

New Probes of IRS Director

Washington

The Justice Department has ordered two federal grand juries, one sitting in Miami, the other here, to investigate the handling by Internal Revenue Commissioner Donald Alexander of a Caribbean tax investigation which was curtailed in 1973.

According to sources familiar with the case, the grand juries will look into the events and the decision that led up to the revenue service's cutting back Operation Tradewinds and Project Haven, which were aimed at ferreting out Americans who sought to evade taxes by hiding their money in Caribbean banks.

The grand juries will also hear evidence on an allegation that Alexander was invited for a yacht trip by political interests who wanted him to intercede in an individual tax case. Alexander has consistently denied wrongdoing in either matter.

He has said he curtailed the Caribbean project because he felt it was using unacceptable investigation methods to secure information

New York Times