

Man linked by Nichols to bombing denies role

By Richard A. Serrano and Los Angeles Times
Orlando Sentinel | May 05, 2005

WASHINGTON -- The man accused by a conspirator in the Oklahoma City bombing of providing explosives used in the attack denied Wednesday that he had any role in the 1995 tragedy and said Terry Nichols' attempt to link him to the plot fits the demeanor of someone who "hates everybody."

Roger Moore, a longtime gun collector and once a person of interest in the early days of the FBI's investigation, also maintained that he had never heard of or seen the sort of explosives that Nichols recently claimed Moore provided for the bombing.

Often swearing and angrily lambasting both Nichols and the FBI, Moore, 70, said that carrying the suspicion for 10 years that he might be the third man in the bomb conspiracy along with Nichols and Timothy McVeigh had taken a heavy toll.

He said he has dropped out of the gun business, suffers from Parkinson's disease and is awaiting colon surgery. For Nichols to make this claim now, Moore said, further complicates his health and credibility.

Moore said he prefers to be left alone at his ranch in Roseland, where he raises horses, ducks, "miniature goats and fancy chickens." He was not charged in the April 19, 1995, blast that killed 168 people at the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building.

"I've answered all the FBI's questions for hours," Moore said, saying he passed two polygraph tests in Arkansas and Washington.

April 18, the day before the bombing's 10-year anniversary, Nichols wrote a letter to the grandmother of two boys killed that morning and, in his first public statement about the blast, alleged that Moore gave McVeigh some of the bomb components.

Nichols said some of the explosives recently found in his old home in Herington, Kan., came from Moore, and that other explosive material from Moore went into building the bomb that Nichols and McVeigh assembled in a rental truck.

Jeff Lanza, the FBI spokesman in Kansas City, Mo., said agents were testing some of the material found at Nichols' former home. Nichols was convicted in federal and state courts in the bombing and is serving two life sentences at the federal Supermax prison in Colorado.

McVeigh was convicted as the bomb mastermind in federal court in Denver and was executed in June 2001.

<https://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/os-xpm-2005-05-05-0505050125-story.html>