

## 2. Andreas Strassmeir.

Andreas Strassmeir is a German national whose father is a well regarded and successful politician in the Christian Democrat Coalition who recently retired as Secretary of State for West Germany, but whose grandfather was a founding member of the German Nazi party. D.E. 3123 at 14. Strassmeir was in this country illegally on an expired visa on April 19, 1995. Id. (Exhibits "F" and "H"). Subsequently, when Strassmeir became the subject of intense media and defense scrutiny, his attorney, Kirk Lyons, a well-known North Carolina lawyer whose principal clients are members of the most violent and extreme wing of American politics, openly boasted that he had "spirited" Strassmeir out of the country through Texas, Mexico and France, telling his supporters that it would be "easier to defend Strassmeir from Germany than from inside a federal detention facility." Id. at 14 (Exhibit "H").

Strassmeir, who was originally presented to the press as a starry-eyed German interested in American military history has now been identified as the Chief of Security at Elohim City, an active participant in a Klan rally in Texas, and having overstayed his visa in this country, having traveled on false identity papers (he was arrested in Oklahoma by State Highway Patrolman Vernon Phillips using the identity of Peter Ward) and a suspect in multiple investigations concerning weapons violations, including making weapons fully automatic. Id.

When Strassmeir, who is trained in terrorist tactics, was arrested on February 28, 1992, near Elohim City, he was not only carrying false identity papers, but also statements from foreign bank accounts, and a copy of The Terrorist Handbook. D.E. 2191 at 12. The Terrorist Handbook states that its purpose is "to show the many techniques and methods used by those people in this and other countries who employ terror as a means to political and social goals.... [A]ny lunatic or social deviant could obtain this information, and use it against anyone.... [The publisher] feels that it is important that everyone has some idea of just how easy it is for a terrorist to perform acts of terror; that is the reason for the existence of this publication." The table of contents includes chapters on low-order explosives; high-order explosives, including how to build bombs from fertilizer and fuel oil; ignition devices; advanced uses for explosives; delay devices and explosive containers, including plastic containers.

According to a May 19, 1995, newspaper article "witnesses allegedly identified him [Strassmeir] at the end of April [1995] as one of the number of men seen in Junction City, Kansas, when McVeigh was also there during the days leading up to the bombing." D.E. 2191 at 12. One of the witnesses said she contacted the FBI as soon as she was shown a photograph of Strassmeir by a U.S. news organization investigating the Oklahoma affair.

Ambrose Evans-Pritchard, the author of this article, and Andrew Gimson, a reporter in the Telegraph's Berlin bureau interviewed Strassmeir a total of five times. Over the course of these interviews, Strassmeir revealed the following:

- A. Strassmeir was a former Lieutenant in Germany's elite Panzer Grenadiers, similar to our Special Forces, and was trained in military intelligence.
- B. He first moved to the United States in 1989 "because he was planning to work on a special assignment for the U.S. Justice Department." According to Strassmeir, "It never worked out."
- C. A retired USAF Colonel, Vince Petruskie was helping Strassmeir at the DEA and Treasury Department, but ultimately nothing came through. Interviews with Petruskie

- by defense investigators confirm this.
- D. Having failed to find a job in Washington, Strassmeir went to Texas where he found work at a computer company, and where ". . . he seemingly drifted into the subculture of the Klu [sic] Klux Klan, the Aryan Nations, and the extreme fringes of the Christian right.... He established himself as Chief of Security (at Elohim City) in weapon training, he said."
  - E. Strassmeir "also claimed that he copper bottomed information about the bombing but seemed torn over how much he felt able to impart" to the Telegraph.
  - F. Strassmeir said, "The ATF had an informant inside this operation. They had advanced warning and they bungled it." "What they should have done is made an arrest while the bomb was still being made instead of waiting until the moment for a publicity stunt."

Counsel for Defendant McVeigh personally interviewed Ambrose Evans-Pritchard in Washington, D.C., and confirmed each of these points. Mr. Evans-Pritchard represented to counsel that Strassmeir strongly suggested to him that there was an informant at Elohim City and that he was the informant. However, Strassmeir would not expressly admit to it. The government has denied Andreas Strassmeir was an informant employed by the United States. Mr. Evans-Pritchard informed the undersigned counsel that as part of his investigation into Strassmeir's background, Evans-Pritchard interviewed a member of the Texas Light Infantry during the time Strassmeir was in Texas.

Certain members of the Texas Light Infantry began to believe that Strassmeir was an ATF informant. Members of the infantry placed a "tail" on Strassmeir and followed him one night. Strassmeir went into a federal building in which was housed a local ATF office. On the doors of this particular federal building, there were combination locks and in order to gain entrance, the person had to punch in the correct combination. Evans-Pritchard reported to counsel that the members of the Texas Light Infantry reported that they watched while Strassmeir punched in the proper code, unlocked the door and went into the building. D.E. 2191 at 14.

Counsel has been informed by a reliable source that FBI Director Louis Freeh had invited a subject to accompany him on a trip to Italy and Germany in late 1993, shortly after Mr. Freeh became director of the FBI. The subject did in fact accompany Mr. Freeh first to Italy and then to Germany. Counsel was told that Mr. Freeh specifically invited the subject to be present when Freeh met with German internal security officials and that he agreed on the condition that he would not write anything about what he heard.

The subject was present in the meeting in Germany in November 1993 (he thought it could have been October, but was more positive about November), and that the German security officials specifically mentioned Andreas Strassmeir and said that he was "nation hopping" back and forth between the United States and Germany and that he had been associated with neo-Nazis in the United States and that they were very concerned about their activities. Director Freeh replied that the FBI was aware of Strassmeir, and was "monitoring" his activities, but that "because of the First Amendment, there isn't anything we can do."

When Strassmeir's potential link to this case was discovered, a reporter interviewed Dennis Mahon about Mahon's friendship with Strassmeir. When questioned whether or not Strassmeir could be an informant, Mahon became visibly upset. As information was traded, Mahon became more convinced that Strassmeir had been providing intelligence on them. Mahon immediately got in touch with a "A very important man in Germany and requested that he determine if Strassmeir could be an agent for the German government. The reporter

that he determine if Strassmeir could be an agent for the German government. The reporter heard them state to this individual that if Strassmeir had double-crossed them, "[Matron] wanted Andreas shot in both kneecaps and a confession elicited from him, then hold a 30-minute trial and then execute him." D.E. 2191 at 16. The FBI was immediately informed of the information when defense counsel learned it.

Despite government denials to the Court that Strassmeir has never been the subject of the investigation of this case, defense counsel has obtained documents--generated by the government--which indicate that he most assuredly was. One official document, dated January 11, 1996, from an investigative assistant discussed Strassmeir and stated, "Subject is wanted for questioning by FBI, Oklahoma City. Detain and notify [the FBI]," and then giving the phone number, and "refer to FBI case number," and then giving the Oklahoma City bombing case, and then concluding that "subject is possibly armed and may be dangerous." D.E. 3410 (Pretrial Hearing--Sealed--Not Provided to Defendant Nichols, March 10, 1997 at 18).

This document was generated months after the defense began requesting information concerning Strassmeir and during the very time that the defense was meeting with the District Court concerning Strassmeir. Id. In addition, the defense has now learned, belatedly through discovery and through Howe herself, that ATF informant Carol Howe was sent back to Elohim City after the bombing in an attempt to learn additional information about Strassmeir, Mahon and others. Also, through discovery, the defense has learned of significant official communication between the United States government and its representatives in Germany concerning additional information on Strassmeir and that Strassmeir has been the subject of interest to the Counterterrorism Division of the Diplomatic Protective Service of the Department of State in a document which we can only describe as specifically bearing the Oklahoma City bombing investigation case number and photographs of Strassmeir. See attached Exhibit "A" and "B" (Under Seal).

To say, in light of these documents and others filed under seal and not otherwise identified in this public filing, that Mr. Strassmeir was "never the subject of the investigation" is simply untrue. Strassmeir remained a suspect and subject of the Oklahoma City investigation as demonstrated by the fact that

1. Carol Howe was sent back to Elohim City where Strassmeir lives,
2. cable traffic between an agency of the federal government and its representatives in Germany clearly identify official interest in Strassmeir,
3. his picture and other information was circulated by the Department of State with respect to the Oklahoma City bombing, and
4. in January 1996, he was considered to be "armed and dangerous" and was to be detained for investigation and interview by the FBI.

For the government to represent to the Court, as it did that Strassmeir had never been the subject of the investigation is not consistent with the known facts and misleads both the Court and the Defendant. See (Scheduling and Rule 17.1 Conference--Sealed, January 29, 1997, at 60, 68). Strassmeir not only was a subject of the investigation and a suspect of official interest on two continents, but that interest lasted at least from the middle of April 1995 to January 1996.