

Couple seeking John Doe No. 2

Associated Press

HERINGTON — Kathy and Glenn Wilburn drove to Herington from Oklahoma last week for the third time. They brought a video camera, a tape recorder and a photo of a young man with dark hair and thick eyebrows.

Their two grandchildren died in the Oklahoma City bombing. Dissatisfied with federal authorities, the Wilburns have pursued their own investigation of the bombing, floating several dark-haired men as possible candidates for John Doe No. 2.

Their video camera is for recording interviews. The photograph shows the man they now suspect is the alleged third suspect in the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building.

Called John Doe No. 2 by investigators, the mysterious suspect was depicted in FBI sketches released in the days after the bombing. Witnesses have said the man was with bombing defendant Timothy McVeigh when he allegedly rented a Ryder truck in Kansas that was used to deliver the bomb.

The photo the Wilburns have is of a Pennsylvania college student who was living in Elohim City, a white separatist compound in eastern Oklahoma, at the time of the bombing.

Federal investigators said in May that McVeigh had called Elohim City two weeks before the

bombing, looking for a former German army officer who lived there. The Wilburns said their John Doe suspect was that officer's roommate.

The man's whereabouts today are not known. A man who answered the phone at his parents' home in Philadelphia declined comment to The Kansas City Star, and federal investigators would not say whether the man is a suspect.

Elohim City founder and patriarch Robert Millar said Friday that authorities have asked about the man in connection with the bombing investigation.

"We've had some conversations with the government about (him)," Millar told The Star. "We're doing everything we can to cooperate with the investigation and find out the truth."

Millar also said he did not believe the man could have been John Doe No. 2, who has been described as a muscular man with dark hair, olive skin and a tattoo on his arm. Millar said the man the Wilburns' suspect is about five-foot seven with dark brown hair.

"He's fair-skinned and freckled," Millar said. "He didn't have an olive complexion, and he didn't have great big muscles and shoulders."

Assistant U.S. Attorney Steve Mullins in Oklahoma City said Friday that the government still is searching for accomplices.

However, the intensity of the search for John Doe No. 2 has abated since last spring, when at least 12 people were detained. Authorities have not updated the sketch in more than a year.

Dennis Mahon, a former imperial dragon of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, said he knew the man as well, and used to spend weekends at Elohim City shooting targets with him.

"Every time I went out to Elohim City he was there," Mahon said. "The guy I knew ... looked very similar to John Doe 2 in the face, but not his body. He wasn't that muscular. He had a couple small tattoos, but close to his

wrist."

Mahon, who now lives in Catoosa, Okla., said federal authorities have called twice in connection with the bombing, but he referred them to his attorney. He wouldn't elaborate on their questioning.

The Wilburns spent last week in Herington and Junction City, where federal authorities say Timothy McVeigh rented a Ryder truck used in the bombing. Some residents of those towns said the Wilburns' picture of the suspect could have been the man they saw with McVeigh in the days leading up to the bombing. But others said they weren't sure.