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Agency Information

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JAMES PLUMERI

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BA 92-83

INFORMANTS:

The following symbol numbers were used in this report where necessary to further protect the identity of the informants:

BA T-4
BA T-7
BA T-50
BA T-51
BA T-52
BA T-54
BA T-55
BA T-56
WF T-1

BA 1166-C
PCI [REDACTED]
BA 1207-C
PCI [REDACTED]
BA 1214-C
PCI [REDACTED]
Lt. DANIEL REDDING, BCPD
Former PCI [REDACTED]
WF 1069-C

JEK Act 6 (4)

LEADS:

BALTIMORE OFFICE

At Baltimore, Maryland

1. Will maintain contact with Internal Revenue Agent ALEXANDER HARRISON for any additional information developed by that Service concerning subject's financial affairs.

2. Will maintain contact with established and reliable informants to determine subject's current interests in numbers lottery and alleged gambling activities.

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COVER PAGE

B. CRIMINAL RECORD

No additional information has been developed concerning the subject's criminal record during the period of this report.

C. ASSOCIATES AND ACQUAINTANCES

Baltimore Confidential Informant T-51 advised SA MAURICE D. du BOIS on 2/5/62 that BENNY TROTTA, ED JAFFE and BENJAMIN (HITTY) WILDSTEIN were going to open a lunchroom in the 400 block East Baltimore St. Informant alleged that this place will be a headquarters for numbers lottery and bookmaking activities. It was further alleged that JAFFE had made the remark that he must get an okay from BENNY TROTTA on any numbers bet of \$10.00 or more of play on a particular number. It has been previously reported by this informant that JAKE JAFFE, former owner of the Trocadero, which is now owned by NICK and BENNY TROTTA has been very closely associated with the subject.

Baltimore Confidential Informant T-57 advised SA JOHN J. GROGAN on 2/26/62 that BENNY TROTTA was at the Dizzy Klub in Dundalk, Maryland with three other white males on 2/24 and 2/25/62. At that time he contacted JOE GIGLIOTTI, proprietor of that club, and on both occasions he spent about three hours talking with GIGLIOTTI. Informant said that FRANK MALVASO was also present with the group part of the time. The informant did not learn the nature of TROTTA's business with GIGLIOTTI, but one of the men present with TROTTA had what appeared to be a booklet or looseleaf folder and on the cover of the folder was the printed word "Bingo". During the time the group was at the club one of the men made a telephone call to the Disabled Veterans. Informant further stated that FRANK MALVASO is in a pizza pie shell business with JOE CORBI. Md

Baltimore Confidential Informant T-52 advised SA LOUIS S. LEAR on 3/6/62 that the previous evening he met a man at the Club Troc whom he later found out was MAL EPSTEIN. EPSTEIN noticed two other men sitting at the back bar of the Troc with JOE CORBI. EPSTEIN conversed with these two men for a short time and then rejoined the informant. NICK TROTTA was there at the time also and he made the remark that they were important people and that they had been to the Appalaichian meeting. Md

Photos were exhibited to the informant by SA LEAR and he identified one of the men as JAMES PLUMERI. The other person was described as a white, male, possible Italian descent, Md

age 50-55, height 5' 9", dark complexion, black and gray hair, weight 160-165 lbs., wearing dark blue surge suit, dark tie with a large diamond stick pin. He was expensively dressed, in a conservative style, and his shirt had extremely long collar tabs.

MD MAL EPSTEIN told the informant that he was from Pittsburgh, Pa.; that he was in Baltimore to see "GUINEA REDS" (THOMAS) ~~AVERSA~~, but AVERSA was on vacation in the Bahamas. EPSTEIN told informant he had taken \$8,000.00 from his home safe in Pittsburgh and had to leave town until things cooled off. While at the TROC, EPSTEIN invited NICK ~~TROTTA~~ to come to his place *MD* after the fight, which NICK is arranging for a middleweight in Pittsburgh. He gave his address as Steenie Pool Room, 4241 liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Baltimore Confidential Informant T-54 advised SA J. STANLEY ROTZ on 2/22/62 that he had attended an oyster roast of the Fourth Ward, Democratic Club, at the Alcazar, on 1/14/62. In attendance were BENNY TROTTA and LONDOS PERRERA. On the second floor, LONDOS ~~PERRERA~~ was operating a crap game. *MD* It was announced to those present that they stopped the crap game because the Mayor of Baltimore had arrived, but the facts were that the crap game was stopped because somebody discovered the dice were crooked. A fortune wheel was then started, but when it was found it could be controlled by the operator, it was also stopped. Informant did not indicate that BENNY TROTTA had anything to do with the crap game or the fortune wheel.

Baltimore Confidential Informant T-52 advised SA LOUIS S. LEAR on 2/25/62 that the previous evening he was at the Club Troc and observed BENNY TROTTA drinking with a group at the rear of the club. It is unusual for TROTTA to sit at a table with anyone at the club and he, the informant, believed they must be "important people". He asked NICK TROTTA to introduce him, but NICK told him that the men were down from New York to see JAMES RUSSO and CHARLES SCLAFANI, who are in the Maryland Penitentiary for the holdup of a jewelry store. NICK TROTTA told the informant that the "man with the BB eyes" would kill in a minute. This man was described as white, male, Italian, age 28, wearing glasses. Two other unknown individuals with him were only described as white, males, Italians, ages about 35 years.

2. Bookmaking Operation

On 1/27/62 AUSA J. HARDIN MARION, III, exhibited to SA J. STANLEY ROTZ, anonymous letters he had received, in handwriting which appeared to be from the same individual. One of these anonymous letters, postmarked 1/20/62 at Baltimore stated that the mob has brought back JIM RUSSO's (CORONO) body guard, WALLENSTEIN, to help TROTTA (MAGLIANO) with the collecting. The letter described WALLENSTEIN as the one charged with PERRERAS for the murder of CASTRANDA three years ago. He was arrested in Anne Arundel County in a bookmaking raid; \$10,000.00 was paid to keep the case from coming up. (It appears the anonymous writer had in mind one BENJAMIN (HITTY) WILDSTEIN.)

Another anonymous letter, apparently from this same source, was referred to this office on 2/7/62 by AUSA MARION, and it contained the following information:

"JULIUS SALSURY and ANGELO MUNAFO are partners in a horse book operation. MUNAFO is bank rolled by his father-in-law, BENNY TROTTA. This book does approximately \$80,000.00 worth of business a week. This figure is not exaggerated. JOSEPH RIZZO and JAKE JAFFE do the work behind the phones". The letter continued, "You will have to use an expert tail. JAFFE used to own half of the Trocadero Night Club until he was forced out of business by FRANKIE CARBO. RIZZO served time for gambling in the early 1950's."

On 3/8/62 Baltimore Confidential Informant T-56 advised SA FRANCIS C. O'NEIL and SA THOMAS LEACH, Jr. that since ANGELO MUNAFO married BENNY TROTTA's daughter some years ago, MUNAFO is actually the man who runs all of the numbers and bookmaking activity that TROTTA formerly operated. TROTTA, in this informants opinion is a contact man for the gambling element and actually is not actively engaged in the numbers-bookmaking business at this time. Allegedly MUNAFO has told the informant he is not afraid to speak out on any type of subject concerning TROTTA and he has actually heard MUNAFO "chew out" BENNY.

3. Crap Games

On 3/16/62 Baltimore Confidential Informant T-55 advised SA FRANCIS C. O'NEIL that within the past year BENNY TROTTA desired to conduct a floating crap game in Anne Arundel County. In this regard he went to see one TOM HAGNER who allegedly is the contact man for Chief of Police WILBUR WADE of AA Co. P.D. in