

The Palm Beach Post

FINAL EDITION

FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 1995

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136 PAGES 50 CENTS

WANTED

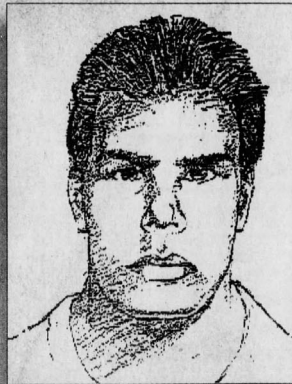
HAIR
Brown

HEIGHT
5'9" or
5'10"

WEIGHT
175 to 180
pounds

RACE
Caucasian

OTHER
Tattoo
visible on
left arm;
possibly a
smoker



HAIR
Light-brown
crewcut

HEIGHT
5'10" or
5'11"

WEIGHT
180 to 185
pounds

RACE
Caucasian

OTHER
Right-
handed

U.S. posts \$2 million reward

Clues point to drug link; death toll 52

Palm Beach Post Wire Services

WASHINGTON — With the death toll at 52 and sure to rise in Wednesday's devastating bombing in Oklahoma City, the FBI knew where the van packing the explosives came from and had a description of the two men, apparently U.S. citizens, who allegedly rented it, federal officials said Thursday.

From pieces of the truck scattered as far as 200 yards from ground zero at the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building, and reportedly from a video camera in an automated banking machine that had caught the building in its scope, authorities quickly traced the truck to a Ryder Truck Rental office in Junction City, Kan., about 250 miles north. There, they got the physical description of the two white men, who used false IDs, that led to the composite drawings made public Thursday.

A knowledgeable counterterrorism source said late Thursday that authorities now know the true identities of the men and have linked both to narcotics investigations.

Both suspects, identified as "John Does," were described by FBI agent Weldon Kennedy as armed and extremely dangerous. One was described as about 5 feet 10, of medium build, weighing about 180 with light hair, possibly right-handed.

The second was also described as being of medium build, but slightly smaller, about 5 feet 9, weighing about 175 pounds, with brown hair and a tattoo on his lower left arm, and is possibly a smoker.

Asked whether the two suspects were Americans, one Washington official said, "We don't know, obviously, since they used false identification." He said, however, that the people who helped the FBI produce the composite sketches of the two had not identified them as speaking with foreign or unusual accents. That left the FBI to conclude the two had Midwestern accents familiar enough to not be cited as identifying characteristics.

In Washington, Attorney General Janet Reno announced a \$2 million reward for information leading to the arrest of the bombers.

Investigators said the first real break in the investigation came with the discovery of a Vehicle

Please see BOMBING/15A

Suspect could be Midwestern

BOMBING

From 1A

Identification Number — the VIN — stamped on a piece of wreckage found on the streets around the building. That, in turn, led to the Ryder agency in Junction City, Kan.

As rescuers carried on with their heartbreaking task in Oklahoma City, the hunt was expanding thousands of miles, to Heathrow Airport in London and to Leonardo da Vinci Airport in Rome, where still another man and his luggage aroused the interest of investigators.

That third man's luggage had been checked onto a Chicago-bound American Airlines flight Wednesday in Oklahoma City, the authorities said. It was to go from Chicago to Rome and eventually to Amman, Jordan, aboard an Alitalia jetliner.

Customs officials in Chicago apparently became suspicious of the man on Wednesday night, and they talked to him so long that he missed his flight to Rome.

The man later boarded a plane for London, and his luggage went on to Rome, where it was opened by the Italian authorities at the request of U.S. investigators. It was found to contain what the authorities called nonexplosive materials, including needle-nosed pliers and silicon, that could be used to make explosives.

Law-enforcement authorities in Washington said they wanted to interview the man, who was

turned away by British immigration authorities and, with an armed escort, was returned by plane to the United States late Thursday. Indications are that he might possibly be a witness or have some information dealing with the case.

Amid the rumors and counter-rumors that swirled around the investigation Thursday, there was still no group that had claimed responsibility for the deadly attack, nor was any motive offered, beyond the general rubric of terrorism.

Early speculation that the bombers might be Middle Eastern was apparently quashed, at least for now, when sources close to the inquiry said that the two men for whom warrants were issued did not have accents and did not have appearances that suggested Middle Eastern origins.

Nor were the authorities entirely ruling out a link between the bombing and some fringe religious sect, including the Branch Davidians, whose compound near Waco, Texas, was destroyed by fire in a federal raid exactly two years before the Oklahoma City attack.

A senior law-enforcement official indicated that investigators were still exploring a connection between the Branch Davidians and the blast.

As the manhunt spread, desperate, frustrated rescuers, fearful the wreckage would collapse further, gingerly crawled over bodies and parts of bodies as they worked their way through the jumble of

collapsed walls, office furniture, sagging floors and dangling wires. There were about 200 people still listed as missing, officials said Thursday evening.

But the wreckage in the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building was so shaky that much of the work Thursday was devoted to trying to shore it up, particularly the east wall, which seemed ready to crumble, rather than digging into the "pancaked" center of the building believed to hold the remaining victims.

Exhausted firefighters had combed through most of the building by midday. But throughout Wednesday night and for most of Thursday the major worry was that the wreckage might fall in on itself, killing anyone still trapped in a safe pocket — what rescuers call a "void" — and irretrievably burying bodies.

A crane hoisted a red basket, a huge, makeshift cherrypicker, allowing one worker to scan the upper stories of the building without actually setting foot on the crumbling mess.

Thursday, the rescue workers were working with dogs, tiny cameras mounted on snaking fiber-optic probes, ultrasensitive listening devices and infrared cameras.

"I've worked bus accidents. I thought that was bad," said Steve Gullet, a rescue worker from Nixon, Miss., who is also a wilderness guide and specializes in rescuing people trapped in caves. "I get in here and I find baby hearts. I was just shocked."

OKLAHOMA BOMBING INFORMATION ON THE INTERNET

Most of these sites link to each other:

<http://www.newslink.org/newslink>

OKLAHOMA BOMBING information specially gathered by NewsLink.

www.nando.net/newsroom/nt/nando.html

Raleigh News & Observer's Nando Times coverage of the disaster

www.coast.net/ubed/ok-bomb.html

BOMBING page prepared by Edward Vielmetti, who did the same type of page during the Kobe earthquake.

qns1.qns.com/kwtv/news/bombing.htm

KWTV local television station coverage; plus lists of relief organizations and emotional support groups.

<http://157.142.72.77/okwww.html>

University of Oklahoma Health Science Center provides lists of businesses and agencies in the bombed Murrah Federal Office Building, plus current newsbriefs, helpful phone numbers, and links to Oklahoma sites.

<http://www.uoknor.edu/okdaily/bombing.html>

University of Oklahoma student newspaper online, has stories and photos.

<http://www.ionet.net/explode.shtml>

IONET Lists helpful agencies, with links to survivor lists, plus a first-person account by reporter.

<http://cspace.unb.ca/oklahoma.html>

List of resources

oklabomb listserv

To receive information only: Send e-mail message to: listproc@phantom.com; Message: subscribe oklabomb your name

Usenet groups discussing the bombing

ALT.CURRENT-EVENTS.AMFB-EXPLOSION
CLARI.LOCAL.OKLAHOMA
S.EVENTS.OK-EXPLOSION