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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 137-1028

December 1, 1964

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CRIMINAL INFORMANT SEMIANNUAL LETTER

P 2, 4

SYMBOL NUMBER

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137-6160

EMPLOYMENT

Until February 24, 1964, this informant was employed full time as a truck unloader for the Beatty Motor Express Company, Washington, Pa., and unloaded that company's trucks making deliveries in the Pittsburgh district. He elected to do this type of work in order to remain in and about Pittsburgh and exercised his seniority in the Teamster's Union in order to gain it. On February 24, 1964, the Interstate Commerce Commission put into effect new regulations barring trucking companies from furnishing helpers for the loading and unloading of their trucks at the points of origin or destination without charging the shipper for such services. As a result of this, the amount of work available to informant has been limited since that order went into effect. So that in order to work regularly, he has had to accept driving assignments and now works principally as an over-the-road driver for Beatty Motor Express Company. When he does obtain unloading assignments, they are for unusually early morning hours when he has little contact with other workers.

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137-6160-5

NOT RECORDED

DEC 11 1964

58 JAN 6 1965

Stamp: [unclear]

Handwritten signatures: Kieffer, J.B. [unclear], [unclear]

Handwritten initials: [unclear]

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DATES OF CONTACT

May 20, 1964
June 23 and 30, 1964
August 13, 1964
September 14, 21, and 24, 1964
October 5 and 15, 1964
November 19 and 30, 1964

OUTCOME OF CASES NOT PREVIOUSLY COMPLETED

None

INFORMATION FURNISHED OR ASSISTANCE RENDERED
AND ESTIMATE OF VALUE

LABOR MATTERS

On June 23, 1964, CI furnished current photographs of 11 prominent, local Teamster Union officials which have been retained in file for possible future use.

On September 24, 1964, CI advised that Local 249 International Brotherhood of Teamsters (IBT), Pittsburgh, is voting on September 27, 1964, on the ratification of a contract with A&P and that both the company and the union's officials are obviously working to gain a favorable vote.

In this connection, source advised that James Halbert, Pittsburgh District Supervisor of Transportation and Warehousing for A&P, residence address 220 Orchard Drive, Pittsburgh 35, Pa., has stated that negotiations on a national level have been conducted in New York City between the IBT and a labor consultant firm which is representing the A&P. Two of the negotiators for the A&P are a Mr. Avery and a Mr. Lewis. He stated that the labor consultant firm is actually owned by "Tony Pro" (Anthony Provenzano, prominent New Jersey Teamster Union official) and that during the last week of the Hoffa trial in Chicago, Avery and Lewis were vacationing in Connecticut and were summoned to New York where they met with "Tony Pro" in regard to the pending negotiations.

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From other sources, CI advised he has learned that Jimmy Hoffa, IBT President, desires ratification of the A&P contract and, at the same time that Avery and Lewis were in New York City, Tom Fagan, President of Local 249, was summoned to Chicago where he met with Hoffa and an A&P representative from the East in connection with ways of obtaining the desired ratification. Subsequently, in the same connection, Fagan has made two trips to New York City without divulging their purpose to anyone. Fagan is most desirous of pleasing Hoffa in this regard because Harry Tevis, Third International Vice-President of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, a Pittsburgh resident, is slated for removal from office by either voluntary or involuntary means, and Fagan is the leading contender to be his replacement.

The source stated that the current grocery warehouse strike situation in California is the result of rank and file rebellion in opposition to the new A&P contract.

On October 5, 1964, CI advised that at the time Halbert mentioned the trip to New York by Avery and Lewis he commented "We finally got around to fighting you guys with one of your own guys. We got Tony Pro's boys working for us." He does not recall that Halbert disclosed the name of the labor consultant firm employed by A&P, but described the firm only as "Tony Pro's firm." During subsequent contacts with Halbert he has been unable to determine the identity of the consultant firm.

CI advised that Hoffa is endeavoring to establish a national contract, that he has achieved his goal within the "Central Conference," and is endeavoring to obtain a similar contract in the East. The source explained that the voting on September 27, 1964, by members of Local 249, related to a national contract in that a failure to approve the proposed contract with A&P locally would result in their being subjected to the terms of a national contract similar to the one negotiated in other sections of the country. Reportedly Fagan told members

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of Teamsters Local 249 that if their negotiations on a local contract with A&P at Pittsburgh were unsuccessful they would be forced to accept the terms of a national contract. The implications to this CI were that ratification of a local contract was essential because A&P would receive benefits resulting in cancellation if its proposed transfer of distribution facilities from Pittsburgh to Salem, Ohio. Under a national contract these special advantages would not be granted to A&P and therefore the firm would proceed with its plans to move out of Pittsburgh.

On October 15, 1964, CI advised that the President of the Teamsters Local Union at Youngstown, Ohio, is an individual known as Johnny X Angel, whose true name is believed to be John X Angelo. *OHIO*

JOHNNY ANGELO Informant advised that Bill Presser is Hoffa's man in Ohio.

On about September 15, 1964, James X Matoney, Business Agent for Teamsters Local 635, Pittsburgh went to Washington, D.C., with Harry Tevis, Fourth Vice-President of the Teamsters International, the purpose of this meeting being to meet with Hoffa on the labor agreement with A&P and to discuss the effect it would have on Local 635. At the meeting in Washington a question arose concerning the moving of A&P facilities to Salem, Ohio, and Hoffa telephonically contacted Johnny Angelo, rather than Presser, and from the conversation which transpired, Hoffa acceded to Angelo in the nature of seniority of the Youngstown men that would be transferred to Salem, and it was decided that Pittsburgh men would go behind the last man from the Youngstown group in seniority status. *B.P.*

A week previous to this discussion in Washington, James Matoney met with Hoffa alone and at that time Hoffa did not concede any seniority standing to the Pittsburgh group.

CI advised that the above information was obtained by him from Matoney and it is his, CI's, conclusion that Hoffa had to confer with Johnny Angelo prior to making concessions. The CI advised that Angelo

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is reputed to be a "Tony Pro man." He stated that he has been told that Angelo testified against Presser in a previous trial in which Presser was convicted and served time.

Appropriate ratification if interested offices and the Bureau developed no substantiating data regarding the foregoing information derived by CI through Halbert. Further inquiries at Pittsburgh, within limits set by the Bureau, also failed in this regard. Further action is not contemplated until substantiation or further developments occur.

CRIMINAL MATTERS

CI advised on September 21, 1964, that on Friday evening, September 18, 1964, he was at the Club Riviera, Route 51, and learned through mutual acquaintances that Don Flexo (about whom Las Vegas had inquired as a bank robbery suspect), was in the Pittsburgh area and had just left the Riviera prior to CI's arrival. On the following evening, CI was at the same location and noted the presence of Flex's girlfriend "Terry." He did not see Flex.

Las Vegas was advised of the above.

On May 20, 1964, CI advised that Richard Thompson of Local 585, a white male, 32 years of age, living at 711 Eloise Street, Pittsburgh, Pa., and Frank Thompson, white male, 22 years of age, 612 South Main Street, West End, are both employed by the Beatty Trucking Company on a truck-lease basis. Informant stated that the Thompsons are over-the-road drivers but yet in spite of this, on May 20, 1964, were making a city delivery in violation of the union contract. Informant stated that he observed the Thompson brothers park their tractor trailer near the Footlong Hotdog Restaurant and watched them unload three carton boxes and deliver these boxes to their residence at 711 Eloise Street. Informant stated that any city driver who has freight left over, must return it to the terminal immediately, unless he is scheduled to return to the terminal the next day.

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Special Agent John S. Portella proceeded to the area of the Footlong Hotdog Restaurant and verified what the informant had furnished and learned that the three carton boxes contained Master No. 1, 12-4 place settings of dishes, Temperama Pattern with blue. Both of the Thompson's admitted that these cartons were excess items and that they planned to return them to the Beatty Trucking Company.

Special Agent John S. Portella contacted Jim McDonald, Beatty Trucking Company, who advised that the dishes involved in the three boxes in question all came from the Canonsburg, Pa. area and were being shipped to the Thorofare Markets in the Pittsburgh area. He stated that all of the items on the truck handled by the Thompson brothers were intrastate items. McDonald stated that while it is company policy that overages are to be returned immediately, he does not expect the truckers to drive all the way from Pittsburgh to Washington, Pa., to return three cartons when they can be returned on their next trip to Washington, Pa., and that he would contact the Thompsons and insure that this was done.

The noted circumstances so strongly indicate that the Thompsons were converting the dishes in question to their own purposes that it is the opinion of this office that the information furnished by this CI insured the return of the two cartons, valued at \$50 each, to Beatty.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the services of this informant be continued. It is recognized that his productivity has been limited, but this is a result of the dislocation in his employment as described in the section of this letter devoted to that matter, and an improvement in this respect is anticipated. There has been no reason to question the reliability of any information that the informant has furnished and all experience with him has indicated that he is reliable, cooperative, loyal and definitely interested in rendering any service he might to the FBI. It is also noted that under present circumstances, this CI's services are on a cost-free basis.

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EMOTIONAL STABILITY

There has been no indication during any contact with this informant of any degree of any emotional instability. Although formerly an abstainer, informant has in the past months indulged to a temperate degree in the use of alcoholic beverages. In fact, informant's working hours and conditions preclude in temperance in this respect and no problem in this regard is foreseen. He is considered to be a person of good and regular habits in general.