

Agency Information

AGENCY : FBI
RECORD NUMBER : 124-10222-10212
RECORD SERIES : HQ
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : 92-2914-9, 10, 11

Released under the John
F. Kennedy
Assassination Records
Collection Act of 1992
(44 USC 2107 Note).
Case#:NW 45852 Date:
04-06-2018

Document Information

ORIGINATOR : FBI
FROM : THOMPSON, NORMAN T.
TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

TITLE :

DATE : 12/23/1957
PAGES : 49

SUBJECTS :

GM, SM, ASSOC, REL, PERSONAL HISTORY, BKG,
HANGOUTS, TRA, CRIMINAL ACT, CRIMINAL RECORDS

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : Unclassified
RESTRICTIONS : 4; 10(a)2; 11(a)
CURRENT STATUS : Redact
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 01/29/1999

OPENING CRITERIA : INDEFINITE, APPROVAL OF IRS

COMMENTS : INC 2 MEMO

LEADS (Continued)

NEW YORK

At New York City, New York

Will determine through sources, the degree of relationship between MIKE MIRANDA and KELLY MANNARINO, if any, it being noted that MIRANDA purchased a 1950 Cadillac from MANNARINO in 1951, and, as New York advised Pittsburgh in the past, is a top hoodlum of that division and associated with DAVID DUBINSKY and the late ALBERT ANASTASIA.

At Long Island City, New York

Will contact informants and/or sources regarding the "Wizards Figure Guide," also known as "WFG," 29-48 41st Ave., Long Island City, a reported horse-playing setup. Will furnish any info available regarding its operation, the principles involved and any info linking KELLY and/or SAM MANNARINO.

PITTSBURGH

At Pittsburgh, Pa. (Allegheny County)

1. Will recontact CONNIE OLZEWSKI, Kaufmann's Department Store, Beauty Salon, for any further info she may have as to the activities of KELLY MANNARINO.
2. Will maintain contact with PG-564-C for information regarding current activities in the New Kensington area involving the MANNARINOS. (T-9)
3. Will further identify and characterize associates of KELLY MANNARINO in the Pittsburgh area to determine the degree of association in order to ascertain best method to be followed in order to infiltrate the MANNARINO organization.

LEADS (continued)

At Pittsburgh, Pa. (Continued)

4. Will contact PG 566-C for additional information on the up-to-date activities of the MANNARINOS. (T-12)
5. Will contact all informants conversant with racket activities in the Pittsburgh and New Kensington areas for further information regarding KELLY MANNARINO and his activities.
6. Will contact R. F. MEHRLING, Internal Revenue Service, Intelligence (Racket Squad), 4th and Market, (telephone-Atlantic 1-2722), for additional information regarding the MANNARINOS.
7. Will verify KELLY's ownership of a cabin cruiser and locate its berthing spot.

At New Kensington, Pa. (Westmoreland County)

1. Will maintain contact with WALTER J. SHARKEY, RD #2, for additional current information regarding the activities of the MANNARINOS in the New Kensington area.
2. Will maintain contact with PG-545-C for current information regarding the activities of the MANNARINOS. (T-5)
3. Will determine the present owners and activities surrounding the Family Outdoor Theatre, Leech Road and Wildlife Lodge Road.
4. Will cause telephone toll checks to be made on telephones from the residence of KELLY MANNARINO.
5. Will determine thru records, status and ownership of the ROCCO BUFFONE Construction Co.

REFERENCE

Bureau letter to New York, 11/27/57.

PG 92-236

had been listed for December 9, 1953, and the claimant, GABRIEL MANNARINO, did not appear.

United States Marshal's Deputies, Pittsburgh, destroyed these machines on December 22, 1953.

The aforementioned Pennsylvania State Police Intelligence Report No. 1-A-6902 reflects that KELLY MANNARINO along with brother SAM, control the operations surrounding juke boxes, pinball machines and coin operated slots.

First Sergeant MARCUS WHITE, Pennsylvania State Police, in a report dated December 9, 1949, Sergeant WHITE, then in charge of the Kittanning, Pa., Substation, advised that all of the slot machines which were in Armstrong County were owned by the MANNARINO organization. WHITE further advised in this report that any person, club or group who desired a slot machine would have to acquire it through SAM MANNARINO.

In January, 1950, Corporal J. P. HELFENSTEIN, Pennsylvania State Police, Greensburg, Pa., advised WILLIAM J. MYERS that in a previous interview SAM MANNARINO had stated that he had invested heavily in a plant to manufacture juke boxes called the Filbin Coin Machine Company, Chicago, Illinois, but that the venture was a failure and according to HELFENSTEIN, MANNARINO expected to lose several hundred thousand dollar.

In February, 1950, according to Corporal HELFENSTEIN, TOM TANNAS, in speaking of his interest in the Filbin Coin Machine Company, advised that he had lost money, but not a considerable amount. He stated, however, that SAM MANNARINO and some others interested in the venture, had lost a lot of money as the business had been entirely liquidated.

Horse Racing and Baseball Pools

T-13, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on May 9, 1956, that she had spent recent nights in New Kensington, Pa., in the company of MIKE (LNU), who is employed by the MANNARINO organization. T-13 described MIKE as white, male, Italian extraction, 5'9" 184 pounds, about 36 years of age, bald headed, single, and a very close associate

PG 92-236

NAMEY at 10th Street and Second Avenue, New Kensington, continued to operate the "Sure Winner" horse betting racket.

T-9 made available a letter and a selection sheet listing twelve "good picks" for races to be run on October 3, 1956. This literature bore the figurehead of "Wizard's Figure Guide," also known as "WFG," 29-48 41st Avenue, Long Island City, New York. T-9 advised that she had received this literature on loan from MAMIE GALES, 1302 Fourth Avenue, New Kensington, who receives it through the mail.

T-9 further stated that if a winner is picked the payoff is made through MIKE NAMEY's establishment in New Kensington.

Bookmaking

T-5 advised on June 1, 1955, that through a source who works at the Family Outdoor Theatre located at the corner of Leech Road and Wildlife Lodge Road, New Kensington, he has learned that NATTIE FARBER, KELLY MANNARINO and two other men were running a bookmaking establishment from the ticket booth and other offices located on the premises. T-5 stated that he has been able to learn that this operation has been in progress ever since the outdoor theatres opened the current season and his source had remarked that the telephone bills from this theatre run as high as \$500 to \$1000 per month.

T-5 stated that he has seen KELLY MANNARINO on the premises of the ~~Family Outdoor Theatre~~, and had noted that there was daytime activity at the theatre. *File*

T-5 stated that it had come to his attention that KELLY and SAM MANNARINO, NATTIE FARBER and two others own the Family Outdoor Theatre.

On May 10, 1956, MIKE ZERVIS, advised SA PORTELLA that he was the former racket boss of New Kensington before being sent to Western State Penitentiary, Pittsburgh, where he served 23½ years on a murder charge and was released in 1952. ZERVIS has furnished reliable information in the past.

ZERVIS stated that the bookmaking operations, recently disturbed by the Federal Internal Revenue Service, had been moved to the

Laetus Club located on Fifth Avenue near the Ken Mawr Hotel, New Kensington, that the operation is strictly MANNARINO controlled. ZERVIS stated that the telephone bets were channeled to the following numbers:

Edison 9-9209
Edison 5-7871

ZERVIS stated that a young New Kensington man named DE PHILLIPS, nick-named "ATI", handles the telephone business for the MANNARINOS.

ZERVIS further stated the MANNARINO controlled the numbers racket in New Kensington.

ZERVIS further advised that FRINKIE PHILLIPS, father of young FRANKIE PHILLIPS, is hated by SAM MANNARINO but respected by KELLY MANNARINO because KELLY realized that FRINKIE PHILLIPS remained very close to BILL NOWE (deceased) and Judge BARR, both of New Kensington, who have political control of all rackets and gambling establishments in Westmoreland County.

ZERVIS went on to advise that KELLY MANNARINO continued to operate his gambling establishments and rackets and, therefore, must show FRANKIE PHILLIPS some consideration in order to not incur the wrath of BILL NOWE.

Card Games

On November 25, 1957, MIKE ZERVIS advised SA PORTELLA that the MANNARINO brothers operate a huge Barbout game in the building next to the Ken Mawr Hotel on the Second Floor, entrance on Constitution Avenue, New Kensington. ZERVIS stated that SPIRO HANNA (phonetic) a Syrian, and a Pittsburgher from the North Side known as "MIKE THE GREEK," are two of the main dealers at this game. ZERVIS stated that KELLY MANNARINO is more in charge of this operation than SAM MANNARINO and that the big games take place on Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights at which time there are about 200 people in the place.

ZERVIS stated that on Friday, November 22, 1957, an Aliquippa, Pa., businessman was in this Barbout game and lost \$15,000.

ZERVIS advised also that MIKE NAMEY who is in the ice cream and restaurant business in New Kensington, is operating a card game in his store near the main gate of the Alco Plant.

On December 9, 1957, ZERVIS advised SA PORTELLA that the MANNARINOS, especially SAM, have been friendly with a stranger in New Kensington who is supposedly from New Orleans, Louisiana. He stated that this stranger must be close to the MANNARINOS because they have set him up in a small business located two or three doors from Alderman BARNEY SAKULSKY's office in New Kensington and from this small business he is running a card game. ZERVIS stated he did not know this man's name; however, described him as approximately 50 years of age, and as having reportedly served time in New Orleans.

Prostitution

Both KELLY MANNARINO and SAM MANNARINO on past interviews with Special Agents have denied complicity in the prostitution activities in New Kensington.

T-14, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on April 9, 1956, that Constable JIMMY BUFFONE had been trying to open a house of prostitution in New Kensington, but T-14 stated that BUFFONE would not succeed because KELLY MANNARINO was dead-set against permitting any prostitution in New Kensington.

T-9 advised on December 17, 1957, as well as on many other previous occasions, that KELLY and SAM MANNARINO are not openly connected with prostitution activities in New Kensington; however, the control of this racket is vested usually with a combination of Chief of Police ~~DAN ZELOYE~~, Captain JOHN ~~BORDINARO~~, and Mayor ~~RAYMOND GARDLOCK~~, all close associates of MANNARINOS.

In this respect T-10 advised on December 12, 1957, that Chief ZELOYE, Captain BORDINARO, Mayor GARDLOCK, Judge ~~ED BARR~~, and District Attorney SCULCO, are "all in his corner" meaning KELLY MANNARINO. T-10 stated that SAM and KELLY give orders to these men and they take them.

that the present owner, LOUIS SANTOS, was at the meeting of top hoodlums in Apalachin, New York. KELLY also attended this meeting.

T-10 advised on December 13, 1957, that SAM MANNARINO was "in the background pulling the strings" and that ~~ROCCO BUFFONE~~, acting for SAM MANNARINO, had tried to buy T-10's 20 acres and house for \$35,000 a few months previous. T-10 further stated that SAM MANNARINO through BUFFONE, has been attempting to buy 3 adjoining properties unsuccessfully and has offered neighbors up to \$22,500 cash for the properties, but all refused when they found out it was SAM MANNARINO who wanted the property. T-10 stated that everyone of the neighbors upped their price upon learning that SAM MANNARINO was the interested party.

T-10 further advised that a highway is contemplated through portions of his and adjoining properties and that also a huge new aluminum plant is proposed for the upper part of his township and feels that MANNARINO is attempting to buy up all surrounding property for a financial kill.

T-10 stated that he asked SAM MANNARINO personally what he would do about paying a tax on \$35,000 cash and SAM answered, "there are a lot of ways to get around that."

T-5 advised on November 21, 1956, that the Rocco Buffone Construction Company, New Kensington, is actually owned by SAM and KELLY MANNARINO and that BUFFONE, MANNARINOS' cousin, merely fronts for them.

On January 23, 1956, T-5 advised that SAM and KELLY MANNARINO own the Family Outdoor Theatre and claimed that they were seriously interested in manufacturing outdoor theatre speakers.

T-5 further advised that he has come to know SAM and KELLY MANNARINO quite well through real estate dealings and that SAM has remarked that he is barred from Cuba and Florida, and was in bad financial shape indicating that he had very little cash to work with.

T-9 advised on December 11, 1957, that the attorneys which seemed to do most of the real estate dealing for the MANNARINOS are MORRIS CLASTER of the firm of CLASTER and CLASTER, 9th Street,

INFORMANTS

- T-1 is JACK SCHWARTZ, Special Agent, Internal Revenue Service, Intelligence Section, New Federal Building, Pittsburgh, Pa., who advised from records and personal knowledge. This information was furnished to SA NORMAN T. THOMPSON.
- T-2 is LEONARD PALETTA, Assistant United States Attorney, Pittsburgh, Pa., who requested his identity be concealed. This information was furnished to SA NORMAN T. THOMPSON.
- T-3 is R. M. ERDMAN, Manager, Retail Credit Company, Insurance Investigators, Crown Building, New Kensington, who made available files. Contacted by SA NORMAN T. THOMPSON.
- T-4 is BERTHA PFIEFER, Clerk, Selective Service Board No. 3, New Kensington, Pa. (Agent contacting T-4 is unknown).
- T-5 is PG-545-C. Contacted by SA JOHN S. PORTELLA
- T-6 is ~~RUDY SOKOL~~, PCI. Contacted by SA JOHN S. PORTELLA.
- T-7 is Former PG-509-C. Contacted by SA JOHN S. PORTELLA.
- T-8 is PG-561-C. Contacted by SA CARL L. SHERWOOD. JFK Act 6 (4)
- T-9 is PG-564-C. Contacted by SA NORMAN T. THOMPSON.
- T-10 is WALTER J. SHARKEY, RD #2, New Kensington, Lower Burrel Township, retired New Kensington Police Sergeant. Contacted by SA NORMAN T. THOMPSON.
- T-11 is CHESTER STUPAK, PCI. Contacted by SA JOHN S. PORTELLA.
- T-12 is PG-566-C. Contacted by SA JOHN R. ACKERLY.
- T-13 is Former PCI Contacted by SA JOHN R. ACKERLY.
- T-14 is Former PG-511-C. Contacted by SA JOHN S. PORTELLA.
- T-15 is E. V. Reichstetter, Dun and Bradstreet, Pittsburgh, contacted by SA NORMAN T. THOMPSON.