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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 11/22/95

RANDALL GENE COLLINS, residence 7900 Westhaven Drive, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, telephone 405/745-4189, was interviewed at the Holiday Inn on Meridian Street in Oklahoma City by SSA JON R. HERSLEY and SA FLOYD M. ZIMMS. COLLINS was advised of the official identity of the interviewing agents. COLLINS was advised that he was being contacted as a result of information the FBI had received that COLLINS had additional information regarding possible participants in the Oklahoma City bombing that COLLINS wanted to impart to the FBI. Specifically, COLLINS was advised that attorney MATT WHEATLEY had relayed a message that COLLINS wanted to provide this information to the FBI. COLLINS provided the following information:

COLLINS is the owner of the Sands Motel, located at 721 S. Rockwell, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. COLLINS advised that on the morning of 4/19/95 at approximately 8:10AM, an individual that COLLINS now believes was TIMOTHY MCVEIGH, came into the office of the Sands Motel. COLLINS has seen MCVEIGH's picture on television and is almost certain that the individual he saw come into the office was MCVEIGH. The individual either handed the key to his room to an employee or patron of the motel, or he may have put it on the counter top. COLLINS thanked this individual, and when he did, the individual looked directly at COLLINS, with an expression that COLLINS described as strange but kind. COLLINS advised that when he saw MCVEIGH's picture on television, MCVEIGH's expression was different, not as kind looking. The individual acknowledged COLLINS, and then walked out of the office and got into the driver's side of a large Ryder truck, which was parked on the north side of the motel office. COLLINS described this individual as a white/male, about 25 years old, approximately 6'0", maybe taller, fair complected with light color skin tone, and light brown or blonde hair, worn short in a crew cut style.

COLLINS advised that while the individual, he believed was MCVEIGH, was inside the office, COLLINS noticed a second individual outside by the Ryder truck. This second individual

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 by SSA JON R. HERSLEY  
SA FLOYD M. ZIMMS:jrh Date dictated 11/22/95

was doing something to the front windshield area of the Ryder truck. He appeared to be standing on the running board area of the truck near the front windshield on the passenger's side. As the individual COLLINS believes was MCVEIGH exited the motel office and got into the truck, this second individual got into the passenger's side of the truck and they drove away. COLLINS said that as the truck was pulling around to the front of the motel parking lot and getting ready to pull onto Rockwell heading North, a yellow Mercury Marquis pulled around from the south side of the motel office and in behind the Ryder truck. The yellow Mercury was occupied by only one person. Both the Ryder truck and the Mercury were driven away from the motel heading north on Rockwell. COLLINS has seen MCVEIGH's yellow Mercury on television and is sure it is the same car he saw at the motel on the morning of 4/19/95.

COLLINS described the second individual, who got into the passenger's side of the Ryder truck, as a white/male, with a Middle Eastern or Spanish appearance, approx. 30 years old, maybe older, about 6'0", and weighing over 200 pounds, maybe between 215 and 220 pounds, dark complexion, and dark hair that seemed kind of frizzy. This person had a chubby face and a large belly, similar to a beer belly in appearance. He was wearing a hat, dark color with white on it, which he pulled down tight over his head as he was getting into the truck.

COLLINS described the individual driving the yellow Mercury as a white/male, Middle Eastern or Spanish appearance. COLLINS did not get a close look at this person, but did notice he had black hair worn long down the back and sides and possibly similar to a Beatles haircut.

COLLINS advised that he first saw the Ryder truck in the back or west side of the motel parking lot when he arrived at the motel just before 8:00AM on 4/19/95. At this time, the Ryder truck was parked a short distance away from the room where the man COLLINS believes was MCVEIGH and the others were staying. COLLINS identified the room as one of three rooms at the Sands Motel, those being 105, 107, or 109, but he could not state, with certainty, which of the three rooms it was. When COLLINS arrived at the motel that morning, he pulled around to the back as he always does to check things out. This is when COLLINS saw the Ryder truck. It was parked facing north about 50 feet from the building and about 30 feet from the trash dumpster.

COLLINS also saw DAVID, who is one of COLLINS' employees at the motel. DAVID was picking up trash behind the motel near where the Ryder truck was parked. As COLLINS drove up to talk to DAVID, he lowered his window and could smell a strong odor of diesel fuel. COLLINS asked DAVID where the smell was coming from, and DAVID responded from the Ryder truck. COLLINS asked DAVID if the truck had a diesel fuel tank, and DAVID answered no, stating that he had already looked and it was an unleaded gasoline tank. DAVID commented to COLLINS that he thought some diesel might have spilled out from the truck. COLLINS said that he and DAVID noticed two individuals standing outside the room he thought the individual believed to be MCVEIGH had stayed in. These men began walking toward the truck in a direction that was also toward where COLLINS and DAVID were talking. The men appeared to be angered that COLLINS and DAVID were too close to the truck, and this made COLLINS nervous. COLLINS then drove away from the truck and pulled around by the motel office and went inside. About 5 or 10 minutes later, the individual COLLINS believes was MCVEIGH came into the motel office to return the room key. COLLINS refused to provide DAVID's last name to the interviewing agents until he checks with DAVID to see if it's alright with him. COLLINS was asked several times to provide DAVID's last name due to the severity of this case, but he continued to refuse, stating he would have DAVID call SAA HERSLEY the following day.

COLLINS said that he told the ATF Agent that came to pick up his motel records in May, 1995, that he had seen an individual he believed was MCVEIGH at the motel on the morning of 4/19/95. COLLINS said he also told the ATF Agent about the Ryder truck, the yellow Mercury, and the two individuals accompanying the person he thought was MCVEIGH. COLLINS said he actually thought there were four men altogether, and that the fourth man, also of Middle Eastern or Spanish appearance had been at his motel on other occasions as well, both before and after the Oklahoma City bombing. COLLINS said he asked the ATF Agent if he thought it could have been MCVEIGH that he saw at the motel on the morning of 4/19/95, but the Agent would not give him an answer, stating only that if there was anything to it, someone would be back in touch with COLLINS. COLLINS heard nothing further, but did not forget about it.

COLLINS advised that he later determined that it was SHERRY HOVATTER, the wife of another one of his employees, that

had checked the individual COLLINS believes was MCVEIGH into the motel at around 6:00PM on 4/18/95. MCVEIGH came into the motel office with the fourth male, the same person COLLINS believes he has seen at the Sands Motel on other occasions. According to HOVATTER, the motel registration card was completed by this fourth man. COLLINS no longer has the registration card as it has been destroyed. COLLINS advised that his father used to work for the IRS, and he told COLLINS he did not need to keep the registration cards, just a record by name, date and amount paid, for each guest at the motel. SHERRY does not work at the motel, but was there on this occasion and actually did the check in for her husband, GARY HOVATTER. Both GARY and SHERRY HOVATTER are about 49-50 years old, and GARY still works for COLLINS.

COLLINS advised that about a month ago, DAVID called him and said he had to tell somebody what he had seen at the motel on the morning of 4/19/95. DAVID told COLLINS that he had gotten a good look at the two men as they were walking toward the Ryder truck. DAVID talked to an attorney, name unknown to COLLINS, who advised DAVID to call the FBI. DAVID told COLLINS he called the FBI and told them everything he had seen on the morning of 4/19/95. COLLINS was asked why he would not give DAVID's last name if DAVID had already called the FBI. COLLINS responded that DAVID has a warrant out for his arrest for failure to pay his taxes, and might not want COLLINS to give his last name. COLLINS said that DAVID has minor children and is concerned he might get arrested.

COLLINS again advised that he has seen the fourth individual, referred to above, at the Sands Motel before the bombing and also after the bombing. COLLINS believes he may also have seen one or more of the other individuals, including the person COLLINS believes was MCVEIGH, at the motel about two or three months before the bombing. COLLINS advised that during approximately January or February, 1995, one of the maids at the motel saw some sacks of fertilizer stacked up in one the rooms. COLLINS advised that he also saw the fertilizer stacked up in the room, and there was about 80 sacks altogether. The fertilizer was in brown paper sacks. The room it was being kept in was on the second floor in the rear part of the motel. Even though COLLINS thought this was odd, he never said anything to the occupant of the room about it. COLLINS now thinks the individual, who was renting the room that contained the fertilizer, was JAMES NICHOLS. COLLINS advised that he has seen

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JAMES NICHOLS on television, and has become convinced that it was NICHOLS staying in the room where the fertilizer was being kept.

During the time that COLLINS saw the fertilizer in the room, he also saw a large Ryder truck in the parking lot of the motel, and there were other people around it, possibly some of the same people that COLLINS saw at the motel on the morning of 4/19/95. COLLINS said that one of these people was the same person that COLLINS now believes is MCVEIGH. COLLINS said that when he saw the Ryder truck at the motel on this earlier occasion in January or February, 1995, that he could also see about 16-20 barrels in the box part of the truck. COLLINS also saw a diesel spill on the ground near the back of the truck. COLLINS said that the individuals that had the truck at the motel on this occasion also have several other vehicles, including a small gray box type car, similar to a 1980-1985 model Volvo. They also had 2 pickups, one was a smaller pickup, dark brown or chocolate brown, with tinted windows, possibly a 1987-1988 Chevrolet S-10; and the second was a full size pickup, light brown or tanish in color, possibly a 1990-1992 Chevrolet.

COLLINS advised that the person he believed was JAMES NICHOLS was registered under the last name of PARKER. PARKER rented the room where the fertilizer was being kept. COLLINS advised that even though the guest registration cards at the motel have been destroyed, he still has PARKER's card because PARKER paid for the room by the week. When asked if COLLINS would turn the PARKER registration card over to the interviewing agents, he stated the card was at his father's house and he did not want to bother his father at night. However, COLLINS later changed his mind. COLLINS advised that he would turn the card over to the Agents if they would follow him over to an area close to his father's house. COLLINS did provide the PARKER card to the Agents this same evening. The card was in the name of WALLY PARKER for the period 2/13-20/95. COLLINS advised that PARKER had said he was from a small town in Oklahoma, and he had identification indicating that he was from Oklahoma. PARKER listed his address on a City of Oklahoma City room tax document, completed at the motel, as P.O. Box 612, Dewar, Oklahoma, with a home telephone number of 918/652-7879.

COLLINS advised that he has spoken to Channel 4 reporter, JAYNA DAVIS, on two separate occasions about what he

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was now telling the interviewing agents. COLLINS advised that he has been following DAVIS' news reports about the Oklahoma City bombing very closely, and that he believes DAVIS may have something. COLLINS advised that he was referring to DAVIS' belief that she knows who JOHN DOE #2 is. COLLINS said that DAVIS has shown some pictures to DAVID, supra, and DAVID has identified one of the people in these pictures as one of the people DAVID saw at the Sands Motel on the morning of 4/19/95.

When COLLINS was asked for the name of the maid that had seen the fertilizer in the motel room during January or February, 1995, he stated that she no longer remembers seeing this. COLLINS advised that the maid told him about seeing the fertilizer in the room at the time it was going on, but she no longer remembers it. COLLINS was again asked for the maids name, and he said there were actually two maids at the motel. COLLINS could not remember for sure but said he believed it was ROXIE WILLIAMS that told him about seeing the fertilizer. He provided the other maid's name as LOTTIE PARNELL. COLLINS said that the maid told him about having to sweep some of the fertilizer particles off the carpet in the motel room and also about seeing the bags stacked in the room.

COLLINS is a White Male, born 12/28/53 at Ada, Oklahoma, SSAN [REDACTED], residence 7900 Westhaven Drive, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, home telephone 405/745-4189.