MR. JOHN GREENEWALD JR.

FOIPA Request No.: 1375590-000
Subject: CALVI, ROBERTO

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

Records responsive to your request were previously processed under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. Enclosed is one CD containing 27 pages of previously processed documents and a copy of the Explanation of Exemptions. This release is being provided to you at no charge.

Please be advised that additional records potentially responsive to your subject may exist. If this release of previously processed material does not satisfy your information needs for the requested subject, you may request an additional search for records. Submit your request by mail or fax to – Work Process Unit, 170 Marcel Drive, Winchester, VA 22602, fax number (540) 868-4997. Please cite the FOIPA Request Number in your correspondence.

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. See 5 U.S. C. § 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV (2010). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

For questions regarding our determinations, visit the www.fbi.gov/foia website under “Contact Us.” The FOIPA Request Number listed above has been assigned to your request. Please use this number in all correspondence concerning your request. Your patience is appreciated.

You may file an appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, Suite 11050, 1425 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001, or you may submit an appeal through OIP’s FOIOnline portal by creating an account on the following web site: https://foiionline.regulations.gov/foia/action/public/home. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within ninety (90) days from the date of this letter in order to be considered timely. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked “Freedom of Information Act Appeal.” Please cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.
You may seek dispute resolution services by contacting the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at 877-684-6448, or by emailing ogis@nara.gov. Alternatively, you may contact the FBI’s FOIA Public Liaison by emailing foipaqustions@ic.fbi.gov. If you submit your dispute resolution correspondence by email, the subject heading should clearly state “Dispute Resolution Services.” Please also cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

Sincerely,

David M. Hardy  
Section Chief,  
Record/Information Dissemination Section  
Records Management Division

Enclosure(s)
EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552

(b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;

(b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;

(b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute (A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;

(b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;

(b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;

(b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;

(b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information (A) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, (C) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;

(b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or

(b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a

(d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;

(j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;

(k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;

(k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;

(k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;

(k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;

(k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;

(k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service he release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;

(k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1213359-0

Total Deleted Page(s) = 6
Page 6 ~ Referral/Direct;
Page 7 ~ Referral/Direct;
Page 8 ~ Referral/Direct;
Page 16 ~ Duplicate;
Page 20 ~ Duplicate;
Page 21 ~ Duplicate;

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X Deleted Page(s) X
X No Duplication Fee X
X For this Page X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
FM DIRECTOR FBI
TO LEGAL ATTACHE ROME (92-80) ROUTINE

ROBERTO CALVI; REI
RE ROME AIRTEL OF 6/17/81 CAPTIONED, "LA COSA NOSTRA, REI."

FBIHQ HAS REVIEWED REFERENCED AIRTEL AS IT PERTAINS TO
ROBERTO CALVI. IT APPEARS HE MIGHT BE A KEY TO THE GROWING
INTEREST IN INTERNATIONAL MONEY LAUNDERING. LEGAT SHOULD RECON­
TACT ITALIAN AUTHORITIES AND DETERMINE WHAT, IF ANY, CURRENT
INFORMATION EXIST. IF INFORMATION EXISTS, TASK CONTINENTAL
OFFICES APPROPRIATELY WITH LEADS.

BT
ROBERTO CALVI, REI.


ON MAY 13, 1982, ASSISTANT LEGAL ATTACHE MET WITH MILAN, ITALY, INVESTIGATING MAGISTRATES, AND OFFICIALS OF THE WHO ARE KNOWLEDGEABLE CONCERNING ONGOING INVESTIGATION OF ROBERTO CALVI AND THE AMBROSIANO BANK WHICH HE CONTROLS.

FOR INFORMATION OF BUREAU, CALVI WAS TRIED IN ITALY FOR ILLEGAL EXPORTATION OF FUNDS AND WAS CONVICTED AND SENTENCED TO FOUR YEARS IN PRISON. HE IS CURRENTLY APPEALING THE CONVICTION.
LEGAL ATTACHE ROME WILL REMAIN ALERT FOR ANY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE CALVI INVESTIGATION IN ITALY WHICH LINK HIM TO ORGANIZED CRIME INTEREST.

BT
THIS IS THE BEST COPY

OR COPIES AVAILABLE
Date: 7/13/82

FM: DIRECTOR, FBI
TO: WASHINGTON FIELD

□ White House/WH/
□ Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco Firearms/BATF/
□ Central Intelligence Agency/CIA/
□ CIA DCD/DCD/
□ Dept. of Energy HQS/DOEHQ/
□ Dept. of Energy Germantown DIV/DOE/
□ Dept. of Justice/DOJ/
□ Dept. of State/DOS/
□ Dept. of the Army/DA/
□ Dept. of the Treasury/DOT/
□ Defense Intelligence Agency/DIA/
□ Director National Security Agency/NSA/
□ Director Naval Investigative Service/DIRNAVINSERV/
□ Drug Enforcement Admin./DEA/
□ FAA Washington HQ/FAA/
□ HQ AFOSI Bolling AFBDC/AFOSI/
□ INSCOM Ft. Meade/INSCOM/
□ Nuclear Regulatory Commission/NRC/
□ U.S. Customs Service/UCS/
□ U.S. Immigration & Naturalization Service/INS/
□ U.S. Secret Service/USSS/
□ Other: ______________________________

BT

Classification: ______________________________

Addresssee Internal Distribution

For: ______________________________

Subject: SEE ATTACHED

□ See Attached

Approved By: ______________________________

Originator: RGP:ka
Tele Ext. 5716 Room/Div. 3028/6

DO NOT FILE WITHOUT COMMUNICATIONS STAMP
Restrictions on Use

1. Only incoming teletype messages within the categories listed in MIOG Section 16-1.7 pages 1251 & 1252 may be prepared using form 0-73.

2. Use of Form 0-73 is restricted to incoming teletype messages received at FBIHQ Communications Center within the last 72 hours.

3. Addressees must be Bureau Offices (LEGAT/Field) or other Government Agencies. **Geographical location must be indicated if other Government Agency is located outside the Washington, D.C. area.**

4. Editing of message text is restricted to typed or printed changes of a word or two. Changes to the existing text involving more than a word or two will require the originator to initiate a new message using Form 0-93. Administrative data may be added immediately following the text and must be identical for all addressees.

5. Teletype messages received by the Communications Center that do not meet the above criteria shall be returned to the originator for preparation using Form 0-93.

Preparation of 0-73 Form (Yellow)

1. **Date & Precedence** - Type or print date and indicate precedence by checking the appropriate box.

2. **Addressee(s)** - Type or print addressee(s) immediately following the “TO:” or place a check mark in the appropriate box. **Note:** When using block “Other,” indicate geographical location if addressee(s) is located outside Washington, D.C. If addressee(s) is a military installation, the name of the base, fort, or station must be listed to ensure delivery.

3. **Classification** - Type or print the classification and if appropriate the caveat and warning notices.

4. **Addressee Internal Distribution** - Complete when the originator wishes the message to be distributed to a known entity within a Headquarters Agency (i.e. Division, Section, Unit, etc.). List the addressee(s) abbreviation and the internal distribution, i.e. a message to Dept. of State, Dept. of Justice, and Defense Intelligence Agency; list on the “For” line(s) as follows: **Example:** For: DOS For SY/TAG; DOJ for Asst. AG Criminal Div.; DIA For DSOP.

Messages which do not list internal distribution shall be delivered to the agency headquarters where their analyst will effect in-house distribution.

5. **Subject** - Type or print the subject in the space provided or check “see attached” if subject is identical to attached message.

6. **Originator’s Boxes** - Type or print the originator’s name, telephone extension, room number, and division.

7. **Approved By Box** - Indicate approval for transmission by initialing the approved by box. **Note:** The person approving the message is solely responsible for assuring all necessary editing changes are accurate and are legible.

Preparation of Message To Be Transmitted

1. **Duplicate Copy & Notations** - Xerox 1 copy of the incoming teletype message. A notation shall be made on the original incoming teletype indicating one copy made for relay to SACS ________, (or LEGATS) ________, (or Government Agencies) ________.

2. **Editing of Duplicate Copy (Heading)** - Using a lead pencil ONLY draw single lines through the first and last lines of the message heading; connect these lines from top right to bottom left forming a “Z” figure. **(Do Not Obliterate the Heading)**

3. **Editing Changes to the Text** - (See Restrictions on Use, item 4)

4. **Administrative Data** - Type or print administrative data immediately following the text.
THIS IS THE BEST COPY
OR COPIES AVAILABLE
Roberto Calvi, DEI.

On 7/12/82, Legal Attaché Rome advised the following:

On July 12, 1982,

In view of above, WHO is requested to discontinue requested inquiries with appreciation of

Administrative:

Retransmit to WHO.
FOR INFORMATION OF WFO, ROBERTO CALVI WAS FOUND DEAD IN THE
THAMES RIVER, LONDON, ENGLAND, ON FRIDAY JUNE 13, 1982. CALVI
HAD DISAPPEARED FRIDAY, JUNE 11, 1982, FROM HIS ROME, ITALY,
RESIDENCE. NO FINAL DETERMINATION HAS BEEN MADE AS TO CAUSE OF
DEATH. AT PRESENT TWO THEORIES ABOUND: ONE SUICIDE AND THE
OTHER MURDER. AUTOPSY REPORTS HAVE NOT AS YET BEEN RECEIVED
BY ITALIAN AUTHORITIES.

ON THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 1982, CALVI’S PERSONAL, PRIVATE
SECRETARY TERESA GRAZIELLA CORROCHER WAS KILLED WHEN SHE FELL
OUT HER WINDOW. SPECULATION IS THAT SHE COMMITTED SUICIDE.

CALVI’S DISAPPEARANCE AND DEATH TOGETHER WITH THE SUICIDE
OF HIS PERSONAL PRIVATE SECRETARY HAS RESULTED IN A GREAT
DEAL OF MEDIA INTEREST. IN VIEW OF ALLEGATIONS THAT CALVI MAY HAVE

92 = 1984

12 JUL 14 1982
BEEN INVOLVED IN THE MOVEMENT OF MONIES FOR ORGANIZED CRIME, THE INVESTIGATION INTO HIS DEATH WILL BE FOLLOWED WITH INTEREST FOR ANY INFORMATION LINKING CALVI OR HIS AMBROSIANO BANK TO LCN OR MAFIA INTEREST.

REQUEST OF THE BUREAU:

AT THE REQUEST OF [ ] BUREAU IS REQUESTED TO CHECK NCIC FOR RECORD OF STOLEN OR LOST REPORT ON ABOVE WEAPON. SUTEL.

LEAD:

UFO IS REQUESTED TO CONTACT ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND FIREARMS BUREAU (ATFB) IN EFFORTS TO TRACE OWNERSHIP OF ABOVE WEAPON.

SUTEL.

LEGAL P OME ATTEMPTING TO ASCERTAIN FURTHER AVAILABLE PARTICULARS ON WEAPON.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

RETRANSMIT TO UFO.
FM DIRECTOR FBI
TO LEGAL ATTACHE ROME {92A-80} ROUTINE
BT
UNCLAS E F T O
ROBERTO CALVI, REI.

RE LEGAL ATTACHE ROME TELETYPE TO THE BUREAU, 7/6/82.

BT

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

59 AUG 5 1982
MESSAGE RELAY VIA TELETYPING
(RESTRICTED USE)

Date: 7/8/82  PRECEDENCE: □ IMMEDIATE □ PRIORITY □ ROUTINE

FM: DIRECTOR, FBI
TO: FBI WASHINGTON FIELD

☑ White House/WH/
☑ Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco Firearms/BATF/
☑ Central Intelligence Agency/CIA/
☑ CIA DCD/DCD/
☑ Dept. of Energy HQS/DOEHQ/
☑ Dept. of Energy Germantown DIV/DOE/
☑ Dept. of Justice/DOJ/
☑ Dept. of State/DOS/
☑ Dept. of the Army/DA/
☑ Dept. of Treasury/DOT/
☑ Defense Intelligence Agency/DIA/
BT
☑ Director National Security Agency/NSA/
☑ Director Naval Investigative Service/DIRNAVINSERV/
☑ Drug Enforcement Admin./DEA/
☑ FAA Washington HQ/FAA/
☑ HQ AFOSI Bolling AFBDC/AFOSI/
☑ INSCOM Ft. Meade/INSCOM/
☑ Nuclear Regulatory Commission/NRC/
☑ U.S. Customs Service/UCS/
☑ U.S. Immigration & Naturalization Service/INS/
☑ U.S. Secret Service/USSS/
☑ Other: :

Classification: 

Addressee Internal Distribution

For: 

Subject: SEE ATTACHED.

☑ See Attached

Approved By: JWN: K.A.K.  Tele Ext. 5712  Room/Div.: 3036/6

DO NOT FILE WITHOUT COMMUNICATIONS STAMP
USE AND PREPARATION OF FORM 0-73

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   Example: For: DOS For SY/TAG; DOJ for Asst. AG Criminal Div.; DIA For DSOP.
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3. Editing Changes to the Text - (See Restrictions on Use, item 4)

4. Administrative Data - Type or print administrative data immediately following the text.
THIS IS THE BEST COPY
OR COPIES AVAILABLE
JUDGE:

RE: MYSTERIOUS DEATH OF BANCO AMBROSIANO
PRESIDENT ROBERTO CALVI

On 8/16/82, passed along the question you had regarding any information we might have in our files relating to Roberto Calvi, former president (deceased) of the Banco Ambrosiano. Your question was in response to an article appearing in "The New York Times" (attached), discussing Calvi's death, a possible $1.4 billion loss to Banco Ambrosiano, and associated potential liabilities of the Vatican Bank.

Our files show that our Legat in Rome was advised by the Italian authorities that Roberto Calvi was one of several bankers arrested on 5/20/82, on charges brought by the Italian Finance Police of illegally transferring funds abroad. Calvi, a member of the Christian Democratic Party, has been linked by Italian Investigators to the Italian P-2 scandal (referring to the latest failure of the Italian Government attributed to a secret Masonic Lodge, the Propaganda-2). Well founded speculation had Calvi using his control of Banco Ambrosiano and numerous holding companies and financial institutions throughout the world for concealment and laundering of organized crime drug related monies.

Michele Sindona was convicted on 6/17/80, on 65 counts of fraud stemming from his operation and ownership of the Franklin National Bank, Huntington, New York, which collapsed in 1974. Sindona misapplied and lost approximately $45 million of the bank's funds in foreign exchange trading. Newspapers, at the time of the trial, reported that the Vatican lost equivalent funds in similar trading but Marcinkus and two other clerics wanted to provide character witness testimony for Sindona's trial. The Vatican did not permit the proposed testimony. The source of the newspaper material appears to be Sindona's attorney.
Note to Judge Webster
RE: MYSTERIOUS DEATH OF BANCO AMBROSIANO PRESIDENT ROBERTO CALVI

Archbishop Marcinkus was interviewed at Vatican City on 4/28/73, by the FBI and New York Organized Crime Strike Force and DOJ attorneys regarding fraudulent financial deals. This was one of several interviews concerning Mario Foligni who was under investigation in a $950 million counterfeit bond deal out of New York. The Archbishop professed no knowledge of the counterfeit bonds, which were allegedly destined for the Vatican Bank, but described two unsuccessful attempts by Foligni to engage the Vatican Bank in other transactions totalling 100 and 300 million dollars. Both of these proposed transactions had been brought to Archbishop Marcinkus through other clerics in the Vatican rather than directly from Foligni. The Archbishop thought Foligni had implicated him in the counterfeit bonds movement, because he refused to enter the previous agreements. This information was corroborated in subsequent interviews at the Vatican and of Foligni. When asked about Michele Sindona, the Archbishop referred to Sindona as a good friend with whom he had had few financial dealings and described him as one of the wealthiest industrialists in Italy.

A confidential police report indicates: However, we have received no information from any of our sources which validates the newspaper reports that the Vatican Bank shares any liability for Calvi's or the Banco Ambrosiano's losses.

O. B. Revell

Enclosure
A Spreading Mystery in Italian Bank Scandal

By PAUL LEWIS
Special to The New York Times

ROME, July 27 — The apparent suicide of an Italian financier, known as "God's banker," who was found hanged beneath London's Blackfriars Bridge last month, has made more mysterious a major Italian financial scandal in which the Vatican appears heavily involved.

The cost to the Roman Catholic Church could amount to several hundred million dollars.

The scandal, centering on some $1.4 billion in dubious loans by Banco Ambrosiano, Italy's largest privately owned banking group, is sending shock waves through the world of international finance and raising questions about current efforts to regulate the foreign operations of multinational banks.

Unusual Outside Inquiry

It has also strained Italy's relations with the Vatican, an autonomous governing unit in Rome. Under pressure from the Italian Government and concerned church leaders, Pope John Paul II has ordered an unusual outside investigation into the Vatican's finances by three Roman Catholic lay bankers. But the Italian Government wants the Vatican to accept a measure of financial responsibility for expected losses.

As usual in such scandals in Italy, there are also unverifiable reports that organized-crime figures and a recently discovered, anti-Government secret Masonic Lodge are somehow involved.

There are also reports that Banco Ambrosiano may have been a target of the British secret service, which is said to suspect it of financing Argentine arms purchases during the war over the Falkland Islands.

The Bank of Italy first became suspicious about Banco Ambrosiano in 1978 during a general crackdown on bank fraud, but immediately ran into a heavy political opposition.

Paulo Baffi, then the governor of the central bank, was arrested and eased out of his job. Mario Scacchetti, the central bank's chief bank regulator, was imprisoned for a while, but now has re-

The apparent suicide of Roberto Calvi, left, president of Italy's Banco Ambrosiano, has made more mysterious a scandal involving that bank. Archbishop Paul C. Marcinkus, right, is the head of the Vatican's bank.
Mystery and Questions Grow On Italian and Vatican Banks

Continued From Page 1, Section 1

Milan's Banco Ambrosiano as a clerk, worked his way up to become its president and, along the way, through a series of spectacular deals, transformed what had been a modest regional bank into a major financial power, with assets of $18.7 billion in 1981.

Mr. Calvi, who was appealing a four-year jail sentence for illegal currency dealings, disappeared from his Rome apartment on June 13 after having blocked an inquiry by the Italian central bank into some $1.4 billion of loans that banks he controlled had made to obscure, largely Panamanian, companies.

Five days after he vanished, his secretary jumped to her death from a window of the Milan bank. Mr. Calvi's body was found on June 18.

Collapse of an Empire

The financial panic caused by news of Mr. Calvi's death and the Bank of Italy's investigation provoked the collapse of his financial empire. Shares of companies his group had interests in fell 30 and 40 percent on the Milan stock exchange. After depositors rushed to withdraw their funds, Banco Ambrosiano itself had to be bailed out by a consortium of six major Italian banks hurriedly put together by the Bank of Italy.

Earlier this month, Banco Ambrosiano Holdings S.A., a Luxembourg subsidiary two-thirds of which is owned by Banco Ambrosiano, defaulted on some $400 million of foreign loans and is now in receivership. The Bank of Italy has scheduled a London meeting, "Thursday of Ambrosiano debtors."

Last week, banking authorities in the Bahamas suspended "for 30 days" the license of Ambrosiano's Bahamas operation, Banco Ambrosiano Overseas Ltd., in order to "restore satisfactory liquidity to its operations," the Bahamian central bank said.

"The Ambrosiano affair makes everyone wonder about the Vatican's finances, but it really illustrates the fragility of the international banking system that we are all trying to preserve," said Guido Carli, a former governor of the Bank of Italy and now a prominent industrialist.

"It is partly the normal pathology of finance—a failure of controls," said Luigi Spaventa, an independent Italian parliamentarian and economics professor. "But Calvi's death— that shocks many sinister forces," he added.

Earlier this year, Carlo de Benedetti, head of Olivetti, the big Italian office machinery manufacturer and one of the country's leading businessmen, bought a significant stake in Banco Ambrosiano but sold it again within a few months, bank sources said he was "upset" by what he had found.

Close Vatican Ties

According to senior officials investigating the scandal who do not wish to be identified, the Banco Ambrosiano affair centers on the close but ambiguous relationship between Mr. Calvi and Archbishop Marcinkus. A 60-year-old native of Cleoro, Ill., who for the last 10 years has run the Vatican's free-wheeling but extremely secretive bank, the bank's formal name is Institute Pro Opere Dei, the Institute for Religious Works, and is commonly referred to as I.O.R., its Italian initials.

Archbishop Marcinkus, a former chief of papal security, has been a controversial figure in financial circles because, as head of the Vatican bank, he was responsible for the Vatican's losing a reported $30 million in the collapse in 1974 of the business empire of Michele Sindona, the Sicilian financier.

Mr. Sindona, 62, is now serving a 25-year jail sentence in New York in connection with the failure of the Franklin National Bank. Last week, an Italian magistrate ordered that Luigi Mennini, a layman who was second in command to Archbishop Marcinkus at the Vatican bank, should stand trial for his role in the Sindona scandal.

Extensive Lending

During 1980 and 1981, investigating officials say, the late Mr. Calvi mounted an extensive lending program to the Peruvian, Nicaraguan and Namibian subsidiaries of the Banco Ambrosiano group, using funds borrowed in the Eurodollars market that eventually totaled some $1.2 billion to $1.4 billion.

Most of this money was then lent to a series of Panamanian companies with names such as Bellatrix Inc., Manic Inc. and Astroline Inc., most of which were thought to have no more than multi-addresses. The loans were granted rapidly even by Banco Ambrosiano in Milan and by its Luxembourg subsidiary, Banco Ambrosiano Holdings.

But Mr. Calvi only lent these funds, investigators say, after receiving what bankers call "letters of comfort" from the Vatican. These letters, though vaguely worded, implied that the Vatican had an interest in the companies and was aware of their borrowing plans. Although such letters do not constitute a legal guarantee that the signature will repay the loans, they are often issued to reassure lenders that a borrowing company has reputable backing.

However the Vatican bank also demanded and received last August what investigators call a "counter letter," signed by Mr. Calvi and absolving it from all legal and financial responsibility for the loans to the Panamanian companies and probably controlling a number of them. But they are convinced that Mr. Calvi was also part owner and effective manager of these companies and the money they borrowed to buy shares in Banco Ambrosiano and probably in other companies as well. By now, one senior official involved in the investigation estimates, the Panamanian companies own around 20 percent of Banco Ambrosiano.

'A House of Cards'.

As interest rates soared last year and the dollar strengthened, the investigators surmised that Mr. Calvi found it increasingly difficult to service his dollar-denominated borrowings with the dividends from his shares, often paid in weak Italian lire. To remain solvent he was forced to borrow more.

"It was a house of cards that was bound to fall down," one official said.

As his financial difficulties mounted, the investigators assume Mr. Calvi needed the Vatican letters of comfort to reassure skeptical directors of his own bank that the lending program was sound and also to satisfy foreign lenders.

The real mystery, these sources say, is why Archbishop Marcinkus agreed to provide the letters of comfort that he knew could be used to make lenders think the Panamanian companies enjoyed Vatican backing, while at the same time demanding a secret letter from Mr. Calvi absolving the Vatican of any financial responsibility for what must have been looking by then like an increasingly risky operation. "The Vatican must have known that these letters could not be genuine at the same time the deal was intended to defraud and to lead people astray," argued one senior Italian financial official.

There is speculation that the Archbishop may have agreed to the deal to
help out an old colleague and a friend. The Banco Ambrosiano is regarded as one of Italy's "Catholic" banks with longstanding links to the Vatican. He may also have wished to protect the Vatican's own stake in Banco Ambrosiano, which is assumed to be far more than the 1.6% amount shown by the latest official figures.

There is also evidence, officials say, that Archbishop Marcinkus became alarmed by the arrangements he had made under Papal dispensation to extend the letters of comfort, which expired in June. Mr. Calvi is believed to have asked him to do so at a meeting on June 8 or 9, just after the Banco Ambrosiano directors voted down their president's plan to 1.8 and agreed to cooperate with the Bank of Italy's investigation.

On this occasion, officials say, the Vatican bank also turned down a Calvi plan to ease the Banco Ambrosiano group's mounting liquidity problems by buying a package of bank shares well above the market price.

The Archbishop, according to the Vatican press office, is not available for interviews or comment.

Moral Responsibility

In the view of the Italian Treasury Minister, Nino F. Di Orio, and M. Campi, the central bank's governor, the Vatican acted improperly in issuing letters of comfort to Banco Ambrosiano at the same time as it asked the bank to absorb it from any requirements by the Pennsylvanian creditors. They believe it must therefore bear at least a moral responsibility for any losses incurred, according to senior officials.

Addressing a Parliament earlier this month, Mr. Andreotti said that "the Government is expecting a clear acceptance of responsibility on the part of the Vatican bank, which in some respects Banco Ambrosiano appears in the role of an effective partner."

In fact, the threefold aim of the Italian authorities, senior officials say, is to use the Banco Ambrosiano scandal to tighten financial controls in the Vatican, which is now experiencing its second major money scandal in eight years, to end the Vatican bank's ambiguous role under Italian law, and to make the Vatican pay part of any losses incurred by Banco Ambrosiano's Luxembourg holding company.

The six bank rescue consortium is under foreign investigators, being Alitalia, Banca Nazionale del Lavoro, Banca Popolare di Milano, Banca Popolare di Torino, and Banca Popolare di San Paolo. The Italian Finance Ministry and central bank, besides wanting tighter discipline over Vatican finances, would also like to see the Vatican bank's legal position changed, as a further way to curb control. The Vatican bank is under Italian regulation for the Vatican's life assets, and another offshore bank to handle foreign currency balances, with no leakage," a senior official explained.

Comission Named

The Pope has already appointed a three-member lay commission to investigate the Vatican bank. It is a made up of an American Roman Catholic, Joseph Brennan, a former chairman of the Emigrant Savings Bank of New York, Philip de Weese, former president of Swiss Union Bank, and Carlo Cardinal Cipolla, a former Italian civil leader with strong ties to the Vatican.

Since the commission members will now be reporting directly to Agostino Cardinal Casaroli, the Vatican Secretary of State, which is often referred to as the Pope's Prime Minister, the Pope's move has been widely seen as a sign that Archbishop Marcinkus may lose his post. However, some Italian bankers and officials feel that, with the exception of Mr. de Weese, the commission is an ineffective group that may not make much of an impact on the Vatican's ponderous administrative machinery.

Many qualified observers feel that the basic reason the Vatican bank became involved in the Ambrosiano scandal is that the Vatican, which has admitted running budget deficits of $20 million to $30 million a year in recent years, came to rely on its bank's profits to fill the gap. I.O.R. was under pressure to perform and try to force Pope John Paul II to make a public appeal in the fall of 1982 or 1983, to avoid the personal use of the Vatican's papal investments.

However, the Vatican bank, which in the 1970's began to diversify its investment portfolio outside Italy, selling off majority shareholdings in many Italian companies, it was also this policy that brought it into contact with Mr. Sindona, who handled the tricky problem of selling large shareholdings profitably on Italy's thinly capitalized stock exchange.

$20 Million in Profits

The bank is thought to make most of its profits from managing the funds of religious orders and churches around the world. A senior Italian official estimated that, with between $1 billion and $2 billion in deposits, the Vatican bank probably handles profits of about $20 million, or enough to make up for the Vatican's budget deficit. "Being essential has allowed I.O.R. to keep too much freedom," he said.

The Vatican bank, which is believed to have been subject to Italy's exchange controls and banking regulations, is also thought to have been used by Italian financiers as a conduit for smuggling money out of the country, officials say. The Italian Finance Ministry and central bank, besides wanting tighter discipline over Vatican finances, would also like to see the Vatican bank's legal position changed, as a further way to curb control.

The Vatican bank under Italian regulation for the Vatican's life assets, and another offshore bank to handle foreign currency balances, with no leakage," a senior official explained.

Abundance of Rumors

There is no evidence that the Vatican bank is involved with suspected underworld figures as his needs for ready cash increased. There are also rumors that he spent $200 million to buy Luxembourg holding company, which is also viewed as facing a temporary liquidity shortage that can be cleared up with a little help, but is fundamentally insolvent. "We are bound to bail out insolvent banks," an official said.

Bank of Italy has already come under attack from private bankers in Britain and the United States for what they see as a wanton endangering of the international banking system by the central bank's refusal to bail out Banco Ambrosiano's Luxembourg holding company, which is also viewed as facing a temporary liquidity shortage that can be cleared up with a little help, but is fundamentally insolvent. "We are bound to bail out insolvent banks," an official said.

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The Vatican's Bank first endorsed the loans to the Panamanian companies, then secretly sought relief from any liability. The Vatican bank has equity in Ambrosiano and may have had interests in the Panamanian companies.

Banco Ambrosiano
A Milan-based private bank, which controls...

Banco Ambrosiano Holdings
A Luxembourg holding company, which controls...

Subsidiaries in Latin America and Bahamas
Which lent as much as $1.4 billion to various companies, mostly to...

Panamanian Companies
Which may have invested the money in Ambrosiano and other companies.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1213359-1

Total Deleted Page(s) = 3
Page 1 ~ b1;
Page 2 ~ b1;
Page 3 ~ b1;

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X  Deleted Page(s)  X
X  No Duplication Fee X
X  For this Page  X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
MESSAGE RELAY VIA TELETYPING
(RESTRICTED USE)

Date: 1/2/96

FM: DIRECTOR, FBI

TO: SAC, WFO

- White House/WH/
- Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco Firearms/BATF/
- Central Intelligence Agency/CIA/
- CIA DCD/DCD/
- Dept. of Energy HQS/DOEHQ/
- Dept. of Energy Germantown DIV/DOE/
- Dept. of Justice/DOJ/
- Dept. of State/DOS/
- Dept. of the Army/DA/
- Dept. of Treasury/DOT/
- Defense Intelligence Agency/DIA/

BT

- Director National Security Agency/NSA/
- Director Naval Investigative Service/DIRNAVINSERV/
- Drug Enforcement Admin./DEA/
- FAA Washington HQ/FAA/
- HQ AFOSI Boiling AFB/AFOSI/
- INS/COM Ft. Meade/INS/COM/
- Nuclear Regulatory Commission/NRC/
- U.S. Customs Service/UCS/
- U.S. Immigration & Naturalization Service/INS/
- U.S. Secret Service/USSS/
- Other: ________________________________

Classification: unclas

Addressee Internal Distribution

For: ________________________________

Subject: 163-56047

Approved By: ________________________________

Originator: ________________________________

Tele Ext.: 4285

Room/Div.: ________________________________

DO NOT FILE WITHOUT COMMUNICATIONS STAMP
Restrictions on Use

1. Only incoming teletype messages within the categories listed in MOG Section 16-1.7 pages 1251 & 1252 may be prepared using Form 0-73.

2. Use of Form 0-73 is restricted to incoming teletype messages received at FBIHQ Communications Center within the last 72 hours.

3. Addressees must be Bureau Offices (LEGAT/Field) or other Government Agencies. Geographical location must be indicated if other Government Agency is located outside the Washington, D.C. area.

4. Editing of message text is restricted to typed or printed changes of a word or two. Changes to the existing text involving more than a word or two will require the originator to initiate a new message using Form 0-93. Administrative data may be added immediately following the text and must be identical for all addressees.

5. Teletype messages received by the Communications Center that do not meet the above criteria shall be returned to the originator for preparation using Form 0-93.

Preparation of 0-73 Form (Yellow)

1. Date & Precedence - Type or print date and indicate precedence by checking the appropriate box.

2. Address(es) - Type or print address(es) immediately following the “TO:” or place a check mark in the appropriate box. Note: When using block “Other,” indicate geographical location if address(es) is located outside Washington, D.C. If address(es) is a military installation, the name of the base, fort, or station must be listed to ensure delivery.

3. Classification - Type or print the classification and if appropriate the caveat and warning notices.

4. Addressee Internal Distribution - Complete when the originator wishes the message to be distributed to a known entity within a Headquarters Agency (i.e. Division, Section, Unit, etc.). List the addressee(s) abbreviation and the internal distribution, i.e. a message to Dept. of State, Dept. of Justice, and Defense Intelligence Agency; list on the “For” line(s) as follows:
   Example: For:  DOS For SY/TAG; DOJ for Asst. AG Criminal Div.; DIA For DSOP.
   Messages which do not list internal distribution shall be delivered to the agency headquarters where their analyst will effect in-house distribution.

5. Subject - Type or print the subject in the space provided or check “see attached” if subject is identical to attached message.

6. Originator’s Boxes - Type or print the originator’s name, telephone extension, room number, and division.

7. Approved By Box - Indicate approval for transmission by initialing the approved by box. Note: The person approving the message is solely responsible for assuring all necessary editing changes are accurate and are legible.

Preparation of Message To Be Transmitted

1. Duplicate Copy & Notations - Xerox 1 copy of the incoming teletype message. A notation shall be made on the original incoming teletype indicating one copy made for relay to SACS _______, (or LEGATS) _______, (or Government Agencies) _______.

2. Editing of Duplicate Copy (Heading) - Using a lead pencil ONLY draw single lines through the first and last lines of the message heading; connect these lines from top right to bottom left forming a “Z” figure. (Do Not Obliterate the Heading)

3. Editing Changes to the Text - (See Restrictions on Use, item 4)

4. Administrative Data - Type or print administrative data immediately following the text.
UNCLAS

BANCO AMBROSIANO; FPC-GENERAL CRIMINAL MATTERS; TO: FBIHQ

FOR INFORMATION OF BUREAU AND WFO, INSTANT MATTER INVOLVES
THE ITALIAN INVESTIGATION OF THE FAILURE OF ITALY'S
LARGEST BANK, "BANCO AMBROSIANO" OF MILAN ITALY. THIS IS A
MOST IMPORTANT CASE IN ITALY AND OF INTEREST TO THE BUREAU AS
IT INVOLVES SEVERAL BUREAU SUBJECTS (MICHELE SINDONA AND

IN A MOST COMPLEX CASE INVOLVING FOREIGN
INTRIGUE, MURDER AND THE HIGHEST ECHELONS OF THE VATICAN. THE
CASE BROKE WIDE OPEN IN 1983 WHEN THE THEN PRESIDENT OF BANCO
AMBROSIANO, ROBERTO CALVI, WAS FOUND HANGING BY THE NECK BELOW
BLACK FRIERS BRIDGE IN LONDON.

ON JANUARY 16, 1986,

LA GUARDIA DI FINANZA (ITALIAN FINANCE POLICE) (GDF),
MILAN, ITALY, REQUESTED FBI ASSISTANCE IN LOCATING TWO IMPORTANT
WITNESSES IN THE UPCOMING TRIAL OF CAPTIONED MATTER AT MILAN,
ITALY. ACCORDING TO THE WITNESSES ARE REPORTEDLY RESIDING IN THE WASHINGTON, D.C. AREA. IF LOCATED IN THE U.S., ITALIAN AUTHORITIES WOULD THEN REQUEST JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE PER EXISTING TREATY BETWEEN U.S. AND ITALY TO ENSURE THAT WITNESSES WOULD APPEAR TO TESTIFY.

IDENTIFIED THE WITNESSES AS FOLLOWS:

1. REPORTEDLY EMPLOYED AT THE INTERNATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT BANK, 1218 H STREET N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C.

2. AT BUENOS AIRES, BRAZIL. ACCORDING TO WAS TRANSFERRED TO WASHINGTON IN 1983 BY THE INTERAMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK. HAD NO FURTHER TRACES FOR LEAD. WFO IS REQUESTED TO CHECK INDICES AND LOGICAL SOURCES TO ESTABLISH SUBJECTS' PRESENCE IN WASHINGTON. AMONG SOURCES TO BE CHECKED FOR SHOULD BE STATE DEPARTMENT VISA UNIT.

ADMINISTRATIVE
RETRANSMIT TO WFO.
TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (163A-HQ-56047)
(Attn: Foreign Liaison Unit, OLIA, Room 7446)

FROM: SAC, WMFO (163A-HQ-56047) (RUC)

SUBJECT: ROBERTO CALVI;
REQUEST FROM ITALY FOR ASSISTANCE;
FPC - GCM;
(00: FBIHQ)

Enclosed for the Bureau are the original and five copies of a letterhead memorandum suitable for dissemination.

Approved: Transmitted (Number) (Time)
U.S. Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington D. C.
February 19, 1993

ROBERTO CALVI,
DECEMBER 18, 1993

In reference to your request for assistance in the matter of ROBERTO CALVI, a subscriber check of telephone number _____ reveals that number is listed to ________

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.
March 11, 1993

Mr. George W. Proctor, Director
Office of International Affairs
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D.C.

RE: ROBERTO CALVI
REQUEST FROM ITALY FOR ASSISTANCE

Dear Mr. Proctor:

Reference is made to your letter dated December 1, 1992, concerning captioned matter.

Enclosed is one copy of a letterhead memorandum, setting forth results of investigation requested.

SA of our Brooklyn-Queens Office advised that a check with the Hotel Regency Manager, New York, (212) 759-4100, revealed that they do not keep hotel records after 5 years.

Sincerely yours,

Inspector in Charge

By:

Unit Chief

Foreign Liaison 1
Office of Liaison and
International Affairs