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CUBA - gambling

011000

Am Gambling Act IN CUBA

MAIN FILE 62-75147-210

Section 2

HSCA 6-14-78

Volume 1 of 2 Response Volumes

Office Memorandum

1-14-58

TO: DIR, FBI

62-75147-210-103

FR: Legal ATTACHE, HAVANA, CUBA

Subj: Am Gambling Act IN CUBA

Meibner Clark's Casino, Hotel Nacional

JAKE LANSKY oversees the operation;

principal interests: MOE BERNARD DALITY,

MEYER LANSKY, TOM TUCKER, & THOMAS JOSEPH

M.C. GINTY.

Hotel Comodoro Casino

- in the past managed by Ralph RONA, FBI

NO 1370469 - a con inf also

advised that Santo Traff has an interest
in this casino.Hotel Havana Riviera CasinoDINO CELLINI & HARRY HERSHENTZ - the
floor managers

Edmund Hennson - overall manager.

Hotel Capri Casino

Jack Lieberbaum - part owner

Charles "The Blade" Tourne & Richard
Nichola Constanto part owners.

- also mentioned that Santo Trappicanti had a substantial interest in the casino.

Hotel Sirella Baltimore Casino

owned by Cuban congressman Amletto Battisti;

Sans Souci

Santo Trappicanti, Joe Stassi, & Joe Rogus.

Tropicana

Martin Cox & Alberto Ardena Moya; said that Ardena is the "big man" for Roberto Fernandez Miranda - brother-in-law for Mrs. Batista.

Other Casinos under construction

old Hotel Playa - downtown Havana - Joe Stassi

Hotel Desunille - recently remodelled hotel would also get a license for a gambling casino.

62-75147-210-A

article - 12-13-57

- mentions that the Havana Riviera Hotel reportedly cost \$24 million.

Office memorandum 8-20-57

TO: DIR, FBI

62-75147-210-94

Re: Legat, Havana

Subj: Am Gambling Activities in Cuba

G I I F - General Intelligence Intelligence
File - Cuba

- on 8-15-57, Jake Linsky, who oversees gambling at the Nacional, stated that the brother-in-law of Batista received 50% of all profits from slot machines in the Nacional; ~~also~~ implied that the same person received 50% from all people.

- Linsky said that during the normal tourist season his slot machines take in 4800-6000 a week -

Office Memorandum 1-24-57

TO: DIR, FBI

Re: Legat Attache, Havana, Cuba 62-75147-210-92

- Norman Rothman who formerly operated the Las Bouci is presently managing the Copacabana Night Club in Camaguey, Cuba

- also, Miguel Trujay, a contact of the Havana office, said on 1-23-57, said that a new gambling casino to be opened at Hotel Comodoro in Havana - in Feb, 1957 -

- says that the Comodoro is one of Havana's leading hotels - only second to the Nacional -

- source also said that Rafael Reina, aka Ralph Reina, is to be the manager

at Comodoro cauno - some also said
that Reina is a close associate of Santo
Trappicante, JR., & that a number of
years ago Reina was assoc with
Trappicante in the bolita racket in
Tampa, FL.

Am Gamb - CUBA - MAIN File 62-75147-210
Section 3 HSCA 6-14-78

OFFICE MEMORANDUM - U.S. GOV.

TO: DIR, FBI 62-75147-210

FR: Legal ATTACHE, HAVANA 8-27-58

Subj: Am Gambling in Cuba

- describe an effort by Cuban gov to prevent
Trappicante from opening a casino in the Hotel
Playa - it does say that Landky said
that in recent months (summer '58) "certain
~~operation~~ individual" particularly
Santo Trappicante had been attempting to
import slot machines discreetly - instead of
going through Ardura ("bag man" to Fernandez).
Landky said this was effective in the case of
the Hotel Havana Hilton. - the Cuban gov would
get a substantial take.

