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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (92-2781)

FROM : *JMA* Legal Attache, Havana (92-1)

SUBJECT: SANTO TRAFFICANTE, JR., aka
ANTI-RACKETEERING

DATE: October 20, 1959

Relet from Legat to Bureau dated 8/24/59; cable to Bureau 8/28/59; Bureau cable to Havana 8/29/59.

HAV-33, who is in contact with the leading gambling casinos in Havana every three or four days, reported on August 20, 1959, that he was at the casino of the Hotel Riviera. The present manager of the Riviera Casino is JACK LANSKY (Miami Top Hoodlum), who operates the casino during the continued absence of his brother, MEYER LANSKY. On August 20, 1959, HAV-33 observed SANTO TRAFFICANTE and HENRY SAAVEDRA with JACK LANSKY and numerous other gamblers drinking a toast, apparently celebrating the release of TRAFFICANTE and HENRY SAAVEDRA from jail.

On August 28, 1959, Lt. GEORGE NOBREGAS, in representation of the Department of Public Order, Ministry of Gobernacion, inquired as to whether or not SANTO TRAFFICANTE was wanted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation or other competent police authority in the United States. He pointed out that the Department still had TRAFFICANTE under technical arrest considering his deportation but a prerequisite to deportation was that there be a warrant outstanding for the arrest of the subject in the country to which he was to be deported. By letter dated August 31, 1959, the Department of Public Order was advised that there was no record in the Identification Division or Bureau Fugitive Indices of any outstanding want or arrest order for subject. Lt. NOBREGAS reported on September 2, 1959, that subject was at complete liberty and his department contemplated no further action in the case of SANTO TRAFFICANTE. *Re*

PCI ALBERTO SUAREZ ALEMAN advised Legal Attache JAMES T. HAVERY on August 29, 1959, that TRAFFICANTE is again residing at Calle 12 No. 20, Apartment 20, where he has very few visitors and very seldom leaves his apartment.

EX-105

REC-62

92-2781-113
6 OCT 26 1959

8 - Bureau
(2 - Albany
2 - Miami, 92-88
2 - New York)

1 - Havana

ELS:lg

(9)

CRIMINTEL

*2 cc's by 0-7 for info
to SACs MM, NY, AL
10-30-59, AAS: hll*

58 OCT 30 1959

Re: Havana 92-1

10/20/59

Hav-33 reported that on August 21, 1959, at the Casino Capri HENRY SAAVEDRA, SANTO TRAFFICANTE, JOHN WILLIAMS (Boston Top Hoodlum), his brother ANTHONY WILLIAMS, and ANGELO DE CRISTOFARO were talking about opening the Casino del Rio, which is on the road to the Havana Airport of Rancho Boyeros. HAV-33 also reported there was some discussion regarding the possibility of TRAFFICANTE's opening the Oriental Park Race Track in Marianao; however, the "Havana Post", and several other public sources, announced on September 23, 1959, that DAN CHAPPELL, described as a former President of the Florida State Breeders Association and one-time candidate for Florida State Governorship, planned to invest \$1,500,000 in Oriental Park, and newspapers officially announced on October 7, 1959, that DAN CHAPPELL signed a 15-year contract on the previous day for the operation of Oriental Park. There has been no indication that TRAFFICANTE is in any way connected with the same, and HAV-33 has been unable to develop any information indicating any interest of TRAFFICANTE in the race track.

On September 5, 1959, HAV-33 reported SANTO TRAFFICANTE was in the casino of the Hotel Comodoro talking with his manager, BENNY FERNANDEZ, and SAMMY MONDELO. These two individuals are described by informant as being from Tampa, Florida, and are very much in the confidence of subject.

On September 15, 1959, informant reported that at the casino of the Hotel Capri TRAFFICANTE was present with HENRY SAAVEDRA, MARVIN KRAUSE, ANGELO DE CRISTOFARO, and numerous other gamblers, including JOHN WILLIAMS. Informant mentioned that one of the important American gamblers who left Cuba because he was afraid of deportation was CHARLES WHITE, aka Charles Tourine. A Cuban friend advised informant he had heard from TOURINE in Europe, at which time TOURINE was inquiring regarding the gambling situation in Cuba and the possibilities of returning.

Through October 5, 1959, nothing of any significance regarding activities or movements of SANTO TRAFFICANTE was reported, although his presence in Havana continued to be noted. It has continued to be uniformly reported by HAV-33 and various other sources, and it has been noted by personal observation, that the gambling business is very poor at this time and almost no American tourists are observed in the various gambling casinos in Havana.

Sufficient copies of this letter are furnished for the information of Albany, Miami, and New York.

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