

NYTimes JUL 4 1974

Hints of Conspiracy in Slaying Of Mrs. King Reported Fading

Special to The New York Times

SAYTON, Ohio, July 3—Sug-
gestions of a possible con-
spiracy in connection with the
slaying of Mrs. Martin Luther
King Sr. began to break down
today.

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

Mr. Brooks was quoted yes-
terday 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, be-
longed to a group with the pur-
pose of killing black ministers
and civil rights leaders. He
was quoted in the same publi-

cation today as making the
denial.

Also, the police here were
placing less emphasis on the
possibility of a conspiracy and
were tending to conclude that
Mr. Chenault had acted alone.
Agents of the Federal Bureau
of Investigation have ques-
tioned dozens of persons but
have made no arrests. Officials
of the bureau would not com-
ment on arrest possibilities.

The Dayton police superin-
tendent, Tyree Broomfield, said
there was no evidence to link
the Atlanta incident to the
fatal shooting of two black
ministers here over the last
two months. He said that
Dayton police wanted to ques-
tion Mr. Chenault about the
incidents here but that this
was a routine matter.