

Robert Hansen

“The Alaskan Killer”

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Background

- Robert Christian Hansen (Also known as: Bob, The Alaskan Killer, and The Butcher Baker)
- Date of birth: Feb. 15, 1939 - Estherville, Iowa
- Place and Date of death: August 21, 2014 (aged 75) Anchorage, Alaska



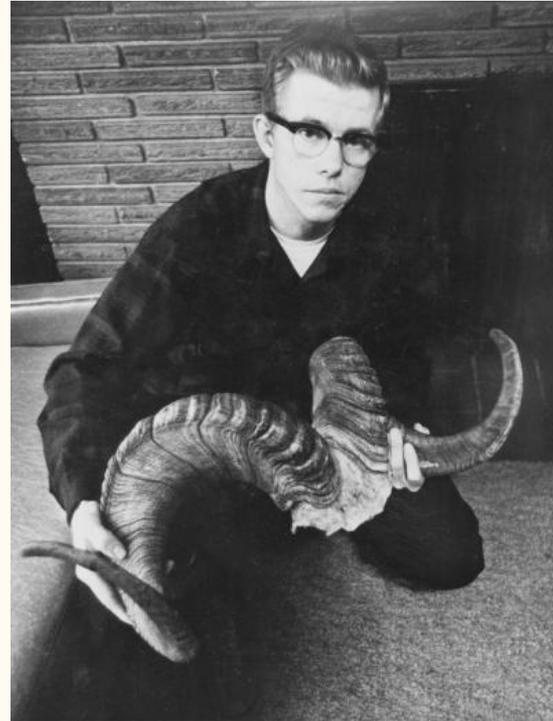
Suspect's Behavior

Bullied throughout the years in school:

- Pretty girls shunned him so he grew up hating them
- Fantasized about cruel revenge on bullies
- Quiet and a loner; no close friends
- Difficult relationship with father

Psychological Profile:

- Developing serial killer
- Infantile personality



Timeline of Events

1939- Date of Birth

1960- Set fire to school bus garage burning 3 of 7 buses; served 20 months

1973 through 1983- Many victims went missing/found dead. Robert Hansen was a suspect.

June 1983- Victim escaped Hansen and reported it to the police.

October 1983- Investigators got a warrant to search Hansen's home; found many firearms

1984- Pled guilty to 4 murders

February 1984- Confessed to murdering 17 women; sentenced 461 years plus life without parole

2014- Died

Events Leading Up To Crimes

- Arrested for drawing a gun on a Spenard woman at a stoplight (Nov. 1971)
- Arrested for kidnapping and raping an 18 year old prostitute - sentenced to 5 years in jail but got out early; stayed only from March to June. Got assigned to a halfway house in June until November
- First night free from halfway house, he went down to 4th avenue in Anchorage, cruised the area watching prostitutes and fantasizing about capturing them again.
- Since 1980, 6 topless dancers went missing from Anchorage clubs
- September 13, 1982: female body discovered (in shallow grave by Knik River) shot with a .223 caliber bullet (casing found nearby)

Details Of The Crimes

- Kidnapped and raped women
- Main target was prostitutes and topless dancers (women)
- He would fly his private plane and take the victims to his cabin in Knik River
- He would then release the women in the wilderness to hunt them, killing them with a hunting knife or a .223 caliber 14 Mini Rifle



How He Was Found

On June 13, 1983, a prostitute named Cindy Paulson went to the police and identified Robert Hansen as the man who had raped and kidnapped her. Hansen denied the accusations and was not considered a serious suspect. Detective Glenn Flothe from the Alaska State Troopers police contacted the FBI and requested help after a body was found. Roy Hazelwood was brought in to assist the investigation.

Hazelwood theorized that the killer would be an experienced hunter with low self-esteem, have a history of being rejected by women and would feel compelled to keep "souvenirs" of his murders. Detective Flothe and the police secured a warrant and searched Hansen's house on October 27, 1983. They uncovered jewelry belonging to the victims, newspaper clippings about the murders and an array of firearms, including a .223-caliber Mini-14 rifle.

Evidence

- ID's and jewelry of missing/dead women
- Aviation map marked off with specific locations
- .223 caliber mini-14 rifle (most important evidence)
- Winchester 12 gauge shotgun
- Remington 552 rifle
- Thompson contender 7 mm single-shot pistol



.223 mini-14 caliber rifle

Technology

- Since these crimes, DNA profiling was discovered (1986)
- DNA profiling would have given investigators a greater chance in catching Robert Hansen in the 1970's

The Trial

The Prosecution - Robert Hanssen was arrested and charged with assault, kidnapping, multiple weapons offenses, theft and insurance fraud. When ballistics tests returned a match between bullets found at the crime scenes and Hansen's rifle, he pled guilty to four homicides that the police knew about and gave details about his other victims in return for serving his sentence in a federal prison and no publicity in the press. He showed investigators 17 gravesites in the Knik River Valley, 12 of which were unknown to the police. 11 remains of a probable 21 victims were exhumed by the police and returned to their families. Hansen was sentenced to 461 years in prison.

The Defense - There was no defense since Hansen plead guilty.

Our Opinion

In our opinion, we find him guilty too because he hunted down women for the fun of it like it was a kind of sick game, and we agree with his sentence because 461 years plus life in prison meant that he was not going to get out. But, what we would have done differently is put him on death row or something.