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Subject: Anne Buttimer's Ragano Interview Memo
Attached is Anne's memo. Although Ragano didn't have much to add, it seems there is one area, having to do with his schedule, about which he wanted to talk to his co-author before giving us anything. If this could confirm that he talked to Trafficante at a particular time that has been questioned, it could be helpful to the record. Interview REPORT Issue # 58 Document's Author: Anne Buttimer/ARRB Date Created: 11/29/95 Interview Logistics Date: 10/16/95 Attendees: Frank Ragano, Anne Buttimer Topic: Mafia related assassination records Summary of the Interview I interviewed Frank Ragano on Monday afternoon, October 16, 1995 in the lobby of the Holiday Inn, West Fortune Street, Tampa, Florida. He was cooperative and appeared to be forthcoming in his answers and comments. Ragano said he released all the information about his relationship with Santo (there is no "s" at the end of the name) Trafficante in his book, MOB LAWYER, co-authored with Selwyn Raab. He said he does not have any additional information about the Kennedy assassination or other matters beyond what he wrote in the book. Ragano told me he kept extensive notes during most of his law practice but that he kept few or no notes concerning Trafficante, Hoffa and others because it was not the practice of these men, especially not of Trafficante, to write anything down, nor did Trafficante want anything written by others about him. Trafficante, Marcello and their associates "lived in fear of searches and raids all the time from law enforcement. They didn't write anything down, they kept no records. Santo didn't even have a credit card or a checking account. He kept no records and made sure others kept no records about him." (Ragano's re-occurring theme throughout the interview centered on trying to impress me with how credible the information is in his book, how much stature Selwyn Raab lent to the project, and how well connected Ragano is in Hollywood film circles.) Ragano said he still has office/appointment diaries from his law practice in the 1950's and 1960's. He said it was his practice to keep a separate appointment book for his "high profile" clients, people like Trafficante and Jimmy Hoffa, while his office staff kept appointment books for the regular clients. Ragano said he would consider sharing his office diaries and any notes he has with the ARRB but that he wanted to consult with Selwyn Raab first. I asked Ragano why he wanted to consult with someone who had no apparent rights over Ragano's law practice files. He said that because of the "collaborative aspects" of his work with Raab he thought he should consult with him first. Ragano mentioned that he and Raab were trying to sell the movie rights to their book; this is a possible reason for him not wanting to release his records to the ARRB. Ragano was not able to provide the names of any of Trafficante or Carlos Marcello's associates beyond what appears in his book (with one exception. From what Ragano observed and heard over the years Joe (Baby Joe) Diaz of Tampa was

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