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FBI

Date: 2-25-64

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TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, RICHMOND (92-New) - P -
SUBJECT: SAMUEL M. GIANCANA, aka
AR

FD-217

Re Richmond airtel to Chicago, dated 8-15-63 (IO)
Richmond tel to Chicago, dated 2-19-64, entitled "PCI ELLIS
BERNSTEIN" (IO).

ELLIS BERNSTEIN, PCI, a former CI of the Richmond
Office, is President of the Reliable Home Equipment Co.,
118 South 6th Street, Richmond, Va. PCI and his brother,
JACK BERNSTEIN, are reputed to be wealthy businessmen in
Richmond, Va., who deal in various business enterprises
including construction, real estate, and so forth.

In the early part of 1963, PCI obtained option
for operation of a gambling casino at Normandy Hotel, San
Juan, Puerto Rico, where he and his brother have other
business interests. PCI is anxious to obtain financial
backing on a partnership basis in this venture. In July,
1963, he read an article in the magazine section of a
Miami, Fla., newspaper indicating that SAM GIANCANA, the
well-known Chicago hoodlum, was seeking partnership arrange-
ments with American businessmen who could obtain gambling
concessions in the Caribbean area and South America, which
article indicated GIANCANA interested in investment in
such ventures.

- ③ - Bureau (Regular Mail)
- 3 - Chicago (92-349) (Air Mail)
(1- 137-4976)
- 2 - Miami (Air Mail)
- 3 - Richmond
(1- 137-6)

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57 MAR 17 1964

Subsequently, PCI contacted an acquaintance, DAVID ~~SAX~~, of Chicago, owner or former owner of Saxony Hotel, Miami, Fla., and now a banker in Chicago, formerly a manufacturer of punch boards. He told him of the article and asked how GIANCANA could be approached. SAX told the PCI he knew one of GIANCANA's close business associates and could arrange a contact. ✓

Some time later, PCI received telephone call from one DAVE (LNU) and TEDDY (LNU), who claimed to be GIANCANA's business associates and desired a meeting to discuss the matter. ✓

PCI met DAVE and TEDDY in Miami, Fla., and they seemed to know considerable about his financial standing, the fact that his resources were committed and that the brother of PCI was principal controller of their business interests. ✓

At first, DAVE and TEDDY wanted to know something of PCI's connections to assure themselves he could get gambling concessions in Puerto Rico and/or another Caribbean area. ✓

In the presence of DAVE and TEDDY, PCI called L. O. PENDLING, a Negro attorney and member of Parliament, Nassau, Bahamas, with whom PCI had had prior business associations and made appointment to meet PENDLING in Washington, D.C., in late August, 1963. PENDLING was unable to keep the appointment since the March on Washington made it impossible to get hotel reservations. ✓

On or about 10-19-63 PCI met TEDDY and DAVE at The Americana Hotel, New York City. At this meeting, DAVE and TEDDY began talking about "protection" and ability of GIANCANA Syndicate to furnish slot machines for gambling operation. With this turn in the negotiations, based on PCI's original understanding that GIANCANA desired to invest money, he insisted on seeing GIANCANA. DAVE and TEDDY gave him no encouragement along this line and told PCI it was not necessary to contact them, but they would contact him always from a pay phone from wherever they were calling. ✓