

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	)	
	)	<b>Criminal No.: 96-298</b>
v.	)	
	)	<b>Filed: [7/12/96]</b>
IRA GREEN INC.,	)	
	)	<b>15 U.S.C. § 1</b>
Defendant.	)	
	)	<b>Judge: Weiner</b>

INFORMATION

The United States of America, acting through its attorneys, charges:

I

DEFENDANT AND CO-CONSPIRATORS

1. IRA GREEN INC., (IRA GREEN) is hereby made a defendant on the charge stated below. IRA GREEN is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York, with its principal place of business in Providence, Rhode Island. During the time covered by this information, IRA GREEN manufactured metal and embroidered insignia to the Army Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) for resale to United States military personnel.

2. Various individuals and companies not made defendants herein, participated as co-conspirators in the offense charged herein and performed acts and made statements in furtherance thereof.

3. Wherever in this information reference is made to any act, deed, or transaction of any corporation, the allegation means that the corporation engaged in the act, deed or transaction by or through its officers, directors, agents,

employees or other representatives while they were actively engaged in the management, direction, control or transaction of its business or affairs.

## II

### BACKGROUND

4. AAFES operates over 3,000 retail facilities on military installations worldwide at which military insignia are offered for resale to military personnel. Military insignia include embroidered insignia and metal insignia. Military insignia are accessories attached to a soldier's uniform to designate branch of service, unit, rank, and also identify the wearer's years of service, campaigns served, training completed and meritorious and heroic conduct performed. Military insignia are manufactured and sold to AAFES by the defendant and co-conspirator companies.

5. AAFES procures military insignia through open order contracts and competitively bid individual bulk contracts with awards made to the qualified bidder offering the lowest price. During the period covered by this information, IRA GREEN and its co-conspirator companies supplied AAFES with military insignia under open order contracts and competitively bid individual bulk contracts.

## III

### OFFENSE CHARGED

6. Beginning at least as early as January 1990 and continuing at least until December 1993, the exact dates being

unknown to the United States, the defendant and co-conspirators entered into and participated in a combination and conspiracy to suppress and eliminate competition in unreasonable restraint of interstate and foreign trade and commerce.

7. The charged conspiracy consisted of an agreement, understanding and concert of action among the defendant and co-conspirators, the substantial terms of which were to submit collusive, noncompetitive and rigged bids and fixed prices on military insignia contracts with AAFES.

8. For the purpose of forming and carrying out the charged conspiracy, the defendant and co-conspirators did those things which they combined and conspired to do, including, among other things:

- (a) discussing among themselves the submission of prospective prices on open order contracts and individual bulk contracts;
- (b) agreeing among themselves which company would be the low bidder for the individual bulk contracts;  
and
- (c) submitting fixed prices and collusive, noncompetitive and rigged bids for the aforementioned contracts.

IV

TRADE AND COMMERCE

9. During the period covered by this information, a substantial quantity of military insignia manufactured by the defendant and co-conspirators were shipped across state lines and overseas to military facilities throughout the United States and abroad.

10. During the period covered by this information, the activities of the defendant and co-conspirators, which are the subject of this information, were within the flow of, and substantially affected, interstate and foreign trade and commerce.

ALL IN VIOLATION OF TITLE 15, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 1.

Dated:

"/s/"  
ANNE K. BINGAMAN  
Assistant Attorney General

"/s/"  
WILLARD S. SMITH, JR.

"/s/"  
GARY R. SPRATLING

"/s/"  
BRADFORD L. GEYER

"/s/"  
ROBERT E. CONNOLLY  
  
Attorneys, Antitrust Division  
U.S. Department of Justice

Attorneys, Antitrust Division  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Middle Atlantic Office  
The Curtis Center, Suite 650W  
7th and Walnut Streets  
Philadelphia, PA 19106  
Tel.: (215) 597-7401

"/s/"  
MICHAEL R. STILES  
United States Attorney  
Eastern District of Pennsylvania