



United States
General Accounting Office
Washington, D.C. 20548

Office of the General Counsel

B-232687

September 29, 1988

The Honorable John R. Bolton
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Division
U. S. Department of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20530

Attention: David M. Cohen, Director
Commercial Litigation Branch

Dear Mr. Bolton:

Subject: Melvin J. Mirkin v. United States,
Claims Court No. 429-88C
Reference: JRB:DMC:CEGalbreath:kdc
154-429-88

We refer to your letter dated September 15, 1988, with enclosures, requesting a report on a petition filed in the above-entitled case, wherein the plaintiff seeks restoration to duty and backpay from September 2, 1984, and reinstatement to the Senior Executive Service at a level not less than grade ES-4.

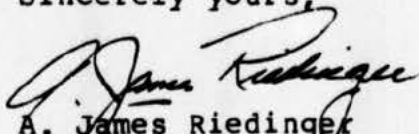
There is no record of a claim having been filed by the plaintiff with the General Accounting Office on matters set forth in the petition and we have no information regarding the facts of the case other than those alleged therein. Also, no record has been found in our Office of a debt to the United States which might furnish the basis for a cross claim against the plaintiff.

Finally, you should be aware that GAO's data base of debt cases has become quite limited. When GAO and the Justice Department amended the Federal Claims Collection Standards in 1984, the requirement that agencies routinely refer uncollectible debts to GAO was deleted (4 C.F.R. § 105.1). Since that time, our data base has been decreasing as the older cases are disposed of. Therefore, to obtain a more reliable indication of outstanding indebtedness, you may wish to selectively consult other sources. Depending on the identity of the plaintiff(s), these might include the Army Holdup List (government contractors), Department of

Educations (student loans), Veterans Administration or Small Business Administration.

If this Office can be of further assistance to you in this matter, please contact the undersigned at 275-8251.

Sincerely yours,



A. James Riedinger
Senior Attorney