

Man in McVeigh's room didn't look like Nichols, food deliveryman testifies

Accomplice was someone else, defense contends

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DENVER — John Jeffrey Davis delivered Chinese food to Timothy McVeigh's motel room four days before the Oklahoma City bombing. But he testified Wednesday that the man who took the food from him did not look like McVeigh.

Davis then described a customer who did not resemble Terry Nichols, either, as Nichols' attorneys continued to suggest that McVeigh, who has been convicted of murder in the bombing and sentenced to

death, had an accomplice other than Nichols. But Davis also said that he told FBI agents who questioned him immediately after the bombing that he could recall no details of the man who accepted the order at the Dreamland Motel in Junction City, Kan.

McVeigh stayed there in the days before the bombing of April 19, 1995, which killed 168 people and injured more than 500. Nichols is on trial in U.S. District Court on charges of helping McVeigh carry out the bombing.

With its opening witnesses, Nichols' defense team has tried to raise the specter of John Doe 2, a man some people say they saw with McVeigh before the bombing. The FBI initially circulated a sketch of a man who did not resemble Nichols but said later that no such man was being sought.

A waitress and a nurse said Wednesday they saw McVeigh with one or more men in central Kansas just before the bombing. The nurse said she saw McVeigh with a man in a yellow truck in Junction City. Another woman said she saw two men in a Ryder truck near McPherson, following a beige Mercury driven by a man who looked like John Doe 2. McVeigh drove the bomb to Oklahoma City in a rented Ryder truck and was arrested in a yellow Mercury.

But on cross-examination, Davis acknowledged that his initial description vaguely matched McVeigh. He said he made 15 more deliveries that night. Davis said that he began changing his story after being contacted by news reporters and that he helped an artist draw a composite from his memory a year after the bombing.