

FD-302 (Rev. 3-10-82)



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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 10/15/95

RONALD E. STAKEM, white, male, date of birth 47, SSAN
 , home address :
 , work address :

, voluntarily appeared at the office of the United States Attorney in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. After being advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and that of Assistant United States Attorney Jerome Holmes who was also present, STAKEM provided the following information:

On the morning of April 19, 1995 STAKEM drove by the ALFRED P. MURRAH Federal Building travelling east on NW 5th Street on his way to work. STAKEM recalled that he had to stop for a red light at the intersection of 5th and Robinson. He was in the far right hand lane. STAKEM did not notice a RYDER truck or anything else unusual as he passed by the Federal Building.

After the light turned green, STAKEM proceeded through the intersection travelling east. As he neared the east side of Robinson, a man stepped off the southeast corner of the intersection walking north in front of STAKEM. STAKEM stated that he had to stop his vehicle to avoid hitting this man. STAKEM estimated that he stopped five or six feet short of the man.

This man did not look at STAKEM as STAKEM stopped and STAKEM only had a left profile view of him. STAKEM had the impression that this man was a transient or homeless person who was not paying attention as he crossed the street. The man was not carrying anything and he was not hurrying. He was walking.

The most distinctive aspect of the man's appearance was a three or four day growth of beard that he had. It was not a trimmed beard. STAKEM further described the man as having a dark complexion, possibly from being weather-beaten. STAKEM does not think this man was a black man, nor does he believe that the man was of middle-eastern descent. His height was 5'9" to 6'1". He was 25-40 years of age and weighed 150-180 pounds. He was wearing a dark-colored shirt and dark-colored pants. These appeared to be work clothes that were not torn or tattered but were not business attire either. The man had medium length, dark-colored hair and wore no hat. STAKEM could not recall the man's shoes. STAKEM estimated that he looked at the man

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 by SA Louis Michalko Date dictated 10/15/95

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for four or five seconds. STAKEM stated that he may have seen the man crossing Robinson Street while he was stopped at the light, but he was not sure if he had or not.

After the man crossed in front of STAKEM, STAKEM continued east on 5th Street to Broadway and the traffic light was red. STAKEM made a right turn on red and drove south on Broadway until it turned into E.K. Gaylord Blvd. STAKEM continued south on Gaylord for three or four blocks and turned right (west) on Robert E. Kerr. STAKEM then entered the parking garage on the corner of Kerr and Gaylord. He spiralled up to the sixth, or top floor of the garage and parked his car. He walked to the elevator and took it to the first floor. Stakem then exited the garage and walked to the corner of Kerr and Broadway. He crossed Broadway walking west. When he reached the west side of Broadway he turned south and began crossing Kerr. He was half way across the street when the explosion occurred. STAKEM estimated that four or five minutes probably elapsed from the time he saw the man crossing the street until the time of the explosion.

The first thing STAKEM did was look at his watch. It was 9:02 am. STAKEM remembered saying to himself that he did not hear a shell come in before the explosion. STAKEM explained that he was familiar with the sound of shells from his experience in the military. He looked up and watched his own office building shaking. He also witnessed sheets of glass cascading down from the GLOBE LIFE BUILDING. STAKEM briefly walked over to Robinson Street to see what had happened, saw that it was not safe to proceed north on Robinson, and then returned to his office to check on the condition of his employees.

At approximately 10:30am STAKEM decided to go to the OKLAHOMA BLOOD INSTITUTE on Lincoln Blvd. to donate blood. He returned to his car in the parking garage and remembered that he had a video camera in the trunk of his car. STAKEM shot some video from the roof of the parking garage and then left the garage headed for the blood institute. STAKEM kept the video camera in the front seat and tried to shoot additional video after he discovered that he could not get in to donate blood. STAKEM does not believe that he still has this video as he probably recorded over it.

From Lincoln Blvd. STAKEM went home and continued his work day there placing telephone calls. In the early afternoon, he was telephonically contacted by an FBI Agent named KEN KAMINSKI who introduced himself, stated that he was calling from Tulsa, Oklahoma,

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and asked STAKEM if he had seen anything unusual in downtown Oklahoma City that morning. STAKEM described to KAMINSKI what he observed that morning. KAMINSKI did not explain to STAKEM how the FBI had known he was downtown and STAKEM assumed that his license plate number had been retrieved from a video camera near the Federal Building.

On August 14, 1995 STAKEM was personally contacted by MARTY REED, an investigator for attorney STEPHEN JONES, and was interviewed concerning his observations that morning. STAKEM described his observations to REED. Near the conclusion of that interview, STAKEM asked REED if REED had tape recorded their interview. REED confirmed that he had and produced a small tape recorder from his shirt pocket. STAKEM then requested that he be provided with a copy of the tape and he was at a later date. STAKEM allowed the interviewing Agent to make a copy of this tape on October 13, 1995.

On September 8, 1995 STAKEM was telephonically contacted by DEMEE CAPORAL, a reporter for KWTU-9 in Oklahoma City. CAPORAL had received STAKEM'S name from a CBS television station in Los Angeles, California and wanted STAKEM to comment on a story concerning his observations that had run that day in the Los Angeles Times. STAKEM could not comment because he had not seen the story, had not been interviewed for a story, and knew nothing about it. Thereafter, CAPORAL faxed him a copy of the story.

STAKEM stated that the story misrepresents what he saw on April 19, 1995. Among these misrepresentations are the following: 1. That he saw a man hurrying. The man STAKEM saw was not hurrying. He was walking. 2. The man was hurrying from the front of the Federal Building. The man STAKEM saw was not in front of the Federal Building but was on the other side of Robinson Street from the Federal Building. 3. That STAKEM observed this man "moments" before the explosion. STAKEM stated that he does not know how the author of the article defines "moments", but that he estimates that his observations of a man crossing the street occurred four to five minutes before the explosion. 4. That the man was Mexican or Native American. STAKEM does not know if the man was Mexican or Native American. He only knows that the man had a dark complexion and he does not believe that the man was black or middle eastern.

STAKEM has no reason to believe that the man he saw crossing the street at NW 5th and Robinson on April 19, 1995 had anything to do with the bombing of the Federal Building on that date.

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During the course of the interview, STAKEM made two sketches describing his movements on April 19, 1995 and also made notations on a copy of the Los Angeles Times article described above. These notes were maintained by the interviewing Agent and have been placed in the 1a section of the file.