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Date: 5/16/63

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AIRMAIL

Via _____ (Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (62-9-29)

FROM: SAC, MIAMI (92-515) (P)

CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE PROGRAM
MIAMI DIVISION

WEEKLY SUMMARY

MM 509-C-TE advised that HARRY WILENSKY and HERMAN WILENSKY the week of May 2, 1963, opened a club, known as the "Past Time Bridge and Pinochle Club" in Room 214 and 215 of the Harvey Building, Miami Beach, for bookmaking, shylocking and card playing activities. They had planned to employ THEODORE SKOROUSKI, who did handle the bookmaking at the South Beach Democratic Club, Miami Beach, but some difficulty arose between SKOROUSKI and one of the WILENSKY brothers and they instead acquired the services of HARRY PALANCE to handle the bookmaking operation. PALANCE used to be a partner of RUTH GASSENHEIMER in the operation of the Patio Bridge Club about 10 years ago and during the past winter season was connected with the bookmaking and card playing operation at the Royalton Hotel Club in Miami. The WILENSKY brothers plan to handle the shylocking

- 3 - Bureau (AM)
- 2 - Miami
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20 MAY 18 1963

EX-115 FBI

MAY 18 3 30 PM '63

cc - WICK

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RECEIVED-EAVNS

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

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92-515

operation. This source advised that HERMAN WILENSKY and HARRY NATHAN on 5/7/63, were en route to Las Vegas, Nevada, when their automobile was involved in an automobile accident with a truck south of Perry, Fla., and both were killed. HARRY ANTHAN, has been hanging around the WILENSKY brothers for years, but prior to that was an armed robber and killer in New York City.

This informant also advised that funeral services for WILENSKY and NATHAN were held on 5/10/63, at Riverside Funeral Home, Miami Beach. He attended the service and expressed surprise because very few racket individuals attended the service. He advised BEN HUSICK, Miami file 162-80; THEODORE SKOROUSKI; MILTON SPITZER (Miami file 165-211); JOSEPH INDELICATO (Miami file 92-404), and SY SIMON, a bookmaker and gambler, were the only racket individuals he saw there. He understood HARRY WILENSKY intends to continue the operation of the Past Time Bridge and Pinochle Club.

MM 714-C advised that he received information that LOU CHESLER had obtained a 10 year exclusive license for casino gambling on the Grand Bahama Island and that CHESLER's son-in-law, OLLIE (LNU), is handling all details for the setup of the gambling operation at Grant Bahama and that all operations must go through OLLIE. This source also stated he heard that OLLIE had been contacted by a person, whose name is believed to be SAMMONS of Dallas, Texas, concerning the gambling casino and by a GORDON RUEZ, who reportedly was the representative of "Doc" HARRIS of the Los Angeles group.

Doc S. St...

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MM 92-515

MM 509-C-TE stated he was told MEL HARRIS, son of ALLIE HARRIS, who is a big gambler and bookmaker, presently in New York City, married LOU CHESLER's daughter almost 2 years ago; is the key man in the gambling casino and in the development of CHESLER's home sites and businesses in Grand Bahama. MEL HARRIS is setting up a firm known as HARRIS International Sales Co., and has signed a lease for a suite in the Geller Building, Miami Beach, to handle the operations of the Grand Bahama Development Co. and the Bahama Amusement Co. (concern which handles the gambling casino) both controlled by CHESLER. He also learned CHESLER has a 10 year license to operate a gambling casino at Grand Bahama, which will be reviewed after the first or second year.

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