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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

sub
TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (92-2989)
FROM : LEGAT, LONDON (163-65) (P)
SUBJECT: CHARLES TOURINE, aka
AR; ~~PPG~~

DATE: June 14, 1962

~~APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF THIS MATTER DATE 2-31-78~~
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No IDW
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New Scotland Yard has now furnished reports in this matter containing information as follows:

On March 6, 1962, CHARLES TOURINE, PAUL BELLO, GEORGE RAFT, MERRILL HERBERT KLEIN, SAMUEL BRIGHT SOKOL and MAXIE ROSENBLUM landed at London, England Airport from the United States. TOURINE and BELLO, on landing, were interrogated by a British immigration officer, at which time, BELLO said he previously owned a hotel in Las Vegas and TOURINE advised that he had been engaged in the real estate business before retirement. Both gave the impression of being connected with the gambling machine business but a discreet search of their effects disclosed nothing of interest to the police.

TOURINE and BELLO said they would stay at the Dorchester Hotel in London for a few days after which their movements would be uncertain. Both were in possession of a return open-date ticket from London to New York and they carried a substantial number of United States dollars, estimated at \$700 to \$800 each.

RAFT, TOURINE and SOKOL stayed at the Dorchester Hotel while BELLO, KLEIN and ROSENBLUM stayed at the Athenaeum Court, Piccadilly, London, W. 1. TOURINE and SOKOL occupied Suites #717, #718 and #719 and RAFT occupied Suite #720.

RAFT and ROSENBLUM were landed by immigration authorities for three months and granted labor permits for the purpose of "assisting in making a movie film at Sheperton Studios."

Telephone records were checked at the Dorchester Hotel and Athenaeum Court which records established that numerous telephone calls were exchanged between the contingencies. In addition, it was determined that BELLO, during his stay at the Athenaeum Court, completed a telephone call to number 9 271217, Hollywood, California.

- 3 Bureau (sent direct)
- 1 Foreign Liaison (sent direct)
- 1 Bern (sent direct)
- 1 Paris (sent direct)
- 1 Rome (163-28) (sent direct)
- 1 London (sent direct)

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Copy of enclosures retained in Lab. 6/23/62

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BELLO and KLEIN while at the Athenaeum Court occupied Room #136 and, on checking out, BELLO paid the account with "old, green one pound notes" which New Scotland Yard speculates someone may have lost to BELLO and KLEIN in a card game. (u)

TOURINE departed the United Kingdom on March 13, 1962, BELLO and KLEIN on March 18, 1962, and RAFT, ROSENBLOOM and SOKOL on April 6, 1962; all left from London Airport. (u)

Chief Inspector SID BRADBERRY, New Scotland Yard, who has been handling this matter, in his reports, furnished certain conclusions and observations on the basis of which he requests FBI assistance as follows: (u)

Information in certain circles in London is to the effect that BELLO was to obtain employment at one of the gambling clubs as a dealer and that others of his party would frequent his place of employment and assist in "fleecing other gamblers who would be brought to the club by RAFT." Also information was received that in some way they were to use contact lenses through which they could read marked cards. Along these lines, members of the party would telephonically contact known optical dealers and a further report will be submitted by New Scotland Yard concerning these contacts. (u)

BRADBERRY points out that from inquiries he has made it is known that contact lenses can be used by gamblers in conjunction with marked cards. Also, it is known British gamblers have been checking into the possibilities of contact lenses. (u)

According to BRADBERRY, a known gambler, DONALD ROWLAND SLACK, wa. Fisher, born August 12, 1927, British passport #647981, issued London, September 24, 1959, flew to the United States in March, 1962, for the purpose of obtaining information from American gamblers in the use of contact lenses and marked cards. New Scotland Yard has no previous record of convictions against SLACK. (u)

Visa records at the U. S. Embassy in London denote SLACK was born at Manchester, England, is 6 feet, 3 inches tall, has brown hair and blue eyes, and was issued a United States visitor's visa on March 6, 1962. His purpose in visiting the United States was stated as "holiday - one week." (u)

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BRADBERRY also advises that in connection with his investigation he has been furnished with names of certain aliens who may be involved with the individuals mentioned and who are also believed to be involved in cheating at cards. He states he is not certain that the names as furnished are their correct names but they are the ones used by them when they supplied particulars at various gambling clubs; these names are as follows:

W.S.
EUROPE
(M)
X

1. ALBERT E. F. GIRARD, born July 2, 1922, passport #0473526, issued in Geneva on September 6, 1961; a Swiss citizen.
2. OMERO ~~WENCINI~~, born December 8, 1913, passport #5026598P, issued in Piotoni on September 20, 1957; an Italian citizen.
3. CHARLES HENRI ~~RENUCCI~~, born February 1, 1913, passport #02381, issued in Paris on January 22, 1960; a French citizen.
4. JEAN ANTONIO ~~CULIOLI~~, born May 14, 1913, passport #614676, issued in Paris on March 29, 1962; a French citizen.
5. MARIO ~~FORTINI~~, born January 1, 1932, passport #1932938, issued in Washington, on February 16, 1960; a United States citizen.

SWITZ.

ITALY

FRANCE

FRANCE

BRADBERRY is of the opinion that these men may frequent gambling houses on the continent or in the United States. (M)

In addition to the foregoing, BRADBERRY furnished to this office assorted playing cards which he received from a source of information and the playing cards in two separate packs of 54, marked table #1, and of 59, marked table #3, are enclosed for the Bureau. (M)

BRADBERRY advised he would appreciate it very much if the FBI Laboratory could submit these cards to an examination in an effort to determine if they bear any markings which would appear under various forms of filters. BRADBERRY stated that he must have the cards returned to him and, consequently, the Bureau is requested to return them upon completion of the requested examination. (M)

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The Bureau is also requested to check Bufiles and Identification Division records concerning SLACK and the other individuals mentioned by BRADBERRY in an effort to determine if they have had contact with gamblers in the United States. Additionally, check passport records regarding MARIO FORTINI.

The Bureau is also requested to furnish any information available concerning the use of contact lenses by gamblers which lenses may be of the filter type for purposes of reading markings on cards.

Legat, Bern is requested to obtain from its sources background information pertaining to GIRARD. *X(Al)*

Legat, Rome is requested to obtain background information from its sources concerning OMERO NENCINI. *X(Al)*

Legat, Paris is requested to obtain from its sources background information regarding RENUCCI and CULIOLI. *X(Al)*

Information requested at the Bureau and offices receiving this letter should be furnished in a form suitable for dissemination to New Scotland Yard. *X(m)*

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