

Visitors mourn bombing dead



OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Thousands of people ringed the bombed wreckage of the federal building Sunday, many in church clothes and some wearing Mother's Day corsages.

Children hooked their fingers into the 8-foot-tall chain-link fence circling the hulk that's scheduled to be brought down by demolition experts this week. Visitors have slipped flowers, toys and poems between the links.

Eleven-year-old Brian Grider jammed his hands down into his pockets, shrugged and tried to find his voice. "Sad," he said.

"We came down yesterday afternoon and we just had to come back," said Curtis Wilkey, who brought his family along from Norman for what he called a pilgrimage.

Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols, two former Army buddies, are charged in the April 19 bombing that has killed 168 people.

Federal authorities were still searching for John Doe No. 2, a tanned, muscular man who witnesses place with McVeigh when he allegedly rented a truck

in Junction City, Kan. Authorities say the truck carried the bomb made of 4,800 pounds of ammonium nitrate fertilizer and fuel oil.

Newsweek reports in its May 22 issue that McVeigh wrote to his sister on March 25, urging her to let him know if she had received his last letter or if it was intercepted by "G-men or Dad."

He told his sister not to send any more letters after April 1 unless it was an emergency and warned her to "watch what you say, because I may not get it in time, and the G-men might get it out of my box, incriminating you," *Newsweek* reported, citing unidentified law enforcement officials.

Jennifer McVeigh hasn't been charged and denies knowing anything about the bombing.

In Phoenix, Steven Garrett Colbern, a fugitive gun enthusiast who reportedly told investigators he knew McVeigh under the name Tim Tuttle, remained in custody Sunday. He was held without bail on charges stemming from an old federal firearms case and from a scuffle with agents who arrested him in Oatman, Ariz., on Friday.

Authorities have come to

believe Colbern probably had no role in the bombing. *The New York Times* reported Sunday.

The Justice Department had no comment on that report, spokesman Bert Brandenburg in Washington said Sunday.

On Friday, a senior federal official in Washington told *The Associated Press* on condition of anonymity that investigators were looking into the possibility of a link between Colbern and McVeigh.

In Oklahoma City, demolition crews were preparing to bring down the wreckage of the federal building with more explosives.

But McVeigh's lawyer, Stephen Jones, was considering filing a motion to halt the demolition until he can study the building, *Newsweek* reported, citing unidentified sources.

Meanwhile, Nichols' new lawyer, Michael E. Tigar, said Sunday that he will meet with his client Monday.

Tigar, a law professor at the University of Texas at Austin, has represented clients ranging from John Demjanjuk, accused of being Nazi death-camp officer "Ivan the Terrible," to 1960s activist Angela Davis, to U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas.

Tornadoes destroy homes, farms

LINNSBURG, Ind. (AP) — Gary Heimbach and Linda Kelp were home when the storm hit Sunday. It tossed their trailer 200 yards and left their bodies in a field.

The suspected tornado destroyed the family's barn, workshop, garage and silo and did severe damage to Heimbach's parents' house.

"There was no warning — just some hail and then a whoosh," said Heimbach's father, Edward. "And I shouted 'move, move' and then the chimney fell in." He was not injured.

It was one sample of a blast of violent springtime thunderstorms that stretched from Arkansas up the Ohio Valley, including a dozen or more tornadoes in central Illinois.

Three inches of rain fell in two

to three hours Sunday in southeastern Ohio's Meigs County, causing flooding that forced at least 80 people from their homes.

Tornadoes touched down in at least six Indiana counties, said Alden Taylor, a spokesman for the state Emergency Management Agency. A tornado touched down on Indianapolis' northeast side, the Marion County Sheriff's Department said.

The National Weather Service had not yet confirmed Sunday afternoon whether the Indiana damage was done by tornadoes.

Heimbach, 42, ran the family farm just south of Linnsburg, a town of about 500 people 40 miles west of Indianapolis.

He and Kelp, 36, had planned to marry, Heimbach's mother said Sunday.

"They were talking about this

summer, sometime in the summer," said Jean Heimbach, who was hit on the head by a brick from the falling chimney but was not seriously injured.

Kelp's 11-year-old daughter from a previous marriage was staying with her father for the weekend, she said.

At least 10 other houses in the same county suffered extensive damage or were destroyed, Montgomery County Sheriff John Dale said.

One 93-year-old man was hospitalized with a head injury.

Officials in Miami County reported wind gusts of almost 140 mph at Grissom Air Force Base.

There were numerous unconfirmed reports of tornadoes in western and northern Kentucky, along with hail and wind damage.

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