

MCVEIGH LINKED TO NEO-NAZIS? AUTHOR EXPLORES TIES, BUT SAYS FEDS HAVEN'T RAISED SAME QUESTIONS.

Rocky Mountain News

Rocky Mountain News (Denver, CO)

February 22, 1996 | Flynn, Kevin

Byline: Kevin Flynn Rocky Mountain News Staff Writer

Timothy McVeigh had an interest in neo-Nazi literature favored by extreme members of the patriot movement, but investigators haven't fully explored those links, according to a writer who has researched McVeigh's life.

McVeigh left behind a copy of the book, *White Power*, at the home of a Royal, Ark., man in 1994, the writer says. The book was written by George Lincoln Rockwell, the late American Nazi Party leader.

He also distributed to acquaintances copies of *The Turner Diaries*, a novel about an armed white takeover of America, said Lawrence Meyers, whose stories have been published in *Media Bypass* magazine.

Meyers is one of few journalists who have interviewed McVeigh.

The *Turner Diaries* was required reading among members of the Silent Brotherhood, a terrorist group that in 1984 robbed armored cars, firebombed a synagogue and assassinated Jewish talk-show host Alan Berg in Denver.

McVeigh left a copy of *White Power* with Roger Moore, whose \$60,000 gun collection was stolen from his home in Royal on Nov. 5, 1994. One of the stolen guns, a rifle, was pawned by a Kingman, Ariz., man who said he got the gun from Michael Fortier.

Fortier, an Army buddy of McVeigh and co-defendant Terry Nichols, has pleaded guilty to lesser charges in exchange for his testimony about participating in planning the April 19 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City.

Federal authorities believe McVeigh stole Moore's gun collection to help finance the bombing. Defense sources, however, say they can place McVeigh in Ohio at the time of the burglary.

Stephen Jones, McVeigh's attorney, wouldn't discuss his defense strategy of using interviews of several Europeans, including a former German army sergeant who spent several years floating around the American Midwest associating with fringe groups.

The apparent intent is to show a possible international connection to the bombing.

Jones has spoken with John Tyndall, leader of the ultraright British National Party; British author David Irving, who disputes the Holocaust; and Andreas Strassmeir, 36, a former lieutenant in the German army who stayed for a time in Oklahoma at a far-right Christian commune called Elohim City.

But, ``the Department of Justice hasn't interviewed them," Jones said.

Strassmeir met McVeigh at a Tulsa, Okla., gun show in April 1994, Meyers said, and several days before the bombing left a message for McVeigh at Elohim City.

``He bought a uniform and gloves from McVeigh, and McVeigh gave him an East German army knife," Meyers said.

Meyers also said he has seen records indicating McVeigh called the Kingman, Ariz., coordinator for the neo-Nazi group National Alliance two weeks before the bombing requesting literature. The National Alliance is the publisher of The Turner Diaries.