

Agency Information

AGENCY : FBI
RECORD NUMBER : 124-10209-10451
RECORD SERIES : HQ
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : 92-2713-443

Released under the John
F. Kennedy
Assassination Records
Collection Act of 1992
(44 USC 2107 Note).
Case#:NW 45855 Date:
11-16-2017

Document Information

ORIGINATOR : FBI
FROM : COLLINS, PATRICK J. JR.
TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

TITLE :

DATE : 04/04/1967
PAGES : 53

SUBJECTS :

CM, IDENT RECORD, BKG, REL, RES, TRA, B/F INT, ASSOC,
LST, JM, NP

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : Unclassified
RESTRICTIONS : 4; 11(a)
CURRENT STATUS : Redact
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 01/07/1999

OPENING CRITERIA : INDEFINITE, APPROVAL OF IRS

COMMENTS :

NO 92-36

ADMINISTRATIVE

On January 17, 1967, NO 1457-C-TE advised that for the past six days CARLOS MARCELLO has been sick at home. Informant pointed out that MARCELLO's wife came out of the hospital on January 12, 1967, and is not yet ambulatory. NO 1457-C-TE has spent the past six days at the MARCELLO home caring for CARLOS and JACKIE MARCELLO. Informant stated that MARCELLO has advised his family that he is ill with a bad back and that an arthritic condition is also bothering him. Informant stated that MARCELLO is taking various medicines and is very morose. Informant pointed out that MARCELLO is always an early riser and always clothed in a suit, white shirt, and tie. During the past six days, he has stayed in pajamas and robe and has looked very unkept.

NO 1457-C-TE pointed out that JOSEPH MARCELLO has spent a lot of time at the MARCELLO home in the last six days, and numerous other well-known New Orleans hoodlums have paid calls on MARCELLO.

Informant pointed out that on January 13 and 14, 1967, there was a lot of telephone activity between SANTO TRAFFICANTE, unknown individuals in New York City, and JOSEPH MARCELLO, acting for CARLOS MARCELLO. Informant stated that informant managed to listen to several incoming calls over a telephone extension. This, coupled with an argument between the informant and JOSEPH and CARLOS MARCELLO relative to one of these calls, has lead the informant to believe that the following method is the system of telephonic contact used for LCN business:

An incoming call comes to the MARCELLO home from a prominent hoodlum and he conducts a brief innocuous conversation. This individual will then indicate that he is busy and will call back in 15 minutes, one-half hour, or an hour. At time this individual indicates that he will call MARCELLO at "Girl friend #1; girl friend #2, or girl friend #3." In the past, CARLOS MARCELLO would then proceed to a group of pay

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telephones somewhere in the shopping center near the MARCELLO residence. However, in the past six days, JOE MARCELLO would proceed to this group of telephones. JOSEPH MARCELLO will occupy a public telephone booth and at the appropriate time will receive the business call from out of state. Informant stated that CARLOS and JOSEPH MARCELLO have stated to the informant that this is the method of communication and the use of the term "girl friend" will throw off anyone listening on the telephones. Informant stated that this process is inverted when MARCELLO initiates a contact with any LCN figure out of state. Informant stated that JOSEPH and CARLOS MARCELLO have in their possession a list of "girl friends" out of state; however, they change the numbers around in a manner only they know.

NO 1457-C-TE advised that SANTO TRAFFICANTE arrived in New Orleans sometime during morning of February 12, 1967. TRAFFICANTE spent most of the day with CARLOS and JOSEPH MARCELLO. CARLOS MARCELLO flew to Shreveport, Louisiana, afternoon of February 12, 1967, met Attorney MIKE MAROUN, and flew on to New York. TRAFFICANTE and JOSEPH MARCELLO departed New Orleans sometime after 11:30 AM, February 13, 1967, for New York. NO 1457-C-TE not aware of where these individuals will be staying in New York.

On February 22, 1967, at 3:00 PM, NO 1457-C-TE advised telephonically that SANTO was in New Orleans. He could not advise his time of arrival or where SANTO was staying. He stated that SANTO had at times on trips before been known to stay at the Fontainebleau Hotel.

On February 15, 1967, NO 1457-C-TE advised that SANTO TRAFFICANTE had recently been back in New Orleans to see CARLOS MARCELLO. Informant not aware of where TRAFFICANTE stayed; however, informant knows TRAFFICANTE was here for three days and spent considerable time with CARLOS MARCELLO.

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Date 2/16/67

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Mrs. MURDOCH MAVO, accompanied by her husband, Mr. RUFUS NAVO, was interviewed at the Office of Reverend HUGH MC KEE, St. Martins Episcopal Church, Jefferson Parish, Louisiana.

Mrs. NAVO furnished the following data relative to the murder of THOMAS SIRACUSA in 1943:

The evening prior to the disappearance of SIRACUSA, Mrs. NAVO, FRANK SPANO, and WHIT BLACKWELL arrived at the Willswood Tavern, Jefferson Parish, Louisiana, at about 7:00 P.M. When they entered the tavern the only other party in there consisted of one table which was obviously having a large dinner. This table consisted of the following individuals:

VITO LONGO

JOSEPH CHIMENTI

LEAH LONGO (VITO's wife)

JEANNE (LEAH's sister)

CARLOS MARCELLO

NICK CHRISTINA

Unknown Individual (This person was a white male, about forty, very dark skin, heavy set, black hair.)

Mrs. NAVO and party sat at the bar and drank coca-colas. VITO LONGO's mother was in the kitchen cooking and was waiting on all present.

About fifteen minutes after Mrs. NAVO's arrival,

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On 2/9/67 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 92-36

by SA PATRICK J. COLLINS: kbg Date dictated 2/10/67

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THOMAS SIRACUSA arrived. SIRACUSA appeared surprised and then afraid at finding the dinner party going on. SIRACUSA walked around the bar and back into the kitchen. Immediately after LONGO, CHRISTINA, MARCELLO, and CHIMENTI walked into the kitchen. Mrs. NAVO and party heard loud shouting in Italian, pots and pans falling in the kitchen, and bodies bouncing around. Then there was silence for a brief period. VITO LONGO's mother opened the kitchen door and Mrs. NAVO observed SIRACUSA sitting in a metal chair. CHIMENTI was holding a snub-nose revolver which was pressed against SIRACUSA's temple. CARLOS MARCELLO was slapping SIRACUSA. SIRACUSA appeared afraid for his life and was shouting in Italian.

Mrs. NAVO asked FRANK SPANO what they were saying and SPANO appeared terrified. SPANO suggested immediate departure and they did. Mrs. NAVO observed that the only car parked in the lot was an old black touring car which belonged to SIRACUSA. She believed the other cars were parked behind the restaurant.

One or two days later, Mrs. NAVO observed that all the newspapers were carrying front-page stories about the disappearance of SIRACUSA. She believes it was the morning after she witnessed this incident that the police discovered SIRACUSA's abandoned car.

Mrs. NAVO notified the New Orleans Police Department of what she had witnessed. Captain HARRY GREGSON and WILLIAM GROSCH, Chief of Detectives, came to her then residence at 101 Central Avenue, and brought photographs. She identified the photograph of SIRACUSA. FRANK SPANO separately identified the photograph of SIRACUSA. Both identified the photographs of CARLOS MARCELLO. The police officers told her nothing.

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She then went to see Sheriff CLANCY, Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office, and told him what she had seen and that she was scared. Sheriff CLANCY told her that if she kept her mouth shut she would not get hurt. She later went to see Captain GREGSON at his home per his request and he told her to keep her mouth shut about what she had told him as they would kill her.

Several weeks later Deputy CY DI LIBERTO of the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office, talked to Mrs. NAVO and also told her to keep her mouth shut. He told her that he knew that CHIMENTI held the gun on SIRACUSA while CARLOS MARCELLO worked him over. DI LIBERTO stated that it was over a \$10,000 fraud that SIRACUSA was killed.

Mrs. NAVO stated that she once asked District Attorney LANDRIDGE why he had CHIMENTI as his Chief Investigator, and he replied to her "When someone begs you for a job, what do you do?"

Among People Mrs. NAVO knew during the early forties as hoodlums in the New Orleans area was Mr. TROMBATORE, who was in bootlegging; Mr. CENTANNI, who owns and operates the Gold Seal Creamery; SALVATORE VALENTI, bootlegging; FRANK PALMISANO and his son "BIB JOE" PALMISANO; and Mr. PATERNOSTRO. She stated that PATERNOSTRO disappeared years ago and his son used to come to park at the dead end of the street where he disappeared. PATERNOSTRO's car was burned at this street, but the body was never found.

She stated that one VIOLET GUILLARD, Negress, who lives on Welston Street, has a long-time boyfriend who has worked for many years for CARLOS MARCELLO, as MARCELLO's cook. This cook killed a woman in New Orleans about ten years ago and CARLOS fixed the case.

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Mrs. NAVO stated that under no circumstances would she testify relative to her knowledge of the SIRACUSA murder.

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Several T symbols utilized in this report are NO 1457-C-TE to protect this informant's identity.

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INFORMANTS

IDENTITY OF SOURCE

CONTACTING AGENT

NO T-1 is [redacted],
PCI

SA MAURICE A. KELLIHER

NO T-2 is NO 1457-C-TE

SA PATRICK J. COLLINS, JR.
and SA REED W. JENSEN

NO T-3 is NO 1433-C

SA ROGER E. MAXWELL

NO T-4 is [redacted],
FORMER PCI

SA REED W. JENSEN.

NO T-5 is NO 1457-C-TE

SA REED W. JENSEN and
SA PATRICK J. COLLINS, JR.

NO T-6 is [redacted]
PCI

SA DELBERT W. -HAHN

NO T-7 is [redacted]
PCI

SA LARRY L. GUGGISBERG

NO T-8 is NO 1435-C-TE

SA JACK EVANS MEHL

NO T-9 is NO 1252-C

SA REED W. JENSEN

NO T-10 is NO 1291 - C

SA JOSEPH G. PEGGS

NO T-11 is JOSEPH LABAT, IRS

SA ROGER E. MAXWELL

REVIEWED BY **FOUJIK TASH FORDE**

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ON 7/20/98 gm

- RELEASE IN FULL
- RELEASE IN PART
- TOTAL DENIAL

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JFK Act 6 (4)

NO T-12 is NO 1456 - PC

SA ROGER E. MAXWELL

NO T-13 is ,
PCI

SA WILLIAM F. DUKES

NO T-14 is JN 180-C

SA WILLIAM F. DUKES

NO T-15 is TP 120-C

SA JOHN AMBLER

NO T-16 is BOBBY G. GWINN

SA L. M. SHEARER, JR.

NO T-17 is MO 182-C

SA MYRON G. TURNER

LEADS

HOUSTON DIVISION

AT HOUSTON, TEXAS

Interview oilman FRANK WATERS re any association with CARLOS MARCELLO.

EL PASO DIVISION

AT EL PASO, TEXAS

Conduct credit, criminal, and indices check re MAURICE BELL. Determine how he financed his motel and then consider interviewing him regarding the MARCELLOS.

TAMPA DIVISION

AT TAMPA, FLORIDA

Conduct credit, criminal, and indices check re CHARLES SALADINO and Son, Inc.

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NEW ORLEANS DIVISION

AT COVINGTON, LA.

Interview CLARA RISPONE re her association with CARLOS MARCELLO and any knowledge of LCN.

AT NEW ORLEANS, LA.

Identify registrants of vehicles parked at MARCELLO's residence and business office.

Spot check activities of subject.

Will report results of numerous checks of out-of-state license plates parked at MARCELLO's business office.

Maintain close contact with NO 1457-C-TE re MARCELLO's travel and activities.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 1 - USA, New Orleans

Report of: SA PATRICK J. COLLINS, JR.
Date: APRIL 4, 1967

Office: NEW ORLEANS

Field Office File No.: NO 92-36

Bureau File No.: 92-2713

Title: CARLOS MARCELLO

Character: ANTI-RACKETEERING

Synopsis: NO T-1 believes MARCELLO is in the punchboard business in Columbia and Venezuela. NO T-2 believes MARCELLO will give fifty acres of Churchill Farms, Inc. for the erection of the new dome stadium in New Orleans. NO T-3 believes MARCELLO "owns" District Attorney FRANK LANDRIDGE, Jefferson Parish, La. NO T-4 believes MARCELLO has a twenty per cent interest in the dome stadium. NO T-5 advised that MARCELLO's wife was patient in Baptist Hospital, New Orleans, week of January 9, 1967, for surgery. NO T-5 advised MARCELLO moved to residence at 3908 Clifford Drive, Metairie, La. NO T-5 advised that he believes ~~SANTO TRAFFICANTE~~ has visited CARLOS MARCELLO in La. several times in the recent past. NO T-2 advised that MARCELLO has one JOHN LA BRUZZO acting as his chauffeur. NO T-5 believes MARCELLO sold land next to Holiday Motel, Jefferson Parish, La. NO T-2 believes SAM RECILE is a friend of CARLOS MARCELLO.

[REDACTED] NO T-16 believes that several years ago MARCELLO had NEMO NOLTI kill DONALD MELANCON over a \$200,000 debt. Ident record set forth.

JFK Law 11(a)

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DETAILS:

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ACTIVITIES

NO T-2 advised on January 5, 1967, that he had heard that CARLOS MARCELLO intended in the immediate future to offer fifty acres of land of his Churchill Farms Estate free to the City of New Orleans as the site of the new dome stadium. NO T-2 stated that MARCELLO was willing to give the choicest section of this estate free and clear to the city.

NO T-4 advised on January 5, 1967, that MARCELLO stated recently that he has a twenty per cent interest in the new dome stadium deal. NO T-4 stated that recently MARCELLO had been in contact with FRANK WATERS, Houston, Texas, oil man, who reputedly has some interest in the dome stadium deal.

On January 20, 1967, NO T-5 advised that he believed that about one year ago CARLOS, JOSEPH, and SAMMY MARCELLO made numerous trips to the Mississippi Gulf Coast. The reason for these trips was that a small group of businessmen desired to have the MARCELLO brothers control gambling on a small island off the coast as they were in the process of developing the island. CARLOS MARCELLO did not enter this deal as this business group did not sell him some real estate on the island.

Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol (MHSP) investigator JOE PRICE (NA), Gulfport, Mississippi, advised on January 9, 1967, that he has received no information to the effect that the MARCELLOS have any business interest in the Mississippi Gulf Coast area or that they have been frequenting the area in recent months.

NO T-13, Jackson PCI, Biloxi, Mississippi, advised on January 20, 1967, that while recently in New Orleans, she was in contact with SAM DI PIAZZA, who owns and operates pizza houses in New Orleans and who is a close associate of CARLOS MARCELLO. Informant advised that in a conversation with SAM DI PIAZZA, DI PIAZZA said he had been on the Mississippi Gulf Coast several times recently attempting to locate some property around "the strip" near Biloxi, Mississippi, to purchase and put up some pizza houses. DI PIAZZA did not tell informant that he was doing this at the specific request of CARLOS MARCELLO, but informant assumed that in view of the known association between DI PIAZZA and MARCELLO, some of the racket money in New Orleans would probably be used to help finance this business venture in Biloxi, Mississippi, if it takes place.

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NO T-13 advised she would again be traveling to New Orleans in the near future and while there would attempt to contact DI PIAZZA in an effort to obtain further details about these pizza houses and any other information as to possible financial interest in which CARLOS MARCELLO may be involved in the Mississippi Gulf Coast area.

NO T-14 advised on February 8, 1967, that CAROLYN SIMMONS continues to reside at New Orleans, Louisiana, where she is employed by Delta Airlines. Informant advised that on two occasions on recent weekends, CAROLYN SIMMONS has returned to the Mississippi Gulf Coast accompanied by JOE MARCELLO, son of CARLOS MARCELLO. Informant was unable to advise the nature and identity of contacts made by CAROLYN and JOE MARCELLO but stated that she would attempt to do so on the next occasion of their coming to the coast.

NO T-5 advised on January 20, 1967, that CARLOS MARCELLO and his brothers recently sold a large amount of land next to the Holiday Motel, Jefferson Parish, Louisiana.

NO T-8 advised on January 26, 1967, that he heard that CARLOS MARCELLO and NOFIO PECORA have recently been meeting in Covington, Louisiana, at the residence of CLARA RISPONE. On January 19, 1967, NO T-10 advised that CARLOS MARCELLO was recently in Shreveport, Louisiana, and held a meeting at the Town and Country Motel, Bossier City, Louisiana. This meeting was attended by the majority stockholders in the Sawyer Downs Race Track which is presently being constructed at Shreveport, Louisiana. MARCELLO advised that he had no financial interest in the race track but was merely attempting to help the stockholders out of a difficult situation.

NO T-10 stated there had recently been some mismanagement on the part of the present manager of Sawyer Downs Race Track at Shreveport, Louisiana. MARCELLO was attempting to resolve this difficulty.

NO 92-36

PJC:jas

Characterization: Sources who have identified MARCELLO as a member of LCN are PH 591-C*, PH 623-C* and BS 837-C*. The latter source in March, 1963, reported MARCELLO to be the "representando" in New Orleans. NO 1457-C-TE identified MARCELLO as the "boss" in Louisiana. On 9/23/66, MARCELLO stated to two Agents in New Orleans, "I'm the boss here."

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