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AMERICAN GAMBLING ACTIVITIES IN CUBA

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## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 12/30/58

FROM : SAC, PHILADELPHIA (92-692)

SUBJECT: AMERICAN GAMBLING ACTIVITIES  
IN CUBA  
ARALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS CLASSIFIED  
DATE 6/3/82 BY SP4JRM/TH

1-18-97 5668

Re Philadelphia airtel 10/24/58.

On 10/30/58, PCI MORRIS KOVLER said that earlier in the week he had had dinner with CHARLES SCHWARTZ while he was in Philadelphia. KOVLER does not know MORISI, who accompanied SCHWARTZ from Cuba.

KOVLER said SCHWARTZ has a home in Philadelphia, but does not get along with his wife and is seldom there. He has a girl friend, name unknown to KOVLER. Years ago SCHWARTZ was a bookmaker and ran dice games in Philadelphia. Then he went to Atlantic City, N.J., and operated the Bath and Turf Club there. That club had roulette wheels, dice games, etc., and since, according to KOVLER, HERMAN "STUMPY" ORMAN controls all the gambling in Atlantic City, it was likely that ORMAN either wholly or partly owned the Bath and Turf Club. At present SCHWARTZ is working at the Hotel Nacionale in Havana, where he could be a front man or an employee. KOVLER believes it is also possible that ORMAN owns a piece of the Nacionale, and that SCHWARTZ is watching it for him. KOVLER said he, himself, was offered a job at the Nacionale, but turned it down because it is too confining and the employees are too strictly controlled, not being allowed to go anywhere. He said shares in the Cuban gambling establishments are sold by the "point," each point being a share, and the return being in proportion to the number of "points" owned.

- 5 - Bureau
- 1 - Miami (INFO)
- 1 - Newark (94-660)(INFO)
- 1 - Philadelphia (92-692)

RWH:MCB  
(8)

23 JAN 2 1959

66 JAN 8 1959

EX-136

CRIMINAL

2cc's - Legat, Havana via 0-7 (info)  
1/7/59 JGL/pcg

PH 92-692

On 11/6/58, PH 269-C told SA DALE M. Hiestand that he has been a close personal friend of CHARLES SCHWARTZ for many years. SCHWARTZ told PH 269-C that he bought the Bath and Turf Club in Atlantic City. The informant described it as a plush gambling house with a dignified and prosperous clientele. He said that SCHWARTZ told him that MAX WEISBERG and SAMUEL HOFFMAN, Philadelphia Top Hoodlums, and STUMPY ORMAN all owned pieces of the Bath and Turf Club. PH 269-C said SCHWARTZ is an important figure in International gambling circles, and is a close personal friend of MEYER LANSKY, whom he met in Baltimore, Md. PH 269-C said LANSKY is the main figure in control of gambling in Cuba, as well as in some parts of the United States. LANSKY still controls gambling in Baltimore, and with SCHWARTZ, owns a casino in Las Vegas, Nev. He did not know the name, but said it is near the Sands Hotel. PH 269-C said he has personal knowledge that SCHWARTZ has become very prosperous from his activities in gambling circles.

PH 530-C reported that on 10/30/58, MAX "WILLIE" WEISBERG called his brother in Atlantic City and inquired how the hearings came out that morning. Later WEISBERG told his wife that "they" were all fined, but that "they are all out." He said that he would have to go to Atlantic City on Monday, November 3, to see "The Stump," believed to be referring to STUMPY ORMAN. On 11/4/58, WEISBERG told PH 530-C that he had been in Atlantic City and that it was an "all payday."

It is requested that the Bureau furnish two copies of this letter to Legat, Havana.

RUC.