
Agency Information

AGENCY : FBI
RECORD NUMBER : 124-10298-10053

RECORD SERIES : HQ

AGENCY FILE NUMBER : 92-2824-123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129

Document Information

ORIGINATOR : FBI
FROM : LEE, IVAN D.
TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

TITLE :

DATE : 07/07/1966
PAGES : 83

SUBJECTS :
JFC, REL, TRA, RES, LCN, ASSOC, TOLL CALL, EMP, FISUR,
CRIMINAL ACT

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : Unclassified
RESTRICTIONS : 4; 11(a)
CURRENT STATUS : Redact
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 09/29/1998

OPENING CRITERIA : INDEFINITE, APPROVAL OF IRS

COMMENTS : INC 6 RPT

Released under the John F. Kennedy
Assassination Records Collection Act of
1992 (44 USC 2107 Note). Case#:NW
68262 Date: 09-22-2022

LEADS

HOUSTON

AT HOUSTON, TEXAS. 1. Will determine the registered owner of 1967 Texas license NST 461, reportedly in the Houston area. Conduct check of indices and check credit and criminal on owner.

2. Will report results of efforts to identify the three Italians alleged to be from Houston as reported in Dallas airtel of 7/2/67.

DALLAS

AT DALLAS, TEXAS. 1. Will maintain contact with PCI JOHN HOUSTON BROWN as to subject's activities and developments with regard to CIVELLO's efforts to negotiate a deal for canning factory of H. L. Hunt Foods.

2. Will maintain contact with DL 271-C and DL 275-C-TE for information as to subject's daily activities and contacts.

3. Will make further review of Dallas files and other sources in effort to further identify AL MARSHALL and his current whereabouts.

ADMINISTRATIVE

On 6/12/67, the Los Angeles Office furnished the following information:

On 5/31/67, FRANK DESIMONE, LCN boss, Los Angeles, accompanied by LA 4476 CTE, drove by automobile and intended to go to San Jose, California, and there meet with one ANTHONY MAGGIO. After an overnight stay they recontacted MAGGIO, then made a business contact in Fresno. In an effort to buy canneries while on this trip, DESIMONE met with JOSEPH BRIGANTANO and his son RALPH of Hollister, California, and made arrangements with these individuals to contact canneries up for sale and to advise the informant of any such potential sales.

On approximately 6/6/67, the informant stated that he learned through RALPH BRIGANTANO that a representative of Hunt's Foods, Dallas, had previously contacted canneries in the San Francisco, California, area and had negotiated with them for a purchase but had offered too little and the sale was refused.

On 6/8/67, JOSEPH CIVELLO telephonically contacted the informant to advise that he was still seriously interested in informant's locating canneries for sale and repeated the offer

^B
COVER PAGE

928-10023

to split the finder's fee with the informant and FRANK DESIMONE.

Contacts with PCI JOHN HOUSTON BROWN, who is somewhat aware of the above activity of CIVELLO, are being maintained. It is believed that if CIVELLO and DESIMONE are successful in bringing about a sale, full details will be obtainable from PCI BROWN who is head of sales for H. L. Hunt, Dallas, and neighborhood source on CIVELLO.

IDENTITY OF INFORMANTS

DL T-1 is PCI JOHN HOUSTON BROWN, contacted by SA EDGERTON.

DL T-2 is DL 271-C contacted by SA EDGERTON.

DL T-3 is DL 275-C-TE contacted by SA EDGERTON.

DL T-4 is NO 1457-C-TE contacted by an Agent of the New Orleans Office on 4/14/67.

DL T-5 is NO 1203-C contacted by an Agent of the New Orleans Office on 4/21/67.

DL T-6 is NO 1490-C contacted on 7/14/67 by an Agent of the New Orleans Office.

C*

COVER PAGE

LA 4476 CTE advised he had informed FRANK DESIMONE of the fact that AL MARSHALL had contacted informant and requested that he and DESIMONE locate a tomato cannery for sale for DESIMONE's cousin, JOE CIVELLO of Dallas. CIVELLO has a man who is interested in buying a tomato cannery. The finders fees would go to MARSHALL, CIVELLO, DESIMONE and informant. DESIMONE advised informant that he knows a man near San Francisco who they could talk to and turn over to him the locating of a suitable cannery. DESIMONE suggested that he and informant drive over to San Francisco on the weekend of 5/6-7/67. MARSHALL was on 4/25/67, en route to Los Angeles from Dallas.

By teletype dated 4/28/67, the Los Angeles Office furnished the following information to the Bureau, San Francisco, and Dallas:

LA 4476 CTE met with AL MARSHALL on 4/26/67. MARSHALL informed that he was in Dallas the preceding weekend with TONY BUFFANO (PH) and JOE CIVELLO where they all attended a wedding. CIVELLO reportedly hates BUFFANO but had to attend this wedding. CIVELLO was in Leavenworth 22 years ago and MARSHALL went to a friend who was head of the U. S. Parole Board and obtained CIVELLO's release in 48 hours. BUFFANO later told IRS where the \$7,500 came from to get CIVELLO out. According to MARSHALL, the money came from BUFFANO and CIVELLO's family.

CIVELLO has a friend who is the purchasing agent for H. L. HUNT, Texas multimillionaire, of Hunt's Foods. HUNT has had arguments with Alpha Beta Market owner and HUNT is trying to corner the tomato market by buying up all U. S. crops of tomatoes and purchasing canneries. He intends to buy three canneries in California, one of which is the Wilson Cannery in Stockton. The asking price is about one million dollars. Purchasing agent steers CIVELLO, who is able to contact seller and obtain finders fee. CIVELLO expects 50% of the finders fee for his group, including MARSHALL and probably the purchasing agent. FRANK DESIMONE will take 50% to be split with friends in the North and South

C
COVER PAGE

DL 92-26

with informant. The finders fee will be from 5 to 10% of one million dollars for the purchase of the Wilson Cannery to be paid by the seller.

DESIMONE and informant are driving to Northern California near San Francisco the night of May 5, 1967, to turn over the deal of Wilson Cannery and two others to DESIMONE's friend.

MARSHALL is also involved in Alpha Lube, a heavy duty motor oil, and claims he is negotiating with the Pentagon for the use of Alpha Lube in military vehicles. Alpha Lube is a product of a dormant corporation, American Resources, that MARSHALL is trying to reactivate and go public for stock issue. MARSHALL did not see DESIMONE, but deals through informant.

MARSHALL is proceeding to Las Vegas from Los Angeles.

Informant intends to discuss possible purchase of the Flamingo Hotel with DESIMONE to provoke meeting additional friends and contacts of DESIMONE.

IDENTITY OF INFORMANTS

DL T-1 is PCI JOHN HOUSTON BROWN, contacted by SA HAROLD J. EDGERTON.

DL T-2 is DL 271-C, contacted by SA HAROLD J. EDGERTON.

DL T-3 is DL 275-C-TE, contacted by SA HAROLD J. EDGERTON.

DL T-4 is NO-1232-C-TE, contacted by SA REED W. JENSON, New Orleans, Louisiana, Office.

D*
COVER PAGE

DL 92-36

2. Will continue spot checks of subject's residence and place of business.

3. Will contact CHARLES BUS, Federal Alcohol Tax, to discuss results of their coverage of subject's activities.

ADMINISTRATIVE

IDENTITY OF INFORMANTS

DL T-1 is DL 146-C contacted by SAs HAROLD J. EDGERTON and JAMES W. BOOKHOUT.

DL T-2 is PCI JOHN HOUSTON BROWN, contacted by SA EDGERTON.

DL T-3 is NO 1457-C-TE, contacted by Agent of the New Orleans office on 2/8/67.

DL T-4 is DL 271-C, contacted by SA EDGERTON.

DL T-5 is DL 275-PC, contacted by SA EDGERTON.

-B*-
COVER PAGE

92-14636

DL 92-36

AT NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA. Will check its files on one VINCE RIZZO, phonetic, alleged owner of, or manager of, the Fountainbleau Hotel to determine whether there is any indication of possible connection between RIZZO and subject, CIVELLO. Also whether RIZZO has any connection with CARLOS MARCELLO. Furnish what background your office has on RIZZO.

DALLAS

AT DALLAS, TEXAS. (1) Will maintain contact with informants and sources re subject's activities.

(2) Will continue to spot check subject's residence and place of employment.

(3) Will contact local office of Federal Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and arrange to review their file on subject.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

On 12/20/66, Mrs. VERA SHUCK, Office of Postal Inspector, Alexandria, Virginia, advised SA JOHN W. PFAFF, JR., that a review of the records of the Falls Church, Post Office revealed that WILLIAM ROBERT ISEMINGER moved from 7206 Sewell Avenue, Falls Church, Virginia, on 7/1/66. He gave a forwarding address of 209 Hammond Drive, Norcross, Georgia.

INFORMANTS:

DL T-1 is PCI JOHN HOUSTON BROWN contacted by SA HAROLD J. EDGERTON.

DL T-2 is DL 271-C contacted by SA HAROLD J. EDGERTON.

DL T-3 is NO 1490-C contacted by an Agent of the New Orleans Office on 12/27/66.

- B* -
Cover Page

948-1013

DL 92-36

2. Will continue spot check surveillances of subject's residence and of Airway Liquor Store owned by his brother CHARLES CIVELLO which subject frequents.

3. Will complete review of directories regarding subject's residences and employment from 1939 to date.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Bureau will note that information furnished by DL T-6 is not being reported as investigation at Los Angeles to further cover informant. At the time of the last report in this case Dallas had not yet determined who Los Angeles informant was referring to, however, since through Dallas informants it was determined that PATRONO was the most likely individual Los Angeles informant had met, as he is most frequently referred to as JOHNNY ROSS leaving off his last name.

By communication dated 9/28/66, the San Francisco Office advised that contact with SF 2689-C-TE on 8/29/66 disclosed that CIVELLO unknown to informant. Inquiries by informant of his sources in the San Francisco area regarding subject were also negative.

IDENTITY OF INFORMANTS

T-1 is PCI John Houston Brown

T-2 is DL 298-PC

T-3 is DL 275-C-TE

T-4 is SA LEE Y. MURPHY, IRS, Dallas

T-5 is DL 299-PC

T-6 is LA 4448-C-TE

T-7 is PCI James Melton, New Orleans Office

IRS
REVIEWED BY ~~ED~~ JFK TASK FORCE

ON 7-1-78 *lat*

☐ RELEASE IN FULL

☒ RELEASE IN PART

☐ TOTAL DENIAL

- B* -
COVER PAGE

906-10023 -125

DL 92-36

On September 28, 1966, DL T-2, advised that he knows CIVELLO very well, however, was not aware of any information indicating illegal activity on the part of CIVELLO. T-2 advised that in the past he has attended the Italian-American Club, known as ZUROMA located on Skillman Avenue, Dallas, which meets every Thursday night and has observed CIVELLO there on each occasion. T-2 advised this club is basically nothing more than a time of social entertainment where the members and guests have a large meal, drink and play poker. T-2 never heard any business being discussed among the members at these meetings.

On October 20, 1966, DL T-3, advised that he is reasonably sure that the subject has a percentage of the PHILIP S. BOSCO bookmaking operation. (BOSCO is known close associate of subject and operates a Gulf Service Station at 2701 Ross Avenue, Dallas, Texas, where he is alleged to control his operations utilizing a number of booking agents.) T-3 advised that he has heard CIVELLO's percentage of the BOSCO operation is fifty per cent.

On October 28, 1966, DL T-4, advised that

On October 21, 1966, DL T-5, advised that LUKE ANTHONY CORTEMEGLIA and JOE IANNI are very close to CIVELLO and particularly CORTEMEGLIA of recent date. T-5 did not know the reason for this close association but observed that CORTEMEGLIA and one TONY TODORA were in business together involving real estate investing and believed CIVELLO and CORTEMEGLIA may have a common interest in this regard.

JFK Law 11(a)

During period September 22, 1966, through November 18, 1966, the following spot checks were made to subject's activities through checks at his residence 4908 Gulfstream, Dallas, and the Airway Liquor Store, 3122 West Mockingbird Lane, Dallas. Results of these checks are set forth below. Noted that subject owns a 1964 F-85 Brown Oldsmobile with 1966 Texas license KCD 862 and his brother-in-law who lives with him owns a 1964 two-tone green Oldsmobile with 1966 Texas license KOD 863.

DL 92-36

LEADS

DALLAS

AT DALLAS, TEXAS.

(1) Will continue periodic spot checks of subject's residence and place of employment to be aware of his whereabouts and be alert to any contacts made with the subject.

(2) Will maintain contact with PCI JOHN HOUSTON BROWN.

(3) Will develop chronological listing of subject's residences and business connections since 1940 from review of available records.

(4) Will commence detailed review of subject's file and all references to subject in files of Dallas Office with view to preparing investigative summary report. During review will be alert to new avenues of investigation and sources who might be able to furnish information on subject's current and past activities.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Communication had been directed to a number of offices to contact informants relative to any LCN information re subject and his possible connection and activity with that organization. The following information has been received since the last report:

MILWAUKEE OFFICE

On 6/1/66 and 6/14/66, SA CARLYLE N. REED contacted MI 623-C-TE who advised that he does not know subject and has not heard of him in connection with LCN affairs. Milwaukee advised that CI has contacts at Rockford, Illinois, has furnished reliable information in past and is an LCN member. CI was recontacted on 6/29/66, but was unable to furnish any information re subject.

SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE

Advised that SE 2689-C-TE was in Las Vegas and would be contacted re subject on his return.

LOS ANGELES OFFICE

- B -
COVER PAGE

908-10023

The Los Angeles Office by communication dated 5/25/66, had advised that contact with LA 4448-C-TE on 5/12/66, developed that CI had met subject in Los Angeles some years ago and subject was introduced to CI as a member of LCN. CI has had no further contact with subject, had never been to Texas, and has no info re present activities of subject. CI has heard subject's name mentioned on several occasions since. On a couple of occasions several years ago, Los Angeles "under boss" NICK LICATA, mentioned to CI that subject was the "boss" of the Texas LCN "Brugad". The last occasion the Texas LCN "Brugad" was mentioned in CI presence was January, 1965, in connection with FRANK DESIMONE, relaying some instructions from the "Commissione" to the "Boss" of the Texas "Brugad". CI also recalled that about four or five years ago he had met Los Angeles "Capo" ANGELO POLIZZI, at the Hollywood Park Race Track. POLIZZI was accompanied by an individual whom he introduced to CI as an LCN "member of the Texas "Brugad". Informant did not recall the name of this individual. Los Angeles advised that CI is a long-time LCN member of the Los Angeles "Brugad".

By communication dated 7/7/66, Los Angeles was requested to recontact LA 4448-C-TE and obtain a description of the individual whom POLIZZI had introduced to CI as LCN member of Texas "Brugad".

By communication dated 8/24/66, Los Angeles advised that CI was recontacted and stated that this introduction occurred approximately four to six years ago. CI's only contact with this individual was at the track at that time. CI believed this individual to be in his late thirties at the time CI met him. CI described this individual as about six feet tall, 200 pounds, rather husky build, with brown hair. On 8/23/66, CI advised that he had been in contact with POLIZZI on 8/21/66. CI casually recalled the incident of the meeting to POLIZZI and POLIZZI remarked that he had not seen this individual in some time, but referred to him by the name of JOHN RUSSO or JOHN ROSSI (both phonetic). POLIZZI made no further comment relative to him, nor did he refer to a particular place in Texas where this individual resided.

Check of Dallas files fails to disclose any one known to the Dallas Office by similar names as being identical and the description does not fit subject JOSEPH CIVELLO, CHARLES CIVELLO, or ROSS MUSSO.

- C -
COVER PAGE

DL 92-36

The Los Angeles Office is being advised and the other Texas Offices are being requested to advise they have such a described individual.

On 8/18/66, the New Orleans Office advised that the following sources had been contacted and could furnish no information that subject was in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on June 9 through June 13, 1966, visiting with his sister, MRS. SAM CANGOSE:

PCI JAMES MELTON - contacted 7/11/66

PCI JAMES E. HARRIS - contacted 7/8/66

NO 1423-C - contacted 7/8/66

PCI MAX MICHAEL VON RAESFELD - contacted 7/21/66

PCI MANUEL SEALS - contacted 7/27/66

IDENTITY OF DALLAS INFORMANTS

DL T-1 is PCI JOHN HOUSTON BROWN

DL T-2 is DL 275-C-TE

DL T-3 is DL 271-C

- D* -
COVER PAGE

(2) Will also continue efforts to develop informants of Italian extraction in an effort to give further coverage to CIVELLO's activities.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

It is noted that the investigative period overlaps that of rerep; however, investigation is included from an auxiliary office which was not available at the time rerep was dictated.

The information concerning PHILLIP CUILLA's telephone number at Thornwood, New York, was furnished by OSKAR G. DANIELSON, Security Supervisor, New York Telephone Company, New York, New York.

JOSEPH CIVELLO and his wife traveled to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on 6/9/66, and returned to Dallas on approximately 6/13/66.

PCI JOHN HOUSTON BROWN subsequently advised that he learned from his wife who was in New Orleans, Louisiana, on vacation, that she had driven in convoy with JOSEPH CIVELLO as far as Baton Rouge where CIVELLO had turned off the main road and she continued on to New Orleans, Louisiana.

Information from the above informant and from observations by Buagents indicates that subject continues to spend a considerable amount of time working in his yard at his residence and in his brother's yard at 4747 Sugar Mill Road.

The following information was furnished to the Dallas Division by various offices in reply to Dallas letter to New York 3/23/66, requesting these offices to contact their informants familiar with LCN matters to ascertain if they had any knowledge re CIVELLO or his family.

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA:

On 4/22/66, SF 2689-C-TE was interviewed and he was unable to identify the photograph of CIVELLO as that of anyone known to him. CIVELLO's background was discussed at length with the informant and he advised that he would make inquiries through his sources regarding subject and other personalities connected with the LCN in Texas.

- B -
COVER PAGE

DL 92-36

SF 2745-C-TE was interviewed on 4/21/66 and he advised that CIVELLO was unknown to him as well as the other individuals named in referenced letter.

On 4/7/66, SF 2354-C-TE advised that CIVELLO was unknown to him as well as the other individuals named in referenced letter.

AT NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK:

NY 4857-C-TE has not been questioned to date concerning CIVELLO and structure of LCN in Dallas area of which he may have knowledge. Lead will be covered and reported at earliest opportunity.

AT KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI:

The following informants were contacted regarding the above-captioned subject and advised they did not know him:

KC 488-C, contacted 4/28/66, by SA RICHARD J. WINTERMAN.

KC 365-C contacted 5/6/66, by SA TONY J. SEABAUGH.

KC 315-C-TE contacted 5/20/66, by SA GEORGE F. LUECKENHOFF.

KC 358-C-TE advised SA ROY L. TUSSEY on 5/23/66, that he has heard TOM "DUDE" FONTANELLO and TOM CACIOPPO, also known as TOMMY MORGAN, mention subject, but stated he does not know subject and does not know anything about his connections.

AT BUFFALO, NEW YORK:

On 4/12/66, BU 382-C-TE was contacted by SA JAMES L. LALIME, and he had no information concerning subject.

On 4/25/66, BU 304-C-TE was contacted by SA FRANCIS B. JENKINS, and subject was not known to informant.

On 4/29/66, BU 279-C was contacted by SAA LEON F. ANDREWS, JR., and advised that although he is acquainted with some of the major hoodlums in the New Orleans and Kansas City areas, he was unable to recall anyone discussing the activities of subject. He said he recalled the name

- C -
COVER PAGE

DL 92-36

of subject mentioned in the newspapers as having attended the Apalachin meeting at Apalachin, New York, in 1957. The fact that subject is related to RUSSELL BUFALINO of Pittston, Pennsylvania, was not known to informant.

The following informants were contacted by SA JOSEPH E. GRIFFIN, JR., and none knew subject:

BU 359-C-TE on 5/6/66
BU 305-C-TE on 5/23/66
BU 351-C-TE on 5/23/66

The only other information in Buffalo files is contained in Dallas letter to New Orleans dated 8/30/63, regarding subject's attendance at the Apalachin Meeting in 1957.

AT PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA:

No information relative to captioned subject or LCN activity in Texas has been determined through contact with PH 672-C-TE or PH 599-C-TE or PH 614-C-TE.

INFORMANTS:

DL T-1 is DL 275-C-TE
DL T-2 is PCI JOHN HOUSTON BROWN
DL T-3 is DL 271-C
DL T-4 is LA 4448-C-TE
DL T-5 is DL 299-PC
DL T-6 is DL 298-PC

- D* -
COVER PAGE

told that this was rejected as being too risky as there was too good a chance of recruiting "FBI spies" and there was no need for more members in the Dallas area due to present conditions. CIVELLO has decided to finance BOSCO's bookmaking operations in an effort to enlarge it and to show the people up East that a group in Dallas can operate profitably and therefore with a need for more members. CIVELLO has requested BOSCO to slowly, but surely, get rid of all non-Italians from the bookmaking operation. CIVELLO told BOSCO that if he gets a chance to increase the group in Dallas, he would attempt to propose for membership, BOSCO, PATRONO, NICK MORALE, and SAM LOMONACO.

LOMONACO is a close personal friend of BOSCO and CIVELLO, and has assisted BOSCO in bookmaking operations in the past. CIVELLO told BOSCO he could not use IANNI because of his bad heart, and could not use JOE CAMPISI because of his "big mouth." CIVELLO also stated he did not like to have any dealings with PETE INTERRANTE because PETE was "too hot headed."

BOSCO told the informant he would keep him advised of CIVELLO's progress as he knew it would be of interest to the informant who had expressed a desire to BOSCO to become actively engaged in any operation with which JOE CIVELLO was connected.

On June 17, 1966, informant furnished the following information:

During the past two weeks informant has taken MORALE out to dinner on two occasions and has taken him to some private clubs for some "social drinking" on three or four other occasions under the pretext that informant was trying to interest MORALE in the purchase of insurance policies from the informant.

On June 16, 1966, while drinking at a private club, informant complained to MORALE that BOSCO would only take big bets and therefore informant was not in a position to bet on baseball or football like he desired (BOSCO previously told informant that anytime the informant wanted to bet any amount, big or small, on anything, that he should contact MORALE who would get it down for the informant with BOSCO.)

This discussion turned to the general discussion of gambling in Dallas to which MORALE advised the informant that BOSCO and NORVELLE STANFIELD practically controlled all football betting during fall of 1965. MORALE said that BOSCO will handle any sort of bet now on baseball or horse races but that business is very slow. MORALE noted that BOSCO and STANFIELD appear to be having some arguments recently as MORALE heard BOSCO tell STANFIELD that if he was going to continue to put up all the money, and make all the arrangements for the apartments and the phones through his friends, that he wanted at least 2/3 of the profit instead of 50%. MORALE stated that it appeared that BOSCO was trying to get rid of STANFIELD before the fall of 1966. Informant asked MORALE where BOSCO got all the money for his bookmaking operation and MORALE said that two of BOSCO's friends, JOE CIVELLO and JOE IANNI had evidently bought an interest in BOSCO's book and had helped put up the money. MORALE told the informant that it appears these three want to take over all bookmaking in Dallas and BOSCO once told MORALE that if it were needed, CIVELLO could get some money from some of his friends "up East."

MORALE then told the informant that he would do anything for BOSCO as BOSCO had given him a job after MORALE went bankrupt running a liquor store. He stated that BOSCO has always taken good care of him and recently told him that if he, MORALE, kept his nose clean and did what he was told, "we'll make sure you have got no worries." MORALE then told the informant he was of the opinion that BOSCO, CIVELLO and IANNI along with BOSCO's good friend, SAM LOMONACO were trying to set up an Italian organization in Dallas. MORALE identified LOMONACO as BOSCO's friend who furnishes apartments and obtains phone service for the bookmaking operation. BOSCO has described LOMONACO as an old and trusted "friend."

Informant asked MORALE if he meant that they were trying to form a mafia-type thing and MORALE answered "I guess - only BOSCO keeps calling it 'our business' and claims CIVELLO and IANNI are close 'friends'." According to MORALE, BOSCO once told him that CIVELLO is the "boss" and if "we're smart, we'll do what he tells us and make a lot of money."