

# **Gun Collector Describes Robbery That Allegedly Financed Oklahoma City Bombing**

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By Tim Talley/ Associated Press Writer

McALESTER, Okla. (AP) - A gun collector testified Wednesday that a man wearing a ski mask and military-style clothing bound him and covered his eyes with duct tape during a robbery that prosecutors say financed the Oklahoma City bombing. Roger E. Moore testified at bombing conspirator Terry Nichols' state murder trial that the gunman took dozens of rifles and handguns, \$8,700 in cash, and coins and jewels in the 1994 robbery at his home near Hot Springs, Ark.

Moore said he could not identify the gunman but is convinced he was not executed bomber Timothy McVeigh, who had stayed with Moore several times. The gunman was shorter and stockier than McVeigh and had darker skin, he said.

However, Moore said he suspected McVeigh might know something about the robbery and asked McVeigh to help him find out who was responsible.

Moore and his girlfriend, Karen Anderson, sent McVeigh a letter asking him to visit so they could question him. McVeigh never showed up, Moore said.

On Tuesday, Anderson testified that dozens of rifles and handguns found in Nichols' home after the 1995 bombing of the Oklahoma City federal building were taken from Moore's home.

Defense attorneys claim the robbery was committed at McVeigh's request by other coconspirators.

Nichols, already serving a life prison sentence on federal bombing charges, is charged with 161 counts of first-degree murder in Oklahoma. Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty.

Moore told defense attorney Brian Hermanson he was not serious about comments he made in another letter to McVeigh before the bombing that said the "plan is to bring the country down."

"I'm writing that because that's what he wanted to hear," Moore said. "Our letters were like a chess game after the robbery."

The same letter referred to "mind-altering devices" and the need for "space blankets to keep out of the way of the satellites."

"I put that in there 'cause he was into that," Moore said.