

This document is made available through the declassification efforts  
and research of John Greenewald, Jr., creator of:

# The Black Vault

---



The Black Vault is the largest online Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)  
document clearinghouse in the world. The research efforts here are  
responsible for the declassification of hundreds of thousands of pages  
released by the U.S. Government & Military.

**Discover the Truth** at: **<http://www.theblackvault.com>**

---

Agency Information

AGENCY : FBI  
RECORD NUMBER : 124-90032-10025  
RECORD SERIES : HQ  
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : CR 62-75147-39-18

---

Document Information

ORIGINATOR : FBI  
FROM : PG  
TO : HQ  
TITLE :  
DATE : 00/00/0000  
PAGES : 8  
SUBJECTS :  
GENERAL CRIME SURVEY PITTSBURGH FIELD DIVISION  
MILTON JAFFE  
DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT  
CLASSIFICATION : Unclassified  
RESTRICTIONS : 4  
CURRENT STATUS : Redact  
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 05/12/1998  
OPENING CRITERIA : INDEFINITE  
COMMENTS : CRIME SURVEY

45820

GENERAL CRIME SURVEY  
SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT  
PERIOD ENDING APRIL 12, 1947

ARCADIA, whose conviction and sentence are reported above, and their sentence grew out of another raid in which ARCADIA was apprehended, which raid occurred on April 9, 1946, at 5714 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh. However, ARCADIA was acquitted on this charge after he and FERRINI both testified that ARCADIA had taken a lease on the premises only to accommodate FERRINI.

On November 4 and December 10, 1946, Confidential Informant [redacted] advised Special Agent THOMAS A. McQUAIDE that MILTON JAFFE and "OLD NATE" FARBER, both of whom are mentioned on Page 50 of the report submitted October 15, 1946, are presently engaged as commission brokers with offices in downtown Pittsburgh. They are in constant communication with FROY NATHAN, a big-time gambler who has his headquarters in the William Penn Hotel. The value of this alignment is that upon information furnished by JAFFE and FARBER as to betting trends, NATHAN is able to make many coups. The informant further advised that SAM MANNARINO, WILLIE SAM, and ART ROONEY, who are mentioned on Pages 20, 21, 22, 43, 49, and 50 of the report submitted October 15, 1946, have all achieved the financial status of millionaires as a result of their racket activities. MANNARINO and SAM are located in New Kensington, Pennsylvania, and ART ROONEY is located on the North Side, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The informant further advised that NATE LEFF, who is included in a group picture which, according to Confidential Informant [redacted] is a picture depicting a party celebrating the demise of the slain GUS GANNI, is presently engaged in a legitimate enterprise, namely a gold plating business. Among his customers are TONY REPEPI, the racket leader from Gallatin, Pennsylvania, and FRANK VALENTI, Pittsburgh racketeer.

OTHER 4

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that BEN CINSKY, who is mentioned under the subheading "A" above, is a brother-in-law of Detectives AL and TOM QUAIL, Pittsburgh Police Department. Informant advised that CINSKY desired to open a horse race booking room in Pittsburgh but had been unable to get the necessary backing, as a result of which he took a job as board man at a horse betting room in the 100 block of Smithfield Street, which will be mentioned under the Subheading "Gambling." CINSKY is described as follows:

Sex:	Male
Color:	White
Age:	About 38
Height:	5' 11"
Weight:	215
Hair:	Full head of brown, straight hair
Face:	Full, wide, clean-shaven
Nationality:	Polish
Build:	Stout ; has noticeable bay window
Glasses:	None
Characteristics:	Invariably wears brown sport shirt and seldom wears hat



Pennsylvania. Agent LEPORE then made discreet inquiries and determined that TOMMY HARRISON of McKees Rocks had a large number of slot machines in various restaurants, bar rooms, etc. in the McKees Rocks district. HARRISON is the same individual who is presently out on bail, being charged with receiving stolen property by Sheriff WALTER C. MONAGHAN, which consisted of cigarettes stolen from the N. Rice-Cigar Company, which cigarettes were used in the cigarette vending machines owned by HARRISON.

On October 29 and November 1, 1946, Sheriff MONAGHAN advised that a new, swank gambling joint was opened at 5108 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh. The owners of this club are BILLY CONN, former heavyweight boxing championship contender, his father-in-law, GREENFIELD JIMMY SMITH, MILTON JAFFE, a well-known gambler and the brother of the owner of the only burlesque show in Pittsburgh, and ART ROONEY, the owner of the Pittsburgh Steelers professional football team. All of the employees in the club were allegedly taken from the Bachelor's Club, which was formerly an exclusive gambling joint in Pittsburgh, leaving AL TURNER, a former partner in the Bachelor's Club, with only some bank and chuck-a-luck games. This grew out of a feud between TURNER and SMITH, who are not on speaking terms at the present time. It has been learned recently from Detective JOE BECKER, who has served as CONN's bodyguard, that CONN will shortly resume boxing for financial reasons since CONN has gone broke in the horse racing game.

On November 13, 1946, Confidential Informant [ ] advised that HENRY CROWLEY, horse racing news disseminator with headquarters in Steubenville, Ohio, and RED MYERS, whose first name was unknown to the informant, are operating a wire service in Pittsburgh as a sideline to CROWLEY's other activities. According to the informant, the place in Pittsburgh caters to big bets only, taking \$1,000 as a minimum bet.

OTHER 4

In an article appearing in the "Pittsburgh Press" written by feature writer CHESTER POTTER in January, 1947, POTTER stated that there are at least 5,000 slot machines and other types of mechanized equipment for gambling in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. He stated that a machine will pay for its own cost within two or three weeks, after which each machine will average a \$150 net income. This figure does not include pinball machines, and if the estimate is near accurate, the Federal Government is being defrauded out of approximately half a million dollars since such machines require a \$100 license. According to POTTER's article, the machines are manufactured by a Chicago firm, and by an unwritten agreement the first \$100 revenue therefrom is supposed to go to the United States Government for the license. He stated that the distributing firm

19

for Western Pennsylvania "is owned or controlled by two Allegheny County men, both widely known in political, police and sport circles." This undoubtedly refers to ART ROONEY, owner of the Pittsburgh Steelers national professional football team, and BARNEY MCGINLEY, his associate in sport enterprises, who is also well known politically in Allegheny County. The article suggested that the best weapon against the machines, which predominantly appear in clubs having liquor licenses, is by activities of agents of the State Liquor Control Board, who do not need warrants to make inspections or corrections in such club premises. Under the regulations governing the issuance of liquor licenses to clubs, liquor control agents are duty-bound to cite any club for disciplinary action if gambling is found on the premises, which citation could result in the suspension or revocation of the liquor license issued to such club. The article went on to state that under existing Federal laws the Collector of Internal Revenue cannot advise as to the number of \$100 licenses issued since receipts from all coin-operated machines are lumped together, and these regulations forbid the Collector from permitting perusal of the applications for a license to count the number relating to slot machines. The article stated that even police, fortified by court order, are not permitted to see such applications.

In the "Pittsburgh Sun-Telegraph" issue of November 24, 1946, in an article apparently written by DAVE JONES but bearing no by-line, it is stated that the big time gambling joints and all other types of rackets have been booming in Pittsburgh since January, 1946, with at least a dozen new gambling joints opening up in the first ten months of 1946. The article also pointed out that during the same period Pittsburgh witnessed its first three racket slayings in recent years and witnessed the open return of the old-fashioned slot machines.

On December 10, 1946, Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that former Chief of County Detectives JERRY DEASY, TOMMY SILVERBLATT, the florist in the William Penn Hotel, and JOHN DUFFY, commonly known as the "Wheeling Kid," are operating a high-stake card game on the seventh floor of the William Penn Hotel regularly.

OTHER 4

The informant also commented on the retirement of BILLY CONN, former heavyweight boxing championship contender, as follows: BOB MATES, who is employed at the Allegheny Sportsmen's Club, mentioned above, was at the training camp with CONN prior to his bout with JOE LOUIS on June 19, 1946. On the evening of the fight, MATES telephoned from New York to ANTHONY "HOT NOSE" GAETANO and advised GAETANO that MILTON JAFFE, who has a percentage of CONN, had just bet \$30,000 on LOUIS and suggested that the smut money in Pittsburgh get on LOUIS but that no bets could be placed in New York because all bets had closed. GAETANO, who had



6 - Delinquency rates decreased in Allegheny County's industrial communities, but increased in the rural areas

J - NOTORIOUS TYPES AND PLACES OF AMUSEMENT

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that the Amerita Club, 34 Fernando Street, Pittsburgh, a gambling house, is owned and operated by SLIM SILVERHEART, a very prominent Pittsburgh gambler who resides at the William Penn Hotel. JOHN NESTA is the Steward in this Club.

OTHER 4

As mentioned above under sub-heading G, an elaborate gambling joint opened at 5108 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, wherein the partners are BILLY CONN, his father-in-law, "GREENFIELD JIMMY" SMITH, MILTON JAFFE, and ART ROONEY. ROONEY's front man in this enterprise is "THE WHEELING KID" whose true name is JOHN DUFFEY.

At the time this club was opened, CONN reportedly made the statement that he is better off financially than any other boxer who ever retired from the ring with the exception of GENE TUNNEY.

However, as a matter of information, CONN presently contemplates returning to the ring since he has lost considerable amount of money in various gambling enterprises, principally in connection with horse racing. The Informant advised that he observed CONN losing \$1200 at the gambling joint at 824 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, on the night of November 3, 1946.

At 824 Fifth Avenue, there are operated dice and skin games. The place is owned by AL GATTO and ANTHONY "HOT NOSE" GAETANO. Silent partners in this club are AL RICE, Proprietor of the restaurant and delicatessen in the same block, and RICE's nephew, IZZY MORMON. In addition to the percentage from this gambling operation, GATTO and GAETANO are declared in for a percentage of the profits in every gambling establishment in the First Ward comprising part of downtown Pittsburgh, due to the fact that GAETANO's brother-in-law, LEONARD A. CIVILL, is Alderman of the First Ward.

The Twelfth Ward Hunting and Fishing Club located on Diamond Street, mentioned in previous survey reports, is owned by a partnership consisting of CARLO DE BASI, more commonly known as BIG GEORGE KELLY, JAMES "CHINK" SPANKARD,