

## **FBI papers prompt new search for John Doe No. 2**

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(CNN) -- The discovery of more than 3,100 pages of documents from the Oklahoma City bombing investigation has raised new questions about "John Doe No. 2," the mysterious figure who was initially believed to be involved in the 1995 attack.

A number of witnesses told authorities they had seen a man with convicted bomber Timothy McVeigh a few days before the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building that killed 168 people and wounded hundreds more. They said the man was not McVeigh's convicted co-conspirator Terry Nichols.

The witnesses include:

- Eldon Elliott, the owner of the Junction City, Kansas, Ryder rental office where McVeigh rented the truck used to deliver the bomb.
- A delivery man who said he brought food to a man at a Junction City motel, who used one of McVeigh's aliases.
- A waitress at a Denny's restaurant who testified that she waited on McVeigh and two other men. She said one of those men definitely was not Nichols.

The FBI released a sketch of John Doe No. 2 but later said he had nothing to do with the bombing and that the Ryder clerk was mistaken.

Timothy McVeigh's former attorney Stephen Jones has long suggested that McVeigh exaggerated his role in the bombing and that he was part of a wider conspiracy.

Nichols has argued unsuccessfully that it was John Doe No. 2, not him, who conspired with McVeigh.

Nichols is asking the U.S. Supreme Court to reconsider his request for a new trial.

McVeigh insists there was no John Doe No. 2. In a letter dated May 2, a week before the FBI disclosed that it failed to turn over the documents, McVeigh told the Houston Chronicle there was no such man.

"Does anyone honestly believe that if there was a John Doe #2 (there is not) that Stephen Jones would still be alive?... Think about it," he wrote.

CNN Correspondents Kelli Arena and Susan Candiotti contributed to this report