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## Law officer says Lucas claims he's killed 156

AUSTIN (AP) — A 47-year-old drifter now claims to have killed 156 people and has given investigators such vivid details that they have no reason to doubt him, the *Austin American-Statesman* reported Sunday.

Henry Lee Lucas remains jailed in the North Texas town of Montague, where he is awaiting trial in the slaying of 80-year-old Kate Rich of nearby Ringgold. He has been charged with four other Texas slayings and one in California.

After his arrest in the Rich case, Lucas told authorities he had killed about 100 women in 16 states.

"This guy's not crazy," an unidentified law enforcement officer told the *American-Statesman*. "He's very sane, very smart and very cold-blooded."

The officer said Lucas recently told

authorities his first victim was a schoolteacher he killed when he was 13 and living in Blacksburg, Va. He said Lucas claims to have killed the woman and hidden her body in the mountains after she spurned his advances.

Montgomery, Va., County Sheriff Louis Barber said he has been contacted by Texas authorities about Lucas' statement but knows of no unsolved crime to match his story.

Barber said it may be impossible to check Lucas' story because there are no records from the late 1940s and the investigators who would have worked on the case have died.

Since Lucas' arrest in June, investigators from across the nation have been trying to tie unsolved slayings to Lucas' stories. Officers say he has shed light on cases that have been unsolved for years and, in some cases, led investigators to the bodies of people they did not even know were missing.

Investigators say it may be years before they are able to construct a list of exactly when and where all of the crimes occurred.



Henry Lee Lucas