

Man's Name Is Frank Wetzel, Aged 36, And Search For Him Is Intensified Over Nation

Here is Picture of Murderer Frank Wetzel



FBI This Thursday Released Information That This Man Escaped from Asylum in New York on October 21, 1957. He is the man who killed Patrolmen W. L. Reece and James Brown on Nov. 5th. Wetzel is 5.10 tall, weighs 160, blue eyes, brown hair, and a scar on right side of his upper lip.

Warrant Sworn Out at Rockingham This Thursday Afternoon for the Man That the FBI Asserts is the Murderer.

At 1:15 this Thursday afternoon the news was flashed over WAYN radio teletype and the wires from the Charlotte office of the FBI that the identify of the murderer of Patrolman W. L. Reece is known.

The man is an escaped mental case, having escaped in late October from the State Asylum at Willard, New York. He is Frank Edward Wetzel, aged 36, and a known killer and insane.

The last trace of the murderer was in Kentucky. A nation-wide alert has been sounded for his apprehension. And the FBI and all law agencies are on the alert.

This Thursday afternoon a formal Warrant was sworn out for Frank Wetzel at the office of the Clerk of Court here at Rockingham. He may be declared an outlaw and a fugitive from Justice—and this may mean that he will never be captured alive. He is a killer and when he is cornered it will be a case of who shoots first—and it is hoped the officers will be on top.

The murderer killed Patrolman W. L. Reece at Ellerbe about 7:50 p.m. Nov. 5, 1957, and an hour later killed another Patrolman, James Brown, eight miles from Sanford. He escaped the road blocks set up by the Highway Patrol, and wrecked and stole several cars on his wild flight into Tennessee and Kentucky. The last known of the murderer was that he was at large in central Kentucky. And the search now is being waged with intensity—a nation-wide manhunt.

Here is the news that was flashed over WAYN's teletype at one o'clock this Thursday afternoon; and the paper is indebted to WAYN for the courtesy of this release: