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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE 7/23/58

[Handwritten initials]

SAC, CHICAGO (87-8462)

DAVE YARAS
ITEP - TOP JEWEL THIEF

[Handwritten note]

Re Miami letter to Director, FBI, 3/10/55,
and Miami letter to Director, FBI, 4/10/58.

Referenced letter dated 3/10/55 sets forth information that on 2/4/58, subject was seen in a 1957 Cadillac, bearing 1958 Illinois license 701234, together with CARL FLORITO, FBI Number 3110979, ROMEO CIVETTA, FBI Number 1622582, and WILLIE DENTAMARO, FBI Number 394200A. It will be noted that above license number was determined to have been issued to A. URSO, 1234 S. Hamilton, Elmhurst, Illinois. Records of the Chicago Police Department, Chicago Credit Bureau and records of the Chicago Office fail to reflect any information identifiable with A. URSO. Further, it was noted that A. URSO is not listed in the current Chicago or Chicago suburban telephone directories and no record could be located concerning the address 1234 S. Hamilton.

[Handwritten note]

CG 6215 - C : 7/7/58, advised that during the early part of June, 1958, subject approached BEN EPSSTEIN, Chicago bookmaker, with an offer to set up EPSSTEIN as a head of an office to be used as a central point for sports booking in the Chicago area. As part of this deal EPSSTEIN would be required to invest a considerable sum of money which EPSSTEIN would be able to do. Informant stated that EPSSTEIN did not accept this proposition, but indicated to YARAS that he intended to get out of the gambling business entirely and, in fact, planned to go into a legitimate produce business operated by his brother-in-law.

[Handwritten letter 'D']

CG 6215 - C continued that he has heard that YARAS has purchased a considerable amount of "hot" jewelry within the past months. He stated

- 2 - Bureau
- 2 - Miami (87-8115)
- 1 - Chicago
- RLE/mab
- (5)

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that it was indicated to him that YARAS is not fencing this jewelry but is simply buying jewelry and keeping it as a possession.

Information set forth below is a comprehensive review of the records of the Chicago Office concerning captioned subject. It will be noted that much of the information set forth hereinafter is known to the Bureau and to the Miami Division; however, it is being set forth in order that the Bureau and the Miami Division may be advised of all information contained in the records of the Chicago Office concerning captioned subject.

Under date of 4/28/44, a Selective Service form utilized by the Chicago Police Department sets forth the following concerning captioned subject:

DAVID YARAS
5516 W. Gladys Avenue
Born 11-07-12, Chicago, Ill.
5'8"
165 lbs.
White race
Blue eyes
United States Citizen
Occupation -- Slot machine gambler
Married -- two children
Registered with Local Board #136, Chicago
Selective Service classification -- 4F

Investigation in the case entitled "Unknown Subjects; Valentine Federal Savings and Loan Association, Cicero, Illinois, 5-21-45" reflects that SA MARK M. MC SHURLEY contacted Sgt. EDWARD DOOLEY, Cartage Detail, Chicago Police Department, who suggested that DAVE YARAS, Chicago B of I Number C-59530, might be a possible suspect in this case.

New York letter to the Director, dated 5/1/47, reflects that NYC-165 was shown the photograph of DAVID YARAS, Chicago PD #D11360, taken on

Informant

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5/21/46. He immediately identified this photograph as being that of DAVE YARAS of Chicago, Illinois.

The informant advised that the father of the YARAS boys, whose first name NYC-165 could not recall, was so far as he knows a law-abiding citizen who was employed as an iceman. *Informant*

DAVE YARAS is reputedly a "bad boy" and is a member of the FISCHEETTI Boys mob. DAVE YARAS is particularly friendly with both JOSEPE DAVID ~~WELCHER~~ and MELBER ~~GORDON~~, but he is not in any way related to either of them. *llk*

Bureau letter to Chicago, dated 8/27/46, reflects that the following information was furnished by PAUL ROLAND JONES in the course of interviews with Sources C and D (not further identified) dating from 7/27/46, through 8/3/46.

At this time the Southwest Amusement Company in Dallas, Texas was owned by SAM YARAS and SAM's brother, DAVE YARAS. SAM YARAS lost \$150,000 in crap games. DAVE YARAS, upon learning of his brother's heavy losses, immediately called on him for an accounting. SAM YARAS then approached BUDDY SATCHER and offered SATCHER one half interest in the company, but later, due to difficulties with SAM YARAS, SATCHER sold his interest to MARCUS LIPSKY.

Dallas report, dated 8/5/46, by SA ALTON M. BRYANT, captioned "JAMES WEINBERG, was., Etal," reflects the following:

The following individuals have not been reported as active associates of the WEINBERG group, but informants of the Dallas Division indicated that they have associated with WEINBERG, PAUL ~~FABRICOLA~~, and MARTIN ~~OCES~~ in Dallas, but the

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YARAS is mentioned in regard to the RAGEN killing.

Police confidential informants advised that inquiries made by them as to the location of DAVE YARAS failed to reveal any definite information as to where he might be located.

On 3/12/47, WILLIAM E. BLOCK, 36, an ex-convict, was arrested by police officers at 3613 Roosevelt Road, Chicago. This is the location of a book which was being operated by DAVE YARAS, another ex-convict.

VIRGIL PETERSON of the Chicago Crime Commission advised that the handbooks in the 24th Ward, stronghold of JAKE ARVEY and ART X. ELROD, are reopening. The 24th Ward is the stronghold of DAVE YARAS, WILLIAM E. BLOCK and LEONARD PATRICK, all of whom were named as suspects in the RAGEN shooting.

Chicago letter to New York, dated 4/22/47, reflects the following:

CG 5658 advised the Chicago Office that MEYER GORDON received a long distance telephone call from Kansas City, at which time an individual, identified only as MYRTLE, requested financial assistance from MEYER GORDON to facilitate the departure of one TOOKIE from the United States into Canada. MEYER GORDON explained that he could not render any financial assistance to MYRTLE due to his own financial problems. MYRTLE then requested information as to the possibility of one DAVID (possibly referring to DAVID YARAS) helping. MEYER asked MYRTLE if she had been reading the papers and, when advised that she had not, he informed her that DAVID was away on account of some scandal here. It is believed that GORDON was referring to the newspapers publicity surrounding the disappearance of DAVID YARAS at the time the Chicago Police Department was investigating new developments surrounding the killing of JAMES M. RAGEN, reportedly by the Capone Syndicate in Chicago.

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CG-5653 confirmed in part the information furnished by CG-5658 which information is reflected in the contact made with JOSEPH WELCHER by an unknown individual identified only as "PAT" on 3/19/47. On this occasion PAT made the statement to WELCHER, "Did you see the papers - that little guy they are looking for is your cousin over west." Subsequent information reflects that WELCHER became extremely excited over this particular contact and appeared to be concerned about his own welfare in the matter. It is therefore possible that DAVID YARAS may be a cousin of JOSEPH WELCHER.

New York report dated 5/27/47 by SA J. GORDON SEANLIN reflects the following information:

In accordance with the request from the Chicago Office, a photograph of DAVID YARAS, Chicago PD Number B44360, was exhibited to NYC-165 and he immediately identified this photograph as being that of DAVE YARAS of Chicago, Illinois. He has known YARAS since he was a youngster, as they were neighbors of his in the vicinity of Leavitt and Division Streets, Chicago, Illinois. DAVID YARAS has a brother named SAMUEL, who is probably in Dallas, Texas. He thinks that both DAVID and SAMUEL YARAS are interested in slot machines, and DAVID is supposedly a member of the PISOPETTI Mob in Chicago. He is also friendly with JOSEPH DAVID WELCHER and MEYER GORDON.

The "Chicago American" dated 10/14/47, contained an article captioned "Held as Ragen Witness Killer."

The article reflected that THOMAS (Little Bud) SINCLAIR, 3808 S. State Street, was to be booked on a murder charge, police said, for the killing of JOHN WHITE, 22, on 6/14/47. WHITE was one of the three men who identified WILLIAM BLOCK, LEONARD PATRICK and DAVID YARAS as slayers of JAMES M. RAGAN.

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Chicago report dated 7/29/47, by SA E.J. CONNELLY, Assistant Director, contains the following information:

Confidential informants of the Chicago Office have reported that DAVE YARAS has been spending some time at Liberal Jewelers where JOSEPH WELCHER is employed. It has not been determined whether YARAS is interested in WELCHER or whether he meets JOE FISCHETTI in the Jewelers, which would account for his appearance there on several occasions.

Informant
CG-5054 According to Confidential Informant DAVE YARAS spent some time going to the Liberal Jewelers on 6/30/47. While there, YARAS contacted an individual known only as PETE at the Devonshire Hotel. In this contact YARAS requested to know why PETE had not paid MEYER GORDON the \$2,500 that he owed. PETE stated he had various reasons for not paying this account, but refused to discuss it at that time.

It should be noted DAVE YARAS has been present in the Liberal Jewelers on several occasions when JOE FISCHETTI was there. It has not been determined whether this was merely a coincident or whether YARAS is actually part of the FISCHETTI mob.

ALAN ABE SPITZ advised that he is personally acquainted with individuals whom are known to the Chicago Office to be police characters and/or hold high places in the Chicago criminal syndicate. Among these is DAVE YARAS.

SPITZ was interviewed on 7/23/47 by SAs JOHN P. GLENVILLE and JOHN R. PAUL and he advised that he first became employed for MEYER GORDON in the Liberal Loan Bank at 21 E. Adams Street on 9/20/43 and was employed at the time the Treasury Department closed doors of that store for income tax violations on 8/5/46.

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Civilian Register #155844 and lister herself as the wife of DAVE YARRAS, both residing at 4235 Alton Road, Miami Beach, Florida, with the northern address of 1516 W. Gladys Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, and has the license for the bar known as the Tahiti, 23rd and Liberty Avenue, Miami Beach, Florida.

The Tahiti bar is well known to the Miami Office as being a hangout for hoodlums.

A newspaper article in the "Chicago Daily Sun-Times" of 3/22/50 reflected that the body of EMMETT KEARNS, a West Side Chicago gambling figure, was found, sprawled across a barbed wire fence on 3/21/50 at Hartsdale Station, Indiana. KEARNS had a criminal record dating back twenty-nine years, and was closely associated with LEONARD PATRICK and DAVE YARRAS in gambling activities on the West Side.

An account of this slaying in the "Chicago Daily Tribune" of 3/22/50 stated that police sources claimed that he was "The Silent Partner" of DAVE YARRAS and LEONARD PATRICK, who are in charge of syndicate gambling operations in the three West Side wards. KEARNS is believed to have been the "Behind the Scenes" operator and known to very few people.

Chicago Letter to the Director dated 3/7/57 captioned "Unknown Subjects; Theft of \$60,000.00 Worth of Jewelry, 3/24/51, Miami, Florida, SANDER GOLDSTEIN -- Victim" contains the following information:

Informant

On 2/26/57, CG 6132-C, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised SA WILLIAM J. MC CORMICK and SA LOY A WAGONER that above captioned robbery had been perpetrated by WILLIAM DENTEMARC, PETER JULIAN ARNSTEIN, and DAVE YARRAS.

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Miami letter to the Director dated 10/15/53, sets forth the following information:

Quoted was a memorandum furnished to the SAC, Miami, by former Bureau agent JOSEPH VILSON, now associated with the National Board of Fire Underwriters at Miami, Florida.

"Through a confidential source of information it is learned that MAX CANNWELL, presently of Miami Beach, is making plans to kidnap SAM PHILLIPPS, wealthy owner of the Food Fair Stores and Miami Beach hotels.

"CANNWELL's plans as to who he will use in the kidnapping are still in the formative stages. DAVE YAKAS' name has been mentioned and he has felt out the informant in this regard and it is also believed that he has possibly two men from Chicago who may already be here."

Chicago memo dated 12/2/53, by SA JOHN B. HARRINGTON reflects that an investigative report prepared by CI NY-200-C covering summary of his investigation of the Chicago area from 11/6/53 through 12/20/53. The information was gathered by the informant with the assistance of SA HARRINGTON.

JAMES WILLIAM MC CARTHY, doing business at 5 South Wabash, telephone number PR 2-3972, is a close friend of DAVE YAKAS, who is the operator of a night club in Miami, Florida, and who is a contact for jewel thieves in Florida for MC CARTHY. MC CARTHY is one of the bigger jewel fences in the Chicago area.

Chicago letter to the Director dated 12/21/53 reflects that during investigation in the case of "LOUIS CAMPAGNA", Mr. VIRGIL PETERSON, Director of the Chicago Crime Commission, 79 West Monroe Street, Chicago, was interviewed and the following information was reported:

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Informant

On 5/10/56, PCI JOHN EARL WILSON advised SA JOHN P. GLENNVILLE that HARRY BROWN, owner of the Club Specialty Company located in the 1400 block of North Halsted, manufactured square jar gunball machines with plastic balls contained therein. He stated that these plastic balls contain slot machine insignia which are inserted in the plastic balls.

WILSON stated that BROWN formerly operated the American Amusement Company, a dealer of slot machines. His partner in the enterprise was DAVE YARAS, who, according to WILSON was very closely associated with the Capone mob and was considered a prime suspect in the slot gun slaying of CHARLES LAGAN in 1947.

On 2/7/56 CG 5809-C furnished the following information regarding LENNIE PATRICK, who he described as a well known powerful Chicago syndicate hoodlum.

Informant

The informant advised that DAVID YARAS, former partner of PATRICK, is currently operating a tavern and bookie joints in Florida.

CG 5902-C on 3/6/57, advised SA RAYMOND J. DRISCOLL that on 2/15/57 a Chicago hoodlum named JACK "SHIPPY" CERONE came into the informant's place of business and mentioned to him that he knew that the informant had a quantity of TV sets taken in a December burglary of an appliance store. CERONE said the merchandise was taken from a store belonging to a friend of his and he desired to be recompensed in the amount of \$5,900. Informant stated that after some litigation CERONE demanded a rock bottom payment of \$2200 and CERONE indicated that his partner was WILLIAM "SMOKES" ALOSIO. Informant continued that on 3/4/57, WILLIAM "SMOKES" ALOSIO met with the informant and at that time ALOSIO told informant that he had to pay \$2200 and mentioned that "You can't have someone with you 24 hours a day to protect you." Informant advised that he intended to contact DAVE YARAS or LENNIE PATRICK in order to obtain help in getting out of this trouble.

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DAVID "DAVE" YARAS

FEI #655097

Miami Beach PE #A-18493

Wife

Residence

Telephone

Present car

Son

Wife

Residence

Telephone

MARLYNE YARAS

4110 Adams Avenue

Miami Beach, Florida

Not listed

Drives various Florida
LE cars (rental); these

are registered to

Susco Auto Rental

RONALD J. YARAS

Unknown

9681 W. Bay Harbor Drive,

Bay Harbor Island,

Miami Beach

Union 5-2474 -- listed

to RONALD J. YARAS

Son is part owner of Susco Auto Rental:

Branches 211 E.L. 1st Street, Miami

310 - 23rd Street, Miami Beach

10100 Collins Avenue, Sunny Isles

Officers MARCE M. GIBBLESON, President

RONALD J. YARAS, Secretary-treasurer

MARLYNE YARAS, Vice President

Note: It is understood that DAVE YARAS purchased this business for his son. Many "connected" people, particularly from Chicago, use rental cars from this agency.

CG 6215-C advised SA ROBERT L. BAKER on 6/21/57, that LARRY PATRICK owns a building on Roosevelt Road, Chicago, which was formerly used as a bath house and as a center for gambling operations. PCI said that this building was remodeled by PATRICK about two years ago and is now a colored rooming house. Upon the demise of this gambling establishment, PATRICK and DAVE YARAS purchased the bath house on North Avenue in the vicinity of Damen and placed WILLIE BLOCH in charge of this place, which is operated as a bath house open to the public, but which has plush quarters for gambling on the upper floors.

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Informants

CG 6215-C On 10/4/57 advised SA ROBERT L. BAKER that BEN GOLDBERG, who also uses the name BEN GLICKMAN, is a gambler who operates a book for sporting events, not including horse racing, on the near north side of Chicago.

PCI also explained that as a gambler, GOLDBERG must turn over 25% of his earnings to DAVE YARAS and LEONARD PATRICK. This money to be paid daily at the E and E Restaurant, 156 N. LaSalle. He said that GOLDBERG would also be required to make an additional payment out of his daily earnings to other people at the Sovereign Hotel.

On 1/8/58, CG 6036-C was contacted by SA JOHN E. HARRINGTON and advised the following information:

LEONARD PATRICK owns a Russian bath house at North Avenue and Damen, which he owns with DAVE YARAS. The informant advised that YARAS and PATRICK are very closely associated, even though YARAS is now a resident of Miami Beach. YARAS and PATRICK used to steal jewelry together years ago.

Chicago report dated 1/13/58 by SA FRANCIS W. MATHEYS captioned "MARSHALL CAIPANO" sets forth the following information:

Listed as an associate of MARSHALL CAIPANO was DAVE YARAS.

The synopsis of this report reflects that CAIPANO is part owner of the Tradewinds Restaurant. He associates with top figures in alleged Syndicate and is alleged leader of the so-called "young bloods."

On 3/12/58 PCI BEN LIPKIN advised SA FANNIN A. SMITH that DAVE YARAS and LEONARD PATRICK, hoodlums who have great power in the underworld on the west side of Chicago, have used the facilities of the Advance Audit Company, 5 N. Wabash, Chicago, Illinois, telephone Franklin 2-1341.

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