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9
cont. suspicious. Ginsberg said Pitts recalled an incident involving a female agent who was angry because her computer had been broken into by Hanssen. Pitts, according to Ginsberg, thought the incident was odd because, "ordinarily that kind of incident would have been investigated." /

10 Hanssen was arrested February 18 after he was observed allegedly making a drop of classified information for his Russian handlers in exchange for \$50,000. A 25-year FBI veteran, Hanssen is accused of spying for the Soviet Union and Russia for over 15 years, and taking \$1.4 million in cash and diamonds as payment.

11 A 21-count indictment alleges Hanssen compromised national security secrets, including the identities of U.S. spies, highly classified eavesdropping technology and nuclear war plans.

12 Plea bargain negotiations between Hanssen's attorneys and government prosecutors broke down over the government's refusal to rule out seeking the death penalty. He is scheduled to be arraigned on Thursday in Alexandria, Virginia.

13 Pitts was arrested in December 1996 for spying for Moscow and accepting over \$200,000 for his services between 1987 and 1992 while assigned to the FBI's Quantico, Virginia, training facility. He later agreed to a plea bargain.

14 When he became aware of Hanssen's arrest, Pitts wrote a letter to his attorney to point out he had named Hanssen in his 1997 debriefing.

15 Ginsberg wrote a letter to Randy Bellows, an assistant U.S. attorney who prosecuted Pitts, inquiring about whether the information Pitts provided might reduce his 27-year prison sentence. Ginsberg said she has received no reply. Bellows also is prosecuting the Hanssen case.

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