

# Grand Jurors Shown Photos Of Truck Before Bombing

Judy Kuhlman • *Published: April 9, 1998*

An Oklahoma City attorney brought with him pictures he took after the federal building bombing as he went to testify Wednesday before the Oklahoma County grand jury investigating the bombing.

Russell B. Fister, 61, showed reporters and photographers one of the pictures. He said the picture proves the Oklahoma County bomb squad truck was in downtown Oklahoma City minutes before the bomb exploded at 9:02 a.m. April 19, 1995.

Other grand jury witnesses have said they saw the bomb squad truck downtown minutes before the explosion. They believe the presence of the bomb truck before the explosion proves the government had prior knowledge.

Bill Grimsley, an Oklahoma County deputy and bomb squad truck driver, said he drove the truck from the sheriff's training center at NE 36 and Air Depot Boulevard, where he was when the bomb exploded, to the downtown area.

Fister's picture shows the truck traveling north on Harvey toward the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building. Grimsley said Harvey was one of the streets he traveled. Harvey is a north-south street that runs past the bomb site on the west side.

The picture shows no debris swirling in the air. The large black cloud of smoke that appeared immediately after the blast does not appear in the picture. There is a smaller smoke cloud in the picture. No time or date appears on the picture.

Fister said he took the picture immediately after the blast.

Since it began meeting at the Oklahoma County jail on June 30, the grand jury has heard testimony from 99 witnesses and read the deposition of a witness who died before he had could testify.

Meanwhile, state Rep. Charles Key, R-Oklahoma City, is seeking a congressional inquiry into the attack that resulted in the deaths of 168 people.

Convicted bomber Timothy McVeigh, 29, was sentenced to death last summer. Convicted conspirator Terry Nichols, 43, is awaiting sentencing for his role in the attack.

Key, who spearheaded the petition drive to call the grand jury, said he has gone to Washington, D.C., and talked to an Oklahoma congressional representative about a possible inquiry.

Key would not name the representative. He said the representative is willing to sponsor the inquiry, but is not ready to say so publicly.

"Yeah, I just still don't want to talk about who it is or isn't until we get down the road, until they are ready for that," Key said.

Representatives of six of the eight members of Oklahoma's congressional delegation denied talking to Key. Some denied knowledge of any request for an inquiry.

Key also said he has new evidence that shows the government had prior knowledge of the bombing. But Key would not say what the evidence is. He also said the evidence is not ready to be presented to the grand jury.

Key said he wants the congressional inquiry, regardless of the outcome of the grand jury. Grand jurors have been investigating larger conspiracy theories, including prior knowledge by the federal government.

On a short-wave radio talk show Monday, Key said he believes some of the 12 grand jurors are hostile toward him. He doubts grand jurors will return an indictment.

"We feel very strongly that there is a half dozen that are very serious and not controlled or influenced by some ideology or the government's position on this," Key said during the talk show.

An indictment would require nine jurors.

Key told *The Oklahoman* on Thursday he was only assuming that some of the grand jurors were hostile.

"I was just playing the numbers game," he said.

Key's Oklahoma Bombing Investigation Committee also is running radio advertisements criticizing Oklahoma County District Attorney Bob Macy. The ads accuse Macy of not supporting the grand jury investigation and of not seeking "the truth or justice" in the bombing.

Macy said Wednesday he assigned two "outstanding attorneys" and a veteran investigator from his office to the grand jury.

"We have done everything in our power to find out what the truth is," the district attorney said.

Staff Writer Ed Godfrey contributed to this report. BIOG: NAME: UPD: Archive ID: 718368