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Grand jury begins Oklahoma City bombing probe

OKLAHOMA CITY — A grand jury on Monday began investigating allegations the Oklahoma City bombing was the result of a larger conspiracy, hearing first from a banker who has said he saw others with Timothy McVeigh before the blast.

fused to say what he had told the panel, but when asked if they took him seriously, he replied, "I hope so"

so."
Hunt has said in the past that he saw a Ryder truck and a light-colored sedan near the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building a few minutes before the April 19, 1995, bombing that killed 168 people. McVeigh and two other men were in the sedan, and McVeigh turned

to glare at him, Hunt has said.
Shortly after Hunt left Monday, the second witness, warehouse worker David Snider, arrived carrying a metal briefcase. Snider said he brought "a tape and a composite sketch."

After an hour before the grand jury, Snider also declined to comment on his testimony or on the videotape. "I just told the truth." he told reporters.

Snider has said that he saw McVeigh in the passenger seat of Ryder truck several blocks away from the federal building at about the same time as Hunt's sighting. A state lawmaker and the grandfather of two young boys killed in the blast forced the Oklahoma County grand jury review through a petition drive, contending others were involved and that federal agents had prior knowl-

edge of the plot.
Although the federal indictment against McVeigh and Terry Nichols alleges they acted with "others unknown," authorities now doubt a larger conspiracy. And they deny any foreknowledge of the attack.
McVeigh was convicted and condemned to die last month for federal murder and conspiracy. Nichols' trial on the same charges is set to begin Sept. 29.

Among the other witnesses scheduled for this week is Dennis Mahon, a Tulsa white supremacist. Mahon's ex-girifriend, Carol Howe, a former federal informant, tella authorities after the bombing that she had overheard Mahon and steman man discussing bombing federal buildings.

McVeigh's defense tried to call-Howe during his trial, but the judge ruled her testimony irrelevant.