

# 3RD MAN SOUGHT IN BOMB PROBE REAL ESTATE BROKER SAYS MAN WAS WITH MCVEIGH, NICHOLS

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Byline: Associated Press News staff writer Lou Kilzer contributed to this report.

ATLANTA -- The FBI is looking for a man they believe sought a remote hideout in the Ozark mountains of Missouri with Oklahoma City bombing suspects Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols, CNN and Time magazine reported Sunday.

The FBI wants to question Robert Jacques to help agents reconstruct McVeigh's and Nichols' activities leading up to the April 19, 1995 bombing. The network released a sketch of a man believed to be Jacques.

William Maloney, a Cassville, Mo., real estate broker told CNN that in the fall of 1994, Jacques came to his office with Nichols and a man who identified himself as Tim.

Jacques did most of the talking and did not say why they were interested in buying land Maloney advertised as ``In the middle of nowhere, at the end of a rough road, at the bottom of a hollow . . . there may be a cave."

``I asked the question, `Were they looking for a place to hide?' and he didn't respond to that," Maloney said. The three men left the same day and never returned, Maloney said.

Several months earlier, Maloney said he got a phone inquiry about the land and asked the caller's name.

``He says `McVeigh,' and I said, `M-C-V-E-Y' and he said, `That's close enough,' " Maloney said.

McVeigh's trial on federal murder and conspiracy charges is set for March 31 in Denver. Nichols later will be tried separately.

McVeigh attorney Stephen Jones told CNN Sunday night that McVeigh was not in Missouri at the time Maloney said he met the three men. He didn't say where McVeigh was at that time.

McVeigh and Nichols could not have been in Missouri for much of November 1994, according to telephone and court records.

McVeigh was in Ohio on Nov. 5 and appears to have spent the rest of the month in New York. Nichols allegedly rented a storage locker in the name of "Ted Parker" on Nov. 7 in Council Grove, Kan., and then left to visit his ex-wife in Nevada. He traveled to the Philippines on Nov. 22.

With Maloney's help, the FBI produced a sketch of Jacques and has been trying to find him for more than a year, CNN reported.

The drawing of Jacques, who appears to be a dark-complected, muscular man with short hair in the sketch, is the only remaining unidentified sketch in the FBI's files on the case, a Justice Department source told CNN.

CAPTION(S):

Color illustration

CNN drawing of suspect.