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Information Relating To Testimony Before Federal Grand Jury
At [redacted] Pa., On [redacted] Of [redacted]

On 3/23/59, U. S. Attorney HUBERT I. TEITELBAUM, Pittsburgh, furnished the following information to SAC E. H. WINTERROWD and SAs RICHARD GORDON DOUCE and THOMAS G. FORSYTH III:

During his appearance before the Federal Grand Jury meeting at [redacted] on [redacted] advised [redacted]

JFK Law 10(a)2

[redacted] took the protection of the Fifth Amendment when he was asked if [redacted]

JFK Law 10(a)2

[redacted] Outside the Federal Grand Jury room, however, advised the U. S. Attorney that he had not attended the meeting at Apalachin.

During his appearance before a Federal Grand Jury at [redacted] on [redacted] advised that he [redacted]

JFK Law 10(a)2

[redacted] He took advantage of the Fifth Amendment when he was asked questions regarding [redacted] and he also pleaded the Fifth Amendment when he was asked questions regarding [redacted]

JFK Law 10(a)2

During his appearance before the Federal Grand Jury meeting at [redacted] on [redacted] advised he [redacted]

JFK Law 10(a)2

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- ON 10/10/92 *Forst*
- ☒ RELEASE IN FULL
- ☐ RELEASE IN PART
- ☐ TOTAL DENIAL

- A -
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92-2940-47
10/10/92-10/10/92
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JFK Law 10(a)2

[redacted] but took the protection of the Fifth Amendment when he was asked [redacted]

JFK Law 10(a)2

He also took this Constitutional privilege when he was asked if [redacted]

JFK Law 10(a)2

CRIMINAL INFORMANT COVERAGE *Pa.*

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

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

PG 585-C, who is well acquainted with most of Pittsburgh's top hoodlums and who was formerly employed as a waitress in the Red Eagle Club, once known as the Genovese Cocktail Lounge, 412 Larimer Ave., Pittsburgh. Informant still visits this establishment and comes in constant contact with MIKE GENOVESE and other members of Pittsburgh's racketeering element in her role as a medium-priced prostitute. Informant is presently travelling with Mrs. JULIA MINTZ, widow of JAKE MINTZ, co-owner of EZZARD CHARLES, former World's heavyweight boxing champion. She is presently being utilized for the coverage of the GENOVESE-LA ROCCA-NELSON interests.

GEORGE "MOON" MESSER, a PCI who is presently very active in Pittsburgh numbers operations and who was arrested during the month of August, 1958, in connection with his operation. MESSER is intimately acquainted with many Pittsburgh top

- B -
COVER PAGE

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10(a)(2)

hoodlums and racketeers through association with them when they began their racket careers. He is presently being utilized for coverage of the GENOVESE-NELSON interests and is also contributing information regarding the VOLPE brothers who are close associates of GENOVESE and LA ROCCA.

GEORGE "ZIP" ZAPPA, a PCI of the Pittsburgh Office presently engaged in racket activity in the City of Pittsburgh who is being utilized for general coverage of lottery and numbers operations in the Pittsburgh area.

HENRY J. BARBER, a PCI of the Pittsburgh Office who is part owner of the notorious gambling establishment at Chester, W. Va., known as Club 30, who is being utilized for information concerning the club and the interest in it of Pittsburgh hoodlums associated with both LA ROCCA and GENOVESE.

Miss MARIAN FOGEL, a PCI of the Pittsburgh Office who is being utilized for information concerning Pittsburgh prostitution activities and as a check on the activities of Miss FRANCES PRIAM.

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

HERMAN ISRAEL, a confidential source of the Pittsburgh Office who is being utilized for information concerning the MANNARINO organization in New Kensington, Pa., and who is also furnishing information regarding tieups with the GENOVESE organization in Pittsburgh.

- C -
COVER PAGE

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WILLIAM A. DOBKIN, a confidential source of the Pittsburgh Office who was extremely helpful to Pittsburgh Agents during the investigation of the RALPH KINER extortion investigation several years ago and whose brother-in-law, NORMAN FARBER, is a member of the MANNARINO organization.

In an effort to increase criminal informant coverage, the PCIs under development are being contacted on a continuing and regular basis so that information obtained from them may be used on a day-to-day basis in connection with spot surveillances of the establishments frequented by the subject when he is in the Pittsburgh vicinity.

It is anticipated that THOMAS MARTIN, Vice-President of the Real Estate Department of the Fidelity Trust Co., Potter Branch, in Pittsburgh, will keep the Pittsburgh Office advised of any new developments concerning the proposed construction of a motel financed by MIKE GENOVESE and ARTHUR D. NELSON in the Monroeville, Pa., vicinity which would undoubtedly have to have the approval and overall financial backing of SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA.

LEADS

BALTIMORE, JACKSONVILLE, MIAMI, AND PHILADELPHIA - INFO

One copy of this report is being furnished to the Baltimore Office inasmuch as that office has leads outstanding relating to the whereabouts of national top hoodlum GABRIEL "KELLY" MANNARINO and the subject during the period of their disappearance from the Pittsburgh area.

One copy of this report is being furnished to the Jacksonville and Miami Offices for informational purposes because of allegations made by the wife of LA ROCCA and Pittsburgh informants concerning subject's travel to Florida and Cuba during his disappearance from Pittsburgh following the Apalachin, N. Y., conference during November, 1957. With the background thus supplied, it is felt that these offices can intelligently handle the coverage of future leads requested in that vicinity.

- D -
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: ROBERT A. VOEGE

Office: PITTSBURGH

Date: MAY 12 1959

File Number: Pittsburgh 92-226

Bureau 92-2940

Title:

SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA

Character: ANTI-RACKETEERING

JFK Law 10(a)2

Synopsis:

[redacted] appeared before Federal Grand Jury at [redacted] on [redacted] and was questioned for more than one hour about matters relating to [redacted]

[redacted] Hearing was attended by representative of U. S. Attorney General's Special Group. Appearance of [redacted]

[redacted] since shortly after meeting of hoodlums in November, 1957, received widespread newspaper publicity citing his Apalachin connection and stories were accompanied by photographs, for which subject unhesitatingly posed. Appearing before same grand jury were [redacted]

[redacted] and [redacted] but testimony, or lack thereof, has not been made public to date. United States Attorney is considering appearance of [redacted]

[redacted] before future [redacted] Federal Grand Jury. Date has not been set for appearance of subject before U. S. Senate Select Committee on Improper Activities in the Labor or Management Field. IN VIEW OF THE CONVICTION OF SUBJECT FOR ASSAULT WITH INTENT TO KILL AND HIS ARREST FOR CARRYING A CONCEALED WEAPON, HE MAY BE ARMED AND SHOULD BE CONSIDERED DANGEROUS.

- P -

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Out Of Jail." In a lengthy coverage of VALENTI's appearances before the New York State Commission this article quoted VALENTI as saying he had not only met GABRIEL MANNARINO at the meeting but had also met MICHAEL JAMES GENOVESE of Gibsonia, Pa. He stated there were 30 or 40 persons at Apalachin, according to his estimate, but that there could have been 50. He said he only knew 4 or 5 of them and said that he did not inquire how it was that such a large gathering was held in BARBARA's home in the middle of the day during the middle of the week. The article quoted him as saying that he was at the BARBARA home for about six hours eating and drinking brandy. It also quoted him as saying that he was undismayed when it was made known that State Police were on the premises and that even if J. EDGAR HOOVER, FBI chief, was there he would not have been bothered.

An article appearing in the "Pittsburgh Press" dated March 26, 1959, and entitled "VALENTI'S Fail In Freedom Bid" stated that the New York State Supreme Court had refused on that date to set free FRANK VALENTI, ex-Pittsburgh racketeer, and his brother, COSTENZE, who had been in jail since August, 1958. It quoted Justice EDGAR J. NATION as saying "The court is not required to shut its eyes to reality and accept answers which are replies in form only but, which in substance, are as useless as complete refusals to answer."

Information Regarding Possible New Business Associates of LA ROCCA

PG T-3, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that he has reason to believe that

JFK Law 11(a)

*Release in part
per IRS 7/14/98/gd*

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a croupier at the MANNARINO gambling establishment in New Kensington, Pa. He said that he has been present at that establishment with RINALDO and that RINALDO mentioned to him approximately 5 or 6 days prior to the time the MANNARINOS and LA ROCCA were to appear before the Federal Grand Jury at Pittsburgh, that no one was to call his home under any circumstances because he would have a couple from out of town staying there and that they did not want to be bothered. He described them only as a man and girl and the informant advised he never saw them because they never left the house but had "CHIPS" bring in food for the girl to cook. He believes they exchanged cars also and that RINALDO drove this car to New Kensington nightly while the couple stayed at his house. The informant stated that he had an idea the couple had something to do with the Federal Grand Jury and wondered whether there was anyone who did not answer a subpoena and could not be located. He further advised that RINALDO has a rooming a house almost directly across the street from the Pepsi-Cola bottling plant near the 5700 block of Center Avenue and answers telephone number EMerson 2-2298.

A review of the Crisscross Telephone Directory for the City of Pittsburgh reflects that one ALFRED RONALLO of 5717 Fifth Avenue, subscribed to telephone EMerson 2-2298.

PG T-2 advised that on March 10, 1959, a collect telephone call was made to the aforementioned number from GALE RUSH, Room 411, Mayfair Hotel, Baltimore, Md., and that on March 15, 1959, a call was made from the aforementioned number to LE 9-7640. The party was identified as GALE RUSH, Room 411, Mayfair Hotel, Baltimore.

PG T-5 advised that when JOHN LA ROCCA returned to Pittsburgh, from the location at which he was hiding since shortly after the Apalachin meeting in November, 1957, his youngest brother JOHN, who is known in racket circles as "Young JOHNNIE" left his racket setup in Johnstown, Pa., and spent almost 3 weeks in Pittsburgh, presumably for conferences with his brother. He said that "Young JOHNNIE" telephoned FRANCES PRIAM, Pittsburgh prostitute and former paramour of the subject, for dates on 3 occasions

while in Pittsburgh and was desirous of having that individual come to Johnstown with him for a short stay. He said that when "Young JOHNNIE" comes to Pittsburgh he always stays with his brother TONY, a barber whose children are grown. He explained that TONY is ostensibly not connected with the rackets in any manner and is more lenient about late hours and carousing than is the subject.

PG T-4 advised that the term "Mafia" was never used when he was closely associated with LA ROCCA, FRANK AMATO, and the MANNARINO brothers. He said that everyone knew these individuals during the late 1930's and early 40's as "blackhanders" and that this term was bandied about without fear at the offices of the Coin Machine Distributing Company on Baum Boulevard in Pittsburgh where LA ROCCA held sway. He said that the aforementioned individuals hired groups of "toughs" to do their work for them and that these hoodlums of low intelligence and poor Italian background carried no knives or guns. He said that he recalls that they were armed with cue sticks which they had ostensibly stolen from poolrooms throughout the Pittsburgh area and which had been sawed off to 12-15" lengths. He explained that the heavy end of the cue stick was used as the business end and that a hole was bored into the bottom and lead used as a further weight. He said that after the lead was inserted into the hole, the hole was corked or filled in some other manner to make a flat surface.

The informant recalled that he was given one of the aforementioned cue sticks as a present by MIKE GENOVESE, who fashioned it for his own use, and that he was told by GENOVESE to use it "for protection." He said he would still have the stick if he had not left it in a glove compartment of a car he sold and does not recall just when these sticks went out of fashion. He recalled that in those days the Italian element in Pittsburgh had a great fear and respect of LA ROCCA who was, to all intents and purposes, the leader of the "blackhanders." He said that LA ROCCA was overshadowed on many occasions, however, by FRANK AMATO, a more mature and calm racketeer who gave many orders himself and was far more respected than was LA ROCCA because of his restraint and thoughtfulness in dealing with men working for him. He said that working in the same office AMATO was a direct contrast to LA ROCCA and tempered LA ROCCA's orders and blusteryness somewhat.

will have to be handled, however, within the next five or six weeks, and that at the end of that time LA ROCCA will probably be called before him to answer some questions concerning his whereabouts during his disappearance and for further instructions regarding his petition for naturalization. HEIMOVITZ advised that he will immediately contact the Pittsburgh Office of the FBI should any new recommendations concerning the petition filed by LA ROCCA come to his attention and that he will advise SA VOEGE as to the date he will request LA ROCCA to appear.

Liaison Maintained With Pittsburgh Offices of the United States Attorney and United States Marshal

HUBERT H. TEITELBAUM, United States Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania at Pittsburgh, advised SA VOEGE on May 3, 1959, that no date has been set as far as he knows for the appearance of either SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA or GABRIEL "KELLY" MANNARINO before the U. S. Senate Select Committee on Improper Activities in the Labor or Management Field. He stated that his official records reflect that

[redacted] appeared before a Federal Grand Jury sitting at [redacted] on [redacted] and was questioned about matters relating to [redacted]

[redacted] He stated that this hearing was attended by a representative of the U. S. Attorney General's Special Group and that appearing before this same Grand Jury hearing were [redacted]

[redacted] He stated that he has no plans for releasing the testimony or lack thereof of these individuals and that he has made none public to date. He also advised that he is giving serious consideration to the appearance of [redacted] before a Federal Grand Jury meeting at Pittsburgh in the future despite the fact that he has already appeared before a Federal Grand Jury in New York City.

ALBERT DIMEOLO, United States Marshal for the Western District of Pennsylvania at Pittsburgh, advised SA VOEGE on April 30, 1959, that he has received no other subpoenas for SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA or for any of his racket associates. He stated he will immediately advise the Pittsburgh Office should subpoenas arrive for any racket individuals within his jurisdiction.

REVIEWED BY ^{6045A} ~~EN~~ JFK TASK FORCE

ON 10/10/97 *dal*

- ☐ RELEASE IN FULL
- ☒ RELEASE IN PART
- ☐ TOTAL DENIAL

10/10/97

INFORMANTS

- PG T-1 is H. W. GLENN, Postal Inspector, Pittsburgh, Pa., Post Office, who was contacted on April 20, 1959, by SA ROBERT A. VOEGE and who has requested that his identity be concealed.
- PG T-2 is WILLIAM MEREDITH, Special Agent, Bell Telephone Co., of Pennsylvania, who was contacted by SA HAROLD L. STEVENS on April 24, 1959, and who has requested that his identity be concealed.
- PG T-3 is ROBERT GANLEY of the Intelligence Division of the Internal Revenue Service, Pittsburgh Office, New Federal Building, Pittsburgh, Pa., who was contacted by SA VOEGE on March 18, 1959, and who has requested that his identity be concealed.
- PG T-4 is GEORGE "MOON" MESSER, a potential criminal informant of the Pittsburgh Office who was contacted by SA VOEGE on April 28, 1959.
- PG T-5 is PG 585-C, who was contacted by SA VOEGE on April 7, 1959.