

A murder mystery which harried Roanoke police for almost five months was officially marked "solved" tonight.

Detective Captain Elmo Griggs says a 17-year-old ^{boy} Raymond Douglas Routt of 1206 Church Avenue, southeast - ~~Southeast Roanoke~~ boy, who was arrested February 3rd on a charge of statutory burglary and grand larceny, has confessed to the fatal shooting last September 23rd of 18-year-old Robert Walter Manning. He will be charged with murder. The Manning boy died almost instantly after an altercation at 24th street and Salem Turnpike, Northwest.

Routt

While ~~the 17-year-old~~ was in jail, he was extensively questioned and this led - Griggs says - to his confession. He had previously been questioned as one of a large number of boys known to have been in the area where the shooting occurred. Griggs quoted the youth as saying he was passing through Northwest on his way back to Southeast Roanoke when he was accosted by Manning and several other boys. In the quarrel that followed, ~~the accused youth~~ ^{Routt} allegedly used a small caliber revolver to inflict the fatal wound. The revolver was recovered tonight. (START FILM)

After the arrest, Captain Griggs commented on the investigation in an interview with WSLs Newsman Jim Walsh:

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