I looked around the vault. The narcotics were in blue plastic containers with the year, case number, and what should be in the containers written or typed on paper taped to the container. There were also several Xerox boxes in the vault, some of which had information written on paper in the same manner. One box had a pink diaper bag and a Manila evidence envelope filled out by Arnie inside of it. “G055659, 1001 North Muriel Avenue, 12-02-92, Carrillo, J., 11351.5 H&S” was written on the box. The two kilos in question were supposed to be in this box instead of in the locker. *But where were the other two?* As Jerry and I were about to leave the vault, I noticed two sheets of paper with the following information taped to the locker on the east side of the wall near the vault door:

**8=1988 (prepared for destruction 7-93)**

**9=1989 (prepared 1-9-95)**

**E=1990 (prepared 1-9-95)**

**F=1991 (destroyed 96)**

**G=1992 (destroyed 1998-4-1-98)**

**H=1993 (destroy 6-99)**

**I=1994 (destroy 6-2000)**

**J=1995 (destroy 6-2001)**

**96=1996 (destroy 6-2002)**

**97=1997 (destroy 6-2003)**

I asked Jerry what the information meant, and he said, “That’s the narco burn information. The first entry shows that all narcotic evidence from 1988 was prepared for destruction in July of 1993. By law, we must hold onto evidence for at least five years before we can destroy it and only after getting a court order signed by a judge. In 1989 and 1990, the narcotic evidence was prepared for destruction on January 9, 1995. Before 1989, the first character of our file numbers was the last number of the year. After 1989, we went to letters as the first character in our file numbers, starting with ‘E’ in 1990, ‘F’ in 1991, etc. We went back to all numbers in 1996.”

Several of the entries had a line drawn through them. I asked, “What do those lines mean, then?”

Jerry looked at the two sheets of paper for a few seconds before rubbing his chin and saying, “Hmmm.”

I asked, “What the fuck does ‘hmmm’ mean?”

Jerry continued rubbing his chin and answered, “The years 1988 through 1992 have lines through them, meaning the narcotics for those years have been destroyed. The only narcotics on that list that should still be in the vault are the ones from 1994 through the current date. We could just be a little behind on 1993, which is why there is no line through that entry, but…hmmm.” Now I knew what “hmmm” meant. It meant something was fucked up. I walked over to the two sheets of paper and dragged my finger along the line through 1992.

I stopped at the letter G, as in G-055659, looked back at Jerry, and asked, “Then why the fuck are those two kilos from the Carrillo case still in the goddamned vault?”