

# 'JOHN DOE 2' SIGHTING REPORTED AFTER BLAST



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DENVER — A restaurateur told jurors today that he contacted the FBI after the Oklahoma City bombing about a dishwasher who resembled John Doe 2, but agents never followed up on the information.

Continuing his testimony in the trial of Terry Nichols today, Darvin Bates — a former mayor of Duncan, Okla. — said an agent told him that “they had the two (bombing suspects) they were interested in and if they needed additional information they would call me.”

Bates said he never heard again from the agent, whose name he could not recall.

Under cross-examination, Bates said he didn't try reaching other law enforcement officials or federal prosecutors, but he did contact Nichols' defense attorneys.

“I felt that any reasonable-thinking person that loved his country would like to bring forth any pertinent information that would be valuable to this trial,” Bates said.

Bates testified that the short, olive-skinned man entered his waffle shop looking for work about a month after the bombing. Bates said the man's name was difficult to pronounce, so the man told him, “Call me John.”

Bates hired him despite “an uneasy feeling” because of his resemblance to the widely circulated sketch of John Doe 2.

Three days later, Bates called the FBI. The man, who said he was from Kingman, Ariz., received a \$90 salary advance after the end of his shift that day, but never returned, Bates said.

The sketch depicted a man some claimed they saw with Timothy McVeigh when he rented the truck used in the bombing. Prosecutors have said John Doe 2 was someone not involved in the deadliest act of domestic terrorism in the nation's history.

Bates began his testimony Monday — the last of 17 witnesses that day — as defense attorneys continued their campaign to prove others were involved in the April 19, 1995, explosion that killed 168 people.

They also sought to show that testimony from prosecution witness Michael Fortier could not be trusted because he is an admitted habitual drug user.

Dr. Michael Abrams of Des Moines, Iowa, testified that methamphetamine users can suffer memory gaps and become paranoid.

“They feel they’re being followed,” Abrams said. “They’re open to suggestion to fill in the gaps.”

Prosecutor Patrick Ryan said only 10 percent to 20 percent of an estimated 4 million methamphetamine users nationwide suffer serious problems.

Last month, Fortier testified that McVeigh told him in advance of his plan to bomb the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building.

In other developments Monday, Shawn Morris and Jason Hart, a convicted burglar serving time in Arizona, invoked their right not to testify and were not called to the stand. Both men arrived in Denver in custody.

Hart, 30, has told FBI agents he occasionally sold small amounts of methamphetamine to McVeigh and Fortier. It was unclear why Morris was called to testify.

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