

Agency Information

AGENCY : FBI
RECORD NUMBER : 124-10283-10027
RECORD SERIES : HQ
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : 92-2914-36, 37

Released under the John
F. Kennedy
Assassination Records
Collection Act of 1992
(44 USC 2107 Note).
Case#:NW 45852 Date:
11-20-2017

Document Information

ORIGINATOR : FBI
FROM : DOUCE, RICHARD GORDON
TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

TITLE :

DATE : 06/16/1958
PAGES : 64

SUBJECTS :

GM, BKG, RES, REL, ASSOC, THP, RACK AND SUBV,
GAMBLING, TRA, B/F INT

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : Unclassified
RESTRICTIONS : 4; 10(a)2; 11(a)
CURRENT STATUS : Redact
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 01/06/1999

OPENING CRITERIA : INDEFINITE, APPROVAL OF IRS

COMMENTS : INC MEMO, RPT, TABLE OF CONTENTS PAGE 1b, INDEX PAGES 48-52

Records of the Bureau of Vital Statistics, Harrisburg, Pa., were reviewed by IC FRANK D. ALTOBELLI.

Public records in Westmoreland County, Pa., were reviewed by IC GEORGE C. DIPPOLD unless otherwise indicated.

Information Disseminated to the Internal Revenue Service

Letterhead memoranda dated 5/13/58 were disseminated to the Bureau and to Internal Revenue Service, Pittsburgh, Pa., concerning the MANNARINO controlled numbers operation in New Kensington, Pa., as well as the allegation regarding the possible withholding of revenue on the part of the Nu-Ken Novelty Company.

INFORMANTS

T-1 is GEBHARD "BOOTS" REABE, Captain of Police, Braddock, Pa., who has furnished reliable information in the past, contacted by SA THOMAS G. FORSYTH, III.

T-2 is records subpoenaed from Bell Telephone Company, New Kensington, Pa., by Senate Select Committee on Improper Activities in the Labor or Management Field, Washington, D. C., relating to telephone calls emanating from GABRIEL MANNARINO's home in New Kensington for the period 5/28 through 11/28/57. Material furnished to the Bureau by the Committee around 5/7/58.

T-3 is NY 169-C contacted by an unidentified Special Agent of the New York Office.

T-4 is PG 561-C contacted by SA CARL L. SHERWOOD.

T-5 is BERTHA PFIEFER, Clerk, Selective Service Board No. 3, New Kensington, Pa., with whom contact has been insufficient to determine degree of reliability, identity of agent contacting unknown.

T-6 is [redacted] PCI and retired New Kensington Police Officer of R. D. 2, New Kensington, contacted by SA NORMAN T. THOMPSON and SA RICHARD GORDON DOUCE. JFK Act 6 (4)

T-7 is Lieutenant JACK STACK, NA, Pittsburgh, Pa., Police Department, who has furnished reliable information in the past, contacted by SA JOHN D. ANTHONY.

PG 92-236

T-8 is JOHN C. SCHWARTZ, Special Agent, Intelligence Division, Internal Revenue Service, Pittsburgh, who has furnished reliable information in the past, contacted by SA NORMAN T. THOMPSON.

T-9 is [REDACTED] PCI, contacted by SA JOHN S. PORTELLA.

T-10 is PG 545-C contacted by SAS DOUCE and PORTELLA.

T-11 is [REDACTED] PCI, contacted by SA DOUCE.

T-12 is the National Board of Fire Underwriters, Miami, Florida, contacted by SA KENNETH C. MOORE.

T-13 is [REDACTED] PCI and Pittsburgh top hoodlum, contacted by SAS PORTELLA and DAMON W. PITCHER.

JFK Act 6 (4)

T-14 is PG 564-C contacted by SA THOMPSON.

T-15 is CS DE 295 contacted by SA CASSIUS RATHBUN.

T-16 is the memorandum report of Narcotics Agent GEORGE C. CORCORAN, JR., Bureau of Narcotics, District No. 3, Philadelphia, Pa., dated 3/7/58 captioned, "Mafia Members Present at Meeting in Joseph Barbara's Home, Apalachin, New York and Mafia Members in District 3."

T-17 is WILLIAM ADAMS, owner of Adams Music Company, New Kensington, and lifetime resident of New Kensington, who has furnished reliable information in the past, contacted by SA THOMPSON.

T-18 is WILLIAM WALSH, Inspector, No. 2 Precinct, Pittsburgh Police Department, who has furnished reliable information in the past, contacted by SA THOMPSON.

T-19 is [REDACTED] PCI, an afternoon manager in the gambling casino at the Hotel Nacional, Havana, Cuba, contacted by Legat, Havana.

T-20 is ARTIE NEWMAN, Cashier at the Hotel Nacional gambling casino, Havana, Cuba, who has furnished reliable information in the past, contacted by the Legat, Havana.

T-21 is former PG 566-C contacted by SA JOHN R. ACKERLY.

REVIEWED BY FBI/JFK TASK FORCE

ON 11/17/66 ^{DEF} *deb/dw*

RELEASE IN FULL

- 3 -

RELEASE IN PART

TOTAL DENIAL

PG 92-236

T-22 is [redacted] confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past, contacted by SAS PITCHER and PORTELLA.

T-23 is PG 509-C contacted by SA PORTELLA.

T-24 is [redacted] PCI, contacted by SA FORSYTH.

T-25 is ELIZABETH BLISSELL, Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, New Kensington, with whom contact has been insufficient to determine the degree of reliability, contacted by SA GENE H. STUDEBAKER.

T-26 is [redacted] roommate of PCI [redacted] whose reliability is unknown. (T symbol assigned to further protect PCI [redacted])

T-27 is reports of SA JOHN C. SCHWARTZ, Internal Revenue Service, Pittsburgh, dated 12/2 and 12/5/57.

JFK Law 11(a)

T-28 is [redacted] for the ~~current~~ year [redacted] made available to New York FBI Office by the U. S. Attorney, Southern District of New York.

T-29 is U. S. Treasury Department, Division of Loans and Currency, Bureau of Public Debt, Chicago, Illinois, contacted by letter, 1/6/58.

T-30 is JAMES CHRISTY, Assistant Manager, Retail Credit Company, New Kensington, who has furnished reliable information in the past, contacted by SA THOMPSON.

T-31 is ROBERT J. WILSON, Vice President, Mellon National Bank and Trust Company, New Kensington, with whom contact has been insufficient to determine degree of reliability, contacted by SA ALBERT E. KLEBE, JR.

T-32 is Havana-4.

T-33 is Havana-13.

T-34 is Lieutenant JORGE PENA HARRERA, head of the Alien Control Section, Department of Investigation, Cuban National Police, contacted by Legat, Havana.

PG 92-236

T-35 is BENNIE FROMME, admitted Pittsburgh bookmaker, with whom contact has been insufficient to determine degree of reliability, contacted by SA PORTELLA.

Criminal Informant Coverage

JFK Act 6 (4)

PG 545-C
PG 564-C

PCI

PCI

LEADS

PITTSBURGH

AT NEW KENSINGTON, PA. (Westmoreland County)

1. Will maintain regular contact with PCIs [redacted] PG 545-C and PG 564-C for the purpose of developing current information regarding GABRIEL MANNARINO's legitimate enterprises, criminal activities, associates and present whereabouts.
2. Will recontact MARSHALL HOLT and wife ANNA, neighborhood sources at 536 Charles Avenue, to obtain any information they may have developed since last contacted.
3. Will attempt to identify the two collection men employed by the Nu-Ken Novelty Company who are said to be withholding revenue collected from pinball machines operating in New Kensington and Arnold, Pa. Will, if identified, disseminate such information to the Internal Revenue Service.

AT GREENSBURG, PA. (Westmoreland County)

1. Will examine records in the Office of the Prothonotary for the purpose of identifying the owner or owners of the Blue Spruce Motel, Route 22, Murrysville, Pa.
2. When the owners are identified, will consider interviewing them regarding the alleged gambling activities at the motel, reportedly controlled by the MANNARINO brothers.

PG 92-236

Mr. ROBERT STACH, Manager, Bell Telephone Company Business Office, New Kensington, on 4/28/58. Since the list was so voluminous it was not considered suitable for purposes of a summary report but will be included in the next regular investigative report in the interest of uniformity. (Investigation requested in Pittsburgh airtel to Chicago, 4/29/58)

JFK Act 6 (4)

19. Will recontact PCI [redacted] concerning the report that the MANNARINO brothers have a numbers operation at Lloyds Limited, 1926 Murray Avenue, Pittsburgh, involving DAVID LAWRENCE and SONNY (LNU) who is probably identical with SONNY CINSUTTI, shylock for the MANNARINO organization at the Triangle Billiards gambling casino, New Kensington.

MIKE HAZIDAKIS his most trusted lieutenant insofar as financial matters of the Triangle Billiards Gambling Casino are concerned. T-11 pointed out that MANNARINO told him that HAZIDAKIS maintains the books for the dice games and keeps complete and accurate records.

T-11 went on to say that HAZIDAKIS recently told him that he and JOHN FONTANA received \$125. a week from the MANNARINO operated Triangle Billiards Gambling Casino plus six per cent of the take on the dice tables. According to T-11, the dice percentage could run as high as \$1000. a week.

T-11 who has been acquainted with HAZIDAKIS for over 20 years stated that HAZIDAKIS has become a very wealthy man by reason of his association with the MANNARINO brothers and during the past several years has made a number of trips to his home town in Perais, Greece near the port of Athens. T-11 explained that HAZIDAKIS has been investing his money in apartment and office buildings in Perais, Greece and that one piece of property in Perais brings a rental of \$1150. a month.

T-11 on February 24, 1958 pointed out that for the past 12 to 15 years, HAZIDAKIS has been a trusted lieutenant of the MANNARINO organization directly responsible to GABRIEL MANNARINO. T-11 went on to say that at the present time HAZIDAKIS and FONTANA are supervising the Triangle Billiards Gambling Casino in New Kensington and that HAZIDAKIS has the responsibility of holding large amounts of cash and making a final accounting of the proceeds to the MANNARINO brothers.

T-11 stated that during 1957 he visited his wife and son in Athens, Greece and indicated to T-11 before leaving that he might remain in Greece permanently. T-11 pointed out that several months later after HAZIDAKIS returned from Greece he gathered from conversations with him that GABRIEL MANNARINO either ordered HAZIDAKIS back to the United States or sent someone over to Greece to bring him back. T-11 expressed the opinion that HAZIDAKIS is terrified of GABRIEL MANNARINO and only remains in the United States for fear of winding up with a bullet in his head if he refuses to follow GABRIEL MANNARINO's orders.

Records of the U. S. Clerk of Courts, Naturalization Bureau, Western District of Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh, volume 597, reviewed February 25, 1958, disclose that MIKE GEORGE HAZIDAKIS, age 22, arrived in the U. S. at Ellis Island, New York on June 18, 1920 aboard the vessel "Themistocles" from Athens, Greece. Records disclosed that HAZIDAKIS filed Declaration of Intention in United States District Court, Pittsburgh, January 19, 1923 and was admitted to citizenship on January 1, 1925. (Certificate of Naturalization #2212298).

Records of the U. S. Clerk of Courts, Western District of Pennsylvania, Criminal Docket, Volume 35, page 385, reviewed February 25, 1958, in the case entitled the United States vs. Mike George Hazidakis and Andy Kalumbas indicated that defendants were indicted for giving false testimony in a naturalization proceeding on November 15, 1932 (Section 23 of the Naturalization Act of June 29, 1906). The case was tried on February 17, 1933 and HAZIDAKIS was found guilty on all counts of the indictment while defendant KALUMBAS was acquitted by direction of the court. HAZIDAKIS was sentenced on June 9, 1933 to be imprisoned for a period of two months and paid court costs of \$51.

W. R. HOHN, Warden of the Westmoreland County Jail, Greensburg, Pa. on February 24, 1958, advised SA THOMAS G. FORSYTH, III that MIKE GEORGE HAZIDAKIS was committed to the Westmoreland County Jail on June 14, 1933 after conviction in U. S. District Court, Pittsburgh for violation of Section 23, Naturalization Act of June 29, 1906 and was released after serving two months.

Records of the Pittsburgh Police Department, Identification Division, Pittsburgh, Pa. reviewed February 26, 1958, and the files of the Allegheny County Detective Bureau, Identification Division, Pittsburgh, reviewed February 28, 1958, disclosed no criminal history identifiable with MIKE GEORGE HAZIDAKIS.

Attilo De Felice PA

T-11 on February 24, 1958, stated that DE FELICE has confided to him on many occasions that he acts in the capacity of a supervisor in charge of basketball, football, horse and fight betting for the MANNARINO organization, working under

the direct supervision of WILLIE SAMS. According to T-11 DE FELICE supervises the sport betting from the Laetus Club in New Kensington between the hours of 9:00 AM and 1:30 PM daily accepting bets over telephone number Edison 9-9219, Edison 9-9382 and Edison 9-9209.

T-11 added that in conversation with DE FELICE within the past two weeks he learned that the MANNARINO organization makes approximately eight to ten thousand dollars a day from sport betting and that DE FELICE has instructions before accepting any bets each morning to telephone WILLIE SAMS to get a line on the odds for the particular sporting event of the day.

Records of the Pittsburgh Police Department, Identification Division, reviewed March 3, 1958 and the files of the Allegheny County Detective Bureau, Identification Division, reviewed February 28, 1958, disclosed no criminal history identifiable with ATTILO DE FELICE.

Albert Zeid
FBI #574183

T-12, who has requested that his identity remain confidential and who stated that he will not testify at any future Federal or state proceedings, on April 19, 1957, described ALBERT ZEID, was. Al Rose and Al Ross, as the "executioner" for the MANNARINO organization of New Kensington, Pa. T-12 stated that in March and April, 1956 information came to his attention indicating that ZEID was a close associate of well known jewel thief JOSEPH MEROLA, FBI #4989299. T-12 related that ZEID and MEROLA reportedly during March or April, 1956 made a \$25,000. jewelry "score" and supposedly took the jewelry to Cuba where they received \$32,000. T-12 described NICK JEROME, previously mentioned, as a close associate of MEROLA who has the reputation in the Miami Beach, Fla. area of being a contact man for "hot jewelry buyers in Cuba."

T-12 stated that ZEID, who was then living at 2640 Page Street in New Kensington, Pa. where he was reportedly operating a gambling casino, was well known in Cleveland, Ohio many years ago as a result of his connection with the murder of a Cleveland city councilman, not further described.

connection with the manufacture and installation of wood cabinets with offices at 912 Constitution Boulevard, New Kensington, Pa. Parties in interest were recorded as ROCCO G. BUFFONE, RALPH J. BUFFONE, SAMUEL A. BUFFONE and JAMES V. BRUNO.

T-13, who has requested that his identity remain confidential and who stated he will not testify at any future Federal or state proceedings on March 7, 1958 stated that in 1953 he had a quarter interest in the Bachelor's Club in the East Liberty Section of Pittsburgh with ROCCO G. BUFFONE, a cousin of the MANNARINO brothers, HYMIE MARTIN and CHARLES TEEMER. T-13 observed that many years ago BUFFONE whom he described as a real estate dealer and contractor was connected with the rackets but no longer has any racket connections and is a legitimate businessman.

The identification record of ROCCO G. BUFFONE discloses a total of six arrests by the Pennsylvania State Police, Greensburg, Pa. for gambling and bookmaking during the period 1934-46. In January, 1935 BUFFONE was convicted of operating a gambling house and was sentenced to the Allegheny County Work House for a period of one to two years.

T-14, who has requested that his identity remain confidential and who stated he will not testify at any future Federal or state proceedings, on December 11, 1957 stated that RALPH BUFFONE, aka "Jimmy," the constable of the First Ward in New Kensington and brother of ROCCO G. BUFFONE, is an associate of GABRIEL MANNARINO and controls the First Ward for the MANNARINO organization.

Michael Miranda
FBI #91524

The New York Office of the FBI on November 25, 1955 advised that in 1951 MIKE MIRANDA purchased a 1950 Cadillac, Motor Number 50-60-53479, Model 60, from GABRIEL MANNARINO of New Kensington, Pa.

It is noted that MICHAEL MIRANDA, FBI #91524, attended the conference of hoodlums at Apalachin, New York on November 14, 1957.

T-11 on March 18, 1958, stated that NOLL recently sold his interest in the newsstand in downtown New Kensington and rented a restaurant on Third Avenue in New Kensington where he is planning to organize a card game, baseball pool and numbers operation with the sanction of the MANNARINO brothers. T-11 pointed out that NOLL mentioned to him in recent conversation that he had served time in the Penitentiary and indicated that his friend SAM MANNARINO would take good care of him because he had something on MANNARINO.

Carl Irving Noll, FBI #968588, is currently the subject of an interstate transportation of stolen property; fraud by wire - conspiracy investigation being conducted by the FBI. This matter concerns the obtaining of land in the state of Louisiana for payment of back taxes and the leasing of highway construction equipment to the state of Louisiana. Principals in the case included CHARLES MARGIOTTI, one time attorney general of Pennsylvania, now deceased, and T. LAMAR CAUDLE, former Assistant U. S. Attorney General.

The identification record of CARL NOLL discloses numerous arrests in various parts of the United States since 1935 on charges of passing worthless checks, vagrancy, false pretenses, and violation of the national stolen property act. In 1947 NOLL as CARL R. FACCHINE was sentenced to four years in the U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas for violation of the national stolen property act.

Russell Alfred Bufalino ^{T.H.}
FBI #691589

T-16, another government agency conducting intelligence investigations, on March 20, 1958, described RUSSELL ALFRED BUFALINO, FBI #691589, of Pittston, Pa. as a suspected peddler of stolen jewelry and furs as well as a suspected illicit still operator and labor racketeer in the garment industry. T-16 stated that deportation proceedings are presently pending against BUFALINO who entered the U. S. from Italy at New York City on December 21, 1903.

T-16 further described BUFALINO as owner of the Penn Drape Curtains Company and City Auto Service Garage in Pittston, Pa.

REVIEWED BY BEH
ON 1/7/96 dab/dw

- RELEASE IN FULL
 RELEASE IN PART
 TOTAL DENIAL

Pennsylvania. T-11 stated that in his opinion payments were made to DENT in order that the organization's gambling interests will not be disturbed by the Pennsylvania State Police operating in Westmoreland County, Pa.

T-11 on March 10, 1958 stated that Captain JAMES MARONEY, Commander of the Pennsylvania State Police at Greensburg, Pa., told him that he would like to crack down on the MANNARINO organization but had virtually no power to do so. According to T-11 MARONEY implied that in order to arrange his transfer to the Pennsylvania State Police post in Greensburg several years ago through JOHN DENT, he had to promise TANNAS that he would take no action in line with his official duties to disturb MANNARINO gambling interests in New Kensington, without first clearing with the District Attorney for Westmoreland County.

T-11 on May 19, 1958 stated that in his opinion the MANNARINO brothers of New Kensington are the most well organized and influential hoodlums in the state of Pennsylvania today.

T-11 on June 3, 1958 stated he learned in conversation with MIKE HAZIDAKIS that GABRIEL MANNARINO was in New Kensington, Pa. on Saturday, May 31, 1958, and instructed JOHN FONTANA and HAZIDAKIS to close the Triangle Billiards Gambling Casino because of newspaper exposes in the "New Kensington Dispatch" and the "Pittsburgh Post-Gazette" regarding the operation of the casino. T-11 pointed out that according to HAZIDAKIS, MANNARINO instructed Captain JOHN BORDINARO of the New Kensington Police Department to contact all numbers operators operating in New Kensington with MANNARINO protection and warn them to be extremely discreet because of the likelihood of raids by the Internal Revenue Service as a result of recent newspaper publicity.

T-23, who has requested that his identity remain confidential and who stated he will not testify at any future Federal or state proceedings, on June 5, 1958 stated that the Triangle Billiards Gambling Casino in New Kensington will resume operations within a week.

The "New Kensington Dispatch", May 12, 1958 edition, in an article entitled "Barnes Street Spa Popular" and the "Pittsburgh Post-Gazette", May 23, 1958 edition in an

Alleged Political Influence -
Westmoreland County, Pa.

T-6, on December 12, 1957, stated that Governor GEORGE LEADER of Pennsylvania was a house guest of Mayor RAYMOND GARDLOCK of New Kensington during Mr. LEADER's 1955 gubernatorial campaign. T-6 stated that when Mr. LEADER arrived at the GARDLOCK residence he was greeted by GABRIEL MANNARINO, who paid the bill for a party honoring Mr. LEADER's presence.

T-14, on March 25, 1955, stated that WILLIE CAMPBELL, a Negro resident of New Kensington, recently filed his intention to run for Constable of the First Ward, but dropped out of the race when RALPH "JIMMY" BUFFONE, the Constable, and other MANNARINO confederates, paid him \$150. T-14 stated that it was the common belief in the First Ward at the time that CAMPBELL could have won the election because of his popularity.

T-25, who has requested that his identity remain confidential and who stated he will not testify at any future Federal or state proceedings, on March 26, 1958, stated that the MANNARINO brothers control the city of New Kensington, give orders to Mayor RAYMOND GARDLOCK, and completely dominated the New Kensington Police Department and Chief of Police DANIEL ZELOYLE. T-25 pointed out that Chief ZELOYLE has publicly advocated gambling and houses of prostitution as a ~~defendant~~ deterrent to crimes of violence. T-25 explained that in 1957, following the death of GABRIEL MANNARINO's mother, he personally observed Mayor DAVID LAWRENCE of Pittsburgh enter GABRIEL MANNARINO's home on Charles Avenue in New Kensington to pay his respects.

T-11, on May 7, 1958, stated that he learned from T-26, whose availability as a witness is not known at this time, that T-26 received a telephone call from SAM MANNARINO on May 6, 1958, instructing T-26 to attend a meeting to be held in his office at the Ken Iron and Steel Company in New Kensington, that day, to discuss the matter of financial contributions in the primary elections on May 20, 1958. According to T-11 MANNARINO also told T-26 that during the meeting T-26 would be told what candidates the MANNARINO organization would support in the primary election and, further, that T-26 should come to the meeting prepared to purchase a number of tickets for the Westmoreland County Workers Committee's \$15 a plate dinner. T-11 described the dinner as a Democratic Party sponsored affair to be held at the Twin Coaches Restaurant at 6:30 p.m., May 12, 1958.