

Phoenix Reportedly Was Target; FBI Downplays Report of Diary

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The manager of a mailbox facility used by Oklahoma City bombing suspect Timothy McVeigh said the FBI is asking about another Kingman-area resident who was convicted in a right-wing bombing plot nine years ago.

Meanwhile, federal officials played down reports of a diary detailing plans by McVeigh and others to bomb the cities of Oklahoma City, Omaha and Phoenix simultaneously.

Lynda Willoughby, manager of the Mailroom, said agents have questioned her about Jack Maxwell Oliphant, described by the FBI as a leader of the Arizona Patriots.

Like McVeigh, Oliphant has a box at the Mailroom.

He was convicted in 1986 with three other Arizona Patriots after conspiring to bomb and rob an armored car hauling casino receipts. Two other men were convicted on weapons charges.

At his remote Hephzibah Ranch in the mountains about 40 miles east of Kingman, Oliphant angrily ordered a reporter and photographer off his property.

"I don't want attention," Oliphant said. "I'm not doing anything. I'm 71 years old. I'm sicker than a dog. I just don't need it."

The FBI has refused to comment on its investigations in Kingman.

Willoughby also said she recognized the sketch of a second bombing suspect, dubbed "John Doe No. 2," as a man who picked up McVeigh's mail in March.

She said she also was questioned about a man named Mike Fortier, who sometimes picked up McVeigh's mail.

The Anti-Defamation League said yesterday that McVeigh advertised a military-style launcher in *The Spotlight*, an extreme right-wing publication with about 100,000 circulation.

The ad, appearing in the August 16, 1993, issue, offered for sale a "LAW launcher replica" which "fires 37 mm flares." It gives the name "T. Tuttle" at McVeigh's address in Kingman.

Willoughby has said McVeigh often received mail under the name "Tim Tuttle."

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported yesterday that two unnamed high-ranking federal officials revealed the diary discovery. The officials told the newspaper the diary said McVeigh and his associates decided to concentrate on Oklahoma City when they ran out of time to acquire enough explosives for all three bombings.

``The FBI is not aware of any diary found during the search for information on McVeigh that would have led anyone to believe that a simultaneous bombing was planned regarding Phoenix, Oklahoma City and Omaha," said FBI Phoenix spokesman Jack Callahan.

Arizona U.S. Attorney Janet Napolitano said security remains tight at the Phoenix federal building, which houses U.S. courts and federal justice agencies.

Parking is no longer allowed in front of the building, the back entrance is blocked and there are more security personnel, Napolitano said.

Caption:
Photo by The Associated Press

A variety of military supplies is available at Paulsen's Military Supply in Antigo, Wis. The store has been linked to Oklahoma City bombing suspect Timothy McVeigh. The store's business card was found among McVeigh's personal effects when he was arrested last week.