

## **Arms Dealing Suspect Taken to U.S. for Terrorism Charges**

Viktor Bout, a Russian, has been extradited (sent for trial) from Thailand to the U.S. He is charged with planning to sell weapons to terrorists.

The charges say Bout was an international arms dealer. He had a fleet of planes and sold weapons all over the world. They included missile systems and aircraft.

In March 2008, the charges say, Bout met with two people who asked him to sell weapons to the Colombian terrorist group FARC. The two were actually working with the U.S. government's Drug Enforcement Administration. (The DEA was involved because FARC is also the world's largest supplier of cocaine.)

The meeting was secretly recorded. The charges say Bout :

- offered to sell weapons and aircraft to FARC
- offered to send trainers to teach members to use the weapons
- said he supported FARC in its fight against the U.S.

He was arrested by Thai police after the meeting.

Since he is accused of plotting to harm Americans, there are charges against him in the U.S.

Source: <http://www.justice.gov/dea/pubs/pressrel/pr111610.html>

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