

October 18, 1946

9-14533 -1 ✓

RECORDED

SAC, New York

Re: Unknown Subject;
 John Torrio - Victim
 Extortion
 Your file #9-0

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Laboratory Report #D-58059 CT dated October 15, 1946 in connection with the above-entitled matter, a copy of which was forwarded to your office.

There are being transmitted herewith the following specimens, appropriate copies of the same having been made for the completion of the Bureau's files.

Specimens Q1 and Q2.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
 Director

Enclosure

REGISTERED MAIL

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

OCT 25 1946



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON D. C.

October 15, 1946

To: SAC, New York

There follows the report of the FBI Laboratory on the examination of evidence received from your office on October 7, 1946.

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover, Director

Re: UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
JOHN TORRIO - Victim
EXTORTION

Examination requested by: New York

Reference: Letter dated October 1, 1946

Examination requested: Document - Fingerprint

Specimens:

Q1 One envelope bearing handprinted address in pencil "Mr. John Torrio 8801 Shore Rd. Bklyn, N. Y." and marked "(Personal)"; postmarked "BROOKLYN, N. Y. SEP 24 1946 12:30 AM".

Q2 Accompanying handprinted letter beginning "To Johnny! We want 10 grand. You....", on reverse side beginning "only you to know about....".

ALSO SUBMITTED: Photostatic copies of Q1 and Q2.

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION:

Specimens Q1 and Q2 were compared with the material maintained in the Anonymous Letter File without effecting an identification. Appropriate photographic copies of the evidence are being placed in this file for future reference and comparison purposes.

Specimens Q1 and Q2 were chemically treated for the development of latent fingerprints and your office will be notified by separate report of the results of this examination.

Specimens Q1 and Q2 will be returned to your office upon completion of the fingerprint examination.

2-New York

1-Laboratory

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

VE:RLW

SAC, New York

October 21, 1946

Director, FBI

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS
JOHN TORRIO - VICTIM
EXTORTION

Reference is made to your letter of October 1, 1946, submitting the following described specimens for examination in connection with the above-entitled case:

- Q 1 One envelope bearing handprinted address in pencil "Mr. John Torrio 8801 Shore Rd. Bklyn, N.Y." and marked "(Personal)"; postmarked "Brooklyn, N.Y. Sep 24 1946 12:30 AM".
- Q 2 Accompanying handprinted letter beginning: "To Johnny! We want 10 grand. You...", on reverse side beginning: "only you to know about...."

You are advised that the above-listed specimens were examined, but no latent impressions of value for identification purposes were developed.

You are being separately advised concerning the results of the laboratory examination conducted.

RECORDED JR:CJO
9-14533-1

EX-18

RECEIVED 10 23 46

RECEIVED 10 23 46

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

NOV 4 1946

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICERECORDED 10-8-46
few 11:30 AMLaboratory Work Sheet Recorded 10-17-46 5:00 PM amb

LATENT!!!!!!!

Re: UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
JOHN TORRIO - Victim
EXTORTIONFile # 9-14533-1
Lab. # D-58059 CT
9-14533-1

Examination requested by: New York 9-0

Date of reference communication: let 10-1-46 Date received: 10-7-46

Examination requested: document - fingerprint

Result of Examination:

Examination by: KYL
ROBYAKSpecimens submitted for examination

- Q1 One envelope bearing handprinted address in pencil EM "Mr. John Torrio 8801 Shore Rd. Bklyn, N.Y." and marked "(Personal)"; pm BROOKLYN, N.Y. SEP 24 1946 12:30 AM.
- Q2 Accompanying handprinted letter beginning "To Johnny! We want 10 grand. You....", on reverse side beginning "only you to know about.....".

Also Submitted: Photostatic copies of Q1 and Q2.

*No latents of value det.
Dictated 10-18-46 Jue**1-25**ans
10-21-46
JR-cjs*

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI
 FROM : SAC, New York
 SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;
 JOHN TORRIO- Victim
 EXTORTION

DATE: October 1, 1946

58059

This will advise that on September 24, 1946 JOHN TORRIO, victim, received a letter threatening his life unless he paid \$10,000.

Enclosed herewith is the original and a photostatic copy of the letter received by victim TORRIO.

For the information of the Bureau, TORRIO has also received three telephone calls since the receipt of the letter, the latest one being at 11:15 a.m. on September 30, 1946. Although Mr. TORRIO received this letter on the 24th of September, he did nothing about it until September 30, 1946 when the information concerning the receipt of the letter was transmitted to this office by Mr. Quinn of the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York.

For the information of the FBI Laboratory, TORRIO is a former lieutenant or henchman of AL CAPONE and is on probation at the present time as a result of a sentence imposed for violation of the Income Tax law, for which violation the victim served a prison term of 2½ years.

TORRIO, upon interview, advised he has no suspects and could think of no one he knows who would obtain money from him through such a medium.

It is requested that the Laboratory conduct examinations in an effort to ascertain if there are any latent fingerprints on the letter which could be of use in this investigation. Inasmuch as this letter is known to have been handled by Mr. T. Vincent Quinn, Assistant United States Attorney, Eastern District of New York, Mr. Prinzlein and Mr. McGowan of the United States Probation Office, Eastern District of New York, as well as the victim, his wife, the victim's attorney and an individual whose name the victim has not disclosed other than to say "a friend of mine", it is not deemed advisable to take fingerprints of all these persons for elimination purposes unless the possibility exists that they may be of some value in this investigation.

Attached as enclosures are the original letter and envelope as well as a photostatic copy of each. The Laboratory is also requested to check this letter through the anonymous extortion letter file.

Enclosures (4)
 JLH:MVS.
 9-7

COPY AND SPECIMENS RETAINED IN LAB.
 FOR LAB. ACTION AND REPORT
 10-8-46 PM
 (Sealed)
 EX-82

SE 25 RECORDED

INDEXED

9-14533-1
 F B I
 32 OCT 1 1946

ans
 10-21-46
 112

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Laboratory

Date 10-16 1946

TO: Single Fingerprint Section

Case Number 9-14533

No latent fingerprints developed _____

Iodine prints developed _____

Silver nitrate prints on Outside of _____

_____ Identiscope negatives attached hereto

R. T. Harbo

Inspector in Charge
of the LaboratoryPer: J. E. OakleyRoom: 7619

SEP 30 1946

Own
ALB:YH

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

WASH FROM NEW YORK 2 30 3-43 P

DIRECTOR URGENT

UNSUBS, JOHN TORRIO, WAS, VIC, EXTORTION. T. VINCENT QUINN, AUSA, EDNY, ADVISED TEN AM THIS DATE THAT VICTIM, ONE OF AL CAPONE-S HENCHMEN, PRESENTLY ON PAROLE FOR AN INCOME TAX EVASION CONVICTION, HAS RECD A LETTER SEPT TWENTYFOUR, FORTYSIX, THREATENING HIS LIFE. LETTER ADDRESSED TO MR JOHN TORRIO, EIGHT EIGHT NAUGHT ONE SHORE ROAD, BKLYN, NY, UNSIGNED AND ADDRESSED "TO JOHNNY". LETTER DEMANDED TEN GRAND AND STATED "WE GOT SOMETHING ON YOU DASH AND IT DON-T LOOK TOO GOOD FOR YOU. FOR YOU TO FIND OUT WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT, THAT-S WHERE THE TEN GRAND COMES IN SO BE A GOOD BOY AND PAY OFF". LETTER ALSO STATES "IF YOU DON-T FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS YOU-LL BE A DEAD PIGEON". ON SEPT TWENTYFOUR, FORTYSIX PARTY TELEPHONED PORETTE /PHONETIC/ OWNER OF APT. BUILDING WHERE VICTIM LIVES AND WANTED VICTIM-S TELEPHONE NUMBER. PORETTE DIDN-T KNOW NUMBER. SUBJ CALLED PORETTE LAST NIGHT, SEPT TWENTYNINE, FORTYSIX AND TOLD HIM TO TELL VICTIM TO BRING ENVELOPE TO SHEEPSHEAD BAY THIS MORNING AND HE /SUBJECT/ WOULD BE WAITING OUTSIDE THE SHEEPSHEAD BAY THEATRE AT TEN O-CLOCK. NO ATTEMPT COULD BE MADE TO EFFECT PAYOFF THIS DATE INASMUCH AS INFO NOT GIVEN TO THIS OFFICE UNTIL AFTER APPOINTED TIME. VICTIM INTERVIEWED AND IF SUBJ CALLS AGAIN IS GOING TO SPEAK WITH HIM AND ARRANGE A PAYOFF. INVESTIGATION CONTINUING AND BUREAU WILL BE KEPT ADVISED OF ANY DEVELOPMENTS. LETTER BEING FORWARDED TO BUREAU. VICTIM DESCRIBED AS SIXTY FOUR YEARS OLD, BORN JAN TWENTY, EIGHTEEN EIGHTTWO, ITALY, FIVE FEET SIX INCHES, ONE SIXTYFIVE LBS, GRAY HAIR, BROWN EYES, MARRIED, AND IS RETIRED. HAS CRIMINAL RECORD AND IS NATURALIZED CITIZEN.

SCHEIDT

END

NYC R 2 Q WZ WA

2 OCT 11 1946

RECORDED
Laboratory

Harbo

cc: Mr. Ladd
Mr. Harbo

U S DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

OCT 3 1946

TELETYPE

Mr. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

WASH FROM NEW YORK 2 3

3-15 P

DIRECTOR URGENT

UNSUBS, JOHN TORRIO, VICTIM, EXTORTION. SUBJECT TELEPHONICALLY
CONTACTED VICTIM LAST NIGHT AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR PAYOFF EFFECTED
AND SUM DEMANDED REDUCED FROM TEN THOUSAND TO TWENTY FIVE HUNDRED
DOLLARS. PAYOFF SCHEDULED FOR TONIGHT, BETWEEN NINE AND TEN PM
AND VICTIM IS TO LEAVE PACKAGE IN MENS SMOKING ROOM SHEEPSHEAD
BAY THEATRE. PAYOFF WILL BE COVERED AND BUREAU ADVISED OF DEVELOPMENTS
SCHEIDT

EX-84

ESB R 2 WA THANKS
52 OCT 11 1946

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. LADD *DL*

FROM : J. K. MUMFORD *JKM*

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT
John Torrio - Victim;
EXTORTION

DATE: 10/26-46

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Beahm	
Miss Gandy	

ASAC Lynch, New York, called concerning further developments in this case. You will recall this is a matter in which an extortion demand was received but was not reported to us for several days until finally a demand was received for an actual payment at 10:00 AM the morning of June 30 although the instructions for the pay-off were received a day or so before. The Bureau was not advised until the USA called at exactly 10:00 AM and, therefore, left no opportunity for covering the pay-off. The victim took no action and the matter is still pending. Several calls have been made by the subject but he has not reached the victim. Today he left word that he would call at 8:00 PM and left instructions that the victim should be available to receive the call in the office of the apartment manager. The demand is for \$10,000 under threat of death.

ASAC Lynch requested advice as to whether Agents should cut in on the line in the form of a tap to record the expected call. In answer to my inquiries, he stated there is no extension to the line and it would be necessary to do this in the same manner as a technical surveillance. He did say that Agents would be immediately present with the victim at the time the call is received and that they would, therefore, have all the information about the call. He stated that they have arrangements made to try to trace the call while it is in progress and will have two-way radio cars in the vicinity to try to apprehend the subject. An effort will be made to arrange for any pay-off to be tomorrow or later so that there will be time to arrange coverage.

ACTION:

HANDLED BY
STOP DESK

I told ASAC Lynch there was not time to secure authority for a technical surveillance and that it would appear the matter could be handled with efficiency without one. He concurred but stated that he had merely asked with the thought that the approval and concurrence of the victim plus the apartment manager might waive the necessity of securing formal approval for a technical. I told him it would not as there was no extension line available.

You will recall that John Torrio has a Federal prison record and years ago was reputed to be one of the individuals who was Al Capone's tutors in crime.

RECORDED

JKM:EOD

X-8

57 OCT 14 1946 *710*

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-150

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

October 7, 1946

Transmit the following message to:

SAC, NEW YORK

URGENT

UNSUB., JOHN TORRIG, VICTIM, EXTORTION. REURTEL FOURTH INSTANT ADVISING
RESULTS SURVEILLANCE PAYOFF LOCATION. YOU SHOULD IMMEDIATELY INITIATE A
BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION OF SUSPECTS IN AN ATTEMPT TO SHOW ASSOCIATION
BETWEEN THEM PRIOR TO AND SUBSEQUENT TO PAYOFF AND THEREAFTER DISCUSS FACTS
WITH THE USA.

HOOVER

JIL:ILR

COPIES DESTROYED
20.6 MAY 5 1965

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

SENT VIA

Oct 7 12 30 PM '46
RECEIVED READING ROOM
U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE

[Handwritten signature]

12-490 M

Per

OCT 4 1946

WASHINGTON FROM NEW YORK 1 4 11-59 AM

✓DIRECTOR URGENT

UNSUB., JOHN ^QTORRIO, VICTIM, EXTORTION. REMYTEL CALL OCT. ^{THIRD} FORTYSIX EXTORTION PLANT MAINTAINED EVENING OF OCT. THIRD, FORTYSIX AT SHEEPSHEAD MOVIE THEATRE IN MENS LAVATORY. AGENTS IN COVER BY EIGHT FORTYFIVE PM. AS PER INSTRUCTIONS VICTIM ARRIVED AT THEATRE AT NINE TWENTYFIVE PM, PLACED PACKAGE IN DESIGNATED SPOT AND DEPARTED. AT NINE THIRTYFIVE PM [] ENTERED ROOM, WENT OVER TO PLACE RIGHT NEXT TO PACKAGE, PICKED UP PAYOFF. PACKAGE WITH HANDKERCHIEF. [] ENTERED, WENT OVER TO [] APPEARED TO CONVERSE WITH HIM AND DEPARTED IMMEDIATELY. JAMES BOYD SMITH ENTERED AS [] DEPARTED, WENT OVER TO [] TOOK PAYOFF PACKAGE AND WAS TRYING TO OPEN ENVELOPE WHEN AGENTS STEPPED OUT OF COVER. LOUIS ^QROMANO AND [] [] HAD BEEN OBSERVED HANGING AROUND MEZZANINE LOBBY IN VICINITY OF MENS LAVATORY. ALL FIVE WERE REQUESTED TO ACCOMPANY AGENT TO NYFO AND WERE INTERVIEWED. ALL CLAIM NO KNOWLEDGE OF VICTIM AND DENY ANY COMPLICITY. ^{RECORDED & INDEXED} 19-14533-5 ^{OCT 8 1946} ALL FINGERPRINTED AND PHOTOGRAPHED. SPECIMENS AND FINGERPRINTS WILL BE FORWARDED LABORATORY. VICTIM WAS AFFORDED

END PAGE ONE.

Wire
10-7-46
J. J. F.

NY 1., PAGE TWO.

OPPORTUNITY TO HEAR VOICES OF ALL FIVE SUSPECTS AND NOT ABLE TO
RECOGNIZE VOICE AS CALLER, OF EIGHT PM, OCT. SECOND FORTYSIX. ~~RECEIVED~~
VICTIM WAS KEPT UNDER SURVEILLANCE FROM SEVEN THIRTY PM OCT.
THIRD WHEN HE LEFT HIS HOME, TO GO TO PLACE EXTORTION PACKAGE
IN SHEEPSHEAD THEATRE AND UNTIL RETURN TO HIS RESIDENCE. CONTACT
BEING MAINTAINED WITH VICTIM. ALL FIVE SUSPECTS MENTIONED IN
TELETYPE RELEASED.

SCHEIDT

Called Ident.

END

Single Fingerprints
By *aw*

NY R 1 WA

Called Laboratory

Mr. Harbo
By *aw*

cc. Mr. Harbo
Mr. Tracy.

October 22, 1946

SAC New York

UNSUBS JOHN TORRIO VIKEX. REURTEL OCTOBER TWENTY ONE. HANDWRITING SPECIMENS
OF SUSPECTS NOT RECEIVED BY LABORATORY. ADVISE DATE FORWARDED.

HOOVER

VCE/jip
9-14533
Routine.

RECORDED

EX - 21

9-14533 - 6

COPIES DESTROYED
20.5 MAY 5 1965

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

OCT 28 1946

2.59 Pm

Oct 22 2 41 PM '46
RECEIVED
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RH
JH
R

gpts

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

URGENT

TO: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION OCTOBER 18, 1946

Transmit the following message to: SAC, NEW YORK

UNKNOWN SUBJECT; JOHN TORRI, VICTIM. EXTORTION. REBUTEL SEVENTH INSTANT.

SUTEL SUMMARY FURTHER INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED AND STATUS THIS CASE.

HOOVER.

JTL:MMC

SE 3

19-14533-7

RECORDED

37 OCT 21 1946

EX-23

OCT 18 12 59 PM '46

READING ROOM
FBI
JULY 1946COPIES DESTROYED
20.5 MAY 5 1965

SENT VIA

OCT 28 1946

Per

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

144

1-35 P M

ew

REPORT
of the



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON D. C.

To:

SAC, New York

November 7, 1946

There follows the report of the FBI Laboratory on the examination of evidence received from your office on October 24, 1946.

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover, Director

Re:

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS
John Torrio, Victim
EXTORTION

YOUR FILE NO.

FBI FILE NO.

LAB. NO.

9-1311

9-14533 - 8

D-58723 CT

Examination requested by:

New York

Reference:

Letter dated October 22, 1946

Examination requested:

Document

Specimens:

EX - 24

b6
b7C

- K1 Two pages of ruled paper bearing the known handprinting of [redacted]
K2 Nine pages of ruled paper bearing the known handprinting of LOUIS ROMANO.
K3 Five pages of ruled paper bearing the known handprinting of [redacted]
K4 Seven pages of ruled paper bearing the known handprinting of JAMES BOYD SMITH.
K5 Four pages of ruled paper bearing the known handprinting of [redacted]

Result of Examination:

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

On the basis of the known handprinting submitted of [redacted]
K1, a positive conclusion could not be reached as to whether this individual prepared the handprinting on specimens Q1 and Q2 because of the

2 - New York
Laboratory

Page one

MS/dab

1946

Continued next page

evidence of possible disguise in the known specimens. However, because of similarities which were noted between the handprinting on specimen K1 and that on specimens Q1 and Q2, it is deemed highly desirable that more known handprinting of [] be obtained in upper case handprinting, written at various rates of speeds ranging from slow to fast, in the wording of the questioned specimens. Under no circumstances should the writer see a copy of the questioned note.

b6
b7C

It was concluded that the four individuals whose known handprinting specimens are listed above as K2 through K5 did not prepare the handprinting on specimens Q1 and Q2.

Specimens Q1 and Q2 are the letter and envelope submitted by your office with a letter dated October 7, 1946.

A separate report will be submitted on the examination of the fingerprint cards which you submitted.

The submitted evidence, specimens K1 through K5, is retained in the files of the Laboratory.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

L-40
64582

RECORDED 10-25-46
few 10:20 AM

Laboratory Work Sheet Recorded 10-30-46 1:00 PM rmd

Re: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;
JOHN TORRIO, Victim;
EXTORTION

File # 9-14533
Lab. # D-58723 CT
9-14533-8 ✓

Examination requested by: New York 9-1311

Date of reference communication: Ket 10-22-46 Date received: 10-24-46

Examination requested: document

Result of Examination:

Examination by: KYL

Henderson

*no prev latent
per letter
10-21-46
E*

Specimens submitted for examination

b6
b7C

- K1 Two pages of ruled paper bearing the known handprinting of [redacted]
K2 9 pages of ruled paper bearing the known handprinting of LOUIS ROMANO.
K3 5 pages of ruled paper bearing the known handprinting of [redacted]
K4 7 pages of ruled paper bearing the known handprinting of JAMES BOYD SMITH.
K5 4 pages of ruled paper bearing the known handprinting of [redacted]

ALSO SUBMITTED: Fingerprint cards of [redacted] LOUIS ROMANO, [redacted]
(suspects) JAMES BOYD SMITH and [redacted] for comparison with latents.

*Fpts to Tech 10-30. (received 11-4)
Record for Romano only FBI 1568595-
called for jacket 11-40
Jacket for Transmitt 11-1 rec 11-7-
dict 11-7*

57 JAN 29 1947

9-14533-8

1-915

*and
11-8-46
CBH-
110*

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, F.B.I.
 ATT: F.B.I. Laboratory
 FROM : SAC, NEW YORK

DATE: October 22, 1946

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;
 JOHN TORRIO, Victim;
 EXTORTION
 (Laboratory #D58059)
 Bureau File #9-14533

58723

Reference is made to letter to the Laboratory on October 7, 1946 wherein there was transmitted to the Laboratory a letter and envelope which was sent to Mr. JOHN TORRIO, 8801 Shore Road, Brooklyn, New York. Inasmuch as the facts pertaining to the receipt of the letter in instant case are set out in the letter of October 7, 1946, they are not being repeated.

There is enclosed herewith in five separately marked envelopes, handprinting specimens taken from suspects who were brought to the New York Field Division from the payoff location on October 3, 1946, due to the fact that they either handled the payoff package in a suspicious manner or were loitering around the location in a manner that aroused suspicion.

Envelope A contains handprinting specimens taken from [redacted]
 [redacted] Envelope B contains the handprinting specimens taken from [redacted]
 LOUIS ROMANO. Envelope C contains handprinting specimens taken from [redacted]
 [redacted] Envelope D contains handprinting specimens taken from [redacted]
 JAMES BOYD SMITH. Envelope E contains handprinting specimens taken from [redacted]

There is also being sent as an enclosure, the fingerprint records of each of the above suspects to be compared with any latent fingerprints that might be brought out through the examination being conducted by the Laboratory.

For the information of the Laboratory, [redacted] was observed to lift the payoff package with his handkerchief and make the statement that there might be money in it. At the time he did this, he was talking to [redacted] & JAMES BOYD SMITH, LOUIS ROMANO and [redacted]
 [redacted] were observed to be loitering around the designated payoff place.

Inasmuch as the location of the payoff was the men's room of the Sheepshead Bay Theatre, Brooklyn, New York, the fact that these men were loitering around the men's room rather than watching the picture for a rather extended period of time, was considered an act to arouse suspicion.

JRH:MCG
 9-1311

5 ENCS
 NOV 12 1946
 SPECIAL DELIVERY

RECORDED
 &
 INDEXED
 EX-84
 354
 FILED
 19-14533-8

S.F.P. 215
 11/2/46

DEFERRED RECEIVING
 HANDLED BY
 STOP DESK

b6
 b7C

noted
 SFPS
 11/2/46
 C

Copy 9 encl. retained in lab. 10-24-46

M
5-20

20

OCT 23
11:15 PM

[Handwritten signature]

R2

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Mr. Carson.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Gurnea.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Hendon.....
Mr. Pennington.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Nease.....
Miss Gandy.....

WASHINGTON FROM NEW YORK 1

23

1-23 P

DIRECTOR.

URGENT

UNSUBS. JOHN TORRIO, VICTIM. EXTORTION. BUREAU FILE NINE DASH
ONE FOUR FIVE THREE THREE. ATT. FBI LABORATORY. HANDWRITTEN SPECIMENS
OF SUSPECTS MAILED OCTOBER TWENTY SECOND INSTANT.

RECORDED

9-14533-9
SCHEIDT
13 K

OCT 25 1940

HOED PES

United Laboratory

M. r. Harbo's

By *[Signature]*

57 NOV 1 1946

[Handwritten signature]
cc. Mr. Ladd.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUN

OCT 21 1946

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Mr. Gandy

Mr. [Signature]
4537

WASHINGTON FROM NEW YORK 6/21 12-52 PM

DIRECTOR URGENT

UNSUBS., JOHN POTRARIO, VICTIM, EXTORTION. REBURTEL EIGHTEENTH
INSTANT. HANDWRITING SPECIMENS OF SUSPECTS SENT TO LAB. VICTIM
INTERVIEWED RE SUSPECTS AND DOES NOT KNOW ANY OF THEM. VICTIM
HAS NOT BEEN CONTACTED BY ANYONE, EITHER BY PHONE OR MAIL SINCE
NIGHT OF PAYOFF. INVESTIGATION BEING CONDUCTED TO ASCERTAIN
BACKGROUND OF SUSPECTS AND ASSOCIATES. REPORT WILL BE SUBMITTED
IN IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

HOLD PLS

Scheidt

called Laboratory

Mr. [Signature]

By

cc: Mr. Harbo

26
58 NOV 5 1946

1-14533-11

SAC, New York

November 8, 1946

RECORDED

Director, FBI

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;
JOHN TORRIO - Victim.
EXTORTION.

2-205
8-12-46

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent James R. Handley, dated at New York, November 4, 1946.

In the Laboratory report dated November 7, 1946, you were advised that the Laboratory concluded that all suspects, except [redacted] had not prepared the threatening communication. With regard to the suspect [redacted] the Laboratory advised you that no conclusion could be reached as to whether he prepared the threatening communication, and it was suggested that further handprinting specimens be obtained.

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In this connection it is noted that [redacted] was born [redacted] and, accordingly, should have registered for Selective Service on August 24, 1946. In order to obtain undictated known specimens of his handwriting it is suggested that you contact the Selective Service Board, at which [redacted] is registered, and attempt to locate known undictated specimens of his handprinting through that source.

The Bureau desires to point out to your office that in view of the identity of the victim in this case, the matter should receive preferred and continuous attention.

nmc

B

9-1-46
LH

WNB

- Tolson
- E. A. Tamm
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Carson
- Egan
- Gurnea
- Harbo
- Hendon
- Pennington
- Quinn Tamm
- Nease
- Miss Gandy

JTL:NMC

50 DEC 31 1946

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK, N.Y.**

NY FILE NO. **9-1311** MCG

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK, N.Y.	DATE WHEN MADE 11/4/46	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 9/30; 10/1-4, 7, 18, 21/46	REPORT MADE BY JAMES R. HANDLEY
TITLE UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; JOHN TORRIO - Victim			CHARACTER OF CASE EXTORTION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

JOHN TORRIO, the victim in instant case is a former henchman of Lieutenant of AL CAPONE. He is presently on probation and is reporting to the U.S. Probation Officer, E.D.N.Y. He received a letter postmarked Brooklyn, 9/24/46, sent to his home address which demanded ten grand and stated if subject failed to follow instructions he would be a dead pigeon. Following receipt of the letter, four telephone calls were received at the home of JACOB PORET, owner of the apartment building where victim resides for the victim. By arrangement with PORET and the victim, victim was present in PORET's home when the fifth telephone call was received and talked with the subjects. He was advised during this conversation to put the money in an envelope and leave it in the men's room at the Sheepshead Bay theatre, Brooklyn, New York on the night of 10/3/46 between 9 and 10 P.M. By bargaining with subject, victim reduced the amount from ten thousand to \$2,500. Attempts made to trace the telephone call between victim and subjects with negative results. Payoff was made by victim in accordance with instructions and covered by Agents and five suspects brought to the office. Handwriting specimens taken and forwarded to the Bureau. All suspects were



APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Edmund Schuler</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 9-14533-11
COPIES OF THIS REPORT (2) Bureau 1 USA, EDNY 3 New York		SE 25 RECORDED INDEXED <i>11</i>

NY 9-1311

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

photographed and fingerprinted and their fingerprints were also forwarded to the Bureau. Since the night of the payoff, the victim has received no word from the subjects either by telephone or mail.

- P -

REFERENCE:

Bureau File 9-14533

DETAILS:

Investigation in this case is predicated upon receipt of a telephonic communication at 10 A.M. on September 30, 1946 from T. VINCENT QUINN, Assistant United States Attorney, Eastern District of New York, who advised that JOHN TORRIO, one of AL CAPONE's henchmen, presently out on parole for an income tax evasion, had received a letter threatening his life. TORRIO had brought the letter to Mr. PRINCELINE's Office, Chief Probation Officer, Eastern District of New York, on the morning of September 30. Mr. QUINN advised that the letter was addressed to Mr. JOHN TORRIO and was mailed at 12:30 AM, Brooklyn, New York 9, on September 24. It was unsigned and addressed to Johnny.

Mr. QUINN advised of the contents of the letter which will be set out hereafter and also gave information which will be set out hereafter in the interview with Mr. TORRIO. Mr. QUINN stated that this was the first information he had had of the incident but it appeared that Mr. PRINCELINE had the information prior to this morning but that for some reason or other he had done nothing about notifying the authorities.

Mr. QUINN also advised that according to instructions received by a Mr. PORET, the owner of the apartment house where TORRIO lived, the package was to be brought to the Sheepshead Bay Theatre in Brooklyn at 10:30 on 10/1/46. In view of the time that the complaint was received, it was impossible to cover or arrange for any payoff on October 1, 1946. Special Agent C. Ray Davidson and the writer immediately went to the office of Mr. PRINCELINE where they interviewed Mr. TORRIO.

Mr. TORRIO gave the letter to the writer and Special Agent Davidson. It was immediately placed in a cellophane envelope and later on was forwarded to the Bureau, requesting the Laboratory to check it against the anonymous letter file as well as to attempt to ascertain if any fingerprints could be raised. Mr. TORRIO advised that the letter had been handled by himself, his wife and Mr. McGOWAN and Mr. PRINCELINE of the U.S. Probation Office, Mr. QUINN, U.S. Attorney and by Mr. TORRIO's attorney and by a man, the name of whom Mr. TORRIO was reluctant to reveal. Inasmuch as the letter had been handled by so many people, no fingerprints were taken for comparison purposes and unless the Laboratory advises that such fingerprints are needed for comparison purposes, it is not contemplated that these fingerprints will be taken. The letter received by TORRIO is as follows:

"We want 10 grand. You want to know why you have to pay. The reason is we got something on you and it don't look too good for you. For you to find out what this is all about. That's where the 10 grand comes in so be a good boy and pay off!! You will receive the answer of what this is all about after you pay off. We advise only you to know about this don't let any of your boys know about this. We're watching every move you make. This letter may look stupid to you but if you don't follow instructions you'll be a dead pigeon. You will hear us in a few days of what you're supposed to do."

Mr. TORRIO advised that he resided at 8801 Shore Road, Bayridge, New York, and that his private unlisted telephone number was Shore Road 8-3589. He stated that he received the letter in question on Tuesday, September 24, 1946 at his home and was of the opinion that whoever sent the letter did not know his telephone number because the phone call following the letter by two or three days, had been received by a Mr. PORET, who is the owner of the apartment building where Mr. TORRIO resides. The first telephone call came to Mr. PORET and PORET was told to deliver the message that JIMMIE from Sheepshead Bay called.

On the night of September 29th, 1946, Mr. PORET received another telephone call and was instructed to tell Mr. TORRIO to bring the envelope down to Sheepshead Bay tomorrow morning and to meet him in front of the Sheepshead Bay Theatre. "I'll be there at 10 A.M. I know Torrio. He has a Cadillac with red wheels. I am not going to call again." Inasmuch as the interview with TORRIO was started at approximately 10:45, it is obvious that the demanded payoff could not be arranged or effected for the morning of September 30.

At 12 noon, upon the instructions of the Agents, Mr. TORRIO telephonically contacted Mrs. PORET, the wife of the owner of the apartment house. Mrs. PORET advised at this time that the Party had called at 11:15, who sounded like the same fellow that had been described by her husband, asked for TORRIO and mentioned the number of the apartment house. Mrs. PORET advised at this time that she said that there was no party at that phone number by the name of TORRIO, whereupon the subject said, "sorry must be a mistake" and he hung up. Mrs. PORET recalled that on the previous night when the subject had called he said "better have that letter ready and meet me or else it will be too bad." The subject was described by Mrs. PORET as speaking broken English, possible Italian, having a foreign accent.

Mr. TORRIO stated that he was well known around Sheepshead Bay as a man with money. Approximately three months ago he made a loan to a FRANK DONATO, who has a saloon adjoining 1415 Sheepshead Bay Road, the corner of 15th Street and Sheepshead Road. That loan was in the amount of \$15,000. He also advised that he had previously loaned AMELIA DONATO, the mother of FRANK DONATO, \$13,100 to purchase some property and he became the mortgagor. He advised he had a Cadillac 1941 sedan black with red wheels and white wall tires bearing NY license C-10-33. He advised that the telephone number of Mr. PORET was SR 8-2841.

Mr. TORRIO also advised that on the day following receipt of this letter he brought it to Mr. W. E. MCGOWAN, Probation Officer in the Eastern District of New York, to whom he reports. Mr. MCGOWAN at that time advised him that he wanted to discuss the matter with Mr. PRINCELINE but Mr. PRINCELINE was out and inasmuch as TORRIO was to report on Tuesday, October 1, 1946, it was suggested by MCGOWAN that he then present this letter to him and he would in turn take this matter up with Mr. PRINCELINE. Mr. TORRIO advised that inasmuch as he had received a telephone call on September 29, he came into the office of the probation officer on the morning of September 30th. TORRIO advised that also the possibility existed that DONATO was talking to someone about the loan that had been granted him by TORRIO and he could not think of anyone who would send him such a communication. He was specifically asked if he could think of any persons with whom he had been an inmate in a penitentiary who might attempt to extort money from him. Mr. TORRIO replied in the negative.

On October 2, 1946, at approximately 11 A.M., Mrs. PORET received a telephone call from a party whom she advised sounded the same as before

NY 9-1311

and the party asked for Mr. TORRIO. By previous arrangement, she told the subject that Mr. TORRIO was not at home and would be at home later that evening, whereupon the subject said he would call between 8 and 9 P.M. From 7:30 P.M. on October 2, 1946, Mr. TORRIO was in the apartment of Mr. PORET and at 8:11 P.M., the subject telephonically called. Although this call lasted from 8:11 to 8:17 P.M. and attempts were made to trace the call, the results were negative. The gist of the telephone conversation as recorded by Special Agent Robert J. Stuart is as follows:

8:11 to 8:17 PM

10/2/46

T - Torrio

S - Subject

S: Did you get my letter?

T: Said nothing

S: I called you did you get my message?

We want the 10 Gs. You were supposed to meet me with the 10 Gs Monday morning and you didn't show up.

T: 10 Gs is a lot of money.

S: It ain't a lot of money. You tell John we want 10 Gs.

T: I'm John.

S: Oh O.K.

T: How about \$2500.

S: Well, John is a pretty good fellow and done a lot good for a lot of people. We'll settle for \$2500 - it goes two ways you know. I just got out of jail - I got a 5 year hit.

T: Where do you want to meet me?

S: Bring it to the Sheepshead Bay Theatre upstairs to the men's smoking room between 9 & 10 tomorrow night.

T: Which one - you know there are two theatres there.

S: The Sheepshead Bay Theatre.

T: Well, who will I give it to - will I meet you there?

S: No just drop it on the floor there or under a chair or any place there.

T: Well will you be there - how do I know you'll get it?

NY 9-1311

S: Don't worry - I'll get it all right.

T: Well how do I know you'll get it? - can't I see you?

S: No - this is dangerous you know - you put it upstairs at the Sheepshead Bay Theatre.

T: Repeated directions.

S: O.K. - 2 days after you'll get the letter from me telling you what I got on you from many years back. I'll sign the letter Jim Romeo.

T: How do you want this money?

S: I don't care - put in 50's, 100's - I don't care just bring me the money.

On October 3, 1946 a dummy package was made up and delivered to Mr. TORRIO with the instructions that he was to leave it in the inner part of the men's room rather than the outer part where the benches were due to the fact that it was impossible to cover the outer part of this room. He was instructed to leave the package at 9:30 P.M. exactly. This time was arrived at after a study of the program of the theatre and is a time when the feature picture would not be ending so as to have the men's room crowded. Mr. TORRIO was surveilled from his home to the theatre and Special Agent Joseph J. Brock rode in the back of Mr. TORRIO's car on the floor, remaining there from the time Mr. TORRIO left his home until he arrived back. The plant at the theatre was under the direction of Supervisor Donald V. Shamon and the following Agents participated: Edward H. Hughes, John H. Broughton, Edward E. Stiles, Anthony F. Ferentz, James M. Harris, Eldred W. Cox, Flemming L. Liggitt and the writer.

Special Agent C. Ray Davidson was dressed in the uniform of an usher of the theatre through the cooperation of the theatre management. All Agents were in position at 8:30 P.M. and at 9:28 P.M., the victim came in and stood in the center of the room as two other men were in the room at that time. After the two men left, the victim placed the package in the position in the middle of the room. Approximately six minutes later [] came into view in the room, went to a position near the package and was observed to pick the package up in his thumb and forefinger, using his handkerchief, and immediately behind [] [] ame

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b7C

NY 9-1311

in and they engaged in conversation. Then [] turned around with the package in his hand. [] then disappeared. As he was going out, SMITH was on the way in. SMITH went over to [] and a remark was heard "It looks like money". SMITH took the envelope and tried to put his finger under the flap to open it. At this point the Agents closed in.

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After taking these men into the custody of the office, it was advised by Special Agent C. Ray Davidson, who was in the vicinity of the men's room acting as an usher, that [] and ROMANO, had been going in and out of the men's room and loitering around the vicinity for about thirty minutes. Because of this loitering, rather than observing the motion picture, they were immediately suspected and brought to the Field Division.

Playing at the Sheepshead Bay Theatre were the motion pictures "To Each His Own" and "Inside Job."

Handwriting specimens were taken from the five suspects and they have been forwarded to the Bureau. Photographs and fingerprints were taken and the fingerprints sent to the Bureau as an enclosure with the handwriting specimens.

Mr. TORRIO was recontacted on two occasions since October 3, 1946 and advised that he has not heard from anyone regarding this matter either by mail or telephone. He was instructed that in the event he was to hear anything further he was to immediately notify this office and this Mr. TORRIO advised he certainly would do.

The description of the victim is as follows:

Name:	JOHN TORRIO
Residence:	1810 Shore Road, Brooklyn, New York
Born	1/20/82, Italy
Age:	64 years
Citizenship	U.S. by naturalization Brooklyn, N.Y. 1923 - Came to U.S. 62 years ago.
Height	5' 6"
Weight	165 lbs.
Hair	Gray
Eyes	Brown

NY 9-1311

Marital Status
Wife's Name
Occupation

Married

ANNA

Since 1935 retired -
previously in the liquor
business, Prendagast &
Davis

Criminal Record

As FRANK LANGLEY, 5/19/24,
Chicago, Suspicious Person -
Discharged.

As JOHN LANGLEY, 1/17/25,
Chicago, Prohibition Law,
9 months, \$5000.

As JOHN TORRIO, 10/17/30,
Chicago, Prohibition Law
6 months.

As JOHN TORRIO, 4/22/36,
New York, Income Tax evasion,
\$1000. bail.

As JOHN TORRIO, New York
Forgery indictment dismissed
on 3/29/35

☐ Income tax evasion 2½ years
at Leavenworth \$100,000.
forfeit to U.S. and ten
years probation. On 11/29/41
New York City Police Department
ordered subject out of State.

Subject has used the names J. T. MCCARTHY, JOHN MCCARTHY, J. T.
TOREO, JAY TEE TOREO.

A description of the suspects is as follows:

Name
Address

LOUIS ROMANO
1217 Dunne Court
Brooklyn, New York

NY 9-1311 .

Eyes
Hair
Build
Scars
Occupation

Blue
Brown
Slender
Appendectomy Scar
Clark, Sanders Drug Store
1616 Sheepshead Bay

Relatives

Brooklyn, New York
JULIA (Mother)
1111 Avenue Z, Brooklyn
MICHAEL (Father - deceased)
MARION & ROSE (Sisters)
1111 Avenue Z,
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Education

Graduate of Specialty Trade
High School (June 1946)

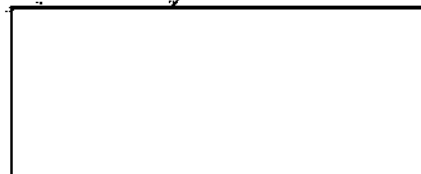
Selective Service
Status

Registrant of Local Board 145
1718 Voorhis Avenue, Brooklyn, N.Y.
Unclassified according to Public
Law 379

Criminal Record

Denies any prior record.

Name
Residence



b6
b7C

Age
Born
Height
Weight
Eyes
Hair
Complexion
Nationality
Marital Status
Occupation
Military Service

5' 5"
140 lbs.
Brown
Brown
Dark
Italian American
Single
Unemployed
Enlisted U.S. Army,
12/21/41
Received honorable discharge
2/2/46

Education
Prior Record:

5B, Vocational School
New York State Reformatory -
two years. Claims no knowledge
of what the charge was.

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Age	30 years,
Born	8/9/16, Manhattan, New York
Height	4' 11"
Weight	120 lbs.
Complexion	Dark
Hair	Black
Eyes	Brown
Build	Small
Scars & Marks	Large scar on right shin
Peculiarities	Wears small moustache
Nationality	Italian-American
Selective Service Status	4 F - Local Draft Board 145, Brooklyn, New York
Social Security	132-07-5809 in name of LOUIS ROMANO.
Occupation	Has not worked steady for year - hangs around pool room, Sheepshead Bay Road and 14th Street;
Relatives	Father, LEONARD 1217 Dunne Court Brooklyn, N.Y. CATHERINE (Mother) ANTHONY
Brothers:	33 years old JOSEPH (31 years)
Sisters:	THERESA McINTOSH ROSE ROMANO LENA ROMANO
Criminal Record	As LOUIS ROMANO, New York City Police Department 1938 - theft of automobile - suspended sentence - As LOUIS ROMANO, New York City Police Department 1941-gambling \$25. Fine.

Name

Age
Born
Height
Weight
Complexion

6' 1"
170 Lbs.
Ruddy

b6
b7C

NY 9-1311

Relatives

CAMELO (Father)
334 East 11th Street
New York City
FILOMENA (Mother)
(same address)
FRANK (Brother)
with parents
MARY (Sister)
with parents

Subject claims he resides with his grandmother, at [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Name
Residence

JAMES BOYD SMITH
2940 Ocean Avenue
Brooklyn, New York

Age
Born
Height
Weight
Eyes
Complexion
Hair
Social Security
Relatives

26 years
5/18/20, New York City
5' 7"
135 Lbs.
Blue
Fair
Blonde
114-01-7397
Father deceased

b6
b7C

Military Service

CAMILLEA (Mother)
Drafted into U.S. Army
7/29/41
Enlisted in the Air Corps
8/2/41

Army Serial Number

32162504. Had foreign
service. Discharged honorably
Fort Dix 11/4/45.

Employment

Clerk, Magnus Mabee & Reynard,
Inc., 16 Desbrosses Street,
New York
Denies any.

Criminal record

Name
Residence

Age
Born

Height
Weight
Complexion

[REDACTED]
New York
5' 8"
160 lbs.
Fair

NY 9-1311

Eyes
Hair
Build
Relatives

Blue
Brown
Medium



- deceased)
er)

b6
b7C

Occupation

Education

Selective Service status

Military Service

(same address)

Unemployed - receiving
Army allowance

Two years high school

1 C - 8/20/46

Local Draft Board 143

Brooklyn, N.Y.

Volunteered for induction

1944 - time not remembered -

Honorable discharge dated
8/11/46.

The above suspects were all interviewed relative to their activities and all of course gave the story that they had gone to the theatre to see the show. With respect to the two that were loitering around the men's room for a period of time, they advised that they had gone to the show early, had seen the picture and were waiting for friends. With respect to the three who picked up and were looking in the pay-off package, all advised that they had noticed the package and it aroused their curiosity. [redacted] was unable to give any reason why he did pick it up with his handkerchief other than to say that he had seen such things done in the movies.

While in the New York Field Office, all the suspects talked on the telephone to TORRIO not knowing with whom they were speaking and Mr. TORRIO failed to recognize any of the suspects' voices as the one with whom he had previously spoken.

Photographs and descriptions of the suspects were shown to TORRIO, who failed to recognize any of them as any individual known by him.

NY 9-1311

In accordance with the Bureau instructions set out in teletype from the Bureau dated October 7, 1946, investigation is being conducted to ascertain the background and association of above suspects. It should be noted that during the interviews with the suspects, they denied knowing one another other than in one or two instances casually but there was a denial that anyone of the suspects knew the other four.

The original notes taken by the Agents in this case are being retained in the files of this office as well as photostatic copies of the letter received by subject and photographs of suspects.

- P E N D I N G -

NY 9-1311

UNDEVELOPED LEAD

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

At New York, N.Y.

Will continue investigation to determine the background, associates and connections of the suspects in instant case.

If investigation discloses that there is any connection between the suspects, the facts should be discussed with the United States Attorney, Eastern District of New York.

November 3, 1746

**UNKNOWN SUBJECTS
JOHN TORRIO - VICTIM
EXTORTION**

Reference is made to your letter of October 22, 1946,
transmitting the fingerprints of [redacted] Louis
Gianno, [redacted] James Doyd Smith and [redacted]
[redacted] for comparison purposes in connection with the above entitled
case, your file #9-1311.

As you were advised in the Bureau's letter dated October 21, 1946, no latent impressions of value were developed on the evidence submitted in the instant case.

A search of the fingerprints submitted through the Bureau's main fingerprint files disclosed a prior fingerprint record for Louis Romano only, as FBI-1568595, a copy of which is enclosed.

Enclosure

CBH:CJO

9-14533 -8

44 Tolson
 45 E. A. Tamm
 46 Clegg
 47 Glavin
 48 Ladd
 49 Nichols
 50 Rosen
 51 Tracy
 52 Carson
 53 Egan
 54 Gurnea
 55 Harbo
 56 Hendon
 57 Pennington
 58 Quinn Tamm
 59 Nease
 60 Gandy

23 1946

RECORDED & INDEXED
357
B-100

9-14533-12
15 13
1 DEC 8 1964

100

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI
 FROM : SAC, New York
 Attention: FBI Laboratory

DATE: December 11, 1946

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;
 JOHN TORRIO - Victim;
 EXTORTION

60380 *lp*
1-20 *13*

Reference is made to the letter from the Bureau dated November 8, 1946 and the laboratory report dated November 7, 1946, in the captioned matter.

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b7c

The referenced letter advised that the Laboratory concluded that all of the suspects, with the exception of [redacted] had not prepared the threatening communication and, with reference to [redacted] the Laboratory concluded that no conclusion as to whether he prepared the threatening communication could be reached. It was suggested that further handprinting specimens be obtained, written at various rates of speed ranging from slow to fast in the wording of the questioned specimens.

The referenced letter stated that it was desired that undictated known specimens of [redacted] be obtained from his Selective Service board if possible. In this respect, Local Board 145, 1718 Voorhees Street, Brooklyn, was contacted. However, inasmuch as [redacted] is not required to fill out a questionnaire until his nineteenth birthday, the draft board did not have any handwriting or handprinting made by [redacted]

G. I. R. - 5

On November 22, 1946, [redacted] furnished twelve specimens of his handprinting. These specimens were written at various rates of speed as indicated thereon. They are being forwarded to the FBI Laboratory in order that the appropriate comparisons might be made with the original threatening communication in this case.

Encs. (12)

RECORDED
347 &
INDEXED

EX-23

15 DEC 12 1946

WWH:MXW
9-1311INDEXED U.S. FILES
mt

56 JAN 2 - 1947

COPY AND SPECIMENS RETAINED IN LAB.
FOR LAB. ACTION AND REPORT
12-17-46

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Attn: FBI LABORATORY
Director, FBI

DATE: March 24, 1947

FROM : SAC, New York

64669

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
JOHN TORRIO, VICTIM
EXTORTION

Reference is made to FBI Laboratory report dated January 9, 1947 in the captioned matter. The Laboratory reported that a definite conclusion was not reached at the time as to whether [] prepared the questioned extortion letter because of variations yet unexplained which appear to be due to disguise.

In compliance with the FBI LABORATORY report, thirteen additional specimens are submitted herewith for comparison purposes. In all the specimens submitted heretofore, no assistance was given [] relative to spelling, punctuation, spacing, etc.

The specimens submitted herewith are written on paper believed to be identical with that on which the original note was written and were written by [] with a medium soft lead pencil.

The only instructions given [] was concerning the rate of speed desired. Specimen number six was printed by [] after he was instructed to disguise his handprinting in any manner. However, it was requested that he limit his printing to upper case lettering after it was noted that he started to print some words in lower case.

It is noted that in these specimens the word pigeon is spelled, "pidgeon", which is the manner in which it is spelled in the original extortion note. Nothing that [] spelled it differently on Nov. 22nd in the handprinting specimens indicated by the FBI Laboratory as Symbol K-6, [] was questioned and he stated that after the last time he had been interviewed he had looked the word up and that the spelling in instant specimens was correct. It is believed that [] was not telling the truth in this respect.

Concerning handprinting specimens seven through thirteen which are envelopes [] was told to address, it should be noted that no instructions as to the manner in which the address should be written was given nor was any instructions given as to whether certain words should be abbreviated or not. However, it is noted that on certain specimens there are abbreviations. This may be due to the rate of speed or the fact that [] lapsed into his normal procedures.

WWH:AHDCOPIES DESTROYED
9-1311 20.5 MAY 5 1965

REGISTERED MAIL

EXEMPT LAB. FEE

RECORDED
INDEXED
EX - 44

58 APR 10 1947

MB

19-14533-14

APR 26 1947

1-20
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b7C

COPY AND SPECIMENS RETAINED IN LAB
FOR LAB. ACTION AND REPORT
3-29-47
con

13 ENCL. A
EX - 44

Letter-Director
Attn; FBI Laboratory
NY 9-1311

In reference to the word "personal" appearing on specimens numbered seven, nine, ten, eleven, twelve, and thirteen, [] was not instructed to write this particular word.

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b7C

However, he was instructed to indicate on the outside of the envelope in some manner that he desired the letter only to go to the person to whom it was addressed.

It is requested that the Laboratory compare the enclosed specimens with the original extortion note and submit two copies of the results of the examination to the New York Field Division.

Encs (13)

REPORT
of the



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON D. C.

January 9, 1947

To: SAC, New York

There follows the report of the FBI Laboratory on the examination of
evidence received from your office on December 13, 1946.

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover, Director

Re: UNKNOWN SUBJECT
JOHN TORIO - Victim
EXTORTION

YOUR FILE NO. 9-1311
RECORDED FBI FILE NO. 9-14533-13
LAB. NO. D-60380 CT

Examination requested by: New York

Reference: Letter dated December 11, 1946

Examination requested: Document

EX-31

b6
b7C

K6 Fourteen sheets of white ruled paper bearing known handprinting specimens

Result of Examination

A definite conclusion was not reached at this time as to whether [redacted] whose known handprinting is listed above as K6 and whose previous handprinting was designated as K1, prepared the questioned extortion letter designated as Q1 and Q2, because of variations yet unexplained which appear to be due to disguise. Many significant similarities were noted between the handprinting of [redacted] and the handprinting on the questioned specimens Q1 and Q2, which indicate that [redacted] quite possibly could have prepared the questioned extortion letter and this individual should by no means be eliminated as the logical suspect at this time.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

2-New York
1-Laboratory
Page one
GWS/mlp

1947 JAN 10 11 47 A.M.

(continued next page)

55 JAN 23 1946

Differences were noted in the spelling between the two sets of known specimens prepared by [redacted] designated as K1 and K6 respectively. Other differences such as punctuation and variations in the letters themselves were noted indicating an effort on the part of the individual preparing these specimens to disguise his handprinting.

The examiner would like to be advised as to whether or not any assistance was given to [redacted] as to spelling, punctuation or spacing, et cetera in obtaining the known specimens, K1 and K6. b6 b7C

It is believed highly desirable that more dictated specimens in the wording of K1 and K2 be obtained from [redacted]. These specimens should be prepared with a medium soft lead pencil. The wording appearing on the envelope Q1 should be prepared on envelopes similar to Q1 and the wording of the letter Q2 should be printed on paper similar to the paper on which Q2 is printed, if it is possible to obtain such paper. [redacted] should be requested to print in upper case handprinting at a slow, medium slow and natural rate of speed. For your information, the specimens included in K6 which were prepared with a slow and medium slow rate of speed, appear to be the most suitable for comparison purposes.

The original evidence, K6, is being retained in the files of the Laboratory.

SAC, New York

March 29, 1947

b6
b7C

Director, FBI

4
UNKNOWN SUBJECTS
John Torrio, Victim
EXTORTION

Reference is made to the Laboratory report dated January 9, 1947, advising that an examination of the handwriting of [redacted] disclosed many significant similarities to the extortion letter and suggesting that you obtain further specimens of the handwriting of this suspect. It is desired that this investigation be performed promptly and that a report be submitted in the near future.

9-14533

JTL:MS
ms

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 4
★ MAR 29 1947 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

EX-75

RECORDED
9-14533-15
F B I
61 APR 2 1947

60 APR 5 1947

REPORT
of the



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON D. C.

To:

April 10, 1947

SAC, New York

There follows the report of the FBI Laboratory on the examination of evidence received from your office on March 28, 1947.

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover, Director

Re:

Unknown Subject
John Torrio, Victim
Extortion

Examination requested by:

YOUR FILE NO.

FBI FILE NO.

LAB. NO. 1311

RECORDED 9-14533 -14
D-64669 CT

Reference:

New York

Examination requested:

Letter dated March 24, 1947

Specimens:

Document.

b6
b7C

K7 Seven white envelopes and six sheets of white ruled paper bearing known handwriting specimens of

Result of Examination:

It was concluded that the extortion letter in this case previously designated in the Laboratory as Q1 and Q2 was prepared by whose known handprinting is listed above as K7 and whose known handprinting was previously examined in the Laboratory as K1 and K6.

The original evidence, K7, is retained.

son
A. Tamm
SS
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oy
son
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nag
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in Tamm
ay

New York
Laboratory

GWK:MP

12072 37 24

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

NY FILE NO. **9-1311 EM**

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 4-3-47	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 11/22; 12/3/46; 2/17/47; 26; 3/17; 4/2/47	REPORT MADE BY WALTER W. HANES
TITLE UNKNOWN SUBJECT; JOHN TORRIO, Victim			CHARACTER OF CASE EXTORTION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Handwriting of ROMANO [redacted] SMITH and [redacted] eliminates said persons as author of note. Definite conclusion was not reached as to whether [redacted] prepared questioned note. Additional specimens of [redacted] handprinting recently submitted. [redacted] interviewed with negative results. Identification record of [redacted] set out. No record disclosed for others mentioned above. Residence of [redacted] searched with negative results for type of stationery used in extortion note.

b6
b7C

- P -

REFERENCE:

Bureau file 9-14533.
Report of Special Agent James R. Handley, New York, 11/4/46.

DETAILS:

By letter dated October 22, 1946, the New York office submitted to the FBI Laboratory handprinting specimens taken from [redacted] LOUIS ROMANO, [redacted] JAMES BOYD SMITH and [redacted]

By letter dated November 7, 1946, the FBI Laboratory reported that a positive conclusion could not be reached as to whether [redacted] prepared the handprinting on the questioned extortion note because of evidence of possible disguise in the known specimens prepared by [redacted]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:

Edward J. [signature]
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

COPIES OF THIS REPORT

2 - Bureau

3 - New York

COPIES DESTROYED
20.5 MAY 5 1965

15 APR 5 1947

RECORDED

**&
INDEXED**

EX - 81

50 APR 11 1947

NY 9-1311

However, because of the similarities which were noted between the handprinting on the known handprinting specimens of [] and that on the questioned specimens it was desirable that more known handprinting specimens of [] be obtained in the upper case handprinting written at various rates of speed ranging from slow to fast, in the wording of the questioned specimens.

The FBI Laboratory concluded that in comparing the known specimens of ROMANO, [] SMITH and [] with the questioned specimens that neither of these four individuals prepared the handprinting in the questioned extortion note.

By letter dated November 8, 1946, the Bureau advised that no latent impressions of value were developed on the extortion note or envelope which was submitted by the New York Office for examination purposes.

A search of the fingerprints submitted through the Bureau's main fingerprint files disclosed a prior fingerprint record for LOUIS ROMANO under FBI #1468595. This record is being set out below:

CONTRIBUTOR OF	NAME & NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
City Pr. Bklyn., NY	Luigi Romano #3857	4-29-38	red light	\$10 3 days
FD, New York, NY	Louis Romano #B-171422	7-27-38	burg.- night	
Prob. Dept., Kings Co. Crt., Bklyn., NY	Louis Romano #30146	convicted 9/27/38	P.L.	11-1-38, sent. susp. and prob. 3 years
Commanding General Services of Supply U.S. Army Wash., D.C.	Louis Romano #2302		applicant for pipefitter's helper Atlantic Basin Iron Works Brooklyn, N.Y. (F.P. 1-2-42)	
SOS, War Dept.	Louis Philip Romano #56-KAC		Boilermaker Helper 10-1-42	

NY 9-1311

In reference to the FBI Laboratory suggestion that further handprinting specimens of [] be obtained in upper case handprinting this suspect was interviewed at the New York Field Division Office on November 22, 1946, by Special Agent FLEMING L. LIGGITT and the writer. At that time [] furnished twelve specimens of his handprinting. These specimens were written at various rates of speed as indicated thereon and were forwarded to the FBI Laboratory for appropriate examination purposes.

By FBI Laboratory report dated January 9, 1947, it was stated that an examination of the above handprinting specimens had been made and a definite conclusion was not reached at that time as to whether [] prepared the questioned extortion letter because of variations yet unexplained which appear to be due to disguise.

b6
b7C

The report stated that many significant similarities were noted between the handprinting of [] and the handprinting on the questioned specimens which indicated that [] quite possibly could have prepared the questioned extortion letter, and that he should by no means be eliminated as the logical suspect at this time.

The FBI laboratory report further states that differences were noted in the spelling between the two sets of known specimens prepared by []

The FBI Laboratory report requested that more dictated specimens in the wording of the questioned documents be obtained from []

On November 22, 1946, [] telephone DE 6-0420, was questioned concerning the associates of her son, []. However it was noticed that she is greatly prejudiced on the fact that she believes her boy to be "very good" and who would not get in any type of trouble. She stated that he spends his time working at [] and doing other odd jobs; that he loafs around Cap's Pool Room on 14th Street in Sheepshead Bay and the Coffee Pot in Sheepshead Bay.

[] further advised that the money [] receives from his employment at [] is turned over to her and she returns a few dollars of it weekly as an allowance to him.

It was quite evident from the questioning of []

NY 9-1311

b6
b7C

that she is not aware of the full activities of her [redacted] She stated he never drinks outside of home, nor was she aware of him hanging around various bars and other establishments of the lower type in the Sheepshead Bay area.

The type of paper used in the note was described to Mr. SANDERS, owner of [redacted] Sheepshead Bay, [redacted] of [redacted] Mr. SANDERS stated that he believed the paper is known as Holland Linen, of the ruled type, and that he generally handled these products. He looked through his stock for this type of paper with negative results. However, he stated that he had a few boxes of this stationery until very recently. Mr. SANDERS was not advised that [redacted] is under investigation by this Bureau.

Investigation in the neighborhood reflected that the H. C. Grand Five & Ten Cent Store, Sheepshead Bay, which is located about two blocks from [redacted] carried the type of paper referred to above. The writer purchased a box of this paper for the purpose of having [redacted] furnish further handprinting specimens on this type of stationery.

On February 17, 1947, the writer together with Special Agent C. RAY DAVIDSON obtained a waiver of consent to search the residence of [redacted] the mother of suspect [redacted] at [redacted] Sheepshead Bay, New York, in an effort to locate the type of stationery which was used in the questioned extortion letter. However, this search resulted negatively. The original waiver of search is being retained in the New York file of this case.

At the time [redacted] was questioned as to what her son had told her concerning the investigation of this case to date. She stated that after he had been questioned in November, he said very little to her. This appeared to be rather queer inasmuch as [redacted] is very close to his mother, according to her.

Suspect [redacted] was questioned as to why he did not divulge the nature of the interrogation to his mother and he stated that he was told not to talk about the investigation to any outside source. It was pointed out that the fact he did not talk to his mother appeared rather queer, inasmuch as he allegedly told her everything he did and she was not considered an outsider but had a vital interest in everything he did. [redacted] could not give further reasons for his actions in this respect.

NY 9-1311

On February 26, 1947, [] was invited to the New York Field Division Office by Special Agent C. RAY DAVIDSON and the writer, during which time 13 handprinting specimens were obtained. These specimens, together with explanations of style, speeds, dictation, etc., were submitted to the FBI Laboratory by letter dated March 24, 1947. These handprinting specimens are in upper case lettering and were taken at various rates of speed as indicated on each specimen.

b6
b7c

In an effort to find further handprinting specimens of [] the writer contacted Local Board 145, Brooklyn, New York, and ascertained that [] is properly registered, however he has been unclassified due to his age, and therefore he has not filled out a questionnaire as yet. The only handwriting of [] in possession of the Board was his signature.

[] advised Agents LIGGITT, DAVIDSON and the writer that on October 3, 1946, he left his house about 7:00 P.M. and went directly to the Freddy Fitzsimmons Bowling Alley in Sheepshead Bay, where he remained for a very few moments. After leaving the bowling alley he talked with his sister and cousin briefly. They advised him that they were going to the movies. [] understood this before he left the house and also had planned to go to the movies himself and as customary would meet his sister after the show and bring her home. After talking with his sister and cousin, he stated he looked around for a friend to whom to attend the movie, however, he found no one and went alone. He stated that he got upstairs with [] who resides at [] and with whom [] has been acquainted.

[] continued stating that he did not like the movie and therefore walked around throughout the movie house. On one occasion he went to the rear and purchased some candy and on two occasions he went to the men's room. He stated that he also walked up and down the aisles of the movie theatre looking for friends or girls with whom he might sit.

[] stated that he knows [] by sight only, but has never gone around with him; that he never knew JAMES BOYD SMITH or [] until the time that he met them at the New York Field Division Office. Concerning ROMANO he said that he has known him for some time, however he does not desire his companionship and has purposely avoided him. [] stated the main reason for this was because he considered ROMANO to be a "bum" and a "chisler" who is always trying to borrow money which he never repays. [] stated that he does not know any gangsters by name that live in Brooklyn and emphatically denied that he ever participated in any extortion plot or in the authorship of any letter which might be termed threatening.

[] was specifically questioned about JOHN TORRIO with negative results. He claimed that TORRIO was completely unknown to him.

- P E N D I N G -

NY 9-1311

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Will report the results of the FBI Laboratory examination of the additional handprinting specimens submitted.

Will contact the victim for possible new developments in this case.

Will initiate a background investigation of ROMANO, [REDACTED] SMITH, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] in an attempt to show association between them prior to and subsequent to the payoff.

Will vigorously question LOUIS ROMANO as a possible suspect and the possible originator of the extortion plot.

Will interview [REDACTED] for background information concerning [REDACTED] as well as for information concerning the activities of [REDACTED] on the night of the attempted extortion plot. It is possible that [REDACTED] has made some remark to [REDACTED] concerning the planned extortion.

b6
b7C



**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
New York 7, New York**

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NO. _____

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
DATE 05-04-2010

Director, FBI

RE: UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
JOHN TORRIO - VICTIM
EXTORTION
(Bureau File 9-14533)

April 24, 1947

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. E.A. Tamm	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Pennington	_____
Mr. Quinn Tamm	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Dear Sir:

I feel that the Bureau's attention should be called to the excellent investigative work performed by Special Agents C. Ray Davidson, Walter W. Hanes, and John G. Willis in the above-captioned case.

This case involved the receipt of a letter by JOHN TORRIO, a former henchman of AL CAPONE and presently on parole from a conviction for an income tax evasion. The letter was anonymous and demanded \$10,000 or TORRIO would be a "dead pigeon". The payoff spot was the Sheepshead Bay Theatre in Brooklyn, N. Y., in the men's smoking room adjacent to the lavatory on the second floor of the theatre between 9 and 10 p.m. on October 2, 1946.

The Agents assigned to this case covered the plant and when the package was picked up they brought several suspects to the office for questioning. Among these suspects were [redacted] and LOUIS ROMANO.

Special Agent C. Ray Davidson was dressed as an usher working on the mezzanine floor and he observed [redacted] and ROMANO loitering in the vicinity of the men's room and going and coming from the room quite frequently, spending in all about 30 minutes in the vicinity instead of watching the picture.

As a result of the alertness of Agent Davidson, [redacted] and ROMANO were brought to the New York Office for questioning and handwriting specimens were taken. None of the suspects admitted any participation in the crime. Subsequently repeated interviews and exhaustive questioning of [redacted] by Agents Willis and Hanes resulted in the obtaining of additional handwriting specimens from which the FBI Laboratory in letter dated April 10, 1947 identified the handwriting in the original extortion letter as that of [redacted]. Further intensive questioning of [redacted] by these Agents resulted in [redacted] implicating ROMANO as a confederate in the scheme who had induced [redacted] to write the actual letter.

[redacted] and ROMANO were arrested April 17, 1947, and arraigned before the United States Commissioner in the Eastern District of New York May 25 1947

DVS:MS
9-1311

MAY 9 1947

*Report of comments
per [redacted]*

EX-44

INDEXED

9-14533-17

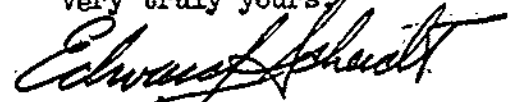
THREE
CRIM. DIV.
PER. FILES

Letter to Director
Re: NY file 9-1311

April 24, 1947

The work of these Agents is being called to the attention of the Bureau since the Bureau may feel that their work merits letters of commendation.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Edward Scheidt", written in dark ink.

EDWARD SCHEIDT,
SAC

REPORT
of the



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON D. C.

To:

May 2, 1947

SAC, New York

There follows the report of the FBI Laboratory on the examination
of evidence received from your office on April 24, 1947.

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover, Director

Re:

[Redacted]
Louis Romano
John Torrio - Victim
Extortion

YOUR FILE NO.
FBI FILE NO.
LAB. NO.

b6
b7C

RECORDED 9-1311
9-14533 - 18
D-65813 CT

EX-71

Reference:

Examination requested: New York

Specimens: Letter dated April 22, 1947

Document.

K8 Five half sheets of ruled stationery obtained from the stationery store at
1494 Sheepshead Bay Road, Brooklyn, New York.

Resubmitted: Specimen 2.

Result of Examination:

It was concluded that the paper on which the original extortion note in
this case was prepared, previously examined in the Laboratory as Q2, came from
the same manufacturer as the paper listed above as K8.

As requested the original evidence designated as Q2 is returned to your
office herewith. Specimen K8 will be retained in the files of the Laboratory
unless advised to the contrary.

2 - New York - Enclosure - REGISTERED MAIL
1 - Laboratory

GWK:MP

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI
 Att: FBI Laboratory
 FROM : SAC, New York

DATE: April 22, 1947

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]
 LOUIS ROMANO;
 JOHN TORRIO - VICTIM
 EXTORTION
 (Bureau File 9-14533)

b6
b7C
65813

Previous correspondence in the captioned case has carried the title "UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; JOHN TORRIO - Victim; EXTORTION".

Enclosed herewith is the original letter in this case which has previously been examined by you. There are also enclosed four sheets of paper obtained from the stationery store at 1494 Sheepshead Bay Road, Brooklyn, N. Y. In the statement of [REDACTED] given to Bureau Agents on April 16, 1947, [REDACTED] states that in the preparation of the enclosed letter he and subject ROMANO went to the above-mentioned cigar store and ROMANO obtained two sheets of stationery. Inquiry at the cigar store failed to place ROMANO in the store as related by [REDACTED]. The owner states that he has never sold stationery to anyone nor could he recall giving ROMANO any separate sheets of stationery although he recalls ROMANO as a customer.

The owner stated that in September and October of 1946 he was using a certain type of stationery for his own records and in a search for specimens of the stationery he was using, he found the enclosed five sheets containing information no longer of value to him. He gave these sheets to the Agent and they are enclosed herewith with the request that the paper be compared with the paper used in the original extortion letter to determine if possible whether all the paper comes from the same source.

Inasmuch as it is expected to bring this case to the Federal Grand Jury in the Eastern District of New York in the near future an expedite reply to this letter is requested.

It is requested that the original extortion letter be returned to this office upon completion of the examination.

Enclosures (6)

JGW:MSW
 9-1311

REGISTERED MAILSE 26
RECORDED

31 APR 25 1947

EX - 103

COPIES AND SPECIMENS RETAINED IN LAB
 LAB. ACTION AND REPORT
 9-14533
 K 8 4/25/47

RECEIVED LAB. FILE
 7/18

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

TELETYPE

WASH FROM NEW YORK 24 17 7-36 PM

DIRECTOR URGENT

b6
b7C

UNSUBS, JOHN TORRIO, VICTIM, EXTORTION. [REDACTED] INTERVIEWED BY BUREAU AGENTS APRIL SIXTEEN, FORTY SEVEN, AND ADVISED IN SIGNED STATEMENT THAT HE AND LOUIS ROMANO SENT INSTANT LETTER TO VICTIM. STATES THAT IDEA INSTIGATED BY ROMANO WHO DICTATED LETTER TO [REDACTED] AND ALSO SPOKE TO VICTIM TORRIO OVER TELEPHONE IN ORDER TO PERFECT ARRANGEMENTS FOR PAYOFF. [REDACTED] WAS TO RECEIVE TWO OR THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR HIS PART IN TEN THOUSAND DOLLAR EXTORTION AND WHEN ROMANO AGREED WITH VICTIM TORRIO TO ACCEPT TWENTY FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS [REDACTED] WAS TO RECEIVE THREE OR FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS OF THIS SUM. LOUIS ROMANO INTERVIEWED THIS DATE AND DENIED ANY IMPLICATION IN CONSPIRACY. HE STATES HE IS CONNECTED IN NO WAY WITH INSTANT LETTER AND THE FACT THAT HE WENT TO SHEEPSHEAD THEATRE ON NIGHT OF PAYOFF IS NOT A VIOLATION OF FEDERAL LAW. BOTH SUBJECTS ARRAIGNED TODAY BEFORE US COMMISSIONER, EDNY, ON A COMPLAINT CHARGING VIOLATION OF TITLE EIGHTEEN, SECTION THREE THREE EIGHT A. [REDACTED] RELEASED ON ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS BAIL. ROMANO HELD IN TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS BAIL.

SCHEIDT

HOLD

RECORDED

9-14533-19
F B I
36 APR 21 1947

62 APR 24 1947

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Mr. Gandy

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Ladd

FROM : L. R. Pennington

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

DATE: April 18, 1947

Louis Romano
John Torrio - Victim
Extortion

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Background: The victim, John Torrio, is a former henchman of Al Capone. On September 24, 1946, he received a threatening letter demanding \$10,000 under threat of death. He received five telephone calls which culminated with instructions that victim leave the required money in the men's room of the *Sheepshead Bay Theater, Brooklyn, New York, on October 3, 1946. By dickering, the amount was reduced \$2,500. Five suspects were picked up at the scene of the pay-off, but denied participation and were subsequently released.

Handwriting specimens were taken of all suspects, and the Laboratory advised that the handwriting of [REDACTED] most closely resembled the writing on the threatening letter.

Recent Developments: A teletype has been received from the New York office indicating that [REDACTED] finally admitted participation and stated that Romano was the instigator of the plot who made the telephone calls and instructed [REDACTED] to write the letter. Complaints were filed April 17, 1947, before the United States Commissioner, and both have been arraigned. [REDACTED] is [REDACTED] years of age, and Romano is thirty years of age. Both are residents of Brooklyn.

ACTION: In view of the possible publicity by reason of the notorious character of the victim, Mr. McGuire's office has been advised. You will be informed of further pertinent developments.

JTL:ers
9-14533

RECORDED

INDEXED

SE 1

36 APR 21 1947

63 APR 30 1947

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
JMcG:MP

TO : Mr. Tolson ✓
 FROM : L. B. Nichols
 SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

DATE: 4/19/47

b6
b7C

LOUIS ROMANO;
 JOHNNY TORRIO, VICTIM
 EXTORTION

Mr. Tolson
 Mr. E. A. Tamm
 Mr. Clegg
 Mr. Coffey
 Mr. Glavin
 Mr. Ladd
 Mr. Nichols
 Mr. Rosen
 Mr. Tracy
 Mr. Carson
 Mr. Egan
 Mr. Gurnea
 Mr. Hendon
 Mr. Pennington
 Mr. Quinn Tamm
 Tele. Room
 Mr. Nease
 Miss Beale
 Miss Gandy

ASAC Lynch of New York phoned on the night of April 17, 1947, in connection with the case entitled [REDACTED] "Louis Romano; Johnny Torrio, Victim, Extortion" to advise that investigation over the past several months had lead to the identity of [REDACTED] a [REDACTED] of New York, as being the writer of an extortion letter sent to Torrio approximately 5 months ago which threatened that Torrio would be a dead pigeon in the event he did not pay \$10,000.

It is recalled that Torrio was an old-time member of the Al Capone gang and a notorious gangster who was sent to prison in 1937 for an income tax violation. The payoff was in a Brooklyn Theater in the men's room and Agents covering the scene noted 4 youngsters, one of whom picked up the package and placed it back again. Thereafter the 4 were picked up and questioned and handwriting specimens obtained. The Laboratory subsequently identified the handwriting of [REDACTED] with that of the extortion note. On the arrest of [REDACTED] he named Louis Romano, age 31, as being implicated with him. The United States Attorney authorized prosecution and [REDACTED] and Romano were ordered held in default of bail for the grand jury. The New York Office has made no press release since any story undoubtedly will blow up Torrio. Lynch states they can't hold it any longer since he has now received inquiries from the New York News that has run the thing down by checking the court docket.

Lynch was instructed since the filing of the complaint and the arraignment were matters of public record to admit to the News that the FBI did investigate this situation which resulted in the filing of the complaint and thereafter to stick solely to the facts as set forth in the complaint without any elaboration. There is no doubt that the Torrio angle is the story from a newspaper point of view and since it is a matter of public record there is nothing that can be done other than for the New York Office to play down the inquiry.

CC - Mr. Tamm: Mr. Ladd

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

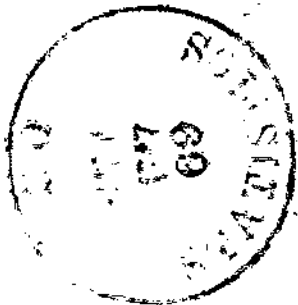
Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK, N.Y.**

NY FILE NO. **9-1311** MCG

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK, N.Y.	DATE WHEN MADE 5/6/47	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4/15, 16, 17, 22/47	REPORT MADE BY JOHN G. WILLIS
TITLE CHANGED LOUIS ROMANO; JOHN TORRIO, VICTIM			CHARACTER OF CASE EXTORTION b6 b7C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:



F.B.I. Laboratory examination indicates. [redacted] wrote instant letter. [redacted] in written statement 4/16/47 admits writing letter and indicates LOUIS ROMANO as co-conspirator. ROMANO denies any implication in crime. Both arraigned before U.S.C., E.D.N.Y., 4/17/47 on complaint charging violation title 18, Section 338A. [redacted] released in \$1000. Bond; ROMANO held in \$10,000. Bond.

- P -

REFERENCE:

Bureau File 9-14533
Report of Special Agent Walter W. Hanes, dated 4/3/47, at New York, N.Y.
Teletype to Bureau dated April 17, 1947.

DETAILS:

The title of this case is changed to indicate the true names of subjects. The title was previously carried as UNKNOWN SUBJECTS.

Bureau Laboratory report dated April 10, 1947 advised that after examination of seven white envelopes and six sheets of white ruled paper bearing known handwriting specimens of [redacted] it was concluded that the extortion letter in this case was prepared by [redacted]

LOUIS ROMANO, 1217 Dunne Court, Brooklyn, New York was interviewed by the writer and Special Agent C. Ray Davidson on the afternoon of April 15, 1947 in a Bureau car after he was located in a poolroom at Sheepshead Bay

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 9-14533-27	RECORDED EX-27
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Road and East 12th Street, Brooklyn, New York. It was pointed out to ROMANO that the Bureau was aware that [] was the writer of instant extortion letter and inasmuch as ROMANO and [] were picked up together on the night of October 3, 1946 in the Sheepshead Bay Theatre, (this being the night of the scheduled payoff), ROMANO was being given a first chance to cooperate with the Bureau by advising of his part in the conspiracy. ROMANO stated emphatically that he knew nothing about the case. He stated that if someone had written an extortion letter demanding thousands of dollars, he would consider this to be a "big time" crime and that even if he knew anything about it, he would be afraid to say anything for fear of reprisal. It was pointed out to him that he might be implicated in the conspiracy, in view of the circumstances surrounding his presence in the theatre. ROMANO stated that he could not tell anything to Bureau Agents that he knew nothing about. b6 b7C

ROMANO was asked to explain his presence in the theatre on the night of the payoff and especially to explain why he was hanging around the men's lounge with [] ROMANO stated he was on the payoff night at the Sheepshead Theatre alone and sat downstairs with a girl whom he "picked up". After sitting with her for a couple of hours, he left her and went upstairs to smoke. In the balcony, he met [] and asked him if he, [] had seen the show. [] replied that he had not seen it and ROMANO stated that he, ROMANO, was going home. ROMANO stated that he did not leave right at that time but hung around with [] a little while longer, talking to him, at which time he, and [] were apprehended by the Bureau Agents. ROMANO was asked if he and [] were particularly friendly and ROMANO stated that they were not because [] was a "kid". ROMANO was asked why he was hanging around with [] then near the men's smoking room and he stated that there was nobody else around at that time with whom he was particularly acquainted.

On the morning of April 16, 1947, the writer and Special Agent Walter W. Hanes found [] at his employment as a [] Brooklyn, New York. It was explained to Mr. SID WEINSTOCK, Manager, that Agents desired to interview [] in connection with and official investigation. WEINSTOCK stated that he had no opposition to [] for this purpose. [] voluntarily accompanied Agents to the New York Office where and intensive interview was had with subject, [] [] denied any implication in instant matter and finally stated that he had been advised by his attorney, WILLIAM J. CALISE, 38 Park Row, New York City, Worth 2-1871 not to make any statements to anyone without his permission. He stated, therefore, that he would have to speak to his attorney.

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The writer telephonically contacted Chief Assistant United States Attorney T. Vincent QUINN, Eastern District of New York. He stated that he could see [] at 2 P.M. that afternoon and that he had no opposition to [] speaking to his attorney. WILLIAM J. CALISE appeared at the office in response to a telephone call made by the writer and spoke to his client, []. Thereafter, CALISE spoke to the writer and stated that if his client had anything to do with the matter, would it be possible to "get him a break" in view of his tender age and previous good behavior. The writer advised Mr. CALISE that this type of interview would have to be conducted between himself and Mr. T. Vincent Quinn. Mr. CALISE advised that he could get to Mr. Quinn's Office that afternoon at 2:30 P.M. and that in the meanwhile he did not want his client to make any statement. He advised [] to remain in the New York Office and to accompany Agents to the Eastern District at 2:30 P.M.

That afternoon at 2:30 P.M. in the office of T. Vincent Quinn, conference was had at which were present attorney CALISE, the writer, Special Agent Hanes and Mr. Quinn. CALISE opened the interview by stating that if it was assumed that [] was implicated in the conspiracy, would it be possible for an admission of guilt to result in [] "getting off" with a misdemeanor or less. Mr. QUINN replied that this was impossible inasmuch as the Bureau had positive proof of [] guilt and he could be treated in no other way than as a principal subject or a co-conspirator. Attorney CALISE stated that he wanted to do what was best for his client because [] was very young, 18 years of age, and had no previous criminal record. CALISE then stated that he would advise his client to talk and rely upon Mr. QUINN's discretion as to subsequent steps relating to prosecution. [] was then called into the office of Mr. QUINN, at which time Attorney CALISE told his client to set out the facts concerning the extortion attempt upon TORRIO. [] briefly sketched the facts, which are set out in detail below:

Attorney CALISE then told [] that he should return to the New York Office of the F.B.I. with the writer and Special Agent Hanes to give them all information in his possession and to answer any questions to him. Attorney CALISE then told Mr. QUINN that he would vouch for [] return to the New York Office of the F.B.I. on April 17, 1947 and Mr. QUINN stated that he would not insist upon [] detention overnight as long as Attorney CALISE vouched for his client's return the next morning.

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The following signed statement was obtained from [redacted] on April 16, 1947, the original of which is being maintained as an exhibit in this file:

"NEW YORK, N.Y.
April 16, 1947

I, [redacted] make the following voluntary statement to Special Agents Walter W. Hanes and John G. Willis of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I make this statement of my own free will, knowing that I do not have to make any statement and that anything I say may be used against me. No force, duress, promises, or hopes of reward have been made to me to make this statement.

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I reside at [redacted] with my mother, two sisters, and aunt.

Sometime in September, 1946, I was in the Eatmor Cafeteria on Sheepshead Bay Road between East 14th and East 15th Streets, Brooklyn, N.Y., having a cup of coffee about 12:50 P.M. I had eaten my lunch at home and I was drinking coffee here before I returned to my job at the [redacted]

[redacted] LOUIS ROMANO, whom I have been acquainted with for a few years in the neighborhood, came over to me and we talked about general things. He then said that he knew a way to make a lot of money. I asked him what he meant and he said, "By black mail". I asked ROMANO if he was crazy and ROMANO said that he was not. He then asked me if I ever heard of JOHNNIE TORRIO, an old time gangster. I told him that I had never heard about TORRIO and ROMANO said that TORRIO had a lot of money; that he owns some place around Sheepshead Bay, and used to collect money from this place. ROMANO said that we could not get into any trouble in this scheme because TORRIO was in no position to tell the police about it because the police knew that TORRIO had killed a lot of people. I asked ROMANO what his scheme was and he said that we should write a letter to TORRIO and demand money from him by telling him that we had something on him.

I said that I would do this with ROMANO, but I really did not think anything would come of it. A couple of days later ROMANO asked me if I wanted to write the note to TORRIO. I said that I would. We went to a newsstand under the Sheepshead Bay Station of the BMT and bought two sheets of stationery. Then we went to a drug store underneath the same station and bought an envelope and a three cents stamp. We then went

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"around the corner to Avenue Z between East 14th and East 15th Streets in back of the pool room there and sat on the running board of a car parked there. ROMANO gave me a pencil and told me to print the letter to TORRIO so that the writing would be disguised. He told me what to put in the letter by dictating it to me. ROMANO also told me that he had obtained TORRIO's address from the License Bureau. The letter that I printed demanded ten thousand dollars from TORRIO and ROMANO told me that he would give me a few thousand dollars of this.

After the letter was finished, I put it in the envelope, addressed the envelope, and we went over to the mail box on East 15th Street and Sheepshead Bay Road. I placed the letter in the mail box.

ROMANO then said we would have to wait a couple of days until the letter got to TORRIO and that he would then make a telephone call to TORRIO's House about the letter. He told me that he had obtained TORRIO's telephone number from the License Bureau. A couple of days after this, I met ROMANO again and he told me that he had called TORRIO's telephone number, but that he had not straightened the matter out yet. Every time I met ROMANO he told me that we would have to wait a little while because he had not gotten the matter straightened out yet.

A couple of nights before October 3, 1946, ROMANO told me that he had finally gotten in touch with TORRIO, but that he was only getting twenty-five hundred dollars instead of ten thousand dollars. I asked ROMANO how much money I was now to receive and he said that he would give me three hundred or four hundred dollars of this money.

I never thought that anything would happen to this scheme because I did not think that anybody would pay ten thousand dollars for something so vague, but when ROMANO told me that he was getting twenty-five hundred dollars, I began to believe that now ROMANO really was not kidding.

Before the arrangements were made with TORRIO as to where he was to leave the money, ROMANO asked me if I had any idea as to where we could tell him to leave the money. I said I had no idea and he said, how about the Sheepshead Theatre men's lounge. I said that this was as good a place as any.

The night that ROMANO told me that he was only getting twenty-five hundred dollars, he also said that he had to pick up the money in the Sheepshead Theatre men's lounge and that he was to be there about 9:00 P.M. I said to him that I was going to the movies that night anyway and that I would see him there. I wanted to be there to keep an eye on ROMANO so that he would not cheat me.

I went to the Sheepshead Theatre about 7:00 P.M., October 3, 1946 and sat upstairs in the balcony where all the young crowd sits. About 8:00 P.M., my friend, [redacted] came in and sat with me. During the show, I kept walking back and forth to the men's lounge to see if anything had happened. I met ROMANO doing the same thing and we walked back and forth together. About 10:00 P.M., ROMANO told me that TORRIO had not shown up, so I told ROMANO that I was going home. Shortly thereafter, [redacted] we were approached by men who identified themselves as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and we went with them to their office. I denied any knowledge of a letter being written to anybody and I then went straight home.

On the night of April 15, 1947, I went into the poolroom on Sheepshead Bay Road between East 14th and East 15th Streets, about 7:30 P.M. to look for my friend, [redacted] I saw ROMANO in there and he called me over to him. He told me that he had been questioned that day by FBI Agents and he asked me what I thought about it. I told him to forget it.

[redacted]

Witnesses:

_____ "

[redacted] Brooklyn, New York, DEWEY 6-3745 was interviewed concerning [redacted] presence in the Sheepshead Bay Theatre as set out in the above statement. [redacted] stated that he remembered the incident in question and stated that on the night of October 3, 1946, he went to the movies and sat upstairs, which is the place where all the young people of the community meet. When he arrived in the balcony, he saw [redacted] already seated and he sat next to him. He stated that sometime later a fellow known to him as "LOUIS" (describing ROMANO), either came over to where they were sitting or he and [redacted] saw LOUIS, and LOUIS and [redacted] left the balcony and [redacted] continued to watch the show. [redacted] could not recall whether

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LOUIS came over to where they were sitting or whether [redacted] saw LOUIS and left [redacted]. At any rate, [redacted] and ROMANO were gone for about five minutes and then returned. Shortly thereafter, [redacted] left the theatre and as near as he can recall, [redacted] and ROMANO were still there together. About three weeks after this, [redacted] met [redacted] who told him that he had been picked up by the F.B.I. and asked to identify himself. [redacted] said that he had given [redacted] name as a reference. In a subsequent interview with [redacted] he stated that [redacted] told him that if anybody asked him about that night in the Sheepshead Theatre, he should say that [redacted] was in the movies with [redacted].

[redacted] was asked if LOUIS ROMANO had ever approached him about the same matter and [redacted] stated that no such approach had been made. He stated that about two months prior to the scheduled payoff, in October 1946, he was working with LOUIS for a contractor in the Bronx. He stated that LOUIS tried to "boss" him and as a result, he and LOUIS got into an argument. LOUIS was then laid off and a certain coolness had sprung up between them. [redacted] was asked if [redacted] and ROMANO were ever very friendly and [redacted] stated that they were never friendly but that they used to talk together, as acquaintances would in the same community. [redacted] stated that he did not know anybody who was especially friendly with ROMANO.

Mr. SANDERS, [redacted] advised that [redacted] was a "good kid." He stated that he had been [redacted] and had never known him to be in trouble before. He stated that he knew of LOUIS ROMANO and he was generally rated in the community as a "bum" who did no work and spent his time in the poolroom and played horses. Mr. SANDERS advised that eight years ago, [redacted] father committed suicide. His father was formerly a postal clerk and the mother had a difficult time after the suicide to make ends meet. The family resides with the grandmother and grandfather [redacted] store [redacted] which is run by the grandparents. SANDERS stated that [redacted] might have spoken to a co-employee of his about the matter. He stated that this person's name is [redacted] now employed by the Brite Drug Store on Avenue J, Brooklyn, New York.

[redacted] was located at the Brite Drug Store between East 12th and East 13th Streets on Avenue J, Brooklyn, New York. He recalled [redacted] and instant investigation. He stated that the day after [redacted] was picked up with ROMANO in the Sheepshead Theatre, he did not show up for work. When he did return to work, [redacted] asked him what

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was the matter and [] told him that he and some other young men had been picked up in the Sheepshead Theatre and questioned by the F.B.I. about a letter that someone had written. [] stated that about two or three weeks later, two men came into SANDER's drugstore and SANDERS took them upstairs. [] thought that they were buyers because the store was up for sale at that time. When the men went upstairs with SANDERS, [] told [] that they were F.B.I. Agents checking on stationery to connect it with the paper used in the extortion note. [] stated that at no time did [] ever admit any implication in the crime to him nor did he ever mention the name of LOUIS ROMANO. [] stated to Agent that after May 3, 1947 he could be reached in care of Chermak Drug Company, Avenue X and Ocean Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, where he has bought in as a partner.

[] statement mentions that he and ROMANO purchased an envelope and a 3¢ stamp in a drugstore underneath the B.M.T. station at Sheepshead Bay. In an interview with the operator of this store, it was determined that such a sale of a single envelope is a common occurrence and that it would be impossible to recall any transaction of this type. The owner stated that he had been in business here for the past thirteen years and in that time he must have sold thousands of single envelopes. The statement also indicates that [] and ROMANO went to a newstand under the same B.M.T. station and bought two sheets of stationery. The operator of this newstand at 1494 Sheepshead Bay Road could not recall ROMANO or [] having purchased any stationery at any time. He stated that he has never sold any in his place. He stated that he knew ROMANO as a customer who purchased 2 for 25¢ cigars but that he was unacquainted with []. He stated that he kept stationery in the form of a pad on hand for his own elementary bookkeeping and he was asked whether it was possible that he could have given a customer of his a couple of sheets of stationery on request. He stated that this was possible, although he could not recall ever having done this because he felt that if he gave one customer two pieces of paper, every other customer would want the same service.

He showed the writer and Special Agent C. Ray Davidson the type of stationery he is using now for his own records and he was asked if he had any paper left which he had used in September and October of 1946. He looked through his files and found several sheets of paper on which penciled notes appeared, which he turned over to the writer, stating that he did not desire their return, inasmuch as they had served their purpose. These sheets of paper were forwarded to the F.B.I. Laboratory by letter dated April 22, 1947 with the request that they be compared with the type of paper in the original extortion letter.

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With regard to LOUIS ROMANO, the writer and Special Agent C. Ray Davidson found him asleep in the Sheepshead Theatre on the night of April 16, 1947. He was interviewed at the New York Office between 10 P.M. and 10:45 P.M. He advised that he was born in New York City on August 9, 1915, that he was single and lived with his parents at 1217 Dunne Court, Brooklyn, New York. He stated that he finished two terms of high school at the Abraham Lincoln High School and that he was not now employed but that he worked as a helper sometimes for a contractor named RAY BIANCA. He stated that he was also a taxi driver before the war and during the war, he worked in the Atlantic Basin as a pipefitters helper. He stated that he was trying to get a hawk license but thus far he had been unsuccessful because the Police would not issue one to him because of his criminal record.

ROMANO was advised that [] had implicated him in instant matter and ROMANO continued to deny any implication in or knowledge of the crime. His defense was at that time and has continued to be:

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1. If a letter is written in violation of law, with which he has no patent connection, how can he be implicated.
2. If he attends a particular movie, which he is in the habit of doing, how can this be called a crime.
3. If he meets a young man in the movie, in a place where all the young people of the community meet and this young man is determined to be the scrivener of an extortion note, how can he be implicated.

ROMANO was placed in the Detention Headquarters at 11 West Street, New York City, for safe keeping, previous permission to do so having been obtained from Chief Assistant Attorney T. V. Quinn. On the morning of April 17, 1947, ROMANO was reinterviewed at the New York Office between the hours of 10:30 A.M. and 11:30 A.M. by the writer and Special Agent C. Ray Davidson. During this hour, ROMANO voluntarily consented to speak to victim, TORRIO on the telephone, in order that the latter might hear his voice. In this connection, victim, TORRIO advised that ROMANO's voice sounds very much like the voice of the person who spoke to him on the telephone but that he could not be absolutely sure.

It may be stated that Mrs. PORAT, superintendent, of 8801 Shore Road, Brooklyn, New York had several conversations on the telephone with one of the subjects and she has stated previously that she would

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recognize the voice again. Mrs. PORAT is now in Florida with her husband, JACOB, and her return to New York is expected shortly.

ROMANO was also confronted with [] (Attorney CALISE also being present) and ROMANO still denied implication in instant matter.

Both subjects were thereafter taken to the Eastern District of New York where Assistant United States Attorney Peter Campbell Brown made out a complaint against subjects charging a violation of Title 18, Section 338A. Subjects were brought before U.S. Commissioner Martin Epstein where they waived final hearing and [] was released in \$1000 Bond and ROMANO was held in \$10,000. Bond.

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- P E N D I N G -

NY 9-1311

UNDEVELOPED LEAD

NEW YORK OFFICE

At New York, N.Y.

Arrange for Mrs. PORAT to listen to the telephone voice of
LOUIS ROMANO.

Report the results of the Laboratory examination of the
paper sent to F.B.I. Laboratory with New York letter dated April 22,
1947.

Report prosecutive action taken in this case.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK, N.Y.

NY FILE NO.

9-1311

WCG

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK, N.Y.	DATE WHEN MADE 5/6/47	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4/15, 16, 17, 22/47	REPORT MADE BY JOHN O. WILLIS
TITLE CHANGED LOUIS ROMANO; JOHN TORRIO, VICTIM			CHARACTER OF CASE EXTORTION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

F.B.I. Laboratory examination indicates [redacted] wrote instant letter. [redacted] in written statement 4/16/47 admits writing letter and indicates LOUIS ROMANO as co-conspirator. ROMANO denies any implication in crime. Both arraigned before U.S.C., E.D.N.Y., 4/17/47 on complaint charging violation title 18, Section 338A. [redacted] released in \$1000. Bond; ROMANO held in \$10,000. Bond.

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- P -

REFERENCE:

Bureau File 9-14533
Report of Special Agent Walter W. Hanos, dated 4/3/47, at New York, N.Y.
Teletype to Bureau dated April 17, 1947.

DETAILS:

The title of this case is changed to indicate the true names of subjects. The title was previously carried as UNKNOWN SUBJECTS.

Bureau Laboratory report dated April 10, 1947 advised that after examination of seven white envelopes and six sheets of white ruled paper bearing known handwriting specimens of [redacted] it was concluded that the extortion letter in this case was prepared by [redacted]

LOUIS ROMANO, 1217 Dunne Court, Brooklyn, New York was interviewed by the writer and Special Agent C. Ray Davidson on the afternoon of April 15, 1947 in a Bureau car after he was located in a poolroom at Sheepshead Bay

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WASHINGTON FROM NEW YORK 23 15 6-27 PM

DIRECTOR U R G E N T

[REDACTED] LOUIS^① ROMANO, JOHN^① TORRIO, VICTIM, EXTORTION.

INSTANT CASE PRESENTED TODAY TO FEDERAL GRAND JURY, EDNY, AND TRUE

BILL VOTED AGAINST BOTH SUBJECTS.

SCHEIDT

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

NY FILE NO. **9-1311**

ENC

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE JUL 8 - 1947	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 5/15, 22; 6/18/47	REPORT MADE BY JOHN G. WILLIS
TITLE LOUIS ROMANO JOHN TORRIO, VICTIM			CHARACTER OF CASE EXTORTION b6 b7C

G. I. R. - 8

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Federal GJ, EDNY, voted true bill against both subjects 5/15/47. Subjects pleaded not guilty to indictment 5/22/47. Bureau laboratory reports paper from Sheepshead Bay stationery store came from same manufacturer as paper used for extortion note. Trial postponed until Fall term of court.



- P* -

REFERENCE:

Bureau File 9-14533.
Report of SA JOHN G. WILLIS, New York, 5/6/47.

DETAILS:

The facts of this case were presented to the Federal Grand Jury sitting in the Eastern District of New York on May 15, 1947. The Grand Jury thereafter voted a true bill against both subjects, [redacted] and ROMANO.

On May 22, 1947, before Federal Judge GALSTON these subjects pleaded not guilty to the indictment. [redacted] was continued free in bail and ROMANO was remanded to the custody of the United States Marshal. It may be noted that Assistant United States Attorney PETER C. BROWN, Eastern District of New York, subsequently advised that ROMANO's bail was reduced to \$7,500.00 which he posted to obtain his release from jail.

In the statement of subject [redacted] given to Bureau agents on April 16, 1947, he stated that in the preparation of the extortion letter in this case he and subject ROMANO went to a cigar store at Sheepshead Bay Road, under the BMT station, and ROMANO obtained two sheets of stationery. Inquiry at this store, which is located at 1494 Sheepshead Bay Road, Brooklyn, New York,

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failed to place ROMANO in the store as related by [redacted] The owner recalled ROMANO as a steady customer but stated that he had no stationery for sale nor could he remember giving ROMANO any separate sheets of stationery. He also stated that in September and October of 1946 he was using a certain type of stationery for his own records and, if he had given ROMANO any sheets of stationery, it would be of this type. He stated, however, that he had no recollection of giving ROMANO any sheets because his other customers might want to be supplied in the same manner and, if he did it for one, he would have to do it for all.

The owner searched through his records for September and October 1946 and located several sheets of stationery which he had used at that time for record purposes. These he turned over to the writer who forwarded them to the Bureau laboratory by New York letter dated April 22, 1947, with the request that the paper be compared with the paper used in the original extortion letter to determine, if possible, whether all the paper comes from the same source. Bureau laboratory report dated May 2, 1947, advised that, as a result of the above examination, it was concluded that the paper on which the original extortion note in this case was prepared came from the same manufacturer as the paper mentioned above.

On June 18, 1947, Assistant United States Attorney PETER C. BROWN, Eastern District of New York, advised that ROMANO's attorney had requested a trial of this case be postponed until the Fall term of court, 1947. He told Mr. BROWN that he had not had a chance to discuss the case with his client and for this reason requested an adjournment. Mr. BROWN advised that, after conferring with Chief Assistant United States Attorney JAMES D. SAVER, the request of ROMANO's attorney had been granted. Mr. BROWN also stated that there would be no immediate need to arrange for Mrs. PORET, superintendent of victim TORRIO's apartment house, who, it will be recalled, spoke to one of the subjects on the telephone, to listen to ROMANO's voice over the telephone.

Inasmuch as trial of this case has been postponed, the case is being placed in a pending inactive status.

- P E N D I N G -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 3

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

NY FILE NO. **9-1311 AO**

REPORT MADE AT: NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE: 9/17/47	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 9/11/47	REPORT MADE BY: JOHN G. WILLIS
TITLE: LOUIS ROMANO; JOHN TORRIO - VICTIM			CHARACTER OF CASE: EXTORTION

SUMMARY REPORT

JOHN TORRIO, Victim, received the letter upon which this investigation is predicated, at his residence 8801 Shore Road, Brooklyn, New York, which was postmarked September 24, 1946, at Brooklyn, New York. The letter stated "We want 10 grand. You want to know why you have to pay. The reason is we got something on you and it don't look too good for you. For you to find out what this is all about. That's where the 10 grand comes in so be a good boy and pay off!! You will receive the answer of what this is all about after you pay off. We advise only you to know about this don't let any of your boys know about this. We're watching every move you make. This letter may look stupid to you but if you don't follow instructions you'll be a dead pidgeon. You will hear us in a few days of what you're supposed to do."

This letter was followed by several telephone calls to the home of Mrs. JACOB PORET, Manager of the apartment building in which TORRIO resides. Mrs. PORET told TORRIO about the telephone calls and on October 2, 1946, at approximately 11:00 A.M. Mrs. PORET received a telephone call from a party whom she advises sounded the same as the previous caller, who asked for TORRIO. By previous arrangements she told the caller that TORRIO could be reached that evening, whereupon the caller said he would call between 8:00 and 9:00 P.M.

At 8:11 P.M. TORRIO received a call from subject in which subject finally agreed to accept \$2,500.00 instead of \$10,000.00 and that TORRIO was to bring the money to the men's smoking room of the Sheepshead Bay Theater between 9:00 P.M. and 10:00 P.M. on October 3, 1946. On the evening of October 3, 1946, TORRIO acting on instructions

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of Special Agents of the FBI, placed a dummy package in the inner part of the men's room at 9:30 P.M.

After TORRIO placed the package in the men's room he left the theater and approximately six minutes thereafter three men were observed to pick up the package and examine it and discuss it. These three men were taken into custody along with two other men, namely LOUIS ROMANO, residence 1217 Dume Court, Brooklyn, and [redacted]

[redacted] Brooklyn, who were observed by SA C. RAY DAVIDSON, who was dressed as an usher. Agent DAVIDSON, who was posted in the vicinity of the men's room, had observed ROMANO and [redacted] going in and out of the men's room and loitering in the vicinity for about thirty minutes. Because of this loitering they were brought to the New York Office with the other three men.

Playing at the Sheepshead Bay Theater were the motion pictures "To Each His Own" and "Inside Job".

Handwriting specimens were given by the five suspects each of whom denied any knowledge of the facts in this case.

In connection with the handwriting specimens obtained from the five suspects in this case, Bureau Laboratory report dated April 10, 1947, advised that the extortion letter in this case was prepared by [redacted]

In a signed statement dated April 16, 1947, [redacted] admitted writing instant letter and stated that his co-conspirator was LOUIS ROMANO. ROMANO denied, and continues to do so, any implication in the crime.

Both subjects were arraigned before the United States Commissioner, Eastern District of New York, on April 17, 1947, on a complaint charging violation of Title 18, Section 338A, United States Code. [redacted] was released on \$1,000.00 bond and ROMANO was held on \$10,000.00 bond. On May 15, 1947, the Federal Grand Jury sitting in the Eastern District of New York voted a true bill against both subjects, [redacted] and ROMANO.

On May 22, 1947, before Federal Judge GALSTON, Eastern District of New York, both subjects pleaded not guilty to the indictment. [redacted] was continued free in bail and ROMANO was

NY 9-1311

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remanded to the custody of the United States Marshal. It may be noted that ROMANO's bail was subsequently reduced to \$7,500.00 which he posted to obtain his release from jail.

The Statute of Limitations has been tolled by the indictment voted against subjects on May 15, 1947.

[] has no previous criminal record. The following is the identification record for LOUIS ROMANO under FBI #1468595:

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
City Pr. Bklyn., NY	Luigi Romano #3857	4-29-38	red light	\$10. 3 days
PD, New York, NY	Louis Romano #B-171422	7-27-38	burg.-night	
Prob. Dept., Kings Co. Crt., Bklyn., NY	Louis Romano #30146	convicted 9-27-38	P.L.	11-1-38, sent. susp. and prob. 3 years
Commanding General Services of Supply U. S. Army Wash., D.C.	Louis Romano #2302	applicant for pipefitter's helper Atlantic Basin Iron Works Brooklyn, N.Y. (F.P. 1-2-42)		
SOS, War Dept.	Louis Philip Romano #56-KAC	Boilermaker Helper 10-1-42		

JOHN TORRIO
8801 Shore Road
Brooklyn, New York

Mr. TORRIO will identify a letter and contents which he received on September 24, 1946. This letter begins "We want 10 grand" and ends "what you're supposed to do".

NY 9-1311

Mr. TORRIO will state that after receipt of this letter several telephone calls were received by Mrs. JACOB PORET, operator of the apartment house where he, TORRIO, resides. He will testify that arrangements were made for TORRIO to speak to the person calling and on October 2, 1946, he was instructed to leave money in the men's smoking room of the Sheepshead Bay Theater between 9:00 P.M. and 10:00 P.M. on October 3, 1946. He will state that the telephone caller agreed to accept \$2,500.00 instead of \$10,000.00 originally demanded. TORRIO will state that he left a package allegedly containing money in the men's smoking room of the Sheepshead Bay Theater at 9:30 P.M., October 3, 1946, and thereafter returned to his residence.

C. RAY DAVIDSON
Special Agent, FBI
Washington, D.C.

Special Agent DAVIDSON will testify that he was dressed in the uniform of an usher of the Sheepshead Bay Theater on the night of October 3, 1946. He will state that at about 9:00 P.M. that evening he noticed two men loitering in the vicinity of the men's room of that theater. He will state that these two men walked back and forth in front of the smoking room and acted in a suspicious manner. Agent DAVIDSON will testify that he and other Agents assigned to the case invited these two men, whom he will identify as LOUIS ROMANO and [redacted] to the New York Office where they gave handwriting specimens.

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WALTER W. HANES
Special Agent, FBI
New York, New York

[redacted] Agent HANES will testify that on November 22, 1946, [redacted] voluntarily gave him twelve specimens of his, [redacted] handprinting, which was written in the presence of Agent HANES.

FBI HANDPRINTING EXPERT
Washington, D.C.

An expert of the FBI Laboratory will qualify and state that after examination of handprinting specimens of [redacted] he concluded that this person prepared the extortion letter in this case.

NY 9-1311

JOHN G. WILLIS
Special Agent, FBI
New York, New York

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Will testify that he obtained from [redacted]
[redacted] the following signed statement dated April 16, 1947, in the
New York Office of the FBI:

"New York, N.Y.
April 16, 1947

"I, [redacted] make the following voluntary
statement to Special Agents Walter W. Hanes and John G. Willis of the
Federal Bureau of Investigation. I make this statement of my own free
will, knowing that I do not have to make any statement and that any-
thing I say may be used against me. No force, duress, promises, or
hopes of reward have been made to me to make this statement.

"I reside at [redacted]
with my mother, two sisters, and aunt.

"Sometime in September, 1946, I was in the Eatmor
Cafeteria on Sheepshead Bay Road between East 14th and East 15th
Streets, Brooklyn, N.Y., having a cup of coffee about 12:50 P.M.
I had eaten my lunch at home and I was drinking coffee here before

[redacted] LOUIS ROMANO, whom I have been acquainted with for a few years
in the neighborhood, came over to me and we talked about general
things. He then said that he knew a way to make a lot of money. I
asked him what he meant and he said, 'By black mail'. I asked ROMANO
if he was crazy and ROMANO said that he was not. He then asked me
if I ever heard of JOHNNIE TORRIO, an old time gangster. I told him
that I had never heard about TORRIO and ROMANO said that TORRIO had
a lot of money; that he owns some place around Sheepshead Bay, and used
to collect money from this place. ROMANO said that we could not get
into any trouble in this scheme because TORRIO was in no position to
tell the police about it because the police knew that TORRIO had killed
a lot of people. I asked ROMANO what his scheme was and he said that
we should write a letter to TORRIO and demand money from him by telling
him that we had something on him.

NY 9-1311

"I said that I would do this with ROMANO, but I really did not think anything would come of it. A couple of days later ROMANO asked me if I wanted to write the note to TORRIO. I said that I would. We went to a newsstand under the Sheepshead Bay Station of the BMT and bought two sheets of stationery. Then we went to a drug store underneath the same station and bought an envelope and a three cents stamp. We then went around the corner to Avenue Z between East 14th and East 15th Streets in back of the pool room there and sat on the running board of a car parked there. ROMANO gave me a pencil and told me to print the letter to TORRIO so that the writing would be disguised. He told me what to put in the letter by dictating it to me. ROMANO also told me that he had obtained TORRIO's address from the License Bureau. The letter that I printed demanded ten thousand dollars from TORRIO and ROMANO told me that he would give me a few thousand dollars of this.

"After the letter was finished, I put it in the envelope, addressed the envelope, and we went over to the mail box on East 15th Street and Sheepshead Bay Road. I placed the letter in the mail box.

"ROMANO then said we would have to wait a couple of days until the letter got to TORRIO and that he would then make a telephone call to TORRIO's house about the letter. He told me that he had obtained TORRIO's telephone number from the License Bureau. A couple of days after this, I met ROMANO again and he told me that he had called TORRIO's telephone number, but that he had not straightened the matter out yet. Every time I met ROMANO he told me that we would have to wait a little while because he had not gotten the matter straightened out yet.

"A couple of nights before October 3, 1946, ROMANO told me that he had finally gotten in touch with TORRIO, but that he was only getting twenty-five hundred dollars instead of ten thousand dollars. I asked ROMANO how much money I was now to receive and he said that he would give me three hundred or four hundred dollars of this money.

"I never thought that anything would happen to this scheme because I did not think that anybody would pay ten thousand dollars for something so vague, but when ROMANO told me that he was getting twenty-five hundred dollars, I began to believe that now ROMANO really was not kidding.

NY 9-1311

"Before the arrangements were made with TORRIO as to where he was to leave the money, ROMANO asked me if I had any idea as to where we could tell him to leave the money. I said I had no idea and he said, how about the Sheepshead Theatre men's lounge. I said that this was as good a place as any.

"The night that ROMANO told me that he was only getting twenty-five hundred dollars, he also said that he had to pick up the money in the Sheepshead Theatre Men's lounge and that he was to be there about 9:00 P.M. I said to him that I was going to the movies that night anyway and that I would see him there. I wanted to be there to keep an eye on ROMANO so that he would not cheat me.

"I went to the Sheepshead Theatre about 7:00 P.M., October 3, 1946 and sat upstairs in the balcony where all the young crowd sits. About 8:00 P.M., my friend, [redacted] came in and sat with me. During the show, I kept walking back and forth to the men's lounge to see if anything had happened. I met ROMANO doing the same thing and we walked back and forth together. About 10:00 P.M., ROMANO told me that TORRIO had not shown up, so I told ROMANO that I was going home. Shortly thereafter, we were approached by men who identified themselves as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and we went with them to their office. I denied any knowledge of a letter being written to anybody and I then went straight home.

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"On the night of April 15, 1947, I went into the poolroom on Sheepshead Bay Road between East 14th and East 15th Streets, about 7:30 P.M. to look for my friend, [redacted] I saw ROMANO in there and he called me over to him. He told me that he had been questioned that day by FBI Agents and he asked me what I thought about it. I told him to forget it.

Witnesses:

NY 9-1311

Agent WILLIS will testify that in an interview with LOUIS ROMANO on April 15, 1947, ROMANO told Agents WILLIS and DAVIDSON that he knew nothing about instant case.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: November 12, 1947

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT:

LOUIS ROMANO;
 JOHN TORRIO - VICTIM
 KIDNAPPING
 (Bureau File #9-14533)

AUSA EDWARD SZUCKELEWICZ, EDNY, advised that trial in instant case has been postponed until December 1, 1947.

JGW:KMG
 9-1311

RECORDED

9-14533-26
 22 NOV 14 1947

53 NOV 20 1947

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI
FROM : SAC, New York
SUBJECT: [REDACTED] ETAL;
JOHN TORRIO - VICTIM;
EXTORTION

DATE: December 3, 1947

at [REDACTED]
b6
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1-10-47

The trial in the above case in the EDNY has been postponed until

12/9/47.

JGW:KMG
9-1311

RECORDED

EX-52

9-14533
37 DEC 8 1947

51 DEC 11 1947

DEC 14 1947

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

lk
1-45
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Davidson
advised
12/12/47
819

WASHINGTON FROM NEW YORK 1 12 12-22 PM

DIRECTOR URGENT

[REDACTED]

LOUIS ROMANO, JOHN TORRIO, VICTIM, EXTORTION.

TRIAL IN THIS CASE SET FOR MONDAY, DEC. FIFTEENTH, EDNY.

USA ADVISES SA C. RAY DAVIDSON, NOW ASSIGNED TO BUREAU, NEC-

CESSARY WITNESS IN TRIAL THIS CASE.

AGENT DAVIDSON SHOULD REPORT

NYO MONDAY NINE AM DEC. FIFTEENTH.

19-145-33-28
FBI

SCHEIDT

RECORDED

31 DEC 16 1947

HOLD PL

Mr. Glavin
Mr. Davidson

52 DEC 22 1947

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

DEC 13/1947

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Gurnea	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Mohr	.....
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

WASHINGTON FROM NEW YORK

1

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DIRECTOR

URGENT

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b7C

[REDACTED] LOUIS ROMANO, JOHN TORRIO, VICTIM, EXTORTION. RE LAB
REPORT, DATED MAY SECOND LAST, NUMBER D DASH SIX FIVE EIGHT
ONE; THREE C T, THIS CASE. USA, EDNY, REQUESTS PRESENCE OF LAB
EXPERT WHO CONDUCTED TESTS SET OUT IN THIS LAB REPORT FOR TRIAL
COMMENCING DECEMBER FIFTEENTH. EXPERT SHOULD BRING SPECIMEN K
EIGHT WITH HIM AND REPORT TO ROOM FIVE TWO FOUR, U. S. POST OFFICE
AND COURT HOUSE BLDG., BKLYN. , NY, WHICH IS OFFICE OF AUSA
SZUKELEWICZ, AT TWO P. M. , DECEMBER FIFTEENTH.

SCHEIDT

Called Laboratory

Mr. Harbo

NY

END

SX

PLS HOLD

52 JAN 5 1948

RECORDED

12-14533-29
F B I
15 DEC 17 1947

RECEIVED

RECEIVED

Message to Mr. Harbo
J. H. W.
12/13/47

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. R. T. Harbo *RH*

DATE: December 13, 1947

FROM : J. A. Sizoo *AS*

b6

b7C

SUBJECT:

LOUIS ROMANO
JOHN TORRIO, VICTIM
EXTORTION

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1-4
1-17
D

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

Parton
Byrd
Kyle

Reference is made to the attached teletype from the New York Office requesting that the document examiner, Special Agent George W. Kyl, be in New York on December 15 and report to the U. S. District Court, Brooklyn, at 2:00 PM for testimony at the trial of this case.

After discussing the matter with you, I called ASAC Belmont and told him that it would be physically impossible for Mr. Kyl to be in New York by 2:00 PM Monday with charts and ready to testify in this case. I told Belmont that I thought Kyl could be there by Tuesday and we would make every effort to have him there Tuesday morning. He discussed it with the field supervisor in New York who is handling this case and stated that they would advise the United States Attorney that the Laboratory expert could not be there until Tuesday. He stated that he was certain that this would be satisfactory under the circumstances. He asked that we wire New York sometime Monday and advise of Kyl's exact arrival time.

Attachment

JAS:FLM

9-14523

RECORDED

12-14533-36
FBI
15 DEC 17 1947

plan

52 JAN 5 1948

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-150

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Transmit the following message to:

DECEMBER 15, 1947

SAC, NEW YORK

LOUIS BOMANO; JOHN TORRIO, VIKEX. UNLESS ADVISED TO

CONTRARY SA GEORGE KYL WILL ARRIVE NEW YORK SEVEN A M DECEMBER SIXTEEN
FOR TESTIMONY THIS CASE.

URGENT

HOOVER

GWK:HH
#9-14523

H.H.

ALPHABETICAL

EX-122

RECORDED

191-14533-31

15 DEC 16 1947

RECEIVED READING ROOM
DEC 15 3 02 PM '47

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

DEC 15 1947

SENT VIA

TELETYPE

3 30 PM

Per

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

NY FILE NO. 9-1311

MGR

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 12/22/47	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 12/15-17/47	REPORT MADE BY JOHN G. WILLIS
TITLE LOUIS ROMANO; JOHN TORRIO - Victim			CHARACTER OF CASE EXTORTION

b6
b7C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

LOUIS ROMANO convicted of extortion by Federal jury, EDNY on 12/17/47.

- P* -

REFERENCE:

Bureau file 9-14533.
Report of SA John G. Willis, 9/17/47, New York.

DETAILS:

The trial of **LOUIS ROMANO** was commenced in the Eastern District of New York on December 15, 1947 before a Federal jury. The government's case was handled by Assistant United States Attorney Edward Szukelewicz. At the beginning of the trial, Mr. Szukelewicz moved to sever the case against from the case against **LOUIS ROMANO**. This motion was granted and the trial against **ROMANO** commenced on that day.

On December 17, 1947, the jury brought in a verdict of guilty against **ROMANO** with a recommendation of mercy. Judge Robert A. Inch, before whom the case was heard, advised the jury that he would consider its recommendation in fixing penalty.

- P E N D I N G -

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

COPIES OF THIS REPORT

- 2 - Bureau
- 1 - USA, EDNY
- 2 - New York

COPIES DESTROYED
20.5 MAY 5 1965

IN FB
33 DEC 26 1947

2 RECORDED

NY 9-1311

LEADS

NEW YORK

At Brooklyn, New York:

Will report prosecutive action taken against

Will report penalty imposed upon LOUIS ROMANO.

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b7c

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Gurnea.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Mohr.....
Mr. Pennington.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Nease.....
Mr. Gandy.....

DEC 15 1947

WASHINGTON FROM NEW YORK 3 12-18-47 3-14 PM

DIRECTOR

U R G E N T

[REDACTED] LOUIS ROMANO, JOHN TORRIO, VICTIM. EXTORTION.

ON DECEMBER FIFTEENTH, FORTY SEVEN, GOVERNMENT MOVED TO SEVER CASE AGAINST SUBJECTS [REDACTED] AND ROMANO AND TO TRY EACH SEPARATELY. MOTION GRANTED AND TRIAL AGAINST ROMANO COMMENCED SAME DATE. JURY IN EDNY BROUGHT IN GUILTY VERDICT AGAINST ROMANO ON EVENING DECEMBER SEVENTEENTH. WITH GUILTY VERDICT JURY RECOMMENDED MERCY AND JUDGE ROBERT A. INCH, BEFORE WHOM CASE WAS TRIED, STATED HE WOULD CONSIDER RECOMMENDATION AT TIME OF FIXING

SCHEIDT

HOLD

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9-14533-33
FBI
34 DEC 30 1947

LAST WORD LAST LINE IS PENATXXX PENAL EX-70

LAST WORD THIRD LINE IS AND

51 JAN 13 1948

309

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b7C

G.I.R. 6

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI
 FROM : *SCH* Att: FBI Laboratory
 SAC, New York
 SUBJECT: ^③ LOUIS ROMANO; ETAL;
 JOHN TORRIO - VICTIM;
 EXTORTION

DATE: January 10, 1948

initialed

Inasmuch as this case has been concluded with the two year sentence given to subject LOUIS ROMANO on 12/29/47, and the dismissal of the indictment against subject [redacted] on 1/7/48, there are enclosed herewith the original extortion note and envelope received by JOHN TORRIO, the victim, for inclusion in the Extortion Letter File, if you so desire.

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Encs. (2)

dc
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1-4

JGW:KMG
 9-1311

REGISTERED MAIL

B
1. R. 5

sealed
 ENCL
 ENCL. ATTACHED

RECORDED

19-14533-34
 FBI
 19 JAN 13 1948

69 JAN 17 1948 316

WJ
1/17/48

[Handwritten signature]

#E-88571-6

ENCLOSURE - FBI LABORATORY

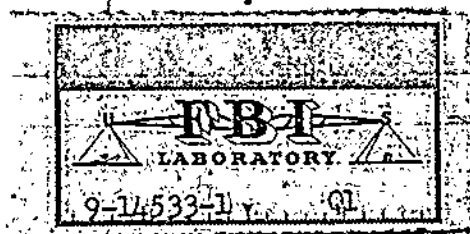
RE: NEW YORK FILE #9-1311



MR. JOHN TORRID
8801 SHORE RD.
BKLYN. N. Y.

(PERSONAL)

9-143-34-6



Mr. J. J. Romano

But exhibit 1 ^{evidence} sent

- 9-14533-34

in Dr. Fox no evidence
But still 2 dead

TO JOHNNY!

WE WANT 10 GRAND.
YOU WANT KNOW WHY YOU
HAVE TO PAY. THE REASON
IS WE GOT SOMETHING ON
YOU AND IT DON'T LOOK SO
GOOD FOR YOU. FOR YOU TO
FIND OUT WHAT THIS IS ALL
ABOUT. THAT WERE THE
10 GRAND COMES IN. SO
BE A GOOD BOY AND PAY
OFF!! YOU WILL RECIEVE
THE ANSWER OFF WHAT
THIS IS ALL ABOUT AFTER
YOU PAY OFF. WE ADVISE

9- 1453334

ONLY YOU TO KNOW ABOUT
THIS DON'T LET ANY OF YOUR
BOYS KNOW ABOUT THIS WERE
WATCHING EVERY MOVE YOU
MAKE THIS LETTER MAY
LOOK STUPID TO YOU BUT
IF YOU DON'T FOLLOW
INSTRUCTIONS YOU'LL BE A
DEAD PIGEON YOU WILL
HERE US IN A FEW DAYS
OF WHAT YOUR SUPPOSED
TO DO.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Harbo *RH*

FROM : Mr. Sizoo *RH*

SUBJECT:
 Louis Romano
 John Torrio - Victim
 Extortion

DATE: December 18, 1947

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

At the request of the New York office, Document Examiner George W. Kyl of the FBI Laboratory was in Brooklyn, New York December 16, 1947 to give testimony in the Federal Court of the Eastern District of New York concerning the identification of paper made in connection with this case.

While Mr. Kyl was on the witness stand being qualified, the defense attorney asked what the nature of Mr. Kyl's testimony was to be; upon being informed he stated that they would stipulate the testimony Mr. Kyl was to give.

Accordingly, Mr. Kyl was immediately released and returned to Washington that evening arriving at approximately 10:25 PM, December 16, 1947.

GWK:EG *gg*9-14533 *gms*

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94-14533-35
F B I
36 JAN 2 1948

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
 FBI
 RECEIVED
 JAN 17 1948
 307

55 JAN 17 1948
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7-RH

RECEIVED
COMMUNICATION SECTION

JAN 7 1948

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

WASH FROM NEW YORK 21 7 7-22 P

DIRECTOR URGENT

LOUIS ROMANO, [REDACTED] JOHN TORRIO, VICTIM, EXTORTION.

AUSA EDWARD SZUKELEWICZ, EDNY, TODAY MOVED BEFORE FEDERAL JUDGE

ROBERT A. INCH TO DISMISS INDICTMENT AGAINST SUBJECT [REDACTED] ON GROUNDS

THAT [REDACTED] WAS NOT PRINCIPAL CONSPIRATOR AND THAT [REDACTED] CONFESSED

PARTICIPATION IN CRIME AND TESTIFIED AS PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT WITNESS

IN GOVERNMENTS CASE AGAINST ROMANO, WHO WAS SENTENCED ON DEC.

TWENTYNINTH, FORTYSEVEN TO TWO YEARS IMPRISONMENT. GOVERNMENTS MOTION

GRANTED AND INDICTMENT AGAINST [REDACTED] DISMISSED. CLOSING REPORT

SUBMITTED.

R 621 SCHEIDT

55 JAN 19 1948

RECORDED
EX 121

19-14533-36
FBI
15 JAN 9 1948

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

NY, FILE NO. **9-1311 md/1947**

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 1/19/48	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 12/29, 31/47; 1/7/48	REPORT MADE BY JOHN G. WILLIS
TITLE "CHANGEOH" [redacted] LOUIS ROMANO, was. Luigi Romano, Louis Philip Romano; JOHN TORINO - VICTIM			CHARACTER OF CASE EXTORTION b6 b7C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: LOUIS ROMANO sentenced to two years by Federal Judge ROBERT A. INCH, EDNY, on 12/29/47. Indictment against [redacted] dismissed 1/7/48 on motion of USA, EDNY. Parole report and disposition sheet submitted on LOUIS ROMANO. Disposition sheet submitted on [redacted]

- C -

REFERENCE: Bureau file #9-14533
Report of SA [redacted] 12/22/47, New York.

DETAILS: The title of this case is being marked changed to add the aliases LUIGI ROMANO and LOUIS PHILIP ROMANO as reflected in the identification record of Louis Romano.

Federal Judge ROBERT A. INCH, Eastern District of New York, sentenced LOUIS ROMANO to two years imprisonment on December 29, 1947. On January 7, 1948 Assistant United States Attorney EDWARD SZUKELEWICZ, Eastern District of New York, appeared before Federal Judge ROBERT A. INCH and moved to dismiss the indictment against [redacted] on the grounds that 1. [redacted] was not a motivating conspirator, and 2. [redacted] confessed his participation in the crime and testified as a principal witness for the Government. This motion was granted and the indictment was dismissed.

Disposition sheet submitted on [redacted]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Edward [redacted]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 2-Bureau (Enclosures 5) 1-USA, EDNY 2-New York R-647	COPIES DESTROYED 20 MAY 5 1965 21 JAN 22 1948 9-14533-37 RECORDED 1/23

31 JAN 31

NY 9-1311

ENCLOSURES TO BUREAU (4)

- 1 disposition sheet on LOUIS ROMANO.
- 3 copies of parole report on LOUIS ROMANO.
- 1 disposition sheet on

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b7C

- C L O S E D -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 2

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

NY FILE NO. **9-1311 md**

REPORT MADE AT: NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE: 1/19/48	REPORT MADE BY: JOHN G. WILLIS
NAME OF CONVICT WITH ALIASES: LOUIS ROMANO, was. Luigi Romano, Louis Philip Romano		
VIOLATION: EXTORTION		PAROLE REPORT

JOHN TORRIO, Victim, received a letter at his residence, 8801 Shore Road, Brooklyn, New York, which was postmarked September 14, 1946 at Brooklyn, New York. The letter stated:

"We want 10 grand. You want to know why you have to pay. The reason is we got something on you and it don't look too good for you. For you to find out what this is all about. That's where the 10 grand comes in so be a good boy and pay off!! You will receive the answer of what this is all about after you pay off. We advise only you to know about this don't let any of your boys know about this. We're watching every move you make. This letter may look stupid to you but if you don't follow instructions you'll be a dead pigeon. You will hear us in a few days of what you're supposed to do."

This letter was followed by several telephone calls trying to reach TORRIO, and on October 2, 1946 at 8:11 pm, TORRIO received a call concerning the above letter. The caller finally agreed to accept \$2500 instead of \$10,000, stating that TORRIO was to bring the money to the men's smoking room of the Sheepshead Bay Theater between 9:00 pm and 10:00 pm on October 3, 1946.

On the evening of October 3, 1946, TORRIO placed a dummy package in the inner part of the men's room of the above theater at 9:30 pm.

(DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES)

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	FILE NO. 37 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ROUTED TO: _____ FILE: _____	RECORDED AND INDEXED: CHECKED OFF: JACKETED:
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: 3 - Bureau 2 - New York		

NY 9-1311

LOUIS ROMANO and [] were observed by SA C. RAY DAVIDSON, who was dressed as an usher, loitering in the vicinity of the men's room for about 30 minutes. They were also observed going in and out of the men's room. Because of these suspicious actions, ROMANO and [] were brought to the New York office of the FBI, together with three other men who had picked up the dummy package shortly after TORRIO deposited it in the men's room. Handwriting specimens were given by these five individuals, each of whom denied any knowledge of the facts in this case.

b6
b7c

Bureau Laboratory Report dated April 10, 1947 advised that the extortion letter in this case was prepared by []. In a signed statement dated April 16, 1947 [] admitted writing instant letter and stated that his co-conspirator was LOUIS ROMANO. ROMANO denied any implication in the crime.

On May 15, 1947 in the Eastern District of New York, ROMANO and [] were indicted for a violation of the extortion statute. Upon a motion of the United States Attorney's office, Eastern District of New York, the case against [] was severed from the case against LOUIS ROMANO. ROMANO's trial commenced on December 15, 1947 in the Eastern District of New York. On December 17, 1947 ROMANO was convicted of the crime charged, and on December 29, 1947 Federal Judge ROBERT A. INCH, Eastern District of New York, sentenced him to two years imprisonment.

There are no aggravating or mitigating circumstances surrounding this case, which can only be described as a "get rich quick" scheme.

ROMANO is 32 years of age, born in New York City on August 9, 1915. He is single and resides with his parents at 1217 Dunne Court, Brooklyn, New York. The home is a three room shack situated in the Sheepshead Bay section of Brooklyn on a lot which has been filled in partially, leaving the shack approximately four to six feet below street level. ROMANO is one of six children. He finished two terms of high school at the Abraham Lincoln High School, Brooklyn, New York, but has never been gainfully employed for any protracted period of time. He is known in his community as a "loafer" and admits to a fondness for gambling. He is supplied with cigarette money by his sister, and he contributes nothing to the upkeep of his home.

NY 9-1311

ROMANO is 4'11" in height, weighs 120 pounds, and wears a small moustache.

The following is his complete identification record under FBI number 1468595:

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME & NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
City Pr. Brook- lyn, NY	LUIGI ROMANO #3857	4-29-38	red light	\$10 - 3 days
PD, New York, NY	LOUIS ROMANO #B-171422	7-27-38	burg.-night	
Prob. Dept., Kings Co. Crt. Brooklyn, NY	LOUIS ROMANO #30146	convicted 9-27-38	P.L.	11/1/38, sent. susp. & prob.- 3 yrs.
Commanding General Services of Supply, US Army, Wash, D.C.	LOUIS ROMANO #2302	applicant for pipefitter's helper Atlantic Basin Iron Works, Brooklyn, NY (F.P. 1-2-42)		
SOS, War Dept.	LOUIS PHILIP ROMANO #56-KAC	Boilermaker Helper 10-1-42		

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK

NY FILE NO.

9-1311-4/1947

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 1/19/48	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 12/29, 31/47; 1/7/48	REPORT MADE BY JOHN G. WILLIS
TITLE "CHANGED" [REDACTED] LOUIS ROMANO, was, Luigi Romano, Louis Philip Romano; JOHN TORRIO - VICTIM			CHARACTER OF CASE EXTORTION b6 b7C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

LOUIS ROMANO sentenced to two years by Federal Judge ROBERT A. INCH, EDNY, on 12/29/47. Indictment against [REDACTED] dismissed 1/7/48 on motion of USA, EDNY. Parole report and disposition sheet submitted on LOUIS ROMANO. Disposition sheet submitted on [REDACTED]

- 3 -

REFERENCE:

Bureau file #9-14533
Report of SA JOHN G. WILLIS, 12/22/47, New York.

DETAILS:

The title of this case is being marked changed to add the aliases LUIGI ROMANO and LOUIS PHILIP ROMANO as reflected in the identification record of Louis Romano.

Federal Judge ROBERT A. INCH, Eastern District of New York, sentenced LOUIS ROMANO to two years imprisonment on December 29, 1947. On January 7, 1948 Assistant United States Attorney EDWARD SZUKELNICKI, Eastern District of New York, appeared before Federal Judge ROBERT A. INCH and moved to dismiss the indictment against [REDACTED] on the grounds that 1. [REDACTED] was not a motivating conspirator, and 2. [REDACTED] confessed his participation in the crime and testified as a principal witness for the Government. This motion was granted and the indictment was dismissed.

Disposition sheet submitted on [REDACTED]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 2-Bureau (Inclosures 5) 1-USA, EDNY 2-New York		9-14533-37 87 FILE COPY	
		215	

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: April 12, 1948

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] et al
JOHN TORRIO - Victim
EXTORTION

Enclosed herewith is an interesting case memorandum in the above-captioned case.

Enc.

 JGW:HEJ 20
 51 APR 28 1948

 G. I. R. 9
 (4)
 Original 145
 Attached 4/17/48
 9-14533-38
 APR 20 1948
b6
b7C

New York, New York

b6
b7c

1320

RE: [REDACTED]
LOUIS ROMANO;
JOHN TORRIO - Victim
EXTORTION

'The moving finger writes, and having writ, moves forward....'

Omar Khayyam could have said it more briefly -- "Time Marches On."

In the 1920's Johnny Torrio was a name to conjure with. Leader of Chicago's illicit liquor traffic, he had brought Al Capone from New York's east side to assist him in the administration of a lucrative business.

Now Torrio "retired" after being shot by a rival gang, how Capone took over complete control of Midwest gangs, and how he finally died in his waterfront estate in Florida, has been told and re-told in papers, pamphlets, books, etc. ad infinitum.

We concern ourselves now with a new chapter in the file of Johnny Torrio - and here's the twist - the FBI is on his side.

To bring Torrio's "career" up to date, we note that on May 8, 1939, he commenced a prison term at the Federal Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas - his number 55081L - for attempted evasion of income tax laws. On April 15, 1941 Torrio received a conditional release from prison, and on October 11, 1941, his formal prison term ended.

JCW:HMJ

ENCLOSURE

9-14533-34

MEMO

On this same date, October 11, 1941, Torrio began a 5 year parole period, to end October 11, 1946.

He took a comfortable apartment in Brooklyn, N.Y., overlooking New York Harbor, and for the next five years pursued a quiet, unpublicized period of parole - until September 25, 1946, just 16 days before his parole was to end.

That morning a letter was delivered to him, addressed in pencil to MR. JOHN TORRIO. It was postmarked at Brooklyn, N.Y. and its cancellation bore the date September 24, 1946.

Torrio opened the letter. On cheap lined paper was printed the following pencilled note:

"We want 10 grand. You want to know why you have to pay. The reason is we got something on you and it don't look too good for you. For you to find out what this is all about. That's where the 10 grand comes in so be a good boy and pay off!! You will receive the answer of what this is all about after you pay off. We advise only you to know about this don't let any of your boys know about this. We're watching every move you make. This letter may look stupid to you but if you don't follow instructions you'll be a dead pidgeon.(sic) You will hear us in a few days of what you're supposed to do."

MEMO

Johnny's first reaction was to take care of this thing himself; this was the work of a "punk"; Torrio was wise enough to recognize a bluff when he saw one; he'd teach 'em to put the "bite" on him.

More thoughts crowded in — "what about my parole, 16 days to go; suppose it isn't a "bluff"; suppose it's a ghost from the dead past; and I'm 67 years old now, too old for brickbats."

The latter thoughts won out. Torrio turned the letter over to his parole officer. The FBI was called in.

A few days later, a telephone call was received at the office of the manager of the apartment house where Torrio resided. The caller asked for Johnny Torrio. He was told that Torrio was not there.

The caller replied that he would call again that night at 8:00 PM.

The call came through as scheduled. Torrio, acting on instructions of FBI agents, told the caller that he could not afford \$10,000, but could only pay \$2,500. The caller agreed to this "cut rate". Meanwhile attempts were being made to trace the call; however, the sudden acceptance of the "cut rate" precluded the possibility of a lengthy conversation on "bargaining", and the call could not be traced.

MEMO

Torrio was instructed to place the money in an envelope and leave it in the inner room of the men's lounge of a local moving picture theatre. The envelope was to be placed there between 9:00 PM and 10:00 PM on October 3, 1946.

Agents were placed in strategic positions in and around the men's lounge of the theatre. One agent, dressed as an usher, went on duty in the mezzanine. While acting as an usher he kept his eye on activities centering about the men's lounge. He did both jobs well.

At 9:00 PM Torrio left his home, climbed into his black Cadillac sedan, slid behind the wheel and headed for the "payoff."

Cramped on the floor of the rear seat a G-man huddled, a Thompson sub-machine gun across his knees — cartridge clip in, safety off.

The precautions were unnecessary. Torrio made a safe trip to the theatre. Getting out of his car, he picked up the envelope, walked into the theatre, up to the mezzanine, into the Men's lounge, through to the inner room, and placed the envelope in full view. It was 9:28 PM.

The envelope was in place just six minutes. Then, three young men approached it. "What's this?" said one. "Don't know", was the reply. The third man was more imaginative — "Y'know, it looks like money; let's open it."

MEMO

Let's go back to our Agent-Usher.....

About 9:00 PM the "usher's" attention was drawn to two young men. The tall one, about six feet, seemed not over 20. The short one, nearer five feet, about 30. They had one thing in common though - they seemed more interested in the men's lounge than the movies they had paid to see - a double feature, too; "To Each his Own", and "Inside Job."

Back and forth, seat to lounge, the pair moved - watching, waiting; clumsy attempts to "cover up". The "usher" kept about his business.

Finally he saw the Agent squad leader come out of the lounge, followed by the other agents with their quarry; all quiet, no rumpus - panic spreads easily in a theatre.

The "usher" approached his leader. "These two men," motioning, "have been acting suspiciously; I think we should talk to them."

"OK", came the reply. Two more young men were added to the group; still quiet, still no rumpus - a planned operation in execution.

At the New York office of the FBI nobody knew anything, nobody had anything to hide; sure they'd give their fingerprints; sure they'd give specimens of handprinting.

The prints and specimens were gathered up - the five men released

MEMO

Within an hour the material was on its way to Washington.

Remember the two young men picked out by the usher-Agent as acting suspiciously on the night of the payoff? Of the five men who gave their fingerprints that night, the Identification Division that only one of the group had a previous criminal record - the short one of the two suspicious characters. The record showed an arrest on July 27, 1938 for burglary, and a conviction on September 27, 1938 for petty larceny.

b6
b7C

Of the five men who gave specimens of their handprinting on the night of the "payoff", the FBI Laboratory suspected the handprinting of only one - the tall one of the two suspicious characters.

The "usher" had been effective.

Let's skip the tedious quest for additional handprinting specimens of the suspect and look at the last Laboratory report on the matter. It's dated April 10, 1947 - it says that the conclusion has been reached that [] wrote the extortion letter to Johnny Torrio; [] was the tall one, the twenty year old, of the restless duo.

In a signed statement dated April 16, 1947 [] admitted writing the letter to Torrio, and implicated LAUIS ROMANO, his short movie companion, as his co-conspirator.

MEMO

b6
b7C

[] told the Agents that Romano had approached him in Sept. 1946 about some "easy money." Romano suggested blackmailing Johnny Torrio, who couldn't possibly report the thing to police; they wouldn't do anything to help him.

Romano unfolded his scheme to [] who assented, and wrote the letter which Romano dictated to him.

They got the paper for the letter in a little corner neighborhood stationery store. In checking [] story, the proprietor of the store supplied a piece of the paper he was selling in Sept. 1946, which he had used to scratch some business notes on.

The Laboratory advised that both pieces of paper came from the same manufacturer.

Louis Romano denied [] allegation, and on December 15, 1947 he went on trial in the Eastern District of New York for violation of the Extortion Statute.

He was found guilty on Dec. 17, 1947, and on December 29, 1947 was sentenced to two years imprisonment.

The indictment against [] was dismissed on Jan. 7, 1948 on the Government's motion. [] had been a foolish boy who realized

MEMO

his error in time, acted as a Government witness, and threw himself on the mercy of the court.

Torrio is back in "retirement"; Romano is in jail; and still frightened at his narrow escape, is sinning no more.

b6
b7C

May 13, 1948

Warden
Federal Correctional Institution
Danbury, Connecticut

Attention: Mr. Emil H. Kunkel
Record Clerk

My dear Warden:

Your letter of May 4, 1948, regarding Louis Romano, your #6223-Ct., FBI #1000595, has been received.

In 1946, while being interrogated by this Bureau, Romano admitted that he had been arrested by the Police Department, New York, New York, in 1938, for stealing a car and that he had been given a suspended sentence. He may have had reference to his arrest by the Police Department, New York, New York, for attempted larceny of bicycle and radio on July 27, 1938, at which time he was charged with burglary (night).

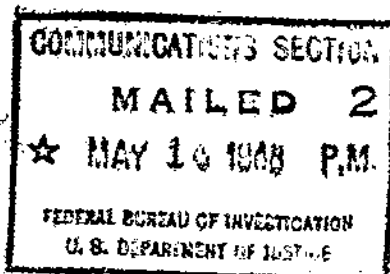
Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

PM:dk(rlr)

Notation regarding 1938 arrest for stealing car obtained from fingerprints submitted by the SAC, New York, subject suspect in extortion case, Bu. file #9-14533.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____



7-1 MAY 28 1948

RECEIVED
MAY 13 26 PM '48
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION

DANBURY, CONNECTICUT

WARDEN

May 4, 1948 *5/7*

Mr. J. E. Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

OK
Re: Louis Romano 6223-Ct.
FBI # 1568595 *6*

Dear Mr. Hoover:

The above named was received at this Institution on February 3, 1948, from the Federal Court, Brooklyn, New York, to serve a sentence of two years for Extortion by Mail.

In checking over his FBI Record, on the second page which is unsupported by fingerprints, we find he is listed in the first item, in 1938 for stealing a car for which he received a suspended sentence. We have checked with the Police Department in New York City and they show nothing of this particular arrest. All the other arrests in that city coincide with their records.

We would appreciate hearing further from you in this matter.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely yours,
For the Warden *M*

RECORDED - 3

Emil H. Kunkel
EMIL H. KUNKEL
RECORD CLERK

14533-39
JUN 18 1948
32 MAY 17 1948

EX-2A

*ack
PM/22
5/12/48*

*One
G.T.P.*



Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : R. T. HARBO *RTH*

FROM : D. J. Parsons

SUBJECT:

DATE: Sept. 13, 1949

Tolson _____

Ladd _____

Clegg _____

Glavin _____ b6

Nichols _____ b7C

Rosen _____

Tracy _____

Harbo _____

Mohr _____

Tele. Room _____

Nease _____

Gandy _____

LOUIS ROMANO
JOHN TORRIO-VICTIM
EXTORTION

9-14533

There is attached the file which has been maintained in the Laboratory in connection with the above captioned matter. It is desired that this file be maintained as an enclosure behind the main file in the Records Section.

Attachment

ENCLOSURE BEHIND FILE

52 SEP 21 1949

9-14533-409 *RTH*

NOT RECORDED

34 SEP 20 1949

CHICAGO
SUN-TIMES
Sun-Times Plaza, Chicago 11, Illinois

WHitehall 3-3000

Did he make complaint immediately upon receipt of the letter?
Did he follow FBI instructions in attempting to meet the
extortionists? What was the name of the Brooklyn theater?

Thanking you for the time you may be willing to give to provide
a picture of this most interesting part of Torrio's life,
I am,

Sincerely,

Jack McPhaul

Jack McPhaul

CHICAGO

SUN-TIMES--Midwest Magazine

Sun-Times Plaza, Chicago 11, Illinois

Whitehall 3-3000

10 October 1963

Agent in Charge
Federal Bureau of Investigation
201 East 69th
New York 21, N.Y.

Dear Sir:

I am writing a biography of the late John Torrio, the gangster who brought Al Capone to Chicago.

Consistent with your policy I would appreciate any information you could give me concerning an extortion attempt in 1947 that caused Torrio to request the assistance of your office.

I am uncertain of the precise dates because not all of the newspaper clippings I have are dated but to the best of my knowledge the event took this form:

On April 17, 1947 Torrio, living at 8801 Shore Road, Brooklyn, received a letter threatening death if he did not pay \$10,000. He was directed to take the money to a Brooklyn theater. The extortionists did not appear.

In Sept. 1947, your office arrested Louis Romano and [redacted] Brooklyn residents. They pleaded not guilty before Judge Clarence G. Galston in Federal Court, Brooklyn and trial date was set for June 4. My information ends there.

In view of the June date for trial, it is possible that the arrest was made on April 17, 1947 and that Torrio received the letter in September, 1946.

I would be grateful for whatever answers you can supply to these questions:

Date extortion letter was received and date arrest was made.

Date actual trial was held and disposition of the case.

Circumstances of the complaint. Did Torrio go to the FBI office and was it located at the present address? Would it be contrary to your rules to provide the name of the agent who interviewed him at your office or his home? If the agent has left the service could I have his name and address? (What I am seeking in other instances is impressions of Torrio from people who met him).

ENCLOSURE 9-14533-18 OCT 14 1963

October 23, 1963

Mr. Jack McPhaul
Chicago Sun-Times--
Midwest Magazine
Sun-Times Plaza
Chicago 11, Illinois

Dear Mr. McPhaul:

Your letter of October 10, 1963, to the Special Agent in Charge of the New York Office of the FBI has been forwarded to Washington for my attention. Appropriate research is being conducted in our files concerning your inquiries and such information as can be furnished will be sent to you in the near future.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

12 OCT 30 1963

OCT 23 1963

COMM-FBI

2 ENCLOSURE

1 - New York

NOTE: Files contain no derogatory information concerning McPhaul, and we have had cordial relations with the "Chicago Sun-Times." McPhaul requested in his letter information concerning the extortion investigation by the FBI in 1946 in New York which involved as the victim the late John Torrio, a gangster. McPhaul is writing a biography of Torrio.

ELR:jol

(6)

NOV 7 1963

TELETYPE UNIT

OCT 23 2 18 PM '63
REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI

9-14533-
NOT RECORDED
191 OCT 31 1963

ORIGINAL FILED IN 94-8-305-116

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

RECEIVED DIRECTOR

Routing Slip
FD-4 (Rev. 10-13-58)

Date 10/15/68

To

☒ Director

FILE #

Att. CRIME RECORDS

☐ SAC

Title

☐ ASAC

☐ Supv.

☐ Agent

☐ SE

☐ CC

☐ Steno

☐ Clerk

ACTION DESIRED

☐ Acknowledge

☐ Assign.....Reassign.....

☐ Bring file

☐ Call me

☐ Correct

☐ Deadline

☐ Deadline passed

☐ Delinquent

☐ Discontinue

☐ Expedite

☐ File

☐ For information

☐ Initial & return

☐ Leads need attention

☐ Return with explanation or notation as to action taken.

☐ Open Case

☐ Prepare lead cards

☐ Prepare tickler

☐ Recharge serials

☐ Return assignment card

☐ Return file

☐ Return serials

☐ Search and return

☐ See me

☐ Send Serials.....

to

☐ Submit new charge-out

☐ Submit report by

☐ Type

CRIME RECORDS

Attached received by NYO. Since it emanated in CG, this could best be handled by the Bureau. This has not been acknowledged by the NYO and a check of the NYO indices reflects that this individual appears to be identical with BUfile 9-14533.

~~ENCLOSURE~~

See reverse side

SAC JOHN F. MALONE

NYO
Office

ENCLOSURE

~~ENCLOSURE~~

9-14533-

October 28, 1963

Mr. Jack McPhaul
Chicago Sun-Times--
Midwest Magazine
Sun-Times Plaza
Chicago 11, Illinois

Dear Mr. McPhaul:

Reference is made to my letter of October 23, 1963, which advised that research was being conducted in connection with your inquiries regarding John Torrio.

In reply to your specific questions, the following information has been obtained from our files:

The extortion letter in this case was received by Torrio at his home, 8801 Shore Road, Brooklyn, New York, on September 24, 1946. On the following day, Torrio reported the matter to the United States Probation Office, Eastern District of New York. It was through this agency that the New York Office of the FBI subsequently learned of the extortion attempt. At that time, Torrio was nearing the end of a five-year parole period which had been imposed on him in connection with his conviction for income tax evasion.

Torrio followed the instructions of the FBI in this case. On the night of October 3, 1946, based on telephonic demands he had received from the extortioner, Torrio left a payoff envelope in the men's lounge of the Sheepshead Bay Theatre in Brooklyn. This incident was covered by FBI Agents.

Two Brooklyn residents, [redacted] and Louis

Romano, 30, were identified as participants in this extortion plot. They were arrested by Agents on April 17, 1947, on extortion charges. On May 15, 1947, the Federal Grand Jury for the Eastern District of New York returned

1 - Chicago
1 - New York
1 - Mr. DeLoach
SEE NOTE NEXT PAGE
ELR:jaf/ljg (8)

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

OCT 29 11 32 AM '63
REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI

ORIGINAL FILED IN 94-8-325-117

b6
b7c

OCT 30 1963
and Louis

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

Mr. Jack McPhaul

true bills against them. They entered pleas of not guilty to this indictment on May 22, 1947.

Louis Romano was found guilty of these charges in a jury trial in United States District Court, Eastern District of New York, on December 17, 1947. He was subsequently sentenced to two years' imprisonment. The indictment against [redacted] was dismissed on January 7, 1948, at the request of the United States Attorney's Office on the grounds that he was not a principal conspirator and that he had confessed participation in the crime and testified for the Government as a witness in Louis Romano's trial.

b6
b7C

I regret that long-standing policy precludes my furnishing the names of the Agents involved in the investigation of this case. I am sure you will understand the circumstances which necessitate my declining to furnish this information, and I hope that the above material will be of assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,

L. Edgar Hoover,

NOTE: McPhaul wrote the New York Office on 10-10-63 requesting information concerning the extortion attempt against John Torrio in Brooklyn in 1946. He indicated he wished to use this information in connection with a biography of Torrio, a gangster of the Al Capone era in Chicago. New York did not acknowledge this letter, but sent it to the Bureau for handling. Above letter to McPhaul from the Bureau, dated 10-23-63, advised him that research was being conducted concerning his inquiries and such information as could be furnished would be sent to him in the near future. Files contain no derogatory information concerning McPhaul and we have had cordial relations with the "Chicago Sun-Times."

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

February 14, 1936

FAG:AF

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

Time: 1:15 P. M.

Special Agent Boland of the Washington Field Office telephoned me and asked if I had a subject in any case I was handling under the name John Torrance, alias John Torrio. He stated that he had located a small safety deposit box at the Hamilton Bank in Washington, which he had rented on December 4 and had made visits to this box on December 4, 1935, January 7, 17, 18, 21, 23, 1936, and that on February 3 he had changed the small box to one of the larger safety deposit boxes, about the size of a file cabinet, according to Agent Boland, and visited this box on February 5 and 8, 1936. The attendants at the bank, on being questioned, stated that this person appeared to have a number of insurance policies which he was placing in the safety deposit boxes. It is evident from this that what Torrio really was doing was placing securities in the box.

After checking Bureau file #62-3824-2, it appears that Johnnie Torrio on October 29, 1935, arrived in Miami from Chicago by plane to meet Charles "Lucky" Luciano and his mob, and as you will recall, Luciano is connected with the Schultz mob and according to Agent Boland, Torrance is believed to have been connected with Al Capone and his gangsters.

I requested Agent Boland to incorporate all the facts in his possession in a letter and to immediately transmit it to your office by special messenger, as it is probable that John Torrance may be the Chicago bootlegger who approached [redacted] the informant of Special Agent M. L. Harney of the Intelligence Unit, Treasury Department, with whom [redacted] had a conversation yesterday.

b7D

Respectfully,

F. A. Grimsdell

F. A. Grimsdell.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

FEB 19 1936

62-40811-1	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
FEB. 17 1936 P.M.	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
TAMM	FILE

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington Field Office, Room 5252,
Washington, D. C.

February 14, 1936.

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Re: INFORMATION CONCERNING
JOHN TORRENCE

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Baughman	
Chief Clerk	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Edwards	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Foxworth	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Joseph	
Mr. Keith	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Schilder	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to my instructions, as the result of a telephone call, Special Agent (A) C. B. Boland on February 13, 1936, interviewed Mr. W. J. Waller, Vice President and Treasurer, Hamilton National Bank, 14th and G Streets, N. W., Washington, D.C.

Mr. Waller advised Agent that one John Torrence and a woman purporting to be his wife, designated as Anna Torrence, opened safety deposit box #1231, for which the yearly rental is \$10.00, at the above Bank on December 4, 1935.

Mr. Waller advised that at the time the application was made the regular custodian was absent and one of the clerks, Mr. E. E. Miller, handled the transaction but neglected to secure any references or the usual required information. On the application Torrence gave as his residence the Capitol Park Hotel, Washington, D.C.

This box was entered as follows:

January 7, 1936.	RECORDED
" 17, 1936.	&
" 18, 1936.	INDEXED
" 21, 1936.	
" 23, 1936.	

FEB 19 1936

On February 3, 1936, John Torrence came to the Bank and changed the safety deposit box #1231 to a larger box about the size of a filing case drawer, the annual rental of which is \$20.00 per annum, and which is numbered 1884. This box was entered by Torrence on February 5 and 6, 1936. At the latter time, according to the custodian, Miss Kathryn Fout, he placed what appeared to her to be a number of life insurance policies therein.

RECORDED & INDEXED

Mr. Waller stated that he was a little bit suspicious about the transaction and wrote Torrence at the Capitol Park Hotel, Washington, D. C., and received no reply to the communication. He then called the Capitol Park Hotel and secured from them an address

COPIES DESTROYED

63 OCT 8 1964

#39 Lott Place, Brooklyn, New York.

Mr. Waller contacted a friend of his in New York who phoned him that the subject was a gangster and gunman and that he would send a memorandum concerning him to Mr. Waller today, (February 14, 1936). Mr. Waller received the memorandum today of which the following is a transcript:

"The only information that I will give you is that Mrs. Anna Torrence rents the property at 39 Lott Place for which we act as agents. Rent is paid in cash and we consider the tenants to be all right.

"I do not care to divulge the occupation of John Torrence who, I believe, is the son of Mrs. Anna Torrence; nor will I give you any references. In addition to these two people whom you are inquiring about, a brother and sister of John Torrence also live at this address.

"This property was rented to these people a little over a year ago, at which time a sizable deposit as security was made. The owner of the property wished to sell it but in view of the favorable terms arrived at was willing to take four months' rent as security. The monthly rent is somewhat in excess of \$50.00.

"About the only thing I am in a position to tell you is that these people are good tenants, pay the rent promptly, and keep the premises clean."

* * * *

"Our records do not show any names like those of whom you are inquiring. From memory and from phone calls I have made it seems that John Torrence or John Torrio, as he is sometimes known, held a high rank in one of Al Capone's New York gangs.

"Some time ago a fine private mansion worth about \$40,000, located around the corner on Kings Highway, Brooklyn, New York, was rented and John Torrence's mother and sister installed as housekeepers. A fine Cadillac Sedan was in front of the house most of the time. A considerable sum of money was spent in improving the grounds in Italian style. Some time ago the place was investigated, and since that time has been run by a so-called 'Democratic Club'.

"About four weeks ago, the Federal Authorities were in this section trying to tie up this Club with the former tenants (John Torrence and his crowd).

"Mrs. Torrence, who is from personal appearances a nice old lady; and her daughter during this time lived at 39 Lott Place.

"The 'cop' on the beat tells me that no definite tie-up could be established between John Torrence and the 'Democratic Club', which is a camouflage for a gambling house.

"John Torrence is reported to have plenty of money and hangs out in the East Side of New York and has not been seen here for several months."

In the close of this memorandum, it was suggested that contact be made with the Bureau of Investigation, as it was thought that they should have some information on John Torrence.

A description of John Torrence as given to Agent by Miss Fout, the custodian, is as follows:

Height:	5'3"
Weight:	130 lbs.
Complexion:	Fair
Appearance:	Well dressed
Features:	Regular
Peculiarities:	Polite in manner Walks with a slow gait

On the application card it was noted that he was born August 25, 1889, in Italy, and that his mother's name was Maria Corlucci.

A description of Anna Torrence is as follows:

Height:	5'7"
Weight:	150 lbs.
Complexion:	Medium
Features:	Regular
Appearance:	Stylishly dressed
Teeth:	Stained as though from excessive use of tobacco
Peculiarities:	Has a slow walking gait

The application card states that she was born January 20, 1882, at Covington, Kentucky, and that her mother's name was Riley.

Anna Torrence accompanied John Torrence at the time of the original rental of this safety deposit box and at the time that the second box was rented. On all other occasions, Torrence

entered the box alone.

Mr. Waller advised Agent that the original box #1231 has not been used since it was released by John Torrence, and that if it is desired, this box will be made available to Agents for the purpose of securing latent prints therefrom.

A tracing of the signatures of John Torrence and Anna Torrence as shown by the application cards is attached to this letter.

Very truly yours,

J. M. Keith A.R.M.
J. M. KEITH,
Special Agent in Charge.

CBB:JDIF
Attachment

John Torrence

John Torrence
Anna Torrence

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

EAT:CDW

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

April 23, 1936.

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Baughman
Chief Clerk
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Egan
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Joseph
Mr. Keith
Mr. Lester
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Schilder
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

Time - 1:37 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Acting SAC Thompson of the Washington Field Office telephoned me and said that in this morning's Washington Times, there is an article about the arrest in New York City of one JOHN TORRIG, by either the Internal Revenue or the Alcohol Tax Unit. In this connection, Mr. Thompson said that the Washington Field Office forwarded to the Bureau on February 14, 1936, a letter about this same man, under the name of John Torrence. Mr. Thompson said that we have no case on the man, but we know this is the man who had the safe deposit box in the Hamilton National Bank here in Washington.

I told Mr. Thompson the Bureau would keep this information in mind.

A letter is being prepared today addressed to the Internal Revenue informing them of the existence of this safe deposit box.

Respectfully,

E. A. TAMM.

RECORDED & INDEXED

APR 27 1936

62-40811-3	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
APR 27 1936 A.M.	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
TOLSON	FILE

EAS:RLG
62-40811

April 24, 1936.

Honorable Guy T. Helvering,
Commissioner, Bureau of Internal Revenue,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Helvering:

News items appearing in the recent editions of the local papers indicate your active investigation in connection with John Torrio and, for your assistance, I wish to furnish you the results of the information brought to the attention of this Bureau during the early part of February, 1936, for whatever benefit it might serve.

John Torrio, using the name John Torrence, and a woman purporting to be his wife, designated as Anna Torrence, opened a safety deposit box No. 1231, for which the yearly rental is \$10.00, at the Hamilton National Bank, 14th and G Streets, N. W., Washington, D. C., under date of December 4, 1935. At the time the application for this safety deposit box was made the regular custodian was absent and the customary references were not obtained. On the application Torrio, alias Torrence, gave his residence as the Capitol Park Hotel, Washington, D. C. This box was entered on the following dates: January 7, 17, 18, 21, 23, 1936.

RECORDED & INDEXED

On February 3, 1936, John Torrence came to the Bank and changed this safety deposit box No. 1231 to a larger box, that is, No. 1884. Entrance into this box by Torrio was had on the dates of February 5 and 6, 1936. He was observed on the latter date by Miss Kathryn Fout of the above named Bank at which time he was thought to have placed in the box a number of life insurance policies which may have been securities.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
The Bank endeavored to communicate with Torrio, under the name of Torrence, at the Capitol Park Hotel, Washington, D. C. Receiving no reply, the forwarding address, 39 East Place, Brooklyn, New York, was obtained.

P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

COPIES DESTROYED
JUL 8 1964

Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Baughman _____
Chief Clerk _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Edwards _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Joseph _____
Mr. Keith _____
Mr. Lester _____
Mr. Quinn _____
Mr. Schilder _____
Mr. Tamm _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____

62-40811-4
APR 27 1936

FILE

Info

April 24, 1936.

Additional information obtained as a result of an interview with Mr. W. J. Waller, Vice-President and Treasurer of the above named Bank, resulted in it being ascertained that Mrs. Anna Torrence rented the property at 39 Lott Place.

In addition to this, information was furnished indicating that a private mansion, worth about \$40,000, located around the corner on Kings Highway, Brooklyn, New York, apparently adjacent to the property 39 Lott Place, was rented and John Torrence's mother and sister installed as housekeepers; further, that a Cadillac Sedan was in front of the house most of the time and a considerable sum of money was spent in improving the grounds in Italian style. Some time ago the place was investigated, and since that time has been run by a so called "Democratic Club".

The information likewise indicated that during the month of January, 1936, the Federal authorities were in this section trying to connect this Club with the former tenants, John Torrio, alias Torrence, and his crowd. Mrs. Torrence and her daughter during this period lived at 39 Lott Place.

A limited description is available concerning John Torrio, which appears to be of little benefit other than the fact on the application for a safety deposit box, he advised that he was born August 25, 1889 in Italy, and that his mother's name was Maria Corlucci.

The woman presumably his wife, Anna Torrio, or using the name Anna Torrence, is described as follows:

Height:	5 ft. 7 in.
Weight:	150 pounds
Complexion:	Medium
Features:	Regular
Appearance:	Stylishly dressed
Teeth:	Stained as though from extensive use of tobacco.
Peculiarities:	Has a slow walking gait.

The application card with respect to her records the fact that she was born on January 20, 1882, at Covington, Kentucky,

Hon. Guy T. Helvering

-3-

April 24, 1936.

and that her mother's name was Elley. She accompanied John Torrio, alias Torrence, at the time both safety deposit boxes were assigned. On all other occasions Torrio, alias Torrence, entered the box alone.

In the event any additional information is obtained in connection with this individual, it will be immediately communicated to you. It is hoped that this limited information may be of value to you in connection with your present investigation.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date

04/23

TO: ☐ Director☐ Tolson☐ Edwards☐ Clegg☒ Tamm☐ Quinn☐ Egan☐ Files Section☐ Personnel Files☐ Mechanical Section☐ Chief Clerk's Office☐ Identification Division☐ Statistical Section☐ Technical Laboratory☐ Field Office☐ M☐ Miss Gandy☐ Secretary☐ Correct☐ Re-write☐ Re-date☐ See me☐ Send file☐ Note and return

*James has a bag in
locker with a check
the J K people (I heard)
He is informed if they
do not already know it*

HAROLD NATHAN,
Room 5638.

U. S. Arrests Torrio With Fake Passport

John Torrio, whose shudder soubriquet in gangland is "Terrible Johnny," notorious Chicago mob leader and tutor of "Scarface Al" Capone, called by Commissioner Valentine "New York's Public Enemy No. 2" was arrested yesterday in the White Plains postoffice as he sought a registered letter containing a forged passport that would enable him to flee to South America.

He is charged with being head of a syndicate that flooded the country with illegal whiskey and the "home spinning" of fraudulent labels and seals that mulcted the government of a staggering amount of revenue.

The government net is spread for 12 of "Terrible Johnny's" men that were flippantly called his "stockholders."

Although Torrio, who is 53, bore the reputation of shooting at "the bat of an eye," he offered no resistance yesterday. He was unarmed.

WIFE WITH HIM.

Since the murder of "Dutch Schultz," police have sought Torrio for questioning. He had fled to Florida with "Lucky" Luciano, alleged vice overlord, now in jail here.

Torrio had rented a box in the White Plains postoffice under his own name of John Torrio, of 1 Coolidge PL., White Plains. Agents of the U. S. Treasury's Alcohol Tax Unit learned of it. They also learned that Torrio expected a passport made out in the name of "Torrence" and that he was booked to sail on the Empress of Australia from Quebec on April 26.

Torrio came into the post office at 4:15 o'clock accompanied by his

wife, Mary. He opened his mail box. Then Special Inspector John H. Flynn, of the Bureau of Internal Revenue, made the arrest.

Torrio was put in an automobile guarded by the Federal agents, and taken to Police Headquarters in Manhattan where he was photographed and finger printed, then rushed to the Federal Detection pen and held without bail. He will be arraigned today before U. S. Commissioner Garrett W. Cotter.

HIDES FROM CAMERA.

When photographers appeared at headquarters, Torrio slunk into his coat, covered his face with his hat and a handkerchief.

Federal agents last night were centering on "the friends" in Washington who obtained the false passport for "Terrible Johnny."

Two New York Police Headquarters detectives aided in the arrest. For five days Detectives Joseph Reese and Thomas Keray posed as mail carriers in White Plains and called at the Torrio home. When the trap was set, Torrio was told there was a special delivery letter for him at the post office and he would have to call in person.

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Baughman
Chief Clerk
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Egan
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Joseph
Mr. Keith
Mr. Lester
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Schilder
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

Letter from Mary J. Hel...
9-24-36
E.A.S.



OFFICE OF
COMMISSIONER OF INTERNAL REVENUE

ADDRESS REPLY TO
COMMISSIONER OF INTERNAL REVENUE
AND REFER TO

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

April 28, 1936.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of April 24, 1936, setting forth information coming to your attention concerning John Torrio, alias John Torrence. This information conforms to that which has come into possession of the Bureau as a result of investigations by the Intelligence Unit and Alcohol Tax Unit, and will be kept in mind in connection with such further investigations as may be made by the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

Guy F. Helvering

Commissioner.

RECORDED

MAY 4 1936

62-40811-5	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	1.
APR 30 1936	
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE	
RECORDED	

EAT:RP

September 24, 1937.

RECORDED 62-40811-6

Special Agent in Charge,
Miami, Florida.

Dear Sir:

With reference to your letter of September 10, 1937, pertaining to Joseph G. Schmidt of Tampa, Florida, you are advised that I am not personally acquainted with this man and there are no records in the Bureau concerning him. The Bureau is, consequently, unable to furnish you with any data concerning his reliability as a possible informant.

Very truly yours,
For the Director,

Harold Nathan,
Assistant Director.

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Baughman
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

DE-INDEXED
DATE: 9/19/59
16

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
SEP 25 1937
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

9642-2752-77 BY MR. NATHAN 9/20/37

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

1300 Biscayne Building

Miami, Florida

September 10, 1937

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Mr. Joseph G. Schmidt, who is residing at the Hyde Park Hotel in Tampa, Florida, communicated with Resident Agent Robert B. Miller, advising him he was a very personal friend of Mr. Harold Nathan, and that he is acquainted with Mr. Hoover, and mentioned the names of other employees of the Bureau in Washington. He stated he had some very important information he wished to furnish to an Agent of this Bureau.

Mr. Schmidt endeavored to go into a lengthy discussion of his past life and history, and eventually stated he had talked to Mr. Nathan, Assistant Director, on several different occasions and recently furnished him with some valuable information in connection with Johnnie Torrio, formerly a Capone associate.

Schmidt stated he had just read an article in a local newspaper which stated Torrio, with others, had been indicted in New York for violation of the income tax laws, and he wished to offer his services to the Bureau as an informant in connection with that case. He explained that he was well acquainted with Torrio and all of his associates, and stated he had informed Mr. Nathan about his knowledge of them the last time he talked to him.

Mr. Schmidt stated he would like to have Mr. Nathan know he will still serve the Bureau in event his services are desired, and requested that the enclosed letter which he wrote be transmitted to Mr. Nathan with the request that Mr. Nathan reply to his letter.

Will you please advise this office if the Bureau is aware of this individual's reliability as an informant, or otherwise, for our information in dealing with him in the future.

RECORDED

&

INDEXED

RLS:C

Enclosure.

Very truly yours,

R. L. Shivers

Special Agent in Charge.

FILE

Mr. Nathan
Mr. T. L. ...
Mr. Baughman
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Crowl
Mr. Egan
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Winterrowd
Miss Gandy

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 66-2542-2496

100-100

113

4

Letter Miami
EW 9/24/37

162-40811-6

SEP 13 1937

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FILE

Hyde Park Hotel

TAMPA



9/5/37. Q

Dear Mr. Nathan

This - days Tribune
shows. Louis G. LaCarra

indicted - is that rat

one I discussed with you
one associated with Schlegel & Co
now if it is - I think & you
know I could be of service
to your Dept. have sold our
home in Wash & will live here
when located will wish you
& be glad to have you & yours
visit us.

With my kindest
regards to Mr. Childers & Mrs. Hoover

I am truly

Joseph G. Schwartz

RECORDED

62-40811-6
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
SEP 13 1937
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
NATHAN
RECEIVED

Los Angeles, California
May 6th, 1938

Special Agent in Charge
New York City, New York

Dear Sir:

On May 6, 1938, Messrs. John Pennywitt and A. W. Willey of the Bureau of Investigation, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office called at this office and advised Special Agent V. I. Parry that the District Attorney at Los Angeles had received a letter dated April 30, 1938, from Lamar Hardy, United States Attorney, New York City, in which Mr. Hardy stated that a grand jury for the Southern District of New York was now engaged in the investigation of certain alleged tax evasions on the part of John Torrio and others, Torrio being a well known character in the underworld of Chicago and New York and a former associate of Al Capone.

During the course of the inquiry, [redacted]

[redacted] the investigation disclosing that Silverman had been in frequent difficulties with the law. Mr. Hardy further said in his letter that with reference to a charge of worthless checks appearing on Silverman's criminal record, he understood that a bench warrant was issued on April 1, 1935, for the arrest of Silverman, but was not executed because he could not be located and that his probation was revoked May 20, 1935. It is indicated by Mr. Hardy that he had been requested by the foreman of the Federal Grand Jury to communicate with the District Attorney's Office at Los Angeles in order to determine the present status of the case against Silverman, and he indicates that Silverman being the type of man he apparently is, the United States Attorney's office at New York City felt that it should do everything in its power to cooperate with the Los Angeles District Attorney's office in order to assist them to execute their warrant and to bring Silverman to justice.

RECORDED & INDEXED
Officers Pennywitt and Willey advised that Silverman had been arrested in Los Angeles on July 31, 1934, having issued worthless checks to the amount of \$9,229.14 to the Knickerbocker Hotel and

DEPT. OF JUSTICE	
ONE	FILE

had been tried and convicted on this charge, receiving five years probation on the condition that he make restitution. Shortly after his release on probation he requested permission to go to San Francisco, California, in order to obtain this money, but failed to do so and upon returning from San Francisco, he requested permission to return to Newark, New Jersey, on January 4, 1935, stating he would be back in this district on January 25, 1935. However, he did not return and the probation officer requested him to advise when he would return. At this time he wrote a letter, stating he would need ninety days extra. Upon receiving this letter, the Judge of the Superior Court ordered a hearing on Silverman's probation on April 1, 1935, and when a notice of this hearing was mailed to him by registered mail on March 11, 1935, the return receipt indicating he had received this letter on March 15, 1935, needless to say, he did not appear at this hearing.

Upon receipt of the letter from Mr. Hardy, an additional bench warrant was issued for the arrest of Silverman, same being issued May 4, 1938, and numbered 5-7958, indicating a bail in the amount of \$10,000. His extradition to Los Angeles County has been authorized by Daniel Beecher, Chief Criminal Deputy, Los Angeles County District Attorney's office.

In view of the fact that the United States Attorney at New York City has more or less renewed the interest of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's office in the prosecution of Silverman, the above-mentioned officers have requested the cooperation of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in effecting his apprehension in New York City. It is indicated that it will be necessary for Silverman to be arrested in New York City inasmuch as technically he was given permission to go to New Jersey, and the above-named officers have indicated that because of the political affiliations of Silverman both in New York City and New Jersey, they are very doubtful whether a warrant sent to the New York City Police Department would receive the proper attention, and in fact, are afraid that Silverman would be advised of the warrant outstanding for his arrest and remain in the State of New Jersey.

SAC New York City

5-6-38

Page 3.

It is suggested that you immediately interview Lamar Hardy, United States Attorney at New York City, and find out how far he is willing to go in assisting the Los Angeles District Attorney's office in the apprehension of Silverman. The Los Angeles District Attorney's office will have the proper papers prepared and ready to send to New York City upon advice from the New York City Field Division as to which law enforcement organization in New York City is liable to give the best cooperation with the Bureau in this matter.

In view of the fact that the relations with the various law enforcement organizations in New York City and your office are not known, it was suggested that the local officers hold their papers until such advice and recommendation as you would make as to what organization to send these papers. In other words, the local officers do not know whether it would be best to send it to the New York City District Attorney's Office or the New York City Police Department. It is requested that you advise immediately as to what extent the United States Attorney cares to go and what arrangements you can make to assist the local law enforcement organizations in the apprehension of Silverman.

Very truly yours,

J. H. HANSON
Special Agent in Charge

VIP:HG

cc-Bureau

AIRMAIL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ERD:EL
62-6289

NEW YORK N.Y.
MAY 11 1938

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

LOS ANGELES

MAX SILVERMAN ENDEAVOR TO LOCATE. NYC PD HAS RECEIVED NO REPLY TO
TELEGRAPHIC REQUEST SENT TO DA LOS ANGELES YESTERDAY. IT IS URGENT
THAT NYC PD HAVE TELEGRAPHIC WARRANT IN ORDER TO HOLD SILVERMAN
FURTHER. CONTACT DA LOSANGELES AND HAVE HIM ADVISE NYC PD IMMEDIATELY.

ETTERLI

CC: BUREAU

62-50948-

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

MAY 12 1938 A. M.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ONE 1/2

FILE

Agent in Charge

Sent

M

Per

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
 New York, N. Y.

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Crowl	.....
Mr. Dawsey	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Foxworth	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. McIntosh	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

DB:PS

December 13, 1938.

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director
 Federal Bureau of Investigation
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

In a conversation with ~~IKK~~ McANALLY, a news writer of New York City, on December 13, 1938, he told me that he heard in November an attorney by the name of BOYD, in the Tax Division of the Department of Justice in Washington, committed suicide. McANALLY said one SEYMOUR KLEIN, an Assistant United States Attorney in New York, had sought his aid in requesting an investigation concerning this matter. Mr. McANALLY said it is rumored that one JOHN TORRIO, who is under \$100,000 bond in connection with a tax fraud against the Government, had attempted to fix his tax case but he does not know whether there was anything illegal about the "fix" or whether it was a matter of seeking the influence of some individual. He stated that he understood further that a Treasury official by the name of DIEBERT had made some contact with Mr. BOYD a short time before he killed himself.

I told Mr. McANALLY that, of course, Tax matters are not within the jurisdiction of the Bureau, but he said he thought the Bureau would be interested in learning of the foregoing.

Very truly yours,

Dwight Brantley
 DWIGHT BRANTLEY
 Special Agent in Charge

*Director
 knew of this
 EAL 12/15/38*

RECORDED
 &
 INDEXED

62-50948-2	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
DEC 16 1938	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
TAMM	NICHOLS
ONE	ONE

TELEGRAM

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

7-1433

R. E. Vetterli,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
607 U. S. Court House, Foley Square,
New York, New York.

MAX SILVERMAN, ENDEAVOR TO LOCATE. LOSANGELES DA WIRED TELEGRAPHIC

WARRANT AND FORWARDED CERTIFIED COPIES OF WARRANT THIS MORNING AIRMAIL

HANSON

VIP/mjd
1:20 PM
cc - Bureau.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CHARGE -- FBI, Los Angeles,
May 11, 1938.

McKAY RADIO

62-50948	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
MAY 17 1938 A. M.	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
ONE	FILE

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice**

San Francisco, California
December 8, 1938

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
DATE 06-10-2010

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED BY: SP5/RSC/SLC
ON: 2/25/80

Dear Sir:

Recently while Special Agent A. E. FARLAND was conducting an interview at the California State Prison at San Quentin, one MAX SILVERMAN, No. 62,287, now serving from nothing to 14 years, requested confidentially that the Director, Mr. J. EDGAR HOOVER, be informed that he, SILVERMAN, would like an interview with him; that he had some very important information in his possession that he would furnish only to the Director. He was questioned by Agent FARLAND to furnish him with enough information so that same could be furnished the Director. This SILVERMAN refused to do and stated that he had been waiting for an opportunity to get someone to inform Mr. HOOVER that he desired an interview. He particularly requested that in the event Mr. HOOVER cared to interview him that no letter or telegram be sent to him through the prison authorities.

For the information of the Director, SILVERMAN is the individual who was taken from San Quentin Prison to New York to testify in the HINES case recently, which is being prosecuted by Mr. DEWEY. SILVERMAN claims that he was formerly in the bonding business in Newark, New Jersey, having offices in the Left-court Building, and stated that he is well known there and in other large cities. SILVERMAN was sent up from Los Angeles for violation of his probation. From the tone of SILVERMAN's conversation, he apparently has some information, and it is believed that same is connected with the HINES case as SILVERMAN was very particular to state that he could make the Director more famous if the information he has is furnished him.

Very truly yours,

N.J.L. Pieper
N.J.L. PIEPER
Special Agent in Charge

AEF:MR

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&
INDEXED

62-50948-3	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
DEC 17 1938	
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE	

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 62-45146-49

See index cards
Thomas E. Dewey

*I talked to this
Pieper 7/4 this
E*

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

San Francisco, California
December 16, 1938

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

RE: MAX SILVERMAN,
SAN QUENTIN #62287

Reference is made to my letter of December 8, 1938 and my telephonic conversations with Mr. Tamm regarding the request of MAX SILVERMAN that he be given an opportunity to talk to the Director.

Please be advised that I went to San Quentin Prison this afternoon and talked to MAX SILVERMAN, who was surly, loud-mouthed and arrogant, saying that he had said before he was not going to talk to anyone but the Director, and that that was what he meant. It was pointed out to him that he certainly could be reasonable and not expect the Director to make a trip out here just because he said he wanted to see him, without some indication as to what it was about, and further that if it was an official matter and urgent enough the Director would come specially to discuss it with him.

SILVERMAN kept saying he was not going to talk to anyone but Mr. Hoover - that he was a personal friend of his and that if he would not extend the courtesy of paying a personal call he just was not going to tell anyone anything. I endeavored to reason with him and he started to walk away, so I called him back in response to his question: "Don't you understand the language I am speaking?", saying that I most certainly did and that he should come back and answer specifically to me whether he wanted a social visit with the Director or whether he had something official that would warrant the Director calling upon him. I said I wanted to know specifically his answers to those two questions; that I had endeavored to talk sensibly with him but that since he was using that manner I wanted to know one way or another.

He then stated that it was not necessary for the Director to make a special trip; that he knew he probably would be out here sometime again and that when he did he wanted the Director to call on him and that he expected the Director, being a personal friend of his, to extend that courtesy to him when again in California.

RECORDED

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62-50948-4	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
DEC 19 1938	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
TOLSON	ONE

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 62-45165-2

See serials in 60-150173

Director
advised
Earl 11/18/36

Director, FBI
Washington, D. C.

December 16, 1938

I do not know the background of this man and I am not in a position to say whether he was just trying to make a grandstand play before the trustees, who were unavoidably in the vicinity of the interview, or whether he is just trying to make a play in the prison - but I am sure that he will tell no one but the Director anything he may have to tell.

Very truly yours,



N. J. L. PIEPER,
Special Agent in Charge

NJLP:MLA

AIRMAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

EAT:BR

December 16, 1938
Time - 4:20 PM

MEMORANDUM FOR FILE

Re: Max Silverman

I called SAC Pieper at San Francisco and asked him if he had the opportunity of talking to Max Silverman yet. I told him the Director was interested in finding out definitely what it is about so he can decide whether or not it will be necessary for him to go out and plan his itinerary accordingly; therefore, I told Mr. Pieper if he had the time to go out this afternoon and to point out that it was unreasonable to expect Mr. Hoover to cross the United States just to get a complaint that might not mean anything. SAC Pieper said he thought he might be able to get something out of Silverman and that he would give us a teletype one way or another this afternoon.


E. A. Tamm

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62-50948-5

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
DEC 19 1938	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
FILED	ONE
MISS	

13

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Crowl
Mr. Dawsey
Mr. Egan
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Lester
Mr. McLaughlin
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

DEC 16 1938

WESTERN UNION

WH15 28. COLLECT GOVT

SAN FRANCISCO CALIF DEC 16 355P

DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

US DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC

MAX⁰ SILVERMAN SANQUENTIN REFUSED DISCLOSE NATURE OF

INFORMATION OR TO TALK WITH ANYONE BUT DIRECTOR.

INDICATED SPECIAL TRIP NOT NECESSARY NEXT TIME DIRECTOR

HERE SATISFACTORY AMASD FOLLOWING.

PIEPER.

747P

RECORDED

62-50948-6

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 19 1938
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

INDEXED
ONE

REF:MC

December 22, 1933

62-50948-7

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
MR. JOSEPH B. KEENE

For your information, the following Western Union Telegram has been received by this Bureau from an anonymous individual in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, who signed the telegram "Citizen".

"Edgar Hoover
FBI Dept of Justice, Wash. D. C.

J Jartre 'enkes Philadelphia fixer knows plenty
regarding John Torrio and John Augustina.

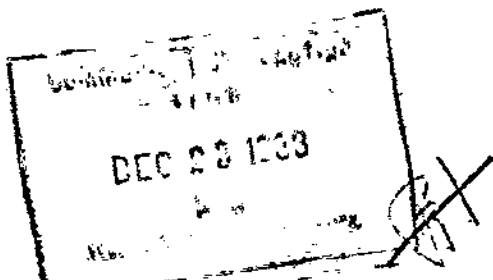
"Citizen"

I wanted to call the receipt of this telegram to your attention inasmuch as the name of John Torrio has been mentioned in newspaper articles in connection with the recent suicide of William Henry Lloyd, who was an employee of the Department.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Crowl _____
Mr. Dawsey _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Lester _____
Mr. McIntire _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____



COPIES DESTROYED
472 OCT 22 1964

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

DEC 21 1938

WESTERN UNION

Mr. Tolson...
Mr. Nathan...
Mr. E. A. Tamm...
Mr. Clegg...
Mr. Coffey...
Mr. Crowl...
Mr. Dawson...
Mr. Egan...
Mr. Foxworth...
Mr. Glavin...
Mr. Harbo...
Mr. Lester...
Mr. McIntire...
Mr. Nichols...
Mr. Quinn Tamm...
Mr. Tracy...
Miss Gandy...

WH7 13

PHILADELPHIA PENN DEC 21 1118A

EDGAR HOOVER

FBI DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC

J JEROME ~~X~~MENKOS PHILADELPHIA FIXER KNOWS PLENTY
REGARDING JOHN TORRIO AND JOHN ~~X~~AUGUSTINA
CITIZEN

1138A

*
ARCHIVES COMMUNICATION

Wm H. Boyd

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

62-50948-7

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 21 1938
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

12/21/38
JEH

Federal Bureau of Investigation

PEF:RMB

United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

January 20, 1939

Time: 9:20 A. M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

7
9
Assistant SAC Dalton called from New York City this morning making a second inquiry as to whether the Bureau would approve the furnishing of information on "Nocky" Johnson to the Assistant United States Attorney Seymour Klein who wanted this information for use in the income tax case involving Johnnie Torrio which is being tried in New York at the present time. Mr. Dalton informed that Mr. Klein was going to call him at about 9:30 A. M. today as he wanted to use the above information at a hearing at 10:30 A. M. this morning. Mr. Dalton informed that he carried out my instructions of January 19th on this matter to the effect that Mr. Klein be advised that our files are so voluminous on the Johnson matter it would be impossible to determine what, if any, information we might have on the character by this morning. To be on the safe side, Mr. Dalton called in Agent A. Dickstein from Newark who is familiar with the case so that if the Bureau approved the furnishing of the information, Dickstein could readily call on Mr. Klein and give him the same.

I pointed out to Mr. Dalton that I had referred his call of yesterday to Mr. Tamm who has taken same under consideration and who stated he would contact Mr. Dalton on the matter sometime today. I instructed Mr. Dalton to advise Mr. Klein, if he calls, that nobody is available just at this time who could furnish the information. I advised Mr. Dalton that if anything else should turn up on this matter that he should call back and that Mr. Tamm will undoubtedly be back by that time.

Time: 10:10 A. M.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

62-50948-8
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JAN 21 1939

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Dalton subsequently called me stating that he had advised Mr. Klein informing that the agent who is familiar with the above case is somewhere in South Jersey and probably could be located just at this time. In answer to Mr. Klein's suggestion that he could get the information over the phone if the agent could be located, Mr. Dalton advised that he would try to locate the agent but that this may not be possible as the agent is probably chasing around the country someplace on a case. I instructed Mr. Dalton to not do anything further until he hears from us.

Respectfully,

P. E. FOXWORTH

PEF:JW

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

January 19, 1939

Time - 5:30 P. M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

Assistant SAC Dalton called from New York City and reported that Assistant United States Attorney Seymour Klein, who is trying the income tax case involving Johnnie Torrio, had called the New York Office requesting any information it might have on "Nocky" Johnson, the Atlantic City politician. It appears that Klein is endeavoring to tie up a man named D'Agostino with "Nocky" Johnson.

Assistant Klein told Mr. Dalton that if he could get any information at all on "Nocky" Johnson—hearsay or otherwise—it would be invaluable in his case. Mr. Dalton stated that Klein wants this information at once so that he can use it tomorrow morning. I was told that Klein has always been friendly with the New York Office, and that the United States Attorney at Newark has the same information that we have on Johnson so obviously that information is not being kept strictly confidential by the Bureau.

I authorized Mr. Dalton to go ahead and see what the New York Office has in its files on Johnson, but instructed that Mr. Dalton advise Assistant Klein that in view of the fact that our files on the Atlantic City inquiry are so voluminous it will be impossible to determine what, if any, information we might have on that character by tomorrow morning. Mr. Dalton stated that he will so advise Klein when he, Klein, calls the New York Office back later today.

I told Mr. Dalton that if the Bureau has any objection to his furnishing the information on "Nocky" Johnson to Mr. Klein, the Bureau will call him back tomorrow morning.

Respectfully,

P. E. Foxworth
P. E. FOXWORTH

RECORDED
&
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62-50948-9

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN. 24 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
PAID ONE

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

March 24, 1939

EAT:HA

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

K
D
You will recall that Max Silverman, #62287 at San Quentin, has indicated that he is in possession of information which he will furnish only to you and that he has declined to furnish this information to any other Bureau representative. I am submitting this memorandum in order to have this data available in the event it is necessary for you to go to the West Coast at any time in the near future.

Respectfully,

E. A. Tamm.

RECORDED

62-50948-9X

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAY 4 1939
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
TOLSON
ONE
TRACY
Miss Gandy

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

EAT:COH

Time: 5:20 p.m.

March 28, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

John
S. J.
With reference to the attached memorandum of a telephonic conversation had by Mr. Dalton with Mr. Pennington today relative to a request of Assistant U. S. Attorney McKibben for permission to keep an important Government witness of the Torrio Income Tax case in the Bureau's detention room, *me* I called Mr. Dalton and advised that you wanted to make the room available and that he should do whatever is desired in this regard.

Respectfully,

E. A. Tamm
E. A. TAMM

1 ENCL. T

RECORDED
&
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62-50948-10
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAR 30 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

1939

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

LRP:COH

Time: 4:40 p.m.

March 28, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

While in telephonic communication with Mr. Dalton at New York, he informed me that Assistant U. S. Attorney McKibben, who is working on the Torrio Income Tax case, had requested permission to keep a very important Government witness in the Bureau's detention room at New York. The witness has been taken out of the House of Detention and it is desired to keep him out of that place or any other prison during the trial.

McKibben was informed by Dalton that the Bureau's detention room is only a temporary place of confinement for prisoners being questioned in Bureau cases and that it was doubtful that the same could be made available. It also was indicated to Mr. McKibben that difficulty probably would be encountered since the witness is under the jurisdiction of the United States Marshal and the Bureau would not have authority to receive him. It is Mr. Dalton's opinion that a call possibly may be made by Cahill on this to either the Director or the Attorney General.

I told Mr. Dalton I did not think it would be possible to grant Mr. McKibben's request as we would not want outsiders staying around the Detention Room and that we have too much work of our own to do without watching witnesses on cases not within our jurisdiction. However, I told Mr. Dalton this would be referred for appropriate instructions.

Respectfully,

L. R. Pennington
L. R. PENNINGTON

RECORDED

62-50948-10
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAR 30 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
New York, New York

PEF:es

March 29, 1939

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

United States Attorney JOHN T. CAHILL called me on Tuesday, March 28, 1939, and stated that rumors had been received to the effect that possibly some attempt would be made to tamper with the jury which will hear the Income Tax Case against JOHN TORRIO, beginning on Wednesday, March 29, 1939.

Mr. CAHILL stated that he had talked with the United States Marshal. Mr. CAHILL said that he believed that if the Federal Bureau of Investigation would assist in handling the jury in this case, and that fact became known, it would tend to dissuade any one from endeavoring to contact any of the jurors. He stated, with this in mind, he had contacted the United States Marshal, who told him that not only had he no objections, but he would welcome and greatly appreciate any assistance the Federal Bureau of Investigation might give him in handling the jury in this particular case.

I pointed out to Mr. CAHILL that we were extremely short handed and he then said that the purpose would be served if we would have two men make an appearance with the Marshal on Wednesday morning, and indicated that he would give publicity to the fact that the Federal Bureau of Investigation was assisting in the matter.

I thereafter telephoned you and when you authorized that I comply with Mr. CAHILL'S request, I informed him that we would do so. Mr. CAHILL said that he did not think the agents would be needed except for this brief appearance, and would not call on us for their assistance any longer than necessary.

In Mr. BRANTLEY'S absence, I have spoken with Assistant Special Agent in Charge J. L. Dalton, who will see that two agents are assigned this morning. I told him he should endeavor to have the agents relieved from the assignment as soon as possible.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

62-50948-11
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

MAR 30 1939

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Very truly yours,

P. E. FOXWORTH
Inspector

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Crowl	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Foxworth	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. McIntire	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

March 20, 1939

JEH:3BB

Time - 2:15 PM

ONE

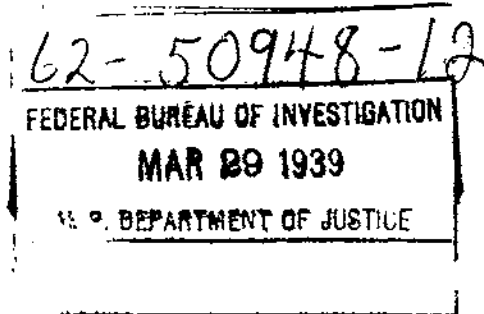
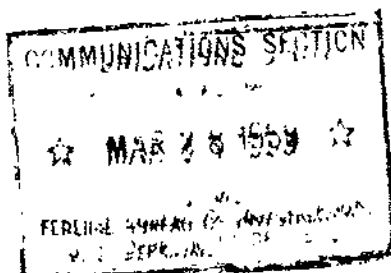
MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

Mr. Foxworth called from New York City and said that Mr. Cahill had spoken to him about the John Corrio income tax case. Cahill understands that there might possibly be some interference with the jury in this case and would like to have two Agents assigned with the Marshal to take care of the jury. Cahill said that he did not want these men to do anything other than make an appearance with the Marshal tomorrow morning in order that he can make a statement to the press that Bureau Agents are going to watch the situation. I told Foxworth that I had no objection to this and that he should so advise Mr. Cahill.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

RECORDED
&
INDEXED



Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Crowl _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Lester _____
Mr. McIntire _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice**

PEF:SKL

New York, N.Y.
April 1, 1939.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Crowl.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Foxworth.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. McGuire.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Miss Gandy.....

Dear Sir:

Inspector L. B. Nichols called me on the night of March 30, 1939, and stated that the St. Paul, Minnesota, "Dispatch" in the green edition was carrying an eight column headline to the effect that TORRIO had a financial link with a G-man. Mr. Nichols stated that this news article was based upon a United Press dispatch and mentioned the suicide of WILLIAM H. BOYD. I informed Inspector Nichols that no similar stories had appeared in the evening New York papers which I had noticed. Mr. Nichols said that it was your suggestion that I call Seymour Klein, the Assistant United States Attorney who is handling the prosecution in the TORRIO case and ascertain from him what, if any, statements had been made to the press and further tell him that I was calling at Mr. Hoover's suggestion and that a denial was being issued to the St. Paul paper that any G-man was involved and further that WILLIAM H. BOYD, while an employee of the Department of Justice, had no connection whatever with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Mr. Nichols mentioned that a Justice Agent to whom reference was made in the article appearing in the St. Paul paper was not named.

I thereafter telephonically communicated with Assistant U. S. Attorney Klein informing him that I was calling at Mr. Hoover's suggestion and told him of the news article appearing in the St. Paul paper. Mr. Klein said emphatically he had made no statement to the press and the information which had been published was based upon his opening remarks to the Jury and in those remarks he had not referred to any G-man or to any employee of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Mr. Klein stated he had referred to WILLIAM H. BOYD as a Department of Justice employee and that, of course, that was true.

RECORDED & INDEXED

I told him that the Director had instructed that a denial be issued to the St. Paul paper and that he might want to correct the story here. Mr. Klein stated that he was perfectly willing to make any correction if any inquiry were made of him.

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
DATE 06-03-2010

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77 OCT 20 1964

62-50948-13
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
APR 3 1939

TAMM

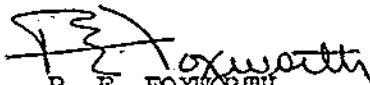
NICHOLS

P. & C. letter to Director
4/1/39

he felt, and I agreed with him, that it would not be of any value for him to make a denial to the New York papers when they had published no such story.

The above information from Mr. Klein was furnished to Inspector Nichols on the evening of March 30, 1939.

Very truly yours,


P. E. FOXWORTH,
Inspector.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

EAT:COH

March 28, 1939

Time: 5:20 p.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

I called Mr. Dalton at New York with reference to the attached memorandum of a telephone conversation between Dalton and Mr. Pennington relative to the request of Assistant U. S. Attorney Glenn for a copy of the Bureau's report on the jury panel from which the jury for the *John* Torrio Income Tax case is to be taken. I told Mr. Dalton I thought the report should be made available. Dalton is to call Mr. Glenn and advise him accordingly.

Respectfully,

E. A. TAMM

1 ENCL. T

RECORDED

62-50948

62-50948-14
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAR 30 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TOLSON
ONE

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

March 28, 1939

LRP:COH

Time: 4:40 p.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

Mr. Dalton called from New York and stated he had been contacted by an Assistant U. S. Attorney named Glenn, who is working on the Torrio Income Tax case.

Glenn informed that the jury for the Income Tax case will be picked tomorrow from the panel from which the jury for a Court of Claims case being handled by Assistant U. S. Attorney Schoonmaker and a Court of Claims man from the District, was taken. Mr. Dalton stated that Glenn is familiar with the fact that the Bureau investigated the jury panel in question and has seen the Bureau's report in Schoonmaker's possession and has requested permission to review the same. Schoonmaker, however, has told Glenn he did not feel free to make the report available for him. Glenn has requested permission of Mr. Dalton to see the report in Schoonmaker's possession or to be given a copy in the Bureau's files.

In answer to my inquiry, Mr. Dalton stated he knew of no reason why making the report available to Glenn would in any manner effect the Court of Claims case. In view of this and inasmuch as Glenn and Schoonmaker are Assistant U. S. Attorneys in the same District, I told Mr. Dalton to contact Schoonmaker and the Court of Claims man and if they voiced no objection, to then make the Bureau's report accessible to Mr. Glenn. I also told Mr. Dalton to point out to Glenn, should the report be made available, that the Bureau's investigation is not in detail and was made with respect to German citizenship and German sympathizers.

Respectfully,

L. R. Pennington
L. R. PENNINGTON

RECORDED

62-50948-14	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
✓ MAR 30 1939	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
TAMM	ONE

503 Raymond-Commerce Building
Newark New Jersey

March 31, 1939

Mr. Arthur Sylvester, City Editor
Newark Evening News
Newark, New Jersey

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the news item appearing in the Thursday, March 30, 1939, edition of the "Newark Evening News", making reference to the fact that William H. Boyd was an agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and had committed suicide in connection with his association with Johnny Torrio, who is being tried in New York at the present time.

I wish to emphatically assert that this man was never connected in any capacity with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and would greatly appreciate a retraction of the headlines carried in the above-mentioned edition of your paper.

This will serve to confirm my telephone conversation with you on this date.

Very truly yours,

cc-Bureau, with encl.
(copy of news item)

A. P. KITCHIN,
Special Agent in Charge.

62-50748-14X

RECEIVED
APR 1 1939
TELETYPE
APR 1 1939

Torrio Is Linked to F.B.I. Man

Financial Relation- ship' Charged by Prosecutor

Lien on Boyd

NEW YORK (UP)—Opening the government's income tax evasion case today against Johnny Torrio, gang leader, Assistant District Attorney Seymour Klein charged Torrio had a "financial relationship" with an important agent in the Department of Justice.

Klein said the justice agent, whom he did not name, was in a position to decide whether Torrio would be prosecuted. In Klein's statement was a reference to William H. Boyd, agent, who committed suicide when it was shown Torrio held an unlisted mortgage on his home.

"Secret and Intimate"

(The Associated Press quoted Klein as saying it was learned last November, after a year's investigation, that Torrio had a "secret, intimate and financial relationship" with Boyd, chief of the compromise section of the Justice Department's criminal tax division. Klein said Torrio also had intimate relationship with and used as an intermediary the brother of this same Department of Justice official.)

Torrio, who taught Al Capone and many lesser gang leaders what they knew about the rackets both here and in Chicago, is on trial with four others. The jury was selected late yesterday and the alternate positions filled when court convened this morning.

Klein said the government spent more than a year penetrating into Torrio's racket activities before they learned of the relationship with the justice agent.

"Slept Like a Baby"

Torrio, whose bail was rescinded last night by Federal Judge John W. Clancy and who spent the night in jail, said this morning he had "slept like a baby" and was confident of acquittal. It was his first night in jail during his long career as a racketeer.

As court opened Max D. Steuer, counsel for Torrio, expressed concern that the foreman for the jury, Thomas J. Corbally, is a retired fire department officer whose sole income is a government pension. Steuer said he would keep this fact in mind "all through the trial." Judge Clancy commented he would see that Torrio and the others had a fair trial.

The Co-Defendants

Torrio puckered his brow as two alternates were selected for the

jury. His co-defendants—William Stockbayer, his brother-in-law; John D'Agostino of Egg Harbor City; Louis La Cava, a former Torrio-Al Capone lieutenant; and James La Penna—also paid close attention to the proceedings.

Klein told the jury the government would conduct its case with all possible dispatch and that any prolongation would be due to Torrio "who so concealed his enterprises, so falsified and so eradicated records that long voluminous proof is necessary." To present the complete picture would take months, he said, thus the government would content itself with "a sample helping out of each dish rather than the dish itself."

Torrio, he said, would pay about \$1,000 in income taxes to throw the government off his trail. The gang leader, he added, maintained that he did not keep records yet he reported a miscellaneous income of \$31,202.48 which the prosecutor said was "an admission of guilt" for "without records how did he arrive at that figure?"

Had Liquor Firm

Klein said the \$86,000 the government claims Torrio failed to pay actually might be a minimum, as the only funds the prosecution could tell about were those which the defendant used for his liquor firm, Prendergast-Davies, and to buy certain stocks.

"We are going to prove this man earned the greater part of his income from an illicit business," Klein shouted, "and graft and corruption had to exist in order for him to carry it out."

During late prohibition days, after his hasty exit from Chicago to avoid assassination, Torrio pretended to have given up shady enterprises, Klein said. He was, an all-important member of a syndicate formed here to control the sale of liquor and to regulate supply and demand, according to Klein.

Bribes

The syndicate paid thousands of dollars in bribes every month and the government, Klein declared, would detail its activities through witnesses who were there "when things happened."

He described the Prendergast-Davies firm as a complex setup of "falsities" in which even the minutes of stockholders' meetings were framed. When the firm was sold for a profit of \$100,000 in 1933, Klein said, various dummies were used to conceal most of the profit.

As Klein concluded, counsel for D'Agostino asked for a severance for his client. His motion was denied.

Steuer in opening for Torrio, said the government was prosecuting his client because of his reputation. The defense, he said, will claim Torrio not only paid all taxes when they were due, but in 1933, paid \$1,000 he did not owe because he knew he would be expected to pay a tax.

The attorney said the government would be unable to show that Torrio had made "a dollar from the illicit liquor business since 1925." He admitted Torrio had invested in Prendergast-Davies but said this was not in 1933 and that his client would tell about it "to the penny." "I know you were appalled by the

opening statement that Torrio in January, 1932, entered into a conspiracy with a government agent and these others," Steuer said. "But he is being charged with that not because of his present but because of his past."

Fred Kaplan, counsel for D'Agostino, sat in a chair because of a leg ailment as he read his opening statement. He denied his client had aided Torrio in income tax evasion and characterized D'Agostino as a man who had been independently wealthy and a legitimate stockholder in Prendergast-Davies.

At Brandle Trial

William H. Boyd, as representative of general counsel for the Internal Revenue Department in Washington, assisted in the prosecution of the income tax trial of Theodore M. (Ted) Brandle, Jersey City labor czar, in the Spring of 1931. The trial was held in Trenton. Boyd aided United States Attorney Philip Forman, now federal judge, in trying the case. The jury was unable to agree.

JOHN ED.
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

LEN:ICB

Washington, D. C.

March 31, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Last evening SAC Hendon of St. Paul called, stating that the final green edition of the March 30th issue of the St. Paul Dispatch was carrying eight-column headlines as follows:

"TORRIO HAD FINANCIAL LINK WITH G-MEN JURY TOLD"

Then in smaller type the following appeared "Boyd suicide mentioned by prosecutor." "New York March 30th UP" "Klein charged that Torrio had a 'financial relationship' with an important Agent in the Department of Justice." Klein said that Justice Agent whom he didn't name was in a position to decide whether Torrio would be prosecuted and Klein's statement was a reference to Agent William H. Boyd who committed suicide when it was shown that Torrio held an unlisted mortgage on his home." The story then went on to recount the charges brought against Torrio. Mr. Hendon also advised that he understood the Minneapolis Journal was carrying a similar story although he had not seen it as yet. Mr. Hendon stated that he considered these remarks certainly uncalled for and would probably convey a wrong inference and suggested that possibly the Director might want to get out a statement. I told Mr. Hendon that he would be advised directly.

The Personnel Files contain no record of a William H. Boyd as ever having been in the Bureau's service. After talking to you and Mr. Tolson I called Mr. Hendon and told him that he should issue a statement to the press in the Director's name pointing out that William H. Boyd was not an Agent of the FBI; he was never connected with the FBI, and no one by that name was connected with the FBI and that no inference should be drawn associating Boyd with the Federal Bureau of Investigation; that Department of Justice Agents generally referred to the FBI Agents and that Boyd was not an FBI Agent. Hendon stated he would handle the matter. I then called Mr. Foxworth in New York in accordance with instructions and advised him of the news item in St. Paul. He stated that he had observed the New York papers also and that they referred to Boyd as Chief of the Compromise Section of the Department of Justice. I told Mr. Foxworth that the Director wanted him to contact Seymour Klein and tell him about the headlines and the news item in the St. Paul paper and find out what type of statement Klein had made and to also inform him that the Director was issuing a denial and suggest that Klein might wish to correct any wrong inferences which had been drawn in the event he did not make the statement.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

TOLSON

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GLAVIN

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Memorandum for the Director

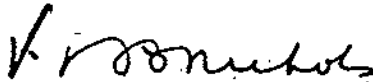
- 2 -

March 31, 1939

Mr. Foxworth subsequently called back last night and stated that he had talked to Klein; that Klein did not make any statement which would infer that a G-Man or a Special Agent of the FBI was involved. On the other hand Klein stated he referred to a member of the Department of Justice and then mentioned Boyd by name; that at no time in his opening remarks did he say anything about G-Men or the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Mr. Foxworth told Mr. Klein that the Director was issuing a denial. Mr. Klein stated that certainly the Director was taking the proper action and that if any inquiries were directed to him he certainly would clarify the situation but that in view of the fact that the New York papers did not bungle the matter like the St. Paul papers did he thought it probably would be inadvisable for him to make a statement to the press but that certainly if any inquiries come to him or if he has the opportunity he will clear it up. It is suggested that this is probably the wise move and as soon as SAC Hendon sends the clippings to the Bureau it is suggested that we make a vigorous protest to the St. Paul Dispatch and then let them go back on the United Press.

Mr. Foxworth also asked that the Director be advised that an indictment charging Tom Vallon with perjury would be returned today (March 31st.). He also asked that the Director be advised that while he had not had a chance to talk to Cahill about referring to the FBI when making statements on investigations that nevertheless he had a long talk with Correa and Correa thought that it was an excellent idea for Cahill to refer to the FBI whenever investigations are being made and that certainly Correa will mention the matter to Cahill.

Respectfully,


L. B. Nichols

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&
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62-50948-14X2

April 11, 1939

Mr. Hugh Baillie
Editor
United Press Associations
220 East 42nd Street
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Baillie:

Upon my return to Washington I received copies of clippings which appeared in various newspapers based upon a United Press Dispatch pertaining to the opening of the trial against John Torrio.

The St. Paul Dispatch on March 30, 1939, carried the following headline in bold type: "Torrio Had Financial Link With G-Man, Jury Told." The Minneapolis Journal on March 30 carried a story captioned "Claims Torrio Had Hold On Federal Agent." The Newark Evening News on March 30 carried the following headline: "Torrio Is Linked to FBI Man."

All of the stories are substantially the same and the first two paragraphs read as follows: "Opening the Government's income tax evasion case today against Johnny Torrio, gang leader, Assistant District Attorney Seymour Klein charged that Torrio had a 'financial relationship' with an important agent in the Department of Justice. Klein said the Justice agent, whom he did not name, was in a position to decide whether Torrio would be prosecuted. In Klein's statement was a reference to Agent William H. Boyd, who committed suicide when it was shown that Torrio held an unlisted mortgage on his home."

The headlines which I have referred to are indeed unfortunate, since in the cases of the St. Paul and Minneapolis papers they certainly conveyed the impression to the readers that the individual linked with Torrio was a member of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and, of course, the Newark Evening News specifically refers to a "FBI Man."

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED

★ APR 12 1939 ★

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Mr. Hugh Baillie

- 2 -

April 11, 1939

I have received several comments since the appearance of the foregoing items and I did want to communicate with you personally and point out that it is indeed unfortunate a reflection has been cast upon the Bureau when, as a matter of fact, William H. Boyd, the individual referred to in the dispatch had no connection whatsoever with the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

I understand that Mr. Seymour Klein did not make any statement which would infer that a G-Man or a Special Agent of the FBI was involved. On the other hand, he referred to a member of the Department of Justice and then mentioned Boyd by name and referred to him as Chief of the Compromise Section of the Department of Justice, Criminal Tax Division. Other stories which I have seen refer to Boyd in this manner and there was no reference to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

While, of course, I appreciate that the headlines are prepared by the editorial staffs of the various newspapers, nevertheless, from a reading of the dispatch it can readily be understood that they used it as a basis for making the references to "FBI Man, G-Man or Federal Agent."

I would deeply appreciate it if in the future you would bear in mind the embarrassment that can occur from such headlines. If a representative of the FBI should be involved then, of course, he should be referred to by name and the organization should be referred to. However, it would be only fair to ask that you keep in mind the inferences which are likely to be drawn by referring to a Department of Justice Agent, for the only Agents of the Department of Justice are the Special Agents of the FBI, with the exception of the General Agent charged with handling fiscal matters.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Saint Paul, Minnesota

March 31, 1939

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Coffey	✓
Mr. Crowl	✓
Mr. Egan	✓
Mr. Foxworth	✓
Mr. Glavin	✓
Mr. Harbo	✓
Mr. Lester	✓
Mr. McGuire	✓
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Quinn Tamm	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

PERSONAL ATTENTION

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

With reference to my telephonic conversations with you and Mr. Nichols of the Bureau on the evening of March 30, 1939, I am enclosing, herewith, the objectionable articles which appeared in the final green afternoon edition of the St. Paul Dispatch and the night final edition of the Minneapolis Journal yesterday afternoon. It will be noted that these articles, carrying the United Press date line out of New York, are identical, which would indicate that they originated in this manner in New York City.

In accordance with your instructions, I contacted Mr. Howard Kahn, associate managing editor of the St. Paul Dispatch; Mr. George Adams, managing editor of the Minneapolis Journal; and Mr. David Silverman, managing editor of the Minneapolis Star; advising that anyone reading these articles could but draw the inference that they referred to a special agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, inasmuch as our agents are the only ones commonly known as Department of Justice Agents or "G-Men". It was further stated that drawing such an inference could only be derogatory to the FBI and its personnel. I stated that in your name, after telephonic communication with Washington, I wanted to make it clear that WILLIAM BOYD is not connected with the FBI, has never been so connected, and that no one by that name was ever one of the FBI agents.

As a result, the afternoon edition of the St. Paul Dispatch, under its "Bureau of Accuracy and Fair Play", carried the enclosed article, under the headline, "Suicide in Torrio Case Called G-Man by Error".

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

APR 25 1939

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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94-8-8-41-6

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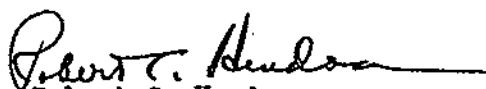
Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
FBI, Washington, D. C.
Re: Objectionable Newspaper articles

3/31/39

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G
I am also enclosing, a clipping from the afternoon edition of the Minneapolis Journal under date of March 31, 1939, in which the objectionable article is also corrected; and from the afternoon edition of the Minneapolis Star. The latter clipping accurately reports the statement which I gave to all of the papers.

Further, there are enclosed clippings from the St. Paul Pioneer Press and the Minneapolis Tribune, morning papers of March 31, 1939, carrying an AP story on the Torrio case. It will be noted that neither of these articles refer to a Department of Justice agent.

Very truly yours,


Robert C. Hendon
Special Agent in Charge

RGH:IM

Enclosures

ST. PAUL DISPATCH "FINAL GREEN", THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 1939

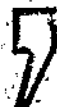
TORRIO HAD

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G-MAN,



JURY TOLD

Boyd Suicide Mentioned by Prosecution

New York, March 30.—(UP)—Opening the government income-tax-evasion case today against Johnny Torrio, gang leader, Assistant District Attorney Seymour Klein charged that Torrio had a "financial relationship" with an important agent in the Department of Justice.

Klein said the justice agent, whom he did not name, was in a position to decide whether Torrio would be prosecuted. In Klein's statement was a reference to Agent William H. Boyd, who committed suicide when it was shown that Torrio held an unlisted mortgage on his home.

Torrio, who taught Al Capone and many lesser king leaders what they knew about the racket, both here and in Chicago, is on trial with four others. The jury was selected last Wednesday and the alternate positions were filled when court convened this morning.

Klein said the government spent more than a year penetrating into Torrio's racket activities before they learned of the relationship with the justice agent.

Torrio, whose bail was rescinded Wednesday night by Federal Judge John W. Clancy and sent to jail, said this morning that he "slept like a baby" in his cell and was confident of acquittal. It was his first night in jail during his long career as a racketeer.

As court opened Max D. Steuer, counsel for Torrio, expressed concern that the foreman for the jury, Thomas J. Corbally, is a retired fire department officer whose sole income is a government pension. Steuer said he would keep this fact in mind "all through the trial." Judge Clancy commented that he would see that Torrio and the others had a fair trial.

Torrio puckered his brow as two alternates were selected for the jury. His co-defendants—William Slockbower, his brother-in-law; John d'Agostino, Louis la Cava, a former Torrio-Al Capone lieutenant, and James la Penna—also paid close attention to the proceedings.

Klein told the jury Torrio would pay about \$1,000 in income taxes to throw the government off his trail. The gang leader, he added, maintained that he did not keep records, yet he reported a miscellaneous income of \$31,202.48 which the prosecutor said was "an admission of guilt" for "without records how did he arrive at that figure?"

THE MINNEAPOLIS JOURNAL NIGHT * * * * * F I N A L

Minneapolis, Minn., Thursday, March 30, 1934.

Claims Torrio Had Hold On Federal Agent

New York, March 30.—(U.P.)—Opening the government's income tax evasion case today against Johnny Torrio, gang leader, assistant District Attorney Seymour Klein charged Torrio had a "financial relationship" with an important agent in the department of justice.

Klein said the justice agent, whom he did not name, was in a position to decide whether Torrio would be prosecuted. In Klein's statement was a reference to Agent William H. Boyd, who com-

mitted suicide when it was shown Torrio held an unlisted mortgage on his home.

Klein said the government spent more than a year penetrating Torrio's racket activities before they learned of the relationship with the justice agent.

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MINNEAPOLIS JOURNAL
FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1939

Torrio Listed False Income To Pay Tax, Witness Says

U. S. Renews Attack on
Al Capone Boss' 'Most
Amazing' Return

New York, March 31.—(AP)—John Torrio's "most amazing" tax return and his asserted payments of \$20,000 monthly for protection in liquor dealings, faced renewed government attack today in the income tax evasion trial of the one-time boss of Al Capone.

Frequent clashes between Assistant U. S. Attorney Seymour Klein and Defense Counsel Max Steuer enlivened the trial in which Torrio is accused of evading \$86,000 in taxes in 1933-34-35. Four co-defendants are on trial of charges of aiding him in the evasion.

Klein termed Torrio's 1933 tax return "the most amazing you ever saw" and drew from a court-labeled "hostile" witness—a former deputy internal revenue collector—an admission he had prepared the return.

Included in the return, the witness, Saul C. Steinthal, testified, was a "miscellaneous income" figure of \$38,202.40 which he said was "fictitious."

"He (Torrio) said he wanted to pay a tax of approximately \$1,000," Steinthal testified. "He said 'my name is Torrio, I want to pay a tax.' The amount was set upon merely to produce the tax. That's the only reason why."

Wanted to Pay



JOHN TORRIO

Man Named With Torrio Declared Never a G. Man

Robert H. Hendon, agent in charge of the St. Paul office of the federal bureau of investigation, today declared William H. Boyd, mentioned by the federal prosecutor in the government's tax case in New York against Johnny Torrio, gang leader, had never been connected with the FBI.

Press dispatches quoted Seymour Klein, United States district attorney, as charging that Torrio had a "financial relationship" with a department of justice officer whom he did not name.

Later, in the same statement, Klein referred to Boyd, who committed suicide last fall when it was shown Torrio held an unlisted mortgage on his home.

Hendon, however, said reference in dispatches to Boyd as an "agent" of the department gave the impression Boyd was an FBI operative; whereas "he has never been so connected and no one by that name has ever been one of our agents."

Boyd was at one time employed as an attorney for the justice department in another division, Hendon said.

ST. PAUL PIONEER
PRESS, FRIDAY,
MARCH 31, 1939

Huge Bribes Attributed To Torrio

New York, March 30. (AP)—Payments of \$20,000 or more a month for protection of big-time dealings in illicit liquor were attributed to Johnny Torrio by a government prosecutor today at the trial of the one-time Chicago rackets boss for income tax evasion.

Seymour Klein, assistant United States Attorney, made the accusations and pictured Torrio as the kingpin of the racket who would stay in the background until important things were happening. He expressed belief that Torrio's operations were far greater than the government had been able to establish.

The charges brought a denial from Torrio's chief counsel, Max Steuer, who contended in his opening statement the government could not prove "by truthful evidence" that Torrio earned a dollar from illicit liquor after 1925, the year he served nine months for violating the prohibition laws. Furthermore, Steuer charged, the government "is trying to convict him merely because he is John Torrio."

The indictment against the former boss of Al Capone—who was sent to prison on his conviction of similar charges—alleges Torrio evaded payment of \$86,000 in taxes in the years 1933-34-35. Four co-defendants were accused of aiding.

Among the first witnesses was Saul C. Steintal, who testified he was dismissed from the Internal Revenue service and given a jail term after pleading guilty to accepting "gratuities."

It was he, Steintal said, who prepared Torrio's 1933 return. He explained he put in enough "miscellaneous income" to make a \$1,000 tax necessary because Torrio insisted that he "must pay something" and suggested "about \$1,000 as the proper amount."

No Photo

MINNEAPOLIS TRIBUNE,
FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1939.

Torrio Accused of Paying \$20,000 Monthly Protection

New York, March 30.—(P)—Payments of \$20,000 or more a month for protection of big-time dealings in illicit liquor were attributed to Johnny Torrio by a government prosecutor Thursday at the trial of the one-time Chicago rackets boss for income tax evasion.

Assistant U. S. Attorney Seymour Klein made the accusations, and pictured Torrio as kingpin of

the racket who would stay in the background until "important things were happening." He expressed belief that Torrio's operations were far greater than the government had been able to establish.

The charges brought a denial from Torrio's chief counsel, Max Steuer, who contended in his opening statement that the government could not prove "by truthful evidence" that Torrio earned a dollar

from illicit liquor after 1925, the year he served nine months for violating the prohibition laws. Furthermore, Steuer charged, the government "is trying to convict him merely because he is John Torrio."

The indictment against the former boss of Al Capone—who was sent to prison on his conviction of similar charges—alleges that Torrio evaded payment of \$86,000 in taxes

in the years 1933-34-35. Four co-defendants were accused of aiding. Prosecutor Klein referred particularly to Torrio's 1933 tax return—he called it "the most amazing tax return you ever saw"—and said an item for miscellaneous income of \$38,202.48 was set because "Torrio walked into his counsel's office and said he wanted to pay the government about \$20,000 in tax."

No Photostat

MINNEAPOLIS STAR,
FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1939

TORRIO INCOME TAX RETURN IS ADMITTED FAKE

Witness Helped Gang- ster Set 'Fictitious' Figure

New York—(U.P.)—Saul C. Steinthal, former deputy collector of internal revenue who was dismissed and jailed in 1925 for accepting a bribe, today returns as a



hostile government witness at the trial of Johnny Torrio, the gang leader charged with federal income tax evasion.

Steinthal helped Torrio, the gangster charged with federation income tax fraud, fix his 1933 income tax return.

Torrio's lawyer, Max D. Steuer, had said in his opening address that Torrio had not owed any income tax in 1933, but had insisted on having his return fixed so he could pay "about \$1,000, because I'm Torrio; I have to pay a tax; I don't want anybody after me."

Steinthal admitted reluctantly that he had filled out the 1933 tax return on which Torrio paid \$1,013 tax. He refused to say how he had arrived at \$38,202.04 "miscellaneous income."

Prosecutor Seymour M. Klein demanded to know whether the figure was not "false," and Steinthal admitted that it was "fictitious."

'Agent in Torrio Case Not of FBI'

Robert J. Hendon, head of the St. Paul office of the federal bureau of investigation, today with the consent of J. Edgar Hoover, head of the bureau, issued a denial that a figure named as connected with Johnny Torrio, notorious gangster, was an FBI agent.

Mr. Hendon's statement follows:

"An article was carried by press associations to the effect that Johnny Torrio, New York gang leader, being tried in New York city, had a financial relationship with an important agent in the department of

justice, who was in a position to decide whether Torrio would be prosecuted.

The reference was made to 'Agent William H. Boyd, who later committed suicide.' Anyone reading the article could not but draw the inference that it referred to a special agent of the FBI, since our agents are the only ones commonly known as department of justice agents.

"Drawing such an inference could only be derogatory to the FBI and its personnel. Therefore, in the name of J. Edgar Hoover, director of the federal bureau of investigation, after telephonic communication with him, I want to issue the statement that William Boyd is not connected with the FBI, has never been so connected, and no one by that name has ever been one of our agents.

"It is my understanding that an individual by this name was an attorney in some capacity with the department in the past, but it should be made clear that he was not an FBI agent."

ST. PAUL DISPATCH, FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1939

Suicide in Torrio Case Called G-Man by Error

The Dispatch was unintentionally any misunderstanding its story
unfair to the Federal Bureau of Investigation Thursday might have caused.

BUREAU
of
ACCURACY
and
FAIR PLAY

In an article about the New York tax evasion trial of Johnny Torrio, former gang leader, it quoted an assistant district attorney as saying that "Torrio had a financial relationship with an important agent of the Department of Justice."

The headline referred to this agent as a G-man and there was an intimation that "Agent" William A. Boyd had committed suicide as a result of discovery of the relationship.

The fact is that Boyd never was a G-man. He never was employed in any capacity by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He was an attorney employed by the Justice department.

Robert C. Hendon, local agent-in-charge, called attention of the Dispatch Bureau of Accuracy and Fair Play, to the error today.

Edgar Hoover, chief of the bureau, confirmed Mr. Hendon's belief that Boyd was not connected with the organization.

The Dispatch fully understands the Federal Bureau of Investigation's pride in its integrity and personnel and is happy to correct

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

EAT:CHS

March 31, 1939

Time: 1:00 P. M.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Kitchen of the Newark Office called and advised that the Newark Evening News carried an article on the Torrio case yesterday bearing a New York United Press date line. He stated the headlines read as follows:

"Torrio Linked to FBI Man, Financial Relationship Charged by Prosecutor, Lean on Boyd".

Mr. Kitchen stated that the Boyd referred to as the FBI Man is the William H. Boyd who committed suicide. He stated that he had called Tom O'Brien, a contact at the Newark Evening News, and had also talked to Mr. Art Sylvester this morning and advised them this man was not connected with the FBI.

I instructed Mr. Kitchen to contact the New York Office and request them to call the fact that this is an erroneous statement to the attention of the Prosecuting Attorney. I further instructed Mr. Kitchen to have a retraction published in the Newark paper pointing out that this man was not an FBI Agent and never has been.

Respectfully,

E. A. TAMM

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
APR 4 1939	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
TOLSON	NICHOLS
ONE	

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

WRG:MTS

March 31, 1939
Time: 3:10 P.M.

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Coffey	✓
Mr. Crowl	✓
Mr. Egan	✓
Mr. Foxworth	✓
Mr. Glavin	✓
Mr. Harbo	✓
Mr. Lester	✓
Mr. McIntire	✓
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Quinn Tamm	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

SAC Hendon, while discussing other matters with me, advised that with reference to the Johnny Torrio case the articles concerning William Boyd appeared in only the afternoon street editions yesterday of the Minneapolis Journal and the St. Paul Dispatch, that both stories were exactly alike, and Mr. Hendon believes they were identical with dispatches sent out by the U.P. He stated that the street edition has the most limited circularization.

He further advised me that this afternoon's Minneapolis Journal carries his, Hendon's, statement concerning this matter, as had been discussed with the Director yesterday. He also stated that Howard Kahn of the St. Paul Dispatch is preparing a complete story on this matter along the same lines.

Respectfully,

W. R. Glavin

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
APR 3 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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TORRIO HAD LINK TO JUSTICE AIDE, JURY INFORMED

Effort To Evade Income Tax Charges Alleged At N. Y. Trial

NEW YORK, March 30 (AP)—The one-time mighty underworld hand of swarthy little Johnny Torrio, the government charged today, reached even into the U. S. Department of Justice in an effort to delay or thwart prosecution on federal income tax evasion charges.

Assistant U. S. Attorney Seymour Klein told a jury of five women and seven men that it was learned last November, after a year's investigation, that Torrio had "a secret, intimate and financial relationship" with William H. Boyd, chief of the compromise section of the Justice Department's criminal tax division.

Boyd, Klein said, was "one of those to decide whether Torrio would be prosecuted. He (Torrio) also had intimate relationship with and used as an intermediary the brother of this same Department of Justice official."

Committed Suicide

Boyd committed suicide last fall. Torrio, on trial with four co-defendants on charges of conspiracy to evade payment of \$86,000 in income taxes, bent forward in his chair as he listened to Klein, his hands opening and closing spasmodically.

After outlining the indictment, Klein said the government would be able to present "only a bit of each dish instead of the whole dish itself" because of what he termed Torrio's ability to conceal, falsify and destroy records of his various enterprises.

This "conniving," he said, would "necessitate long proof to show what the defendants did."

Klein said Torrio's forte was "shady business" and he promised to prove that Torrio was "deep in illicit liquor."

Criticizes Foreman

Earlier, Max Steuer, chief of defense counsel, had indicated strong dissatisfaction with the jury foreman, Thomas J. Corbally, a retired fire lieutenant.

Steuer said he considered it was prejudicial to have persons connected with governmental agencies on the jury. Federal Judge John W. Clancy said he did not consider a juror disqualified for this reason.

Steuer already had argued strenuously against the court order revoking Torrio's bail.

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Crowl	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Foxworth	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. McIntire	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

NEWARK-STAR-EAGLE

NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

Thursday, Mar. 30, 1939

SUBMITTED BY NEWARK DIVISION

62-50948-A

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

LRP:COH

Time: 12:20 p.m.

April 7, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

SAC Brantley called from New York and advised that one Cathryn R. (Rotschild) Swift, who is stated to have a criminal record and quite a questionable career, is on the jury for the Torrio trial.

Her residence is given as 112 Central Park, South, while her profession is given as that of a journalist. She is said to be a member of a very reputable family and allegedly was married in 1916 to one Julius Blum, a man of excellent reputation, who divorced her either in 1926 or 1927 allegedly for infidelities with members of the Elmsford Country Club. In 1931 she is supposed to have been mixed up with some Rumanian with whom she was living in France and both are supposed to have been arrested by the French police, charge unknown, and sentenced to jail.

She is very well acquainted with Marie Stoyer, defense counsel in this case. It is stated that on her honeymoon with Blum, Stoyer was staying at the hotel in which they were residing and all three are supposed to have been seen frequently together. Since her divorce from Blum, her friendship is stated to have been continued with Stoyer.

Mr. Brantley requested that a check be made with the Department of State with a view of getting something definite about the alleged difficulty with the French authorities. A check also is desired of the Identification Division. Mr. Brantley requested a telephonic reply.

Brantley stated he had talked to the Director about this jury and that Mr. Hoover stated Cahill should be given all the help he desires.

RECORDED & INDEXED
Respectfully
B

L. R. PENNINGTON

62-50948-17
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
APR 11 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Tamm

4/7
1:45 PM
cc Hotel
by the messenger
1:40 PM
called Q. T.
Tamm

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

LRP:CHS

Time: 1:45 P.M. April 7, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

ms.
I contacted Mr. Hottel of the Washington Field relative to the information furnished by Mr. Brantley of the New York Office regarding one Cathryn R. (Rotschild)

X Swift, who is serving on the jury in the Torrio trial.

I advised Mr. Hottel that United States Attorney Cahill desired a discreet check to be made at the State Department to ascertain what information they have on this woman, inasmuch as she is reported to have been arrested in France with some Rumanian. I advised Mr. Hottel that I would send him by special messenger a copy of a memorandum containing the information furnished by Mr. Brantley relative to Cathryn Swift. He was requested to immediately ascertain this information and call me back.

Respectfully,

L. R. Pennington
L. R. PENNINGTON

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

62-50948-18

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
APR 11 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TAMM / OR

Not FBI Man

A headline on a story in The Newark News Thursday in connection with the trial of the government's income tax evasion case against Johnny Torrio, gang leader, stated Torrio had been turned to an agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The man referred to was an official in the compromise section of the Department of Justice's criminal tax division and had no connection with the FBI.

Mr. Tolson.....
 Mr. Clegg.....
 Mr. Coffey.....
 Mr. Crowl.....
 Mr. Egan.....
 Mr. Foxworth.....
 Mr. Glavin.....
 Mr. Harbo.....
 Mr. Lester.....
 Mr. McIntire.....
 Mr. Nichols.....
 Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
 Mr. Tracy.....
 Miss Gandy.....

NEWARK EVENING NEWS
 NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

Monday, April 3, 1939

SUBMITTED BY NEWARK DIVISION.

The Place—A federal courtroom in New York City.
The Characters—Johnny Torrio, founder of a nation-wide vice syndicate which originated in Chicago; U. S. Dist. Judge John W. Clancy; Asst. U. S. Atty. Seymour Klein; Al Capone, once manager of Torrio's "Chicago branch," now completing a term for income tax evasion in a federal prison; Ralph Capone, Al's brother, who also served a term for income tax evasion.



Johnny Torrio

Co-defendants, William Stockbower, Torrio's brother-in-law; Louis V. La Cava, former Torrio-Capone lieutenant; John D'Agostino, who hails from New Jersey; and James La Penna, erstwhile Torrio "business partner."

The Plot—Torrio and four minor figures in his farflung empire of vice and crime are on trial before Judge Clancy for evading \$86,000 in federal income taxes in the years 1933, 1934 and 1935. The government holds as its ace in the prosecution a 55-page deposition from the imprisoned Al Capone in which authoritative sources have revealed, "Scarface Al" told everything he knew of Torrio's operations and the methods he used to hide the enormous "take" of his syndicate. Also, the prosecution has hinted, Ralph Capone has recently revealed what he knew of Torrio's manipulations. Ralph Capone is currently reported to be settling a \$20,000 civil suit for tax evasion in Washington.

Now read today's developments handled by special wire service direct info, the editorial rooms of The TIMES and written by Lorenzo Lavey.

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Crowl.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Foxworth.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. McIntire.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Miss Gandy.....

CHICAGO DAILY TIMES

62-50948-A

3-30-39

Reveal Torrio 'fixed' suicide U. S. tax chief

The deft hand of swarthy Johnny Torrio reached even into the inviolate U. S. Department of Justice as he sought to adjust his income tax difficulties, the government charged today in its opening statement in the trial of Torrio and four underlings.

Torrio, who paid \$20,000 a month for protection and only \$1,000 a year for income tax, made a tool of William H. Boyd, chief of the compromise section of the justice department's criminal tax division. Klein told the jury of five women and seven men today.

Klein, beginning to piece together a mosaic of Torrio's vast underworld system, said the "Little Fellow" had employed Boyd's brother as middleman in his dealings with Boyd.

OFFICIAL KILLS SELF

When, last fall, the glare of the spotlight fell on William H. Boyd, he killed himself rather than face interrogation of federal sleuths.

Little Torrio, his hands clasping and unclasping spasmodically, leaned forward intently while Klein described him as "a powerful, secretive man who concealed even from members of his own mob the extent of his operations—a silent man, who carried over into legitimate business the methods which made him a success in the underworld."

BAIL REVOKED

Ironically, Torrio and his four co-defendants must return each night to jail after the day's session in court. Judge Clancy, in the opening session of the trial, unexpectedly revoked Torrio's \$50,000 bond and the lesser bonds of his associates. When Max D. Steuer, Torrio's attorney, protested, Judge Clancy cut him off with the curt statement there was "nothing more to be said."

In their opening statements both sides agreed Torrio had filed a phony income tax return for 1933. But the prosecution and the defense disagreed as to the reasons.

Klein contended the Little gangland czar was concealing a huge income from bootlegging and other underworld activities which made him liable to a tax of at least \$48,000 in that year.

Steuer declared that, although Torrio's true income figures showed he



Al Capone

(Continued on page 42, col. 1)

Torrio's bail revoked; he stays in jail

(Continued from page 5)

owed nothing, Torrio—"being Torrio"—thought the government wouldn't believe him, and reasoned he should pay something to keep the government "heat" off him. So he told his accountant:

"Figure out how much income I'd need to pay the government a tax of \$1,000."

Incidentally, that accountant will be a government witness against Torrio, Klein has announced.

Departing from the realm of figures and specific charges of tax evasions, Klein, who is credited with inducing Al Capone to make the revelatory deposition which will form the backbone of the government's case, began a recital of Torrio's background designed to portray him in the almost legendary character he has assumed in gangland circles.

"Torrio is a man who never uses his own name," Klein said. His name was breathed about as 'J. T.' or 'John' or 'D.' or 'J.' People did not speak his name. He only appears when things must be done, when important things are happening."

The government can prove, Klein said, that in 1933 Torrio evaded \$48,000 in taxes on his huge earnings, mostly from illegal enterprises. He probably made much more than the government can prove, Klein asserted.

The 1933 income tax return, Klein continued, was "made out exactly backwards."

"Torrio wanted to pay the government about \$1,000," Klein related. "So he figured out that the amount of income that would require him to pay \$1,000 was \$18,000. After exemptions had been computed he arrived at \$48,202.49 for the gross income and put down that figure."

When federal agents questioned him, Torrio blandly assured them he had given up "shady deals," Klein said, but "during that period he was a member of an association in New York City whose purpose was to control supply and demand of liquor during prohibition. He was associated with every bootlegger here."

REGULATED LIQUOR

The association not only regulated supply and demand but fixed prices and did business in thousands and thousands of cases.

"Protection money at the rate of \$20,000 or more a month for the corruption of certain people was paid out."

Torrio's own mob did not know how great his income was during that period, Klein continued, and when prohibition ended he continued his "old tricks and habits" by going into the liquor firm of Pendergast Davies and Co. under the name of John J. McCarthy.

"Did Torrio reveal his identity?" Klein asked. "No, no. Instead mys-

terious figures of McCarthy and J. G. appear. Dummy officers were introduced. False minutes, false entries and false creditors were recorded. One of these false creditors later learned that he had been credited with \$100,000 he never knew anything about."

Torrio introduced his brother-in-law, William Stockbower, a co-defendant in the present trial, into the firm, Klein said. Stockbower was supposed to put up \$80,000 although he had worked for years as a clerk for only \$80 a month.

When the company was sold in 1935 at a profit of \$100,000 Torrio and his associates found a way to save \$23,000 in taxes by an apparent distribution of profits, Klein declared.

A jury of five women—including three housewives—and seven men had been completed after five hours.

LAWYER OBJECTS

When Steuer objected strenuously to the court order cutting short his client's freedom, Judge Clancy told him curtly. "There is no use of further argument."

He agreed to Steuer's request, however, he remind the jury that locking up the defendants had no bearing on their guilt or innocence.

Torrio, if convicted, might be jailed for 12 years and fined \$30,000.

Among the 75 witnesses who will testify for the government in person or throughout depositions is J. Richard (Dixie) Davis, who turned state's evidence against Tammany district leader James J. Hines recently.

62-51943-19

RECORDED

LRP:DF

April 7, 1939

SPECIAL DELIVERY
PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. Dwight Brantley
Special Agent in Charge
New York, New York

Dear Sir:

With reference to your telephone call to the Bureau today requesting that information be furnished concerning one Kathryn Rothschild Swift, you are advised that the records of the Identification Division fail to indicate any record concerning the aforementioned individual under any of the names furnished by you or under the additional names set forth below.

At the State Department the records of the Chief Special Agent fail to indicate any information concerning Mrs. Swift.

In the Passport Division the following information was obtained:

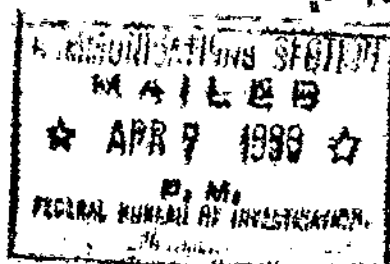
Last Passport No. 571033, issued July 7, 1933, to Kathryn Rothschild Swift-Sonlyo,
Born May 14, 1876, at New York City;
Permanent Residence 171 West 57th Street, New York City;
Last married November 7, 1935, to Stephen K. Swift-Sonlyo, at New York City;
Maiden Name Kathryn Eda Rothschild.

Previously married to Julius Blum in New York City, on June 23, 1917; divorced April 30, 1931.

Subsequently married to ~~Paul Straghi~~ ^{Paul Straghi} ~~Loescu~~ ^{Loescu}, October 24, 1932, at Bucharest, Rumania, divorced him January 20, 1934, at Vienna, Austria, while the latter was in prison in Switzerland.

Description: Height, 5 feet 10 inches; Hair, gray; Eyes, blue.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Crowl _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Lester _____
Mr. McIntire _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Q. Tamm _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____



DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
DATE 06-03-2010

SAC New York

-2-

April 7, 1939

Passports issued her since 1925 as follows:

Passport Number 52154, January 12, 1925, at Washington, D. C., to Kathryn Rothschild Blum, Hotel Gladstone, New York City;
Passport Number 319483, January 21, 1927, at Washington, D. C., to Kathryn Rothschild Blum, 580 West End Avenue, New York City;
Passport renewed, April 13, 1931; her marital status terminated April 30, 1931.

Passport renewed November 23, 1932, in Bucharest, Rumania, to Kathryn R. Blum Dragulinescu, she having married Radu A. Dragulinescu on October 24, 1932, at Bucharest.

Passport Number 19483, May 18, 1933, at Bucharest, to Kathryn Dragulinescu. She stated in her application that she resided in different countries in Europe between 1929 and 1933, and from September 22, 1932, to May 17, 1933, in Bucharest.

Passport Number 825/131651, February 14, 1934, at Vienna, Austria, to Kathryn Rothschild, Nodenapark 7, Vienna, Austria. In this application she stated that she was divorced from her husband, Radu Dragulinescu January 23, 1934, while the latter was in prison in Switzerland. This passport expired February 23, 1936.

In all applications she gave her occupation as a housewife.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

LRP:COH

Time: 5:30 p.m.

April 7, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Crowl.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Foxworth.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. McIntire.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Miss Gandy.....

I telephoned SAC Brantley at New York
and furnished him with detailed informa-
tion secured at the State Department by
Special Agent L. Doehl concerning the
activities of Cathryn Rotschild Swift.

Respectfully,

L. R. Pennington
L. R. PENNINGTON

1 ENCL. *T*

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

62-50948-19
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
APR 11 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TAMM <i>ONE</i>

John. Tamm

4/7/39.LL.

Re: Bureau Memo. April 7, 1939.

CATHRYN R. (ROTHSCHILD) SWIFT;
CATHRYN R. BLUM;
CATHRYN ROTHSCCHILD.

Mr. ROBERT A. BANNERMAN, Chief Special Agent, State Department advised that the files do not reflect any record of information under the above names.

Mr. JAMES E. McKENNA, Passport Division, State Department furnished Agent the passport file of the above subject from which the following data were secured:

Last Passport No. 571033, issued July 7, 1938 to KATHRYN ROTHSCCHILD SWIFT SOMLYO,
Born May 14, 1896 at New York City;
Permanent Residence 171 West 57th St. New York City;
Last married Nov. 7, 1935, to Stephen K. Swift-Somlyo, at New York City;
Maiden Name: KATHRYN EDNA ROTHSCCHILD.
Previously married to JULIUS BLUM in New York City on June 28, 1917; divorced 4/30/31.
Subsequently married to RADU DRAGULINESCU, Oct. 24, 1932, at Bucharest, Rumania, divorced him January 20, 1934 at Vienna, Austria, while the latter was in prison in Switzerland.
DESCRIPTION: Height, 5'10"; Hair, gray; Eyes, blue.

Passports issued her since 1925 as follows:

Pp. No. 52154, Jan. 12, 1925, At Washington, D.C., to Kathryn Rotschild Blum,
Hotel Gladstone, New York City;
Pp. No. 319483, Jan. 21, 1927, at Washington, D.C., to Kathryn Rothschild Blum,
580 West End Ave., New York City;
Pp. Renewed, April 13, 1931, her marital status terminated 4/30/31.
Pp. amended Nov. 23, 1932 in Bucharest, Rumania, to Kathryn R. Blum Dragulinescu, she
having married ~~Dragulinescu~~ Radu A. Dragulinescu on Oct. 24, 1932 at Bucharest.
Pp. No. 19483, May 18, 1933, at Bucharest, to Kathryn Dragulinescu. She stated in her
application that she resided in different countries in Europe between
1929 and 1933 and from Sep. 22, 1932 to May 17, 1933 in Bucharest.
Pp. No. 825/131651, Feb. 14, 1934, at Vienna, Austria, to Kathryn Rothschild,
Modenapark 7, Vienna, Austria. In this application she
stated that she was divorced from her husband, Radu
Dragulinescu Jan. 20, 1934, while the latter was in
prison in Switzerland. This passport expired 2/29/36.

In all applications she gave her occupation as a housewife.

RECORDED & INDEXED

Upon obtaining the above information Agent advised Mr. BANNERMAN, Chief Special Agent, State Department, inquiring for any information on KATHRYN R. B. DRAGULINESCU or RADU A. DRAGULINESCU. Mr. BANNERMAN advised that the files of the State Department reflect no correspondence or other information under those names.

62-50948-19	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
APR 11 1939	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
ONE	L.L.

No copies here
JH

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

EAT:CHS

April 8, 1939

Time: 12:45 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ~~SECRETARY~~ *ACE*

Re: KATHRYN R. SWIFT

9 Mr. Hottel of the Washington Field Office called relative to Kathryn R. Swift. Mr. Hottel advised that the State Department had promised to send all the original papers in connection with the passport applications of this woman to the Passport Agent, Mr. H. F. Hoyt, Sub-Treasury Building, New York City. According to Mr. Hottel, Mr. Hoyt will produce these papers in court upon a subpoena duces tecum. He advised the records will be in New York City by Monday.

I instructed Mr. Hottel to call the New York Office and furnish this information to them.

Q. J. Jan 13
B
E. A. TAMM

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

62-50948-20	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
APR 10 1939	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
FILES	ONE

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

ERP:CHS

April 7, 1939

Time: 4:45 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

While in telephonic conversation with Mr. Hottel
of the Washington Field Office on another matter,
he advised Agent Loebel had obtained the information
relative to Cathryn R. (Rotschild) Swift. He stated
this information had been typed into a memorandum
by Agent Loebel and would be sent to the Bureau by
messenger in this form, the Washington Field Office
not retaining a copy. I advised him this would
be satisfactory.

Respectfully

L. R. PENNINGTON

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

62-50948-211

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
APR 10 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TAMM ONE

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

EAT:CHS

April 8, 1939

Time: 10:07 A.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: CATHRYN R. SWIFT *John*

Mr. Brantley of the New York Office called relative to the above individual, who is a juror in the *John* Torrio trial. Mr. Brantley stated the information secured from the State Department yesterday by the Bureau was submitted to Mr. Cahill's Office this morning and they would like, if possible, to obtain the original passport issued to Cathryn R. Swift and the original visas. He stated if the originals could not be obtained, certified copies should be secured and forwarded to New York. I asked Mr. Brantley if they wanted the original application for passport, and he stated they desired to obtain the original papers or copies of them.

I explained to Mr. Brantley the fact that the State Department would probably have a lot to say about the confidential nature of State Department documents, and ask him if Mr. Cahill would issue a subpoena for these records if the State Department insisted that one be issued. Mr. Brantley stated he was certain that Cahill would issue a subpoena if necessary.

Mr. Brantley advised further that Cahill is mainly interested in obtaining the names of the countries which Mrs. Swift visited in Europe. He stated that if any difficulty is encountered, Cahill will get in touch with the Attorney General. I advised Mr. Brantley the thing for Cahill to do is to inform us if the State Department does not produce the records, he will issue a subpoena to the Secretary of State or his authorized representative. Mr. Brantley stated Mr. Cahill would like to have these records, if possible, by Monday sometime. I told Mr. Brantley we would endeavor to obtain these as quickly as possible.

Mr. Brantley requested that he be contacted if any difficulty was encountered in obtaining these records. I advised him I did not think there would be any trouble as long as we could advise them that a subpoena would be served when the records were produced up there.

100-50000

& Respectfully
INDEXED

E. A. TAMM

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

APR 10 1939

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

62-50948-22

INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION - FBI

4-11

1939.

Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
✓ Files Section
Mechanical Division

Identification Div.
Technical Laboratory
Crime Records Section
Crime Statistics

SUPERVISORS

Mr. Balch
Mr. Brennan
Mr. Carson
Mr. Chambers
✓ Mr. Cornelius

Mr. Drayton
Mr. Guerin
Mr. Hayden
Mr. Hogan
Mr. Kimball

Mr. Kramer
Mr. Lawler
Mr. McIntire
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Van Pelt

* * *

Mr. West
Mrs. Morton
Mr. Albaugh
Mr. Halter
Miss Conlon
Mr. Gauthier
Stenographers 5730
Stenographers 5724
Stenographers 5706
Typists 5724

Typists 5236
Send file
Correct
Bring file up to date
Re-date
Record, search,
serialize and route
Indicate index
references

Is this yours?

Clairmont

SUPERVISOR

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

DM

April 10, 1939

Time - 10:40 A. M.

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Crowl.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Foxworth.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. McIntire.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Miss Gandy.....

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

Re: John Torrio income tax case

Mr. Brantley telephoned from New York and advised that John Torrio, William Flockbower, a brother-in-law of Torrio's and James Lapinna entered pleas of guilty this morning in connection with a violation of the income tax laws. Two other defendants, John D'Agontino and Louis Lacava did not enter pleas of guilty and will be tried later.

Mr. Brantley stated that United States Attorney Cahill and his Assistant Cline expressed their appreciation for the assistance rendered by the Bureau in connection with this case.

Respectfully,

D. Morton
D. MORTON

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

62-50948-23

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
APR 12 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TOLSON TAMM ONE PERS. FILES

Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Mumford	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

46

Torrio
4-12-39

Torrio Sentenced To 2½ Years

New York, April 12 (P).—John Torrio, former Chicago underworld leader, was sentenced today to serve 2½ years in Federal prison for income tax evasion. Judge Clancy first sentenced Torrio to three years, but reduced it by six months at the request of the United States attorney. Additional sentences of five years and two years were suspended.

NOT RECORDED

62-577-23X

INDEXED

APR 13 1939

X WASH. POST
APR 1

\$115,000 J.T.'S IN TORRIO CASE

NEW YORK, April 4 (U.P.). The Government introduced the testimony of a Federal investigator today in an effort to prove that tough Johnny Torrio, accused of income tax evasion, did \$115,000 worth of business in bootleg liquors during the last three months of 1933.

Torrio, alleged by the Government to have avoided payment of approximately \$87,000 in income taxes during 1933, '34 and '35, has pleaded that he actually sustained business losses in 1933 and that he paid a \$1,000 tax only because he knew it was expected of him.

Andrew Hurley, alcohol tax unit investigator, told of examining the books of James Lapenna, a co-defendant, and finding "Victor," "J. T." and "John T." under frequent entries. The Government contends that these entries were pseudonyms for Torrio.

"And how did Lapenna explain the frequent entries: 'Paid \$— to J. T.'?" Assistant U. S. District Attorney Seymour M. Klein asked.

"He said those meant, 'Jimmy took it, or Jimmy took it out, meaning that Lapenna himself took it,'" the agent testified.

"Did you ask him if 'J. T.' referred to John Torrio?"

"I did. He said, 'definitely not.'"

Hurley said the records showed that \$115,000 accumulated for "J. T." over a period from October to December, 1933.

The agent's testimony was admitted over the objection of Defense Counsel Max D. Steuer, who contended that "this is nothing but poison to the defendant Torrio."

U. S. TO PROTECT WITNESSES FROM N. Y. GANG GUNS

Pledge Given as Convict Tells on Torrio.

New York, March 31.—[Special.]—Witnesses against Johnny Torrio, one time boss of Al Capone, are to be given real protection against gang vengeance, the government indicated late today after a former rum runner had testified at the income tax trial of the underworld chieftain.

It was reported that the witness, Bert Erickson, a convicted smuggler, may be allowed to flee to China to escape the penalty frequently imposed by gangland on "squealers." He is now awaiting sentence for rum running, but it is expected his sentence will be mild and that when it is completed he will be helped in getting away.

Assistant United States Attorney Seymour Klein leaped to his feet and shouted an objection when Torrio's counsel asked Erickson where he lived. Klein declared: "I object for a very good reason. This man has a family."

Reveals Promise of Protection

Federal Judge John W. Clancy would allow no more to be said on the matter until the jury had retired at the end of the day's session. Klein then read into the record the following statement:

"The government has agreed to give this witness its fullest protection. The government felt that the disclosure of his address in public might result in some danger or harm."

Erickson left the courtroom in the custody of two agents from the United States department of justice.

Falls to Shake Story

Defense Attorney Max Steuer failed to shake the rum runner's story that Torrio was reaping, unobtrusively, a profit of about \$35,000 a month during the dying days of prohibition in 1933. He did much to explode the defendant's contention of poverty.

Displaying a remarkable knowledge of the liquor racket, Erickson, a slow speaking Swede, testified that Torrio was a member of a huge association of bootleggers which apportioned quotas to each Atlantic seaboard racketeer and paid its chairman \$1,000 a week.

Sets Quota at 5,000 Cases

Erickson said that Torrio's quota was 5,000 cases a month. Computing the average profit on Scotch, rye, brandy, and cordials brought in from Canada by rum-running ships, the witness figured that at \$7 a case, Torrio had an income of \$35,000 a month.

An earlier witness was Saul C. Steinthal, a former internal revenue collector who became an accountant in the Torrio enterprises. He told of helping the gangster make out his income tax return for 1933, the first year of a three-year period for which the government charged Torrio and four co-defendants evaded payment of a tax of \$86,000.

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Crowl.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Foxworth.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. McAniff.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Miss Gandy.....

Carson
CS

CHICAGO DAILY TRIBUNE

4-1-39

(copy-cmcw)

NDV:MM

62-50948-24

April 21, 1939.

RECORDED

Mr. Earl J. Johnson
General News Manager
United Press Associations
News Building
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Johnson:

It was a pleasure indeed to receive your letter of April 17, 1939, and I want you to know that I am always very glad to furnish you with information concerning the Federal Bureau of Investigation whenever possible.

In order that you might keep in touch with our activities I have placed your name on our mailing list to receive the Uniform Crime Reports and other literature as released from time to time.

With best wishes and kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

ORIGINAL FILED IN

(copy-cmcw)

~~UNITED PRESS ASSOCIATIONS~~
Incorporated in New York
GENERAL OFFICES
NEWS BUILDING NEW YORK CITY

EARL J. JOHNSON
GENERAL NEWS MANAGER.

April 17, 1939.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Thank you for your letter of April 11 which I have received in Mr. Baillie's absence, pointing out that certain newspapers used misleading headlines on U. S. dispatches reporting the trial of John Derric.

As you have said, the United Press does not control headlines, which are prepared by the copy desks of individual newspapers; but we do have a responsibility to make our dispatches as specific and definitive as possible, so that the headline writer will have no reason to draw inferences.

I am much obliged to you for pointing out that the only agents in the Department of Justice are the Special Agents of the F. B. I.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Earl J. Johnson.

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62-50948-24
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
APR 27 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-50948-24

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

New York, N.Y.

April 26, 1939

PEF:EL

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am attaching hereto one copy each of
the following memoranda which I prepared and was holding
for you at the New York Office:

Memorandum dated April 25, 1939, re: United States
Attorney John J. Quinn, District of New Jersey.

Memorandum dated April 25, 1939, re: Assistant
U. S. Attorney Martin Klein of the Southern District
of New York.

Memorandum dated April 25, 1939, re: Archibald
McNeil; Miscellaneous - Information Concerning.

Other copies of these memoranda have been
forwarded to the Bureau with advice that the originals
had been personally given to you in New York City.

Very truly yours,

P. E. FOXWORTH,
Inspector.

encls. 3

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
DATE 06-03-2010

RECORDED

65-50948-25
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAY 10 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ORIGINAL FILED IN 65-50948-25

COPY - rem
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Time: 5:40 p.m.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

April 27, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

RE: JUDICIAL INQUIRY

Inspector Foxworth called from New York and furnished the following developments in the judicial inquiry:

Mr. Foxworth had Leonard Weisman in today. According to this person, Sam Beard, the Washington gambler now in Atlanta, informed him that to reach Joseph Keenan, he should use one Monty O'Boyle of Cleveland, an old contact of Keenan. Al Rosen has informed that O'Boyle is a bondsman in Cleveland and an associate of Moe Davis in the Furdress case.

Mr. Foxworth has sent a letter to the Bureau regarding Assistant United States Attorney Martin Klein. John Torrio told Weisman that Klein was reached through Senator Wagner's son, Wagner, Jr., an attorney in New York.

Tom Fallon was released today on \$20,000.00 bail. Frank Silinsky has informed Foxworth that Bill Fallon told him that before the Fort Green National Bank closed, Joe Keenan had gotten in touch with Judge Manton, stating the bank was closing and that Manton would have to pay his loan right away. The loan was paid on the last day before the bank closed. David Siegel told Frank Silinsky that James Morris was the man who had to be reached in the Department in order to fix a tax case and that Robert Newman was running around town every where looking for tax cases. According to Silinsky's own information, Newman was seen quite frequently in Keenan's company at various night clubs in New York.

Morris White was in to see Mr. Foxworth today and advised that Correa, U. S. Attorney Cahill's assistant, was at the Fifth Avenue Hotel last night (White's hotel) and described Correa as having been "plastered to the gills". White, while attempting to get Correa to leave the hotel, was informed by Correa that while he was on the outside he was White's friend but when at the office the relationship was different. Correa mentioned Foxworth to White as being a pretty good fellow. White finally succeeded in getting Correa into a cab and sending him home.

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INDEXED

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MAY 12 1939

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

4-27-39

Mr. White stated he does not desire this information disclosed but that he did want Mr. Foxworth to know of Correa's action, Foxworth's name having been mentioned.

White also informed that when Hickey was United States Attorney in the Eastern District, he received a call on one occasion from a restaurant in Brooklyn, requesting that he come over immediately. On reaching the restaurant, Joseph Keenan was found on the top floor and was described as having "passed out". According to White, Keenan frequented the Fifth Avenue Hotel and while there, he was visited by Ungerleider.

In checking the Bridgeport City Trust Company in connection with Archibald McNeil's account, one check has been found against McNeil in the amount of \$450.00 signed by R. Davis. Mr. Foxworth states that this corroborates the story of Dixie Davis that he paid McNeil money.

Henry Jaskin (?), an attorney in Brooklyn, informed today that another attorney by the name of Reed had advised him he could reach Abruzzo for \$3,500.00, in the case of the Joe Latsch Corporation vs Mellow Ice Cream. Reed is to be interviewed tomorrow.

Respectfully,

E. A. TAMM

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

LBN:MWC

May 1, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

With reference to my ^{Serial 14X1} memorandum of March 27, 1939, which is attached, I desire to advise that as of May 1, 1939, the situation with reference to those newspapers which have indicated unfriendliness to the Bureau through their editorial policies is unchanged.

Respectfully,

L. B. Nichols
L. B. Nichols

Enclosure

RECORDED

62-50945-25X1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAY 20 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TOLSON
MISS GANDY

62-37002-117X

X

May 4, 1939

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

For your information a confidential informant of the New York City Office has furnished certain information regarding Assistant United States Attorney Martin Klein of the Southern District of New York to the effect that John Torrio, an inmate in the Federal House of Detention, New York City, has said that "Marty" Klein, who is identical with the subject of this memorandum, could be "reached".

The informant further advised that a Deputy United States Marshal, name unknown, in the Marshal's Office in New York City, took him to Martin Klein's Office in connection with the matter of his fine and the Deputy Marshal told him not to be afraid of "Marty" or to be afraid to talk to him, for he could do business with him. The Deputy Marshal later told the informant he could arrange a deal with "Marty" to pay so much per week on his fine and that Klein would keep him in New York while he was paying his fine.

It is the informant's opinion, based upon information derived from John Torrio and the Deputy United States Marshal, that when Klein makes a deal it is for the purpose of effecting a settlement of the fine at a lesser sum than that imposed by the Judge and was for the purpose of arranging monthly or weekly payments.

Upon receipt of additional information in this regard the same will be furnished you.

A copy of this memorandum is being furnished to Mr. Matthew F. McGuire.

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover.

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
DATE 06-01-2010

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

62-50948-26
MAY 15 1939

EAT:HA

August 31, 1933

AYO PATH
SPECIAL DELIVERY

Mr. E. J. Connelley
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
610 South Spring Building, Room 603
Los Angeles, California

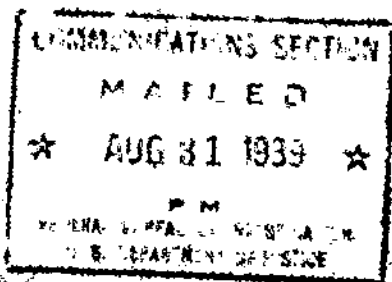
Dear Mr. Connelley:

0
Mr. Silverman, San Quentin Prisoner, has indicated a desire to talk with me personally and although Special Agent in Charge Piegler subsequently interviewed him he was unable to obtain from Silverman any idea as to the subject matter which Silverman desired to discuss with me. While I of course am not the least bit reluctant to talk with this convict in the event he appears to possess any information in which I might be interested, I do not consider it worthwhile to make a special trip to San Francisco just to interview this man. I believe consequently that when you proceed from Los Angeles it might be well for you to stop in San Francisco and interview Silverman in an effort to determine from him the exact nature of the information he desires to furnish to me in order that I may reach a decision as to whether I should proceed to San Francisco for the purpose of talking with Silverman.

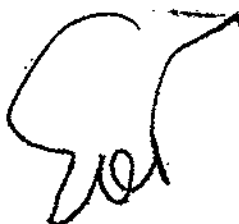
Very truly yours,

RECORDED

John Edgar Hoover
Director



62-50948-27



JEM:CD:NP
Time - 11:23 AM

September 16, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

While talking with Inspector Connelley on other matters, I asked him if he had seen Mr. Silverman at San Quentin. Mr. Connelley advised that he had; that at first Silverman insisted he would talk to no one, but finally Silverman discussed with Connelley matters he had in mind. Mr. Connelley stated that Silverman wanted to give the Bureau information to show that Thomas Dewey never accomplished anything except to bring individuals into court and Silverman has the idea that he can show Dewey up. Mr. Connelley also advises that Silverman states that Daron Fitts should be prosecuted in Los Angeles and Connelley stated it appears that a good deal of Silverman's information evidently has been obtained from the newspaper.

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-50778-28

Mr. Connelley advised that Silverman is a former Bureau Investigation and was connected with the Public Indemnity Bonding Company in Newark at one time. Mr. Connelley stated he does not know Silverman was as big as he claims, but he undoubtedly knows various facts, but exactly how much information Silverman really has is questionable.

Silverman advised Mr. Connelley that Seymour Klein, acting as Dewey's front,

b3 *

Mr. Connelley stated that Silverman advised that Mr. Dewey then got in touch with Seymour Klein, who was handling the John Terroo Income Tax Case in New York at that time, and they

Silverman told Mr. Connelley that after this he was arrested at the Federal Court House and was then taken over to be held for Los Angeles on an old charge of passing \$5,000 worth of worthless checks at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles, upon which charge he was given five years probation in 1934. Silverman stated he was taken to Los Angeles on that charge and was sentenced to San Quentin. He expects to be released in about 1943.

★ SEP 16 1939 ★

*Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure Rule 6(e).

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Memo Mr. Tamm

-2-

Sept. 16, 1930

In answer to my inquiry as to just what Silverman wants, Mr. Connelley stated that he apparently did not want anything; that he was mainly interested in just talking to someone. He is particularly anxious, however, to talk with me, according to Mr. Connelley, but Connelley suggested that I not waste time with Silverman as he appears to have nothing specific. Connelley advised that Silverman is trying to say that the authorities kidnaped him when they took him to San Quentin since they did not have proper legal authority.

Mr. Connelley stated that he has written a letter to the Bureau setting out the details of the interview with Silverman.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Crowl _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Lawler _____
Mr. Lester _____
Mr. McIntire _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sears _____
Mr. Q. Tamm _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice
Los Angeles, California
September 2, 1939

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Crowl.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. Lawler.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Sears.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Miss Gandy.....

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

With reference to Bureau letter of August 31, 1939, I will arrange to interview MAX²SILVERMAN, San Quentin No. 62,287, who has indicated a desire to talk to you personally in order to obtain, if possible, just what information he wishes to furnish to us, when I proceed from Los Angeles upon the completion of the inspection here.

Very truly yours,

E. J. Connelley
E. J. CONNELLEY
Inspector

EJC/hlk

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62-50948-29	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
SEP 5 1939	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	

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JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

September 19, 1939

EAT:HA

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

With reference to the attached letter from Mr. Connelley at San Francisco dated September 15, 1939 which outlines an interview conducted by him with Max Silverman at San Quentin Penitentiary, I do not believe that any further action whatsoever is necessary in connection with this individual.

Respectfully,

E. A. Tamm

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62-50948-310

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SEP 21 1939

TELETYPE

TOLSON

TAMM

TRACY

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

San Francisco, California
September 15, 1939

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

RE: MAX SILVERMAN,
SAN QUENTIN #62287
ALLEGED INFORMANT

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Gurnea.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. Hendon.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Miss Gandy.....

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated August 31, 1939, requesting that a personal interview be had with the above named individual by me, in connection with his request that he talk only with the Director of the Bureau, in order to determine whether or not he had any information which might be of value. Reference should also be had to letter from the San Francisco Office, regarding this same individual, dated December 16, 1938, concerning prior contact had with him by Special Agent in Charge N. J. L. PIEPER.

On September 14, 1939, interview was had with this individual at San Quentin Prison. Prior to such interview, contact was had with Mr. BERNARD HUSE, Secretary to Warden COURT SMITH, who obtained the record of this individual with the institution. Mr. HUSE advised that SILVERMAN, when he first arrived at that institution, was desirous of talking to anyone who would listen to his story as to the alleged corruption in New York City and Los Angeles, California.

This individual when first approached insisted that he would talk to no one but the Director personally. He was advised that conditions were such that the Director could not readily contact him here unless the matter was very important and urgent, and that the Director was engaged presently in matters requiring his attention in various parts of the country. SILVERMAN then indicated he would wait until such time in the future when the Director might be here as he wanted to speak to him personally and would talk to him only, regarding the information in his possession.

Notwithstanding this individual's constant refusal, for about one-half hour, to tell what he had in mind, continued interview on friendly terms was had with him in order to get him to discussing what he had in mind, and in order to understand the story

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Memorandum
7/19/39

62-50948-30

TOLSON

TAMM

WELLS

Director, from
Inspector CONNELLEY,
San Francisco

September 15, 1939

which he thereafter related, reference is had to the record of this individual with the San Quentin Prison.

He was received as MAX SILVERMAN, #62287, July 27, 1934, from Los Angeles, California, his sentence being 0 - 14 years, involving the giving of fraudulent checks. He will be discharged on April 30, 1943, inasmuch as the Prison Board has fixed his sentence to 7 years.

His record otherwise indicates that he was arrested August 12, 1927, by the Newark, New Jersey Police Department, and turned over to Atlantic City. On December 7, 1929 he was arrested by the New York City Police Department as #E-7671, charged with grand larceny. On March 13, 1930, he was released on bail, and finally discharged. On June 14, 1934, the Bureau of Identification, Court House, Newark, N. J. #A-18463, shows him arrested for embezzlement. On July 26, 1934 he was arrested by the New York City Police Department as #B-126578, as a fugitive for Newark, N. J. He was returned to them on July 27, 1934.

He has an arrest in July 1934, by the Newark, N. J. Police Department as #19004, charge fugitive from justice, turned over to Los Angeles, California, July 31, 1934. On July 31, 1934, Los Angeles Police Department #31151 M 13, charge - checks, insufficient funds, disposition - five years' Probation. It is indicated that he is to make restitution to the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California, in the amount of \$4,944.14, plus the costs of the court at Los Angeles.

As to the situation concerning the checks passed on the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, and as to which he received five years' probation, he insists this is the only charge that has ever been prosecuted against him, and that this concerns sight drafts drawn on a bank in Newark, N. J., in the amounts of \$3500 and \$1500, which were not paid although he received the money from the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles. These sight drafts were passed on credit he had established at this hotel. He claims to have had unlimited credit with various hotels, including the Drake and Congress Hotels in Chicago, and others, and claims that the money to meet these drafts was placed in the bank at Newark by one PETER BOMBADO (phonetic), but that for some reason or other, he did not allow the money to be paid against the drafts.

Director, from
Inspector CONNELLEY
San Francisco

September 15, 1939

In this connection he indicates he had some difficulty with one BEN FRANK, former manager of the Ambassador Hotel, and that he apparently was engaged in some scheme to buy up the outstanding stock of the Ambassador Hotel company. SILVERMAN indicated that he has never made restitution in connection with the provisions of his sentence with regard to the last above indicated charge.

There is an arrest indicated on May 10, 1938 by the New York Police Department, #B 126578, charge fugitive. On June 25, 1938 the Sheriff's Office, Los Angeles, shows a charge of violation of probation.

In lengthy conversation with this individual, notwithstanding his previous indication that he would not talk to anyone but the Director, he became very loquacious as to certain situations, and for a period of two hours he repeated many of the allegations several times.

Prior to 1932 SILVERMAN was engaged in the bail bond business at Newark, New Jersey, with a company known as the Public Indemnity Company, from which he was illegally ousted by other members of the company who took over the organization. He tells a story of bail bond business extending over the 48 states in the United States, involving millions of dollars, which he - because of his great integrity - was the prime mover, and the only one who could write bail bond up to four million dollars. This, I believe, gives some picture of the egoism of this individual and should be considered in evaluating the alleged information he is supposed to possess, in addition to what he has discussed with me.

39
SILVERMAN claims to have knowledge of various situations in Newark and the State of New Jersey, due to his bail bond business.

*Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure Rule 6(e).

Director, from
Inspector CONNELLEY,
San Francisco

September 15, 1939

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At about this time, or early in 1938, he (SILVERMAN) was endeavoring to buy the Virginia Surety Company, and open offices in various parts of the country, including Florida, at which latter place he was spending considerable time to perfect the details of his supposed new business.

b3 *

SILVERMAN claims that there is supposedly a telegram from BURON FITTS, District Attorney of Los Angeles, California, to the New York Police Department, to arrest him; that this wire stated they should arrest SILVERMAN and that they probably would extradite him. He also claims that they communicated with Mr. SEYMOUR KLEIN and requested him to arrest SILVERMAN, but that the arrest should be effected outside of Newark. He cites these wires to show collusion between DEWEY, BURON FITTS and MR. KLEIN.

With reference to the

b3 *

*Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure Rule 6(e).

Director, from
Inspector CONNELLEY
San Francisco

September 15, 1939

[redacted] JOHN TORIO, then
being investigated as to income tax matters, in the Southern
District of New York. [redacted]

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[redacted]
[redacted] he was then arrested in the U. S.
Court House, Foley Square, New York City, by the local police,
and taken to the Elizabeth Station, and thereafter to police
headquarters, New York City, and held as a fugitive for Los
Angeles, California. He claims to have obtained a writ from
Judge ROSMANN, who granted him a stay of execution.

The Governor of the State of California made
application for extradition, upon the request of BURON FITTS,
District Attorney at Los Angeles, and this was ordered by the
Governor of New York. SILVERMAN, however, claims that due to the
writ he had, an officer by the name of BOGEY of the Sheriff's
Office or District Attorney's Office, Los Angeles, together
with two officers from the New York PD, took him from the prison
at New York without authority and as a matter of fact kidnaped
him, taking him from New York to Los Angeles where he was turned
over to the authorities at Los Angeles as a fugitive. He
apparently ignores the fact that he was extradited, as he states
himself. He claims he was moved from New York to California in
this manner by reason of collusion existing between BURON FITTS,
Los Angeles, and District Attorney DEWEY, and that all of this was
because of the fact that he would not testify for DEWEY. He
claims FITTS and HERB HALNER, investigator for FITTS, were
responsible for the action being taken against him in California;
that HALNER was once his agent in the bond business and they had
some difficulty, as a result of collateral on a bond, and that
HALNER is crooked, as well as his superior, Mr. FITTS.

*Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure Rule 6 (e).

Director, from
Inspector CONNELLEY
San Francisco

September 15, 1939

Upon his return to Los Angeles, SILVERMAN claims he was taken into court and sentenced in connection with the check charge to 0-14 years. This is the same charge upon which he was given 5 years' probation in 1934.

SILVERMAN then went on to state that DEWEY has never accomplished anything except what he, SILVERMAN, claims was a framed-up charge as against LUCKY LUCIANO. He states that LUCIANO was convicted in connection with the operation of prostitution, whereas he never had anything to do with such situation; also that the same condition existed as to JESSIE JACOBS, also charged and sentenced with LUCIANO, JACOBS being, as he indicated it, "a minor hoodlum". SILVERMAN then advised that he is the only man in the country who can show this and that he can in the next campaign put out headlines to show everybody that he, DEWEY, has framed everyone he has convicted, if the party would want this. This statement, I believe, shows the real ambitions and purposes of this egotistical and unscrupulous individual.

SILVERMAN says he will be able to show that as a result of his having signed a bail bond for DUTCH SCHULTZ, they tried to show SCHULTZ had given him money to go in business and that as a matter of fact he (SILVERMAN) has never done anything except to sign bonds for outstanding criminals, including AL CAPONE, and that, therefore, there is no violation against him except the "undealing" he has received from the various persons against whom he now makes charges. SILVERMAN says he will go further and show that DEWEY framed JIMMIE HINES; that DEWEY has eliminated, by his prosecutions and investigations, certain union organizations and that he has now put in his own outfit to do the stealing; that he can show that DEWEY never accomplished anything and he added: "I am the only man in America who can do this".

SILVERMAN claims that one FELIX, a young attorney, was employed by DEWEY to work up a case as to a painters' organization; that FELIX had sufficient to prosecute but DEWEY refused to prosecute and returned the books and records of the union and FELIX then resigned from his connection with DEWEY.

To indicate SILVERMAN'S opinion of himself and his importance, he stated that he believed he could show DEWEY he is not the "big man" he thinks he is, as he had done the same thing in connection with certain of his superior officers while in the U. S. Army during the World War; that inasmuch as they would not transfer

Director, from
Inspector CONNELLEY
San Francisco

September 15, 1939

him to the Judge Advocate's Department, he then contacted his friends and acquaintances, Senator EDGE of New Jersey, Secretary of War BAKER, and President COOLIDGE. He did not indicate just how or what he actually accomplished. This is indicative of this individual's rather careless statement of his alleged acquaintances and association with prominent persons of integrity. He is undoubtedly a "grand-stander" who tries to impress everyone who comes within hearing of his discussion. This particular situation, I believe, would make it undesirable for the Director to talk with this individual, particularly if he was unable to furnish any definite information as to his charges.

SILVERMAN went on at great length to indicate that he did not believe Mr. DEWEY had accomplished anything except to send one boy to jail in connection with union matters; that DEWEY checked up on the handling of the numbers racket without getting anywhere and that he then effected the prosecution of LUCIANO as to prostitution on framed-up charges.

The other situation SILVERMAN apparently claims to have information concerning is the alleged crookedness of BURON FITTS, District Attorney, Los Angeles, California. He indicates that FITTS has been protecting gambling and other situations from which he can take money, and that in order to create a record as a law enforcement officer, FITTS has created a highpowered organization of investigators who have been checking up and prosecuting petty thieves, involving \$8 or \$10 thefts, with the result that these individuals are sent to the penitentiary. He stated this accounts for the large number, approximately 5500, now incarcerated in San Quentin. He stated that probably not more than 200 of these individuals are real criminals and that in ordinary jurisdiction most of them would receive 30 to 60 days in some Magistrate's court.

SILVERMAN made reference to the recent shooting of BURON FITTS; wherein he apparently accidentally shot himself in the hand. However, SILVERMAN insists that someone shot him for his crookedness. SILVERMAN continued about the "undealing" accorded him and the injustice of putting an innocent man as himself in jail, the parole board recently having affixed his sentence at 7 years, at which time BURON FITTS and HERB HALNER, mentioned above, appeared against him before the board.

Director, from
Inspector CONNELLEY
San Francisco

September 15, 1939

Sometime ago, SILVERMAN advised, Mr. DEWEY, in order to obtain some publicity, indicated he had discovered a mysterious man in San Quentin who was going to furnish him information as to JAMES HINES; however he stated DEWEY did not discover him in this place as he was responsible for putting him in that institution. He stated he answered DEWEY to the effect that he had endeavored to get him (SILVERMAN) to perjure himself in testifying in New York City and that DEWEY did not answer his statement to this effect. This was through the press.

This individual never did indicate definitely that he intended to talk, in accordance with his first statement that he would talk only to Mr. HOOVER. He continued to discuss these various situations at length, over a period of two hours, but did not add anything to what he had previously discussed and most of his statements were restatements of the information previously set out above. He did not furnish any more specific detail; however, in this connection he claims that if the Director will talk to him in prison, under confidential arrangements, he can furnish information which would prove all of his various contentions, and open up a situation which would make the Director the biggest man in the country. As to this, he was advised that the Director personally was not interested in any possibility as to what it would make him, and that he and the Bureau were only interested in knowing whether or not a violation of the law had occurred over which we had investigative jurisdiction, in order that action could be taken in connection therewith.

In the absence of anything more definite than he has given to show a violation of a Federal law, I see no reason for considering this individual further at this time. He was advised that if he had any definite situation in mind he should prepare this information and forward it to the Bureau, or arrange for someone to contact him at the prison when and if he was ready to divulge any details of his alleged information.

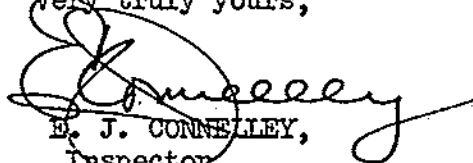
MAX SILVERMAN is a very egotistical, grand-stand type of individual; he talks readily for the benefit of any and all persons within hearing and incidental to his direct conversation, if he notices anyone paying attention to him, he will refer to his association with prominent individuals, which reference has no connection whatsoever with the matter then being discussed.

Director, from
Inspector CONNELLEY
San Francisco

September 15, 1939

It is believed that this individual should be allowed to remain as is, in view of the information he has so far stated; however, if by reason of any of the situations above enumerated it is believed desirable to pursue this matter further, a check at Los Angeles, Newark, Chicago and New York City, would undoubtedly give considerable information as to SILVERMAN'S background, association and record. As previously stated above, this individual talks in terms of millions of dollars, although claiming now that he is broke.

Very truly yours,


E. J. CONNELLEY,
Inspector

EJC:MLA

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED

62-50947-31 ATP:SMVK SEPTEMBER 30, 1941
To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

SAC LOS ANGELES CALIFORNIA

Transmit the following message to:

RETEL MAX SILVERMAN FBI THIRTEEN SEVEN TWO NINE EIGHT THREE NOT WAITED
ACCORDING OUR FILES.

HOOVER

ST. COLLECT

COPIES DESTROYED
77 OCT 20 1964

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Drayton _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

SEP 30 1941

TELETYPE

SENT VIA

Per

140

F

RECEIVED

OCT 20 1941

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Carson.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Hendon.....
Mr. Holloman.....
Mr. Quin Tamm.....
Mr. Nease.....
Miss Gandy.....

BI LOS ANGELES 9-29-41 8-10 PM HHS

DIRECTOR

LAPD HAS RECEIVED ANONYMOUS LETTER REPORTING THAT MAX SILVERMAN,
FBI NUMBER ONE THREE SEVEN TWO NINE EIGHT THREE, IS PRESENTLY WANTED
BY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ~~NA-DNS-XXX~~ GOVERNMENT AND IS WORKING AT NINE FOUR
FIVE SOUTH WALL STREET, LOS ANGELES. REVIEW OF LA FILE ON FURDRESS
CASE FAILS TO INDICATE SUBJECT IS WANTED. SUBJECT NOT WANTED BY
LAPD. PLEASE ADVISE.

HOOD

END

OK FBI WASH DC FF

MMM

WIRED 9. 30. 41

*called Morris 9/30/41
no info. as wanted by B.*

EX-11 RECORDED

62-50948-311
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
7 OCT 2 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
IDENT. UNIT

cc Mr. Tamm (Morris)

Ears to the Ground

By Clifford Evans

'Unwritten Law'

Max Silverman, one-time Public Enemy No. 4, who is now on trial in Manhattan with Lepke, charged with extortion in the baking industry, at one time stood trial in Brooklyn. He was prosecuted by Hiram C. Todd for conspiracy, which brings to mind Silverman's famous "unwritten law" defense.

Brought here from California, where he was hiding as a fugitive from justice, Silverman was languishing in jail when his lawyer paid him a visit.

"I've been assigned to defend you by the court," the lawyer began, "and I'd like to know your defense."

"The unwritten law," Silverman answered.

"But that doesn't hold in this case," the lawyer said, startled. "This is conspiracy."

"The unwritten law," Silverman repeated.

The lawyer realized he wouldn't get much further with his client, so he left and went to Silverman's family, where he explained the difficulty. The following day he went to see Silverman again.

"What do you mean bringing in my family?" Silverman shouted at the lawyer. "I'm telling you with me it's the unwritten law."

The lawyer threw up his hands. He had enough. After the trial was over the lawyer went to see Silverman, this time out of curiosity.

"Tell me," he said, "all along you told me that the unwritten law was your defense in this charge of conspiracy. Don't you know that the unwritten law is about husband and wife?"

"What do you mean—husband and wife?" Silverman countered. "They arrested me for conspiracy. They said I wrote to people to make trouble. Well, it's the unwritten law. Because I don't know how to write."



Max Silverman

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. E.A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. Mendon.....
Mr. McIntire.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Tour Room.....
Adm. Files.....
Pers. Files.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Miss Gandy.....

CLIPPING FROM:
BROOKLYN DAILY EAGLE.

DATE. FEB 20 1940

FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION

12-50-142 A

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. Clegg _____
 Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
 Mr. Foxworth _____
 Mr. Glavin _____
 Mr. Ladd _____
 Mr. Egan _____
 Mr. Harbo _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Tracy _____
 Miss Gandy _____

**U. S. Dismisses 10
 Torrio Indictments**

NEW YORK, Dec. 27 (N. Y. News).—Ten indictments against Johnny Torrio, the man who taught Al Capone how to be a gangster, were dismissed today in Federal Court to clear the record. Torrio is now serving two and a half to five years in prison, having pleaded guilty to superseding indictments for income tax evasion. He is expected to be released next May.

62-50948-A

pg. 6
 DEC 28 1940
 WASHINGTON TIMES-HERALD

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

May 27, 1942

MHH:AR
11:35 AM
Dictated 3:30 PM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. ROSEN

Re: Warren Brown; Civilian
Employee, Navy Department

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E.A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

At this time, the above individual was referred to the writer from the Director's Office and stated he was desirous of seeing a picture of John Torrio, onetime right-hand man of gangster Al Capone, Chicago, Illinois. He believed that an individual now employed by the Navy Department was in fact Torrio and wished to have a look at Torrio's picture in order to definitely identify him.

The picture of Torrio together with his criminal record was made available to Warren Brown and he advised he was certain Torrio was the man in question. Brown obtained background information on Torrio together with dates of arrest contained in his criminal record.

Respectfully,

M. H. Horton
M. H. Horton

COPIES DESTROYED
472 UCI 22 1964

RECEIVED
&
INDEXED
MAY 29 1942

62-50948-32
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
15 MAY 29 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FOR DEFENSE



5 JUN 3 1942

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. ROSEN *l*

FROM : J. J. Ryan

SUBJECT: JOHN TORRIO, with aliases
INFORMATION CONCERNING

DATE:

April 19, 1947

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

G. I. R. - 5

PURPOSE

To set forth background information concerning Johnny Torrio, recently a victim of an extortion letter. *1-70*

BACKGROUND

The Crime Survey from the Chicago Office dated April 7, 1944, furnished a background of information concerning numerous hoodlums dating back to the Prohibition era mobsters. Jim Colosimo was reported to have ruled the Chicago Underworld for a longer period than any other man in the city's history. Colosimo imported Johnny Torrio from New York to be his bodyguard and right-hand man. Colosimo was murdered on May 11, 1920, and it is alleged by the Chicago Police that this killing was planned by Johnny Torrio.

After taking over the operations of Colosimo, Torrio's first act was to bring to Chicago a New York hoodlum named Alfonse Capone. The death of Colosimo occurred the same year as the 18th Amendment and the Volstead Act came into effect and Torrio turned his attention to manufacturing beer and became the first real beer boss of the South Side. In addition to operating the breweries, Torrio had full control of numerous slot machines and several houses of prostitution. Torrio was arrested by the Chicago Police Department in January of 1925, when they conducted a raid on the Sieben Brewery. Torrio was sentenced to 9 months for operating a brewery and after his release from jail Torrio fled Chicago and returned to Italy where he was born. Estimates of his wealth at the time he left Chicago ranged from ten to thirty million dollars.

Torrio returned from Italy and established residence in Brooklyn, New York, where he presently resides at 8801 Shore Road. In 1939 Torrio was sentenced to a term of two and one-half years in a Federal penitentiary for Income Tax evasion and placed on probation for ten years.

EX-81 The October 15, 1946, Crime Survey report from the New York Office states that Torrio at the present time is said to be financially interested in the Manufacturers Casualty Company, 250 W. 57th Street, New York City. This company is reported to be a bonding company and secures the release of racketeers on bail. Torrio's monthly income at the present time is reported to be \$30,000.

The above is for your information.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

162-50718-33
1 APR 24 1947

EX-81

61 MAY 1 1947

DE-INDEXED

DATE: 2/20/58

26 JJR:gjb

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
 Mr. Clegg _____
 Mr. Glavin _____
 Mr. Ladd _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Tracy _____
 Mr. Carson _____
 Mr. Egan _____
 Mr. Gurnea _____
 Mr. Harbo _____
 Mr. Hendon _____
 Mr. Jones _____
 Mr. Leonard _____
 Mr. Pennington _____
 Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
 Mr. Nease _____
 Miss Gandy _____

Torrio Asks FBI For Help; Gets It

NEW YORK, April 18 (AP). Johnny Torrio, now 55, who was said to have been so tough he gave Al Capone lessons in gangsterism during the prohibition era, appealed to the federal bureau of investigation for help when he received a threatening letter. The appeal was disclosed in Brooklyn federal court yesterday when two men were arraigned before U. S. Commissioner Martin C. Epstein on charges of ex-

tortion.

Torrio, who came to New York after he was shot five times in 1927 and established a residence in Brooklyn, received an unsigned letter last September telling him to "get up" \$10,000 or he would be a "dead pigeon." He was told by telephone to take the money to a Brooklyn motion picture theater, but no one showed up. He appealed to the FBI and after six months agents arrested Louis Romano, 31, and Joseph Cecere, 18, a drug clerk, both of Brooklyn. Romano was held in \$10,000 bail and Cecere in \$1,000 bail for the grand jury. In 1937 Torrio was sent to prison for two and one-half years for income-tax evasion.

*mem. 4/18/47
JL*

ENCLOSURE

62-55443-33

WASHINGTON TIMES HERALD
DATE 4-18-47

3/16

November 5, 1952

MEMORANDUM

RE: JOHN TORRIO, with aliases
Joan T. McCarthy, Frank
Langley, Terrence Langley,
Terrence McCarthy, J. T.
McCarthy, "J. T.", "Jay Tee",
John Langley

John Torrio was allegedly born January 20, 1882, at
Ersine, Patava, Italy. It is said that in 1941 he resided
at 3801 Shore Road, Brooklyn, New York, and that he now resides
at 1603 South Dixon Circle, College Hill, Cincinnati, Ohio.
It has also been reported that he has resided at Chicago, Illinois.

Torrio has reportedly been associated with nationally
known gangsters in the Chicago, Illinois, and Brooklyn, New York,
areas. It is said that he has a long record of grand larceny,
has violated the Liquor Licensing Act, has committed forgery,
and has evaded payment of income tax.

The arrest and fingerprint record of Torrio is attached.

Attachment

Original to the Department of Justice
cc: INS

Lester G. Davis:njf

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Laughlin _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Rm. _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

EX-107
RECORDED - 6
SE 27
62-98475-1
NOV 18 1952

60 DEC 5 1952

Capone's Predecessor Is Now Living in East.

The federal government it was disclosed in Washington dispatches last night, is seeking to deport John Torrio, who once bossed Al Capone and preceded him as czar of Chicago's booze and vice rackets.

Torrio was born in Italy, but as a naturalized American citizen. Evidence has been obtained, it was understood, to show that Torrio gave false facts as to his residence when he applied for citizenship and therefore is guilty of perjury and liable to deportation.

Fades from Chicago Picture.

Torrio faded from Chicago as 1924 when the gang war was at its height. He was shot and almost killed about three months after the death of Dion O'Banion, north side gangster who was assassinated in his boxer shop presumably by Torrio-Capone hood lums. After Torrio recovered from his wounds he wasted no time in packing back east. He is now said to make a home at White Plains, N. Y. His last public appearance here was during the Capone trial two years ago when he was subpoenaed as a government witness.

Government agents in Chicago investigating Torrio's affair for the last few months have found only two criminal convictions against him, both for liquor law violations and both at county court. On Dec. 17, 1922, he pleaded guilty to possession of transportation and license holding liquor before Federal Judge Wilkerson. He was fined \$1,000. Two years later on Jan. 11, 1924, two weeks before he was shot, Torrio pleaded guilty to the same offense before the late Federal Judge William C. Caffe and was fined \$1,000 and sentenced to serve nine months in jail.

Felony Mark on Record

Although the second conviction placed a felony mark on Torrio's record this was not enough to warrant deportation. The statute states that the moral turpitude must be shown to justify deportation action and it was well held, the investigators said, that liquor violations do not constitute such a crime.

In his younger days—as is now in his late forties—Torrio was a member of the Five Points gang in Brooklyn. He arose to such prominence in crime circles that when "Big Jim" Thompson, Chicago's south-side vice boss, needed a bodyguard he sent for Torrio.

Chicago Daily Tribune 15-1388

RECEIVED

71-1386-1

January 13, 1933.

JAN 16 1933

Special Agent in Charge,
United States Bureau of Investigation,
Post Office Box 251, Grand Central Station,
New York, New York.

Dear Sir:

The Bureau is in receipt of your letter of the 4th instant, advising of information received from First Deputy Superintendent of Insurance Samuel A. Feller, relative to the Greater City Surety Company of New York, and notes your request for permission to turn over to Mr. Feller certain information which has been developed in the course of Bureau investigations involving two surety companies.

The Bureau understands that you have reference to information which was developed during the course of an investigation to bring about the apprehension of Leo Carr, better known as Goldberg, in connection with the case entitled JULIUS LEROY CHADWICK, et al, FLORIDA NATIONAL BANK OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA, National Bank Act.

It is noted that the information developed at that time was transmitted in confidence to the Bureau by a representative of the United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company of Baltimore. Copies of the material furnished the Bureau were transmitted to Assistant United States Attorney Dewey at that time, and it was requested that you advise Mr. Dewey of the confidential character of that information and danger of its being given publicity.

In view of the manner in which this information was received, I do not think the Bureau would be justified in giving it to the State authorities in the absence of permission from the United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company. It is suggested, therefore, that you might advise Mr. Feller, in so far as this particular information is concerned, that the possible connection of John Torrio was obtained from the United States Fidelity and

New York.

1-13-31

Guaranty Company, and that if he communicates with that concern no doubt it will be glad to furnish him with the information it has on file.

In so far as information obtained from other sources is concerned the Bureau sees no objection to your furnishing it orally to Mr. Feller.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Grand Central Station
New York, N. Y.

FKO'D:ML
75-76

120-111

January 4, 1933.

JAN 16 1933

Director,
United States Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

RE: Greater City Surety Co. of New York
Bondsmen and Sureties.

Dear Sir:-

Please be advised that in a conference had with Special Agent O'Donnell of this office on January 3rd, with First Deputy Superintendent of Insurance Samuel R. Feller, State of New York Insurance Department, Mr. Feller advised said Agent that the affairs of the Greater City Surety Company had for sometime past been receiving close scrutiny on the part of the State Insurance Department, with the result that it had been contemplated to bring about the liquidation of said company. This step has been temporarily held in abeyance due to certain guarantees supplied by parties interested in the company, that new capital had been interested, and by use of which it was certain the company would be able to fully rehabilitate itself to the complete satisfaction of the State Insurance Department.

Inquiry on the part of his office, Mr. Feller said, had developed that the capital mentioned had been tentatively promised by one John Torrio. Further inquiry developed that John Torrio is probably well known at Chicago, and that it has been indicated that about seven years ago he was convicted in the Federal Courts at Chicago for some violation of the National Prohibition Act. Rumors likewise indicate a possible association between Torrio and the Al Capone crowd at Chicago. Mr. Feller explained that his office was desirous of obtaining as full and complete detailed information concerning Torrio and his activities, associates and general background as might be helpful in aiding the State Superintendent of Insurance to determine whether the addition of Torrio to the somewhat crippled Greater City Surety Co. would in fact rehabilitate said company, or would open the doors to an undesirable relationship with the underworld, and the encouragement of practices which for sometime the Insurance Department has been endeavoring to suppress.

Director

-2-

to stamp out. I would like very much, subject to your approval, to supply the State Insurance Department with as much information as may be available on the subject matter under inquiry, the relationship existing between the State Insurance Department and this office having up to the present time been very pleasant.

Awaiting your advice in the premises, I am

Very truly yours,

T. F. Cullen
T. F. CULLEN,
Special Agent in Charge.

GREATER CITY CO. MUST LIQUIDATE

Handwritten: 14-1-25-27

The Greater City Surety and Indemnity Company of 37 West Fortieth Street was ordered liquidated by Supreme Court Justice Peter A. Halling today.

"Upon the admitted facts it is clear that the situation warranted the intervention of the Superintendent of Insurance," Justice Halling declared.

The surety company, while failing to disclose the names of persons it insured, took over a majority of its assets besides putting up \$250,000 in cash capital, vigorously opposed the liquidation of the State for its liquidation.

The State claimed that the company had been given thirty days to correct a capital impairment of \$243,143.18, but had failed to do so. The company declared the impairment was not more than \$25,000 and demanded that testimony be taken to disclose its "true" financial condition at the very day.

Justice Halling disregarded this application.

Handwritten: 14-2-25

BAIL CURB HITS GREATER CITY CO.

Magistrates' Checks Ordered
Not to Accept Bonds
of That Concern

The clerks of all the magistrates' courts of the city were notified today by the chief clerk of the courts that bail bonds issued by the Greater City Bonding and Indemnity Company of New York were not to be accepted until further notice.

The action follows the obtaining by the State Insurance Department of an order to show cause why the company, one of the largest in its line, should not be liquidated. The order, obtained yesterday, will be argued in Special Sessions tomorrow.

A spokesman for the Insurance Department said the action was taken against the company because of "general conditions and an impairment of capital."

It was learned, however, that the authorities believed leading racketeers to be heavily interested in the company, which provides bail for persons held after arraignment in the lower courts.

If the courts order the liquidation, persons now out on bail provided by the company will be required to make other arrangements and given a reasonable time in which to do so.

New York

Evening Post

1-18-33

NOT RECORDED

INDEXED

75-1384-A-1

1 11/25

ACTS IN BONDING CASE.

Court Issues Writ In Move to
Liquidate Surety Company.

An order directing the Greater
City Surety and Indemnity Corporation, 76 West Fortieth Street, which
has done an extensive bail bond
business in the city, to show cause
today why it should not be liq-
uidated was signed yesterday by Su-
preme Court Justice Lydon on the
application of State Superintendent
of Insurance George S. Van Schaick,
who contended it was against the
public interest for the bonding
company to continue business be-
cause of "capital impairment."

Notice was sent at once to Chief
City Magistrate James E. Mc-
Donald that no further bail bonds
of the company were to be accepted
in the magistrates' courts. In Fed-
eral court, United States Commis-
sioner O'Neill was notified that the
company's bonds would be approved
no longer by the United States At-
torney. Because so many of the
defendants in the prohibition cases
had given bonds of that company
it appeared for a time that many
persons answering the calendar
yesterday would have to go to the
house of detention over night, but
after Commissioner O'Neill had
consulted with Judge John C. Knox,
presiding justice of the District
Court, the defendants holding
Greater City bonds were paroled in
the custody of their attorneys until
today to get new bail or plead with
a prospect of immediate disposition.

INDEXED

NOT RECORDED

65
75-1348-A-2