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SEBASTIAN JOHN LAROCCA

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PITTSBURGH

AT PITTSBURGH, PA. (ALLEGHENY COUNTY)

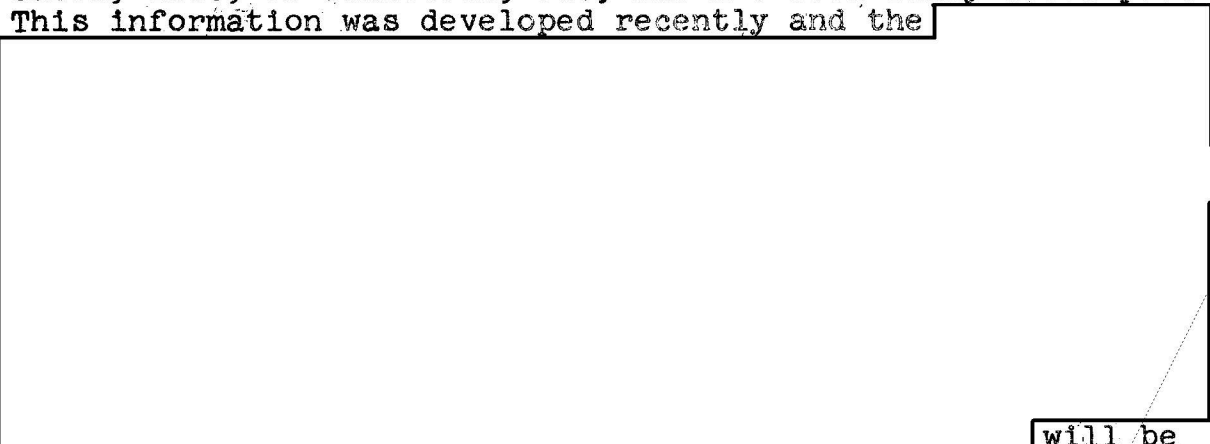
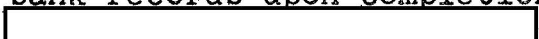
Will follow and report activities of SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA and his associates in accordance with Bureau instructions.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Information contained in this report concerning possible anti-trust violations has been previously submitted by closing report dated 4/26/61, entitled, "WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA CEMENT BLOCK ASSOCIATION, Pittsburgh, Pa.," Pittsburgh file 60-474.

Information contained in this report of possible value to the Internal Revenue Service has been furnished to the Intelligence Unit of the Internal Revenue Service at Pittsburgh, Pa.

Information concerning Western Pennsylvania National Bank records and records of the United States National Bank in Johnstown, Pa., as well as information regarding Keystone Sales, Inc., of Johnstown, Pa., has not been fully developed. This information was developed recently and the

 will be made available to this Bureau and Bureau Agents will examine pertinent bank records upon completion of examination being conducted: 

IRS  
REVIEWED BY ~~SE~~ JFK TASK FORCE -- B -

JFK Law 11(a)

ON 7-14-98 Jcd COVER PAGE

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

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Information from records of the Western Pennsylvania National Bank, Washington Trust Office, was furnished to SAA FRANK E. ALLISON on 5/1/61 by CHARLES METCALF, Vice President, Western Pennsylvania National Bank. Information was also furnished to SA ROBERT A. VOEGE on 3/4/58 by LOUIS J. REIZENSTIEN, Executive Vice President, Washington Trust Office, Western Pennsylvania National Bank.

Information from the records of the United States National Bank in Johnstown was furnished by E. L. EDWARDS, Vice President, to SA J. EDWARD KERN on 4/27/61.

Records of the Brookline Savings and Trust Company were made available to SAA FRANK E. ALLISON on 4/17/61 by J. E. GERLACH, Assistant Vice President.

Records of the South Pittsburgh Savings and Loan Association were made available to SAA FRANK E. ALLISON on 4/17/61 by J. DOUGLAS DOLE, Executive Vice President and Secretary.

#### INFORMANTS

PG T-1 is Dr. COSTANTINO FONTANA, Central Bureau, Italian Criminal Police, Rome, Italy, who furnished information to the Legat at Rome, Italy, on 4/18/58.

PG T-2 is GEORGE "MOON" MESSER, a potential criminal informant of the Pittsburgh Office, who was contacted by SA ROBERT A. VOEGE on 2/27/58.

PG T-3 is PG 612-C, who was contacted by SA THOMAS G. FORSYTH, III on 10/14/60.

PG T-4 is PG 615-C, who was contacted by SA THOMAS G. FORSYTH, III on 10/14/60.

PG T-5 is PG 585-C, who was contacted by SA ROBERT A. VOEGE on 2/19/58, 3/7/58, and 3/11/58.

PG T-6 is CHESTER STUPAK, a former potential criminal informant of the Pittsburgh Office, who was contacted by

- C -

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SA JOHN S. PORTELLA on 12/13/54 and 10/21/55.

PG T-7 is PG 561-C, who was contacted by SA CARL L. SHERWOOD on 9/11/57.

PG T-8 is DAN FERRARI, a source of information, who requested that his identity be concealed and who was contacted by SA CARL L. SHERWOOD on 1/13/58.

PG T-9 is T. P. DERDOCK, Security Officer, Westinghouse Electric Corporation, East Pittsburgh, Pa., who requested that his identity be concealed when he was contacted by SA THOMAS G. FORSYTH, III on 1/14/58.

PG T-10 is ROBERT F. MEHRLING, an employee of the Internal Revenue Service at Pittsburgh, Pa., who requested that his identity be concealed when he was contacted by SA GENE H. STUDEBAKER on 12/10/57.

PG T-11 is the confidential report of Dun and Bradstreet, Inc., dated 4/19/59, and furnished by the Pittsburgh Office of that organization on 3/14/61.

PG T-12 is HAROLD W. LAUVER, Supervisory Investigator, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Pittsburgh, Pa., who requested that his identity be concealed when he was contacted by SA WILLIAM R. WALL on 12/12, 12/13, 12/16, and 12/19/57.

PG T-13 is JAMES CUNNINGHAM, Representative, Dun and Bradstreet, Inc., Johnstown, Pa., who requested that his identity be concealed when he was contacted by SA J. EDWARD KERN on 4/27/61.

REVIEWED BY <sup>DMS</sup> ~~SA~~ JFK TASK FORCE

ON 9/29/97 d al

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DETAILS:

A. PERSONAL HISTORY AND BACKGROUND

I. Birth Data

SEBASTIAN LA ROCCA, the son of IGNAZIO and ROSARIA SCANCARELLO, was born in Villa Rosa, Italy, on December 19, 1901, and departed from Villa Rosa prior to 1927, the year in which the registration of the inhabitants of that community was begun.

WITNESS:

PG T-1

LA ROCCA arrived at New York City, New York, on September 2, 1910, aboard the "SS Principe di Piemonte" using the name SEBASTIANO LA ROCCA and was eight years of age at that time. He was a citizen of Italy, having been born at Villarosa, Sicily, and his prior permanent address was the same as his birth. He was accompanied by his mother, ROSARIA, age 32, and sisters, ROSA, age 13, and ILLUMINATA, age 11. He was destined to visit IGNAZIO LA ROCCA at Box 111, Reed, Pa., and his passage was paid by his father. The afore-mentioned ~~DR~~ legal entry was verified.

REVIEWED BY ~~WJFK~~ TASK FORCE

ON 9/29/92 *ds*

WITNESS:

WILLIAM D. BIGGS

Officer in Charge

Immigration and Naturalization Service

707 New Federal Building

Pittsburgh, Pa., who can produce "Certificate of Naturalization of Alien" from INS file A-5-537-570 relating to LA ROCCA (INS file I-404A), and whose records must be subpoenaed.

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II. Education

It was not possible to ascertain whether or not LA ROCCA received any formal schooling during the time he was in Italy.

WITNESS:

PG T-1

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(3)

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WITNESS:

CASIMIR J. PELLEGRINI  
Owner, Casimir J. Pellegrini Associates  
201 South Craig Street  
Pittsburgh, Pa.,  
the designer and the director of construction of  
the residence at 900 West Ingomar Road, Ingomar,  
Pa.

IV. Marital Status

LESTER LA ROCCA, born in Italy, married MARY SMELIK, born  
in Jessup, Pa., on 9/30/28, at Pittston, Pa.

WITNESS:

ALFRED X. PASCO  
Assistant Clerk of the Orphans Court  
Luzerne County Courthouse  
Wilkes-Barre, Pa.,  
who can produce a certified copy of Marriage  
Certificate #19690. This record must be  
subpoenaed.

MARY CMELIK was born on April 2, 1910, and was baptised on  
April 3, 1910. Her parents were JOHN CMELIK and MAGDALENE  
GABRIS.

WITNESS:

Reverend ANDRES E. DLUGOS  
Pastor, St. Michael's Roman Catholic Slovak Church  
First Avenue, Jessup, Pa.,  
who can produce official church records reflecting  
birth and baptismal entries. These records must be  
subpoenaed.

V. Information Relating to Adopted Son of La Rocca

LA ROCCA and his wife have no natural children but on February  
25, 1944, they adopted HOWARD LESLIE HOFFMAN, whose name at  
the time of adoption was changed to JOHN LA ROCCA, JR.

RAV/JW  
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This adopted son was born on October 1, 1943, at Greensburg, Pa.

WITNESSES:

WILLIAM D. BIGGS  
Officer in Charge  
Immigration and Naturalization Service  
707 New Federal Building  
Pittsburgh, Pa.,  
who can testify to biographical data contained in  
INS file A-5-537-570 relating to LA ROCCA

MILES C. MC WHARTER  
Clerk of Orphans Court  
Westmoreland County  
Greensburg, Pa.,  
who can introduce records pertaining to the birth  
and adoption of the adopted son of LA ROCCA and  
whose records must be subpoenaed.

JOHN LA ROCCA is presently attending Valley Forge Military Academy where tuition, room and board amounts to approximately \$2,225 each school year. Cadets are not required to account for money furnished to them by their parents or guardians and this would also apply to the money these cadets spend at the post exchange or while away from the academy. They are not required to furnish memoranda and their mode of travel from the school to their homes during their vacation periods. LA ROCCA is presently scheduled to graduate from Valley Forge Military Academy in June, 1961.

WITNESS:

Lt. Colonel GILBERT PHILIPPS  
Admissions Officer  
Valley Forge Military Academy  
Wayne, Pa.

DWS  
REVIEWED BY ~~WJFK~~ TASK FORCE

ON 9/25/97 *l*

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(5)

PG 92-226

VI. Origin of the Interest of La Rocca in Racketeering  
and Steps Leading to Current Position and Activities  
in Racketeering Matters

GEORGE MESSER, who has been engaged in numbers writing activity since about 1928, was once depended upon by Pittsburgh racketeers for protection purposes because he knew local and state police figures. LA ROCCA was one of the individuals who utilized MESSER in this regard. He became acquainted with LA ROCCA in about 1941 or 1942 when LA ROCCA was handling all the numbers activity in the East Liberty section of Pittsburgh and had set himself up as a "little god." When LA ROCCA became dissatisfied with his financial gains, he left Pittsburgh on a trip to Chicago to see friends about paste reel machines with which he felt he could make more money. A paste reel was similar to a "one-armed bandit" with the exception that a small paper-wrapped mint was dispensed as the coin was placed in the slot and the play was registered.

While LA ROCCA was in Chicago, MESSER moved into the East Liberty section and took over the entire numbers operation. When LA ROCCA returned to Pittsburgh he became angry with MESSER and had someone drive a car over him one night as he was crossing a street. Because he thought he would make money in the East Liberty section, MESSER stayed in the business of writing numbers and actually forced LA ROCCA out of this business.

In about 1943 MESSER and LA ROCCA became friendly and LA ROCCA invited MESSER to share equally with him in the ownership of the Coin Machine Distributing Company which later set up offices at 5746 Baum Boulevard in Pittsburgh. LA ROCCA managed to raise enough money to put up his share for the business and MESSER personally traveled to Chicago to arrange for the purchase of machines to be distributed by this company. These machines were placed throughout the East Liberty, Homewood, and Garfield sections of Pittsburgh and were heavily taxed by both the Government and the City of Pittsburgh. Other owners of the afore-mentioned company, in addition to MESSER and LA ROCCA, were FRANK AMATO, BARNEY MC GINLEY, SAMUEL MANNARINO, and F. W. ZOGG.

RAV/JW  
(6)

PG 92-226

The afore-mentioned company was doing well financially before Allegheny County, Pa., authorities raided establishments where the machines had been placed and forced the company out of business. Although each of the afore-mentioned individuals owned an equal share in the company, SAMUEL MANNARINO and LA ROCCA obviously usurped the most authority and held meetings at which important subjects were discussed in Italian, which MESSER did not understand. LA ROCCA used MESSER only for proven protection methods and MESSER did not mind as long as he got his cut of the profits. MIKE GENOVESE, who was turned over to MESSER by LA ROCCA "to keep him clean" because LA ROCCA had him in mind for future plans, FRANK VALENTI, and ANTONIO RIPEPI visited the offices of the Coin Machine Distributing Company regularly and took orders from MANNARINO and LA ROCCA.

WITNESS:

GEORGE MESSER  
124 Elysian Street  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

During the late 1930's and early 1940's, the Italian element at Pittsburgh, Pa., had a great fear and respect of individuals known as "blackhanders" and later LA ROCCA, who was, to all intents and purposes, a leader in this type of operation. SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA came into the area from the James-town, New York, vicinity where he had been engaged in moonshining operations bringing him into Pittsburgh on a scheduled run. He remained in Pittsburgh because his criminal activities in New York State were becoming too involved and he continued his moonshining and later, numbers operation in Pittsburgh.

WITNESS:

PG T-2

B. ASSOCIATES

Among the more prominent currently close associates of LA ROCCA are the following individuals:



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social acquaintance of LA ROCCA for many years. On May 26, 1960, during an interview, VALENTI claimed he was "in hiding" to avoid being arrested for vote fraud in Rochester, New York.

WITNESSES:

PG T-2

who was acquainted with the relationship between LA ROCCA and VALENTI.

SA ROBERT A. VOEGE

presently assigned to the Pittsburgh Office of the FBI who can testify to an interview with VALENTI on May 26, 1960, at Pittsburgh, Pa.

ANTONIO ~~X~~RIPEPI, aka

This individual presently resides at 4720 Brownsville Road, Pittsburgh, Pa., and operates the Keystone Music Company in Pittsburgh.

WITNESS:

JOHN H. BINGLER

District Director, Internal Revenue Service  
New Federal Building

Pittsburgh, Pa., who can produce and identify records

JFK Law 11(a)

GUISEPPE ~~X~~ROSA, aka

ROSA presently resides at 1849 Funston Street, Pittsburgh, Pa. He is a business and social associate of LA ROCCA who was once ordered deported following an arrest by the Immigration and Naturalization Service at Pittsburgh, Pa., as an enemy alien but received a pardon from Governor JOHN S. FINE of the State of Pennsylvania on January 15, 1954, and the deportation warrant was withdrawn.

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WITNESSES:

PG T-9  
who is acquainted with the relationship between  
AMATO and LA ROCCA.

GEORGE MESSER  
124 Elysian STREET  
Pittsburgh, Pa.,  
who can testify to the business relationship  
between AMATO, LA ROCCA, and himself in the  
Coin Machine Distributing Company at Pittsburgh.

JOHN J. CONTI

This individual presently resides at 9576 Perry Highway,  
Pittsburgh, Pa., and is actively engaged in the operation  
of the North Star Cement Block Company, 12 McCandless Avenue,  
Pittsburgh, Pa., which is owned by LA ROCCA. LA ROCCA  
refers to CONTI as his nephew. During past interviews with  
an FBI Agent he has been completely uncooperative.

WITNESS:

SA ROBERT A. VOEGE  
presently assigned to the Pittsburgh Office of  
the FBI, who can testify to an interview on  
April 30, 1959, with SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA at  
which time LA ROCCA advised that although the  
operation of the North Star Cement Block Company  
was not a family affair, he had JOHN CONTI, his  
nephew, working for him.

ROY VEY

This individual presently resides at 1153 Cornell Street,  
Pittsburgh, Pa., and is an employee of the North Star  
Cement Block Company, 12 McCandless Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.  
His annual income exceeds \$5,000 a year.

JFK Law 11(a)

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WITNESSES:

JOHN H. BINGLER  
District Director  
Internal Revenue Service  
New Federal Building, Pittsburgh, Pa.,  
who can produce and identify records [REDACTED]

BRUNO A. CENGIA  
14 Parkview Drive  
Carnegie, Pa., who, as accountant for North Star  
Cement Block Company, can produce and identify records  
concerning the employment and annual salary of ROY VEY.

AIDO and ALMO PRUNER

These individuals reside at 653 Bower Hill Road, Bridgeville,  
Pa., and are employed at the North Star Cement Block Co.

WITNESS:

JOHN H. BINGLER  
District Director  
Internal Revenue Service  
New Federal Building, Pittsburgh, Pa.,  
who can produce and identify records [REDACTED]

JFK Law 11(a)

SALVATORE MARINO, aka

This individual resides at 755 Willow Glen Way, San Jose, Cali-  
fornia, and is a partner in the California Cheese Co., with his son,  
ANGELO. The company is located at 295 West San Carlos St., San  
Jose. A social associate of LA ROCCA, MARINO was visited by  
LA ROCCA during 1954 and traveled to Los Angeles, California, with  
him. Both were taken in for questioning by the Los Angeles  
Police Department while in the company of one FRANK DE SIMONE,  
an acquaintance.

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1910 and listed his birthplace as Johnstown, Pa., when he served in the U. S. Army between 1943-1944 and when he was received at the Lewisburg Federal Penitentiary.

**WITNESSES:**

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JOHN H. BINGLER  
District Director  
Internal Revenue Service  
New Federal Building  
Pittsburgh, Pa., who can produce and identify  
records [redacted]

WILLIAM D. BIGGS  
Officer in Charge  
Immigration and Naturalization Service  
707 New Federal Building  
Pittsburgh, Pa., who can testify to records  
which may be obtained by subpoena concerning  
the citizenship status and investigation of REGINO  
by the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

REVIEWED BY *DYS* TASK FORCE  
ON *9/29/67*  
☒ RELEASE IN FULL  
☐ RELEASE IN PART  
☐ TOTAL DENIAL

**OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION RELATING TO ASSOCIATES OF  
LA ROCCA**

On March 14, 1956, ANTHONY R. PINELLI, SR., was visited by SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA of 900 West Ingomar Street, Pittsburgh, Pa. PINELLI was strongly suspected by the Los Angeles Calif. Police Department Intelligence Division of being involved as a leading figure in the traffic of narcotics, and was an associate of TONY ACCARDO and SAM GIANCANA of Chicago, Illinois. He was believed by Police of Los Angeles to be highly placed in nationwide criminal activities. LA ROCCA was accompanied by SALVATORE MARINO, owner of the California

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C. LEGITIMATE ENTERPRISES

1. North Star Cement Block Company  
12 McCandless Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.

On May 28, 1951, NICHOLAS DI PASQUALE, 175 Georgetown St., West View, Pa., filed a fictitious name certificate in the Office of the Prothonotary of Allegheny County, Pa., for the North Star Cement Block Company, indicating the type of business of this company as manufacture and sale of cement block and purchase and repair of building material, equipment, machinery and supplies. The owners of the company were listed as NICHOLAS DI PASQUALE; THEODORE P. RIPEPI, 217 Andrew Street, Pittsburgh; URSULA RIPEPI, 4720 Brownsville Road, Pittsburgh; and JOHN S. LA ROCCA. R.F.D. 7, Pittsburgh 29, Pa.

On February 10, 1952, a Certificate of Withdrawal of NICHOLAS DI PASQUALE, dated November 30, 1951, was filed in the Prothonotary's Office.

Witness:

DAVID B. ROBERTS,  
Prothonotary, Allegheny County,  
City-County Building  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Mr. ROBERTS or his designated representative can produce Certificate #38421 as recorded in Volume 120 on page 139, as well as the Withdrawal Certificate of NICHOLAS DI PASQUALE dated November 30, 1951.

On December 10, 1957,

JFK Law 11(a)

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Witness:

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REVIEWED BY <sup>DNS</sup> ~~NEW~~ JFK TASK FORCE

ON 9/29/97 dcl

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Records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service at Pittsburgh, Pa., were examined on December 16, 1957, and disclosed that at a hearing on August 3, 1954, JOHN LA ROCCA testified that he owned a 47½ per cent interest in the North Star Cement Block Company, that 47½ per cent of the company was owned by TONY RIPEPI and that the remaining 5 per cent was owned by THEODORE RIPEPI, a nephew of TONY.

Witness:

WILLIAM D. BIGGS,  
Officer in Charge  
Immigration and Naturalization Service  
New Federal Building  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

BIGGS can produce records recording testimony of LA ROCCA at a hearing held on August 3, 1954.

On income tax returns filed for the years 1952 through 1960,  
JOHN LA ROCCA

JFK Law 11(a)

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In 1959,

JFK Law 11(a)

Witness:

JOHN H. BINGLER,  
District Director,  
Internal Revenue Service  
New Federal Building  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

BINGLER can produce and identify income tax returns  
filed by JOHN S. and MARY LA ROCCA for the years 1952  
through 1960, along with supporting statements and  
schedules.

Records of the Treasurer's Office, City of Pittsburgh, Pa.,  
as of December 1, 1960, indicate the following individuals  
were employees of the North Star Cement Block Company:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>SOCIAL SECURITY #</u>	<u>ANNUAL INCOME</u>
ANTHONY SCIORILLI 112 North Matilda St., Pittsburgh 24, Pa.	190-10-3019	\$7,123.65

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<u>NAME</u>	<u>SOCIAL SECURITY #</u>	<u>ANNUAL INCOME</u>
FRED S. WOODRICK 614 Vanilla Way Pittsburgh 6, Pa.	206-03-5406	\$3,823.34
HERMAN A. SMITH 254 Meyran Avenue Pittsburgh 13, Pa.	167-01-2425	6,259.01
CLEMENT H. REDSHAW 105 Manville Drive Pittsburgh 37, Pa.	199-10-9861	5,035.45
FRANKLIN K. BULLION 5270 Butler Street Pittsburgh 1, Pa.	410-36-3604	4,514.88
ROBERT E. CAVALLUCCIA 255 Service Way Pittsburgh 1, Pa.	200-20-4682	5,058.62
ALBERT J. MASLEN 183 Burrows Street Pittsburgh 13, Pa.	200-07-0420	4,668.36
DONALD P. TURNER 2130 W. Pike Street Houston, Pa.	234-56-8841	331.32
FRANK J. CIROCCO 1212 Arch Street Pittsburgh 12, Pa.	184-14-4258	1,539.97
JACOB S. GEORGE 5403 Butler Street Pittsburgh 1, Pa.	190-24-7201	3,132.38

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<u>NAME</u>	<u>SOCIAL SECURITY #</u>	<u>ANNUAL INCOME</u>
JOSEPH E. BRYAN 439 Kathleen Street Pittsburgh 1, Pa.	177-18-9068	\$ 1,306.18
LOUIS R. SAALINGER 709 Maytide Street Pittsburgh 10, Pa.	164-28-1015	1,285.13
STEPHEN JENCA 5206 Natrona Way Pittsburgh 1, Pa.	167-10-4008	989.00
ROY L. VEY 1153 Cornell Street Pittsburgh 12, Pa.	188-18-9241	5,300.00
ORLANDO M. PRINCIPE 4204 Main Street Pittsburgh 24, Pa.	194-28-0383	896.27
JOHN IRWIN 2503 5th Avenue Pittsburgh 19, Pa.	185-12-4668	1,531.72
LEONARD A. YAGATICH 1424 Fallowfield Ave. Pittsburgh 16, Pa.	203-22-3715	2,566.79
ROBERT THACKER 226 Sylvania St. Pittsburgh, Pa.	178-26-6365	2,155.73
AUGUST BULLION 5223 Berlin Way Pittsburgh 1, Pa.	278-28-3867	483.45
CARMELO TRAPANI 4776 Sciota St. Pittsburgh 24, Pa.	165-26-2632	1,369.30

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<u>NAME</u>	<u>SOCIAL SECURITY #</u>	<u>ANNUAL INCOME</u>
OLIVER E. SHERWOOD 1509 Celtic Street Pittsburgh 10, Pa.	187-30-5880	\$ 39.60
LEROY W. WILLIAMS 543 Rosedale St. Pittsburgh 21, Pa.	160-22-9414	608.51
FRANCIS J. ROGALSKI 461 Robinson Court Pittsburgh 13, Pa.	173-16-5201	255.54

Witness:

DAVID A. SMITH,  
Treasurer  
City of Pittsburgh  
City-County Building  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Mr. SMITH can produce and identify records of the  
Treasurer's Office pertaining to employees of the  
North Star Cement Block Company.

As of April 19, 1959, JOHN S. LA ROCCA was reported to be  
the President of the North Star Cement Block Company, Inc.  
Other officers of this company were reported to be ALMO  
PRUNER, Vice President, ALDO A. PRUNER, Secretary, and  
ROY L. VEY, Treasurer. The company was started during  
1946 but did not become incorporated until 1952. The  
company ostensibly does more than \$200,000 worth of business  
anually. Activities of the block manufacturing operation  
merged during 1959 with a hauling operation. The company  
was chartered with the State of Pennsylvania on September 8,  
1947, when it authorized capital stock of \$100,000 and the  
business was actually begun during June, 1946, by NICHOLAS  
DI PASQUALE.



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North Star Cement Block Company, Ind.  
12 McCandless Avenue  
Pittsburgh, Pa.  
Residence: 1153 Cornell Street  
Pittsburgh 12, Pa.  
and/or  
ALDO A. PRUNER,  
Secretary  
North Star Cement Block Company  
12 McCandless Avenue  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

The above individuals are in a position to furnish all books and records of the North Star Cement Block Company, Inc., including records of income, expenditures, accounts receivable, accounts payable, ownership and other records related to the holdings and operations of this company.

2. Keystone Sales, Inc.  
604 Franklin Street, Johnstown, Pa.

On November 6, 1957, JOSEPH REGINO, aka., JOE RAGNO, Capital Bowling Alleys, Franklin and Vine Streets, Johnstown, Pa., advised that he and SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA were partners in the Keystone Cigarette Vending Company at Johnstown, Pa.; that he and LA ROCCA owned 75 per cent of the company; and that the other 25 per cent is held by JOHN J. LA ROCCA.

Witness:

PG T-12

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On his 1960 income tax return, JOHN S. LA ROCCA, [REDACTED]

The 1960 income tax return for Keystone Sales, Inc., indicates [REDACTED]

Witness:

JFK Law 11(a)

JOHN H. BINGLER,  
District Director  
Internal Revenue Service  
New Federal Building  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Mr. BINGLER or his designated representative can produce and identify the income tax return for JOHN S. LA ROCCA for 1960, as well as the income tax return for Keystone Sales, Inc., for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1960. He can also produce records recording information concerning [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

3. Rental Properties

[REDACTED]

On income tax returns for the period from 1953 through  
1960, JOHN S. LA ROCCA [REDACTED]

Year

1953

1954

1955

1956

1957

1958

1959

Witness:

JOHN H. BINGLER,  
District Director  
Internal Revenue Service  
New Federal Building  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

FEA/bac  
(14)

PG 92-226

Mr. BINGLER can produce and identify income tax returns of JOHN S. and MARY LA ROCCA for the period 1953 through 1960,

JFK Law 11(a)

JOHN S. LA ROCCA maintains a real estate account under his name at the Washington Trust Office of the Western Pennsylvania National Bank, Pittsburgh, Pa., and the balance in this account as of April 18, 1961, was \$15,636.82.

Witness:

STANLEY F. DRUTIS,  
Vice President  
Western Pennsylvania National Bank  
Washington Trust Office  
821 Fifth Avenue  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Mr. DRUTIS can produce and identify records of the Western Pennsylvania National Bank pertaining to the real estate account of JOHN S. LA ROCCA.

As of April 6, 1958, records of the Office of the City Treasurer, City of Pittsburgh, 414 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, Pa., disclosed a listing for property at 500 North Craig Street, Pittsburgh, and at 426 North Craig Street, Pittsburgh, which is under the names JOHN S. and MARY S. LAROCCA. Property at 500 North Craig Street was assessed at \$2,980, as far as land is concerned, and the building on this property was assessed at \$14,470. The city taxes on this property amount to \$337.10 plus school taxes in the amount of \$244.30. Property at 426 North Craig Street was assessed at \$7,400, as far as land is concerned, and the building on this property was assessed at \$3,200. The city taxes on this property amount to \$297 and the school taxes amount to \$148.40.

Witness:

LEO F. NOWICKI  
Assistant to the Treasurer

FEA/bac  
(15)

PG 92-226

Department of the City Treasurer  
414 Grant Street  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Mr. NOWICKI can produce and identify records  
pertaining to property owned by LA ROCCA at  
426 and 500 North Craig Street, Pittsburgh, Pa.

4. Bulk Beverages, Inc., formerly Beer Dispensing  
Company or Beer Dispensing, Inc., 500 North  
Craig Street, Pittsburgh 13, Pa.

On income tax returns filed by JOHN S. LA ROCCA for the years  
1951 and 1952, he showed JFK Law 11(a)

Witness:

JOHN H. BINGLER  
District Director  
Internal Revenue Service  
New Federal Building  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Mr. BINGLER can produce and identify income tax  
returns of JOHN S. LA ROCCA for the years 1951 and  
1952.

As of March 4, 1958, records of the Washington Trust Office  
of the Western Pennsylvania National Bank disclosed that  
an account was opened by MARY S. and JOHN S. LA ROCCA, as  
well as JOHN J. LA ROCCA and LOUIE FERRARO, bearing the  
name "Beer Dispensing, Inc."

Witness:

STANLEY F. DRUTIS,  
Vice President and Manager  
Western Pennsylvania National Bank  
Washington Trust Office  
821 Fifth Avenue  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Mr. DRUTIS can produce and identify an account  
maintained at the Western Pennsylvania National  
Bank bearing the name Beer Dispensing, Inc.

FEA/bac  
(18)

PG 92-226

On August 3, 1954, JOHN S. LA ROCCA testified at an Immigration and Naturalization hearing in Pittsburgh, Pa., that he owned all of Bulk Beverages, Inc., at that time.

Witness:

WILLIAM D. BIGGS,  
Officer in Charge  
Immigration and Naturalization Service  
New Federal Building  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

REVIEWED BY <sup>DNS</sup> ~~FEA~~ JFK TASK FORCE

ON

9/29/72 dal

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

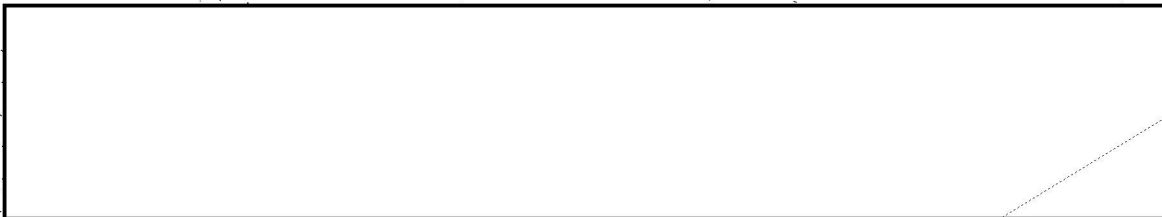
Mr. BIGGS can produce and identify records of an Immigration and Naturalization hearing held on August 3, 1954.

On his income tax return for the year

JFK Law 11(a)

FEA:mef  
(3)

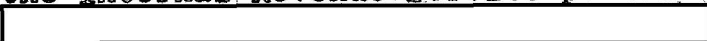
PG 92-226



WITNESS:

JOHN H. BINGLER  
District Director  
Internal Revenue Service  
New Federal Building  
Pittsburgh, Pa.


JFK Law 11(a)


Mr. BIGGS or his authorized representative can produce and identify records of the Internal Revenue Service pertaining to JOHN S. LA ROCCA, 

On November 9, 1954, JULIUS HALPERN, former President, Washington Trust Company, 821 5th Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa., and currently member of the Advisory Board of the Western Pennsylvania National Bank, Washington Trust Office, and MEYER B. GEFSKY, former Assistant Vice President, Washington Trust Company, 821 5th Avenue, Pittsburgh, testified as character witnesses for JOHN LA ROCCA on November 9, 1954, at an Immigration Hearing Board convening at Pittsburgh, Pa., in connection with deportation proceedings against LA ROCCA.

WITNESS:

WILLIAM D. BIGGS  
Officer in Charge  
Immigration and Naturalization Service  
New Federal Building  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

REVIEWED BY  JFK TASK FORCE

ON 7/29/97 

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

Mr. BIGGS can produce records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service pertaining to the deportation hearings regarding LA ROCCA, including those records indicating the identities of character witnesses who testified for LA ROCCA.

92-2940-144

FEA:mer  
(4)

PG 92-226

2. Brookline Savings and Trust Company  
820 Brookline Boulevard  
Pittsburgh 26, Pa.

On an income tax return for the year 1959 filed by JOHN S.  
LA ROCCA. LA ROCCA indicated

JFK Law 11(a)

WITNESS:

JOHN H. BINGLER  
District Director  
Internal Revenue Service  
New Federal Building  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Mr. BINGLER, or his authorized representative, can produce  
and identify the 1959 income tax return and supporting  
schedules filed by JOHN S. and MARY LA ROCCA.



FEA:mef  
(8)

PG 92-226

WITNESS:

E. L. EDWARDS  
Vice President  
United States National Bank in Johnstown  
216 Franklin Street  
Johnstown, Pa.

Mr. EDWARDS can produce and identify records of the United States National Bank in Johnstown which pertain to Keystone Sales, Inc.

G. STATEMENT OF ASSETS

The following information concerning assets and liabilities of SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA has been obtained from various sources and all sources have been previously identified or information is set forth as to persons to be subpoenaed to produce records or testify to support information reported. The information is presented in summary form and inasmuch as some values presented are based on information received from two or more sources and in some cases include estimates, these values are subject to revision as more specific and accurate information is developed:

ASSETS

Cash in Bank

Real Estate Account (April 18, 1961)                      \$ 15,636.82

Stock Holdings

JFK Law 11(a)

b617003

FEA:mef  
(9)

PG 92-226

Real Estate

Residence: 900 Ingomar Road,  
McCandless Township, Pa. - estimated  
value with improvements

\$ 125,000.00

Receivables

Miscellaneous

TOTAL ASSETS

LIABILITIES

Loans Payable

NET WORTH

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET WORTH

JFK Law 11(a)

92-2940-144

FEA:mef  
(10)

PG 92-226

WITNESS:

STANLEY F. DRUTIS  
Vice President  
Western Pennsylvania National Bank and  
Manager, Washington Trust Office  
Western Pennsylvania National Bank  
821 Fifth Avenue  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Mr. DRUTIS can produce and identify bank records which contain the balance of the real estate account of JOHN S. LA ROCCA at the Washington Trust Office of the Western Pennsylvania National Bank.

WITNESS:

JOHN H. BINGLER  
District Director  
Internal Revenue Service  
New Federal Building  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Mr. BINGLER can produce and identify the 1959 and 1960 income tax return of JOHN S. and MARY LA ROCCA

JFK Law 11(a)

WITNESS:

Mrs. CHRISTOPHER MAGEE STEEL  
5652 Stanton Avenue  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Mrs. STEEL can testify that she paid between \$54,000 and \$55,000 for the home at 900 West Ingomar Road, Ingomar, Pa., which she

FEA:mef  
(19)

PG 92-226

4. Income Tax Matters

On his income tax return for 1959, LA ROCCA indicated

JFK Law 11(a)

During the year 1958,

WITNESS:

JOHN H. BINGLER  
District Director  
Internal Revenue Service  
New Federal Building  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

92-2940-144

FEA:mef  
(20)

PG 92-226

Mr. BINGLER can produce and identify income tax returns filed by JOHN S. LA ROCCA for the years, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, and 1960,

JFK Law 11(a)

Records of the Brookline Savings and Trust Company, 820 Brookline Boulevard, Pittsburgh, Pa., disclosed accounts for the Beer Dispensing Co., 1305 Penn Ave., Pittsburgh 22, Pa., and Bulk Beverages, Inc., 500 North Craig Street, Pittsburgh 13, Pa. A Beer Dispensing Company Reserve Account and a Beer Dispensing Company Earned Reserve Account were opened in 1951, and closed on July 13, 1959, by the issuance of Brookline check No. 3665, in the amount of \$277.50, payable to Beer Dispensing Company. This check was endorsed, Pay to the Order of "JOHN S. LA ROCCA, Beer Dispensing Company." The check also bore the stamp of the Western Pennsylvania National Bank. The officers of Beer Dispensing Company were indicated on December 5, 1952, as LOUIS FERRARO, President, JOHN L. LA ROCCA, Vice President, and ALVIN REESE, Secretary and Treasurer.

On May 30, 1954, the name of the corporation, Beer Dispensing Company, was changed to Bulk Beverages, Inc., and the officers were listed as JOHN S. LA ROCCA, President, JOHN J. LA ROCCA, Secretary and Treasurer, and ZELDA GORDON, Vice President.

The last payment from the Bulk Beverages, Inc., account was made on January 15, 1957, by the issuance of Brookline Check No. 2764 in the amount of \$89.60. The following checks were issued by Brookline to Beer Dispensing Company on the dates and in the amounts indicated:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Brookline Check No.</u>
May 9, 1957	\$157.76	4601
July 8, 1957	47.46	4616
July 11, 1958	541.38	4693
July 13, 1959	277.50	3665

FEA:mef  
(24)

PG 92-226

JFK Law 11(a)

WITNESS:

JOHN H. BINGLER  
District Director  
Internal Revenue Service  
New Federal Building  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

92-240-144

FEA:mef  
(25)

PG 92-226

Mr. BINGLER can produce and identify records of the Internal Revenue Service, including the report of former Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue ANDREW J. SUSCE and a summary of that report dated April 18, 1955, prepared by G. WILSON STITELER, Reviewer-Conferree, Intelligence Division, Internal Revenue Service, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Mr. BINGLER can also  
produce records concerning [REDACTED]

JFK Law 11(a)

92-240-144

RAV/jab

PG 92-226

Height	5'10"
Weight	200 pounds
Hair	Black, graying
Complexion	Dark
Eyes	Brown
Present address	900 West Ingomar Road, Ingomar, Pa.
Past address	6426 Apple Street, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Marital Status	Married
Wife	MARY S. LA ROCCA
Date of Birth	April 2, 1910
Place of Birth	Jessup, Pa.
Date of Marriage	September 30, 1928, Pittston, Pa.
Son	JOHN LA ROCCA
Date of Birth	October 1, 1943
Adopted	TN HOWARD LESLIE HOFFMAN February 25, 1944, at Greensburg, Pa., through Westmoreland Orphans Court
Brother	ANTHONY LA ROCCA
Date of birth	May 14, 1912
Place of birth	Whiskey Run, Indiana County
Residence	6323 Glenview Place, Pittsburgh
Employed	Barber, 8003 McKnight Road, Pittsburgh
Brother	JOSEPH LA ROCCA
Date of Birth	August 4, 1893
Place of Birth	Villa Rosa, Caltanissetta, Sicily, Italy
Residence	835 Farragut Street, Pittsburgh
Employed	Barber, Penn and Shady Avenues, Pittsburgh
Naturalized	Court of Common Pleas Indiana County, March 5, 1924
Brother	JOHN J. LA ROCCA
Address	118-20 Walnut Street, Johnstown, Pa.
Employed	Keystone Vending Company, Johnstown, Pa.
Sister	LEONA ROSE
Marital Status	Widow
Children	3
Residence	With daughter, Mrs. ANGELO



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