When an explosion rocked downtown Oklahoma City on April 19, 1995, people were confused and frightened. What had happened? Was there a plane crash, or did a gas main break? The shock waves of the blast were felt up to six miles away, with some people claiming they heard dishes rattling in their cupboards. It sent many people out into the streets trying to determine what had just happened.

It wasn't long before the horrific story began to unfold. As rescue workers, medical personnel, and citizens rushed to the downtown area, news began to trickle out information on local broadcasts. A rented panel truck packed with a combination of volatile explosives was deliberately parked on the street in front of the building and detonated.

With all the rescue units stretched to capacity, individual citizens drove to the downtown area and transported injured people to hospitals in the backs of pickups and backseats of cars. Over 800 people were injured, and nearly half of the building was destroyed. In the surrounding areas, over 300 buildings were damaged by the blast.

An American and army veteran by the name of Timothy McVeigh and several other conspirators planned the bombing. They acted in protest of what they considered abusive actions taken by the United States Federal Government.

Of the 168 deaths, 19 were children from the daycare located on the ground floor of the Murrah Building.
McVeigh was executed on June 11, 2001, by lethal injection. The bombing of the Murrah Building remains the largest act of domestic terrorism to date (2009).

The police sketch and a photo of Timothy McVeigh.