

# Second getaway car spotted just before bombing

**FBI investigates man arrested in California in auto theft case**

By The Associated Press

Timothy McVeigh's missing Arizona license plate appears on a mystery vehicle in a videotape taken just before the Oklahoma City bombing, and authorities believe the elusive "John Doe 2" may have used that vehicle for his getaway, a source said Friday.

The FBI has asked for help finding Arizona plate LZC646, which was on McVeigh's yellow 1977 Mercury Marquis five days before the bombing but was missing from the car when he was stopped by a state trooper 75 minutes after the blast.

The videotape from a security camera shows another vehicle with the plate — not the Mercury — and also shows the Ryder truck believed to have carried the 4,800-pound bomb, said the source, a federal law enforcement official in Washington.

The source would not describe the vehicle. But investigators suspect it was used in the getaway and may be in the possession of the missing suspect, the source said.

A third, more detailed sketch of the second bomber may be released within the next few days, the source added, as the investigation continues into the the worst act of terrorism in U.S. history.

Late Friday, police in Santa Monica, Calif., questioned an Oklahoma man detained for investigation of auto theft.

"We have a person in custody on local charges, and he's being investigated," said Santa Monica police Sgt. John Hudson.

He would not elaborate except to say, "It's



**McVeigh**

## TERROR IN THE HEARTLAND

Kansas ministers search for lessons in Oklahoma City bombing. **Page 3**

Nurse overwhelmed by baby's death during rescue operation. **Page 8**

Last survivor recalls hearing screams of her dying friend. **Page 8**

the FBI's investigation."

The man being held was picked up Friday afternoon in the beach area of Santa Monica, Hudson said.

Broadcast reports citing unidentified police sources said the man resembled sketches of the fugitive. More than a dozen men have been detained since the bombing because they either looked like the suspect or because officials thought they were connected to the case for some other reason.

The death toll rose to 118 Friday, including 15 children.

During a preliminary hearing Thursday for McVeigh, FBI agent John Hersley testified that the agency is racing to find the second man because of fears he may strike again. He also said that one of several witnesses spotted a yellow car carrying McVeigh and another man speeding away from a parking lot near the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building before the blast.

At that hearing, McVeigh, 27, the only person charged in the April 19 bombing, was being held without bail based on what a federal magistrate called "an indelible trail of evidence."

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## Waco residents come to Oklahoma City

McVeigh has refused to talk to police, but when he was first jailed in Perry, Okla., before he was identified as a bombing suspect, he told other prisoners that the charge he faced involved a gun he bought in New York, a senior federal official said.

"He was trying to throw people off his Kansas connections," the official said.

At the building, a major part of the search was held up after a slab of concrete broke loose and slid into the area that held a Social Security office and day care center, Assistant Fire Chief Jon

Hansen said.

Workers spent the afternoon rigging orange safety nets on the edges of the crumbled floors to keep debris from falling on searchers.

The Oklahoma bombing occurred on the two-year anniversary of the fiery end to the siege of the Branch Davidian compound in Waco, Texas. McVeigh, known to hold extreme right-wing views, was particularly agitated by the conduct of the federal government at Waco, an FBI affidavit said.

On Friday morning, about seven people from Waco brought three flower-covered crosses to the demolished federal building.

"We all have a common bond now, and it's terrible that it had to happen like this," said Amber King,

who works at the Waco Wal-Mart.

In Washington, a senior federal official said investigators believe the bomb was composed of 20 to 25 plastic 55-gallon drums of "AN-FO," ammonium nitrate and fuel oil, using detonating cord as a booster and a safety fuse.

Detonating cord is a powerful explosive used as a cutting tool; a safety fuse can be lit with a match and burns at a known rate of speed so a bomber can give himself time to get away.

Investigators also found fragments of metal high-pressure gas cylinders, which may have been filled with acetylene or hydrogen to add to the explosive power, the official said on condition of anonymity.

The official said the bomb prob-

ably would have cost at most \$5,000 to make. Investigators are focusing on Kingman, Ariz., where McVeigh formerly lived, to discover how the money was raised. McVeigh was known to attend gun shows, and one possibility was that the plotters sold replica weapons and key chains with defensive sprays attached, the official said.

A Kingman motel manager said Friday that McVeigh had stayed there from March 31 to April 12. Helmut Hofer said McVeigh stayed by himself at the Imperial Motel and received no phone calls.

Hersley testified that a witness had seen McVeigh in Oklahoma City on April 13. On April 14, McVeigh checked into a motel in Junction City, Kan.