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DATE: 11-14-2017

Former NYC-25 is Albert M. Chaperau, a discontinued criminal informant. (S)

DATE: 11-14-2017

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : Legal Attache, Havana, Cuba (64-153)

SUBJECT: AMERICAN GAMBLING INTERESTS IN CUBA
FOREIGN MISCELLANEOUS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: July 25, 1952
Havana, Cuba

- Mr. Belmont
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Laughlin
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Winterrowd
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Holloman

According to all available information, the gambling concession at the Sans Souci Night Club in Havana is backed by money of the SAN MANNERINO gang of New Kensington, Pa. Front man for the concession at the Sans Souci is NORMAN ROTHMAN.

One of the chief sources of income for the concession at the Sans Souci is a game called "Razzle Dazzle" used at carnivals and similar entertainments. It is based on a doubling up principle and so far as we have been able to learn locally, the sucker never has a chance on this game. The Embassy has received numerous complaints here from American tourists who have been taken in amounts from a few hundred dollars to several thousands.

From the standpoint of the concession, the chief drawback of the game is the fact that the loser usually does not have sufficient cash money to pay his losses and gives the club a check. Usually, the following day when the sucker has had time to sober up and realize he has been taken, he calls or wires his U. S. bank and stops payment on the check. The concession has little recourse against this action since the check represents a gambling loss.

On 7-23-52, former NYC-25, who presently resides in Havana and whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that he had learned that the following scheme has been thought up to try to get around the gambling loss angle:

A corporation separate and apart from the one which operates the Sans Souci is being set up and will operate as a check cashing and collection agency. This new corporation will have an office at the Sans Souci and when a sucker needs money to pay off losses, the corporation will cash his check. It will be emphasized to the sucker that the check cashing office has nothing to do with the Sans Souci operation and that the operation is strictly one of exchanging a check for cash money. By doing this it is hoped to get away from the fact that the check covers a gambling loss and thus to have a legal recourse in the courts in the event payment on the check is stopped. The corporation will also have an office or offices in the U. S. to try to collect checks on which payment has been stopped without necessity of taking legal action.

Source said that he had been told that one of the principal figures in the new corporation will be one DICK REYNOLDS. He described this individual as a special investigator for the Miami Daily News and a "shake down artist."

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Classified by SP8 JAF/BJL
Declassify on: OADR/2285

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RECORDED-86
CDA: JES
Date of Review: 3/15/82

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: 11-14-2017
STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI
FROM : Legal Attache, Havana, Cuba (64-153)
SUBJECT: AMERICAN GAMBLING ACTIVITIES IN CUBA
GIF
FOREIGN MISCELLANEOUS

DATE: September 16, 1952
Havana, Cuba

CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Miss Gandy

62-75147-210-2

Re Havana letter to the Bureau July 25 last which furnished background information on some of the American gambling activities in Cuba.

On 9-12-52 C. I. HAV-11 advised that he had learned that the Sans Souci Night Club in Havana is having considerable financial difficulties and that it appeared that a new management might be taking it over. As will be recalled, NORMAN ROTHMAN has been fronting at the Sans Souci for the MANNARINO interests of New Kensington, PA. Source said that he was told that ROTHMAN and EDDIE ALTMAN, ROTHMAN's assistant at the Sans Souci, had gone to Miami on 9-11-52, taking with them all the books of the Sans Souci. Source expressed the opinion that they might be doing this in order to run out on any debts that ROTHMAN might have incurred in connection with the operation of the club.

Source said that CHARLES F. "CHUCK" REMER, who had fronted at the Sans Souci a couple of years ago, had been in town looking over the situation and looking possibly toward the resumption of the management of the club.

On 9-15-52 source advised that ROTHMAN had come back to Havana and that he had brought the word that the man who will be backing the club for the coming year is one ANDREA. Source said that he had been unable to get any additional information other than that he is supposed to be out of Chicago and to own a home in Miami Beach.

The above is submitted for the Bureau's information. An extra copy of this letter is attached for forwarding to the Miami office with the request that that office furnish any information coming to its attention concerning the identity of ANDREA or his participation in the operation of the Sans Souci in Havana.

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OTHERWISE

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1-31-95 (JFK)

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Date of Review 2/15/82

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