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TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

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STANDARD FORM NO. 64

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Boardman	✓
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. Parsons	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Tamm	✓
Mr. Sizoo	✓
Mr. Winterrowd	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Mr. Holloman	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : Legal Attache, Havana, Cuba (64-153)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

DATE: June 14, 1954  
Havana, Cuba

**SECRET**

SUBJECT: AMERICAN GAMBLING ACTIVITIES IN CUBA  
GIIF - (S)

Class. & Ext. By SP-16 K/LB/AT  
 Reason - FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 - 3.3  
 Date of Review 3/27/02  
 Date of Review 3/27/02

On 6-11-54 CI HAV-11-C advised that he had been informed that MEYER IANSKY, well known U. S. hoodlum, is planning on setting up a large operation in Cuba, exact nature of which is as yet unknown to informant. He said he had been told that the locally well known law firm of NESTOR MENDOZA has been retained to handle the legal technicalities involved in setting up a company in Cuba. Informant said that he was told that the operation will run into large sums of money and he was of the opinion that IANSKY may be trying to get away from the more rigid controls of U. S. laws. (S)(u)

It will be recalled that IANSKY had a piece of the gambling casino in the Montmartre night club in Havana in the 1952-53 season. This office received no information to indicate that he was connected with gambling activities here in the 1953-54 season. (S)(u)

This matter will be followed closely and the Bureau will be advised of any additional developments.

Apart and unconnected with the above, source advised on the same date that he had recently been told by a person he considers reliable that NORMAN ROTHMAN, FBI No. 152585B, had offered this person \$200,000 of counterfeit U. S. currency at 12 1/2% of the face value. Source said the person told him that he was not having anything to do with the operation. (S)(u)

It is believed entirely possible that ROTHMAN may be making this offer. He is known to have been forced to close the Sans Souci night club and gambling casino, which he had been operating in Havana, due to lack of money. Information has been received that he has a number of debts in Havana and ROTHMAN himself has recently advised this office that he hardly has "bread money" anymore. (S)(u)

Source recalled that three or four years ago JACKIE DAVIS, was., FBI No. 1159304, had offered the source a similar quantity of counterfeit money and he believes that this may be the same money which ROTHMAN is trying to push. DAVIS was at that time connected with ROTHMAN in the Sans Souci as a shill and steerer. DAVIS was last known to have been in jail at Mexico City in connection with a con man swindle. (S)(u)

The information concerning ROTHMAN and his money has been made available locally to the U. S. Treasury Representative in Charge. (S)(u)

Two copies of this letter are being forwarded to the Miami office by direct air mail.

2cc- Miami (Direct Air Mail)  
CDA:JES

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