

## Meeting with Kevin Janet of DEA

Attendees: Kevin Janet, Phil Golrick, Kevin Tiernan

We met with Janet to review the results of his searches for names in DEA files which were responsive to HSCA requests. We had sent him a list of names earlier which was drawn from two HSCA request letters. He then used the DEA NADDIS (Narcotic and Dangerous Drug Information System) computer to search for the names, and we reviewed the results of these searches together. The NADDIS can produce results in four categories: 1) Exact names and qualifying information; 2) exact names and no qualifying information; 3) "soundex" names (which means names which sound like the requested name) and qualifying information; 4) "soundex" names and no qualifying information. Qualifying information could be a date of birth, race, FBI file numbers, DEA file numbers, etc... We reviewed the NADDIS search results which he had, and asked for him to clarify a few things and send us copies of the search results so that we could then request the actual files which these searches yielded.

We also had a discussion of DEA records generally. DEA cases are opened in four general categories: 1) Vessels; 2) businesses; 3) individuals; and 4) airports and landing strips. Cases are numbered by a set of 2-4 numbers or letters which describe the office of origin and/or the type case (-) two digit number of fiscal year (-) and a file number consecutively assigned. Not every person who becomes the subject of serious inquiry by the DEA has a file opened in their name. Rather cases are opened in one of the above categories, and any criminal activity associated with the subject could have a report filed in that case. A subject could have files in many different cases. Janet asserted that DEA files are not set up to be accessible to inquiries like ours, or Freedom of Information requests, but they are set up to track information on criminal activity. He showed us a blue spiral bound book called a "Code Conversion Chart" which he used to decipher case numbers. We asked for a copy, or at least copies of the relevant pages. He gave a noncommittal answer to that request.

On some of the NADDIS search results, there were "GF" files. Janet explained that these were outdated "general files". It appeared that general files could be opened on a wide variety of subjects from countries or regions (ie., GF Colombia, or GF Organized crime, Rio Grand Valley) to individuals (ie., GF Norman Rothman). A report could be written about suspicious activity at a jungle air-strip in Colombia, but the investigator does not know who owns and operates the air-strip. The report could end up in the GF Colombia file until more information is acquired. According to Janet, all of the "GF" files have been destroyed. There were also GF files followed by a code. We are not clear how to read those.

Janet said he would send us the search results he had so far so that we could study them and then request the actual files to which they refer. We should also ask for more information about DEA files generally.

Janet also gave us the results of the searches for FBN records which we were interested in from our

first meeting. These were boxes 1 and 24 of accession 170-76-0006 which were destroyed in June of 1995.