

# Tick-Talks hearing testimony ends

*Miami Herald 5-21-82-2C*

Testimony ended Thursday in the eight-week effort by defense attorneys to suppress 1,000 hours of wiretap evidence collected in the Miami Police Department's Operation Tick-Talks drug-smuggling probe.

Dade prosecutors completed their case in the pretrial suppression hearing with testimony by a state insurance claims adjuster and by James Regan, executive assistant to State Attorney Janet Reno. The two testified about the procedure used to establish bonds for the Miami officers who acted as special state attorney's investigators during the case that culminated last August with the arrests of more than 50 persons.

Attorneys for the 32 remaining defendants claim the bonding process was not properly completed. If so, the evidence collected in the eight-month investigation may be inadmissible.

Most of the eight-week hearing on a motion to suppress the evidence heard by Dade Circuit Judge Gerald Kogan has centered on key prosecution witness Ricardo (Monkey) Morales.

Defense attorneys claim the ex-spy and admitted terrorist, assassin and drug dealer is not a credible witness. Prosecutors say he told the truth about the narcotics rings he was associated with — information that resulted in the wiretaps.