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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office PITTSBURGH	Office of Origin PITTSBURGH	Date 6/29/59	Investigative Period 5/5 - 6/23/59
TITLE OF CASE  SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA, aka.		Report made by ROBERT A. VOEGE	Typed By: ban
		CHARACTER OF CASE  ANTI-RACKETEERING	

## REFERENCES

Report of SA ROBERT A. VOEGE, Pittsburgh, 5/12/59.  
Baltimore letter to Pittsburgh, 6/10/59 (interoffice).

- P -

## CRIMINAL INFORMANT COVERAGE

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

Approved  Special Agent in Charge	Do not write in spaces below	
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	JUL 2 1959	EX-124
	CRIMINTEL STAT. SECT.	

67 JUL 9 - 1959

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Reporting Office <b>PITTSBURGH</b>	Office of Origin <b>PITTSBURGH</b>	Date <b>6/29/59</b>	Investigative Period <b>5/5 - 6/23/59</b>
TITLE OF CASE  <b>SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA, aka.</b>		Report made by <b>ROBERT A. VOEGE</b>	Typed By: <b>ban</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE  <b>ANTI-RACKETEERING</b>	

SYNOPSIS

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Report of SA ROBERT A. VOEGE, Pittsburgh, 5/12/59.  
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## CRIMINAL INFORMANT COVERAGE

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		<b>JUL 2 1959</b>	<b>EX-124</b>

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**67 JUL 9 - 1959**

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Lounge, 412 Larimer Avenue, 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 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 PG 585-C.

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

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COVER PAGE

also furnishing information regarding tieups with the GENOVESE organization in Pittsburgh.

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 Company, Potter Branch, in Pittsburgh, will keep the Pittsburgh Office advised of any new developments concerning the commenced 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

#### JACKSONVILLE, MIAMI AND PHILADELPHIA - INFORMATION

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, New York, 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.

The Philadelphia Office is being furnished with a copy of this report for information in view of the attendance of the adopted son of the subject at Valley Forge Academy, Wayne, Pa., and the occasional visits made by the subject to that vicinity during the school year.

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COVER PAGE

92-197-191-51

JOSEPH BARBARA

The "Pittsburgh Press" of June 18, 1959, carried a front-page article concerning the death of JOSEPH BARBARA of a heart attack on June 17, 1959. It stated that BARBARA, the "sick friend" that sixty gangsters dropped in to see at his Apalachin, New York, home on November 14, 1957, died of a heart ailment without revealing the secret purpose of the underworld convention. It noted that BARBARA, age 53, had been in Wilson Memorial Hospital at Johnson City, New York, since May 29, 1959, with a heart attack. The article further stated that the Sicilian-born BARBARA gave up both his business and his home after State Police rounded up his guests and that the home was sold for \$130,000 during May, 1959, to a developer who announced plans to convert it into a tourist attraction. The article noted that his lingering illness had prevented his questioning by state and Federal investigators who have indicted and jailed a number of the nation's biggest "name" criminals for allegedly lying or refusing to talk about his hilltop barbecue party.

C. CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES

General Information of a Criminal Nature Obtained Through Informant Coverage

PG T-2, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that "young JOHNNY" LA ROCCA, younger brother of JOHN LA ROCCA, came in from Johnstown, Pa., during the last week of May, 1959, and remained for at least five or six days. He stated that from his comments to him at the apartment in which he is living on one of the nights LA ROCCA was in Pittsburgh, he understood that one purpose of his extended stay was to confer with the elder LA ROCCA. He advised that the appearance of both LA ROCCA and GABRIEL "KELLY" MANNARINO before the Senate Labor Rackets Committee on June 11, 1959, caused quiet comment among his clientele in the rackets, most of which concerned the status of the citizenship of LA ROCCA and the possibility of his deportation.

II

GENOVESE at his lounge prior to Apalachin but that at that time he thought that SCIANDRA was from the New York City area.

The informant advised that he had occasion to speak to ARTHUR "ARCHIE" NELSON during the second week in June, 1959, and that NELSON said that he would have a cocktail lounge in his new Phoenix Motel at Monroeville, Pa. He said that unless he misunderstood NELSON, the partner of MIKE GENOVESE told him that a small restaurant was also in the planning stage. The informant said he carried on this conversation with NELSON at Conti's Restaurant in Pittsburgh's East Liberty section where he had arrived alone for an early breakfast at about 2:30 a.m. on a weekday morning. He said that NELSON also told him that he had been in Florida but did not mention the location or purpose of his visit.

PG T-3, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that East Liberty and Homewood bookmakers plying their trade in those sections of Pittsburgh are now under constant surveillance by the younger members of the Pittsburgh Police Department who have learned that they can collect \$10 each for staying away from the bookies for one week. He stated that one of the bookie establishments on Homewood Avenue in Pittsburgh is now under the control of EDDIE MORANTI, close confidante of MIKE GENOVESE and ARTHUR "ARCHIE" NELSON. He said that MORANTI once worked at Archie's Automatic Car Wash on Bennett Street and that he is now one of NELSON's pickup men in the East Liberty-Homewood area. He said that everyone knows that NELSON is simply the front for GENOVESE and that the entire operation is being backed by LA ROCCA.

The afore-mentioned informant advised that he was advised that eight policemen demanded money at one time during the last week of May, 1959, and that the pressure in the Homewood area has become so increased that a small operation in which he is interested has been lucky to net between \$100 and \$150 a day. He said that it has always been his contention that the GENOVESE-NELSON bookmaking operation will never be disturbed by the Pittsburgh Police Department because it has

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

HUBERT I. TEITELBAUM, United States Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania at Pittsburgh, advised SA VOEGE on June 11, 1959, that he still has no plans for publicly releasing the testimony or lack thereof of those individuals appearing before the Federal Grand Jury at [ ] on [ ] and that he has still not made up his mind as to whether to call [ ] before the next meeting of that group. TEITELBAUM advised that in event the testimony of [ ] is needed in the future he will immediately notify the Pittsburgh FBI Office. He said that he has no immediate future plans for the recall of [ ] before the Federal Grand Jury meeting at Pittsburgh.

JFK Law 10(a)2

ALBERT DIMEOLO, United States Marshal for the Western District of Pennsylvania at Pittsburgh, advised SA VOEGE on June 17, 1959, that he has received no other subpoenas for SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA or for any of his racket associates. He stated that he will immediately advise the Pittsburgh Office should subpoenas arrive for any racket individuals within his jurisdiction.

Surveillances Conducted Related to this Investigation

Spot surveillances were conducted on May 11, 21 and 27, 1959, and June 5, 15 and 18, 1959, at 900 West Ingomar Road, Ingomar, Pa., 12 McCandless Street, Pittsburgh, and at 500 North Craig Street, Pittsburgh, in relation to this matter. LA ROCCA was observed on several of these occasions but nothing of interest to this investigation, other than what has already been set forth, was observed during these spot surveillances. LA ROCCA was not contacted personally in any manner during these surveillances.

Recent Newspaper Publicity Relating to the Appearance of LA ROCCA and GABRIEL "KELLY" MANNARINO Before Senate Select Committee on Improper Activities in the Labor or Management Field of the United States on June 11, 1959

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REVIEWED BY ~~WJFK~~ TASK FORCE

ON 10/2/97 *del*

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

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REVIEWED BY ~~WJFK~~ TASK FORCE

ON 10/10/97 *del*

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

92-2940-48  
10(a)(2)



PG 92-226

INFORMANTS

PG T-1 is WILLIAM MEREDITH, Special Agent, Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania, who was contacted by SA HAROLD L. STEVENS on May 15, 1959, and who has requested that his identity be concealed.

PG T-2 is PG 585-C, who was contacted by SA ROBERT A. VOEGE On June 17, 1959.

PG T-3 is GEORGE "MOON" MESSER a PCI of the Pittsburgh Office who was contacted by SA VOEGE on June 17, 1959.