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October 31, 2003

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CHILD PORN FUGITIVE SENTENCED

PRESS RELEASE

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, and Andrew G. Oosterbaan, Chief of the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section of the U.S. Department of Justice, announced that late yesterday U.S. District Judge David F. Hamilton sentenced HENRY POLITI, age 64, formerly of Carmel, Indiana, to 87 months in prison following his conviction for 15 child pornography offenses. POLITI failed to appear for his sentencing hearing yesterday and was sentenced in his absence. A warrant has now been issued for his arrest.

The indictment was returned on January 8, 2003 after a lengthy investigation by the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, and the

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Indiana State Police. POLITI was convicted following a bench trial before U.S. District Judge David Hamilton on June 16, 2003.

Between August 1998 and May 20, 1999, POLITI used his computer to receive 13 image files containing child pornography. Then, on May 20, 1999, POLITI received a VHS video tape which he had previously ordered containing child pornography, and he possessed numerous computer image files containing child pornography. The child pornography involved in the case was produced through the use of actual children engaging in sexually explicit conduct. As part of the sentencing hearing, the government proved that POLITI's collection of child pornography involved sadistic materials depicting the sexual abuse of prepubescent children.

The prosecutors were Dana Gershengorn and Wendy Waldron of the Department of Justice and Steven DeBrotta of the U.S. Attorney's Office. POLITI was ordered to pay a fine of \$1,500 and serve 3 years of supervised release following the term of imprisonment. The Court also ordered the forfeiture of the child pornography and related computer equipment used to receive and possess it.

Anyone having information about POLITI's present location should contact the Office of Homeland Security, Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement at 317-248-4151.

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