

TRANSCRIPT READY-FOR-AIR PIECE: CAROL HOWE 2/5/97

She trained with the militia, firing automatic weapons in mock attacks, but she was working as a paid informant for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

In that role, Carol Howe says she warned the ATF that members of an extreme right wing group had discussed bombing federal buildings in Oklahoma City and Tulsa. Carol Howe told ABC News she was recruited by the ATF in the summer of '94, and began providing them information from the inside on neo-Nazis and white supremacists, including a group inside Elohim City, a large private compound of homes, churches and schools in northeast Oklahoma.

None of the members of that group have been named as suspects in the bombing, but telephone records indicate suspected bomber Timothy McVeigh called there.

Howe told ABC News that in late '94 at a meeting in Elohim city, a participant who has since fled to Germany, urged blowing up federal buildings instead of just talking about it. She says she passed this on to her ATF handler. The Murrah Building was blown up four months later.

A spokesperson for the Justice Department late today confirmed to ABC News that she gave them information about people who had discussed blowing up the building and they sent her back under cover to get more information, which they say led nowhere.

The ATF insists they had no warning the building was going to be bombed, and raised questions about the credibility of the woman on their payroll.

Tom Jarriel, ABC News, Washington.

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