAS, JOHN E. OGDEN - HLL:sja/lcc Date dictated 4/17/68

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- 10) One box of "C & H" sugar
- 11) One knife
- 12) One pencil, National's Citation
- 13) One wire electric cup water heater
- 14) One portable Zenith television

Behind the Desk

Found behind the desk was a booklet "Your Opportunities in Locksmithing."

Found in the left-hand drawer of the desk were the following items:

- 1) A jar of Kraft's Catalina French dressing
- 2) Package of golden grain California lima beans
- 3) Can of "Iris" ground black pepper
- 4) Box of five National's Citation pencils
- 5) A Gulf map of Southeastern USA
- 6) A Shell map of Texas and Oklahoma
- 7) A map of Mexico
- 8) A city of Los Angeles published by Mitock and Sons
- 9) A map of Los Angeles
- 10) A Shell map of Louisiana
- 11) A map of California
- 12) An Enco map of Arizona and New Mexico

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13) A Standard Oil map of Birmingham and vicinity

Each of these items was identified in order that the items might be forwarded to the Laboratory for examination.

During this search, GARNER observed and identified each article taken.

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On April 15, 1968, the items obtained with the consent of Mr. JOHN D. GARNER, Manager of the rooming house located at 113 14th Street, Atlanta, Georgia, were transported to the FBI Laboratory in Washington, D. C., by SA JOHN G. SULLIVAN.

Transportation to Washington, D. C., was via Delta Airlines Flight 338 departing Atlanta at 11:45 p.m. on April 15, 1968.

Delta Flight 338 was met at Friendship Airport by SA JOHN PATTERSON at 1:40 a.m. on April 16, 1968. SA SULLIVAN was transported via Bureau car to the FBI Laboratory in Washington, D. C., where pertinent items were turned over to Bureau Supervisor FREDERICK WALLACE.

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On 4/15-16/68 at Atlanta, Georgia File# Atlanta 44-2386

by SA JOHN G. SULLIVAN :bjc Date dictated 4/18/68

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C. RECORDS CHECKS AND OTHER INQUIRIES
CONDUCTED IN GEORGIA TO IDENTIFY GALT.

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1. Airlines

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During the period April 12 through 15, 1968,
SA CHARLES S. HARDING caused a check to be made of
Delta Airlines, Atlanta, Georgia, Computer Records,
with negative results for the dates April 4, 5, 6, 9,
10, or 11, 1968.

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2. Birth

72

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AGS:lcs

1

IC MARION W. DAVIS, during the period April 8-10, 1968, ascertained that records of the Georgia State Bureau of Vital Statistics, Atlanta, Georgia, were negative.

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3. Banks

74

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AGS/th

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On April 15 and 16, 1968, SA JAMES J. DOLAN telephonically contacted all banks reflected on pages 145-147 of the classified section of the current Atlanta Telephone Directory with negative results regarding opening or closing of safe deposit box subsequent to March 15, 1968.

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AGS:bjc

1

SA MARION E. CHEEK and SA TRAVIS L. LYNCH on April 16, 1968, contacted all banks in the general area of 14th and Peachtree Streets, Northeast, Atlanta, Georgia, with negative results for information regarding a checking account, savings account, loan account, charge account, or issuance of a cashiers check during the recent past with negative results.

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4. City and Telephone Directories

77

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AGS:lcs

1.

During the period April 8-10, 1968, a review was made of available Telephone and City Directories for major communities in each of the 116 counties covered by the Atlanta office with negative results.

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AGS:lcs

1

A review on April 10, 1968, by SA ALAN G. SENTINELLA of the current Atlanta Telephone Directory, Atlanta City and Suburban Directories for the years 1966, 1967, and 1968 was negative.

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5. Credit and Arrest

80

AT 44-2386

AGS:lcs

1

IC MARION W. DAVIS ascertained during the period April 8-10, 1968, that records of the following agencies were negative:

Credit Bureau of Atlanta, Inc.
Atlanta, Georgia

Atlanta Police Department, Identification Division
Atlanta, Georgia

Atlanta Police Department, Station Captain's Office
Atlanta, Georgia

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AT 44-2386

AGS:lcs

1

During the period April 8-10, 1968, records of Credit Bureaus, Police Departments, and/or Sheriff's Offices for major communities in each of the 116 counties covered by the Atlanta Office were caused to be checked with negative results.

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6. Car Rentals

83

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AGS/th

1

SA ROBERT R. PERRY on April 11, 1968 contacted car rental agencies in Atlanta for rentals subsequent to April 5, 1968 with negative results.

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7. Drivers Licenses

85

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AGS/th

1

SA JOHN E. OGDEN on April 11, 1968 checked records of the Georgia State Drivers License Bureau with negative results.

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8. Dancing Schools

87

AT 44-2386

AGS:bjc

1

SAs ROBERT K. LEWIS and SCOTT T. FENSTERMAKER, during the period April 21 through 15, 1968, ascertained from the operators of all dancing schools in the Atlanta area that they did not have and had not recently had a student enrolled by a pertinent name.

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9. Hotels

89

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AGS:bjc

1

SA CHARLES T. HAYNES and SA JAMES JOSEPH DOLAN
on April 12, 1968, checked all low and middle class
hotels in the City of Atlanta with negative results for
a current or recent guest by a pertinent name.

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10. Immigration and Naturalization Service

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AGS:bjc

1

On April 11, 1968, Miss CAROLINE AMONS, Clerk,
United States Immigration and Naturalization Service,
Atlanta, Georgia, advised SA JAMES J. ROSE she could
not locate a record for ERIC K. C. GAULT.

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11. Laundries

93

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AGS:bjc

1

During the period April 9 through 11, 1968, inquiry was made of all laundries in the Greater Atlanta area, as listed on Pages 460 through 462 of the current Atlanta Classified Telephone Directory, with negative results regarding use of a Thermo Seal marking machine which had produced a marking tag appearing to read "02B-6" or "D2B-6".

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AGS:bjc

1

During the period April 9 through 11, 1968, inquiry was made of all laundries listed in the current Classified Telephone Directory for major communities in each of the 116 counties covered by the Atlanta Office with negative results regarding use of a Thermo Seal marking machine which had produced a marking tag appearing to read "O2B-6" or "D2B-6".

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AT 44-2386

AGS:bjc

1

On April 16, 1968, SAs CHARLES PAUL ROSE and ROBERT MICHAEL KANE contacted all laundries in the Peachtree Street - 14th Street, Northeast, Atlanta, area, other than the Piedmont Laundry Pickup Station, 1168 Peachtree Street, Northeast, with negative results.

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12. Library

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AGS:lcs

1

On April 12, 1968, Miss EUGENIA SPARROW, Assistant Librarian, Atlanta Public Library, advised SA ALAN G. SENTINELLA this library did not maintain a list of the names of individuals to whom library cards are issued. Miss SPARROW reviewed her records pertaining to lost library cards and overdue books without locating a pertinent name.

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13. Motels

99

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AGS:bjc

1

SAs CHARLES F. ROESENER and JOHN M. PALFI on April 12, 1968, checked all motels in the Atlanta area, as listed on Pages 509 through 514 of the Classified Section of the current Atlanta Telephone Directory, with negative results for a current or recent guest having a pertinent name.

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14. Public Utilities

101

AT 44-2386

AGS:lcs

1

Mrs. B. SUTHERLAND, Customer Service Department, Atlanta Gas Light Company, advised SA ALAN G. SENTINELLA on April 12, 1968, that neither gas service nor electric service had been obtained since March 15, 1968 by an individual using a pertinent name.

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15. Motor Vehicle Bureau

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