

Agency Information

AGENCY: FBI
RECORD NUMBER: 124-90104-10111
RECORD SERIES: HQ
AGENCY FILE NUMBER: 92-2940-245

Document Information

ORIGINATOR: FBI
FROM: PG
TO: HQ
TITLE:

DATE: 09/19/1961
PAGES: 25

SUBJECTS: SEBASTIAN JOHN LAROCCA

DOCUMENT TYPE: PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION: Unclassified
RESTRICTIONS: 4; 11(a)
CURRENT STATUS: Redact
DATE OF LAST REVIEW: 02/05/1999

OPENING CRITERIA: INDEFINITE, APPROVAL OF IRS

COMMENTS: RPT

2025 Release under the President John F. Kennedy Assassination
Records Collection Act of 1992

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE PITTSBURGH	OFFICE OF ORIGIN PITTSBURGH	DATE 9/19/61	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 8/5 - 9/8/61
TITLE OF CASE SEBASTIAN JOHN ^O LA ROCCA, aka		REPORT MADE BY ROBERT A. VOEGE	TYPED BY JW
		CHARACTER OF CASE ANTI-RACKETEERING	

REFERENCE

Report of SA ROBERT A. VOEGE, Pittsburgh, 8/11/61.

- P -

LEAD

PITTSBURGH

AT PITTSBURGH, PA. (ALLEGHENY COUNTY)

Will follow and report activities of SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA and his associates in accordance with Bureau instructions.

INFORMANT COVERAGE RELATING TO THIS REPORT

PG T-1 is PG 622-C* who is contacted by SA ROBERT A. VOEGE on a daily basis.

APPROVED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE
COPIES MADE:	
<p>③ Bureau (92-2940)</p> <p>1- USA, Pittsburgh</p> <p>3- Pittsburgh (92-226)</p> <p>MAILING EDITION BUREAU</p> <p>CC Agent 9/22</p> <p>DEB 10 11 58 PM 01</p> <p>DISSEMINATION RESTRICTED TO JUSTICE DEPARTMENT</p> <p>22 SEP 16 1961</p>	
DISSEMINATION RECORD OF ATTACHED REPORT	
AGENCY	
REQUEST RECD.	X5V
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HOW FWD.	63 SEP 20 1961
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<p>92 2940 245</p> <p>REC- 83</p> <p>EX. 105</p> <p>16 SEP 22 1961</p>	
NOTATIONS	
<p>URGENT</p> <p>WIRELESS</p> <p>STATE. SECT.</p>	

Deutsche Zeitung

PG 92-226

PG T-2 is ROBERT CARPER, a potential criminal informant of the Pittsburgh Office who was contacted by SA JAMES B. FANNING on 7/10/61.

PG T-3 is PG 631-C who was contacted by SA JAMES O. PONDER on 6/26/61.

PG T-4 is SID JEANNETTE, Manager, Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company, Pompano Beach, Florida, who was contacted on 7/24/61 by SA JAMES J. KEARNEY of the Miami Office and who has requested that his identity be concealed.

- B* -
COVER PAGE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 1- USA, Pittsburgh

Report of: ROBERT A. VOEGE
Date: 9/19/61

Office: PITTSBURGH

Field Office File No.: Pittsburgh 92-226

Bureau File No.: 92-2940

Title: SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA

Character: ANTI-RACKETEERING

Synopsis: LA ROCCA remains in Pittsburgh, Pa., area and appears at North Star Cement Block Company office at least three times weekly. Adopted son is no longer employed as brick-yard laborer and may have married secretly during latter August or initial portion September, 1961, according to neighbors. Girl believed to be new wife noticeably pregnant and spending time at LA ROCCA residence, Ingomar, Pa. Son still endeavoring to enroll in four-year residence college but marriage may have changed this as well as relationship with SCARDINA family of Farrell, Pa. Interviews with and recent information concerning associates, as well as data pertaining to legitimate enterprises, set forth. IN VIEW OF THE CONVICTION OF LA ROCCA FOR ASSAULT WITH INTENT TO KILL AND HIS ARREST FOR CARRYING A CONCEALED WEAPON, HE MAY BE ARMED AND SHOULD BE CONSIDERED DANGEROUS.

- P -

DISSEMINATION RESTRICTED TO JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

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NW# :88497 DocId:32332813

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DETAILS:

A. PERSONAL HISTORY AND BACKGROUND

Coverage Established in the Vicinity of the
LA ROCCA Residence at Ingomar, Pa.

Mrs. EMANUEL EDWARD LULL, a neighbor who resides directly across the street from the LA ROCCA residence on Brant Avenue, and Mrs. JOHN F. BROWNLEE, next-door neighbor of LA ROCCA on Brant Avenue, Ingomar, Pa., were both contacted by SA ROBERT A. VOEGE on August 11, 1961, and again on September 8, 1961. Both women advised that LA ROCCA has not left the Pittsburgh area to the best of their knowledge but has had numerous visitors, particularly during the latter portion of August and the first week of September, 1961. They stated that there are definitely no plans for the LA ROCCA family to vacation anywhere during the immediate future and that the blonde girl who visited the LA ROCCA residence so regularly during the months of May and June, 1961, abruptly discontinued her visits on or about July 15, 1961.

Both women advised that neighborhood gossip has it that JOHN LA ROCCA, adopted son of LA ROCCA, was married in a civil wedding on or about August 30, 1961, and that he was forced into this marriage by the parents of the girl he married after she became pregnant. They stated that the entire episode broke the hearts of the elder LA ROCCAS and that the newly-married couple is temporarily living in one of LA ROCCA's rented apartments in the Downtown Pittsburgh area. They stated that the newly-acquired wife of young LA ROCCA spends a great deal of time at the LA ROCCA residence in Ingomar, Pa., and is noticeably pregnant. They understand that she comes from an extremely poor family and that LA ROCCA is particularly incensed over the marriage because he had planned for his son to marry a girl named SCARDINA, only daughter of a Farrell, Pa., racketeer. Both women advised that they do not believe LA ROCCA's adopted son is employed at the North Star Cement Block Company any longer and may be

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accepted on a temporary basis for freshman-level courses at the University of Pittsburgh in the Oakland section of Pittsburgh. They feel that his marriage will prevent him from going out of town to school and that he will probably become more of a burden to his father than ever before.

Other Information of a Personal Nature
Pertaining to LA ROCCA and his Adopted
Son

PG T-1 has advised on several occasions in the recent past that LA ROCCA is extremely worried about his health and frequently cannot sleep at night. LA ROCCA told this informant that he would definitely look into the possibility of getting another complete physical check-up in an effort to determine exactly what is wrong with him.

Miss BETTY ANDREJKO, Secretary to the Dean, University of Pittsburgh, Johnstown, Pa., Extension, advised that the adopted son of LA ROCCA began taking general first-year college courses at that institution and was not scheduled to terminate his studies until August, 1961. She advised that during this summer school period LA ROCCA was residing at 500 Ash Street, Johnstown, Pa.

PG T-1 advised that on July 18, 1961, the adopted son of LA ROCCA commenced employment at the North Star Cement Block Company in Pittsburgh and was given a specific assignment as a yard laborer with a great many older men. He stated that the elder LA ROCCA did not want his son to enjoy the business too much and hoped that this would be an interim position until a college could be located which would accept the boy. On the day this employment began, the boy disappeared from the job and was located by the elder LA ROCCA hiding in a nearby vicinity. According to the informant, a serious argument ensued and LA ROCCA threatened to disown the boy who has given him nothing but trouble in the past few years. Actual physical contact between the two was prevented by

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supervisory employees at the North Star Cement Block Company. During the argument it was learned that the boy had been removed from the University of Pittsburgh Extension at Johnstown, Pa., by his father who had ascertained that he was not making his grades and was misusing a new automobile he had been given at his high school graduation.

JOSEPH BENTIVEGNA, Assistant to the Dean, St. Francis College, Loretto, Pa., has advised that he received a telephone call during the month of July, 1961, from VINCENT CASEY, the Pittsburgh attorney for LA ROCCA, MIKE GENOVESE and the MANNARINO brothers of New Kensington, Pa., advising him that he was desirous of having a close friend enrolled for a four-year college course at St. Francis. CASEY is an alumnus of St. Francis and BENTIVEGNA arranged an appointment with him for the visit of LA ROCCA and his adopted son to the college. BENTIVEGNA advised that LA ROCCA and the boy appeared shortly thereafter at St. Francis with two unidentified men in a black Cadillac and LA ROCCA came in with one of the men to arrange for the boy's acceptance.

BENTIVEGNA advised that LA ROCCA immediately told him that he had conducted an investigation on him and had determined that he was from Dunmore, Pa., a suburb of Scranton, populated with people of Italian descent. He asked if the Assistant to the Dean knew ANGELO POLIZZI and his son, MIKE, who is in the block business in Detroit, Michigan. BENTIVEGNA said he recognized the name, POLIZZI, as that of the leading racketeer in Dunmore when he was a boy and recalled that he had attended grade school with the son of POLIZZI. He said the conversation with LA ROCCA became threatening and argumentative and resulted in complete dissension between the men. The conversation terminated with the refusal of BENTIVEGNA to even consider LA ROCCA for enrollment. BENTIVEGNA complained that it is men like LA ROCCA and his associates that hurt people of Italian descent everywhere and he was particularly incensed over the fact that anyone would conduct an investigation on him prior to making a request.

BENTIVEGNA advised that since the visit of LA ROCCA to the St. Francis campus, numerous outside pressures have been put upon the president of the college in an effort to have

the LA ROCCA boy admitted. He said calls have even been received from JOSEPH OKIKI, Cambria County attorney, and JOSEPH ROBERTS, Cambria County Commissioner, in addition to follow-up calls from VINCENT CASEY. He said that in an effort to appease everyone concerned, young LA ROCCA was furnished with an application and entrance examination and he was found to be of sixth-grade intelligence. As a result it is not anticipated that he will enter St. Francis now or in the immediate future.

B. ASSOCIATES

JOHN SCARDINA, aka

PG T-2 has advised that the Farrell, Pa., rackets are controlled by JOHN SCARDINA and that the leg work for SCARDINA is taken care of principally by PHIL SCARDINA, SAMUEL PONTERA, PHIL TIZION and RED LA CAMERA. He advised that the aforementioned individuals pick-up for SCARDINA in the white areas of Farrell and Sharon, Pa., and that the Negro section is handled by RUDOLPH HAMMOND and DEWEY BROOK of Farrell, both Negroes. This informant furnished background information on all of the afore-mentioned individuals and pinpointed the numbers establishments in the City of Farrell, Pa.

On July 14, 1961, Reverend MALCOLM A. MAC MILLIAN, Pastor, St. Johns Episcopal Church, 226 West State Street, Sharon, Pa., advised that during 1959 JOHN SCARDINA admitted to Reverend WILLIAM E. WYMAN, his minister, that he controlled the illegal activities in Sharon and Farrell, Pa. He also advised his minister of the identities of the other members of his operation. Reverend MAC MILLIAN advised that Protestant ministers in the Farrell-Sharon area established an organization during 1959 known as the Shenango Valley Ministerial Association whose purpose was to look into the racket situation in the area and report findings to local law enforcement agencies. He stated the association operated during the years 1959 and 1960 and ascertained that SCARDINA was indeed the leading man behind the racket element in the area. He recalled that other members whose names came up time and again during the work of the association were:

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SAMUEL PONTERA
PHILLIP TIZIO
WILLIAM HENRY SPRUILL
EMERSON ROBERT O'BRIEN
JOSEPH FEJES
SULLIVAN SAM CRETTELLA
PHILLIP SCARDINA
CHARLES WACOMA

The pastor advised that the association lost interest after the sentencing of individuals pinpointed by the association became a farce and charges were dismissed.

FRANK JOSEPH VALENTI, aka

PG T-3 has advised that he understands a group of individuals will open a large poolroom known as the Burko Poolroom, located in the Kenyon Hotel on Pittsburgh's North Side. He said he has seen FRANK VALENTI in the vicinity of the hotel and watched him visit the poolroom where he later learned plans are being laid for a crap and card game. He said rumor has it that the game will be backed to a limit of \$100,000 and that in addition to VALENTI, MIKE ZAPPAS and one PAT LETOUR (phonetic) will have a connection with the game.

On July 6, 1961, FRANK JOSEPH VALENTI was interviewed at his residence, 143 Main Entrance Drive in the Mt. Lebanon Section of Pittsburgh, Pa., by SA ROBERT A. VOEGE. The purpose of this interview was to determine the plans of VALENTI for the future and to ascertain whether or not he would be residing in the Pittsburgh area indefinitely. No pretext was used and an appointment for the interview was made for 9:00 AM on July 6, 1961. VALENTI promised to meet SA VOEGE at his patio at 2:00 PM on the afore-mentioned date. *NY*

Approximately twenty minutes were taken to calm VALENTI down after he immediately launched into a tirade against the United States, politicians, law enforcement officers, and places of incarceration. This specifically recalled to mind the interview VALENTI had with SA VOEGE on May 26, 1960, at the same location. VALENTI advised that he was completely

embittered with life and the way people he had trusted had treated him. He stated that he wanted nothing to do with anybody and would be completely content to spend the rest of his life with his wife and children while engaged in some legitimate pursuit.

During this contact VALENTI's conversation ranged far and wide and it was very difficult to maintain his interest in a specific topic of any kind. Among the subjects discussed the following were elaborated upon to some extent by VALENTI:

His probation has not been transferred to Pennsylvania although he has been ordered to stay out of the State of New York. The judge probably ordered that his probation be transferred to Pittsburgh, Pa., but this was not followed and he still makes reports to a probation officer at Rochester, New York.

He has advised the afore-mentioned official that he intends to reside in Pittsburgh, Pa., on a temporary basis and has been ordered to write to this official regarding any progress he makes in his line of employment or in any other line of legitimate activity he intends to pursue. If there is any trouble with law enforcement officers or any potential trouble anticipated by VALENTI, he is to immediately telephone the probation officer so that the situation may be resolved without undue delay.

VALENTI was sentenced on a charge of false registration in the voting precinct of Monroe County, New York, when he had lived in New York State for one year prior to the 1957 election. His sentence of one year in the penitentiary was suspended on this count. He was charged on a second count for having falsely registered to vote when he was not qualified because of a felony conviction. Sentence was also suspended on this charge. A third count on which VALENTI was charged involved voting when not qualified because of non-residence. One year in the penitentiary was suspended. The fourth count involved voting when not qualified because of conviction and this also received a suspended sentence. The judge who tried him ordered that the suspended sentences run consecutively and VALENTI was placed on probation for three years on the condition he leave the State of New York immediately and not return, except with the approval of his probation officer, for any reason.

VALENTI telephonically contacted the probation officer recently to tell him he was bringing his three oldest daughters to Rochester, New York, to stay with relatives. He drove them to Rochester in his personally-owned automobile and plans to leave them in Rochester for at least another month so that his wife can have a rest with her new baby.

VALENTI now has four establishments in a chain of stores he hopes to establish and which are known as Donut Delite. One is located on Route 51 in the Brentwood Section of Pittsburgh; one is located on McKnight Boulevard in the North Hills Section of Pittsburgh; one is located on West Carson Street on Pittsburgh's South Side and one is located on East Ohio Street in the North Side Section of Pittsburgh. He would like to expand his operation but has run short of operating cash. Two men in the business field are extremely impressed with his operation and are considering a plan to finance him further with a \$100,000 investment loan. He feels sure that this will come about but declined to furnish the identity of the two individuals who will back him. He states that he has no other business operation at present and "nothing else going for him."

VALENTI is extremely proud of his product and believes his establishments are producing the best and most wholesome donuts made. He said that much of his time has been spent comparing his donuts with those produced by competitors and that he now has 62 varieties. He runs a tight operation patterned after much larger organizations and his own employees do not know that he owns the Donut Delite. He illustrates this point by telling a story about a recent visit he made to a Donut Delite with a bag of donuts from a competitor. He explained to the waitress that he did not like the donuts made by Donut Delite but preferred Donut Delite coffee to that of the establishment where he had purchased his donuts. He said the waitress was shocked and extremely annoyed and that she and other employees made a big issue of his visit with donuts from a competitor.

VALENTI does not want anyone to know that he is connected with Donut Delite because he feels business would suffer unnecessarily if it became common knowledge that the Donut

Delite chain is "racket controlled." He explained that when the name VALENTI is mentioned, the public immediately thinks of rackets. He does not have any specific locations planned for new establishments as yet.

VALENTI is no longer engaging in anything having to do with rackets and explained, "I am out of everything like that." He plays no numbers and wants no part of any gambling endeavor. He is leaving this to the younger men who have not become embittered through experience as he has.

VALENTI would rather be with his wife and children than anywhere else. His wife, the former EILEEN BAREFOOT, recently bore him his fifth daughter who is now three months old. Those presently visiting relatives at Rochester are RAMONA, age 8, KAREN, age 7, and NANCY, age 5. CARLA is presently living with the mother and the new baby. Plans for remaining in the Pittsburgh area are indefinite and are dependent somewhat on the attitude of law enforcement officers and newspapers at Pittsburgh. These two factions have treated VALENTI harshly in the past and he has always been considered a suspect in any large unsolved criminal activity. Two weeks prior to this interview a photograph of his residence with a picture of VALENTI in an inset appeared on the daily television program known as "Luncheon At The Ones" in connection with a discussion relating to gambling in the Pittsburgh area. The discussion relating to the photograph was presented by VINCE JOHNSON, a crusading-type writer employed by the "Pittsburgh Post Gazette-Sun Telegraph," a Pittsburgh daily newspaper. The program caused Mrs. VALENTI a great deal of mental anguish and further embittered VALENTI himself.

Neighbors of VALENTI have been extremely understanding of his position, "thanks to his wife's popularity in the neighborhood," and have exhibited no hesitation in attending backyard barbecues at the VALENTI residence on occasion.

VALENTI has lost a great deal of weight "thanks to the pressure and harrassment of law enforcement officers" and admittedly is not as easy going as he once was. He still prefers expensive clothes and white shirts embroidered with

the initial "V." He still prefers expensive jewelry and endeavors to employ the motif of this jewelry around the letter "V." The fact that the public still associates the name VALENTI with hoodlum-control makes VALENTI sick and he worries about the effects of this on his children, the oldest of whom attend St. Bernard's School in Mt. Lebanon. The fact that schoolmates tease them about the position of their father is the biggest thing in the mind of VALENTI at present and may cause him to move out of the City of Pittsburgh once and for all.

VALENTI has no business operations at Rochester, New York, and does not anticipate starting a business in that locality simply because he is not allowed to live or visit in New York State without the express approval of probation authorities.

VALENTI has not seen SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA for approximately six years and last saw MIKE GENOVESE at Apalachin, New York, during November, 1957. He actually feels slighted because he knows that these individuals consider him trouble although they do not state as much. He illustrated this by saying the daughter of TONY LA ROCCA, whom he helped baptize, was married within the past three weeks and he was not invited to the wedding. VALENTI conjectured that the failure to extend an invitation might have been due to the fact that no one knows he is again residing in Pittsburgh or exactly where he lives. He did not send a gift and probably will not unless he is contacted by relatives. He no longer associates with racketeers and is no longer sewing his wild oats as far as women are concerned. He prefers to live a solid home life. He leaves his residence each morning at approximately 8:00 AM and goes to check on his donut operation, usually returning to his residence by 2:00 PM. He wants no trouble of any kind and has even gone so far as to pay for parking tickets received by his wife while driving the VALENTI's station wagon in the City of Pittsburgh. He wants to fix nothing and simply wants to stay out of jail.

VALENTI claims to have no interest in a private club being constructed on Court Place in Downtown Pittsburgh, although many people believe he will back this or at least have a part of it. This club will be operated by a boy he started as a busboy in his spaghetti restaurant some years ago and who has "grown big."

VALENTI is extremely angered at Republican and other "do-good politicians" at Rochester, New York, and will "fix them." They will be sorry they ever crossed VALENTI because he knows about their crooked backgrounds and hopes for the future. VALENTI will cooperate with the FBI on anything pertaining to narcotics, rape or murder because he still has a great many contacts in the Pittsburgh area. He never wants to become known as a "Stoolie" and would prefer not to talk about any of his former associates in the rackets. He explained that just because he associates with men who are or have been in the rackets it does not make him a racketeer any more than it would mean he is a lawyer for having associated recently with lawyers.

Throughout this contact VALENTI was very cordial and cooperative and endeavored to answer questions directly. He exhibited no phoniness and stated that he would be available to converse with SA VOEGE at any future date or whenever he was needed. At the close of the interview he mentioned that PRIMO CARNERA, the former heavyweight boxing champion of the world who now engages in wrestling exhibitions, visited his home as a guest on June 25, 1961, and has indicated a keen desire to engage in a business operation with him. He said CARNERA told him he likes the way VALENTI operates and does not care about his former racket connections. According to VALENTI, CARNERA is willing to move his family to Pittsburgh to go into the donut business or any other business VALENTI suggests. VALENTI indicated that he has discouraged him from doing this because the name VALENTI would probably only bring grief to CARNERA and the public relations he has built up over the years.

JOHN CANCILLIERE, aka

JOHN ~~C~~ANCILLIERE, 3611 Shadland Avenue, Pittsburgh, advised that he is 76 years of age and has known LA ROCCA from birth. He admitted that he stayed at 5616 Arthur Street, Hollywood, Florida, from January, 1961, to the end of April, 1961, but denied that LA ROCCA utilized his home as a headquarters or visited him with any frequency. He stated that LA ROCCA did visit him on at least one occasion that he could recall but that the visit was only a social one during which time

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no telephone calls were made. He stated that he flew to Florida via jet plane and was accompanied by CHARLES FASHION, a crippled individual, age 73, from Johnstown, Pa., who is a retired Ft. Pitt Beer salesman. He stated that he had no other visitors except LA ROCCA.

CANCILLIERE advised that he was placed in Hollywood, Florida, Hospital when he became seriously ill and that his son, JOHNNY, age 43, the manager of the Rosa Villa Restaurant in Pittsburgh, former hangout of LA ROCCA, flew to Florida with an uncle, ANGELO CANCILLIERE, and drove his father's car back to Pittsburgh. Because of the advanced age of this individual and the fact that he could not talk English with any great understanding, no further information relating to his social relationship with LA ROCCA was sought.

Information Concerning Possible
Associates in the Florida Area

PG T-4 advised that between January 1, 1961, and February 11, 1961, the Latina Restaurant, 4421 South Federal Highway, Delray Beach, Florida, and WILLIAM G. HOBBS, Yacht Sales, 205 6th Street, West Palm Beach, Florida, were contacted by telephone from the JOSEPH REGINO residence in BelAire, Florida. He said HOBBS is a prominent yacht broker in this area, enjoys a good reputation, and has been located in West Palm Beach for many years. The Latina Restaurant has been owned and operated by JOSEPHINE and TOMMY LATINA since July, 1956.

Josephine & Tommmy Latina

STEVE KOVACS, Palm Beach County Voters Registration, advised on July 5, 1961, that JOSEPHINE LATINA was born on November 3, 1896, in Italy, naturalized on February 3, 1914, in the Superior Court of Connecticut, No. 418333, and had a first husband named CARMEN BASSETTA. He said that THOMAS LATINA was born on August 10, 1891, in Italy, naturalized on June 30, 1916, in the District Court of Connecticut, No. 656122, and that both resided prior to 1956 at 1163 Boston Post Road, Milford, Connecticut. Their current mailing address is Route 1, Box 4421, Delray Beach, Florida.

Other locations contacted from the JOSEPH REGINO residence during the afore-mentioned period are the Gold Coast Restaurant and Lounge in Hollywood, Florida, owned by JOE SONKEN, a close associate of the hoodlum element in South Florida who has proved uncooperative in the past upon interview, and the following:

FRANK ~~BAGNATO~~
2101 North 56th Terrace
Hollywood, Florida

VINCENT ~~BOVE~~
1174 Garfield
Hollywood, Florida
a white male, age 44, painter,
former operator of the Bove
Decorating Company at New Haven,
Connecticut for 20 years before
arrival in Hollywood.

*Release in part
per IRS 7/14/98/b6*

APPENDIX
191M

C. ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES

PG T-1 has advised that ROY VEY, the plant manager at the North Star Cement Block Company, 12 McCandless Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa., is extremely worried that his mother may be subpoenaed by the Intelligence Unit of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) at Pittsburgh and will attempt to help him by lying to Federal Investigators.

SA ROBERT MADDEN, Intelligence Unit, IRS, advised that

[REDACTED]

D. LEGITIMATE ENTERPRISES

IRS [JFK Law 11(a)]

North Star Cement Block Company, Pittsburgh,
Pa. (SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA, President)

PG T-1 advised that on July 21, 1961, the new automation system at the North Star Cement Block Company experienced a failure and that a hurried call to the Newark, New Jersey,

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manufacturer would probably bring a representative to Pittsburgh to service the system which he understands originally cost \$30,000.

The afore-mentioned informant advised that the North Star Cement Block Company has recently considered constructing a bomb shelter at the LA ROCCA residence as a sales promotion stunt and experiment. He said that if it is well received, the construction of bomb shelters for Pittsburgh residents will be advertised in Pittsburgh newspapers so that business may ultimately be increased at North Star.

Possible Transaction Involving LA ROCCA--
GENOVESE Organization and Howard Johnson
Restaurant Chain

ARTHUR D. NELSON, aka, ARCHIE, who fronts the Phoenix and Toll Gate Motels at Monroeville, Pa., for the LA ROCCA - GENOVESE organization, has advised that he hopes to close a deal with the Howard Johnson Restaurant Chain which will build him a motor lodge at the location of his Toll Gate Motel in Monroeville within the next year. He advised that this means a great deal to him inasmuch as a Howard Johnson franchise is difficult to obtain and means clear sailing financially for many years.

SA ROBERT MADDEN, Intelligence Unit, IRS, Pittsburgh, Pa., has advised that

[redacted] IRS [JFK Law 11(a)]

LOWERY BELL, Chief Architect for the Howard Johnson Restaurant Chain whose offices are located in Miami, Florida, visited Pittsburgh on August 3, 1961, and advised SA ROBERT A. VOEGE that a motor lodge at the Toll Gate Motel site in Monroeville is definitely in the planning stage and that an investigation of ARTHUR D. NELSON, aka, ARCHIE, is presently being conducted. He stated that investigators have found nothing thus far to indicate that NELSON has any criminal associations but that if this became known he believes the franchise would definitely be withdrawn and that no further consideration would be given to this project.

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E. MISCELLANEOUS

Review of Deed and Mortgage Records at Mercer
County, Pa., pertaining to LA ROCCA, SCARDINA
and Known Relatives of SCARDINA

On June 2, 1961, Deed and Mortgage Records of Mercer County, Pa., located at the Mercer County Courthouse in Mercer, Pa., were examined by SAA FRANK E. ALLISON in an effort to locate any property or any records of mortgages or property sales or purchases for LA ROCCA or anyone having a last name similar to his. All of his aliases were reviewed in this regard and no record could be located which could be identified with LA ROCCA.

These records contain the following information concerning JOHN and ANN SCARDINA:

In Deed Book K, Volume 19, on Page 228, is recorded the purchase by JOHN J. and ANN SCARDINA from STEPHEN E. and MARGARET B. STEFANISH, Lots Nos. 64 and 65, in the Bonnie Brea, No. 1 Plan of Lots in Farrell, Pa. These lots being 145 feet deep and having a frontage of 50 feet on Farrell Terrace. This purchase is recorded by indenture dated 1/29/49, and indicates U. S. Tax Stamps in the amount of \$15.95 were paid. The residence of the SCARDINAS was indicated as 1910 Madison Ave., Farrell, and the attorney handling the transaction was identified as JOSEPH H. BROSCOE.

In Deed Book K, Volume 19, on Page 391, under date of 3/22/49, is reported the purchase by JOHN J. and ANN SCARDINA from MICHAEL A. and ELIZABETH A. SOROKECH of Lot No. 66 in the Bonnie Brae No. 1 Plan of Lots, located on Farrell Terrace and having a 25 foot frontage on Farrell Terrace. U. S. Tax Stamps in the amount of \$.55 are recorded, the attorney representing the SCARDINAS is identified as JOSEPH BROSCOE and the address of the SCARDINAS was indicated as Box 201, Farrell, Pa.

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In Deed Book K, Volume 19, on Page 394, under date of 3/22/49, is recorded the purchase by JOHN J. and ANN SCARDINA of Lot No. 63 in the Bonnie Brae No. 1 Plan of Lots from JOSEPH and SOPHIE DUDASH. This property is described as having a 25 foot frontage on Farrell Terrace. U. S. Tax Stamps were recorded as \$.75, SCARDINA's address was indicated as Box 201, Farrell, Pa., and the attorney representing SCARDINA was identified as JOSEPH BROS COE.

The following transactions are recorded for JOHN and PHILLIP SCARDINA:

In Deed Book D. Volume 18, on Pages 345 and 346, under date of 5/5/45, is recorded the purchase by JOHN and PHILLIP F. SCARDINA and CARL RIO, property in Farrell, known as Lots 313, 314, 315 and 316 in the plan of the Beechwood Improvement Company, Ltd, called Plan E, South Sharon, Plan of Lots, which property fronts on Idaho Street and is identified as 613-615 Idaho Street, Farrell. This property was purchased from SUE and SAMUEL L. LOLLA; MARY DI SILIVO; VIRGINIA and NICK ROZZI; THOMAS and JOSEPHINE DI SILIVO; PHILOMENA and JAMES GRIMALDI of Farrell; ERMA and LAWRENCE J. MAJOI of Huron, Ohio; and BEATRICE and ROGER BIGGS of Seattle, Washington. Total tax stamps recorded for this purchase are \$25.30. Under date of 9/19/46, as recorded in Deed Book Q, Volume 18, on Page 560, CARL and ROSE RIO sold their one-third interest in property at 613-615 Idaho Street to ANTHONY DE CELLO on the condition that DE CELLO and JOHN and PHILLIP SCARDINA assume payment of a mortgage on the property in favor of the S. J. Gully Bank at Farrell, Pa. Tax

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stamps on this transaction are recorded at \$3.30 and the residence of the DE CELLOS is located at 913 Hamilton Avenue, Farrell. The attorney representing DE CELLO is indicated as B. H. MARKS.

The following transactions are recorded for PHILLIP and BELVA SCARDINA:

In Deed Book H, Volume 19, on Page 504 under dated of 10/27/47, is recorded the purchase by PHILLIP and BELVA SCARDINA from EDWARD A. HOFFMAN property on the east side of Middlesex Road, then known as South Buhl Farm Drive. The dimensions of the said were described as 94'5" by 200' by 79'3". U. S. Tax Stamps are recorded at \$1,05 and the residence of the SCARDINAS is indicated as Hickory Township.

In Deed Book V, Volume 19, on Page 534, is recorded the purchase by PHILLIP and BELVA A. SCARDINA from JOSEPH and LILLIAN MARTIN of Lots Nos. 1118, 1119 and 1120, in the Plan of the Farrell Realty Company, Plan No. 4. This property was described as being bordered on the north by Negley Street and on the west by Pike Street, being 120 feet by 140 feet. U. S. Tax Stamps are recorded at \$1.65. The residence of the SCARDINAS is indicated as South Buhl Farm Drive, Sharon.

In Deed Book X, Volume 17, on Page 52, under dated of 7/18/50, is recorded the purchase by PHILLIP F. and BELVA A. SCARDINA from FRANK and MAGDALENE FRANKOVICH, Lots 1163, 1164 and 1165 in Plan No. 4 of the Farrell Realty Company Plan. U. S. Tax Stamps are recorded at \$.55. The residence of the SCARDINAS is indicated as South Buhl Farm Drive, Sharon.

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In Deed Book W, Volume 19, on Page 587, under date of 1/20/51, is recorded the purchase by PHILLIP F. and BELVA A. SCARDINA from CLIFFORD C. and JENNIE M. MARSHAL property in Hickory Township on South Buhl Farm Drive described as being 100 feet by 217.8 feet. No Federal tax stamp amount is recorded.

In Deed Book N, Volume 17, on Page 397, under date of 9/18/43, it is recorded the purchase by PHILLIP F. and BELVA SCARDINA from OSCAR K. and BLANCHE SIGLER of Apollo, Pa., the property in Hickory Township, Pa., consisting of one-half acre located in Hickory Township on South Buhl Farm Drive. U. S. Tax Stamps are recorded at \$6.60. The residence of the SCARDINAS is indicated as R. D. 2, Hickory Township, Pa.

In Deed Book M, Volume 19, on Page 282, under date of 6/7/49, it was recorded the sale of property by PHILLIP and BELVA SCARDINA to ANDREW J. and LORETTA M. REPAS property in Hickory Township on east side of South Buhl Farm Drive, this property being identical with property purchased by the SCARDINAS as recorded in Deed Book H, Volume 19, on Page 504. U. S. Tax Stamps are recorded at \$1.65.

In Deed Book Z, Volume 19, on Page 208, under date of 1/22/51, is recorded the sale by PHILLIP F. and BELVA A. SCARDINA to WILBUR K. and JUNE PRINGLE property in Hickory Township consisting of one-half acre on South Buhl Farm Drive, having description of 100 feet by 217.8 feet and being identical with property purchased by the SCARDINAS as recorded in Deed Book N, Volume 17, on Page 397. U. S. Tax Stamps are recorded at \$16.50.

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The following transactions are recorded for ANTHONY and JENNIE DE CELLO:

In Deed Book K, Volume 19, on Page 393, is recorded the purchase by ANTHONY and JENNIE DE CELLO from MICHAEL A. and ELIZABETH A. SOROKACH, of Lots No. 67, 68 and 69 in the Bonnie Brae Plan of Lots in Farrell. This property is described as having a 75 foot frontage on Farrell Terrace. The DE CELLO residence was indicated as 913 Hamilton Avenue, Farrell, and the attorney representing the DE CELLOS is recorded as JOSEPH H. BROS COE. Tax Stamps on this transaction are recorded at \$1.65.

The following transactions are recorded concerning PHILIP and VIRGINIA TIZIO or PHILIP TIZIO:

In Deed Book U, Volume 19, on Page 412, under date of 9/26/50, is recorded the purchase by PHILIP and VIRGINIA TIZIO of 43 White Avenue, Sharon, Pa., from JOSEPH M. and SOPHIE A. DUDASH, property in Farrell, known as Lots No. 60, 61 and 62 in the Bonnie Brae Addition as recorded in Plan Book 1 on Page 101. This property is described as being 75 feet by 145 feet and abutting Farrell Terrace on the south end of the property. U. S. Tax Stamps are recorded at \$1.65.

In Deed Book O, Volume 20, on Page 158, it is recorded the transfer of property purchased as recorded in Deed Book U, Volume 19, Page 412, from PHILIP and VIRGINIA TIZIO, husband and wife, to PHILIP TIZIO, to convey property from husband and wife to husband alone. This transaction was recorded on 4/2/53.

In Deed Book O, Volume 20, on Page 159, is recorded on 4/2/53, the sale by PHILIP TIZIO, single, to DAVID E. and HELEN LEWIS, for a consideration of \$2,500, property located on Farrell Terrace known as Lots 60, 61 and 62 being identical with property purchased by PHILIP and VIRGINIA TIZIO as recorded in Deed Book U, Volume 19, on Page 412. U. S. Tax Stamps are recorded at \$2.75.

In Deed Book C, Volume 21, on Page 388, under date of 1/11/58, is recorded the purchase by PHILIP TIZIO from the Castle Construction Company, Inc., of Lot No. 86, in the Park Hill Plan of Lots of Farrell, as recorded in Plan Book 6 on Page 15. This property is described as being 202.58 feet by 75 feet, having a frontage of 75 feet on Landay Lane. Consideration is indicated as \$15,000, U. S. Tax Stamps are recorded at \$16.50 and TIZIO's residence is recorded as 2024 Landay Avenue.

The following transactions are recorded for SAMUEL A. and ROSALIE F. PONTERA:

In Deed Book Z, Volume 19, Page 366, under date of 3/17/51, it is recorded the purchase by SAMUEL A. and ROSALIE F. PONTERA from HARRY and PEARL PRIESTER, of Lots Nos. 155 and 157 in the Shenango Land Company, Plan as recorded in Plan Book No. 2, on Page 27. This property is described as being 50 feet by 140 feet. U. S. Tax Stamps are recorded at \$17.60. The address of the PONTERAs is listed as 810 Park Avenue, Farrell, and the attorney handling the transaction is identified as MYRON JONES.

In Deed Book M, Volume 20, on Page 353, under date of 12/18/52, is recorded the purchase by SAMUEL A. and ROSE PONTERA from ANDREW and ANNA

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ZAVADA of property in Farrell, known as Lots Nos. 92 and 93, in the Farrell Heights Allotment as recorded in Plan Book 1 on Page 133. This property is described as being bordered on the north by Homer Avenue and on the east by Paul Street. U. S. Tax Stamps are recorded at \$2.20. The residence of the PONTERAs is recorded as 810 Park Avenue, Farrell.

In Deed Book T, Volume 20, on Page 499, under date of 10/16/53, is recorded the sale by SAMUEL A. and ROSALIE F. PONTERA to WILFRED J. GULLY, for \$16,750, Lots Nos. 155 and 157. This property is described by the PONTERAs as recorded in Deed Book Z, Volume 19, on Page 366. U. S. Tax Stamps are recorded at \$18.70 and the residence of GULLY is reported as 810 Park Avenue, Farrell. The attorney handling the transaction is identified as B. H. MARKS.

Deed records as reported herein were checked from the period 1920 to date and no other property purchases or sales could be located under the names of SCARDINA, DE CELLO, PONTERA and TIZIO as identical herein.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

*In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.*

September 19, 1961

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

September 19, 1961

September 19, 1901

SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA

Character

ANTI-RACKETEERING

Reference

Report of Special Agent
Robert A. Voege, dated
and captioned as above.

All sources (except any listed below) used in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

CHARACTERIZATION OF INFORMANTS

PG T-1 is a source in a position to furnish information on a continuing basis concerning the legitimate business operations of SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA and his associates.

PG T-2 is an individual who is extremely familiar with the gambling activities of individuals controlling racket operations in the Farrell-Sharon area of Pennsylvania.

PG T-3 is an individual who is presently engaged in real estate and insurance operations and who has access to information in the possession of the racketeering element in the Pittsburgh, Pa., area.

PG T-4 is an individual who is in a position to furnish information on a continuing basis concerning contacts made among associates of SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA.