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A Change In Slaying Theory

Dayton, Ohio

Suggestions of a possible conspiracy in connection with the slaying of Mrs. Martin Luther King Sr. began to break down yesterday.

Walter E. Brooks, a friend of Marcus Wayne Chenault, who is accused of killing Mrs. King, retracted his statement that he and Chenault were members of an organization called "The Troop."

Brooks was quoted Tuesday in the Dayton Journal Herald as saying that he and his 23-year-old companion, now being held in Atlanta without bond on murder charges, belonged to a group with the purpose of killing black ministers and civil rights leaders. He was quoted in the same publication yesterday as making the denial.

Also, police here were placing less emphasis on the possibility of conspiracy and were tending to conclude that Chenault had acted alone.

New York Times
