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DATE: 11-14-2017

JFK Assassination System  
Identification Form

Date: 5/6/2015

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RECORD NUMBER : 124-90008-10039

RECORD SERIES : HQ

AGENCY FILE NUMBER : CR SEE TITLE

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## Document Information

ORIGINATOR : FBI  
FROM : LA  
TO : HQ

TITLE : [Restricted]

DATE : 03/15/1962  
PAGES : 7

## SUBJECTS :

RICHARD KAVNER  
[Restricted]DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT  
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Via

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AIR MAIL

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TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (137-2616)

① CONF. INFO.

RE: LA 4379-PC

TOP ECHELON CRIMINAL  
INFORMANT PROGRAMCOPIES MADE, DATE 7-24-72 BY  
RE KENNEDY  
FOR REVIEW AT FBIHQ AND/OR DELIVERY  
TO HSCA RE REQUEST DATED 2-2-78.  
(SEE BUFILE 62-117290)

Re Bureau airtel dated 1/19/62.

This case is currently assigned to SA JOHN  
ROBERT BARRON and informant will hereafter be contacted  
exclusively by SA BARRON and SA TIMOTHY L. DONOVAN.

The following background is submitted  
regarding this source:

Date of Birth	11/2/29
Place of Birth	Caguas, Puerto Rico
Height	5'5"
Weight	150 pounds
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Brown
Race	White
Complexion	Dark
Marital Status	Married, wife CATHERINE
Children	Two, Boy - Age 6 Girl - Age 3
Social Security No.	066-26-7131

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8-10-96 BY 5668 SLD/MSL

(JFK)

DIVISION  
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE  
SECTION

WVB S (3) - Bureau (REGISTERED)  
6 - Los Angeles

137-2616  
FBI (1 - 92-934)  
(1 - 92-386)  
(1 - 62-5125)  
(1 - 137-2528)

JRB/rhf

(9)

Approved

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

M

Per

62 MAR 28 1962

LA 137-2616

California Operators  
License  
Military Service

B1285552  
Enlisted U. S. Army  
2/21/52, ASN-RA 19397016  
Received Medical Discharge  
7/15/53

A review of Los Angeles indices reflects that informant was the subject of case entitled "JUSTO RAMON LEON SANTOS, aka Jimmy De Leon, registered as Justo Raymond Leon, SSN 40-4-29-487, SSA, 1948", Bufile 25-322346, Los Angeles file 25-52101. Investigation in this case was initiated to determine if JUSTO RAMON LEON was identical with registrant JUSTO RAMON LEON SANTOS. Investigation determined that he was and it was subsequently determined that LEON was in the Army and prosecution declined for this reason. In connection therewith, LEON was contacted and at this time it was determined that he was given a Medical Discharge for hallucinations and mental problems.

Concerning the above, it is noted that in all three contacts and interviews by Agents with LEON, he has in no way manifested any mental or emotional problems. His position as owner of two of the most elaborate restaurants in the Los Angeles area would tend to bear credence to this fact. Los Angeles will continually remain alert for any signs of emotional instability. To date investigation has in no way reflected that this informant has furnished any false information.

Informant resides with his wife and children at 2548 Laurel Pass, Hollywood, California, telephone OL 6-7068. He owns and operates the La Scala Restaurant and the Au Petit Jean Restaurant in Beverly Hills, California.

On 2/8/62 the records of the Los Angeles Police Department and Los Angeles Sheriff's Office were reviewed negatively by IC STEVEN T. SCHOENBAUM.

On 1/25/62 a negative review was made of the records of the Retail Merchants Credit Association, Los Angeles, by IC TED W. CRAWFORD.

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PC on interview, advised that following his discharge from the Army in 1953 he drove a Yellow Cab in San Francisco. In approximately 1955-1957 he worked as a waiter for FRANK SINATRA at the Villa Capri Restaurant, Los Angeles. In 1957 he began the operation of the La Scala Restaurant, Beverly Hills and at the end of 1959 began the operation of the Au Petit Jean.

On 2/21/62 informant was interviewed and furnished the following information to SAs FREDERICK E. RODERICK and JOHN ROBERT BARRON:

~~NATE STEIN~~ N.Y.

Informant advised that STEIN has a promoters license which permits him to engage in fund raising campaigns for various charitable organizations and fund drives.

STEIN, in the past, has <sup>all</sup> told informant that he has been very active in the promotion of fund raising activities held annually in New York under the auspices of ~~"Poor Children of Italy"~~. STEIN has bragged to informant that ~~this activity~~ is most lucrative financially to himself and others. STEIN stated that also involved with him in this promotion are ~~WALTER WINCHELL~~ and New York political boss ~~CARMINE DE SAPIO~~.

Informant recalled that in late 1958 or early 1959 informant, along with his wife, accompanied STEIN to the Sands Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada. He stated while at the hotel he and his wife, as well as STEIN, had everything on the house. STEIN was given much freedom in the hotel and walked inside the pits without being challenged.

Informant recalled that on one occasion DESI ARNAZ joined STEIN and himself in gambling at the crap table at the Sands Casino. At this time ARNAZ lost the sum of \$26,000. STEIN said, "Don't feel bad DESI, I'll get you even". He then went to the casino cashier's cage at the Sands and obtained, without a note or marker, the sum of \$5,000. They thereafter went to the Tropicana Casino and within fifteen minutes STEIN had won the sum of \$15,000 which he gave to ARNAZ and stated that this was the last time he would do ARNAZ such a favor.

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*Calif*  
Informant recalled that during his association with STEIN, STEIN introduced him to high ranking Teamster officials - HAROLD GIBBONS, RICHARD KAVNER and (FNU) SANSOUCI (Phonetic) who, according to informant, hold STEIN in high regard. He stated that these men all hold credit accounts at the La Scala Restaurant and still frequent this restaurant while in the Los Angeles area as does Teamster President JAMES RIDDLE HOFFA. *Calif*

SANDS HOTEL, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

During informant's association with NATE STEIN, he was informed by STEIN that JOSEPH STACHER was the real owner of the Sands Hotel, Las Vegas. He also advised that STACHER had interests in other un-named Las Vegas hotels. He was advised that the financial wizard for STACHER in Los Angeles was MARVIN COLE. He stated that Mrs. COLE and Mrs. STACHER often come into the La Scala Restaurant.

He stated that the owners of record of the Sands Hotel who often visit the restaurant and are known personally to him are CHARLES KANDEL, CARL COHEN, JACK ENTRATTER, CHARLES TURNER, AARON WEISBERG, FRANK SINATRA and Colonel JAKE FREEDMAN, now deceased. He advised that these men, and in particular CARL COHEN, are frequently attempting to have him front a restaurant for them in either Los Angeles, Las Vegas or Mexico. He stated he has always refused to do so.

STEIN told the informant that in the routine operation of the casino at the Sands Hotel each individual pit boss, besides receiving his regular salary, takes the sum of \$55 per day under the table. He stated that only three men are permitted in the counting room who were CARL COHEN, CHARLES KANDEL and a third individual who informant did not recall but stated that it was not JACK ENTRATTER or CHARLES TURNER. STEIN told the informant that tremendous amounts of money are taken out of gambling casinos in Las Vegas which funds are not reported. He did not explain to the informant how this was done. Informant stated that two weeks prior, CHARLES KANDEL was in Los Angeles and told the informant that he was going to Miami, Florida for two weeks and while there was going to stay at the Fountainebleau Hotel.



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*Calif NY*  
*new las*  
~~BELDON KATLEMAN~~

*no*  
*loc*  
KATLEMAN is known to the source personally and frequently eats at the La Scala Restaurant. Informant advised that KATLEMAN is the former owner of the El Rancho Vegas which burned down. KATLEMAN is currently building another hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada. KATLEMAN associates with prominent attorney SIDNEY KORSHAK and is seen regularly with him. KATLEMAN left Los Angeles on 2/9/62 and sailed from New York on 2/13/62 aboard the Ile de France for France (This information has been substantiated through other sources).

Informant advised that ten months prior he was approached by KATLEMAN and Beverly Hills attorney GREYSON BAUTZER and the following business deal proposed:

These two men wanted the informant to assume the ownership and to front for KATLEMAN in the operation of Romanoff's Restaurant, Los Angeles. They advised they intended to buy the restaurant and to use informant's name as being the sole owner. They stated that they would remodel the restaurant for him and the suggested price for remodeling was \$125,000. He was told by them that he would be paid handsomely for this operation and to think it over. He stated that they returned two weeks later and he refused their offer on the grounds that he was running a French restaurant himself and that he would be competing with his own restaurant. He stated that based on his refusal these men did not go into further details concerning this operation.

On 2/28/62 informant was interviewed by SAs JOHN ROBERT BARRON and TIMOTHY L. DONOVAN.

*Calif-Monaco*  
~~FRANK SINATRA~~ *Calif*

In 1959 informant advised he was contacted by FRANK SINATRA's manager, HANK SINICOLA and offered by SINICOLA to go into partnership with FRANK SINATRA in the operation of a restaurant to be build and operated as an exclusive restaurant in Beverly Hills, California. According to SINICOLA this restaurant would be the most plush restaurant in the country.

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Informant stated he stimulated no interest in this to SINICOLA but upon SINICOLA's insistence he went to his office shortly thereafter and talked long distance with FRANK SINATRA who at that time was in Monte Carlo attending a celebration given by Prince and Princess RANIER. During the conversation with SINATRA he told SINATRA he would be interested in the operation of such a restaurant if the following conditions would be met:

(1) That SINATRA close down his operation of the Villa Capri Restaurant, Los Angeles.

(2) That SINATRA's name in no way be identified with the operation of this restaurant.

He stated that when these conditions were presented to SINATRA he became extremely angry and demanded to know why his name should not be used. Informant told SINATRA that during the time he was working for SINATRA at the Villa Capri Restaurant it was obvious to him that the type of clientele drawn to that restaurant was not desirable or good for business and made specific mention of the women that frequented the Villa Capri. Informant told SINATRA that he felt if his name would be used in the new restaurant, that this same type person would start coming to the restaurant and that the name and reputation of a first class restaurant could not be maintained. He stated that SINATRA did not agree to these terms and the deal was closed. Shortly thereafter FRANK SINATRA opened Puccinni's Restaurant and his manager, HANK SINICOLA, set out in a planned effort to steal informant's help from the La Scala Restaurant. He stated they offered them higher salaries in order to influence them. Informant stated that one week prior to the opening of the new restaurant, he fired all his help and told them they could go if they wanted to or stay with him and he would rehire them.. He stated all his help stayed with the exception of his maitre'd, MAT JORDAN, who went to the new restaurant and operated the restaurant for a short while for SINATRA. He stated that JORDAN did such a bad job on his own that two to three months later he left and is now back at the La Scala Restaurant.



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Informant stated that he mentioned to NATE STEIN that he was not going into the above-described deal with SINATRA and when STEIN heard this he told him he was crazy and was passing up the opportunity of a life time. Informant recalled that when this deal was presented to him by SINICOLA and SINATRA that he was told money was no object and that he could have any location in Beverly Hills that he desired for the construction of the new restaurant.

Regarding SINATRA, informant stated that he was a very arrogant and domineering man and that he usually had his way with anyone he dealt with. He stated however, that on one occasion he observed FRANK SINATRA after an appearance in Las Vegas, come in to Los Angeles late at night and go directly from the airport to the La Scala Restaurant. He said on this one occasion NATE STEIN was in the restaurant at the time of SINATRA's arrival and STEIN upon seeing SINATRA informed SINATRA to come outside that he wanted to talk to him and pulled him by the arm. Informant could overhear STEIN dressing SINATRA down. Informant wanted to mention this only to signify the overall importance that STEIN has with these people in Las Vegas because SINATRA would not take this from many people.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

Informant advised that numerous individuals that he considers are connected with the criminal world frequent the La Scala Restaurant. He says he knows no specific information regarding these people but considers them to be involved in hoodlum operations. They are: JOHN ROSELLI, JOHN DREW, MOE DALITZ, RAY RYAN, JOSEPH FISCHETTI, SIDNEY KORSHAK, LOU LEDERER, and MEYER LANSKY.

Informant stated that he would immediately advise the Los Angeles Office when any of the above-mentioned individuals came into his restaurant so that Los Angeles would be aware of there being in this area. He stated he would remain alert for any information concerning deals that the above individuals were involved in. Efforts to develop this informant will continue and the Bureau will be advised of informant's development.