



U.S. Department of Homeland Security
UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE

MAR 30 2020

Emma Best
MuckRock News
411A Highland Ave.
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Re: Freedom of Information Act Appeal - File Number 20190178

Dear Ms. Best:

Reference is made to your recent email dated January 23, 2020, appealing the determination of Kevin Tyrrell, United States Secret Service (Secret Service) Freedom of Information Act Officer, regarding the above referenced file.

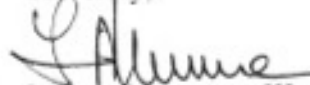
Under my direction, a search for responsive records was conducted and responsive records were located. It has been determined that information from these records may be released to you under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Copies of the pages containing this information are enclosed. However, some information is being withheld under the FOIA.

The records in question contain information compiled for law enforcement purposes. Pursuant to Section 552 (b)(7)(C), certain information is being withheld since the disclosure of this information could constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. Some information is being withheld under Section 552 (b)(7)(E) since the disclosure of this information could disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions which could risk circumvention of the law.

Finally, some information is being withheld under Section 552 (b)(5), as it includes inter-agency or intra-agency material that would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the Secret Service.

Under federal law, we are required to advise you that any decision on appeal is subject to judicial review in the District Court in the district where the complainant resides, has a principal place of business, or in which the agency records are situated, or in the District of Columbia.

Sincerely,


Leonza Newsome III
Deputy Director

From: (b) (7)(C) (NYC)
To: (b) (7)(C) (HUM)
Cc: (b) (7)(C) (HGE); (b) (7)(C) (SEA); (b) (7)(C) (PPQ)
Subject: FW: @EXT: FW: 3 press releases
Date: Thursday, July 20, 2017 9:44:00 AM
Attachments: [7.20.17 AlphaBay Draft Press Release.docx](#)
[20.07.2017 Press release def 2.doc](#)
[Europol press release AlphaBay Hansa 20170720.docx](#)

FYI,

These press releases will go out today. We aren't directly involved but just a heads up as it mentions Europol and cybercrime. Please do not disseminate outside USSS.

█



Department of Justice

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2017
WWW.JUSTICE.GOV

CRM
(202) 514-2007
TTY (866) 544-5309

ALPHABAY, THE LARGEST ONLINE 'DARK MARKET,' SHUT DOWN

'Dark Net' Site Was Major Source of Fentanyl and Heroin, Linked to Overdose Deaths, and Used By Hundreds of Thousands of People to Buy and Sell Illegal Goods and Services Anonymously over the Internet

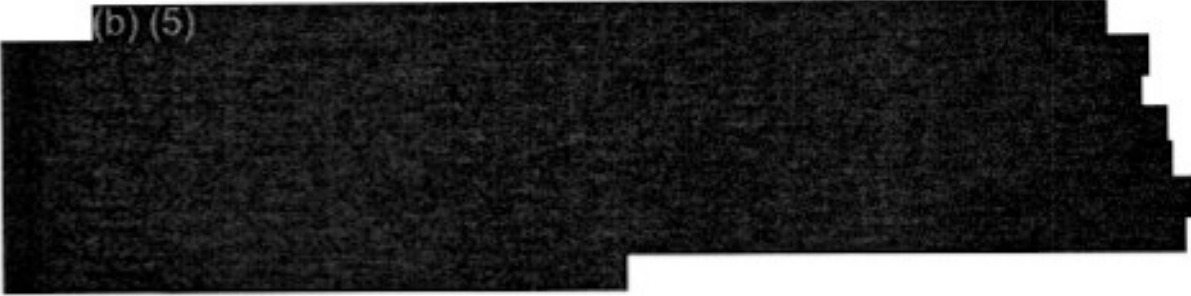
WASHINGTON – The Justice Department today announced the seizure of the largest criminal marketplace on the Internet, AlphaBay, which operated for over two years on the dark web and was used to sell deadly illegal drugs, stolen and fraudulent identification documents and access devices, counterfeit goods, malware and other computer hacking tools, firearms, and toxic chemicals throughout the world. The international operation to seize AlphaBay's infrastructure was led by the United States and involved cooperation and efforts by law enforcement authorities in Thailand, the Netherlands, Lithuania, Canada, the United Kingdom, and France, as well as the European law enforcement agency Europol.

On July 5, Alexandre Cazes aka Alpha02 and Admin, 25, a Canadian citizen residing in Thailand, was arrested by Thai authorities on behalf of the United States for his role as the creator and administrator of AlphaBay. On July 12, Cazes apparently took his own life while in custody in Thailand. Cazes was charged in an indictment (1:17-CR-00144-LJO), filed in the Eastern District of California on June 1, with one count of conspiracy to engage in racketeering, one count of conspiracy to distribute narcotics, six counts of distribution of narcotics, one count of conspiracy to commit identity theft, four counts of unlawful transfer of false identification documents, one count of conspiracy to commit access device fraud, one count of trafficking in device making equipment, and one count of money laundering conspiracy. Law enforcement authorities in the United States worked with numerous foreign partners to freeze and preserve millions of dollars' worth of cryptocurrencies that were the subject of forfeiture counts in the indictment, and that represent the proceeds of the AlphaBay organization's illegal activities.

On July 19, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of California filed a civil forfeiture complaint against Alexandre Cazes and his wife's assets located throughout the world, including in Thailand, Cyprus, Lichtenstein, and Antigua & Barbuda. Cazes and his wife amassed numerous high value assets, including luxury vehicles, residences and a hotel in Thailand. Cazes also possessed millions of dollars in cryptocurrency, which has been seized by the FBI and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

According to publicly available information on AlphaBay prior to its takedown, one AlphaBay staff member claimed that it serviced over 200,000 users and 40,000 vendors. Around the time of takedown, there were over 250,000 listings for illegal drugs and toxic chemicals on AlphaBay, and over 100,000 listings for stolen and fraudulent identification documents and access devices, counterfeit goods, malware and other computer hacking tools, firearms, and fraudulent services. Comparatively, the Silk Road dark web marketplace, which was seized by law enforcement in November 2013, had reportedly approximately 14,000 listings for illicit goods and services at the time of seizure and was the largest dark web marketplace at the time.

(b) (5)



“Transnational organized crime poses a serious threat to our national and economic security,” said FBI Acting Director Andrew McCabe. “Whether they operate in broad daylight or on the dark net, we will never stop working to find and stop these criminal syndicates. We want to thank our international partners and those at the Department of Justice, the DEA, and the IRS-CI for their hard work in demonstrating what we can do when we stand together.”

“The so-called anonymity of the dark web is illusory,” said DEA Acting Administrator Chuck Rosenberg. “We will find and prosecute drug traffickers who set up shop there, and this case is a great example of our commitment to doing exactly that. More to come.”

“AlphaBay was the world’s largest underground marketplace of the dark net, providing an avenue for criminals to conduct business anonymously and without repercussions,” said Chief Don Fort of IRS-CI. “Working with our law enforcement partners—both domestically and abroad—IRS-CI used its unique financial and cyber expertise to help shine a bright light on the accounts and customers of this shadowy black marketplace, and we intend to continue pursuing these kinds of criminals no matter where they hide.”

“This ranks as one of the most successful coordinated takedowns against cybercrime in recent years,” said Europol Executive Director Rob Wainwright. “Concerted action by law enforcement authorities in the United States and Europe, with the support of Europol, has delivered a massive blow to the underground criminal economy and sends a clear message that the dark web is not a safe area for criminals. I pay tribute to the excellent work of the United States and European authorities for the imaginative and resourceful way they combined their efforts in this case.”

AlphaBay operated as a hidden service on the “Tor” network, and utilized cryptocurrencies including Bitcoin, Monero and Ethereum in order to hide the locations of its underlying servers and the identities of its administrators, moderators, and users. Based on law

enforcement's investigation of AlphaBay, authorities believe the site was also used to launder hundreds of millions of dollars deriving from illegal transactions on the website.

An investigation conducted by FBI Atlanta and the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Northern District of Georgia identified an AlphaBay staffer living in the United States. That investigation is ongoing.

The investigation into AlphaBay revealed that numerous vendors sold fentanyl and heroin, and there have been multiple overdose deaths across the country attributed to purchases on the site.

According to a complaint affidavit filed in the District of South Carolina against Theodore Vitality Khleborod and Ana Milena Barrero, an investigation into an overdose death on Feb. 16, 2017, in Portland, Oregon, involving U-47700, a synthetic opioid, revealed that the drugs were purchased on AlphaBay from Khleborod and Barrero. According to another complaint affidavit filed in the Middle District of Florida against Jeremy Achey, an investigation into a fentanyl overdose death in Orange County, Florida, on Feb. 27, 2017, revealed that the lethal substance was purchased on AlphaBay from Achey.

Charges contained in an indictment and/or complaint are merely allegations, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

This operation to seize the AlphaBay site coincides with efforts by Dutch law enforcement to investigate and take down the Hansa Market, another prominent dark web market. Like AlphaBay, Hansa Market was used to facilitate the sale of illegal drugs, toxic chemicals, malware, counterfeit identification documents, and illegal services. The administrators of Hansa Market, along with its thousands of vendors and users, also attempted to mask their identities to avoid prosecution through the use of Tor and digital currency. Further information on the operation against the Hansa Market can be obtained from Dutch authorities.

The operation to seize AlphaBay's servers was announced by Attorney General Jeff Sessions; Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein; Acting Assistant Attorney General Kenneth A. Blanco of the Justice Department's Criminal Division; U.S. Attorney Phillip A. Talbert for the Eastern District of California; Acting Director Andrew G. McCabe of the FBI, Acting Administrator Chuck Rosenberg of the DEA and Europol Executive Director Robert Mark Wainwright.

The case is being investigated by the FBI including FBI Sacramento Field Office and DEA, with substantial assistance from the IRS-CI. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations also assisted in the investigation. The case against Cazes was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Paul A. Hemesath and Grant B. Rabenn of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of California, and Trial Attorneys Louisa K. Marion and C. Alden Pelker of the Criminal Division's Computer Crime and Intellectual Property Section. Substantial assistance was provided by the Department of Justice's Office of International Affairs and Special Operations Division. Additionally, the following

foreign law enforcement agencies provided substantial assistance in the operation to seize AlphaBay's infrastructure: Royal Thai Police, Dutch National Police, Lithuanian Criminal Police Bureau (LCPB), Royal Canadian Mounted Police, United Kingdom's National Crime Agency, Europol, and French National Police.

###

17-

DO NOT REPLY TO THIS MESSAGE. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE USE THE CONTACTS IN THE MESSAGE OR CALL THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS AT 202-514-2007.

PRESS RELEASE

20 July 2017

Underground Hansa Market taken over and shut down

As part of an extensive international investigation, the Netherlands Police and the Public Prosecution Service have dismantled, seized control of, and shut down one of the biggest illegal market places on the internet today. It is Hansa Market, currently the most popular dark market in the 'anonymous' part of the internet, the so-called darknet.

The investigation in question is being carried out in close cooperation with the police and judicial authorities in Germany, Lithuania, and the United States, and also with Europol. This week, a Hansa top-seller was arrested in Krimpen aan den IJssel, the Netherlands. Accounts with a total of more than 1,000 bitcoins, representing a value of some two million euros, were seized. The bitcoins were transferred to an account of the Public Prosecution Service.

Undercover operation

The fall of Hansa Market is the final step of an undercover operation in which the Netherlands police seized control of the illegal market place in June of this year. This was made possible by the arrest of the two administrators of Hansa Market in Germany, aged 30 and 31. Since their arrest, the two men, from Siegen, NorthRhine-Westphalia, have been kept in pre-trial detention, and are only allowed to have contact with their lawyers.

Lithuania

It emerged that the underground market place was hosted on servers in Lithuania. Immediately after the arrest of the administrators, these servers and their corresponding infrastructure were seized and an exact copy of the market place was transferred to Dutch servers. Buyers and sellers could still access the darknet site, but without realizing the police and the public prosecution service in the Netherlands had seized control of Hansa.

Since the end of June, the High Tech Crime Team and the Darkweb Team of the police and the Public Prosecution Service have gained insight into large numbers of sellers and buyers, who traded chiefly in

hard drugs. The usernames and passwords were intercepted. On average, 1,000 orders per day were placed in response to almost 40,000 advertisements. Last year, Hansa Market had 1,765 different sellers. Since the authorities seized control of Hansa Market there have been more than 50,000 transactions, mainly involving soft drugs and hard drugs.

Intercepted orders

In the past weeks, the police have intercepted tens of thousands of non-encrypted messages between sellers and buyers about orders. They were also able to identify the delivery address for a large number of orders. Some 10,000 foreign addresses of Hansa Market buyers were passed on to Europol. More than 500 Dutch delivery addresses were reported to couriers and postal services with the intention of stopping the deliveries.

The darknet markets enable large-scale trading in chiefly illegal goods, such as drugs, weapons, child pornography, and ransom software. Well-known examples of such market places are Silk Road (taken down by the FBI in 2013) and Alpha Bay (shut down within the framework of an international police operation earlier this month). No weapons or child pornography were sold on Hansa Market. After the FBI's takedown of AlphaBay, Dutch authorities started to detect an increase in traffic towards Hansa. This operation was meant to lure discontent customers from AlphaBay to other Dark Web marketplaces like Hansa. Since AlphaBay was taken down, the average of less than 1 000 vendors on Hansa per day, has risen to more than 8 000 per day.

Safe from detection

Sellers and buyers, and also administrators of illegal market places often believe they are safe from detection by the police and the judicial authorities. By carrying out criminal investigations into these criminals, and prosecuting them, it will become clear that the darkweb is not as anonymous as its users might think. The international cooperation between the Netherlands police, the Public Prosecution Service the FBI, Europol, and the authorities in Germany and Lithuania has seriously damaged the image of credibility and reliability of these market places. An important measure is the seizure of the servers on which the market places are hosted.

A unique aspect of the investigation into Hansa Market was the fact that the police and the Public Prosecution Service seized control within the framework of an undercover operation. A wealth of information will be studied in the coming weeks.

As from today, people who visit Hansa Market see a splash page from the police that gives an explanation of the criminal investigation.

Links:

Arrests in Germany

<http://www.justiz.bayern.de/sta/staolg/ba/presse/archiv/2017/05808/index.php>

Alpha Bay taken down

<https://www.fbi.gov/>

PRESS RELEASE

Massive blow to criminal Dark Web activities after globally coordinated operation Takedown of AlphaBay and Hansa will lead to hundreds of new investigations in Europe

The Hague, the Netherlands

Months of preparation and coordination have resulted today, 20 July 2017, in the takedown of two of the largest criminal Dark Web markets, AlphaBay and Hansa. Two major law enforcement operations, led by the **Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)**, the **US Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA)** and the **Dutch National Police**, with the support of **Europol**, have shut down the infrastructure of an underground criminal economy responsible for the trading of over 350 000 illicit commodities including drugs, firearms and cybercrime malware. The coordinated law enforcement action in Europe and the US ranks as one of the most sophisticated takedown operations ever seen in the fight against criminal activities online.

"This is an outstanding success by authorities in Europe and the US," **Rob Wainwright**, the Executive Director of Europol, said today, while appearing alongside the US Attorney General, Acting FBI Director and Deputy Director of the US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), at a special press conference in Washington DC. *"The capability of drug traffickers and other serious criminals around the world has taken a serious hit today after a highly sophisticated joint action in multiple countries. By acting together on a global basis the law enforcement community has sent a clear message that we have the means to identify criminality and strike back, even in areas of the Dark Web. There are more of these operations to come,"* he added.

Dimitris Avramopoulos, European Commissioner for Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship, said: *"The Dark Web is growing into a haven of rampant criminality. This is a threat to our societies and our economies that we can only face together, on a global scale. The take-down of the two largest criminal Dark Web markets in the world by European and American law enforcement authorities shows the important and necessary result of international cooperation to fight this criminality. I congratulate the American and Dutch authorities for their successful work, as well as Europol for centrally supporting this endeavour. Our fight against criminal activities online and offline will continue and intensify."*

Julian King, EU Commissioner for the Security Union, said: *"This latest success demonstrates not just the growing threat posed by increasingly sophisticated criminal enterprises exploiting the largely unregulated space occupied by the internet but also the vital role of international cooperation among law enforcers, the private sector, national authorities and international organisations in making all of us safer from global, borderless menaces."*

EUROPOL CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

press@europol.europa.eu

Eisenhowerlaan 73
2517 KK The Hague
The Netherlands

P.O. Box 908 50
2509 LW The Hague
The Netherlands

Media: +31(0)70 302 50 01
Fax: +31(0)70 345 58 96

Popular Dark Web marketplaces

AlphaBay was the largest criminal marketplace on the Dark Web, utilising a hidden service on the Tor network to effectively mask user identities and server locations. Prior to its takedown, AlphaBay reached over 200 000 users and 40 000 vendors. There were over 250 000 listings for illegal drugs and toxic chemicals on AlphaBay, and over 100 000 listings for stolen and fraudulent identification documents and access devices, counterfeit goods, malware and other computer hacking tools, firearms, and fraudulent services. A conservative estimation of USD 1 billion was transacted in the market since its creation in 2014. Transactions were paid in Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies. Hansa was the third largest criminal marketplace on the Dark Web, trading similarly high volumes in illicit drugs and other commodities. The two markets were created to facilitate the expansion of a major underground criminal economy, which affected the lives of thousands of people around the world and was expressly designed to frustrate the ability of law enforcement to bring offenders to justice.

The investigations

Europol has been supporting the investigation of criminal marketplaces on the Dark Web for a number of years. With the help of Bitdefender, an internet security company advising Europol's European Cybercrime Centre (EC3), Europol provided Dutch authorities with an investigation lead into Hansa in 2016. Subsequent enquiries located the Hansa market infrastructure in the Netherlands, with follow-up investigations by the Dutch police leading to the arrest of its two administrators in Germany and the seizure of servers in the Netherlands, Germany and Lithuania. Europol and partner agencies in those countries supported the Dutch National Police to take over the Hansa marketplace on 20 June 2017 under Dutch judicial authorisation, facilitating the covert monitoring of criminal activities on the platform until it was shut down today, 20 July 2017. In the past few weeks, the Dutch Police collected valuable information on high value targets and delivery addresses for a large number of orders. Some 10 000 foreign addresses of Hansa market buyers were passed on to Europol.

In the meantime, an FBI and DEA-led operation, called Bayonet, was able to identify the creator and administrator of AlphaBay, a Canadian citizen living a luxurious life in Thailand. On 5 July 2017, the main suspect was arrested in Thailand and the site taken down. Millions of dollars worth of cryptocurrencies were frozen and seized. Servers were also seized in Canada and the Netherlands.

Law enforcement strategy

In shutting down two of the three largest criminal marketplaces on the Dark Web, a major element of the infrastructure of the underground criminal economy has been taken offline. It has severely disrupted criminal enterprises around the world, has led to the arrest of key figures involved in online criminal activity, and yielded huge amounts of intelligence that will lead to further investigations. But what made this operation really special was the strategy developed by the FBI, DEA, the Dutch Police and Europol to magnify the disruptive impact of the joint action to take out AlphaBay and Hansa. This involved taking covert control of Hansa under Dutch judicial authority a month ago, which allowed Dutch police to monitor the activity of users without their knowledge, and then shutting down AlphaBay during the same period. It meant the Dutch police could identify and disrupt the regular criminal activity on Hansa but then also sweep up all those new users displaced from AlphaBay who were looking for a new trading platform. In fact they flocked to Hansa in their droves, with an eight-fold increase in the number of new members of Hansa recorded immediately following the shutdown of AlphaBay. As a law enforcement strategy, leveraging the combined operational and technical strengths of multiple agencies in the US and Europe, it has been an extraordinary success and a stark illustration of the collective power the global law enforcement community can bring to disrupt major criminal activity.

EUROPOL CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

press@europol.europa.eu

Eisenhowerlaan 73
2517 KK The Hague
The Netherlands

P.O. Box 908 50
2509 LW The Hague
The Netherlands

Media: +31(0)70 302 50 01
Fax: +31(0)70 345 58 96

Europol Public Information

Europol as a central hub

Europol has played a coordinating and de-conflicting role in both investigations. From the outset, Europol's European Cybercrime Centre (EC3) provided technical and forensic support to the Hansa marketplace investigation. In addition Europol's technical expertise was made available to the Dutch investigators in clouding on-the-spot deployment, as they gained control of Hansa. Subsequently to this, intelligence packages were prepared and sent out to law enforcement partners across 37 countries, spawning many follow-up investigations across Europe and beyond. Some of the intelligence extracted contains relevant information regarding the destination of drugs and is meant to inform the relevant countries about planned shipments of drugs. Overall more than 38 000 transactions have been identified and Europol sent more than 600 communications. To ensure smooth coordination between the two investigations into AlphaBay and Hansa, Europol hosted a coordination meeting with leading law enforcement partners. Overall, 12 different agencies sat down together and collectively mapped out and agreed the overall strategy for the two operations.

In early July, Europol hosted a command post staffed with representatives from the US FBI, DEA and Department of Justice, working alongside specialist staff from EC3. This command post was the central hub for information exchange during the AlphaBay operation. Europol's secure communication channels were used to exchange information between and receive data contributions from partners. Europol continues to support the FBI, DEA, the Dutch National Police and other partners on the forensic work that needs to be performed on huge amounts of seized material.

EUROPOL CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

press@europol.europa.eu

Eisenhowerlaan 73
2517 KK The Hague
The Netherlands

P.O. Box 908 50
2509 LW The Hague
The Netherlands

Media: +31(0)70 302 50 01
Fax: +31(0)70 345 58 96

From: (b) (7)(C) (NYC)
To: (b) (7)(C) (NYC)
Cc: (b) (7)(C) (NYC); (b) (7)(C) (NYC); (b) (7)(C) (NYC); (b) (7)(C) (NYC)
Subject: RE: DRAFT Press Release on Operation Dark Gold
Date: Monday, June 25, 2018 12:18:23 PM

I already answered HQ that our office was not involved in this Op.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 25, 2018, at 12:12 PM, (b) (7)(C) (NYC) <(b) (7)(C)@uss.s.dhs.gov> wrote:

(b) (7)(C)

Same here. I do not believe this is (b) (7)(C)'s case with (b) (7)(C). However there are similarities. Do you want me to forward to her for finality?

(b) (7)(C)

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 25, 2018, at 12:07 PM, (b) (7)(C) (NYC) <(b) (7)(C)@uss.s.dhs.gov> wrote:

(b) (7)(C)

I do not recognize this case as having FCTF involvement.

(b) (7)(C)

(b) (7)(C)

Assistant to the Special Agent in Charge
U.S. Secret Service
New York Field Office
Office: (718) 840-1000
Cell: (b) (7)(C)

On Jun 25, 2018, at 11:59 AM, (b) (7)(C)(b) (7)(C) (NYC) <(b) (7)(C)@uss.s.dhs.gov> wrote:

PLEASE REVIEW ASAP and let me know if we participated in this investigation.

Thank you,

(b) (7)(C)

From: MICHAEL BRESLIN (INV)
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2018 11:54 AM
To: (b) (7)(C) (NYC); (b) (7)(C) (NYC)
Cc: (b) (7)(C) (CMR)
Subject: r/w: DRAFT Press Release on Operation Dark Gold

Guys,

Just received below – need to determine NYFO level of involvement and/or interest in quote????

(b) (7)(C) is copied for awareness

Michael

From: CATHERINE MILHOAN (CMR)
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2018 11:38 AM

To: KENNETH JENKINS (INV) <(b) (7)(C)@uss.s.dhs.gov>
Cc: MICHAEL BRESLIN (INV) <(b) (7)(C)@uss.s.dhs.gov>; MICHAEL D AMBROSIO (INV) <(b) (7)(C)@uss.s.dhs.gov>; (b) (7)(C) (CMR) <(b) (7)(C)@uss.s.dhs.gov>
Subject: Fwd: DRAFT Press Release on Operation Dark Gold

Ken,

I received this from DOJ. Not sure of the extent of our involvement in the operation. Happy to put together a quote for you or someone else in INV if you would like.

Cathy

Cathy L. Milhoan
Director of Communications
U.S. Secret Service
(b) (7)(C)@uss.s.dhs.gov

Main: (202) 406-5708
Direct: (202) 406-5966
Cell: (b) (7)(C)

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Brandenberger, Mary A" <(b) (7)(C)(b) (7)(C)@usdoj.gov>
Date: June 22, 2018 at 5:51:25 PM EDT
To: (b) (7)(C) (OPA) (JMD) <(b) (7)(C)@usdoj.gov>; (b) (7)(C) (b) (7)(C) <(b) (7)(C)@ice.dhs.gov>; (b) (7)(C) <(b) (7)(C)@ice.dhs.gov>; (b) (7)(C) <(b) (7)(C)@ice.dhs.gov>; (b) (7)(C)(b) (7)(C) <(b) (7)(C)@uspis.gov>; (b) (7)(C)(b) (7)(C)(b) (7)(C) <(b) (7)(C)@uspis.gov>; (b) (7)(C)(b) (7)(C) <(b) (7)(C)@uspis.gov>; CATHERINE MILHOAN (CMR) <CATHERINE.MILHOAN@uss.s.dhs.gov>; (b) (7)(C) <(b) (7)(C)@usdoj.gov>; (b) (7)(C)(b) (7)(C) <(b) (7)(C)(b) (7)(C)@usdoj.gov>
Cc: (b) (7)(C) (OPA) (JMD) <(b) (7)(C)@usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: DRAFT Press Release on Operation Dark Gold

+ (b) (7)(C), who can provide a SAC quote from the DEA SAC in NY.

Mary Brandenberger
Chief, National Media Affairs Section
Drug Enforcement Administration
Office: (b) (7)(C)
Cell: (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (7)(C) (OPA) (JMD)
Sent: Friday, June 22, 2018 3:47 PM
To: (b) (7)(C); (b) (7)(C); (b) (7)(C); (b) (7)(C); (b) (7)(C); (b) (7)(C)(b) (7)(C)(b) (7)(C); (b) (7)(C); (b) (7)(C); CATHERINE MILHOAN (CMR); brandenberger, mary a, (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (7)(C) (OPA) (JMD)
Subject: DRAFT Press Release on Operation Dark Gold
Importance: High

Hi,
Please review below DRAFT press release and advise on any edits and

quote for inclusion by Monday COB. Thank you

(b)

(b)

FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE
CRM
TUESDAY, JUNE 26,
2018 (202) 514-
2007
WWW.JUSTICE.GOV
TTY (866) 544-5309

**FIRST NATIONWIDE UNDERCOVER OPERATION
TARGETING DARKNET VENDORS RESULTS IN ARRESTS
OF 36 INDIVIDUALS SELLING ILLICIT GOODS AND THE
SEIZURE OF WEAPONS, DRUGS AND MORE THAN \$23.6
MILLION.**

*Darknet Narcotics Vendors Selling to Thousands of U.S. Residents
Charged*

(b) (5)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(b) (5)

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

- (b) (5)

[Redacted text block]

- [Redacted text block]

- [Redacted text block]

- [Redacted text block]

- (b) (5) [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

(b) (7)(C), (b) (6), (b) (5)
[redacted]

<image001.png>

<image003.png>