Bombing videotape may reveal 'John Doe No. 2'

The Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — Videotape from a surveillance camera captured a glimpse of a shadowy figure in the passenger seat of the bomb-laden Ryder truck minutes before it blew apart the federal building, a federal law enforcement source says.

The footage is not clear enough to identify anyone, but it adds to the body of evidence that a third figure — perhaps the long-sought John Doe No. 2 — took part in the attack with Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols, the source told The Associated Press in an interview this week.

"There's a shape in there, but they can't see a face," the source said of footage, taken by a camera on a nearby apartment building. The camera picked up the shadowy passenger about three minutes before the bomb went off April 19 at the Alfred P. Murrah

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Building.

But another federal law enforcement official cast doubt on the report, suggesting the pictures weren't good enough to tell even how many people were in the truck.

The government says McVeigh drove to Oklahoma City in the truck, parked it in front of the federal building and made his getaway in a yellow Mercury Marquis. But prosecutors have given no indication that Nichols was also in Oklahoma City the day of the bombing.

Although a federal grand jury indicted only McVeigh and Nichols on murder and conspiracy charges, agents scoured the country for a third conspirator, known only as John Doe No. 2, who was portrayed in sketches distributed shortly after the blast.