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#### JFK Assassination System Identification Form

Date:

5/28/201

Agency Information

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**FBI** 

RECORD NUMBER:

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**RECORD SERIES:** 

HQ

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Case#:NW 55208 Date:

04-10-2018

Document Information

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FROM: DOUCE, RICHARD GORDON

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

TITLE:

DATE:

02/14/1958

PAGES:

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SUBJECTS:

SMO, GM, BKG, ASSOC, B/F INT, GAMBLING ACT,

EDUCATION, RES, CRIMINAL RECORD, DESCR, TRA

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COMMENTS:

RPT, INDEX PAGE 44-47, INC MEMO



- 9. Will report additional information from investigation being conducted by the Chicago Office to verify or disprove subject's alleged interest in the National Filben Corp., and United Dryer Co., Chicago, Ill. The Chicago Office has also been requested to develop complete background information regarding F. W. ZOGG, a business associate of SAMUEL MANNARINO and to contact CG-6132-C to determine, if possible, the purpose of MANNARINO's visit to Chicago with ZOGG and contact with JOE MEROLA in 11/57 and 1/58. Investigation requested in Pittsburgh airtels to Chicago, 1/22/58, 1/24/58 and 2/10/58.
- 10. Will report results of investigation requested of the Los Angeles Office concerning the MANNARINO brothers' alleged attempt to setup operations in Los Angeles around March, 1950. Investigation requested in Pittsburgh airtel to Los Angeles, 1/31/58.
- 11. Will report any information developed by the U.S. Treasury Department, Bureau of Public Debt, Chicago, Ill, as to the amount of U.S. Savings Bonds issued in the name of subject or members of his immediate family. Information requested of the Treasury Department by letter dated 1/16/58.
- 12. Will, at Immigration and Naturalization Service, Pittsburgh, attempt to develop background information regarding MIKE HAJADAKOS, an associate of SAMUEL MANNARINO.
- 13. Will, when the background information is obtained, concerning HAJADAKOS, give consideration to having the Greek National Police conduct investigation at Peraia, Greece, to determine HAJADAKOS: financial ability and the extent of his real estate holdings in the city. (4)(4)
- 14. Will give consideration to interviewing HAJADAKOS after having possession of sufficient background information for the purpose of developing him as an informant.
- 15. Will recontact MIKE ZERVIS, admitted numbers writer, for any information he may have regarding subject's current activities.

92-2918-11 CONTRACTION



### LEADS (Continued)

- 16. Will remove stops placed with the Identification Division and major Pittsburgh airlines, when they are no longer serving a useful purpose.
- 17. Will recontact PG-564-C, and former PG-511-C, 509-C for up-to-date information regarding subject's activities.

### At New Kensington, Pa. (Westmoreland County)

- 1. Will check toll calls emanating from subject's residence and business telephones.
- 2. Will interview the Pastor of St. Peter's Cathólic Church for the purpose of developing some background information that will enable birth records to be checked concerning the subject and his wife, ROSE.
- 3. Will, through spot physical surveillance of subject's residence, attempt to obtain a photograph of subject for submission to the New York Office.
- 4. Will reinterview WILLIAM L. JEFFERSON, Superintendent of Schools, New Kensington, for the purpose of establishing, if possible, the identity of a reliable family living in subject's immediate neighborhood who might be developed as a source of information.
- 5. Will recontact WALTER J. SHARKEY, retired New Kensington police officer, R.D. #2, for current information regarding subject's activities as well as PG-545-C.

### At Greensburg, Pa. (Westmoreland County)

- 1. Will, through the Recorder of Deeds, Westmoreland County, attempt to identify property purchased by subject near Weinel's Cross Roads.
- 2. Will, at the Pennsylvania State Police post, determine if possible, the reason why the detainer placed against the subject at U.S. Penitentiary, Atlanta, Georgia, in 1927 for alleged liquor law violations, was removed on 7/3/58 shortly before his release from the penitentiary.



### CONFRENIAL

PG 92-228

was., INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF STOLEN PROPERTY-MAJOR THEFT," W. LLOYD JORDAN, a piolet for Eastern Airlines, was interviewed at the Miami Office by SAS KENNETH C. MOORE and C. GRAHAM HURST on January 21, 1957. JORDAN stated that he became acquainted with MEROLA around April, 1956, when MEROLA came to his home at Key Biscayne, Florida, with a mutual friend, BILL BRANDT, a disk jockey from Pittsburgh.

JORDAN said he and MEROLA became very close friends for a period of three or four months and associated together until November, 1956. JORDAN went on to say he met LYNNE DE MILLE in the Spring of 1956, when she was brought to his home to a party by a guest and that he later introduced DE MILLE to MEROLA at one of his parties.

JORDAN stated that he met SALLYE CARLETON through MEROLA and began dating her. He said that during the Summer of 1956 he saw MEROLA almost daily in Miami and often in Pittsburgh, where MEROLA went for visits. He added that through MEROLA he met SAM MANNARINO, AL ROSS, a close associate of MEROLA, MEL CUMMINGS, BABE AARONSON, and (FNU) LUTZ. JORDAN described the latter three individuals as being the owners of a yachet called the "Sea Dream" on which he, JORDAN, MEROLA and others had parties.

JORDAN added that while in Miami he also became acquainted with NICK JEROME and NORMAN ROTHMAN through MEROLA.

### D. CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES

### 1. Gambling Activities - Generally

#### a. Numbers

T-3 on December 20, 1957, stated that he had been in touch with SAM MANNARINO on December 19, 1957, at which time SAM told him he was attempting to locate one WALTER TACK, a white, male, American, 21 years of age, who according to MANNARINO, had been supplying the FBI and police with information concerning



# CONFROENTIAL

PG 92-228

his numbers operation. T-3 said that according to MANNARINO he had done some checking on the telephone listed for TACK's father (EDison 5-5313), and had learned that WALTER TACK had placed calls to the Pittsburgh FBI Office and supplied them with information concerning the numbers and gambling setup in New Kensington.

T-3 pointed out that MANNARINO asked his assistance in locating TACK and made the remark that when they found him they would "split his head."

As a matter of information, WALTER TACK is not an informant of the Pittsburgh Office and has not been interviewed in connection with the investigation of SAM MANNARINO or his brother GABRIEL MANNARINO.

b. Numbers, Dice-Card Games, Sports Betting, and Barbout Games

MIKE ZERVIS, an admitted numbers operator in New Kensington, Pa., on January 14, 1958, advised SA JOHN S. PORTELIA that GABRIEL MANNARINO has been in New Kensington all of the time he was reported to be out of the State. ZERVIS stated that he received this information from MIKE HAJADAKOS whom ZERVIS described as the partner in the "crap" tables operated by GABRIEL MANNARIOD.

ZERVIS went on to say that according to HAJADAKOS, TON TANNAS, WILLIE SAMS, GABRIEL MANNARINO and SAM MANNARINO are considered to be the individuals who control gambling in Westmoreland County; that TANNAS and SAMS handle the sports betting end of the business; and that the MANNARINO brothers operate the numbers, dice and card games.

ZERVIS added that TOM TANNAS is generally referred to as their contact man because of his many contacts throughout the country, many as a result of his fight promotions.

ZERVIS expressed the opinion that WILLIE SAMS is probably the shrewdest sports bet maker or bookie in the country.



### CONFIDENTIAL

PG 92-228

ZERVIS, a numbers writer himself, stated that he knows from personal knowledge that everyone who is writing numbers in the New Kensington area are turning into the MANNARINO brothers and have been instructed that if they are raided and arrested they should consider themselves on their own and that the MANNARINO brothers would not provide bond or attorneys for them.

In 1953, TOM TANNAS, City Clerk, Arnold, Pa., the adjoining community to New Kensington, Pa., advised that the top echelon of the MANNARINO organization was composed of SAM MANNARINO; GABRIEL MANNARINO, wa., KELLY; WILLIAM SAMS; and himself. TANNAS further stated that this organization had an interest in all phases of gambling, slot machines, numbers, card games, book making, employed slot machine repairmen, collection men, numbers pick-up men, professional card sharks and book makers.

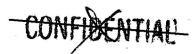
ZERVIS on January 14, 1958, advised SA JOHN S. PORTELLA that he was recently arrested by the Internal Revenue Service at Pittsburgh on lottery charges and when he went to see WILLIE SAMS for advice, SAMS merely told him he should retain a good attorney and suggested LOUTGLASSO. ZERVIS said SAMS did not offer him any money, and that in order to provide himself with legal representation and bond money, he borrowed \$1,000 from MIKE HAJADAKOS.

ZERVIS stated that in conversation with KELLY MANNARINO about one month or two months ago, KELLY told him that he considers MIKE HAJADAKOS as a trusted assistant because MIKE keeps the books for the dice games, acts as cashier in the dice games, and always maintains completely accurate records.

ZERVIS pointed out that in conversation with HAJADAKOS he learned that JOHNNY FONTANA receives \$125 a week from the MANNARINO operation plus six percent commission of the take on the dice tables which according to ZERVIS can run as high as \$1,000 a week.

ZERVIS added that from conversations with HAJADAKOS he has





learned that people who come to the dice tables in New Kensington lose on occasion as much as \$20,000 and \$30,000 in one night.

ZERVIS said that HAJADAKOS recently mentioned a young man from Youngstown, Ohio, that was described as a wealthy and avid barbout player, who on many occasions has lost as much as \$15,000 and \$20,000, while on other occasions has won the same amount.

ZERVIS remarked that HAJADAKOS has become a wealthy man as a result of his association with the MANNARINO brothers and has made several trips to his hometown in Peraia, Greece, located near the Port of Athens. ZERVIS explained that HAJADAKOS has been using his money to put up apartment and office buildings in his home town and that one particular piece of property in Peraia brings HAJADAKOS a rental of \$1,150 in a month. ZERVIS said he believed this piece of property was an office building.

ZERVIS pointed out that the poolroom, located next door to the Laetus Club in New Kensington with entrance on Barnes Street, is the location where the big dice games take place. ZERVIS stated that the location is rented under the name of AL ROSS, also known as AL ZEID or SEID, who GABRIEL MANNARINO describes as a "cool man" whenever he is given an assignment.

ZERVIS explained that it is rumored that GABRIEL MANNARINO is very friendly with AL ROSS because ROSS supposedly served time for a crime that GABRIEL MANNARINO committed.

ZERVIS stated he would attempt to determine further information about the rumor, but doubted that he would be able to, adding that he personally believes the rumor has no basis and fact.

ZERVIS continued that GABRIEL MANNARINO has a young Syrian boy working for him named SPIROAHANNA (phonetic) who runs one of the barbout tables for GABRIEL MANNARINO and that approximately six weeks ago SPIRO won \$30,000 in a barbout game and a few weeks later lost his entire winnings. ZERVIS described SPIRO HANNA as a rough boy used by the MANNARINO brothers to collect gambling debts.

ZERVIS pointed out that although many people may not be aware

CONFIDENTIAL

## CONFRENTIAL

PG 92-228

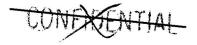
of it that there is actually some ill feelings between SAMUEL and GABRIEF MANNARINO as a result of a venture into the juke box business several years ago in which they lost a hugh amount of cash. According to ZERVIS, the business was located in Chicago, Illinois, and connected in some way with the Wurletizer Company, and that Attorney CHARLES MARGIOTTI, now deceased, was involved in the deal and also lost a considerable amount of money.

ZERVIS explained that during the time the MANNARINO brothers were attempting to set up this business in Chicago, SAM MANNARINO actually took charge of the enterprise and spent a great deal of time in Chicago. ZERVIS said that when things began to go wrong, SAM would write to GABRIEL for additional money and that GABRIEL was forced to borrow money, but instead of sending SAM the full sum he borrowed, he would send only half of it and retain the other half.

ZERVIS said that after the business venture in Chicago failed, GABRIEL MANNARINO seemed to control the purse strings and has continued to do so since that time.

ZERVIS said that GABRIEL MANNARINO has told him personally that he was forced to push his brother, SAMUEL, in the background because he could not resist the temptation of spending four and five thousand dollars in one night like he did in the days they had the slot machines going in Westmoreland County.

ZERVIS remarked that he recently had a conversation with DAN ZELOYLE. Chief of Police, New Kensington, about the raids conducted by the Internal Revenue Service in New Kensington on January 6, 1958. ZERVIS stated that ZELOYLE told him that he is sick and tired of being embarrassed because of GABRIEL MANNARION and added that on the day of the raids an Agent of the Internal Revenue Service came to the Police Station to notify him that a raiding party was in town and at that time were raiding various clubs in the city. ZERVIS stated that ZELOYLE indicated that this action on the part of the Internal Revenue Service embarrassed him because he had the very definite feeling that the Internal Revenue Service did not trust him with any advance warnings of the raids.



### CONFINENTIAL

PG 92-228

ZERVIS stated that he does not believe ZELOYLE will break with the MANNARINO brothers over this issue, but he desired to point out there appears to be some ill feeling beginning to grow between them.

ZERVIS stated that in his judgment JOHN FONTANA is GABRIEL MANNARINO's most trusted lieutenant and the person who will some day inherit GABRIEL MANNARINO's gambling interests in New Kensington. ZERVIS remarked that FONTANA spends almost every day at the dice tables in New Kensington looking out for the MANNARINOS' interests, from approximately 1:00 PM until closing time.

### c.Alleged Gambling Operations in Los Angeles, California

JOHN T. CUSACK, District Supervisor of the Bureau of Narcotics, in testimony before the New York Joint Legislative Committee on Government Operations, on January 9, 1958, regarding the meeting of hoodlums at Apalachin, New York, stated that during March, 1950, the MANNARINO brothers showed up in Los Angeles, California, where they attempted to set up operations, but were forced to return to New Kensington, Pa., because their presence in the city created so much action on the part of the local police.

### d. Illegal Election Contributions

First Sergeant JOHN P. HELFENSTEIN, Pennsylvania State Police, Greensburg, Pa., on February 6, 1958, advised SA WILLIAM J. MYERS that he recalled making an investigation with Captain JOHN TOMEK of the Pennsylvania State Police, now deceased, into an allegation of illegal election contributions on the part of members of the underworld in Westmoreland County. He stated that to the best of his recollection the investigation was conducted in the Fall of 1949 just before the general election, while JAMES DUFF was Governor of Pennsylvania.

By way of background information, HELFENSTEIN explained that the Pennsylvania State Legislature created an additional Judgship for Westmoreland County and that Governor DUFF had appointed to the new office FRED B. TRESCHER, an attorney at law at Greensburg, Pa. He stated that the office was to be



## CONFIDENTIAL

PG 92-228

National Filben Corporation United Dryer Company Chicago, Illinois

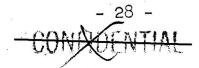
Records of the Cook County Recorder's Office, Chicago, Illinois, reviewed by SA RALPH R. HILL, JR., on January 24, 1958, indicate that the National Filben Corporation was chartered on March 20, 1947 (Document No. 14022512) with officers listed as V. A. LORRENZO, 720 Grant Building, Pittsburgh, Pa.; B. B. DAVIDSON, Chicago, Illinois; and AL BANGO, 4711 Ellsworth, Pittsburgh, Pa. The United Dryer Company chartered on August 29, 1953, (Document No. 15718389) listed officers as OSCAR SCHULTZ, FLORIAN W. ZOGG, and ARTHUR F. SCHWARTZ, all of Chicago, Illinois. The records of the Cook County Recorder's Office indicate that both of the above corporations are no longer in business.

Brush Manufacturing Company 1420 Fifth Avenue Arnold, Pa.

T-3 on February 4, 1958, stated that on the basis of recent conversations with SAMUEL MANNARINO it is entirely possible that SAM may have a substantial financial interest in the Brush Manufacturing Company of Arnold, Pa. T-3 stated that SAMUEL MANNARINO has never spoken openly of his interest in the Brush Manufacturing Company but has hinted on several occasions in conversations that he has an interest in the company and was very pleased with its operation. T-3 said he would attempt to develop additional information regarding the possibility of subject's interest in this enterprise if he could do so without arousing the subject's suspicions.

L. D. Baker Block Factory Seventh Street Extension New Kensington, Pa.

T-3 on February 4, 1958, stated that he recently approached SAMUEL MANNARINO with the idea of purchasing the L. D. Baker Block Factory that is housed in a building fully equipped to manufacture cinder and concrete blocks. T-3 said that he hopes to show the property to MANNARINO in the very near future and is of the opinion MANNARINO will probably purchase





#### INFORMANTS

- T-1 is ROBERT J. WILSON, Vice President, Mellon National Bank and Trust Company, New Kensington, Pa., contacted by SA ALBERT E. KLEBE.
- T-2 is SU 370-C, contacted by SA BRYON C. WHEELER.
- T-3 is PG-545-C, contacted by SA RICHARD GORDON DOUCE.
- T-4 is GOFFREDO CELLINI, PCI, Afternoon Manager in the gambling casino in the Hotel Nacional, Havana, Cuba, contacted by Legal Attache, Havana, Cuba.
- T-5 is the Legal Attache, Havana, Cuba.
- T-6 is ARTIE NEWMAN, Cashier in the Hotel Nacional gambling casino, Havana, Cuba, contacted by Legal Attache, Havana, Cuba.
- T-7 is JAMES CHRISTY, Assistant Manager, Retail Credit Company, Crown Building, New Kensington, Pa., contacted by SA NORMAN T. THOMPSON.

#### CRIMINAL INFORMANT COVERAGE

PG-545-C PG-564-C

WALTER J. SHARKEY, retired New Kensington Police Officer.

JFK Act 6 (4) admitted New Kensington numbers writer, who is in frequent contact with the MANNARINO brothers and in a position to furnish valuable information concerning their activities.

Former PG-509-C and PG-511-C, have not furnished information regarding the MANNARINO brothers in some time and have been unavailable for interview for the past several weeks. It is not known at this time what their present value might be in covering the activities of the MANNARINO brothers; however, they will be interviewed as soon as possible and appropriate comments will be made as to their possible usefulness in the investigations.



### <u>CONFIDENTIAL</u>

PG 92-228

STANLEY KOWALSKY, the New Kensington, Pa., Police Officer, previously described as a possible source of information, is no longer being considered for contact as a PCI since WALTER SHARKEY, who worked with KOWALSKY for many years, has advised that KOWALSKY, in addition to being a chronic alcoholic, is very indiscreet and unreliable.

JOHN FONTANA described by informants as a bodyguard for GABRIEL MANNARINO and one of the MANNARINO brothers' most trusted lieutenants, is, in the opinion of the Special Agents who interviewed him, a bitter and hardened criminal, and is not believed to be the type of person who could be developed as a PCI.

Leads have been set out in this report to develop background information regarding MIKE HAJADAKOS, who is deeply involved in gambling activities with the MANNARINO brothers. As soon as sufficient background information is obtained so that an intelligent interview can be conducted, serious consideration will be given to developing him as an informant.



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3	NAME	PAGE
	OSMAN VERA	Óп
	OSMAN, VERA	7.C === === === === === === == == == == ==
	PASTURA, BAYMOND P	35
	PENNSYLVANIA UTILITY COMMISSION	36
1	RED	-1 8 9 24 28 38 39
1	RENDEK. CELESTINA	36
. 1	RENDER ADGRESS	36
I	ROCCO BUFFONE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY	
1	ROSS, AL	
1	ROTHMAN, NORMAN	1.A. 10. 19. 20
2	SAM。ALBERT	7 . 24
4	Z A IVIS	11 10 00 0/1 0/1
3/2	SAMS, WILLIE	11,12,23,24
	SAMS, WILLIE	18
	SANS SOUCI	19,20,37
	SCHIIII'Z OSCARSESESESESESESESESESESESES	
	SCHWARTZ, ARTHUR F	
	"SEA DREÁM"	
	SEA GULL HOTEL	
V.	SEID, AL	
	SLATÉR, MERIL	
ì	SPORTSMAN, E. E	30
		07
	STERN, NORBERT	`
'n	LVMNVG, MUM	11 O Ol
, r	TANNÁS, TOM	1 1 20 37
· .	PEEMER, CHUCK	1A 2O 37
r	rrescher, fred B	15.16
1	INITED DRYER COMPANY	
7	VALLEY INSURANCE AGENCY	25
Ţ	NOESERMER, HERTAMA	
1	NOLF, "JEKE"	38
11	WURLÉTIZER COMPANYZEID, AL	14.
V	ZEID, Alw-200-2012222222222222222222222222222222	
,	ZELOGOE, DAN	6
15	ZELOGOE, DAN	14,15
1	ZERVIS, MIKE	11,12,13,14,15
	COCHOWSKI, CHESTER	7 0 0 0 0 00 00
,	COGG, F. W. "KED"	-1,0,9,24,28,38,39
	ZOGG UPTDU	200010000
Ž	CUGU , KED	1,0,9,24,20,30,39