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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

United States of America,	)	CR 84-0090-PHX-EHC
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	<b>ORDER</b>
	)	
vs.	)	
	)	
Harold Jerry Garmany,	)	
	)	
Defendant.	)	

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Defendant and numerous co-defendants were charged in a multi-count indictment returned in the District of Arizona on April 17, 1984. A jury found Defendant guilty on May 22, 1985 of the following crimes:

- Count 1 - Continuing Criminal Enterprise ("CCE") (21 U.S.C. § 848);
- Count 3 - Conspiracy to Distribute and Possess with intent to Distribute Marijuana, Cocaine and Methaqualone (21 U.S.C. § 846);
- Count 4 - Conspiracy to Import Marijuana and Cocaine (21 U.S.C. § 963);
- Count 10 - Conspiracy to Defraud the Internal Revenue Service, U.S. Customs and Treasury Department and to Harbor a Federal Fugitive (18 U.S.C. § 371);
- Count 27 - Conspiracy to Collect and Collection of Extension of Credit by Extortionate Means (18 U.S.C. § 894(a)(1));
- Count 28 - Conspiracy to Collect and Collection of Extension of Credit by Extortionate Means, and aiding and abetting (18 U.S.C. §§ 2 and 894(a)(1)); and,

1 Count 64 - Possession of an Unregistered Silencer (26 U.S.C. § 5861(d)).

2 On July 1, 1985, the district court sentenced the Defendant to life imprisonment on  
3 the CCE conviction charged in Count 1; fifteen years on each of the drug conspiracy counts  
4 charged in Counts 3 and 4; five years on Count 10; twenty years on each of Counts 27 and  
5 28; and ten years on Count 64. The 15-year terms imposed on Counts 3 and 4 were ordered  
6 to run consecutively to each other but concurrent with the sentence imposed on Count 1. The  
7 terms imposed on Counts 10, 27, 28 and 64 were ordered to run consecutively with each  
8 other and consecutive to Counts 1, 3 and 4. Defendant's consecutive term sentences totaled  
9 55 years.<sup>1</sup> All sentences were ordered to run consecutively with Defendant's 20-year  
10 sentence imposed on his drug-related conviction in United States v. Garmany, Case No. CR-  
11 83-354, Northern District of Alabama, on February 23, 1984. The Alabama conviction was  
12 affirmed in United States v. Garmany, 762 F.2d 929 (11<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1985). (See Dkt. 2462).

13 At the time of Defendant's conviction and sentence in the instant case, Defendant's  
14 conviction on the CCE offense carried a penalty of ten years to life imprisonment. 21 U.S.C.  
15 § 848 (1985). A life sentence was permissive prior to the effective date of the Anti-Drug  
16 Abuse Act of 1986 (effective October 27, 1986), and mandatory under certain conditions  
17 subsequent to the Act's effective date. See United States v. Williams-Davis, 90 F.3d 490,  
18 509 (D.C.Cir. 1996). A conviction on the CCE offense was not subject to parole eligibility.  
19 18 U.S.C. § 848(c).

20 Defendant's conviction and sentence were affirmed. United States v. Garmany, 808  
21 F.2d 57 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1986)(Table). Defendant subsequently filed two motions to vacate, set aside  
22 or correct sentence under 28 U.S.C. § 2255 which were denied.

23 In an Order entered on August 4, 2006 (Dkt. 2420), this Court granted Defendant's  
24 Motion to Correct Sentence filed under Fed.R.Crim.P. 35(a) by adopting in part the

25 \_\_\_\_\_  
26 <sup>1</sup>According to Defendant's Presentence Report ("PSR"), the terms imposed on Counts  
27 3, 4, 10, 27, 28 and 64 were the maximum terms authorized by statute. (PSR, at page 1a).  
28 Fines totaling \$100,000 were imposed on Counts 1, 3 and 4. The Court referred to the  
Presentence Investigation Report as the "PSI" in its previous Order. (Dkt. 2420 at page 5).

1 Magistrate Judge's Report and Recommendation. As relevant to this case, Rule 35(a)  
2 provided at the time of Defendant's sentencing that the district court can "correct an illegal  
3 sentence at any time ..." Fed.R.Crim.P. 35(a) (1985)(which applies to sentences for crimes  
4 committed before November 1, 1987).<sup>2</sup> United States v. Minor, 846 F.2d 1184, 1188 n.4 (9<sup>th</sup>  
5 Cir. 1988). The Court ruled that Defendant's drug conspiracy convictions on Counts 3 and  
6 4 should be vacated based on Rutledge v. United States, 517 U.S. 292 (1996). Under  
7 Rutledge, convictions for both drug conspiracy and CCE violate the constitutional  
8 prohibition against double jeopardy because the conspiracy is a lesser included offense of the  
9 CCE.

10 This Court vacated the sentence imposed on the CCE conviction based on findings  
11 that, although Defendant's sentence was within the statutory limits, it had been imposed on  
12 the basis of false and unreliable information making it unconstitutional because it violates  
13 Defendant's due process rights. The misconception was evidenced by the Sentencing Court's  
14 oral pronouncement and Judgment that sentence was imposed under 18 U.S.C. §  
15 4205(a)(repealed),<sup>3</sup> which dealt with parole eligibility; the Presentence Report ("PSR") which  
16 provided that Defendant's probable incarceration was "180 plus" months for all listed  
17 offenses (see Dkt. 2364, Exhibit A) and that Defendant probably would be paroled during

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19 <sup>2</sup>Rule 35(a) provided in full as follows: "The court may correct an illegal sentence at  
20 any time and may correct a sentence imposed in an illegal manner within the time provided  
21 herein for the reduction of sentence." Rule 35(b) provided that a motion to reduce sentence  
22 may be made within 120 days after certain triggering events as set forth.

23 <sup>3</sup>Regarding parole eligibility, 18 U.S.C. § 4205(a) provided as follows:

24 Whenever confined and serving a definite term or terms of more  
25 than one year, a prisoner shall be eligible for release on parole  
26 after serving one-third of such term or terms or after serving ten  
27 years of a life sentence or of a sentence of over thirty years,  
28 except to the extent otherwise provided by law.

Section 4205(a) was repealed by the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984. See United States v. LaFleur, 971 F.2d 200, 208-09 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1991).

1 the referenced guideline period; and the representation in the government's appellate brief  
2 that Defendant's sentence included the possibility of parole.

3 This Court ruled that Defendant must be re-sentenced pursuant to Rule 35. The issue  
4 now before the Court is Defendant's re-sentencing.

5 I.

6 The Parties' Contentions.

7 The government contends that Defendant should be re-sentenced on Count 1 to life  
8 imprisonment with possibility of parole to effect the original intent of the 1985 Sentencing  
9 Court. (Dkt. 2432 at pp. 3-6; Dkt. 2437; and Dkt. 2453 at pp. 2-3). The government argues  
10 that this Court's authority under Rule 35 (before its revision in 1985 with the advent of the  
11 Sentencing Guidelines) to correct a sentence imposed in an illegal manner, "extends only  
12 to the illegal portion of the sentence, and does not empower the district court to reach legal  
13 sentences previously imposed, even when they arose out of the same criminal transaction,"  
14 citing United States v. Minor, 846 F.2d at 1188. The government also cites Kennedy v.  
15 United States, 330 F.2d 26 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1964), United States v. Jordan, 895 F.2d 512 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir.  
16 1989), and United States v. Moreno-Hernandez, 48 F.3d 1112 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1995), in support of  
17 its argument. (Dkt. 2437 at pp. 3-5). Accordingly, the government argues the Court lacks  
18 jurisdiction to vacate a sentence or re-sentence Defendant on the sentences imposed on  
19 Counts 10, 27, 28 and 64 and it cannot reconsider the offenses or consequences on these  
20 counts.

21 Defendant argues the Court can impose sentences that would result in re-sentencing  
22 not only on Count 1 but also on the remaining counts. (Dkt. 2445). Defendant contends that  
23 this Court has the jurisdiction, authority and responsibility to correct the entire sentence.  
24 Defendant primarily relies on United States v. Contreras-Subias, 13 F.3d 1341, 1344 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir.  
25 1994), (Dkt. 2445 at pp. 4-6), which held that "[a] sentence that is 'so ambiguous that it fails  
26 to reveal its meaning 'with certainty'", is illegal." In Contreras-Subias, the sentence imposed  
27 required the defendant to serve the sentence both concurrently and consecutively to another  
28 federal sentence the defendant was serving and thus was so ambiguous as to be illegal. The

1 district court therefore acted within its authority under Rule 35(a) by vacating the entire  
2 sentence and re-sentencing the defendant by deleting the "concurrent" provisions. This  
3 correction was in line with the parties' intent as evidenced by provisions of a plea agreement.  
4 Id., at 1344-45.

5 Defendant urges that re-sentencing on all counts should result in his release from  
6 custody based on several reasons. (Dkt. 2445 at pp. 10-11; Dkt. 2452). Defendant first cites  
7 the PSR as reflecting that Defendant would be incarcerated for all his federal sentences for  
8 approximately 180 months (15 years). (See PSR at page 7). Defendant argues all of his  
9 sentences would be aggregated pursuant to § 4205(a). Defendant further argues that at the  
10 time of his conviction, the CCE offense carried a ten-year mandatory minimum sentence and  
11 if a ten-year sentence had been imposed for that offense, all sentences would have expired  
12 years ago. Defendant further argues that under the parole system in place in 1985, inmates  
13 received one-third credit for good time, citing 18 U.S.C. §§ 4205(a) and 4161(repealed),<sup>4</sup>

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15 <sup>4</sup>Regarding good time credits, 18 U.S.C. § 4161 provided:

16 Each prisoner convicted of an offense against the United  
17 States and confined in a penal or correctional institution for a  
18 definite term other than for life, whose record of conduct shows  
19 that he has faithfully observed all the rules and has not been  
20 subjected to punishment, shall be entitled to a deduction from  
the term of his sentence beginning with the day on which the  
sentence commences to run, as follows:

21 Five days for each month, if the sentence is not less than  
six months and not more than one year.

22 Six days for each month, if the sentence is more than one  
year and less than three years.

23 Seven days for each month, if the sentence is not less  
than three years and less than five years.

24 Eight days for each month, if the sentence is not less than  
five years and less than ten years.

25 Ten days for each month, if the sentence is ten years or  
26 more.

27 When two or more consecutive sentences are to be  
28 served, the aggregate of the several sentences shall be the basis  
upon which the deduction shall be computed.

1 plus an additional five days per month. Defendant argues that the time served on the  
2 consecutive sentences would only be one-third of the sentence(s), citing the PSR at page 6  
3 which provided: "These sentences will require a defendant to serve one-third of consecutive  
4 sentences before being eligible for parole release." Defendant has submitted a letter from the  
5 Bureau of Prisons ("BOP") dated March 11, 2004 that lists his federal sentences and  
6 identifies August 12, 1982 as the date from which his federal sentences began to run. (Dkt.  
7 2452, Exhibit C). The August 12, 1982 date is the date on which a parole violator warrant  
8 was executed on Defendant regarding a previous conviction in the Southern District of  
9 Texas.

10 Defendant proposes three sentencing options. First, if the Court sentences Defendant  
11 on Count 1, only a ten-year mandatory minimum term should be imposed. Second, if the  
12 Court sentences Defendant on Count 1 and then recalculates the balance of the sentence  
13 (Counts 10, 27, 28 and 64), "imposition of the 10 year mandatory minimum sentence on  
14 Count 1 would most closely approximate the intended term of sentence imposed for all  
15 counts of conviction and considering all other sentences to be served as of July 1985."  
16 Third, if the Court sentences the Defendant anew as to all counts, a sentence of "time served"  
17 is appropriate. (Dkt. 2452 at page 4).

## 18 II.

### 19 Discussion.

20 The Ninth Circuit has construed Rule 35(a) as allowing district courts to correct only  
21 the illegal portions of sentences. United States v. Jordan, 895 F.2d at 515. The basis for this  
22 construction seemingly appears to be in part that pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2106<sup>5</sup> the Court of  
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25 <sup>5</sup>Title 28, United States Code, section 2106 provides as follows:

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27 The Supreme Court or any other court of appellate jurisdiction  
28 may affirm, modify, vacate, set aside or reverse any judgment,  
decree, or order of a court lawfully brought before it for review,

1 Appeals, not the district court, has authority to determine whether re-sentencing is  
2 appropriate. Id. The progression of the case law on this issue leads this Court to a contrary  
3 result.

4 In Kennedy and Jordan, the original sentences imposed exceeded the statutory  
5 maximum and the defendants filed motions to correct sentence. The district court on re-  
6 sentencing changed the prison terms from concurrent to consecutive in an attempt to preserve  
7 the original sentences. The Ninth Circuit found error on the re-sentencing in both cases. In  
8 Kennedy, the appellate court held that the district court, which had denied the defendant's  
9 subsequent motion for relief under Rule 35(a), may not increase or make more severe the  
10 valid portions of the original sentences where service of the legal portions of the sentences  
11 has commenced. Kennedy, 330 F.2d at 27. In Jordan, the Court of Appeals held that the  
12 district court's authority under Rule 35(a) was limited to correcting illegal portions of the  
13 illegal sentences. Jordan, 895 F.2d at 514-15. The Ninth Circuit distinguished the  
14 government's argument that the holding in Kennedy based on double jeopardy grounds had  
15 been limited by United States v. DiFrancesco, 449 U.S. 117 (1980), clarifying that Kennedy  
16 "is a Rule 35 case" and the law of the Circuit. Jordan, 895 F.2d at 515. In DiFrancesco, the  
17 Supreme Court had held that a prisoner does not have a reasonable expectation of finality of  
18 a sentence until the sentence is completed. DiFrancesco, 449 U.S. at 134-37. However, in  
19 United States v. Caterino, 29 F.3d 1390, 1397 n.2 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1994), *overruled on other grounds*  
20 *by* Witte v. United States, 515 U.S. 389 (1995), it was noted that Kennedy had interpreted  
21 the double jeopardy clause as applying to prevent a court from increasing a sentence once  
22 the sentence had begun and that this interpretation was inconsistent with DiFrancesco.

23 The Ninth Circuit clarified in Jordan that its cases distinguished between the broad  
24 powers granted to the Courts of Appeals by § 2106 and the narrower powers granted to the  
25 district courts by Rule 35. Jordan, 895 F.2d at 515. For example, in United States v. Minor,

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27 and may remand the cause and direct the entry of such  
28 appropriate judgment, decree, or order, or require such further  
proceedings to be had as may be just under the circumstances.

1 the Court of Appeals reversed the defendant's conviction on two counts and affirmed on two  
2 counts. The district court, however, denied the defendant's motion to correct sentence and  
3 granted the government's motion to vacate and re-sentence. On appeal, the Ninth Circuit held  
4 that Rule 35(a) gave the district court no authority to reconsider the defendant's sentences on  
5 the affirmed counts. Id., at 1189. The Court of Appeals stated that the authority under Rule  
6 35(a) to vacate and amend a sentence "at any time" extended only to the illegal portions of  
7 the sentence and that the district court was not empowered to reach legal sentences  
8 previously imposed. Id., at 1188.

9 Similarly in United States v. Lewis, 862 F.2d 748 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1988), the Ninth Circuit  
10 affirmed the defendant's convictions on certain counts, reversed his conviction on a portion  
11 of one count and remanded for retrial. It was determined on the subsequent appeal that the  
12 district court had acted in similar inappropriate fashion when it imposed a sentence on one  
13 count which in effect altered the sentences on the affirmed counts. In both Minor and Lewis,  
14 the district court was not afforded authority under the appellate mandate, remand order or  
15 Rule 35(a) to reconsider the affirmed sentences.

16 In the more recent case of United States v. Moreno-Hernandez, the Ninth Circuit  
17 affirmed the conviction but remanded for re-sentencing. On appeal following re-sentencing,  
18 it was held that, consistent with the appellate mandate, the district court had been free to  
19 reconsider the entire "sentencing package" and to restructure the sentences to run  
20 consecutively. Id., 48 F.3d at 1116. The Court of Appeals acknowledged Kennedy and  
21 Minor as holding that the authority to vacate and amend a sentence under Rule 35 extended  
22 only to the illegal portion of the sentence, Id., at 1116, but noted in a footnote that when the  
23 Kennedy-Jordan line of cases had been decided, Rule 35 "provided only for conditions under  
24 which the district court could correct a sentence it imposed in an *illegal manner*." Id., at 1116  
25 n. 4 (emphasis added). The successor to that provision was noted as appearing in Rule 35(c),  
26 Fed.R.Crim.P., which provided for correction of sentence by the sentencing court, while Rule  
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1 35(a) governed correction of sentences determined on appeal to have been imposed illegally.  
2 Moreno-Hernandez, 48 F.3d at 1116 n.4.<sup>6</sup>

3 In contrast, the ambiguous sentence in Contreras-Subias was determined to be illegal  
4 in its entirety and therefore the district court acted within its authority under Rule 35(a) when  
5 it vacated the entire sentence. Id., 13 F.3d at 1344. As discussed in Contreras-Subias, the  
6 Kennedy-Jordan line of cases (which includes Lewis and Minor) was factually inapposite as  
7 it contemplated situations in which a sentence is composed of legal and illegal "portions" and  
8 the illegal part could be cleanly "lopped off." Id. The Ninth Circuit found no reason to  
9 extend the Kennedy-Jordan cases to the factual situation in Contreras-Subias. The situation  
10 in Contreras-Subias did not involve the "fear" of establishing a rule that penalizes defendants  
11 for challenging illegal sentences by exposing them to the risk of having their other, legal  
12 sentences increased by the court to "make up" for vacated illegal sentences. It did not  
13 resemble the situation where one of defendant's convictions is reversed on appeal and the  
14 trial judge subsequently "corrects" the sentence on another conviction to make up the lost  
15 time. Nor was it a case where a judge has increased sentence to bring it into line with the  
16 judge's "subjective intent" at sentencing. Contreras-Subias, 13 F.3d at 1344-45. Moreover,  
17 the intent of the parties in Contreras-Subias had been spelled out in a plea agreement and the  
18 district court had acted properly in correcting sentence so it corresponded exactly to the  
19 sentence to which Contreras-Subias had agreed. Id., at 1345. The Ninth Circuit additionally  
20 held that under certain circumstances, correction of an illegal sentence does not violate  
21 double jeopardy for several reasons, including: (1) it may be impossible to determine when  
22 the defendant started serving an ambiguous sentence; (2) there can be no expectation of  
23 finality in an illegal sentence; and (3) defendants who challenge their sentences cannot have  
24 an expectation of finality. Id., at 1345-46.

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26 <sup>6</sup>As amended in 1991, Rule 35(a) provided for correction of a sentence on remand.  
27 Rule 35(c) provided that "[t]he court, acting within 7 days after the imposition of sentence,  
28 may correct a sentence that was imposed as a result of arithmetical, technical, or other clear  
error."

1 In the instant case, Defendant's sentence was based on multiple counts of conviction  
2 following trial. In United States v. Handa, 122 F.3d 690 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1997), the Ninth Circuit  
3 recognized with approval the "sentencing package" concept in the context of motions to  
4 vacate, set aside or correct sentence under 28 U.S.C. § 2255. As discussed in Handa,  
5 application of the "sentencing package" approach means that:

6 The court construes the multiple sentences given a defendant  
7 convicted of more than one count of a multiple count indictment  
8 as 'a package,' reflecting the likelihood that the sentencing judge  
9 will have attempted to impose an overall punishment taking into  
10 account the nature of the crimes and certain characteristics of  
11 the criminal. When part of the sentence is set aside as illegal, the  
12 package is 'unbundled.' After the unbundling the district court  
13 is free to put together a new package reflecting its considered  
14 judgment as to the punishment the defendant deserves for the  
15 crimes of which he is still convicted.

16 Handa, 122 F.3d at 692 (citing, *inter alia*, United States v. Binford, 108 F.3d 723, 728 (7<sup>th</sup>  
17 Cir.), cert. denied, 521 U.S. 1128 (1997)). The Ninth Circuit found it appropriate to use the  
18 sentencing package "metaphor" in § 2255 cases. Handa, 122 F.3d at 692.

19 The Seventh Circuit has held that under the version of Rule 35(a) which applies in this  
20 case, nothing prevents the district court from correcting the illegal sentence by re-sentencing  
21 the defendant. Upon re-sentencing, "the court possesses all of the options initially open,  
22 including a choice between concurrent and consecutive terms ...." United States v. Bentley,  
23 850 F.2d 327, 328 (7<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1988). It was "assumed" in Bentley that Rule 35 did not authorize  
24 the district court on re-sentencing to make the total punishment harsher. Id. In addition,  
25 "nothing but pointless formalism would support a distinction between a sentencing plan  
26 disrupted by the vacatur of some counts on appeal and a plan shattered by the district court's  
27 own recognition that the plan was infested with error." Id., 328-29. The Bentley court  
28 recognized the district court's authority under Rule 35(a) to re-sentence by revising the entire  
sentencing, stating that "whenever the district court must revise one aspect of the sentencing  
scheme, it is permitted by Rule 35 to revise the rest. The district court may act without  
waiting for instructions or permission." Id., at 329.

1           The Second Circuit has since held that the district court's re-sentencing powers apply  
2 to cases under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 based on the court's authority under 28 U.S.C. § 2243 to  
3 dispose of the matter as law and justice require. United States v. Triestman, 178 F.3d 624,  
4 629-30 (2d Cir. 1999).

5           This Court concludes that it is not constrained to follow Kennedy and Jordan. The  
6 narrow function of Rule 35(a) was to permit correction at any time of an illegal sentence, not  
7 to re-examine errors occurring at the trial or other proceedings prior to the imposition of  
8 sentence. Hill v. United States, 368 U.S. 424, 430 (1962). In the sentencing correction  
9 context, Rule 35 and § 2255 have been considered interchangeable. United States v. Henry,  
10 709 F.2d 298, 334 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1983)(Gee, C.J., dissenting)(citing, *inter alia*, Heflin v. United  
11 States, 358 U.S. 415, 417-18 (1959)).<sup>7</sup> The Ninth Circuit has approved the district court's  
12 authority to re-sentence in § 2255 cases in light of the sentencing package approach. At the  
13 time Kennedy and Jordan were decided, the Ninth Circuit had not yet clearly recognized the  
14 sentencing package concept as relevant to post-conviction motions. See, e.g., United States  
15 v. Jenkins, 884 F.2d 433, 440-41 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1989)(defendant pre-guidelines convicted on two  
16 counts involving income tax violations; where restitution condition of probation on one count  
17 held on appeal to be invalid, remand for re-sentencing on both counts proper because district  
18 court may have regarded the sentences for the two counts as parts of a single "sentencing  
19 package").

20           This Court has determined that Defendant's sentence of life without parole on the  
21 CCE conviction is illegal as in violation of due process, not that the sentence was imposed  
22 in an illegal manner. See Moreno-Hernandez, 48 F.3d at 1116 n.4. See also, United States  
23 v. Fowler, 794 F.2d 1446, 1449 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1986)("Rule 35 [as applicable in the instant case]  
24 distinguishes among motions to reduce or correct an 'illegal' sentence, a lawful sentence, and  
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27           <sup>7</sup>This reference is prior to the effective date of the Antiterrorism and Effective Death  
28 Penalty Act of 1996.

1 a 'sentence imposed in an illegal manner'.... A motion to correct an 'illegal' sentence may be  
2 made at any time.")(citation omitted).

3 As this Court found in its August 4, 2006 Order, Defendant was to be parole eligible  
4 as to all convictions and sentences. As an initial matter, this Court's findings in its August 4<sup>th</sup>  
5 Order as to the CCE sentence was to effect a "bundling" of the sentence that otherwise had  
6 become "unbundled" when carried out by the BOP, that is, the BOP has been carrying  
7 Defendant as sentenced on the CCE conviction to life without parole computed as a "day-for-  
8 day" life term as opposed to life with parole eligibility. Defendant's PSR, however, indicated  
9 that Defendant's probable incarceration was "180 plus" months for all listed offenses and that  
10 Defendant probably would be paroled during the referenced guideline period. Also according  
11 to the PSR, a defendant would be required to serve one-third of consecutive sentences before  
12 being eligible for parole release. (PSR at page 6). The district court made it clear at the  
13 sentencing hearing that Defendant had been sentenced under § 4205(a), the parole statute at  
14 the time.

15 Under 18 U.S.C. § 4205(a), ... "Congress made it clear that it considered one-third of  
16 a life sentence to be ten years. ... [A] person sentenced to life imprisonment must become  
17 eligible for parole no later than ten years after the commencement of incarceration." United  
18 States v. Kinslow, 860 F.2d 963, 969 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1988). As this provision has been interpreted  
19 by the Parole Commission, consecutive sentences do not delay eligibility beyond ten years,  
20 citing United States Parole Commission, Procedures Manual 121 [sec. M-01(a), (c)(1) (Jan.  
21 1986). United States v. Gwaltney, 790 F.2d 1378, 1389 n.2 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1986)(Norris, C.J.,  
22 concurring in part and dissenting in part). Title 18, United States Code, § 4206(d)(repealed)<sup>8</sup>  
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24 <sup>8</sup> Title 18, United States Code, section 4206(d) provided:

25 Any prisoner, serving a sentence of five years or longer, who is  
26 not earlier released under this section or any other applicable  
27 provision of law, shall be released on parole after having served  
28 two-thirds of each consecutive term or terms, or after serving  
thirty years of each consecutive term or terms of more than

1 created "in effect a very strong presumption in favor of parole at the two-thirds point for any  
2 prisoner serving more than five years" subject to limited discretion in the Parole  
3 Commission. LaMagna v. United States Bureau of Prisons, 494 F. Supp. 189, 192 and n. 11  
4 (D. Conn. 1980).

5 Setting August 12, 1982 as the date from which Defendant's federal sentences began  
6 to run, Defendant has served approximately 24 years and nine months in prison, a period of  
7 considerably more than ten years and some four years in excess of twenty years. Setting July  
8 1, 1985, the date Defendant was sentenced in the instant case, as the commencement date,  
9 Defendant has been incarcerated approximately 21 years and ten months. Defendant's  
10 incarceration has occurred without the possibility of parole eligibility review. Defendant has  
11 submitted a letter dated April 13, 1998 addressed to him from the U.S. Parole Commission  
12 Hearing Examiner denying his request for an initial parole hearing on his CCE life term.  
13 (Dkt. 2364, Exhibit F). Defendant has been incarcerated for at least 22 years as "locked out"  
14 of parole eligibility review. Defendant's sentencing package has become "unbundled".

15 Additional support can be found in United States v. Ruster, 712 F.2d 409 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir.  
16 1983). The district court sentenced defendant Ruster to three consecutive five year terms,  
17 observing that even though the period "seemed impressively large" it amounted to "about 48  
18 months." Id., at 412. During the sentencing hearing, the court was informed by the  
19 probation officer that Ruster would serve 48 to 60 months. The sentencing court then  
20 commented that "although the years seemed extended, the actual time involved is limited."  
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22 forty-five years including any life term, whichever is earlier:  
23 *Provided, however,* That the Commission shall not release such  
24 prisoner if it determines that he has seriously or frequently  
25 violated institution rules and regulations or that there is a  
26 reasonable probability that he will commit any Federal, State, or  
local crime.

27 This provision was repealed effective November 1, 1987. See, LaFleur, 971 F.2d at  
28 208.

1 Id., at 412. Under § 4205(a), however, Ruster did not become eligible for parole until he  
2 served a third of the duration of the term or terms which in Ruster's case was 60 months in  
3 prison. Id. After noting that a defendant's due process rights are violated when a trial judge  
4 relies on materially false or unreliable information in sentencing a defendant, the Ninth  
5 Circuit rejected the government's argument that the information about the length of time  
6 Ruster would spend in prison was not materially false enough to require the sentence to be  
7 vacated. The record indicated that the judge had demonstrably relied on the misinformation  
8 in sentencing Ruster. The appellate court ordered Ruster's sentence vacated and remanded  
9 for re-sentencing under Rule 35. Id., at 413.

10 Defendant's case is similar to Ruster. Defendant's sentence was imposed on the basis  
11 of false and unreliable information. The oral pronouncement of sentence and the Judgment  
12 make clear that all convictions were to be served subject to the parole eligibility statute but  
13 Defendant has been "locked out" of all possibility of review because his sentence has been  
14 misconstrued as life without parole. This Court concludes that there exists jurisdiction and  
15 authority to re-sentence Defendant on all counts of conviction.

16 Finally, it is not clear from the information submitted whether Defendant has  
17 commenced serving the "lawful" portions of his sentence. As mentioned, BOP has carried  
18 Defendant as having been sentenced to life in prison without parole computed as a "day-for-  
19 day" life term. No information has been submitted to the Court regarding whether Defendant  
20 has completed serving the 20-year sentence imposed in the Alabama case. Defendant's  
21 sentence in that case stopped running from March 8, 1984 to April 17, 1984 because he was  
22 under a Civil Contempt commitment. (Dkt. 2452, Exhibit C). In any event, double jeopardy  
23 principles do not preclude Defendant's re-sentencing on all counts.

24 The parties will be afforded an opportunity to supplement the present PSR as needed  
25 and to be fully heard at the re-sentencing hearing. See, Triestman, 178 F.3d at 633(relying  
26 on original PSR upon re-sentencing where parties are given full opportunity to be heard and  
27 to supplement the PSR as needed). See also, United States v. Hardesty, 958 F.2d 910, 915-  
28 16 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1992)(district court did not abuse its discretion by proceeding on a motion to

1 reduce sentence without an updated PSR where record showed that the court considered  
2 defendant's individualized characteristics); United States v. Bay, 820 F.2d 1511, 1514 (9<sup>th</sup>  
3 Cir. 1987)("...our system of criminal justice requires the judge to consider all appropriate  
4 factors and then to impose a sentence appropriate to both the defendant's criminal conduct  
5 and his character").

6 Accordingly,

7 **IT IS ORDERED** that Defendant shall appear before this Court on **July 12, 2007 at**  
8 **1:30 p.m.** for re-sentencing.

9 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that any supplemental information to the PSR shall  
10 be filed **fifteen days** before re-sentencing.

11 DATED this 7<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2007.

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15 Earl H. Carroll  
16 United States District Judge  
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