
Agency Information

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Re: GENERAL CRIME SURVEY
SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT
LITTLE ROCK FIELD DIVISION
FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS
OCTOBER 15, 1946

Background information pertaining to Fort Smith, Arkansas was included previously in the initial crime survey reported in April, 1944. As there have been no material changes in the local conditions, except closing Camp Chaffee which is discussed below, the preliminary information will not be repeated.

A. ORGANIZED GANGS

Confidential informants and sources of information are of the opinion no organized gangs are operating at Fort Smith, Arkansas, or in that vicinity.

B. INDIVIDUAL RACKETEERS AND MOBSTERS

IR-376, WESLEY PRICE, Identification Officer of the Fort Smith Police Department, OTTO METZGER, Chief Deputy Sheriff of Fort Smith, furnished information concerning the following individuals who presently reside at or near Fort Smith or have contacts there or frequent that section. These persons are either criminals, associate with criminals, serve as "fences" for stolen property or receive information concerning criminal activities. Information concerning some of these were secured from the files of the United States Attorney, R. S. WILSON, or the United States Probation Officer, PAT SWAIM, at Fort Smith. In those instances where the physical descriptions of persons mentioned have previously been set out in survey reports this information will not be repeated. References will be made however to the fact that such information has previously been furnished.

FLOYD SIDNEY STEVENS, wa. Floyd Stevens.
FBI # 1061119

The physical description of this man has been furnished previously. He was convicted and sentenced in 1940 on evidence secured by the FBI concerning Theft of Government Property. He was committed to the Federal Reformatory at El Reno, Oklahoma to serve his sentence. Thereafter he returned to Fort Smith where he was employed at intervals as a taxicab driver. He left Fort Smith, proceeded probably to California, and returned to Fort Smith where he again applied for a taxi drivers permit at the Fort Smith Police Department informing the new Chief of Police that he had never been arrested or convicted of a crime. After establishing his record the Police Department refused to recommend issuing him a drivers permit. This man was in Fort Smith recently. He comes from a family of thieves. His younger brother, HARDY STEVENS, is serving at Englewood, Colorado for National Motor Vehicle Theft Act and Federal Juvenile Delinquency Act. An older brother,

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(JFK)

According to Captain JERRY WATKINS, the following individuals who frequent Hot Springs during the Winter Season have not been in Hot Springs during the period of this survey:

WILLIE HEENEY, Casino operator of Chicago;
BILL O'DONNELL, partner of HEENEY;
JACK GRACE, of Dallas, deceased;
EDDIE ROTEN, Dallas gambler;
JOE BERNSTEIN, West Coast gambler;
PETE GRANT, Memphis gambler;
JESSE SHUMAKER, wa: "Shoes", Memphis gambler;
MILTON JAFFE, Pittsburgh racketeer and gambler,
who is scheduled to arrive in Hot Springs within
the next few days;
CAPPY MCGORIE, Memphis gambler;
LYNN TOWNES, St. Louis gambler;
MURPH HAROLD, Shreveport, Louisiana, gambler;
SHORTY BREST, well-known gambler of San Francisco;
SLOVANIAN MIKE, San Francisco gambler;
HARRY PILSINGER, San Francisco;
JIMMY DOLEN, Cleveland gambler;
WILLIE SIMMS, Detroit, Michigan;
JACKIE KRESS, Tulsa, Oklahoma;
GULLEY OWENS, St. Louis, Missouri.

Captain WATKINS states that the following racketeers are presently in Hot Springs:

FRANK COSTELLO

COSTELLO, a key figure in the CAPGA case, arrived in Little Rock by plane on October 10, 1946, and went immediately to Hot Springs where he had reservations at the JACK TAR COURT HOTEL, 856 Park Avenue. Captain WATKINS had previously advised this office that COSTELLO would arrive on October 10. Since his arrival, COSTELLO has associated with the following individuals who were already in Hot Springs:

JERRY CATENA and F. D'ALESSIA, two hoodlums from Union City, New Jersey;
FRED and MORRIS KLEINMAN, brothers, of Cleveland, Ohio. MORRIS is a key figure in the CAPGA case in Cleveland;
PHIL KASTEL, slot machine king of New Orleans and a key figure in the CAPGA case in New Orleans;
BENNIE FINN, diamond dealer from New York City

Informant advised that COSTELLO called on Mayor McLAUGHLIN at the latter's residence about Saturday night, October 12, 1946.

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