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SEBASTIAN JOHN LAROCCA

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OFFICE MEMORANDUM - United States Government

TO: Director, FBI (92-2940)

Date: 7/9/58

✓ FROM: *ELP* SAC, Pittsburgh (92-226)

SUBJECT: SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA, was.,  
ANTI-RACKETEERING  
OO: Pittsburgh

7/9/58 Enclosed is report of SA ROBERT A. VOEGE, at Pittsburgh,

REFERENCES

Miami airtel to Pittsburgh, 5/2/58  
Letter to Bureau from Legat, Rome, 4/30/58  
Report of SA ROBERT A. VOEGE, Pittsburgh, 5/15/58  
Report of SA WILLIAM HENRY SIMMS, New York, 5/12/58  
Philadelphia letter to Pittsburgh, 5/29/58  
Miami airtel to Pittsburgh, 5/29/58  
Albany letter to Pittsburgh, 5/29/58  
Miami airtel to Pittsburgh, 6/2/58  
Baltimore letter to Pittsburgh, 6/6/58  
Dallas airtel to Pittsburgh, 6/11/58  
Report of SA FRANCIS B. JENKINS, Buffalo, 6/13/58

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED *21,26*  
DATE *5/8/86* BY *SP8BJA/GCL*

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.

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

RAV:AAP  
(15)

ENCLOSURE

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JUL 28 1958

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CRIMINAL INFORMANT COVERAGE

The Baltimore Office advised on 6/2/58 that on 5/30/58 MAX GOLDBERG, accountant for several of Pittsburgh's top hoodlums in the past, had stated to SA PAUL A. TURNER that he would cooperate with the FBI if he had information which might be of assistance. He requested that he be contacted at Pittsburgh sometime prior to 6/9/58 and advised that he expected to be back at his Baltimore, Maryland, residence on or about 7/1/58.

MAX LOUIS GOLDBERG, accountant for MIKE GENOVESE, SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA, and GABRIEL and SAMUEL MANNARINO for many years, was interviewed by SA ROBERT A. VOEGE on 6/6/58 at his apartment in the Kennilworth Apartments, 5700 Centre Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa., regarding SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA. He advised that he is still handling the income tax returns and other such accounting business for LA ROCCA and has been intimately acquainted with him for many years. He stated that he appeared at Pittsburgh during the trial of LA ROCCA several years ago and investigated LA ROCCA's past accounts, at which time he found that LA ROCCA actually owed the government money. He advised that he informed LA ROCCA of this fact and told LA ROCCA he would have to pay. GOLDBERG estimates that LA ROCCA owes him approximately \$5,000 for work which he has done for him in the past. He stated that he fully expects to be reimbursed by LA ROCCA but does not know when this will be. He advised that he is an honest accountant who has never had any reason to conceal anything that might be of interest to the Federal Government. During a discussion of his background, he advised that he had once made application to the FBI and the U.S. Secret Service, but did not go into any branch of the Federal Government because more lucrative business propositions came about at approximately the same time.

GOLDBERG advised that he would be willing to cooperate with the FBI in his capacity as an accountant and would furnish any figures or work sheets that the FBI might want to examine. He was unable to furnish any specific information regarding LA ROCCA that is not already known by the Pittsburgh Office, and advised that the only work papers he has regarding LA ROCCA are duplicates of these which were sent to the Internal Revenue Service during the past several years. He stated that he is

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willing to be contacted on a regular and continuing basis but that he will telephonically contact the FBI in either Pittsburgh or Baltimore should he come into possession of any information which he feels would be of value to investigations being conducted on racketeers for whom he has worked.

The following individuals are being utilized by the Pittsburgh Office in the LA ROCCA investigation:

Miss FRANCES PRIAM, potential criminal informant, who is well acquainted with many of Pittsburgh's top hoodlums and who is presently employed as a waitress in the Red Eagle Club, formerly known as the Genovese Cocktail Lounge, 412 Larimer Avenue, Pittsburgh, where she comes in constant contact with MIKE GENOVESE, JOHN LA ROCCA, subject's younger brother, and other members of Pittsburgh's racketeering element. She is presently being utilized for the coverage of the GENOVESE-LA ROCCA-NELSON interests.

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

GEORGE "MOON" MESSER, a potential criminal informant, who is intimately acquainted with many Pittsburgh top hoodlums and racketeers through association with them when they began their racket careers, and who is presently being utilized for coverage of the GENOVESE-NELSON-LA ROCCA interests.

GEORGE "ZIP" ZAPPA, a potential criminal informant, who is presently engaged in racket activity in the city of Pittsburgh and who is being utilized for general coverage of lottery operations and numbers operations in the Pittsburgh area.

AL BUCK, former Allegheny County Detective and present Vice President of the Fidelity Trust Company, Loan Department, Pittsburgh, Pa., who is being utilized for his knowledge of the Bankers Exchange in Pittsburgh

whereby 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.

In an effort to increase criminal informant coverage, it is anticipated that CHARLES CAPUTO, Assistant City Solicitor for the city of Pittsburgh, will again be contacted for his views and opinions concerning the Pittsburgh criminal situation. It is further anticipated that THOMAS MARTIN, Vice President, Real Estate Department, Potter Bank and Trust Company, Pittsburgh, will keep the Pittsburgh Office advised of any new developments concerning the proposed construction of a motel backed by GENOVESE and ARTHUR D. NELSON in the Monroeville, Pa., vicinity, which would probably have to have the approval of SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA.

It is further anticipated that former Pittsburgh top hoodlum SAMUEL NATHANIEL LEVINE, who is now a potential criminal informant for the Pittsburgh Office, will be contacted at regular intervals so that a more complete picture of the racketeering activities in the city of Pittsburgh may be obtained.

#### LEADS

#### JACKSONVILLE & MIAMI (Information)

One copy of this report is being furnished to the Jacksonville Office and one is being furnished to the Miami Office, both for information, because of allegations made by the wife of LA ROCCA and the Pittsburgh informants concerning subject's travel in Florida and Cuba during his so-called "disappearance" from Pittsburgh. With the background supplied, it is felt that these offices can intelligently handle the coverage of any future leads requested.

#### BALTIMORE

#### AT BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

It is requested that MAX LOUIS GOLDBERG be recontacted upon his return to his Baltimore residence for any information

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that might have come into his possession since his contact by a Bureau agent at Pittsburgh. It should be noted that GOLDBERG was contacted without any advance warning about what he would be interviewed about and it is felt that careful deliberation and thought on his part might result in further information not recalled during the time of the interview concerning top hoodlums SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA and MIKE GENOVESE.

**BUFFALO**

AT BUFFALO, NEW YORK

It is requested that the subscriber to Buffalo telephone Moh 9610, which was contacted from the LA ROCCA residence on 5/16/58, be ascertained and a brief summary of his background set forth.

**NEW YORK**

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Will ascertain the identity of the subscribers to telephone numbers CU 5-8367 and AL 7-2715, and set forth brief background data concerning these subscribers. It should be noted that CU 5-8367 is a number which has been called from the LA ROCCA residence on numerous occasions and that the last contact made from the LA ROCCA residence with AL 7-2715 was on 4/15/58, for a total of 23 minutes.

**PHILADELPHIA**

AT WAYNE, PA.

Inasmuch as officials at the Peoples First National Bank and Trust Company of Pittsburgh can find no savings or checking account in the name of LA ROCCA or any of his known aliases, will ascertain complete information concerning the checks with which the subject pays for his adopted son's room and board at Valley Forge Military Academy. Number of check, date drawn and signature should be ascertained and a stop placed against the next check received by that school so that it can be determined exactly where the subject now has his bank account.

PITTSBURGH

AT PITTSBURGH, PA. (ALLEGHENY)

1. Will maintain contact with the officials of the Pittsburgh offices of the USM, Immigration and Naturalization Service and Internal Revenue Service so that any new developments concerning their interest in this matter will be received immediately.
2. Will maintain regular and continuing contact with CHARLES THOMAS, Box 71, Ingomar, Pa., (telephone Forest 4-9995) the owner and operator of the Gulf Service Station near the LA ROCCA residence so that it can be immediately determined when the subject arrives at his residence.
3. Will check the list of toll calls made from Forest 4-5296, the home telephone of the subject, for the names of racket associates not now known to the Pittsburgh Office and will identify and obtain appropriate background of subscribers to telephone numbers called.
4. Will, in the event informants advise that the subject has arrived in the Pittsburgh vicinity, immediately contact the office of the USM where two subpoenas are outstanding and will conduct discreet surveillances of his travel, noting pertinent contacts made by him.
5. Will set out appropriate leads on tangible results obtained from a mail cover placed on the residence of the subject at Ingomar.
6. Will regularly contact potential criminal informants GEORGE "MOON" MESSER and FRANCES PRIAM so that ample coverage may be afforded the LA ROCCA-GENOVESE-NELSON interests.
7. Will, through established informant coverage, endeavor to ascertain the specific whereabouts of the subject during the months of February through June, 1958, and his mode of travel during that period.