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OFFICE MEMORANDUM -- UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (92-2940)
FROM: SA, PITTSBURGH (92-226)
SUBJECT: SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA, was.
AR
OO: Pittsburgh

Date: OCT 22 1958

Enclosed is report of SA ROBERT A. VORGE, Pittsburgh, OCT 22 1958

REFERENCES

New York letters to Pittsburgh, 8/28 and 9/26/58.
Report of SA ROBERT A. VORGE, Pittsburgh, 9/4/58.
Philadelphia letters to Pittsburgh, 9/10 and 10/2/58.
Buffalo letter to Pittsburgh, 9/19/58.

ADMINISTRATIVE

IN VIEW OF THE CONVICTION OF THE SUBJECT FOR ASSAULT WITH INTENT TO KILL AND HIS ARREST FOR CARRYING A CONCEALED WEAPON, HE MAY BE ARMED AND SHOULD BE CONSIDERED DANGEROUS.

On 8/21/58, MAX GOLDBERG, who is presently the accountant for SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA, and who was once the accountant for the MANNARINO brothers of New Kensington, Pa., and MIKE GENOVESE, was interviewed at his residence, 3701 Clarinda Road, Baltimore, Maryland, by SA(A) PAUL A. TURNER, at which time he advised as follows:

- ② - Bureau (Enc. 2)
- 1 - Baltimore (92-149) (Info) (Enc. 1)
- 2 - Buffalo (92-87) (Enc. 2)
- 2 - Detroit (Enc. 2)
- 1 - Jacksonville (Info) (Enc. 1)
- 1 - Miami (92-163) (Info) (Enc. 1)
- 2 - New York (92-825) (Enc. 2)
- 1 - Philadelphia (92-497) (Info) (Enc. 1)
- 3 - Pittsburgh

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ENCLOSURE
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EX - 133

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After Mr. GOLDBERG became a Certified Public Accountant in the State of Maryland in 1932, he decided to engage in public practice of accounting on a full time professional basis. At that time, the economic situation in the country was poor and he found it difficult to make a living. In about 1937, he developed Mr. ROY MC GINNIS as a client. MC GINNIS operated a music machine distributing business and is currently in the coin machine business under the name of Roy McGinnis Corporation, Maryland Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland. In about 1940, Mr. MC GINNIS took Mr. GOLDBERG to Pittsburgh, Pa., where he introduced him to SAM MANNARINO and his associates who were in the same type of business. At the request of SAM MANNARINO and some of his associates, he took them on as clients and performed auditing and tax return services for them. Through MANNARINO he became associated with SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA, MIKE GENOVESE and ANTHONY RIPEPI. He also became acquainted with CHARLES J. MARGIOTTI, then attorney and political power in Pennsylvania who is now deceased. Through MARGIOTTI he took over the accounting for the Filben Corporation of Chicago, Illinois, which was organized to manufacture coin operated music machines. Although this company has been defunct for a long time, Mr. GOLDBERG made other contacts which resulted in developing clients. For example, in Baltimore he acquired the account of the Cee Gee Music Company, which was organized by JOSEPH GIGLIOTTI and LOUIS COMI. When the Filben Company ran into financial difficulties, it resulted in an investigation by the Internal Revenue Service, and a great deal of newspaper publicity was given to alleged irregularities in the operation of this business. Mr. GOLDBERG had been placed in a compromising position by officials of this company and realized at that time that he had been taken advantage of by MARGIOTTI and his associates. He also realized that these men were engaging in questionable activities and felt that if he continued his association with them it could jeopardize his standing as an accountant.

In about 1950, he decided to discontinue his relationship with MARGIOTTI and his associates. He wrote registered letters to MARGIOTTI, GENOVESE, RIPEPI and others, advising them he would no longer handle their accounting. At that time he would have discontinued his association with LA ROCCA except for the fact that he was then doing accounting for LA ROCCA in connection with some litigation involving most of LA ROCCA's financial interests. LA ROCCA asked him to continue doing his accounting

work at least until litigation was completed. Actually, this situation has continued and LA ROCCA has become further indebted to him, so that at present LA ROCCA owes him a considerable amount of money for accounting fees.

In the past several years, LA ROCCA has entertained Mr. GOLDBERG at his residence for dinner and to meet his family. Therefore, in the latter part of 1957, when visiting with LA ROCCA, Mr. GOLDBERG invited him to attend the wedding of his son, which was to be held at Philadelphia, Pa. In February, 1958, the wedding was held and LA ROCCA appeared accompanied by ANTHONY RIFEPI. At this time, LA ROCCA stated that his wife was ill and could not accompany him. Mr. GOLDBERG at that time did not know that LA ROCCA was wanted by the Government or that there was any Federal Grand Jury proceeding in which LA ROCCA was involved.

He recalled that when he last visited with LA ROCCA prior to the wedding, LA ROCCA was having some trouble with his throat, but at the wedding he did not notice any trouble in this regard.

Mr. GOLDBERG emphatically stated that he has had no contact with LA ROCCA since the wedding in February, 1958. He assured that if he has any contact with LA ROCCA in the future, he will contact the FBI on a confidential basis. He stated that he has every intention of cooperating fully with the Government concerning LA ROCCA and concerning any matter in which the Government may have an interest.

Mr. GOLDBERG stated that handling the accounting for coin machine operators and others close to this type of business has been a very small part of his accounting practice. He stated that he still has some clients in this type of business, but to his knowledge none of them are numbers operators or are engaged in illegal activities.

During the course of the aforementioned interview, GOLDBERG requested that his identity be concealed in reporting any information furnished by him. He assured the interviewing agent of his desire to cooperate fully with the FBI in any investigation where he could be of assistance. Although he furnished no information of particular specific importance it was believed by the interviewing agent that his friendly attitude and cooperation merit recontact so that if anything specific arises in which GOLDBERG can furnish immediate assistance the proper groundwork will already have been laid.

Criminal Informant Coverage

In addition to MAX LOUIS GOLDBERG, the following individuals are presently being utilized by the Pittsburgh Office in the SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA investigation:

PG 573-C, who is extremely friendly with the GENOVESE brothers and particularly FIORE GENOVESE, younger brother of MIKE GENOVESE, and who is presently being utilized for the general coverage of the Red Eagle Club and its visitors.

[redacted] a PCI of the Pittsburgh Office, who is well acquainted with most of Pittsburgh's top hoodlums and who was formerly employed as a waitress in the Red Eagle Club, once known as the Genovese Cocktail Lounge, 412 Larimer Avenue, Pittsburgh. She still visits this establishment and comes in constant contact with MIKE GENOVESE and other members of Pittsburgh's racketeering element in her role as a medium-priced prostitute. [redacted] is presently traveling with Mrs. JULIA MINTZ, widow of JAKE MINTZ, co-owner of EZZARD CHARLES, former world's heavyweight boxing champion. She is presently being utilized for the coverage of the GENOVESE-LA ROCCA-NELSON interests.

[redacted] a PCI who is presently very active in Pittsburgh numbers operations and who was arrested during the month of August, 1958, in connection with his operation. [redacted] is intimately acquainted with many Pittsburgh top hoodlums and racketeers through association with them when they began their racket careers. He is presently being utilized for coverage of the GENOVESE-NELSON interests and is also contributing information regarding the VOLPE brothers, present Pittsburgh top hoodlums who are close associates of GENOVESE and LA ROCCA.

[redacted] a PCI of the Pittsburgh Office presently engaged in racket activity in the City of Pittsburgh who is being utilized for general coverage of lottery and numbers operations in the Pittsburgh area.

[redacted] a PCI of the Pittsburgh Office who is part owner of the notorious gambling establishment at Chester, W. Va., known as Club 30, who is being utilized

for information concerning the club and the interest in it of Pittsburgh hoodlums associated with both LA ROCCA and GENOVESE.

OTHER 4

[redacted] a PCI of the Pittsburgh Office who is being utilized for information concerning Pittsburgh prostitution activities and as a check on the activities of [redacted]

AL BUCK, former Allegheny County Detective and now Vice President of the Fidelity Trust Company, Loan Department, Pittsburgh, who is being utilized for his knowledge of the Bankers Exchange in Pittsburgh from which he can obtain information regarding bank loans made to Pittsburgh top hoodlums. BUCK is also familiar with the activities of several of Pittsburgh's top hoodlums, particularly those of LA ROCCA, from having worked on criminal matters for many years in the City of Pittsburgh.

[redacted] a confidential source of the Pittsburgh Office who is being utilized for information concerning the MANNARINO organization in New Kensington, Pa., and who is also furnishing information regarding tie-ups with the GENOVESE organization in Pittsburgh.

[redacted] a confidential source of the Pittsburgh Office who was extremely helpful to Pittsburgh Agents during the investigation of the RALPH KINER extortion investigation several years ago and whose brother-in-law, NORMAN FARBER, is a member of the MANNARINO organization.

In an effort to increase criminal informant coverage, the PCIs under development are being contacted on a continuing and regular basis so that information obtained from them may be used on a day-to-day basis in connection with spot surveillances of the establishments frequented by the subject when he is in the Pittsburgh vicinity.

The identity of the anonymous informant calling himself "TIGER" is still being sought so that he may be contacted personally and will no longer have to depend on the written word for the furnishing of his racket information to the Pittsburgh Office.

It is anticipated that THOMAS MARTIN, Vice President of the Real Estate Department of the Potter Bank and Trust Company in Pittsburgh, will keep the Pittsburgh Office advised of any new developments concerning the proposed construction of a motel financed by MIKE GENOVESE and ARTHUR D. NELSON in the Monroeville, Pa., vicinity which would undoubtedly have to have the approval and overall financial backing of SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA.

It is further anticipated that former Pittsburgh top hoodlum SAMUEL NATHANIEL LEVINE, who is now a PCI for the Pittsburgh Office and who is well acquainted with LA ROCCA, will be contacted at regular intervals so that a more complete picture of the racketeering activities in the City of Pittsburgh may be obtained. It should be noted that contacts with LEVINE to date have achieved the latter objective to a degree but have not been productive in furnishing information concerning LA ROCCA.

LEADS

BALTIMORE, JACKSONVILLE, MIAMI AND PHILADELPHIA - INFORMATION

One copy of this report is being furnished to the Baltimore Office inasmuch as MAX LOUIS GOLDBERG, the personal accountant and close associate of the subject, makes his permanent residence in that city. It is felt that the Baltimore Office, which is now endeavoring to develop GOLDBERG as a PCI, should be apprised of all recent developments in the LA ROCCA investigation so that when GOLDBERG is recontacted by agents of the Baltimore Office, a more intelligent conversation may be conducted.

One copy of this report is being furnished to the Jacksonville and Miami Offices for information purposes because of allegations made by the wife of LA ROCCA and Pittsburgh informants concerning subject's travel to Florida and Cuba during his so-called "disappearance" from Pittsburgh. It should be further noted that Miami has a lead outstanding in connection with this investigation. With the background thus supplied, it is felt that these offices can intelligently handle the coverage of any future leads requested in that vicinity.

The Philadelphia Office is being furnished with one copy of this report for information in view of the attendance at Valley Forge Military Academy, Wayne, Pa., of the adopted son of the subject and the possible visit of the subject to that vicinity during the school year.