They argue that the FBI abused its power and violated its own policies as they probed an innocent man for six months.

In interviews with a dozen of Ivins' colleagues at the US Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID) at Fort Detrick, his friends and independent scientists, The Post found many of them would speak only on the condition of anonymity because they believed they were still under FBI surveillance and their phones were being tapped.

Together, those closest to Ivins cited a laundry list of holes in the feds' conclusions. They include:

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