

United States Court of Appeals
FOR THE EIGHTH CIRCUIT

No. 97-3224NE

United States of America,

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Appellee,

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Appeal from the United States
District Court for the District
of Nebraska.

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v.

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*

Richard O. Hansen,

*

[UNPUBLISHED]

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Appellant.

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Submitted: March 5, 1998

Filed: March 26, 1998

Before FAGG, BEAM, and HANSEN, Circuit Judges.

PER CURIAM.

We are troubled by Richard O. Hansen's appeal because of apparent discrepancies between the inventories prepared by the officers who seized Hansen's property (listing a cassette radio and a metal case belonging to Hansen) and an inventory prepared by the Government (that does not list either of these items). Although Hansen's inept self representation deservedly earned the thumbs-down rulings he received in the district court, we believe Hansen is entitled to the production of the missing items of property or a straightforward explanation from the Government about what happened to them; i.e. lost, destroyed, damaged, stolen, or taken. Although Hansen's pro se lawyering created confusion and grief for all concerned, the

Government placed its image for either above-the-board fair play or a coverup in question and should answer for it. To this end, we vacate the district court's order and remand for further inquiry and for appropriate relief. See Soviero v. United States, 967 F.2d 791, 792-93 (2d Cir. 1992). We deny as moot Hansen's motion to supplement the record on appeal.

A true copy.

Attest:

CLERK, U.S. COURT OF APPEALS, EIGHTH CIRCUIT.