

Jacksonville, Florida. April 1986. Decker almost got caught his first day on the job as an abortion clinic bomber. He'd been spotted by a woman who noticed him lurking outside the clinic a day before the blast. A elderly, neighborhood resident, Mrs. Loretta Freedlander lived in the rent-controlled, garden-style apartment complex across the street from 'The Kid's Center'. She had come forward and provided a description of Decker. The seventy-nine year old Freedlander had been standing in her living room looking out the glass-sliding window inside her apartment when she witnessed the bombing. She experienced the shock and tremors in real time, some of her windows even shattered. Had she not been wearing her glasses at the time, her eyes might not have been protected as a result of the explosion from the splintering glass. Freedlander remained the only eyewitness. Besides Decker, she was the only person who saw the whole thing as it happened that Monday morning.

She was completely stunned, taken aback by the explosion when it went off. She told the FBI, she remembered seeing someone standing close the building both during and after the ensuing chaos. Even before firefighters, police and ambulance arrived on the scene, she noticed a man hanging around at the time of the initial eruption. After the blast, she realized she'd seen the man once before. That was when she contacted the authorities. She told agents, she observed a male figure wearing a red and black plaid shirt standing very near to the clinic and she was quite sure she'd seen the same man a day earlier.

She told FBI agents she saw a stranger standing at the front of the building a day before. She was absolutely certain she'd seen him that Sunday, some time after three in the afternoon. She knew the time because she'd been out walking Chelsea, her small, grey, poodle. Her dog was approaching eleven years old but she was still lively enough to scratch at the front door each afternoon at three, letting the poodle's owner know she was ready for her afternoon walk.

Mrs. Freedlander was positive she and Chelsea were returning to her apartment a little after three and that's when she spotted the man.

As agents continued questioning her, she told them she thought it was odd seeing anyone across the street on Sunday, when the building was mostly empty. She let the FBI know, Sundays were a day when the area was generally clear of any walking traffic.

“And being a man and all, I wondered what was his interest in hanging around the closed abortion clinic?” she told them, perplexed, her face full of expression. The description Mrs. Freedlander gave law enforcement was the only physical account of the abortion doc killer.

And with that witness account, Decker entered the infamous world of anti-abortion killers, now the leading suspect to that inglorious group. Unnamed, there was no detailed description of him. Still, he officially became the main suspect to the abortion clinic bombing, in addition to being a mass murderer. True, no one yet knew Decker's name, it would be several years into the investigation before the bureau would successfully piece together enough information, gathered from enough leads, to link his name to all the clinic bombings.

When Kyle Adolph Decker was finally credited as the person responsible for the killings, his initials, KAD, became known to the entire world. KAD, Decker's initials, someone figured out, was an acronym for: Kill Abortion Doctors. From that point on, each newspaper article, every journalist account made sure to add that phrase to any story written about the abortion bomber. No one knew who first picked up on Decker's initials, crediting him with the awful acronym. No one ever boasted that they'd made it up. Perhaps it had been Decker himself. Though, most likely, it was some brash, cocky journalist wishing to enthrall their readers with stories of Decker's horrible deeds. Regardless of how or when it originated, the media's repetition of the label stuck. Kyle Adolph Decker was KAD, Kill Abortion Doctors, it

became the killer's perverse clarion call, and his mandate for destruction and the FBI absolutely hated it.

No one in the field or at the bureau's headquarters in DC ever uttered the phrase aloud. Those three words became a mocking chant to the dedicated men and women trying to stop the insane abortion clinic assassin. Over time, the media convinced the public it was Decker's singular purpose in life. . . the reason he was born. . . to kill abortion doctors. Privately, agents desperate to find him, hunt him down, agreed, it might just be Decker's *raison d'être*. He was Kyle Adolph Decker and he was born to kill abortion doctors. He had to be found and stopped before he struck again.