
Agency Information

AGENCY : FBI
RECORD NUMBER : 124-10296-10110

RECORD SERIES : HQ

AGENCY FILE NUMBER : CR 62-75147-39-75

Document Information

ORIGINATOR : FBI
FROM : SAC, PG
TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

TITLE :

DATE : 11/02/1951
PAGES : 35

SUBJECTS :
NRO, ASSOC, DESCR, GAMBLING A/O CRIM ACT, OC, B/F
INT, POLIT, RACK, PDT

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : Unclassified
RESTRICTIONS : 4; 11(a)
CURRENT STATUS : Redact
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 01/13/1999

OPENING CRITERIA : INDEFINITE, APPROVAL OF IRS

COMMENTS : INC SUMMARY

Released under the John F. Kennedy
Assassination Records Collection Act of
1992 (44 USC 2107 Note). Case#:NW
68262 Date: 09-22-2022

JSH:mks

3

PG 94-172

These officers successfully located several pertinent witnesses, one of which was CARLA ~~FERRARRI~~, and another, TONY ~~DELSANTER~~, who, according to SPRIGLE, was the actual trigger man. After an extensive investigation by the local authorities, the case was presented to the Grand Jury in April, 1951. A no bill was returned by the Grand Jury, and no further comment was made by local authorities or by RAY SPRIGLE.

JAMES O'CONNOR has advised Agents of this office that he has heard rumors to the effect that there was a \$40,000 fix in this case and to the effect that JAMES GARROW, brother of the murdered FREDDIE GARROW, knows who actually killed his brother and EVANS, and that JIMMY GARROW is being paid off by the mob to keep his mouth shut.

JIMMY GARROW, who is a potential criminal informant of this office and whose identity should be kept strictly confidential, has been contacted in several matters, and during these contacts the subject of his brother's death has come up; however, GARROW seems reluctant to talk about his brother and has mentioned on several occasions that he is still very friendly with TONY ~~RIPEPI~~. It should be noted that TONY RIPEPI is a close associate of FRANK VALENTI. It has also been observed that GARROW seems quite well to do, and he has mentioned on several occasions that he has borrowed considerable amounts of money from RIPEPI, amounting to approximately \$28,000. GARROW inferred that he had no intention of repaying this money. This might lend some credence to the rumors heard by JAMES O'CONNOR.

TONY RIPEPI, who has been mentioned in prior Intelligence Reports, as residing in Gallatin, Pa., was recently interviewed at his new residence, 4720 Brownsville Road, Pittsburgh, by Agents of this office. RIPEPI advised that he has been in the Keystone Music Company in Pittsburgh for approximately eight years and has admitted his connection with the Getodo gambling casino in Monessen, Pa. RIPEPI also advised that DOMINICK ANZALONE and GENO ~~SERVENTI~~ are his partners in the operation of this club. He stated that there are two silent partners; however, he refused to furnish their identity.

94-10110

JSH:mks

4

PG 94-172

RIPEPI stated that the ~~Keystone~~ Music Company is an outlet for juke boxes and pinball machines in the Pittsburgh area. He denied handling slot machines of any nature. RIPEPI also mentioned during the course of the interview that he has six children, one of which is presently a Lieutenant in the United States Army, another attending Pennsylvania Military College, and another attending the University of Pittsburgh. One of his children resides with JOHN ~~LAROCCA~~ on Perrysville Avenue in Pittsburgh, which tends to show a connection between LAROCCA and the ANZALONE mob in the Monessen area. LAROCCA, as previously mentioned, is also a close associate of ~~SAM MANNARINO~~ of New Kensington, Pa.

~~HYMEN MARTIN~~, better known as ~~HYMIE MARTIN~~, who has been mentioned in prior surveys, according to PI-52, is presently operating a flourishing treasury ticket racket in Allegheny and Westmoreland Counties. PI-52 stated that MARTIN operates with the O.K. of the MANNARINOS. It should be noted that ~~HYMIE MARTIN~~ was interviewed by Agents of this office recently, when he admitted that he operates a treasury ticket business in this area. PI-52 stated that approximately a year or two ago a gambling house on Babcock Boulevard was robbed by a person known as NIGGER ~~MAT RAYMOND~~; that approximately \$200,000 was stolen; that only a \$30,000 loss was reported to the Pittsburgh police; and that he feels sure MARTIN was the finger man in this robbery.

JIMMY GARROW, with regard to ~~HYMIE MARTIN~~, has advised that the criminal element in Western Pennsylvania has lost its respect for him since he is allegedly associating to a great extent with ~~PAUL BLOCK~~, owner of the "Pittsburgh Post-Gazette." The criminal element feels that MARTIN may be an informant for BLOCK. GARROW mentioned that during the time ~~RAY SPRIGLE~~, a reporter for the "Pittsburgh Post-Gazette," was writing a series of articles concerning the death of his brother, ~~FREDDIE GARROW~~, MARTIN brought ~~RAY SPRIGLE~~ to his home to interview him, JIMMY, concerning this gangland slaying. It should be noted that when Agents of this office contacted MARTIN in an attempt to develop him as a criminal informant, he admitted contacting PAUL BLOCK and asking BLOCK whether or

JSH:mks

5

PG 94-172

not he thought that it would be a good idea for him, MARTIN, to cooperate with this office. MARTIN now operates the Preferred Distributing Company, which is a distributor for fluorescent light bulbs in the Pittsburgh area. He has explained that he intends to get out of all illegal activities in the near future and desires to have some legitimate business to fall back on when this occurs. MARTIN stated that he is also engaging in this legitimate business in order that he may turn over the enterprise to his daughters who are now attending Pennsylvania State College.

It should be noted that HYMIE MARTIN's brother, NATIE MARTIN, is the doorman at the Almono Club in Pittsburgh, which is operated by FRANK VALENTI. This may show some connection between HYMIE MARTIN and FRANK VALENTI.

PI-52 has advised that one ABE KAMANISKY, alias Gamy, has been booking a large number of bets in the Pittsburgh area during the past year; that all of his bets are telephone bets; that he at one time lived on Bedwood Boulevard in Pittsburgh; and that he is presently building a home at Wightman and Forbes Street in Pittsburgh. PI-52 has no additional information concerning KAMANISKY.

WILLIAM SPADA, who is better known as "Blackie" SPADE, according to PI-52, continues to operate the Amerita Club in the Hill District of Pittsburgh. This club is the center for baseball and football pools in the area, and according to PI-52, is being operated with the sanction of Inspector MALONEY, who is the police inspector in Pittsburgh police precincts 1 and 2. PI-52 stated that SPADA is the only one permitted to operate a gambling establishment by MALONEY in his district.

JOE MURPHY, according to PI-52, who resides in the Hill District of Pittsburgh with a colored prostitute, is the procurement man for a house of prostitution operated by BERTHA PRISBY, 1318 Caldwell Street. MURPHY is alleged to be a former Detroit hoodlum and to be connected with CORNELIUS W. SULLIVAN in lottery activities in Western Pennsylvania. It should be noted that this information concerning his connection with SULLIVAN has been substantiated during the course of an investigation of SULLIVAN by this office.

SEP 10 1952

JSH:mks

6

PG 94-172

WILLIAM DUFFY, Federal Bureau of Narcotics, Pittsburgh, has advised that EUDELL RUDD of 5 Reed Street is foremost dope peddler in the Pittsburgh Hill District. RUDD has during the past year been arrested on several occasions, the last time being in June, 1951, when he was arrested in Cleveland, Ohio, with \$100,000 worth of heroin hidden in his automobile. Shortly after his arrest in Cleveland, RUDD was shot by his wife; however, he has now recovered and, according to DUFFY, is back in operation.

HARRY ROTH, also known as the "Count", who lives on Dinwiddie Street in the Oakland section of Pittsburgh, is, according to PI-52, a big jewelry fence in the Pittsburgh area. ROTH lives with the former wife of HYMIE COHEN and spends most of his time at 1618 Center Avenue, telephone number COURT 1-9672. ROTH is associated with one PERCY KLINE, who is a part owner of the Edison Hotel and who also acts as a fence for "hot" jewelry. KLINE is a close associate of MILTON JAFFE, who is also a partner in the Edison Hotel and who operates the local burlesque theater.

HERMAN ROSS, who resides in the Pittsburgh Hill District, is reported by PI-52 to be a prominent pimp in Pittsburgh. He lives with one MELCOMA BAILEY, daughter of a prominent Pittsburgh negro who formerly operated the Bailey Hotel. PI-52 stated that, because of MELCOMA's light skin, she is frequently used by ROSS in Pittsburgh's most prominent night clubs, the Carousel and the Copa. PI-52 has heard rumors that ROSS is importing many light skinned colored girls from Chicago and is at this time, attempting to obtain additional information in this matter.

From information received from ALLEN V. CARTER, a potential criminal informant, it appears that DAVID LUCK is in the same category with ROSS, and LUCK allegedly has white slave connections in Akron, Ohio, and from this source, obtains prostitutes who operate in the Pittsburgh area. CARTER is attempting to obtain additional information concerning LUCK.

REVIEWED BY ^{DEA} ~~NEW~~ JK TASK FORCE

ON 7/9/57 dab /BJT

RELEASE IN FULL

RELEASE IN PART

TOTAL DENIAL

84

JOP 10110

JSH:mks

1

PG 94-172

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE INTELLIGENCE IN NEW KENSINGTON,
PENNSYLVANIA

A. ORGANIZED GANGS

The Mannarino Gang, which is made up of SAM MANNARINO, GABRIEL MANNARINO, WILLIE SAMS, JO-JO MANNARINO, TOM TANNAS, and ROCCO BUFONE, is, without a doubt, the most powerful organized gang in Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Since the submission of the last report, the activities of this gang have been curtailed considerably in Western Pennsylvania because of the Special Pennsylvania Grand Jury in Pittsburgh and because of the pressure exerted on it by "Operation Crusade," a crusade being sponsored by the ministers of Westmoreland and Fayette Counties. As mentioned in the last report, the gang's front man, CHARLES F. "Chuck" TEEMER, was attempting to purchase a small island off the coast of Florida, near Fort Pierce, which, according to informants and sources of information here, was to be used as a spot for a gambling casino.

PHIL PETRULLI, operator of the City Radio Service in McKeesport, Pa., and a potential criminal informant of this office, has advised that MANNARINO actually purchased this island off the coast of Florida; however, that because of pressure caused by the presence of the Kefauver Committee in Tampa, Florida, Florida politicians would not permit the opening of a gambling casino on the island. When the MANNARINOS determined that they could not open, they allegedly sold the island to the United States Government at a price far in excess of that which they originally paid. It should be noted that the information furnished by PETRULLI has not been corroborated by any other source; however, it is definitely known that CHUCK TEEMER was in Fort Pierce attempting to line up the purchase of the island for a company known as the

JSH:mks

2

PG 94-172

Monarch Holding Company, and that the persons owning the company may have had some connection with hoodlums in New York and Chicago, one of which was at one time a member of Murder, Incorporated.

PETRULLI, who is a numbers baron in McKeesport, stated in March, 1951, that the MANNARINOS had recently opened a gambling casino in Havana, Cuba; that CHUCK TEEMER was to be the front man for this casino; and that several "syndicate boys" from Chicago were also involved. It was subsequently determined in Havana, Cuba, that CHUCK TEEMER, NORMAN ROTHMAN, ROCCO BUFONE, NICK FERONE, PAT FERRA, and MAURICE LICHTNIN were the apparent owners of the Pan Souci gambling casino in Havana, Cuba. There were also several Cuban Nationals involved in the operation, two of which were GASTON GONZALEZ, reported to be a close friend of ANTONIO PRIO, brother of Cuban President CARLOS PRIO, and EUFEMIO FERNADEZ, who was at one time Chief of the Cuban Secret Police and a very close friend of President PRIO.

In view of the information developed in Havana to the effect that both BUFONE and TEEMER were actually working in the casino, it is apparent that the information furnished by PETRULLI was correct.

It should be noted that NORMA O'BRIEN and JAMES GARROW, informants of this office, have also furnished information concerning this gambling establishment in Havana.

Recently, information has come to the attention of this office from GARROW and PETRULLI to the effect that CHUCK TEEMER has been squeezed out of the operation in Havana. He has allegedly been taken by the MANNARINOS for approximately \$160,000 and also has been threatened by them to say nothing about its operation. GARROW has advised that he understands money has also been invested in the casino by one LEO MOCERI, who is the subject of Bureau File 25-140592 and who is reportedly a trigger man for prominent mobs throughout this country.

JSH:mks

3

PG 94-172

During the course of the Pittsburgh investigation concerning MOCERI, GARROW stated that the Mannarino Gang was responsible for the slaying of west coast hoodlum BUGGSY SIEGEL after SIEGEL had refused to cut them in on the gambling take at the ~~Flamingo Club in Las Vegas, Nevada~~. This information concerning SIEGEL has not been verified by the Salt Lake City Division.

JFK Law.11(a)

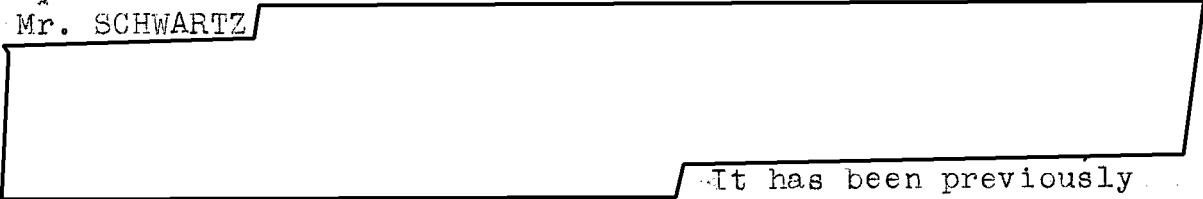


JSH:mks

4

PG 94-172

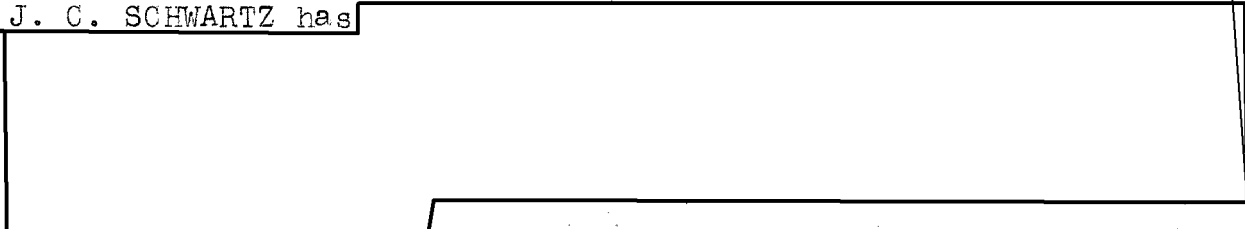
Mr. SCHWARTZ



JFK Law 11(a)

It has been previously noted in other reports that the Filben Corporation, Chicago, was acquired from the GARSON brothers, who were involved with Major General BENNETT MEYERS and Congressman ANDREW JACKSON MAY. The acquisition by the Mannarino Gang was said to come from the fact that Attorney CHARLES J. MARGIOTTI of Pittsburgh who represented the GARSONS was closely connected with the MANNARINOS and JOHN LA ROCCA. This information was furnished by PHIL PETRULLI. PETRULLI also has advised that the MANNARINOS "lost their shirts" in this enterprise.

J. C. SCHWARTZ has



PHIL PETRULLI and JAMES GARROW have recently advised that the MANNARINOS have purchased Mother Kelley's Night Club in Miami Beach, Florida, however, this information has not been corroborated.

It should be noted that TOM TANNAS, who is the publicized co-owner of former heavyweight champion, EZZARDY CHARLES, is a prominent member of the MANNARINO Gang; however, in the opinion of most informants in the Pittsburgh Division, CHARLES is actually controlled by SAM MANNARINO. Recently, Dr. ALBERT I. WISE, 5424 Kipling Road, Pittsburgh, Pa., a prominent Pittsburgh dentist, advised that he had obtained information concerning FELIX BOCCHIOCCIO, manager of JCE WALCOTT, from a source which he considered to be in a position to know and whom he considered reliable. WISE would not identify this individual.

REVIEWED BY FBI/JFK TASK FORCE

ON 6/24/98 gm

RELEASE IN FULL

RELEASE IN PART

TOTAL DENIAL

134

62-75747-39-75

509-10110

JSH:mks

5

PG 94-172

It is believed that this information might possibly have come from TOM TANNAS, himself. WISE stated that he had learned that BOCCHIOCCHIO had made a trip to Italy in 1950, when he became acquainted with CHARLES "Lucky" LUCIANO. BOCCHIOCCHIO reported that he had lost over \$100,000 betting on WALCOTT in fights previous to the one held in Pittsburgh on June 18, 1951, when WALCOTT won the championship from EZZARD CHARLES. BOCCHIOCCHIO, as a result of this activity, is presently broke and as a result made some sort of arrangement with the manager of CHARLES to postpone the return bout between the two fighters until the summer of 1952 so that WALCOTT might capitalize on the championship now in his possession and with the agreement that TANNAS and CHARLES would receive a share of WALCOTT's earnings from now until their return engagement. WISE said that he has information indicating that BOCCHIOCCHIO is presently arranging a European tour for WALCOTT, wherein WALCOTT would appear in the principal cities of Europe in exhibition bouts. WISE informed that he received information that BOCCHIOCCHIO had another motive in arranging this tour, that being to contact LUCKY LUCIANO and arrange for transactions in the narcotics business, which would enable BOCCHIOCCHIO to realize extremely large profits in a short period of time. WISE believed that BOCCHIOCCHIO might endeavor to act as an agent for LUCIANO in bringing large quantities of narcotics back to this country upon his return from Europe.

B. INDIVIDUAL RACKETEERS AND MOBSTERS

There are few racketeers and gangsters in New Kensington, Pa., who are not connected with the Mannarino Gang, according to JAMES GARROW and PHIL PETRULLI.

The only prominent gangster who has not been mentioned under ORGANIZED GANGS is one AL ZEID, FBI Number 574183. Information has recently come to the attention of this office through Detective WILLIAM CONNELLY of the Allegheny County Detective Bureau and PAUL CHILDS, professional bondsman in Pittsburgh and

JSH:mks
10

PG 94-172

F. CRIMINAL CONTROL OF UNIONS

JOHN BETTOR, Chief, New Kensington Police Department, said there is no criminal control of unions in New Kensington.

G. JUVENILE CRIMES

JOHN BETTOR said there is no juvenile gang activity in the New Kensington area.

H. NOTORIOUS TYPES AND PLACES OF AMUSEMENT

NORMA O'BRIEN, New Kensington prostitute and a criminal informant of this office, advised that the following houses of prostitution are still in operation despite the pressure exerted by the Pennsylvania State Police and the Westmoreland County Detective Division:

1169 Pine Alley - operated by DONNA WATSON ~~WATSON~~
wife of TOM ~~LATTOS~~, better known as Tom the
Greek

~~MRS~~

1268 Fourth Avenue - operated by ELIZABETH
~~WALKER~~

928 Second Avenue - operated by TOM LATTOS

1203 Third Avenue - operated by O. C. ~~COLES~~

1282 Fourth Avenue - operated by HORACE ~~HARNIGAN~~

Thirteenth and Cherry Alley - operated by
EUGENE "Nip" ~~BURDEN~~

The house which was located at 1200 Second Avenue, has been closed, according to Chief of Police JOHN BETTOR since BEATRICE VASSAR, who was the madam, murdered her husband and is now serving time in a state penitentiary.