

FBI bans its employees from looting crime sites

WASHINGTON — The FBI has banned its employees from taking any items from crime scenes or evidence sites after Justice Department investigators found that 13 agents took debris from the rubble of the World Trade Center.

The new policy follows a report by Glenn A. Fine, the Justice Department's inspector general, concluding that agents took a Tiffany globe paperweight, chunks of concrete, metal and bolts and a U.S. flag from the rubble collection site at the Fresh Kills landfill in Staten Island, N.Y.

U.S. inmate can rebut bombing trial witness

McALESTER, Okla. — A federal death-row inmate who claims Timothy McVeigh told him others were involved in the Oklahoma City bombing can rebut the state's star witness at bombing conspirator Terry Nichols' trial, a judge ruled Thursday. Nichols' trial is scheduled to begin Monday.

The testimony of David Paul Hammer, a former Oklahoma prisoner scheduled to be executed in June, will be allowed to rebut prosecution witness Michael Fortier. Fortier is expected to testify that Timothy McVeigh told him Nichols was deeply involved in planning the bombing.