

# Man executed April 19 predicted bombing

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In the days leading to the Oklahoma City disaster, a white supremacist on Arkansas' death row predicted there would be a major bombing, according to the Arkansas Department of Corrections.

Richard Wayne Snell, 64, who was executed for murder April 19, the same day as the Oklahoma attack, repeatedly told guards and his spiritual adviser about a pending bombing, said Alan Ables, a department spokesman.

"He said there was going to be a huge bombing, and not much more than that," Ables said. "He didn't give any impression that it would be a domestic bombing or something overseas, just that there would be some confusion as to who did it and the United States was going to blame someone in the Mideast."



Snell's name surfaced in a 1983 plot to blow up a federal building in Oklahoma City, using a truck filled with bombs. A fellow white supremacist testified about the plot in a 1988 trial in Fort Smith, Ark.

Snell eventually was acquitted with 13 others.

The FBI recently obtained Snell's prison file from Warden Terry Campbell of the maximum security unit at Tucker, Ark., Ables said. The file included a visitors list and letters.

The agency secured the file as part of an effort to determine who or what organizations might have assisted in the plot, say those familiar with the investigation. To date, only Timothy McVeigh, 27, and Army buddy Terry Nichols, 40, have been charged in the Oklahoma bombing, which killed 168.

Prison records kept by guards observing Snell before his execution showed that he was "smiling and chuckling" as he watched news reports of the bombing. He was executed by lethal injection later that day.

"He commented at least once (in his last week) that he wished he wasn't leaving, he'd like to stick around a few more weeks, because he wanted to watch what was going to happen" in regard to a bombing, Ables said.