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CHARLES TOURINE

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (92-2989)

FROM : Legat, London (163-65) (P)

DATE: 11/27/62

SUBJECT: CHARLES TOURINE, AKA  
ANTI-RACKETEERING

ReBulet 8/6/62 requesting London to determine whether subject owns or has an interest in the Players Club, London, and that an Englishman is "fronting" for the subject in this club. X (u)

On 11/13/62 Detective Sgt. TERRY O'CONNELL, Tottenham Court Police Station, furnished information as follows: X (u)

O'CONNELL claims he has a source who frequents The Friars Club, 42 Conduit Street, London, and that when TOURINE, who is known by the name of CHARLIE WHITE, is in London he frequents the Friars Club. The Friars Club is reportedly owned and managed by JOSEPH GAVENTA, also known as "CHUMMY" and information is to the effect that GAVENTA has given a share in the club to TOURINE. Recent information is to the effect that GAVENTA wants to sell the club to TOURINE for £3500. X (u)

TOURINE, when he is in London, is a very close associate of and is frequently seen with THEODORE LEWIN (Bufile 62-86382). When TOURINE and LEWIN are together, money is no object with them and they frequently flash large sums of money in the gambling clubs around London. X (u)

Two or three months ago GAVENTA reportedly purchased some race horses for TOURINE which horses have since been sold. X (u)

According to New Scotland Yard records, GAVENTA resides at 33 Devonshire Close, London, W. 1. On 7/19/40 he was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment for receiving stolen cloth. GAVENTA has also been suspected in the past of doping race horses. X (u)

New Scotland Yard file on GAVENTA contains information to the effect that in 1950 GAVENTA was picked up for questioning at which time he had in his possession

- 3 - Bureau
- 1 - Liaison Section (sent direct)
- 1 - London 92-2989
- 1 - London 64-1127

JTM:vw  
(6)

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1000 American dollars. His explanation for having this money was that it had been given to him by GEORGE RAFT in connection with purchasing a car for RAFT in England. The file contained an Interpol message from Rome, Italy, #525 dated 5/23/50, which reported the results of an interview of RAFT, who was then in Rome, and RAFT in effect confirmed the fact that he had given GAVENTA \$1000 in connection with an automobile purchase. This is most interesting since it shows an association between RAFT and GAVENTA dating back to at least 1950. ~~(u)~~

U.S.  
Italy  
Eng

O'CONNELL advised that THEODORE LEWIN left England via London Airport on 11/6/62 for the United States, from where he planned to take a Caribbean cruise. ~~(u)~~

In connection with the Bureau's coverage of TOURINE, New Scotland Yard would be most interested in any information obtained pertaining to GAVENTA, LEWIN or the Friars Club. The Bureau is requested to furnish any such information in a form suitable for dissemination to New Scotland Yard. ~~(u)~~

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