After receiving a staggering amount of videos and pictures, investigators are pursuing some promising leads, including images from several sources that show someone carrying a heavy duffel bag and placing it at the spot where the bombs went off.

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Boston Marathon, Terrorist Attack, Terrorism, Terrorist, Attacks, Bombs, Explosives, Explosions, Dead, Killed, Injured, Victims, Boston, Massachusetts, Investigation, Investigators, Pressure Cookers, IEDs, Improvised Explosive Devices, Ben Thorndike, Pictures, Photos, Photographs, Video, Trash Bag, Garbage Can, Duffel Bag, Evidence, Suspect, James Cavanaugh, Danny Defenbaugh, Crime, Crime Scene, Forensic Science

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Transcript
Department Store Camera May Hold Important Clues to Boston Marathon Bombing
BRIAN WILLIAMS, anchor:
Good evening. Now the investigation in Boston is moving and after a day of fits and starts and several false reports, it appears that from a mountain of evidence has emerged an image-- a series of images that likely show the bomber that police are looking for. Parts of Boston are still shut down. It was another jittery day there after a bomb threat at the federal courthouse this afternoon and this is the bombing scene tonight. We have learned more about the devices themselves as this case, as we said, now picks up speed. While the FBI is urging caution and asking for patience especially from the news media, it appears they have pictures of their suspect. Our Justice Correspondent Pete Williams has been following the investigation all day. He’s in our DC Newsroom tonight. Pete, good evening.
PETE WILLIAMS, reporting:
Brian, good evening. The FBI is pursuing some very promising leads. One in particular tonight, thanks to the abundance of pictures and videos rounded up in the two days since the bombing and we are getting a close-up look at how the bombs were made.
MAN: Guys, guys, guys, no way. No way.
P. WILLIAMS: The FBI says it's getting exactly what it asked for--pictures from several sources showing someone carrying a heavy backpack or duffel bag and placing it at the spot where one bomb went off. One of the most promising images, they say, comes from a department store surveillance camera high up on a building, able to look down at the crowd. On a day when incorrect news reports of an arrest distracted officials, investigators were working aggressively to discover, find, and interview that person. That’s at the scene of the second bombing following the first by about 15 seconds. It’s that second spot shown on this picture sent to NBC station WHDH showing a garbage bag next to a trash can. While investigators cannot be sure that bag contained the bomb, federal officials tell NBC News that is the spot where the
second bomb went off. Former ATF bomb investigator Jim Cavanaugh says it's obvious to him looking at the pictures.

JIM CAVANAUGH: Large injuries were on the side of it, debris field to the left, some protected areas over on the right side that indicate the blast was to the one side of the trash receptacle. This was the scene of the blast.

P. WILLIAMS: We are also seeing close up photos of the actual pieces of the bomb showing the pressure cooker deformed by the blast, one of its lids blown to the top of a nearby building. They are a favorite of bomb makers because explosive pressure builds up before it's released. Investigators can now begin to trace down where components were bought since they know the maker of the pressure cooker, the type of rechargeable flashlight batteries used made in China but widely available, and even the type of wire also made in China used to hook the main components together. Bomb technicians are also examining two electronic components that were included in the bombs to see whether they were parts of timers or receivers for a remote detonation signal. All potentially promising leads, says a bomb expert.

DANNY DEFENBAUGH (Former FBI Agent): It depends on how unique the bomb components are. How identifiable the characteristics are? What other forensics that are involved in that whether it be fingerprints or DNA, etcetera.

P. WILLIAMS: Investigators are optimistic tonight that they are close to the answer of who did this and why in an investigation that's now moving very rapidly, Brian, on several fronts.

B. WILLIAMS: Well, about that rapid speed and that optimism, Pete Williams, thanks.