

# NEWS DIGEST

your quick guide to news from around the world

## McVeigh accused of planning bank robbery

**1** IDABEL, Okla. — Timothy McVeigh's sister told FBI agents he once gave her \$300 he said he got from a bank robbery and asked her to exchange it for clean money, a newspaper reported Tuesday.

She said their transaction was in December 1994, a time when prosecutors have said McVeigh and co-defendant Terry Nichols were financing a plot to bomb the Oklahoma City federal building.

Jennifer McVeigh said in the sworn statement to federal agents that her brother told her he helped plan, but did not participate in, the robbery, the McCurtain Daily Gazette reported.

Ms. McVeigh told the agents that her brother had "an undetermined quantity of \$100 bills, of which he provided me a small portion," the paper reported.

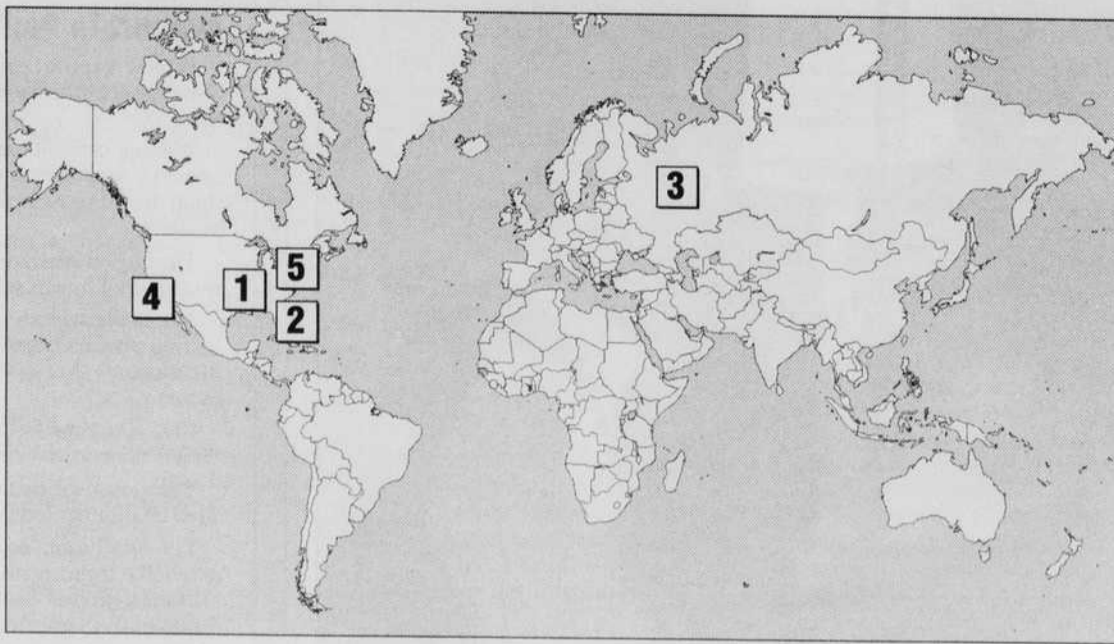
The Gazette did not detail how it obtained the information, but said Ms. McVeigh gave the sworn statement on May 2, 1995, weeks after the Oklahoma City explosion that killed 168 people.

Justice Department spokeswoman Leesa Brown in Denver said the department had no comment on the newspaper report.

Defense attorney Stephen Jones said there is no evidence "from any source that Tim McVeigh was ever involved in a bank robbery."

Jones said McVeigh's sister apparently misunderstood her brother's joke, and that he was being facetious when he said the money came from a robbery.

Jones said the sister's statement was probably leaked by someone in federal government.



## Officials investigate fraudulent art sale

**2** MIAMI — An auctioneer canceled a weekend art sale Tuesday after experts confirmed accusations that many of the almost 300 works, supposedly by top artists including Georgia O'Keeffe and Jasper Johns, were fakes.

"When I heard the word forgery ... forget it, cancel it," veteran estate auctioneer C.B. Charles said. "I don't want anything to do with it."

Law enforcement officials had confirmed earlier Tuesday that they were investigating Charles' planned auction on Sunday of 294 pieces of art.

He said he was handling the sale for a Florida collector, but would not identify him.

## Kremlin photos show Yeltsin back at work

**3** MOSCOW — A trimmer, more vigorous Boris Yeltsin was shown working in the Kremlin on Tuesday in the first pictures released of the Russian president in more than three weeks.

Yeltsin spent nearly three hours at work in his first trip to the Kremlin since a brief visit Jan. 22. He was recently released from the hospital, where he was treated for pneumonia.

Photos released by the Kremlin showed a smiling but slightly pale Yeltsin greeting Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin and then sitting at a table, gesturing with his hands.

Yeltsin had lost weight since his heart bypass in November but was moving more vigorously.

## Study indicates few immigrants stay long

**4** LOS ANGELES — Most immigrants from western Mexico who come to California legally or illegally return home within a few years, and those who stay tend to be educated and have good paying jobs, a study found Tuesday.

While it is common for immigrants to return home, the study's author said she was surprised by the extent of the movement back to western Mexico.

Fifty-one percent of illegal immigrants who come to California from western Mexico return home within two years, Belinda Reyes said. Only twenty percent of the group stay longer than 10 years.

## Cosby's wife denies he has illegitimate child

**5** NEW YORK — Bill Cosby's wife brushed aside the possibility he fathered a child during a long-ago affair, saying Tuesday: "All old personal negative issues between Bill and me were resolved years ago. We are a united couple."

"What occurred 23 years ago is not important to me except for the current issue of extortion," Camille Cosby, the comedian's wife of 33 years, said in a statement issued through her husband's publicist.

Mrs. Cosby said her focus is on finding answers in the Jan. 16 roadside slaying of her 27-year-old son, Ennis.

"What is very important to me is the apprehension of the person or persons who killed our son," she said. "I appeal to all of you to help us find the murderer."

Cosby previously denied he is the father of 22-year-old Autumn Jackson.

Jackson was arrested two days after the slaying on charges of trying to extort \$24 million from the entertainer by threatening to go public with her claim to be Cosby's illegitimate daughter.

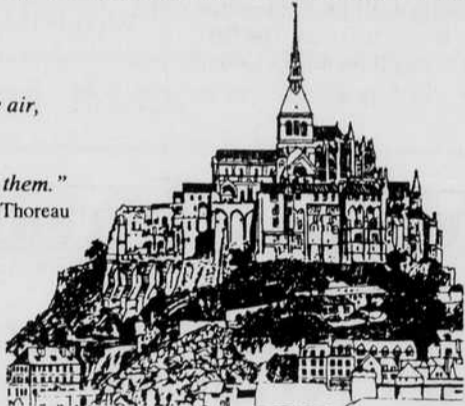
In an interview this week with CBS' Dan Rather, Cosby acknowledged having an affair with the young woman's mother and said "there is a possibility" he is the father.

"If you said, 'Did you make love to the woman?' the answer is yes. 'Are you the father?' No," Cosby said.

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