

RE: POSSIBLE SUSPECT REPORTED OBSERVED  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, BY JOHN CHANEY  
AND WILLIE CHAMBLESS. SUSPECT  
IDENTIFIED AS RONALD WILLIAM WALKER,  
ALSO KNOWN AS RONNIE

JOHN CHANEY, Negro male, 803 North Union Circle, Montgomery, Alabama, on April 7, 1968, advised that he had seen the artist's conception of the person who killed Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING and he believes that this person was at Montgomery, Alabama, March 26, 1968. He said that he and WILLIE CHAMBLESS had observed this man who was drinking wine with a group of Negroes on the street. The man in question had said that he was going to Memphis, Tennessee, that night. CHANEY described this individual as a white male, age 30-32, weight 170-175 pounds, height 5'9", complexion ruddy, hair brown-gray, bushy and combed back with receding hairline in front, gold or silver tooth upper left front.

WILLIE L. CHAMBLESS advised on April 7, 1968, that he was with JOHN CHANEY on March 26, 1968, when they observed a Negro male drinking wine on the street with a group of unidentified Negroes. He said he bought a small bag from this individual for \$1.00. He said he had seen a sketch of the person who reportedly had killed Dr. KING and the individual appeared to be identical with the person in the drawing. He described the man as being 39-40 years of age, 5'9", 180 pounds, gray eyes, and ruddy complexion.

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent JOHN C. McCLUNEY at Montgomery, Alabama:

On April 8, 1968, JOHN CHANEY, 803 North Union Circle, upon re-interview reported as follows:

He had made inquiry and had learned from "ROOSTER" (LAST NAME UNKNOWN), who resides in Tulane Courts at Montgomery, that "ROOSTER" had been with a white male on Monroe Street in Montgomery, Alabama, on March 26, 1968. "ROOSTER" stated that the white male who sold the bag to WILLIE CHAMBLESS had given his name as RONNIE (LAST NAME

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UNKNOWN). He also stated that he had been in the Merchant Marines. On March 26, 1968, RONNIE had told "ROOSTER" that a companion had been arrested earlier that day at Montgomery, Alabama.

Recontacts were made with CHANEY on April 9, 1968, and April 10, 1968. He was unable to furnish the full and correct name of "ROOSTER" or to furnish the address of "ROOSTER."

On April 8, 1968, ROBERT STRICKLAND, City Jail, furnished his book reflecting the following:

On March 26, 1968, RONALD W. WALKER, white, was booked at the jail at 7:15 p.m. Booked at 7:20 p.m. was THOMAS L. SCOTT, Negro.

WALKER was released on March 31, 1968. He was again booked on April 2, 1968, for drunk and was released on April 7, 1968.

On April 8, 1968, J. S. BALINT, Bureau of Identification, Montgomery Police Department, produced his records which reflected the following:

On March 26, 1968, RONALD WILLIAM WALKER, #136115, was arrested for drunk. He was arrested by C. L. KING and JOE RODGERS. He was again arrested under #136163 on April 2, 1968, for drunk.

WALKER is a white male, born June 8, 1930, Springhill, West Virginia, 5'11", 170 pounds, blue eyes, blond hair, medium build and 1½" scar on forehead. His father is HOMER WALKER, Route 1, Box 246A, Culloden, West Virginia. The address given for RONALD WILLIAM WALKER was Culloden, West Virginia.

THOMAS LARRY SCOTT, FBI [REDACTED], was last arrested on March 26, 1968, for drunk. His residence was shown as 609 Hill Street, Montgomery, Alabama.

On April 8, 1968, W. E. THOMAS, employed by the City Street Department, City of Montgomery, reported as follows:

He has supervision of the trusties who are serving jail sentences. For this reason he had supervision and work details of RONALD WALKER who was released on April 1, 1968. THOMAS described WALKER as a white male, about 38 to 40, 6', 170 or 180 pounds. He had a definite receding hairline in front which hair was thick on the side. His hair was sandy blond, not gray but had the appearance of being gray. He stood very erect and walked with a large stride. He wore cowboy boots. His nose was long and pointed and he had a narrow bridge. He stated he had been in the Merchant Marines.

On April 8, 1968, Officer C. L. KING, Montgomery Police Department, reported as follows:

He arrested RONALD WALKER and THOMAS SCOTT on March 26, 1968. He was accompanied by Officer JOE RODGERS. SCOTT and WALKER were arrested on Monroe Street near Court Street at Montgomery. Both were drunk.

KING recalled that WALKER was wearing levi type bluejeans, 7" boots and a blue plaid shirt.

On April 8, 1968, THOMAS L. SCOTT, 609 Hill Street, reported as follows:

He was with RONALD WALKER in the late afternoon of March 26, 1968, along Monroe Street, at Montgomery, Alabama. He started drinking with WALKER about 4:30 p.m. in the vicinity of Lawrence and Monroe Streets. They were arrested at about 7:15 p.m. on Monroe Street near Court Street. He recalled that WALKER sold a small black bag and clothes to an unidentified Negro in the vicinity of Lawrence and Monroe Streets an hour or two before the arrest of WALKER and SCOTT.