

FBI and World Trade Center bombing-my instant memo on it

3/10/93

I sent the memo to a reporter friend on an ~~all~~-news New York City radio station.

I wrote it almost immediately, after the initial official public statements I regarded as at best dubious. ^{some were ludicrous} I sent copies to a few friends, a few I thought might be interested. It was not the result of long and deep thought. I was what I thought should be obvious to any in a position to make any public statements, ^{official experts in particular.}

Yesterday afternoon George Lardner of the Washington Post, to whom I'd sent a copy, phoned me about something else. The first thing he said is that he found the memo interesting. And then he added, "pretty accurate, too." ^{In the light of subsequent official admission}

On ^{last} the evening network TV news the FBI's Congressional testimony on terrorism was covered. It included Fox, the New York FBI Special Agent in Charge. He referred to this bombing and said that first they were "reluctant" to describe the explosion as a bombing. (And that explosion demolished a five-storey steel and concrete section of the massive building!) He said they were also reluctant ^{to} describe it as terrorism. This was the conclusion they reached when those he described as the "tough old experts" conferred on the bombing and what they knew of it. And this is to say that the FBI's best experts, after conferring and thought, came up with absolutely stupid conclusions, so much so that the opposite was immediately apparent to me based only on the little the press saw and what it reported of what the FBI and the police said.

And then Director Session said that there was no reason to believe that this was the beginning of terrorism against the US. His statement, presumably, was made after he conferred with the FBI's top experts. Time will tell if there will be more. I know of no reason to believe there will not be any more. And then there is what preceded this bombing, hardly a tea party - that attack on CIA people entering the ETA road that leads to its headquarters building. Several were killed and several were wounded. That was by a Muslim ~~for~~ from Pakistan. And the WTC bombing the FBI began saying was not terrorism and came from the explosion of an electrical transformer? Another Muslim, a Palestinian was arrested and others, including ^{radical} Egyptian religious leader and his group are suspected.

The FBI even indicated, when it abandoned the electrical transformer accident nonsense, that the explosion could have been by home-made explosives, ~~as~~ ^{and} ~~as~~ ^{as} unlikely if not impossible. They actually said it could have been made beginning with agricultural fertilizer. Bombs can be, but one that massive? ^{And by one disgruntled employee}

My purpose is not to toot my own horn. The hasty memo was an instant analysis, not revised in any way, just a few suggestions to this radio reporter friend who may have been on an overseas assignment, in the event he was in the story. My purpose is to indicate the ignorance and incompetence of the official experts and the unwisdom, incompetence and falsity of their statements to the country in the wake of this major tragedy. The ^{of} experts were not only the FBI. It included also the chief engineer of the New York Port authority, ^{again} ~~also~~ on recent TV as an expert. He described that unprecedented terrorist bombing success as "unsophisticated." ^{No} ~~No~~ doubt the ^{of} reasons it remains unsolved! With the bombers unapprehended. ^{WTC}