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JOSEPH RAYMOND MEROLA

STUART SUTOR

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12 million dollars worth of Canadian Government Bonds, Jewelry and Cash from a burglary of the Brockville Trust and Savings Company, Brockville, Ontario, Canada, on 5/3-4/58. Canadian bonds stolen from the Brockville Bank had been cashed throughout North America and in Europe.

MANNARINO was apprehended on the basis of a bench warrant issued by the U. S. District Court, Chicago, Illinois, on 6/30/59, following the return of a secret indictment by a Federal Grand Jury in Chicago the same day charging MANNARINO and NORMAN ROTHMAN with aiding and abetting WILLIAM W. RABIN of Chicago in the use of a wire or radio communication for the purpose of defrauding a Swiss bank through the pledging of \$140,500 worth of the stolen Canadian Government Bonds. MANNARINO and ROTHMAN were also charged in the indictment with aiding and abetting RABIN in the concealment of \$9,000 worth of the stolen bonds which were transported from Brockville, Ontario, Canada, to Chicago, Illinois, during January-February, 1959.

GUISEPPE COTRONI, described by one of the co-conspirators, in the EZHAYA case as the leader of a large narcotics ring in Canada and head of the Canadian "Mafia" and one of his lieutenants, RENE ROBERT, were also named in the secret indictment returned by the Chicago Federal Grand Jury. U. S. Attorney in Chicago is now seeking their extradition As a matter of information COTRONI and through the RCMP. ROBERT were arrested by the RCMP during 7/59, on charges of Conspiracy, Possessing and Trafficing Heroin valued at 8 million dollars. The RCMP have advised that the arrests culminated an extensive investigation with the cooperation of Narcotics Bureau authorities in the United States. and COTRONI were remanded to custody without bail during 7/59, and according to the RCMP, the seriousness of the charges against them may preclude successful extradition in the EZHAYA case.

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WILLIAM RABIN was also arrested by Bureau Agents in Miami, Florida, with ROTHMAN on 7/2/59, and they are now at liberty under \$5,000 bond along with MANNARINO.

RABIN, during previous interviews with Bureau Agents in the EZHAYA case, has stated that he received the bonds pledged in Switzerland and Chicago from one ALFREDO GARCIA, not further identified, in return for his services andanticipated purchase of weapons for FIDEL CASTRO. On the basis of investigation in the EZHAYA case, it appears that the bonds were turned over to the MANNARINO combination in Montreal, Canada, in late August, 1958, by RENE ROBERT. It has been determined from one of the co-conspirators that sometime in 1957, MANNARINO, ROTHMAN and their confederates received certain gambling rights in Cuba from the BATISTA Government and reportedly moved 2,000 slot machines into the Havana area. During the ensuing period, up to the summer of 1958, the slots became less and less profitable due to larceny from the machines and also because of the increasing charges placed upon the operation of the machines by the BATISTA Government. MANNARINO began watching the activities of FIDEL CASTRO and his 26 July Movement with a view toward gaining favor with him in the event the Rebellion was successful. The MANNARINO combine desired to secure a large sum of money which would be used to purchase a bank in Europe and the eventual purchase of arms and ammunition for the Cuban Rebellion. It is indicated that these hoodlums considered the possibility that CASTRO might be defeated. Consequently, they laid plans simultaneously for furnishing military aid and assistance to the BATISTA forces. Apparently, during 1957, a plan was formulated to transfer 3 million dollars to a bank in Europe for the purchase of arms. The transfer was to be handled by WILLIAM W. RABIN, a Chicago, Illinois, business consultant and former front for MANNARINO in an unsuccessful venture into the jukebox manufacturing business in Chicago during 1947. As plans further developed, RABIN reportedly planned to transfer 10 million dollars to a European bank in exchange for a fee of \$250,000.

Dr. JAMES THORNTON McCLOWRY, MD, a PCI of the Pittsburgh Office, on 7/2/59, advised SA THOMAS G. FORSYTH, III, that he had examined SAM MANNARINO'S medical records on file at the Mercy Hospital in Pittsburgh. It is recalled that MANNARINO

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underwent surgery at Mercy Hospital during the summer of 1958, for the removal of an alleged cyst from his intestinal Dr. McCLOWRY pointed out that the medical record he examined on MANNARINO showed only that an exploratory operation was performed by Dr. GEORGE REGIS MILLER, Chief Surgeon at Mercy Hospital, and that the medical report while describing the surgical techniques involved in some detail, made no mention whatever of the reason or the exploratory Dr. McCLOWRY described this as somewhat of an unusual recording since it was obvious that the physician performing the operation did not want his findings made Dr. McCLOWRY went on to say that in a matter of record. the interest of obtaining a clear picture of MANNARINO's state of health, he was able to discreetly obtain a copy of another medical record on MANNARINO in the private office of Chief Surgeon GEORGE REGIS MILLER. According to Dr. McCLOWRY, this record discloses that MANNARINO is suffering from a spreading cancer in his lower abdomen which was discovered during the operation in the summer of 1958. The record indicates that MANNARINO is undergoing radiation and cobalt treatments at Mercy Hospital and Dr. McCLOWRY's diagnosis is that MANNARINO will probably die sometime within the next 12 months.

Dr. McCLOWRY, on 7/23/59, advised SAS FORSYTH and DOUCE that SAM MANNARINO got in touch with him several days ago and requested that he become his personal physician. Dr. McCLOWRY said that the introduction to MANNARINO was arranged by the Reverend NICKOLAI FUSCO, Pastor of the St. Peters Roman Catholic Church in New Kensington. Dr. McCLOWRY mentioned that he had discussed the possible treatment of MANNARINO with Father FUSCO who appeared to be very concerned that MANNARINO might have cancer and he wanted Dr. McCLOWRY to become his physician as soon as possible and conduct necessary examinations and tests in an effort to confirm his suspicions. Dr. McCLOWRY told Father FUSCO that he would examine MANNARINO at the first opportunity.

MAJOR PEDRO LUIS DIZ LANZ

"Time" Magazine, July 13, 1959, issue, carried an article concerning the dismissal of Major LANZ as Commander of the Cuban Air Force because of his outspoken attitude regarding the

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alleged communist infiltration in the Cuban armed forces. "Time" Magazine described Pilot LANZ as one of the authentic heroes of the Cuban Rebellion who flew weapons from the United States into rebel territory. The article stated that LANZ was the object of a nation-wide man-hunt in Cuba following his resignation and since news broadcasts in Pittsburgh on 7/12/59, pointed out that Major LANZ had been granted asylum in the United States and would appear before the Senate Internal Security Sub-Committee on 7/13/59, the Pittsburgh Office requested Bureau authority for Washington Field to conduct a complete interview.

The Bureau has since authorized an interview with Major LANZ when he concludes his testimony before the Senate Sub-Committee and the Committee has no further interest in Major LANZ.

Previous investigation in this case indicates the possibility that Major LANZ may be acquainted with JOSEPH MEROLA and NORMAN ROTHMAN, both of whom are exceptionally familiar with the Cuban interior in connection with MANNARINO slot machine interests in Camaguey and Santiago de Cuba. As a matter of information, Camaguey is located some 75 miles from CASTRO's wartime command post in the Sierra Maestra Mountain Range.

BURGLARY OF THE NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY, CANTON, OHIO, 10/14/58

PCI FRANCIS LA CAMERA on 6/25/59, advised SA HOBART C. LOVETT that his brother, CHARLES LA CAMERA, aka., "RED", (also a PCI of the Pittsburgh Office) and JOHN MOLDOVAN of Farrell, Pa., told him several months ago that they had been approached by JOHN and PHIL SCARDINA of Sharon, Pa., to pull the Armory PCI further advised that his brother and MOLDOVAN job in Canton. refused to accept the score but referred the SCARDINA brothers to JAMES ZIMMERMAN and WILLIE NAPOLI. PCI pointed out that ZIMMERMAN and NAPOLI also refused to accept the job because it involved a Federal violation but added that ZIMMERMAN and NAPOLI made arrangements for the SCARDINAS to contact SANDY NAPLES of Youngstown, Ohio. PCI stated that he did not know the identity of those who actually pulled the score at the Armory but he is

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positive that SANDY NAPLES hired the men for the job. According to PCI, CHARLES CARABBIA, brother of RONALD CARABBIA, who was recently apprehended by the FBI for Unlawful Flight to Avoid Prosecution for the crime of Burglary, also knows the identity of the men who stole the weapons from the Armory. PCI stated that he has had little contact with NAPLES recently but would attempt to learn the identity of the men who pulled the Armory job.

PCI went on to say that he did not know the person who contacted the SCARDINA brothers but described him as a comparatively young man from New Kensington or McKeesport, Pa., who is a member of the MANNARINO combination and one of the men now under indictment in Pittsburgh in connection with the Armory job.

It is noted that VICTOR CARLUCCI, aged 37, the son-in-law of SAM MANNARINO, or DANIEL HANNA, aged 32, would most closely fit informants description of the contact man.

TELEPHONE COMPANY SOURCES

The source at the Meadville Telephone Co., Meadville, Pa., is Mr. RALPH W. HORTON, Assistant Manager, contacted by SA OLIVER H. HUNTER.

The source at the Bell Telephone Co., of Pennsylvania, Warren, Pa., Offices is ROBERT ANSTADT, Manager, contacted by SA ROBERT L. OLSON.

The source at the Bell Telephone Co., of Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh Office, is WILLIAM MEREDITH, Special Agent, contacted by SA HAROLD L. STEVENS.

LEADS

All offices conducting investigation in this case are requested to submit results promptly in report form in order that the Bureau may be kept fully advised of current developments.

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AT CANTON, YOUNGSTOWN AND WARREN, OHIO

- 1. Will identify and develop background information concerning SANDY NAPLES, who, according to Pittsburgh PCI FRANCIS LA CAMERA, hired the men who pulled the Canton Armory burglary.
- 2. Will contact logical criminal informants and conduct necessary investigation to determine whether NAPLES has any connection with GEORGE MIKE FLOREA at Canton, Youngstown and Warren, Ohio.
- 3. Will determine the location of RONALD DAVID CARABBIA who was apprehended by Bureau Agents in Chicago and released on \$25,000 bond in Common Pleas Court, Warren, on 7/2/59. Will then interview CARABBIA concerning the Canton Armory Job.
- 4. Will determine the whereabouts of RONALD's brother, CHARLES CARABBIA, and interview him in detail concerning his activities around 10/14/58, in light of information furnished by PCI LA CAMERA that CHARLES knows the identity of the men who stole the weapons from the Armory.

AT CLEVELAND, OHIO

- 1. Will review the case entitled "RONALD DAVID CARABBIA, aka. FUGITIVE; ET AL; UFAP ARMED ROBBERY" (Cleveland file 88-2755), 00: Cleveland, for information regarding subject's activities during the period of the Canton Armory job that might be of value in the solution of this case. It is noted that the Pittsburgh file in this matter does not contain sufficient information for the review to be accomplished by the Pittsburgh Office.
- 2. Will set out leads to have WILLIE NAPOLI and JAMES ZIMMERMAN interviewed regarding the approach by the SCARDINA brothers for the Armory job when NAPOLI and ZIMMERMAN are apprehended in connection with the UFAP case.

LOS ANGELES

AT PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

1. Will conduct investigation requested in Pittsburgh airtel to Los Angeles, 7/15/59, concerning the possible purchase of large quantities of arms and ammunition by JEROME M. GLUCK, FBI #5039711, at the Golden State Arms Company and the Rental

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MIAMI

AT MIAMI AND MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA

- 1. Will conduct investigation requested in Pittsburgh airtel to the Bureau dated 6/22/59, regarding the location of additional cards at the Sea Gull Hotel in the name of SAL MANN or SAM MANNARINO irrespective of date and forward to FBI Laboratory for comparison with the writing on the SAL MANN registration card previously obtained from the Sea Gull Hotel.
- 2. Will obtain handwriting specimens in the mame of SAL MANN, Brooklyn, New York, from all employees of the Sea Gull Hotel who worked at the Registration Desk from 10/23/58-11/7/58, and submit specimens to the FBI Laboratory to be compared with the writing on the SAL MANN registration card. Handwriting specimens in the name, SAL MANN, Brooklyn, New York, should also be obtained from the Manager of the Sea Gull Hotel, who is a PCI of your office. The purpose of this investigation is to determine whether in the light of possible fear of MANNARINO on the part of the Manager or employees they may be withholding the fact that one of them did recognize MANNARINO when he registered at the hotel as SAL MANN and might have filled out the registration card for him.
- Will review guest registration cards at the Sea Gull Hotel for the period, 10/23/58-11/7/58, for the purpose of identifying the individuals who entered the hotel during that time who were assigned rooms across the hall and adjacent to MANN's If at all possible, will determine who room during that period. occupied the rooms on either side of MANN's room as well as the room across the hall during the pertinent period if the identities of the guests are not found in registration cards for the period, 10/23-11/7/58. In the event one of the subjects under indictment in this case is recognized, toll call checks should be conducted for evidence of calls to New Kensington. If the occupants of rooms near MANN's room are recognized as MANNARINO confederates, they should be identified and handwriting specimens obtained on the theory that one of them signed the register for MANNARINO as SAL MANN.
- 4. Will conduct investigation requested in Pittsburgh airtel to the Bureau dated 6/25/59, concerning the submission of the warranty deed bearing SAM MANNARINO's signature to the FBI

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AT NEW KENSINGTON, PA. (WESTMORELAND COUNTY)

- 1. Will interview FRANK GUZ, 168 7th Extension, to determine if possible why he was called by SAMUEL MANNARINO under the name, SAL MANN, from the Sea Gull Hotel in Miami Beach, Florida, on 11/3/58.
- 2. Will consider interviewing SAMUEL MANNARINO when and if Miami is successful in establishing his presence at the Sea Gull Hotel, in contact with other co-conspirators during the period, 10/24/58 11/7/58.
- 3. Will interview Mrs. (FNU) NICHOIS, an employee of the Ken Iron and Steel Co., 1263 Third Ave., for any information she may be able to furnish in this case particularly concerning her reported anxiety when obtaining supplies from the company warehouse at the intersection of 14th St., between Third and Fourth Avenues, approximately a week before STUART SUTOR was arrested in Morgantown, W.Va.

AT WEST MIDDLESEX, PA. (MERCER COUNTY)

1. Will maintain close contact with PCI FRANCIS LA CAMERA for additional information concerning the identity of the men who pulled the Canton Armory job.

AT FARRELL, PA. (MERCER COUNTY)

l. Will, in the light of additional information obtained by PCI FRANCIS LA CAMERA, consider the advisability of interviewing JOHN MOLDOVAN regarding the approach by the SEARDINA brothers for him to pull the Canton Armory job with CHARLES LA CAMERA.

AT PITTSBURGH, PA. (ALLEGHENY COUNTY)

1. Will follow and report results of prosecution in the NDWVA and WDPA.

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