FBI

Date: 10/4/60

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TO DIRECTOR, FBI (92-3171)

FROM: SAC, CHICAGO (92-349)

SAMUEL M. GIANCANA, aka.
ANTI-RACKETEERING

"JUNE"

Re Bureau airtel to Chicago 9/30/60.

RE: Feasibility of Special Coverage at Armory Lounge, 7427 West Roosevelt Road, Forest Park, Illinois.

Enclosed herewith are three photographs of the Armory Lounge taken in September, 1960.

Location

The Armory Lounge is a one story brick building located in a western suburb of Chicago adjacent to Oak Park, Illinois. The immediate neighborhood is one of mixed commercial and residential establishments, the residences being considered middle class homes and apartment buildings. West Roosevelt Road is one of the area's busier thoroughfares, and is heavily trafficked by trucks and vehicles utilizing U.S. 30 and the Illinois toll road system. Immediately across the street from the Armory is the Naval Ordnance Plant and Naval Reserve Center, a series of buildings extending approximately two blocks long employing several hundred persons.

Enclosure

REG-32

3 - Bureau (Encls. 3)(AM 4M)
1 - Chicago
RH: cme
(4)

Approved: ____________ Sent ________ M Per ________

Special Agent in Charge
History and Relative Importance to Hoodlum Activities

The Armory Lounge is owned and operated by one CARMEN FANELLI of 328 Wesley, Oak Park, Illinois, a white male, approximately 60 years of age. He is considered a long time acquaintance of SAM GIACANNA, JOSEPH AIUPPA, ANTHONY J. ACCARDO and other hoodlums residing in the western suburbs of Chicago. FANELLI at one time was a bookmaker and small time hoodlum, and has been associated with the Armory Lounge for approximately ten years. Chicago informants have been reporting for some time of the fact that frequent meetings of Syndicate hoodlums take place at the Armory Lounge, which they refer to as the place 'but west'. These meetings are presided over by GIACANNA when he is in town, and in his absence by such lesser luminaries as WILLIAM DADDANO, one of GIACANNA's lieutenants. CG 6343-C* has reported conversations between MURRAY HUMPHREYS, FRANK FERRARO and others wherein they have referred to meeting "out west" on matters of importance. One neighborhood source, PCI [_________] owner of an apartment building overlooking the Armory reports large gatherings of "hoodlum type" individuals congregating on occasion at this establishment. One she positively has identified as GIACANNA.()

Bureau Agents, as recently as September, 1960, entered the Armory on pretext, noted a large dinner party in progress, attended by, among others, ANTHONY ACCARDO and JOSEPH P. GLIMCO.()

Physical Description of Building

The exterior of the Armory is of face brick, approximately twenty-four feet in width and sixty feet in length (deep). It is located on the intersection of a one way street and the nearest building is a three story apartment building located approximately sixty feet west of the Armory.
The space between the Armory and the apartment building is taken up with an asphalt parking area suitable for about forty vehicles. An alley runs east and west immediately to the rear of the Armory, and is occupied by residential, one family homes.¹

The interior of the Armory is divided into three sections; bar, dining area, and private dining room, the latter being located to the rear of the establishment. The dining area is relatively small, having accommodations for no more than thirty persons. It contains six tables. The private dining area is a room approximately fourteen by eighteen feet, containing two tables, and is separated from the main dining room by an accordion type door.²

Entrance to the building is gained either through the front (facing Roosevelt Road), or into the main dining room via an entrance way through the parking area. This entrance is protected by a canopy, and requires gaining access through two doors. There is a small (4 X 6') enclosed area between the first and second doors. An additional exit is located to the rear of the building off the main dining room. This exit is not used, and is barred.³

On 10/3/60, a physical surveillance of the Armory Lounge was conducted between the hours of 12:01 A.M. and 7:00 A.M. in order to ascertain the degree of traffic and possibilities of being observed in the event special coverage was attempted. This surveillance revealed that there is considerable truck traffic on West Roosevelt Road (U. S. 30) in the early morning hours and it was also noted that a Forest Park, Illinois squad car passes the lounge at a very slow speed approximately every fifteen minutes. The Forest Park Police Force is commanded by JOHN CORTINO, who has cooperated with the Bureau in the past, however, he has been observed by PCI [redacted] in the Armory Lounge on numerous occasions. And a remote possibility exists that there may be some association between the owner of the Armory Lounge and Chief CORTINO, so that any contact with the Chief with relation to the Armory Lounge is not going to be attempted.⁴
Investigation to date has revealed that the only possessor of a key to this building is the owner CARMEN FANELLI. Investigation has further revealed that an elderly Italian caretaker, described by PCI as a relative of FANELLI, opens the Armory Lounge at approximately 9:00 A.M. and proceeds to the Armory by foot, which indicates that he resides within a few blocks of the establishment.

In view of the location of this establishment close to heavy traffic and due to the fact that there is no cover or concealment to individuals attempting to penetrate it, it is not felt that it would be feasible at this time to attempt any such penetration even though a coverage at this place would render available assistance to the investigation of top hoodlum activities in this area.

Attempts will be made to explore the possibilities of obtaining a key which would permit immediate access to this building and if such is met with success the Bureau will be immediately advised as to the feasibility then of attempted coverage.

LOPEZ