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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20543

THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

ORIGINAL

DKT/CASE NO. 83-1842

TITLE JONATHAN GARRETT, Petitioner v. UNITED STATES

PLACE Washington, D. C.

DATE January 16, 1985

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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

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JONATHAN GARRETT, :

Petitioner :

v. : No. 83-1842

UNITED STATES :

- - - - -x

Washington, D.C.

Wednesday, January 16, 1985

The above-entitled matter came on for oral
argument before the Supreme Court of the United States
at 11:01 o'clock a.m.

APPEARANCES:

PHILIP A. DeMASSA, ESQ., San Diego, Calif.;

on behalf of Petitioner.

MARK I. LEVY ESQ., Asst. to the Sol. Gen.,

Dept. of Justice, Washington, D.C.;

on behalf of Respondent.

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 CHIEF JUSTICE BURGER: Mr. DeMassa, you may
3 proceed whenever you are ready.

4 ORAL ARGUMENT BY MR. LEVY

5 ON BEHALF OF PETITIONER

6 MR. DE MASSA: Mr. Chief Justice, and may it
7 please the Court:

8 This case involves whether a continuing
9 criminal enterprise under Title 21, Section 848 of the
10 United States Code is a substantive offense, and the
11 relationship between it and its underlying predicate
12 drug felonies, which are either part of the continuing
13 criminal enterprise or were introduced by the government
14 in the CCE prosecution.

15 To discuss the facts of Petitioner's case is
16 to highlight the Double Jeopardy violations which
17 Petitioner suffered due to the government's improper
18 successive prosecution and cumulative punishment of him
19 for the same conduct for the same offense.

20 Petitioner was indicted in March 1981 in the
21 Western District of Washington with three of the four
22 counts of that indictment. Count II charged Petitioner
23 with causing an informant, Joseph Knowles, to travel in
24 interstate commerce from Panama City, Florida, the
25 ultimate place where Petitioner was then indicted in a

1 second indictment to go to Seattle, Washington, for the
2 purposes of engaging in a marijuana offense.

3 Count III charged Petitioner with importing
4 12,000 pounds of marijuana into Neah Bay, Washington.
5 That occurred in August of 1980.

6 Count IV charged Petitioner with possession
7 with intent to distribute that same marijuana.

8 Petitioner was not charged in Count I of that
9 indictment which alleged a conspiracy to import
10 marijuana which occurred from September 1979 through
11 August of 1980. He was, however, named as a
12 co-conspirator involved in that activity which involved
13 witnesses and evidence from the Northern District of
14 Florida.

15 At one of Petitioner's first bail hearings in
16 Washington State, the government prosecutor, the
17 Assistant United States Attorney who was in charge of
18 the prosecution of Petitioner, advised the District
19 Court that the Department of Justice in Washington had
20 originally authorized Petitioner's indictment in
21 Washington State on a continuing criminal enterprise
22 charge. However, he advised the court, instead that
23 continuing criminal enterprise charge was being
24 considered by the Northern District of Florida Grand
25 Jury and not by his grand jury in Seattle.

1 Petitioner at that hearing on April 8th
2 immediately asked that the continuing criminal
3 enterprise charge be joined in Washington State to be
4 tried with the other indictment then pending. The
5 government attorney represented, as an officer of the
6 court, that Petitioner had been responsible for a
7 continuing criminal enterprise, and the grand
8 jury -- presumably he meant the grand jury in Seattle
9 Washington -- would have returned an indictment. The
10 government told the court: This coordinated
11 investigation from Washington, D.C., showed Petitioner's
12 involvement in four or five "mother boat" operations
13 from 1977 through 1980.

14 During the next two weeks after these
15 statements from the government prosecutor, Petitioner
16 filed two motions of note to this Court. First was a
17 motion for bill of particulars, as Petitioner alleged in
18 his moving papers, so that he could be protected against
19 a second prosecution, and so that he might plead Double
20 Jeopardy.

21 Petitioner, more importantly, filed a motion
22 to compel consolidation of any continuing criminal
23 enterprise charge so that that continuing criminal
24 enterprise charge would be tried in Washington State.
25 In Petitioner's motion, he alleged that the government

1 prosecutor had stated that his directives -- that is,
2 the government prosecutor's directives -- from the
3 Justice Department were to omit the continuing criminal
4 enterprise charge in the Washington State indictment.

5 Petitioner alleged that the government was
6 manipulating venue for the CCE prosecution where a more
7 favorable prosecution and seeking to enhance any
8 subsequent sentence. Petitioner alleged that the
9 prosecutor had advised him -- that is, Petitioner's
10 counsel -- that the prosecutor had been prepared to try
11 the defendant for the continuing criminal enterprise
12 charge, but was instructed by the Justice Department not
13 to seek that indictment.

14 Petitioner moved in this motion, which is in
15 the Joint Appendix, for a number of grounds. Number
16 one, to defend all charges in the same trial. Number
17 two, to have the case transferred to another district
18 due to his financial hardship in defending in two
19 separate courts. Three, to join the offenses in one
20 proceeding; to seek a single trial of both indictments;
21 that venue was proper on the CCE charge in Washington
22 State; that the charges in Washington and Florida were
23 the same offense.

24 The government's response was that since there
25 were no other charges pending, there were no charges to

1 consolidate.

2 On May 18th of that year, Petitioner pleaded
3 guilty in Washington to Count III, the importation of
4 marijuana count. Sixty days later on July 16th,
5 Petitioner was indicted in the Northern District of
6 Florida for the continuing criminal enterprise, also a
7 conspiracy ranging from January 1976 to July 16, 1981,
8 to import marijuana and "Thai sticks," a conspiracy also
9 on the same dates to possess with intent to distribute
10 marijuana, and four telephone counts.

11 The Thai sticks, incidentally, do not occur
12 except in the indictment with relation to the Neah Bay,
13 Washington, episode. There are no Thai sticks alleged
14 to have occurred in any other episode involving
15 Petitioner except in the Neah Bay, Washington, episode.

16 On August 20, Petitioner was sentenced in
17 Washington State on his importation plea to the maximum
18 five years and \$15,000 fine and a three-year special
19 parole term.

20 In Florida -- back again -- on September 23rd,
21 Petitioner moved to dismiss the CCE and the conspiracy
22 counts, claiming he was being twice prosecuted for the
23 same offense in violation of the Double Jeopardy
24 clause. The District Court denied the motion to
25 dismiss, holding that a conspiracy and a substantive

1 offense can be prosecuted separately since they are
2 separate crimes.

3 Using some of the very same evidence it had
4 used to convict Petitioner in Washington State, he was
5 convicted of both conspiracies, a telephone count, and
6 the continuing criminal enterprise charge.

7 QUESTION: Mr. DeMassa, may I inquire about
8 the nature of the proof in Florida of the Washington
9 offense? Was the evidence of the conviction in
10 Washington introduced?

11 MR. DE MASSA: No.

12 QUESTION: And was it simply an introduction
13 of the portion of the same evidence which had been
14 introduced previously in Washington? Or what was
15 done?

16 MR. DE MASSA: No evidence was introduced in
17 Washington either. After discovery procedures,
18 Petitioner plead guilty in Washington, so he never had a
19 trial in Washington in any event. However, the evidence
20 which was developed in Washington was certainly
21 introduced -- 12,000 pounds' worth of photographs of
22 Thai sticks on the beach. The other material, three or
23 four witnesses from Seattle, Washington. They flew a
24 chemist in from Honolulu specifically to identify a Thai
25 stick as a form of marijuana. So there was substantial

1 evidence introduced the last two days of Petitioner's
2 trial in Florida.

3 QUESTION: Well, was there other evidence
4 limited just on the Florida charges?

5 MR. DE MASSA: Yes --

6 QUESTION: Limited to activity and conduct in
7 Florida?

8 MR. DE MASSA: Yes.

9 QUESTION: Independently of the evidence that
10 you tell us came from the Washington inquiry?

11 MR. DE MASSA: Yes, there was.

12 QUESTION: There could have been a conviction
13 of these three without reference to the Washington
14 material?

15 MR. DE MASSA: There might have been, Your
16 Honor. However, it is impossible to say at this point
17 what evidence the jury considered in arriving at the
18 verdict on the CCE charge.

19 However, the jury is --

20 QUESTION: No, I am not talking about the CCE
21 charge; the three independent -- the two conspiracies
22 and the telephone counts. Was there evidence,
23 independently of what went on in Washington, which would
24 have supported those convictions?

25 MR. DE MASSA: There was evidence that

1 Petitioner was involved in other activity which could
2 support the other three charges. However, as to the
3 conspiracy to import charge, Count I, the jury's first
4 note during deliberations was whether or not they could
5 consider the Neah Bay incident as part of the conspiracy
6 to import, since it wasn't alleged in the indictment.
7 And the District Court sent a note back in the
8 affirmative indicating that it could consider the Neah
9 Bay information.

10 Our position is, as I will get to in a few
11 minutes, is Petitioner was convicted of the conspiracy
12 to import marijuana because of the importation of
13 marijuana being introduced in this particular trial.
14 When you get into a conspiracy charge, as two of these
15 were, with evidence five or six years old, sometimes a
16 jury can focus on the most recent evidence, the most
17 tangible evidence as the evidence most persuasive to
18 convict. But again, this is all speculation. We don't
19 know what the jury did except from the notes that came
20 out, the specific note asking about Neah Bay.

21 QUESTION: Well, did the government offer all
22 this Washington State evidence affirmatively in support
23 of the independent charges outside of the CCE?

24 MR. DE MASSA: I believe it was offered as to
25 the conspiracy of the import count also.

1 QUESTION: Did they say it was?

2 MR. DE MASSA: No. As a matter of fact, the
3 District Court Judge, when the Sun Chaser III testimony
4 was introduced, indicated to the jury that that
5 testimony regarding the Sun Chaser III and Seattle, et
6 cetera, was only being introduced for the purposes of
7 the continuing criminal enterprise charge itself, and
8 was not related to the other defendant.

9 Now whether or not the jury listened to that
10 evidence --

11 QUESTION: Well, would you agree, if none of
12 the three charges was tainted by any of the Washington
13 evidence, that they might support the conviction on the
14 CCE count -- the conviction on the Florida three would
15 be enough to support conviction on the CCE charge?

16 MR. DE MASSA: If there was evidence that the
17 jury did not consider the Neah Bay evidence, I would
18 agree that those three would be sufficient. However,
19 the record is tainted because of the introduction of
20 this evidence.

21 Petitioner was sentenced to 40 years
22 imprisonment and a maximum \$100,000 fine, both of which
23 were to run consecutive to the Washington State sentence
24 and fine that he had previously received.

25 Relying upon Fifth Circuit precedence, the

1 Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals denied Petitioner's
2 argument that the substantive offense of importation of
3 marijuana was a lesser included offense and therefore
4 barred the substantive offense of the continuing
5 criminal enterprise.

6 It is our position in this Court, as it was in
7 the Court of Appeals, that continuing criminal
8 enterprise is a substantive offense which in
9 Petitioner's case has been improperly segmented by the
10 prosecution to impermissibly twice prosecute and punish
11 Petitioner for the same conduct.

12 Although this Court in Jeffers and
13 subsequently some Circuits have alluded to the fact that
14 a continuing criminal enterprise is a conspiracy type
15 offense, it cannot be a conspiracy offense because of
16 its very elements. Those elements require prosecution
17 and punishment of the completed criminal activity, which
18 a conspiracy does not. A conspiracy is merely an
19 agreement being an inchoate crime. And that
20 agreement -- and the conspiracy is complete when the
21 agreement is complete.

22 CCE necessarily includes as one of its
23 definitional elements, however, the element of
24 in-concert activity which this Court discussed in
25 Jeffers. This connotes cooperative action. That

1 element is present whenever a CCE defendant combines
2 with others in concert to commit a crime, those
3 predicate violations.

4 In addition to the concerted activity element,
5 Congress intended and did proscribe through the
6 continuing criminal enterprise statute against the
7 comprehensive and continuing business of drug activity,
8 and not just a segment of that activity which is found
9 in the other drug felonies in both subchapters.

10 Mr. Justice Brennan when you asked me your
11 question regarding whether or not this evidence would be
12 tainted without the Neah Bay prosecution, I gave you an
13 answer which was wrong. The answer to your question
14 is: The evidence would be tainted under my argument
15 because the government has segmented a Petitioner's
16 conduct. My argument is that there is a conspiracy from
17 July -- or January 1976 until July 1981 in Florida which
18 alleges to be the continuum of conduct that this
19 defendant committed; and by segmenting part of that
20 activity, by choosing to prosecute part of that
21 substantive offense in Washington, is impermissible
22 under the Double Jeopardy Clause.

23 QUESTION: Well, I come back then to the
24 question I asked you earlier. Could not the government
25 have prosecuted all four of the charges in Florida --

1 MR. DE MASSA: Yes.

2 QUESTION: -- without reference to what went
3 on in the State of Washington?

4 MR. DE MASSA: My position would be that,
5 since it is a substantive offense which is defined by
6 the indictment, the answer would be no.

7 QUESTION: It could not?

8 MR. DE MASSA: Could not. For the very same
9 reasons that this Court over a century has held in In re
10 Nielsen, and In re Snow, and in other cases that it is a
11 continuing offense -- the business of drug activity is a
12 proscribed course of conduct. Segmenting up a part of
13 that continuum is improper.

14 Congress has proscribed not against the
15 individual drug felonies themselves --

16 QUESTION: Let's suppose what happened in
17 Washington never happened --

18 MR. DE MASSA: If it never happened, then --

19 QUESTION: -- then would the charges made in
20 Florida have sufficed?

21 MR. DE MASSA: Yes. Yes.

22 QUESTION: But because something did happen in
23 Washington, they had to introduce all of that evidence
24 to prove the continuum. Is that it?

25 MR. DE MASSA: They didn't have to introduce

1 the evidence, Your Honor. What they didn't have to do
2 was to prosecute them twice. They prosecuted him once
3 for the lesser included offense of importation of
4 marijuana; then they prosecuted him a second time for
5 the greater offense --

6 QUESTION: As I understand you, they could not
7 have prosecuted him after they did in Washington, they
8 could not prosecute him in Florida without introducing
9 the Washington evidence.

10 MR. DE MASSA: Well, my position is that they
11 could not prosecute him in either case because you are
12 segmenting up a substantive violation into more than one
13 unit of prosecution.

14 QUESTION: Now this you are applying only to
15 the CCE count?

16 MR. DE MASSA: Yes, Your Honor. They could
17 have prosecuted him for a conspiracy to import. They
18 could have prosecuted him for a conspiracy to possess
19 with intent to distribute. They could have
20 prosecuted--

21 QUESTION: He was sentenced to 40 years on the
22 CCE count?

23 MR. DE MASSA: Consecutive to the Washington
24 importation. That gets to the cumulative punishment
25 issue.

1 QUESTION: What did he plead guilty of in
2 Washington?

3 MR. DE MASSA: He pled guilty in Washington to
4 the importation of marijuana charge.

5 QUESTION: Do you say, then, that the next day
6 in Washington they could have convicted him for a
7 conspiring to import?

8 MR. DE MASSA: Yes. Under Albernaz they can
9 convict him of conspiracy, and they can convict him of
10 the substantive offense.

11 QUESTION: Separately?

12 MR. DE MASSA: Yes. That's clear from
13 Albernaz and other cases that he can be indicted and
14 convicted of the conspiracy and of the substantive
15 offense.

16 QUESTION: And you say the CCE charge is not a
17 conspiracy charge?

18 MR. DE MASSA: It is not a conspiracy
19 charge.

20 QUESTION: But it takes an agreement, doesn't
21 it?

22 MR. DE MASSA: It requires concerted activity,
23 but if it takes an agreement, who is the CCE defendant
24 conspiring with who has the same intent that he does?
25 And if that person has that same intent, that makes that

1 person --

2 QUESTION: Well, he has to have concerted
3 activity with five --

4 MR. DE MASSA: Five or more persons.

5 QUESTION: -- five or more persons. Now --

6 MR. DE MASSA: But those are not CCE
7 defendants themselves.

8 QUESTION: Oh, I know. I know. I know. But
9 a lot of times you just prosecute one of the
10 conspirators.

11 MR. DE MASSA: Then he could be charged with
12 conspiracy.

13 QUESTION: But what does "concerted activity"
14 mean?

15 MR. DE MASSA: It means a continuum of
16 activity. It means getting other people to aid you. In
17 our opening brief we talked about aiders and abettors.

18 QUESTION: Well, so they all have agreed to
19 work together.

20 MR. DE MASSA: Yes, but if they were all doing
21 what a continuing enterprise defendant was doing, under
22 the normal rules of a conspiracy they would be
23 conspirators with a CCE defendant, and they cannot be
24 guilty of conspiracy because they cannot have committed
25 the same offense that a CCE defendant commits. That is,

1 supervising, organizing, substantial resources.

2 So if we're talking about conspiracy being a
3 specific-intent offense, which it is, he cannot
4 specifically intend to commit that offense with five
5 underlings because they do not have the same specific
6 intent to organize, supervise, obtain substantial
7 resources in money, commit a continuing series of
8 violations, as that continuing criminal enterprise
9 defendant does.

10 QUESTION: Well, even if you can't call it a
11 "conspiracy," why shouldn't the same consequence flow
12 from this strange animal as flows from a conspiracy?

13 MR. DE MASSA: Because you would need an
14 agreement between the CCE defendant and another to
15 commit the CCE. And you can't have an agreement with
16 the underlings to commit the CCE. You can have them aid
17 you in part of that agreement. We cited United States
18 vs. Tarr, a case which points out in our opening brief
19 that perhaps an aider and abettor can aid and abet part
20 of that continuing violation --

21 QUESTION: I suppose the real answer is that
22 in this case you can prove all the agreements you want,
23 but you can't prove the CCE offense without proving some
24 predicate offenses.

25 MR. DE MASSA: You need to necessarily include

1 it.

2 QUESTION: You need three, or however many you
3 need.

4 MR. DE MASSA: You need three completed
5 crimes; and a conspiracy, by definition, is an
6 inchoate--

7 QUESTION: And you don't need to prove
8 those.

9 MR. DE MASSA: Yes.

10 QUESTION: You don't need to prove any act
11 except an agreement.

12 MR. DE MASSA: All you need is an agreement
13 with a conspiracy. That leads back to Mr. Justice
14 Brennan's idea about whether or not these are sufficient
15 in themselves to convict for the CCE. If the
16 conspiracies are just agreements that don't by
17 themselves culminate in the CCE defendant getting
18 substantial resources, what difference does it make if
19 they're just agreements. If the jury finds that he
20 conspired but didn't make any money, that's not
21 enough.

22 QUESTION: Tell me again, Mr. DeMassa, your
23 answer to Justice White's question conceding that the
24 CCE offense, because it involved underlings rather than
25 conspirators, is not the same as a conspiracy. Why

1 can't it be treated the same for purposes of the legal
2 arguments you're making?

3 MR. DE MASSA: Why can't the CCE be treated as
4 a conspiracy?

5 QUESTION: Well, so far as the kind of
6 arguments you're making.

7 MR. DE MASSA: Because you can't agree with
8 the other five underlings to commit a CCE conspiracy.

9 QUESTION: That I realizes distinguishes it
10 from a conspiracy, so it's A rather than B. But why
11 can't both A and B be treated the same for purposes of
12 the kind of Double Jeopardy legal argument you're
13 making?

14 MR. DE MASSA: I think the ultimate answer is,
15 it's both. It's fish and fowl at the same time.

16 QUESTION: I think the answer is that you
17 still have to prove the predicate offenses.

18 MR. DE MASSA: Yes. That's correct, Your
19 Honor, you do have to prove the predicate offenses and
20 it makes it a completed offense. But because of the
21 in-concert activity element, you have to do it with
22 other people, which is what Jeffers basically discussed.

23 In order to commit this crime, you can't do it
24 alone. And what Congress proscribed as the allowable
25 unit of prosecution is the business of drug dealing.

1 Not an individual going out and smuggling or doing
2 something else alone and making millions of dollars, but
3 the business -- unlike Albernaz which the two
4 conspiracies, the conspiracy to import and the
5 conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute, are
6 punishing two separate evils -- CCE is parsing the
7 entirety of drug dealing.

8 QUESTION: But you also argue, do you, that
9 the conspiracy counts here -- even if there were nothing
10 about Washington involved in this case -- could not be
11 predicate offenses for the CCE count?

12 MR. DE MASSA: My problem is it becomes --

13 QUESTION: Don't you argue that?

14 MR. DE MASSA: Yes.

15 QUESTION: You say, a conspiracy conviction is
16 not a completed offense. Is that it?

17 MR. DE MASSA: It is an agreement; it is a
18 completed offense once there's an agreement. The jury
19 could have found that these two conspiracies were in
20 effect existing, but then they would have to make --

21 QUESTION: Well, could they then be predicate
22 offenses?

23 MR. DE MASSA: They could be predicate
24 offenses.

25 QUESTION: All right.

1 MR. DE MASSA: But they have to find that
2 there's substantial resources obtained; that he was an
3 organizer in those conspiracies -- the problem is, there
4 was a motion for bill of particulars in this case to
5 find out what the particulars were about the
6 government's theory. The government came back -- you'll
7 look at the CCE indictment itself, and it basically only
8 indicates that he is charged with a CCE. And the
9 government said --

10 QUESTION: If all the jury used the Washington
11 evidence for was to prove the conspiracy to import or to
12 possess or whatever it is, there wouldn't be any Double
13 Jeopardy problem there, would there?

14 MR. DE MASSA: There might not. However --

15 QUESTION: Well, might not? There wouldn't
16 be. You've already agreed you can convict separately
17 for the conspiracy. .

18 MR. DE MASSA: Well, my argument
19 basically --

20 QUESTION: Well, isn't that right?

21 MR. DE MASSA: No, Your Honor. You cannot
22 just convict for that and make it admissible, if you're
23 saying including the Neah Bay evidence --

24 QUESTION: I thought awhile ago you said that
25 you could convict for the substantive offense, and then

1 you can convict separately for the conspiracy to --

2 MR. DE MASSA: Yes.

3 QUESTION: Albernaz.

4 MR. DE MASSA: But not under the CCE. You can
5 charge him for separate offenses all over and cumulate
6 the punishments. That's clear. But the CCE charge is
7 meant to be a comprehensive statute.

8 QUESTION: But if there had only been one
9 charge in this case -- forget the CCE for a minute -- if
10 there had only been one charge, namely the conspiracy
11 charge, they could have used the Washington evidence to
12 prove the conspiracy.

13 MR. DE MASSA: Yes, because the conspiracy is
14 different than the Washington evidence. But that's not
15 the situation we had here.

16 I would like to reserve some minutes I have
17 left for rebuttal.

18 CHIEF JUSTICE BURGER: Mr. Levy.

19 ORAL ARGUMENT BY MR. LEVY

20 ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT

21 MR. LEVY: Thank you, Mr. Chief Justice, and
22 may it please the Court:

23 Let me begin by saying that in our view this
24 case doesn't involve any segmenting or unit of
25 prosecution issue. That issue would come up if the

1 government had sought to take a single continuing
2 criminal enterprise and divide it for purposes of
3 prosecution and sentence. That is not what is done
4 here.

5 The unit of prosecution issue, first of all,
6 would be an issue of statutory intent, not a Double
7 Jeopardy issue at all, and the only issue that
8 Petitioner has raised is a Double Jeopardy issue, not a
9 unit of prosecution issue. So let me turn to the Double
10 Jeopardy question.

11 The Double Jeopardy clause prohibits
12 successive prosecutions for the same offense. Now under
13 this principle, Petitioner does not dispute that he was
14 subject to successive prosecutions for his various
15 substantive drug offenses, no matter how many there
16 were, no matter where around the country they were
17 brought, no matter what the evidence might have been
18 that the government actually used in each of those
19 prosecutions; nor does he dispute that he was subject to
20 successive prosecutions for substantive offenses and for
21 conspiracy. So that, as he conceded just a moment ago,
22 he could have been tried on substantive offenses and a
23 conspiracy offense could later have been brought in
24 Florida, and a conspiracy offense could have used much
25 or all of the same evidence that the government had

1 previously relied on in the substantive prosecutions.

2 He also does not dispute that he was subject
3 to a CCE prosecution in Florida following the Washington
4 importation prosecution, provided only that the
5 Washington importation was not used as part of the
6 government's proof of the series of drug violations. So
7 the issue in this case, therefore --

8 QUESTION: I thought he originally conceded
9 that and then walked away from that concession.

10 MR. LEVY: Well, perhaps your understanding is
11 better than mine, but my understanding is what I just
12 stated.

13 QUESTION: I had thought that before argument,
14 but I think he changed his position today.

15 MR. LEVY: But the central question here is
16 whether importation of marijuana and continuing criminal
17 enterprise become the same offense because that
18 importation is used in a given case as one of the
19 predicates for CCE.

20 Now we submit the Petitioner's importation of
21 marijuana in Washington on August 26th, 1980, was not
22 the same offense as his continuing criminal enterprise
23 that occurred around the country in at least eight
24 states that lasted for more than half a decade and that
25 involved numerous criminal activities.

1 QUESTION: May I ask, Mr. Levy, just to get it
2 out early, supposing -- unlike the facts of this
3 case -- you had only two other substantive offenses that
4 could be proved in Florida instead of the multiple group
5 you have, would your position be the same?

6 MR. LEVY: Well, our principal position would
7 be the same there --

8 QUESTION: In other words, you had only three
9 predicate offenses, one of which was the Washington
10 situation, would you still make the same argument?

11 MR. LEVY: Our principal argument would be the
12 same. That is, that substantive predicates and CCE are
13 not the same offense.

14 QUESTION: Well, if all three of the predicate
15 offenses you sought to prove in Florida had been
16 previously prosecuted, you would make the same
17 argument?

18 MR. LEVY: Our argument would indeed be the
19 same. But we also have an additional argument in this
20 case. That is, whatever the general relationship
21 between predicates and CCE, in this case Petitioner's
22 conviction should not be reversed because of the
23 presence of the three other convictions in Florida that
24 suffice to sustain the CCE conviction. So we have two
25 levels of argument.

1 But our principal argument, Justice Stevens
2 and Justice White, would be the same.

3 QUESTION: And I gather that you'd argue there
4 was absolutely no taint by the Washington evidence of
5 the Florida substantive offense part of it.

6 QUESTION: That's his secondary -- that's your
7 secondary.

8 MR. LEVY: That is secondary, but that is also
9 part of our principal argument. There is indeed no
10 taint. As Petitioner conceded, he could be prosecuted
11 in Florida for conspiracy, and the Neah Bay evidence
12 could be admitted. And the conspiracy, he also admits,
13 could be used as one of the predicates. So we think
14 there is no taint from the use of the Neah Bay
15 evidence.

16 Now before turning to the analytical framework
17 for resolving the Double Jeopardy issue, let me first
18 discuss briefly some of the consequences of Petitioner's
19 argument. Consider a defendant who is apprehended in
20 the commission of a drug offense. Assume that he is
21 prosecuted and convicted for that substantive drug
22 offense, and that it later turns out that he was engaged
23 in a continuing criminal enterprise.

24 Under Petitioner's theory, the government
25 might not be able to bring a CCE case at all. And even

1 if it could, it would not be able to present its
2 complete CCE case because the previously prosecuted
3 offense would have to be excluded.

4 QUESTION: Mr. Levy, is that a valid
5 argument? Didn't one of our opinions expressly make an
6 exception for later discovered evidence and later
7 transactions?

8 MR. LEVY: There is an exception for that, but
9 we think this case goes well beyond that, and that
10 that's appropriate in light of the nature of the CCE
11 offense.

12 QUESTION: I thought your argument basically
13 was, even if the government is aware of the whole
14 panorama of activities, it can still divide up the
15 prosecution in this way.

16 MR. LEVY: We take that position --

17 QUESTION: Yes.

18 MR. LEVY: -- but in most cases, it will in
19 fact be the situation that the government is not aware
20 of that situation. It is important for the Court to
21 understand --

22 QUESTION: Well, in that case, our cases have
23 suggested there's an exception to the rule.

24 MR. LEVY: There is, although that exception
25 is exceedingly difficult to apply in practice. It is

1 one that we think is appropriately recognized and in
2 suitable cases the government will apply it.

3 QUESTION: I'm surprised you start out with
4 that argument.

5 MR. LEVY: Well, I just simply want to give
6 the Court some idea of the practical dimensions of the
7 Petitioner's argument. I think that it would have very
8 unsound application in the criminal justice system.

9 Let me give another example. That is a case
10 like the First Circuit's decision in Middleton upon
11 which Petitioner relies, where the CCE prosecution is
12 brought first and the defendant is acquitted. Suppose
13 it is clear that the reason for the CCE acquittal is
14 that five or more other people were involved but that
15 the defendant did not obtain substantial income or
16 resources.

17 Under Petitioner's theory, the defendant would
18 be immune from a substantive prosecution even though the
19 government's evidence was ample to show, as one of the
20 CCE predicates, the defendant committed that offense.
21 These would lead to very substantial windfalls for drug
22 defendants.

23 Now what arguments have been advanced to
24 support those windfalls? Basically there are two: the
25 Blockburger test, and the same-facts test. Let me start

1 with Blockburger.

2 Blockburger was designed to determine whether
3 violations of two statutory provisions arising from the
4 same act or transaction are the same offense in the
5 sense of having a certain logical and necessary relation
6 to each other. That is, whether the elements of one are
7 identical to or entirely subsumed in the elements of the
8 other. So that whenever the government establishes one
9 offense, it always necessarily and invariably
10 establishes that other offense as well.

11 This Blockburger relation identifies the
12 offenses as true greater and lesser included offenses,
13 and thus has the same offense for Double Jeopardy
14 purposes. Now Blockburger is simply unhelpful in
15 analyzing the quite different issue of the relation
16 between a compound offense such as CCE or RICO and its
17 underlying predicate offenses.

18 The offenses used as the multiple predicates
19 for CCE are not lesser included offenses, because no
20 particular or specific offense is a necessary component
21 of the compound CCE offense. Rather, any of a number of
22 offenses can serve as predicates, and the actual
23 predicates will vary from case to case.

24 Moreover, CCE and its predicates do not
25 involve the same act or transaction; rather, they arise

1 from an extensive course of criminal conduct. In this
2 case, for example, Petitioner's continuing criminal
3 enterprise occurred over a five-year period. It
4 extended to at least eight different states. It
5 included numerous participants, and involved myriad
6 criminal activities.

7 Now in these circumstances, application of the
8 Blockburger standard is irresolvably indeterminate. It
9 tells us nothing about the relation between the compound
10 offense and the predicate offense. We believe
11 Blockburger is not an end in itself, but instead is a
12 means of sound analysis for the same offense question,
13 and it has no applicability --

14 QUESTION: May I ask, your hypothetical here
15 is assuming many more than three predicate offenses.
16 There there is no problem with Blockburger. It seems to
17 me your argument has to focus on the question whether if
18 you are required to prove three, and one of the three
19 has already been proved.

20 MR. LEVY: All right, we would take the
21 position that that does not violate Double Jeopardy.

22 QUESTION: You see, your hypothetical is you
23 say you've got myriad offenses, and obviously you have
24 no problem in that case.

25 MR. LEVY: That wasn't a hypothetical; those

1 are the facts of this case: that the Petitioner engaged
2 in myriad criminal activities. The reason I mentioned
3 that was to show that it is not the same act or
4 transaction.

5 QUESTION: Then under that argument,
6 Blockburger is satisfied. That's not an argument
7 against applying Blockburger.

8 MR. LEVY: We don't think it can be said in
9 the area of compound and predicate offenses that
10 Blockburger is either satisfied or not satisfied; or,
11 alternatively, it is satisfied and not satisfied at the
12 same time. We just don't think Blockburger can be
13 applied in any meaningful way to compound and predicate
14 offenses.

15 QUESTION: Well, you clearly would have
16 avoided the problem with this case, would you not, if
17 the trial judge had said: You must find three predicate
18 offenses, but don't use the incident in Seattle as one
19 of the three?

20 MR. LEVY: At a minimum, that would have
21 avoided Double Jeopardy.

22 QUESTION: That clearly would have avoided the
23 whole problem.

24 MR. LEVY: But the reason for that is--

25 QUESTION: And as I understand your argument,

1 you could easily have won the case under such an
2 instruction.

3 MR. LEVY: We could have in this case, but we
4 don't think it was necessary that such an instruction be
5 given because the predicate offenses and CCE are the
6 same. But to determine whether they're the same or not
7 can't be done under the Blockburger test. If you're
8 going to come to the conclusion that they are the
9 same -- and we think they are not -- but if you come to
10 the conclusion they are the same, you have to get there
11 by some means other than Blockburger.

12 Applying the elements' test of Blockburger to
13 compound and predicate offenses for any of a number of
14 different offenses under the statute could serve as
15 predicates. Under the CCE statute, importation can
16 serve as a predicate, distribution, possession with
17 intent to distribute, conspiracy, and a whole range of
18 offenses can serve as predicates. Now in a particular
19 case there may only be three predicates that the
20 government chooses -- or is able to prove, but any of a
21 number of offenses can be predicates. Different types
22 of offenses can be predicates.

23 Therefore, it cannot be said in the
24 Blockburger sense that any particular type of offense is
25 necessarily included, is a lesser included offense of

1 CCE. In a murder and manslaughter cause, for example,
2 it can always be said that manslaughter is a lesser
3 included offense of murder. Whenever the government
4 establishes murder, it will always necessarily and
5 invariably establish manslaughter.

6 QUESTION: Well, isn't it true that whenever
7 the government established the CCE it would necessarily
8 establish three predicate offenses?

9 MR. LEVY: It would establish three
10 predicates, but we wouldn't know which predicates, and
11 they would be different for each case.

12 QUESTION: Well, but in murder and
13 manslaughter, maybe the manslaughter charge was somebody
14 else. Theoretically you can have a murder of A and a
15 manslaughter of B.

16 MR. LEVY: You could, but if you have a murder
17 of A, you will also necessarily have a manslaughter of
18 A.

19 QUESTION: And if you have a CCE, you will
20 necessarily have three predicate offenses.

21 MR. LEVY: You will have three predicates, but
22 we don't think those predicates will be lesser included
23 offenses in the same sense of murder and manslaughter,
24 or armed bank robbery and bank robbery, and the other
25 kinds of traditional lesser and greater offenses for

1 which Blockburger was designed to advance the Double
2 Jeopardy analysis.

3 QUESTION: Well, Blockburger really didn't
4 advance any Double Jeopardy analysis at all. It was a
5 statutory case.

6 MR. LEVY: It relied on cases such as
7 Gavayares. There was a Double Jeopardy issue, and the
8 Court has subsequently relied on Blockburger in cases
9 like Brown and Illinois vs. Vitalle. So we think that
10 Blockburger has taken on at least some dimensions of a
11 constitutional analysis here. But whatever its status,
12 it is at most applicable in situations where it makes
13 sense to apply it, where it advances the analysis and
14 where it can give meaningful results, and we simply
15 don't think that is true in the area of compound and
16 predicate offenses, especially offenses like CCE and
17 RICO.

18 QUESTION: Mr. Levy, it sounds to me like you
19 would say that a state could make a separate crime of
20 being a repeat offender. You could have a criminal
21 statute that said any time anybody has committed three
22 felonies and has been convicted of them, you may then
23 indict him and convict him of having committed three
24 felonies. Is that right?

25 MR. LEVY: Let me say first that CCE is not

1 such a statute. And, second, if there is any --

2 QUESTION: Why isn't it like that?

3 MR. LEVY: Because you need to prove a great
4 many other things than simply the series of offenses.
5 You need to prove the in concert --

6 QUESTION: Oh, I understand that. I
7 understand that. But why wouldn't -- Go ahead with your
8 second answer. Would you sustain the statute in my
9 example?

10 MR. LEVY: With respect to a Double Jeopardy
11 objection, we would. There may be other problems such
12 as due process.

13 QUESTION: Well, wouldn't you have to say that
14 you would in order to succeed in your present
15 argument?

16 MR. LEVY: Not in the present argument. We
17 also have an alternative argument that CCE may be
18 analagized to a recedivist or an habitual offender
19 statute. But in the principal argument, I don't think
20 that is necessary.

21 But we would take the position, just to be
22 clear, that such a statute would not violate Double
23 Jeopardy --

24 QUESTION: Just making a separate crime out of
25 having committed three previous felonies, that would not

1 be subject to attack under the Double Jeopardy clause?

2 MR. LEVY: I believe that's correct. Now I
3 don't know that some --

4 QUESTION: Do some states have such crimes on
5 the books for habitual offenders?

6 MR. LEVY: I am not aware of them, but I can't
7 give a conclusive answer to that.

8 QUESTION: Well, the usual one is they just
9 enhance the penalty for the third --

10 MR. LEVY: That's correct, and the defendant
11 would not have been previously prosecuted for the one
12 that is at issue. That is the more traditional, more
13 typical habitual offender statute.

14 QUESTION: But they nevertheless allow proof
15 of the previous convictions.

16 MR. LEVY: Yes, they do, and this Court has
17 long held that there is no Double Jeopardy problem with
18 such a statute.

19 Now Petitioner also proposes the same facts
20 test for Double Jeopardy analysis. That is, offenses
21 are the same -- excuse me, where the facts in evidence
22 underlying them are the same. But this Court's
23 decisions make it clear that Double Jeopardy does not
24 turn on the facts or the evidence actually involved in
25 the particular prosecution.

1 If the rule were otherwise, conspiracy in a
2 substantive offense, for example, would often be the
3 same offense, which would be contrary to well settled
4 Double Jeopardy principles. Or, the Court's analysis in
5 Brown against Ohio would have been beside the point,
6 because it was clear that the two offenses there
7 involved the same facts.

8 Let me discuss for a moment Illinois against
9 Vitalle. We believe that that decision does not
10 establish the same-facts' test. Vitalle involves
11 successive charges of failure to reduce speed and
12 involuntary manslaughter arising out of a traffic
13 accident. Because involuntary manslaughter with an
14 automobile will always involve some underlying traffic
15 offense -- whether driving while intoxicated, reckless
16 driving, failure to slow, or something else -- the Court
17 recognized that the manslaughter charge was a form of
18 compound predicate offense.

19 QUESTION: Mr. Levy, manslaughter won't always
20 involve an automobile.

21 MR. LEVY: No, but I think the Illinois charge
22 in that case did involve manslaughter with an
23 automobile.

24 QUESTION: The charge, or the statute?

25 MR. LEVY: I believe the statute had a

1 different section for manslaughter with an automobile
2 and the charge was brought under that. That's my
3 recollection.

4 But we think Vitalle can be seen to rest on
5 the premise that manslaughter with an automobile may be
6 an aggravated form of the traffic offense where death
7 ensues, and therefore the defendant's claim of Double
8 Jeopardy was substantial. Indeed, Vitalle explained the
9 felony murder decision --

10 QUESTION: What do you think the word
11 "substantial" in that opinion means, Mr. Levy? Do you
12 think "colorable," "proven"?

13 MR. LEVY: I'm not entirely sure, and the
14 Court did not explain it, but I think the best reading
15 is that the Court couldn't come to a conclusive
16 determination of the Double Jeopardy claim, because that
17 claim turned on the nature of the state law offenses.
18 That is, whether manslaughter with an automobile was
19 intended by the legislature to be an aggravated form of
20 the traffic offense where a death ensued.

21 If the Illinois legislature intended that
22 manslaughter was an aggravated form of failure to slow
23 where death ensued, then a defendant would have not just
24 a substantial claim of Double Jeopardy but a conclusive
25 claim. But the Court was unable to determine that

1 because the issue hadn't been briefed and decided by the
2 state courts.

3 So I think the Court's use of the word
4 "substantial" indicated that there was a basis for the
5 claim, but that the case in its present posture couldn't
6 be finally resolved.

7 We think that is also clear from the Court's
8 discussion of the felony murder decision -- the Court's
9 discussion in Vitalle of the felony murder decision in
10 Harris against Oklahoma. The Court in Vitalle stated
11 that Harris had viewed the felony murder -- had viewed
12 killing in the course of a robbery as a separate
13 statutory offense, and that the robbery was a lesser
14 included offense thereof.

15 In other words, the Court viewed the issue in
16 Harris as felony murder being an aggravated form of the
17 underlying felony. That would make them the same
18 offense for Double Jeopardy purposes, and the Court's
19 view of the felony murder statute that we think
20 underlies this decision in Harris is the same view it
21 later took of the District of Columbia felony murder
22 statute. That is, that is was an aggravated form of the
23 underlying felony.

24 Nothing in these decisions turns on the facts
25 or evidence in a particular case. We think there is no

1 basis for Petitioner's advancing a same-facts' test for
2 Double Jeopardy purposes.

3 Now if Blockburger and the same-facts' test
4 are not the proper standards, what is the correct
5 approach in this area for complex compound-predicate
6 offenses like CCE and RICO?

7 We submit that the same-offense question can
8 be answered only by a focused and concrete examination
9 of the offenses that Congress has created. The Double
10 Jeopardy clause recognizes that it is the province of
11 Congress to prescribe criminal offenses, and it does not
12 limit the offenses that Congress can define.

13 The decisive question, therefore, is did
14 Congress create separate offenses? Now in effect, this
15 is what the Blockburger test determines in the area in
16 which it is applicable to true greater and lesser
17 included offenses. Where Blockburger is not satisfied,
18 not simply that it can't be applied, but where it can be
19 applied and is not satisfied, it cannot be said that the
20 offenses are different in any sense.

21 Blockburger thus serves as a shorthand or a
22 proxy in some situations for evaluating whether the
23 legislatively defined offenses are the same or
24 different. Now the same fundamental inquiry applies for
25 more complex statutory provisions that do not involve

1 true greater and lesser included offenses such as CCE or
2 RICO. But there, the mechanistic Blockburger test
3 cannot be used as a surrogate for a careful examination
4 of the nature of the offenses defined by Congress.

5 This required examination turns on the text of
6 the statutes, their legislative history, their common
7 law or statutory background, the societal interests and
8 legislative policies that underlie them, and any other
9 considerations that inform the inquiry into the
10 character and substance of the offenses that Congress
11 has prescribed.

12 Now applying that standard here, we believe it
13 is clear that Congress did not create CCE and the
14 marijuana importation offense as the same offense.

15 QUESTION: Well, I suppose you could always
16 say that when the first felony is committed, it's not a
17 lesser included offense of anything, I suppose, and it
18 certainly isn't a lesser included offense of a CCE when
19 the first one happens. Neither is it when the second
20 one happens.

21 MR. LEVY: That's correct. And, we submit,
22 even when the third one happens it is not a lesser
23 included offense. The substantive predicates in CCE are
24 not in any circumstances the same offense.

25 QUESTION: Well, usually a lesser included

1 offense is always -- as soon as it happens, you know
2 it's a lesser included offense with something else.

3 MR. LEVY: That's right. And that's the kind
4 of situation that Blockburger was designed to deal with,
5 we think, because it does turn on the nature of the same
6 act or transaction, where that has occurred at that
7 instant or at roughly the same time at least, it will be
8 known whether the defendant has committed the greater
9 offense, and also whether he's committed the truly
10 lesser included offense. And we think that is much
11 different than CCE or RICO.

12 QUESTION: Well, Mr. Levy, what if the
13 defendant had gone to trial in Washington on the
14 importation of marijuana offense and been acquitted?
15 Could the government, nonetheless, introduce the same
16 evidence later on in Florida in support of the CCE?

17 MR. LEVY: Let me start with an easier
18 answer. That is, that we agree that the government
19 would not be able to use that offense as one of the
20 predicates for the CCE offense.

21 QUESTION: Why?

22 MR. LEVY: It would be collateral estoppel or
23 res judicata in the truest sense. Now it is a more
24 difficult question --

25 QUESTION: Nothing to do with Double

1 Jeopardy?

2 MR. LEVY: To the extent that those concepts
3 are embraced in Double Jeopardy, it would have some
4 constitutional basis; but it is not the same kind of
5 Double Jeopardy issue that we're discussing in this
6 case. It is a harder question whether the
7 government--

8 QUESTION: Could you use the same evidence to
9 support other aspects, such as the association with five
10 or more people --

11 MR. LEVY: Our position is that we could.

12 QUESTION: -- or something of that sort?

13 QUESTION: Or, to prove conspiracy.

14 MR. LEVY: Certainly to prove conspiracy as a
15 separate offense there would be no problem with that.
16 The Double Jeopardy Clause doesn't turn on the evidence;
17 it turns on the same offense.

18 QUESTION: Mr. Levy, can I go back to Justice
19 White's hypothetical suggesting that you always look at
20 the lesser included issue when the minor offense is
21 committed. Suppose you go into a store and commit a
22 robbery. You've committed the robbery. Then ten
23 minutes later you kill the proprietor. Therefore, you
24 have felony murder. Do you not have to look at it at
25 the time that the greater offense is committed because

1 there's no lesser included offense when he first went in
2 and held him up?

3 MR. LEVY: We don't think the same act or
4 transaction requires that the offenses occur at the
5 exact second, but we do think that they need to
6 occur--

7 QUESTION: What I am suggesting is, in order
8 to make the analysis all of the offenses that you are
9 comparing have to have been committed at the time you
10 make the comparison. And in this case, the three
11 presumably predicate offenses would have taken place
12 before he was indicted for CCE.

13 MR. LEVY: Presumably it would.

14 QUESTION: And the government would know it.

15 MR. LEVY: That it would have occurred, but we
16 think it is fundamentally different to say that, in your
17 hypothetical, Justice Stevens, the robbery and the
18 murder occurred in the same course of criminal conduct.
19 It's something else to say that a criminal act that may
20 have occurred years earlier in an entirely different
21 jurisdiction --

22 QUESTION: But what is the difference between
23 using the unit of transaction, the whole event in the
24 store robbery that I described, or the unit of
25 transaction as three drug offenses followed by

1 everything else you need to commit the CCE?

2 MR. LEVY: We think that there is a much
3 different --

4 QUESTION: What is the difference?

5 MR. LEVY: The difference is the nature of the
6 offenses involved. We don't think that the same act or
7 transaction test is the Double Jeopardy standard, but we
8 think it has some role to play in defining what the
9 appropriate standard should be.

10 QUESTION: Does it have a role -- well, go
11 ahead. You finish.

12 MR. LEVY: The language of the Constitution is
13 "same offense." It is one thing to say that two
14 offenses that occur within ten minutes of each other in
15 the same course of criminal conduct in the same
16 episode--

17 QUESTION: And the greater is not completed
18 until the ten-minute period has expired --

19 MR. LEVY: That may be --

20 QUESTION: -- and here with this offense it
21 takes maybe six months instead of ten minutes.

22 MR. LEVY: Six months, or six years --

23 QUESTION: So is there a constitutional
24 difference between six months and ten minutes?

25 MR. LEVY: Well, we think if you're looking at

1 what the language of the Constitution's "same offense"
2 can mean, we think there is a difference between
3 offenses that may occur in one episode ten minutes
4 apart--

5 QUESTION: What about a kidnapping? You hold
6 the person for six months and then kill him.

7 MR. LEVY: Well, the kidnapping is a
8 continuing thing.

9 QUESTION: Yes, and I'm talking then it's a
10 felony -- and it becomes a murder at the time of the
11 felony murder at the time of the killing.

12 MR. LEVY: At the instant at which you kill
13 him, you are still guilty of kidnapping.

14 QUESTION: But you don't have a lesser
15 included offense until the end of the six months, is
16 what I'm suggesting.

17 MR. LEVY: That's correct.

18 QUESTION: Why is it different?

19 MR. LEVY: It's different because in its
20 nature CCE does not occur in the same time frame in the
21 same place.

22 QUESTION: Six months, in both cases.

23 MR. LEVY: Well, in your hypothetical, let me
24 go on to say, we don't think that murder and kidnapping
25 would be the same offense either. We think those are,

1 under settled principles, different offenses. So
2 perhaps I didn't fully understand the point.

3 QUESTION: Well, an accidental killing at the
4 end of a six-month period of kidnapping someone would be
5 a felony murder.

6 MR. LEVY: Yes, that --

7 QUESTION: -- might not be a murder without
8 the kidnapping, and the greater offense is the murder,
9 and the lesser included offense is the kidnapping. Am I
10 incorrect?

11 MR. LEVY: Well, in our analysis we think you
12 are incorrect, that the kidnapping would not be a lesser
13 included offense as that term is used in the Double
14 Jeopardy area. "Lesser included offenses," as we
15 understand them, are offenses that always occur when the
16 greater offense has occurred.

17 We think the Court made that clear, for
18 example, in *Vitalle*. Kidnapping and felony murder is
19 not a greater and lesser included offense for which the
20 Blockburger analysis was designed. It is a compound
21 predicate offense, and we don't think it can be said, as
22 Petitioner's position in essence comes down to, that all
23 compound predicate offenses are the same offense
24 regardless of their elements, regardless of what the
25 legislature intended, and so on.

1 QUESTION: Your position really requires us to
2 overrule the cases you discussed in that one footnote,
3 Hayes, and one other.

4 MR. LEVY: I'm sorry? Harris?

5 QUESTION: Harris. Harris. Harris against
6 Oklahoma. You would require overruling of that case.

7 MR. LEVY: I don't believe so, although those
8 opinions were quite brief, and it is hard to know
9 exactly the basis for the Court's decision, but we think
10 they can be most sensibly read as resting on the premise
11 that the felony -- that the felony murder was an
12 aggravated form of the underlying felony where death
13 ensued, which is what the Court later actually held as
14 to the D.C. felony murder statute in Whelan, and it is
15 also the explanation that the Court gave in Vitalle for
16 the Harris against Oklahoma decision. So we don't think
17 our decision requires that those cases be overruled.

18 QUESTION: Well, they relied on Nielson, I
19 think, didn't they?

20 MR. LEVY: They did rely on Nielson, that's
21 correct, and Nielson is a case that's a bit hard to
22 follow. But as we understand it, we think Nielson
23 applied the Blockburger test to the elements of the
24 offense, but that --

25 QUESTION: Well, Nielson antedated Blockburger

1 by decades, didn't it?

2 MR. LEVY: In its formal structure, but we
3 think the approach they followed was similar to what was
4 later adopted in Blockburger, and that the difficulty in
5 Nielson is that the Court did not simply look at the
6 elements on the face of the statute, but it looked at
7 the statutory elements as it construed them. Those were
8 federal statutes involving the federal territory of
9 Utah, and so the Court was free to give a construction
10 to the elements. And having given that construction, it
11 came to the conclusion that one offense was a true
12 lesser included offense of the other, and therefore
13 under Double Jeopardy principles, and we agree,
14 successive prosecutions were for the same offense and
15 therefore barred.

16 But let me say in this case, CCE cannot be
17 said to have been intended by Congress to be the same
18 offense as the predicate.

19 QUESTION: May I ask right there, you're
20 saying that it could not contend, for example in this
21 case, that CCE is an aggravated form of the offense
22 committed in Seattle?

23 MR. LEVY: That depends on the statute that
24 Congress passed. Congress could have passed a CCE-like
25 offense that was nothing more than an aggravated form of

1 the preceding felony; nothing to bar Congress from doing
2 that. The question is whether this statute is like
3 that; or whether, as we contend, it is not simply an
4 aggravated form of the predicate, but a different
5 offense and different in a meaningful and substantial
6 way that Congress intended at the time.

7 From its text, we can see that CCE is based on
8 the new concept of an enterprise. This indicates that
9 Congress envisions CCE to be a new form of offense. In
10 addition, in the legislative history Congress made it
11 clear that CCE was not meant to be the same offense.
12 Congress distinguished CCE from provisions that merely
13 enhanced the penalty for or aggravate the degree of a
14 basic offense. It emphasized repeatedly that CCE
15 instead is a new and distinct offense.

16 Finally, the policies and purposes behind CCE
17 also indicate that the offenses are not the same. CCE
18 is the so-called "kingpin statute," and it was directed
19 at large-scale and ongoing drug trafficking.

20 QUESTION: But Jeffers, the Jeffers vs. United
21 States case, determined that Congress did not intend
22 cumulative penalties to be --

23 MR. LEVY: We think Jeffers is fundamentally
24 different. Let me briefly state why.

25 The conspiracy in Jeffers was not one of the

1 predicates for the prosecution. Rather, the Court,
2 making its assumption about the in-concert element being
3 conspiratorial agreement, essentially concluded that the
4 conspiracy in Jeffers was a true lesser included
5 offense. That is, whenever the government establishes
6 CCE, it will always and necessarily establish that kind
7 of a conspiracy.

8 Given that view, the Court came to the
9 conclusion that successive prosecutions constituted
10 Double Jeopardy for the same offense, and the Congress
11 did not intend to authorize cumulative penalties for
12 true greater and lesser included offenses.

13 Whatever the correctness of that decision, it
14 simply does not apply to the fundamentally different
15 issue in this case: whether CCE and substantive
16 offenses are the same not because they are true greater
17 and lesser included offenses, but because in a given
18 case the substantive offense is used as a predicate for
19 the compound CCE offense. We think that is a
20 fundamentally different issue, and that in light of the
21 language, the history, and importantly the purposes of
22 the kingpin statute, CCE and the substantive of
23 predicates are not the same offense.

24 CHIEF JUSTICE BURGER: Do you have anything
25 further, Mr. DeMassa?

1 MR. DE MASSA: Yes, Your Honor.

2 CHIEF JUSTICE BURGER: You do have six minutes
3 remaining.

4 REBUTTAL ORAL ARGUMENT BY MR. DE MASSA
5 ON BEHALF OF PETITIONER

6 MR. DE MASSA: The Solicitor General indicates
7 that Jeffers conspiracy is not one of the predicates of
8 the prosecution in Jeffers. If that were so, then they
9 would be separate offenses. If that were so, there
10 would be no necessity to have a lesser included offense
11 instruction as was indicated by Justice Blackmun in his
12 decision that lesser included offenses instructions
13 would be warranted in that case.

14 There was a citation of Kiebel, and there were
15 other citations after Kiebel from Jeffers which indicate
16 that you don't just look at the statutory elements of
17 the crime to determine whether or not a lesser included
18 offense instruction is warranted, but you look at
19 whether or not the evidence warrants those
20 instructions.

21 Two of those cases are Beck vs. Alabama, and
22 Hopper vs. Evans. Those cases indicate that you look at
23 the underlying facts to determine whether or not a
24 lesser included offense instruction is warranted in a
25 case. It's clear in this case that if the evidence is

1 relied upon by the prosecution to prove the greater
2 offense, the continuing criminal enterprise charge, and
3 it's warranted by the evidence, that if lesser included
4 offense instructions are warranted, then they must be
5 given. That does not make a CCE a separate offense.

6 You cannot have a CCE offense without having
7 its necessarily included lesser offenses. Now those
8 lesser offenses are felonies, that's to be sure, in this
9 case; they're not misdemeanors as you normally find in
10 statutes; but because of the punishment aspect of CCE,
11 you get a tremendous lever with this type of punishment
12 over a defendant. In this case, 40 years. No parole,
13 no probation.

14 If Congress, as Congress intended and did,
15 intended to proscribe against the business of drug
16 dealing, then this type of statute with its underlying
17 felonies is necessary in order to prove that greater
18 statutory violation, you need to prove the lesser
19 included offenses.

20 In this case, you can tell from just the
21 initial indictment in Seattle when Petitioner was not
22 charged with a conspiracy in Seattle, that the
23 government clearly knew that it was one offense that
24 they were prosecuting. He was not charged in Count I of
25 that conspiracy because, frankly, the government read

1 Jeffers several years later after Jeffers came out and
2 concluded that CCE was a conspiracy offense. And
3 because other circuit courts have been stating that 846
4 and 963 are conspiracies, and therefore since Jeffers
5 says 848 is a conspiracy offense, we're not going to
6 allege conspiracies involving the same indictment for
7 the same conduct because the defendant would plead to
8 the conspiracy and buy the 848 charge.

9 QUESTION: Why isn't the CCE statute analogous
10 to an habitual offender statute?

11 MR. DE MASSA: Because, in order to have an
12 habitual offender statute or a recedivist statute, you
13 are putting an offender who is offending more than once
14 on notice by his prior convictions for nonrelated
15 offenses that his subsequent act and subsequent conduct
16 in a new offense unrelated to his prior offenses is
17 going to cumulatively punish him, is going to greater
18 punish him for the new offense.

19 QUESTION: Well, why doesn't this statute put
20 a defendant on notice that if he continues to commit
21 drug offenses, he might be charged with --

22 MR. DE MASSA: It does.

23 QUESTION: -- continuing criminal
24 enterprise?

25 MR. DE MASSA: It does, Your Honor.

1 QUESTION: Well, notice is more of a due
2 process concept. I never heard of notice associated
3 with a Double Jeopardy argument.

4 MR. DE MASSA: Well, the cases cited by the
5 government in the recidivist area clearly indicate that
6 the purpose for recidivist statutes are, once a person
7 has been burned once, he is on notice that he can't
8 continue that conduct. But there's no burning once in a
9 CCE indictment. There's no conviction -- three
10 convictions, and then you're out of the ballgame; three
11 convictions, and now you're a CCE defendant.

12 You've got to commit these over a continuing
13 period of time, not just once. In any event, the
14 habitual offenders I think are analogized the same way.
15 There's just no comparison between those and a CCE
16 offense.

17 By the way, if the government's impression
18 regarding Jeffers and the lesser included offenses was
19 correct, then Iannelli would control the case, as Mr.
20 Justice White ruled or held in the Jeffers case, and
21 that's clearly not the case here. You cannot make the
22 greater offense without the lesser included offenses
23 also being made. Therefore, they are necessarily
24 included, and the evidence would warrant them being held
25 that way.

1 The Illinois vs. Vitalle, the government
2 argues that there is not a same-transaction test, but
3 what happened in that case? The Court basically looked
4 at the facts of the case to determine whether or not
5 there was a substantial claim. It was remanded to the
6 Illinois courts for a determination of whether or not
7 failure to slow was a lesser included offense or
8 necessarily required to prove the greater.

9 It's the same situation here. Again, you get
10 back to the continuum of conduct. It's a continuing
11 substantive violation. By segmenting out Petitioner's
12 conduct in Washington when the government knew it was
13 going to prosecute Petitioner in Florida for the same
14 offense, they committed all those violations of the
15 Double Jeopardy Clause which Petitioner had a right to
16 be protected from, including a right to be protected
17 from cumulative punishment for the same conduct.

18 CHIEF JUSTICE BURGER: Thank you, gentlemen,
19 the case is submitted.

20 (Whereupon, at 12:01 p.m., the case in the
21 above-entitled matter was submitted.)

22 * * *

CERTIFICATION

Alderson Reporting Company, Inc., hereby certifies that the attached pages represents an accurate transcription of electronic sound recording of the oral argument before the Supreme Court of The United States in the Matter of:

#83-1842 - JONATHAN GARRETT, Petitioner v. UNITED STATES

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BY Paul A. Richardson

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