

## **Leader Says He Doubts Separatist Group Will Be Target in Bombing Probe**

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MULDROW, Okla. - The leader of a white separatist community doubts the group will be targeted in a government investigation despite receiving a phone call allegedly made by bombing suspect Timothy McVeigh.

The Rev. Robert Millar, the leader of Elohim City, said Wednesday he would be surprised if members of the secluded eastern Oklahoma compound were asked to testify before a federal grand jury investigating the bombing.

"I don't think the government attaches any sense of guilt or charges against Elohim City on the basis we received a phone call," Mr. Millar said.

In May, Mr. Millar adamantly denied that Mr. McVeigh had telephoned the compound shortly before the April 19 blast. But he said he spoke about two weeks ago with a government source who convinced him that Mr. McVeigh called the group.

Mr. Millar said the government indicated it had records showing two telephone calls made within a few minutes of each other from a Kingman, Ariz., residence.

A senior federal official in Washington has told The Associated Press that investigators were aware that Mr. McVeigh made a call to Elohim City.

Mr. Millar said the government told him it had determined the first call was made by Mr. McVeigh. The second call was to an Elohim City phone number, he said.

Mr. McVeigh's last address before the bombing was in Kingman, Ariz. Kingman also is the home of a pawn shop where a rifle thought to have been stolen from Royal, Ark., gun collector Roger Moore turned up.

"I couldn't imagine why that man would phone here," Mr. Millar said. "But to be fair, I think there's a high probability he phoned" based on the telephone records.

The call came to a telephone in a private residence on the grounds of Elohim City. Mr. Millar said he has found no one at Elohim City who remembers talking to Mr. McVeigh but the telephone is in a room where members of the community gather for coffee.

The compound receives dozens of phone calls each day, he said. Some of those come from people inquiring about Elohim City or whether they can stay overnight.