

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM

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In re: :
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STATEMENT OF FRANK SALEMME :
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Thursday, April 10, 2003
Washington, D.C.

Statement of FRANK SALEMME, pursuant to agreement, in the offices of the United States Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C., convened at 10:51 a.m., before Keith Wilkerson, a notary public in and for the District of Columbia, when were present on behalf of the parties:

APPEARANCES:

On behalf of the Committee on Government Reform:

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 MR. WILSON: Mr. Salemme, thank you very
3 much for being here. I would like to point out
4 before we start that we have provided Mr. Salemme
5 with a copy of an immunity order that has been
6 signed by Judge Hogan and which is a direct result
7 of a vote of the Committee on Government Reform
8 yesterday to confer immunity on Mr. Salemme.

9 Prior to taking this step, the committee
10 consulted with a number of local jurisdictions, the
11 Suffolk County district attorney, the Middlesex
12 County district attorney, and the Tulsa district
13 attorney, and they informed us that they had no
14 objections to our taking that step.

15 With that said, first, thank you very
16 much, Mr. Salemme. You voluntarily appeared before
17 us a couple of weeks ago to be interviewed, and we
18 really appreciate your taking that step, and we
19 also appreciate the fact that you answered the
20 questions that we asked you. There were some
21 concerns at the time that caused us to move forward
22 and go through the process that conferred immunity
23 on you. I understand there are some concerns that
24 you have with the process that brought you here,
25 and I think perhaps at the end of this proceeding

1 it might be entirely appropriate for us to discuss
2 that.

3 Now, as you're aware, the last time we
4 spoke, the first questions I asked you about were
5 concerning John Fitzgerald. And to the extent
6 possible, if you can do what you did before, which
7 was to just provide a narrative account of what
8 happened, that will save me asking a lot of
9 questions and will get the story down on the record
10 as clearly as possible.

11 With that, if you would, just tell us as
12 much as you can about what happened with John
13 Fitzgerald and the bomb that ultimately caused him
14 injury.

15 MR. SALEMME: Where do I start? In the
16 middle? In the beginning? At the end? John
17 Fitzgerald was representing Joseph Barboza, as we
18 all know. John Fitzgerald was playing both ends
19 against the middle. He was a lawyer, and he was
20 also, as I like to say in the vernacular, a crook.
21 He was running Joe Barboza's loan shark operation
22 for him. They were meeting in Al Farese's office,
23 which was also John Fitzgerald's office in Everett,
24 and they would cut up his money.

25 John Fitzgerald was, from my

1 understanding, going to be a witness -- he was
2 going to write a book with Barboza, but he was
3 going to be a witness against Raymond L.S.
4 Patriarca. So word came from Providence; I was
5 called to eliminate John Fitzgerald. That was
6 agreeable to me, why he had to be eliminated,
7 because he was going to be a witness against
8 Raymond L.S., and I would take care of it my way.

9 I did some preliminary work on Fitzgerald
10 and saw that it would not be that difficult a job.
11 He was kind of a romancer. He had a girlfriend and
12 would spend a lot of time there. And he was a
13 drinker, and he spent a lot of time in certain
14 bars. One in particular was the Irish Ale House
15 out in Dedham, Massachusetts, which was like a very
16 rural type area.

17 Then the second word came from Larry
18 Baione. Larry came to my club one day, our club,
19 Peter Poulos and myself, and said that Raymond now
20 is going to handle this, they're going to blow him
21 up. Blow him up for what? He wants to make an
22 example. That's when I withdrew. I abandoned it.
23 Flemmi stayed on board with Zannino and Baione and
24 put the thing together.

25 Within a week, five to seven days or so,

1 Steve got a call at the club, left, and went to
2 Sherman Avenue, to Baione's joint, the Sharma
3 Tavern. He met him, and they went off, and Frankie
4 Balliro and Joe Russo, they went to Everett and put
5 the bomb in the car. They came back to the club, I
6 was still there, and we waited for the news to come
7 on that the bomb had gone off.

8 Basically, simply put, that's what
9 happened.

10 MR. WILSON: Let's move back and take a
11 few various bits and talk about them. The
12 statement you made about Mr. Fitzgerald being
13 involved in Joe Barboza's loan shark business, how
14 do you know about that?

15 MR. SALEMME: Well, we knew who he was
16 working with and would get information back from
17 people that they were his crew. I watched them on
18 Saturdays when they went and cut up for Mrs. Baron,
19 and Frank Imbruglia and Al Farese was there, and
20 John Fitzgerald was there.

21 We knew some of the customers, so it was
22 pretty easy to put the thing together, the puzzle
23 together, what they were doing, and Mrs. Baron
24 would be there to pick up her money on Saturday
25 mornings. That's when it was, Saturday mornings,

1 the cut-up of his loan shark business. Plus the
2 automobile that he was driving was Barboza's
3 automobile. It was like a payment type thing to
4 him that he was part of the Barboza's gang, so to
5 speak.

6 MR. WILSON: So Barboza had given
7 Fitzgerald the automobile?

8 MR. SALEMME: Right.

9 MR. WILSON: You mentioned that Flemmi
10 was involved with Larry Baione. Were you referring
11 to Stevie Flemmi?

12 MR. SALEMME: Yes.

13 MR. WILSON: Was Jimmie Flemmi involved
14 at all in this whole endeavor.

15 MR. SALEMME: No. Jimmie Flemmi had very
16 little to do with us on a personal basis, except he
17 was the instigator in us getting involved in the
18 gang war. He was a loose cannon, Jimmie Flemmi,
19 very similar to Joe Barboza, and I wouldn't have
20 him in my business. We went through that gang war
21 without him knowing (indicating) about what was
22 happening before or even what happened afterwards.
23 As far as I was concerned, he never knew. I don't
24 know if his brother told him, but he never told him
25 before the fact. Obviously I never got caught for

1 it.

2 MR. WILSON: I just want to point out
3 when Mr. Salemmé was saying Jimmie Flemmi didn't
4 know anything, he made a hand signal, and it was a
5 signal for zero, so he was indicating Jimmie Flemmi
6 didn't know anything about the business that
7 Mr. Salemmé was involved in at the time.

8 Going back to the purpose or the motive
9 for the bombing, you indicated that it was because
10 Raymond Patriarca wanted to set an example. Can
11 you tell us a little bit more about that, and can
12 you tell us about how you came to that
13 understanding?

14 MR. SALEMME: Well, like I said, I had
15 been called to Providence and told that this man
16 had to be eliminated because he was going to be a
17 witness in the Barboza case, and Raymond Patriarca
18 was scared that he was going to get done in by this
19 guy.

20 MR. WILSON: You're referring to the
21 Marfeo murder conspiracy case?

22 MR. SALEMME: Right.

23 MR. WILSON: Did it have any relationship
24 to what was --

25 MR. SALEMME: Well, I'm not sure now if

1 it was that case, if he was going to be indicted
2 for the case in Boston.

3 MR. WILSON: That being the Deegan case
4 or the DiSeglio case?

5 MR. SALEMME: Either/or. He was afraid
6 he was going to get indicted, that John Fitzgerald
7 was going to cooperate with Joe Barboza and suck
8 him into it. He had to be eliminated for that
9 reason, to prevent that from happening.

10 MR. WILSON: So Joe Barboza appeared to
11 be cooperating with government officials, but
12 obviously in the beginning nobody knew what he was
13 going to say. Tell us what you can about your
14 interactions with Patriarca and other people about
15 what they thought was happening at the time.

16 MR. SALEMME: Well, right. I don't think
17 they a hundred percent knew who he was going to go
18 after. I don't think the government knew. They
19 were positioning different people to get indicted,
20 but Raymond Patriarca wanted to eliminate the
21 possibility of him getting indicted. That was the
22 key to it for his mind. What happened in Boston
23 happened in Boston as far as DiSeglio goes or
24 Deegan. I don't think he had any notions about it.
25 I don't know, but I know he anticipated him to be a

1 witness, a potential witness against him.

2 MR. WILSON: There's one story I've been
3 told that indicates that you and Stevie Flemmi went
4 into a garage in Somerville -- and I'm not talking
5 about the testimony at the trial, this is just
6 something I've been told -- that you and Stevie
7 Flemmi went into a garage in Somerville, asked if
8 you could get into a garage because you had some
9 work to do on a car, that you got into this garage,
10 and that you and Stevie Flemmi spent some time
11 working with blasting caps, trying to figure out
12 essentially how to wire explosives to a car. Is
13 there any truth to that story?

14 MR. SALEMME: Absolutely not. I think I
15 know where it came from. What year was that? Does
16 it say?

17 MR. WILSON: Well, this was just before
18 the time that Fitzgerald ultimately was injured in
19 the bombing.

20 MR. SALEMME: Well, I had body shops, so
21 I don't know why I would go to Somerville,
22 Massachusetts and go into a body shop to practice,
23 number one. Number two, there's nothing to
24 practice on. It's a very simple thing, a blasting
25 cap. I mean, I'm a licensed electrician,

1 journeyman and master's, so I don't think I'd have
2 to practice on any blasting caps, and I certainly
3 wouldn't have to go to a garage in Somerville. To
4 me that was like the suburbs even though they're
5 right next to each other, Boston and Somerville.

6 MR. DURHAM: You say you had garages.
7 Explain what kind of garages you had and what kind
8 of access you had to vehicles.

9 MR. SALEMME: I owned them, Central Auto
10 Body and Intercity Motors. One was on Dudley
11 Street and one was on Massachusetts Avenue, both in
12 Boston, the Roxbury section of Boston.

13 MR. WILSON: Since we're on the subject
14 of blasting caps, and this is a little bit out of
15 order right now, but there's one indication that a
16 state prosecutor from Massachusetts spent time with
17 a witness who testified against you and who took
18 him and showed him blasting caps and explained what
19 they were so as to better permit him to testify in
20 court. Do you know anything about that subject?

21 MR. SALEMME: No. Obviously I wouldn't
22 know about it until I heard it from the witness,
23 but it doesn't surprise me. My question on that
24 would be why would he have to take him and show him
25 blasting caps if this witness starts testing

1 blasting caps in some garage. Wouldn't he have
2 seen them already? That's a common sense point. I
3 mean, there would be no need to taking him and
4 saying this is what you saw.

5 MR. WILSON: You gave us the names of
6 people who were involved in this Fitzgerald matter.
7 Robert Daddeico, what was his role, if any, in what
8 happened with the Fitzgerald bombing?

9 MR. SALEMME: Absolutely none. Robert
10 Daddeico had absolutely nothing to do with it. He
11 had nothing to do with that whatsoever. I think he
12 gave testimony that he witnessed or overheard a
13 conversation in Somerville at a bar, a lounge,
14 between a number of people, Winters and McDonald,
15 myself, Flemmi, a bunch of people, that this was
16 going to take place. That was his grand jury
17 testimony, which he rescinded and said it didn't
18 happen afterwards, as you know. But we were the
19 only two to get indicted. The other ones at this
20 so-called meeting never got indicted. That's
21 strange, isn't it?

22 Now, the garage that you're referring to,
23 I believe, is the garage on Marshall Street.
24 That's the garage that he hung around at, and my
25 partner was over there periodically trying to get

1 them started. That was the initial garage that
2 Winters and that Somerville crew started on, and my
3 partner had been in the business 20 years by then,
4 and he was putting it together for them. That was
5 the relationship. George was supposed to be at
6 that meeting, too. They never got indicted, and
7 I'm glad they never did, but it seems strange that
8 nobody else did.

9 And just to back up a little bit, I had
10 practiced or looked at different starters and
11 neutrals and all the rest of it as potential
12 weapons against the Irish gang, and if anybody's
13 Irish here I apologize, but the Irish gang that we
14 were fighting, which was the McLaughlin group. So
15 in my garages in Roxbury I had done that, you know,
16 and I had done remotes. I would tend to be partial
17 toward a remote with a backup and check, but that
18 wasn't a good policy.

19 I had numerous opportunities to eliminate
20 the McLaughlins and the Hugheses, especially Stevie
21 Hughes, he was the most dangerous one of the
22 Hugheses, but I wouldn't do it. Most of the time
23 it was in downtown Boston or it was in an urban
24 area. Boston's a very compact city. It wasn't a
25 necessary tool of elimination. It could be done

1 other ways with a little bit of work. That's the
2 point I'm making.

3 MR. DURHAM: In fact, you had indicated
4 to Mr. Wilson and others prior to the meeting that
5 with respect to some of these meetings that they
6 were eliminated using other means.

7 MR. SALEMME: Absolutely. I mean, the
8 Hugheses, the McLaughlins, they were all
9 eliminated, and I was a participant in just about
10 all of them, planned them and did them.

11 MR. WILSON: When you talked to
12 Patriarca, my assumption, but I'll ask you
13 directly, when the decision was made to make an
14 example of Fitzgerald, that came directly from
15 Raymond Patriarca?

16 MR. SALEMME: From Raymond, yes.

17 MR. WILSON: Were there any other steps
18 that he was prepared to take to attempt to ensure
19 that he ultimately didn't get prosecuted for
20 anything that Joe Barboza was prepared to say?

21 MR. SALEMME: Off the top of my head, no.
22 Off the top of my head, not directly from him, no.
23 Off the top of my head, I can't think of anything.

24 MR. WILSON: It was just a question that
25 arose from what you were saying. I'm not trying to

1 bit, fast forward a while. At some point there's
2 an indictment that's going to come down, and you're
3 going to be involved in this indictment. Did you
4 get advance warning about the indictment, and if
5 so, how did you get the warning?

6 MR. DURHAM: You've asked about the
7 Fitzgerald bombing, but there's also a murder that
8 was involved there involving Edward Wimpy Bennett
9 that had also occurred prior to the time you're
10 talking about.

11 MR. WILSON: I was going to inquire about
12 that, but he may as well bring it up right now. If
13 you can give us some information about the Edward
14 Bennett murder, that would be helpful.

15 MR. SALEMME: Well, Stevie had a business
16 going with Wimpy Bennett and Peter Poulos, and
17 there was a confrontation in my garage one day in
18 the office between Stevie Flemmi and Peter Poulos
19 about his money. He wasn't getting any money from
20 the numbers business. He pulled a pistol out and
21 put it to Peter Poulos's head, and Peter Poulos was
22 a real nonviolent guy. He handled the books on
23 Stevie's numbers, and he did the books on my
24 football card business, a pretty smart guy with
25 numbers, and he'd take the time and the patience to

1 do it.

2 He claimed that he gave the money to
3 Wimpy to give to him. I could tell he was telling
4 the truth, and I stepped in between Steve and Peter
5 Poulos and told him you can't eliminate this guy,
6 he's telling you the truth, get Wimpy up here with
7 him and we'll decide who's telling the truth, then
8 you can decide. It's your business, really, not
9 mine, except that he was my friend and my partner,
10 but I wasn't in that business. He was my friend
11 and partner in other things, but not that numbers
12 business.

13 So we got Wimpy up there either that
14 night or the next night at six o'clock. There was
15 a meeting with everyone there. And the next thing
16 you know, Peter put it right on him, I gave the
17 money to you, you did it before. Bennett couldn't
18 even explain himself, and so Flemmi took the pistol
19 out and shot him in the head.

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4 But there's two things with Flemmi
5 paramount to everything, his money and his women.
6 He was a womanizer, and you know what happened with
7 this case, what took place with this stepdaughter
8 and the other little girl, Debbie Davis. But that
9 was his MO all along. That's what it was to him,
10 his money and his women, not necessarily in that
11 order.

12 MR. WILSON: If we could just step back
13 for a minute to the indictment and what happened as
14 far as the indictment for -- well, I guess I
15 shouldn't step out of order because there's the
16 William Bennett situation first. If you could give
17 us a sense of what happened with the William
18 Bennett murder.

19 MR. SALEMME: Well, that's number three
20 now. You've got Walter in the middle.

21 MR. WILSON: Then we may as well move to
22 Walter. I was probably going to skip over Walter.

23 MR. SALEMME: Walter was naturally upset
24 because his brother's missing. The word got out
25 that Stevie Flemmi did it for the Italians, for

1 lack of a better -- the guineas is what he said.

2 And he kept --

3 MR. WILSON: I didn't fully understand
4 that. The word got out that Stevie Flemmi did it
5 on behalf of Italian interests?

6 MR. SALEMME: Walter Bennett was partners
7 with Petey Baione, who was Larry's brother. When
8 Larry went to jail, Walter ended up screwing Petey
9 for a large amount of money. So Walter always had
10 that in the back of his mind, that the Italians
11 eventually would make a move on his brother. And
12 so when that happened he naturally blamed, not
13 knowing the circumstances of what happened, he
14 blamed the Italian element.

15 But Stevie, because of his relationship
16 with Larry, and even though I had a friendly
17 relationship with Larry, I had more of a friendly
18 relationship with Raymond L.S., but Stevie was more
19 with Larry and them at that time.

20 But anyway, we lured Walter to the garage
21 to a meeting with me at six o'clock one night.
22 Peter Poulos drove him to the garage, and I had a
23 big door that you press a button to open, it was a
24 huge garage, and he drove in and walked up the
25 stairs to the office. Stevie was waiting at the

1 end of the stairs, shot him, and he took him out to
2 the car and carried him. He was seeing me to
3 elicit myself and to see if I could be the one that
4 would help him take Stevie out.

5 MR. WILSON: That takes us to William
6 Bennett. What happened there?

7 MR. SALEMME: The same thing. He's now
8 concerned that both his brothers are missing, but
9 he's not blaming Stevie, he's blaming Stevie and
10 Frank.

11 MR. WILSON: Stevie, and Frank being you?

12 MR. SALEMME: Me, right. So he elicits
13 help from Sonny Shields and Richard Grasso, and
14 they're going to make a move on Steve, on me and
15 Steve, both of us or one of us, it didn't make any
16 difference. They were going to start making their
17 moves. So Grasso met with Steve Flemmi. Shields
18 and Grasso met with Steve Flemmi and put this plan
19 together to take him out one night, bang him, and
20 then we would pick him up, take him and put him
21 with his brothers.

22 So that's what happened, except that he
23 fell out of the car. When they shot him, he hit
24 the door, the car door opened, and he fell out in
25 the middle of the street, and a taxi driver came

1 out and there wasn't a chance to pick him up.

2 MR. WILSON: Who was in the car at the
3 times you shot him?

4 MR. SALEMME: Grasso and Shields.

5 MR. WILSON: So it was Grasso, Shields
6 and William Bennett in the car at the same time?

7 MR. SALEMME: Right.

8 MR. WILSON: And he was shot how, by
9 somebody outside the car?

10 MR. SALEMME: No, inside. Sonny Shields
11 shot him.

12 MR. DURHAM: His body was recovered.
13 Right?

14 MR. SALEMME: His body was recovered.

15 MR. DURHAM: But the bodies of Walter and
16 Edward Wimpy Bennett weren't recovered.

17 MR. SALEMME: No.

18 MR. DURHAM: That sort of all occurred
19 before Mr. Salemme became a fugitive.

20 MR. WILSON: So the indictment is going
21 to come down. Tell us what you can about what you
22 knew in advance of the indictment, if anything.

23 MR. YEAGER: Which indictment are you
24 talking about?

25 MR. WILSON: There's an indictment from

1 the Fitzgerald bombing and the William Bennett
2 murder.

3 MR. SALEMME: I think the William Bennett
4 murder is first, and the Fitzgerald bombing comes
5 second, I think.

6 MR. WILSON: I don't know what you knew
7 at the time, and to be honest, I don't remember
8 which occurred chronologically first, but what was
9 the first indication that you had that there might
10 be some legal consequence to either of those
11 events?

12 MR. SALEMME: I get a call from Steve
13 Flemmi one morning, I don't know, five, six o'clock
14 in the morning. He didn't live too far from me. I
15 was in Sharon, Massachusetts, and he was in Milton.
16 He said come by and pick him up, it's something
17 very important. I knew it had to be something
18 important, and I got in the car and drove fast and
19 picked him up in Milton.

20 He said we have to go see Paul Rico in
21 Revere Beach. I said what's up, and he said Paul
22 said there's going to be indictments and he'd
23 explain it to us when he seen us. We didn't get
24 into it too much. They had a signal which I never
25 knew until it came out in the hearings, Jack from

1 south Boston or whatever it was, so it didn't make
2 any difference what was said on the phone anyway.

3 But we went to Revere and met Paul Rico.
4 Now, he was with an agent, not Dennis Condon, and
5 he pulled up not too far from us, and the other
6 agent got out of car. Now, I backed up and drove
7 out because I didn't want this other agent to be
8 around. I said well, what's up with this.

9 MR. WILSON: Why didn't you want the
10 other agent --

11 MR. SALEMME: Because I didn't know him.
12 I figured if Dennis was there -- Dennis always knew
13 enough to keep a little distance anyway so they
14 weren't like elbow to elbow. That's the way you
15 wanted it, you know. But he came up and explained
16 to us what was happening.

17 MR. WILSON: He, being Paul Rico?

18 MR. SALEMME: Paul Rico, that there was
19 going to be an indictment, that we should get out
20 of town for a while, and that this guy is -- how
21 serious is it, that was what my question was. I'm
22 pretty sure that he said it was about the Bennett
23 murder and that they're looking at Fitzgerald, but
24 I think the Bennett murder came down first. He
25 knows Joe Barboza, that was his statement, but that

1 was enough to get us out of town for a while.

2 MR. WILSON: You said something that
3 surprises me a little bit, and that's that you went
4 with Stevie Flemmi to talk to Paul Rico. Why did
5 Paul Rico want you there?

6 MR. SALEMME: Well, I was a concerned
7 party.

8 MR. WILSON: Well, I understand why he
9 wanted to communicate, but why were you enough in
10 his confidence that he would tell you this? I
11 understand the historical record is such that Rico
12 had a relationship with Stephen Flemmi, but you're
13 there and he's telling you and Stephen Flemmi about
14 the indictment. Why would he have been comfortable
15 enough to tell you this?

16 MR. SALEMME: Well, we had a history up
17 to that point. He used to come to the garage and
18 the real estate office, mostly the garage, probably
19 three times a week, mostly him and Dennis during
20 the gang war.

21 MR. WILSON: Dennis being Dennis Condon?

22 MR. SALEMME: Dennis Condon. Paul Rico
23 was very concerned about the McLaughlins and that
24 crew. He had an ongoing feud with the Hugheses and
25 the McLaughlins.

1 MR. WILSON: Why did Paul Rico by your
2 characterization have animosity to the McLaughlin
3 side of the gang war?

4 MR. SALEMME: Well, they were always on
5 the phone, according to him, and they would -- and
6 the feds would pick up the McLaughlins and the
7 Hugheses casting aspersions on Paul's manhood and
8 his relationship with J. Edgar Hoover, and J. Edgar
9 Hoover was, excuse me again, a fag, and that Paul
10 used to go down there and have a relationship with
11 Colson. They had a menage a trois with a guy by
12 the name of Colson, I think.

13 MR. WILSON: I believe the name was
14 Tolson.

15 MR. SALEMME: So Paul didn't naturally
16 like that, but he was always on their case, Paul
17 was. Paul had a relationship with Buddy McLean. I
18 say to this day, knowing what I think now but not
19 then, that Buddy McLean was actually an informant
20 for them. That's what I saw, that you can only
21 have a relationship with Paul if you give any
22 information. The quid pro quo was I was performing
23 a deed that nobody else had performed, to get rid
24 of his arch enemies. He knew that I could do it.
25 That's why he sent me information about them. He

1 gave me addresses.

2 MR. WILSON: So this is Paul Rico giving
3 you addresses and information about people who are
4 tied in with McLaughlin and the McLaughlin gang?

5 MR. SALEMME: One address in particular
6 led to McLaughlin's demise, which was Helen Kronis.
7 That was Edward Punchy McLaughlin's girlfriend, his
8 common law girlfriend or wife. They lived in
9 Canton, but I could never find out where, off of E
10 Street, as it turned out, but he gave me the
11 address and I was able to find him. We killed him
12 at eight o'clock in the morning at a bus stop
13 there, but that was a very, very important piece of
14 information.

15 MR. DURHAM: Who killed Punchy
16 McLaughlin?

17 MR. SALEMME: Stevie Flemmi and myself.

18 MR. DURHAM: Are you familiar with the
19 background of McLaughlin actually being killed,
20 that there had been two prior attempts?

21 MR. WILSON: While we're there, if you
22 would, just sort of go through that situation.
23 Where I want to ultimately get to is why Paul Rico
24 would give you this information, what more you know
25 about this information you're saying Rico gave you.

1 If you could just maybe back up about the other
2 attempts.

3 MR. SALEMME: I had met Paul in
4 Somerville with Buddy McLean. Stevie was also
5 there, and Howie Winters wasn't there. Buddy
6 McLean never had a real -- he liked Howie as being
7 somebody around, but he didn't have confidence in
8 Howie. Howie was basically a bookmaker until they
9 tried to put the bomb in his car and it went off,
10 the McLaughlins did.

11 Buddy's a good kid, you'd like him, and I
12 had known Buddy just as kids at sporting events and
13 all that stuff. But looking at it in retrospect, I
14 would have to say that Buddy was probably giving
15 him information, but maybe not. Maybe he was doing
16 the same thing. I mean, Paul hit on me. He tried
17 to make an informant out of me, and I think there's
18 a 302 or a 209 or something to that effect when he
19 asked me to lunch -- and if I'm getting too far
20 ahead, stop me -- and I went to lunch with him.

21 Before I did, I went to Raymond L.S. and
22 told him I'd been invited. Raymond L.S. knew I had
23 a relationship with this guy, because I was
24 bringing him information about various things that
25 were happening, for instance the prosecution with

1 Limone, whether they were going to present
2 evidence, that is, Limone's defense team, that
3 Limone never met Patriarca. Well, they had a
4 picture this big that Paul Rico gave them. You
5 have a photograph of Limone and a few other guys
6 meeting with Raymond L.S. on Ash Street by the New
7 England health clinic where his first wife Helen
8 was dying. They would have got shot out of the
9 water with that bit of defense, that type of thing.

10 Anyway, I went to see Raymond and told
11 him I was going to lunch with Paul Rico, and so he
12 said go, by all means, be a good listener, but
13 remember, he's a -- and he used a part of male
14 anatomy, he's a P, be careful of him, just be
15 careful. Unbeknownst to me, it's on tape. I got
16 it in one of the papers, a 302 or a 209. But
17 anyway, I gave -- you wanted to know what his
18 relationship, why he would --

19 MR. WILSON: Just develop as much as you
20 can why Rico would give this information to you.
21 He gave the information to Stevie Flemmi because
22 Stevie Flemmi was an informant, but it's a little
23 surprising that he included you in this
24 conversation.

25 MR. SALEMME: Well, he knew that I was

1 Stevie's friend. He knew that I was a capable
2 person as far as getting a job done, and this was a
3 job he wanted done, there's no question about that.
4 Plus, I had done little things for Paul, like I got
5 his FBI car fixed, which was certainly not enough
6 to warrant him giving me that kind of information.
7 That wasn't the quid pro quo, fixing his car and
8 giving him the information. The information was to
9 eliminate these people.

10 MR. WILSON: We'll talk about the cars in
11 a little bit. As far as you're able to come to a
12 conclusion, the reason that Rico gave you the
13 address for Punchy McLaughlin was for you to go
14 after Punchy McLaughlin and kill him?

15 MR. SALEMME: There were two attempts
16 earlier that were unsuccessful, two attempts that I
17 did not want to sanction, but I went ahead and
18 participated in them anyway. After the second one,
19 when he was ambushed and he lost his hand, the
20 first one, he lost his jaw, and that was in the
21 Beth Israel parking lot. Not a good spot at all.
22 The bus stop was much better, boom, boom, and out.
23 But Beth Israel, you had to drive in, they had
24 security, not a good spot, so you couldn't really
25 finish off what you started. We had dressed as

1 rabbis.

2 MR. DURHAM: That was the first one. The
3 first time you tried to kill him, you and Stevie
4 Flemmi tried to kill him at Beth Israel hospital
5 dressed as rabbis, shot him, took out his jaw.

6 MR. SALEMME: He was set up by a fellow
7 named Earl Smith.

8 MR. DURHAM: And there was a second
9 attempt to kill him at a Rotary.

10 MR. SALEMME: Right.

11 MR. DURHAM: In that one he lost his
12 hand, but there was some other collateral damage to
13 houses and stuff.

14 MR. SALEMME: There were ricochets. It
15 was a rural area, but there was still houses
16 around, and those high powered weapons, they hit
17 and they ricochet and they travel. There was some
18 collateral damage, as John said, to houses around.
19 So I had a conversation with Paul about it
20 afterwards. He said boy, that was a sloppy piece
21 of work.

22 MR. WILSON: So you had a conversation
23 with Paul Rico about that second attempt to kill
24 McLaughlin?

25 MR. SALEMME: Right.

1 MR. WILSON: To the extent you can
2 remember, and I know it's a long time ago, what did
3 you tell him and what did he say to you?

4 MR. SALEMME: See, Paul had a way. Paul
5 was a very shrewd individual. He'd make it like,
6 he'd have the papers and say boy, what a sloppy
7 piece of work that was, other people could have got
8 hurt. There were a lot of other words and a lot of
9 other conversation in with that, but the bottom
10 line is Paul, I don't have his address, he's a
11 tough guy to pin down, but I don't know where his
12 starting point is.

13 MR. WILSON: So you told Rico you didn't
14 know where he was?

15 MR. SALEMME: Right. Within a day or two
16 days he came back, and he'd just be patting your
17 shoulder like he usually does, and he hit my hand,
18 I went like this, he kept walking, and there was a
19 piece of paper with an address, and I didn't have
20 to ask anymore. I knew who it was. It was Helen
21 Kronis, Punchy's girlfriend or common law wife or
22 whatever. So I went out and started to work on
23 that, and I put the finishing touches on that
24 within three or four days.

25 MR. WILSON: So when you saw the address,

1 you knew what the address went to? You knew what
2 that address was basically?

3 MR. SALEMME: Well, it took me like that
4 to figure it out. I saw the name Helen, and I
5 didn't know the last name, but I knew his
6 girlfriend's name was Helen.

7 MR. WILSON: Was the name on the address?

8 MR. SALEMME: Yes.

9 MR. DURHAM: You might want to also
10 explain for the record, you and Stevie Flemmi made
11 all three attempts, the last one of which was
12 successful. Describe, generally speaking, what
13 your role was in these matters and what Stevie's
14 role was, like who planned these things and how
15 were they executed.

16 MR. SALEMME: I planned them. Stevie
17 wasn't a planner. He would go if you took him by
18 the hand, but he wasn't a planner at all. He had
19 his own agenda, and he wasn't deviating from that.
20 Money and women, I told you, he wasn't going to
21 deviate from that. He had somebody to do the grunt
22 work, and that was me, so I planned them and
23 executed them, him and I.

24 MR. DURHAM: And similar to the
25 Fitzgerald car bombing, generally speaking, when

1 you were doing these sorts of things, how many
2 people knew what you were doing?

3 MR. SALEMME: What I was doing?

4 MR. DURHAM: What you were doing.

5 MR. SALEMME: Nobody except Stevie and
6 Raymond L.S. as far as the initial way I wanted to
7 take them out. As far as the other thing went,
8 when it got into the bombing stuff, I wouldn't do
9 it to save my life. During the gang war I
10 certainly wasn't going to do it to eliminate a
11 witness, not when you could do it a simple way.

12 MR. DURHAM: With respect to the
13 Fitzgerald situation, you didn't have any qualms
14 about taking Fitzgerald out, you just didn't want
15 to do the bombing.

16 MR. SALEMME: I didn't want to do the
17 bombing. I don't know what the legal term would
18 be. I was going to do it that way, you know, just
19 take them out. I could take them out very easily
20 with a silencer, pick them up and bury them and
21 they'd never be found. That was the way to do it
22 from my looking at it. A bomb, no matter where it
23 was going to be, whether in Everett, in Al Farese's
24 office or wherever, that was not my MO at all, not
25 that violence wasn't. I mean, I was involved in

1 violence, but I'm not that type. That's the point
2 I'm making. You could do it another way.

3 MR. WILSON: I think you said this
4 before, but when the bomb ultimately went off, you
5 didn't know it was going off at that time and you
6 didn't know where it was going to go off. Is that
7 correct?

8 MR. SALEMME: That's correct. That's
9 correct. When Stevie got the call at the club to
10 go meet Larry, he didn't stop and tell me that the
11 car's over here or the car's there, we're going to
12 get it.

13 MR. WILSON: There are a couple of ways
14 to go right now. I think what we might do is just
15 talk a little bit about Deegan, but I do want to go
16 with the chronology. I don't know which makes more
17 sense. You might tell me. Chronologically should
18 we talk about what happened when you left Boston,
19 to my understanding, with Stephen Flemmi and Peter
20 Poulos, or is it better to go to Deegan? Which
21 makes more sense chronologically at this point?

22 MR. SALEMME: Well, you could clean up
23 Poulos kind of quick. We're ahead of Deegan now
24 anyway.

25 MR. WILSON: So let's just go with that.

1 You're at Revere Beach with Stephen Flemmi and Paul
2 Rico.

3 MR. SALEMME: Right, and this other FBI
4 agent.

5 MR. WILSON: What did he look like?

6 MR. SALEMME: He was young.

7 MR. WILSON: Tall guy? Short guy?

8 MR. SALEMME: Medium height, slender,
9 athletically built, younger guy. He finally
10 decided to stay, and he did get out of the car and
11 just stood there by his door. He didn't even walk
12 around to the driver's side. Paul understood. You
13 know, when I pulled out and then he pulled back in,
14 he understood to have the kid stay there and not
15 try to walk out with him.

16 MR. WILSON: So Rico told you what he
17 told you, and I think you told us everything you
18 know about that. Was it a long meeting, a short
19 meeting?

20 MR. SALEMME: 15 minutes, just to get out
21 of town and play it by ear, he's no Joe Barboza.
22 I'm trying to remember his words. How serious was
23 it was one of my questions, you know, and he
24 explained what it was. I'm almost positive he said
25 something about the Bennett murder.

1 MR. WILSON: I didn't understand what you
2 said before, and you said it a second time and I
3 still don't understand it fully. When you said
4 that Paul Rico said he's no Joe Barboza, explain
5 what you meant by that.

6 MR. SALEMME: That he doesn't have the
7 potential that Joe Barboza had to involve all these
8 other people into it, that he won't make the type
9 of witness that Joe Barboza made. In retrospect, I
10 know that he was after getting all these documents
11 that he nurtured Barboza, him and Condon, that this
12 is what was in his own Machiavellian mind, so to
13 speak, that he couldn't be any Joe Barboza. That's
14 the type of fellow he was. In my opinion now, he
15 had that kind of a mind, devious and Machiavellian
16 and very smooth, very suave, just to go along with
17 it. That's what I felt he meant.

18 MR. WILSON: So Rico, from what you said,
19 it sounds like he clearly communicated to you that
20 there was a witness out there that was going to
21 testify against you.

22 MR. SALEMME: Against us.

23 MR. WILSON: Well, you and Stephen
24 Flemmi.

25 MR. SALEMME: Right.

1 MR. WILSON: Did he say who that witness
2 was?

3 MR. SALEMME: Daddeico. We knew Daddeico
4 got arrested and went back on a parole violation to
5 Walpole. He was taken out of Walpole, and we knew
6 that, because people in Walpole sent word out to
7 Howie and Howie got word to us that they took
8 Daddeico out of there, we don't know what's up with
9 him.

10 MR. DURHAM: Howie being Howie Winters?

11 MR. SALEMME: Yes.

12 MR. WILSON: Did you have a suspicion
13 that something was going on?

14 MR. SALEMME: That's why people were
15 sending word out, and they didn't indicate against
16 who it was happening, but that he was doing
17 something. He had been arrested for a bank robbery
18 in Somerville with a bunch of Canadian kids that
19 came down from Canada robbing banks all over the
20 northeast. They moved out to Michigan, out that
21 area too, but they had been very successful,
22 McIntosh. One of them was Eddie Johnson's, the
23 goal tender for the Bruins, the old goal tender for
24 the Bruins, Eddie Johnson, it was his brother,
25 Billy Johnson.

1 Daddeico was supposed to be a backup for
2 them so they could get out of the bank. But what
3 happened was during the robbery this bank security
4 guard with a gun disarmed Daddeico and had him on
5 the floor and these guys all got arrested. So now
6 when he goes back up to Walpole and they're up
7 there pinched too, now they've got that much
8 against him, and he knows he's got to be looking at
9 them and they're looking at him to see what kind of
10 a backup were you, and now people are looking at
11 him up there.

12 And he decides well, there's only one
13 thing for me to do and this is the way I'll go with
14 it, and they took him out, as it turned out. We
15 didn't know that at the time. But that's why he
16 was back on a parole violation, for this bank
17 robbery.

18 MR. DURHAM: Did Daddeico have anything
19 to do with the Bennett murder? You might just want
20 to explain that for the record also.

21 MR. SALEMME: We had two cars. Daddeico
22 shows up with Steve Flemmi in one car, and I come
23 up in my car. I had already made the plans with
24 Flemmi that I'll pick the body up out of the car
25 and take them out and bury them. I wouldn't leave

1 that to anybody else. I don't want anybody else
2 knowing where these spots are and who goes.

3 But I pull up, and there's Flemmi sitting
4 with Daddeico. That didn't surprise me. I said
5 I'm taking the body, so it won't matter. The next
6 thing I know these two clowns come down and they're
7 all in a panic, he fell out. What do you mean, he
8 fell out. We're at some kind of a charcoal meat
9 stand down there in Boston, and they said he fell
10 out, he's laying on the side of the road, so I
11 shoot up the street.

12 And I swung around to pick him up and put
13 him in the car, and there's a cab driver that pulls
14 up, he's put the high beams on, and now I can't
15 even stop, so I made a U-turn and drove by it and
16 kept stepping. Bud I could see that he was gone,
17 that they were going to find him.

18 MR. WILSON: So you're at Revere Beach
19 and Paul Rico has told you Daddeico's going to
20 testify. Is that correct?

21 MR. SALEMME: Right.

22 MR. WILSON: And he tells you to get out
23 of town?

24 MR. SALEMME: Right.

25 MR. WILSON: Does he tell you anything

1 else at this time?

2 MR. SALEMME: I'm sure there was
3 conversation, but I can't remember just what --
4 again, in retrospect, he didn't have to say too
5 much to make me go. But also, as far as
6 communications go, we know what happened with him
7 and Steve from south Boston. They had their way of
8 communicating, and I had no way of knowing that at
9 that time.

10 MR. WILSON: If you can walk us through
11 what happened next with your departure from the
12 Boston area.

13 MR. SALEMME: Well, we drove to Illinois,
14 to Chicago.

15 MR. WILSON: Let me back you up here.
16 It's my understanding you left with Stephen Flemmi
17 and Peter Poulos and got a car from Peter Poulos.
18 Is that correct?

19 MR. SALEMME: I don't know if we got the
20 car from him or my garage. I'm not sure. I think
21 it was a Cadillac we left in, so it might have been
22 from the garage. We had access to plates. At that
23 time we had direct access to the registry of motor
24 vehicles. We could go anywhere in the city and get
25 identification, get plates, talk to jurors after

1 hours at night in the court, anything. We had that
2 kind of access in the city of Boston.

3 But we drove to Chicago, and then we flew
4 to Los Angeles from Chicago. Now, they were going
5 to stay out there, but I didn't think it was a good
6 idea for us to stay together. I don't know how
7 long I stayed there. I don't even think I left the
8 airport.

9 But I flew back to New York, and I hooked
10 up with a fellow by the name of William Candelmo,
11 who was a king man with Raymond Patriarca, with our
12 New England group, and I stayed there. Steve
13 stayed in LA and eventually drove back with Poulos,
14 and he eliminated Poulos in Las Vegas, in Clark
15 County.

16 Now, we got some kind of papers or
17 information from Los Angeles while we were down in
18 Plymouth that prints of Poulos and Flemmi were
19 found in some rooming house or some house in Los
20 Angeles. And when they found the body in Las Vegas
21 they put out an arrest warrant for him and I. And
22 he ends up in New York, Steve Flemmi. He goes to
23 Billy Candelmo's store. There were different
24 places that we had around so in case of emergencies
25 you can go to these people. I knew Billy. Stevie

1 knew him, but I knew him better than he did. We
2 stayed in Billy's apartment on 8th Avenue and 45th
3 Street. The Man from La Mancha was playing right
4 across the street. I used to look out and watch
5 the lines. That's the year it was.

6 But I got into a conversation, why did
7 you do that to Pete Poulos, there was no plan to
8 eliminate Poulos. He would have been a threat, you
9 know, he witnessed the murder, Wimpy's murder, he
10 drove Walter there, he would have been a threat.
11 And I said -- I don't even think Peter Poulos got
12 indicted. To the best of my knowledge, he never
13 got indicted for either one, the car bombing or the
14 Billy Bennett murder. We didn't know he wasn't
15 getting indicted, and that's why he came.

16 But to eliminate him like that, Steve,
17 you know, come on, oh, it had to be done, he would
18 have been a weak link, they would have made a
19 witness out of him. That's what happened to him.

20 MR. WILSON: Just to back up for a
21 second, you've come back to New York, Poulos and
22 Stephen Flemmi are still out in Los Angeles, and
23 then at some point after that Stephen Flemmi comes
24 to New York. Is that correct?

25 MR. SALEMME: Right, by way of Las Vegas.

1 MR. WILSON: Let's leave that out,
2 because you don't know that's happening at that
3 point. But you see Stephen Flemmi, you come to
4 this place in New York, and what does he tell you?
5 When did you first learn that Poulos had been
6 killed?

7 MR. SALEMME: It was on the news. It
8 came on the news.

9 MR. WILSON: So you learned about it from
10 the news before talking to Stephen Flemmi?

11 MR. SALEMME: Right. Billy Candelmo
12 found out because he used to go back and forth to
13 Providence just to talk to Raymond, to talk to JP,
14 Raymond's brother, when Raymond was back in ACI in
15 Rhode Island. Joe Patriarca would go see him and
16 talk to Billy and see what was happening, keeping
17 abreast of things, so he learned that Peter Poulos
18 got killed. He used to get the Boston newspaper.
19 Billy would go down to Times Square and get the
20 paper at some out-of-town newspaper stand.

21 MR. WILSON: At that point did you know
22 where Stephen Flemmi was? You said you knew that
23 Poulos was dead from the newspapers.

24 MR. SALEMME: When I found out about
25 Poulos, no, but I knew he was there. I mean, I

1 knew Poulos was with him, so it was just a simple
2 deduction to figure out what happened. When I saw
3 it --

4 MR. WILSON: So when is the next time you
5 saw Flemmi?

6 MR. SALEMME: When he came to New York.

7 MR. WILSON: And did he tell you what
8 happened?

9 MR. SALEMME: Yes, that he would have
10 been a weak link, that he had to do it.

11

12 REDACTED

13 I said
14 what are you going to Las Vegas for, and he said, I
15 had an apartment set up and I wanted to stop over
16 somewhere before I continued the drive in.

17

18 REDACTED

19

20 That would be his way of operating. He
21 wouldn't do that in front of her, but he'd want to
22 solidify his safety, to travel with a woman and not
23 be traveling alone. He got stopped, too, he said,
24 by a Las Vegas state trooper and he had all kinds
25 of material in the trunk. I said, what do you

1 mean. He said he had a shovel and a rope and all
2 that shit in there. He had a gun under the seat.

3 They didn't hold him, but they did stop
4 him. I don't know if there's any record of that,
5 but they stopped him, him and Poulos, but he
6 couldn't put him under. He said the desert's not
7 soft. I said, what were you thinking, it's the
8 Sahara? I said this is Nevada, this isn't north
9 Africa.

10 MR. DURHAM: Well, you said he wasn't a
11 planner.

12 MR. SALEMME: Definitely not a planner,
13 no. The word to describe Steve Flemmi was a
14 spontaneous reactor. If you messed with either one
15 and two or two and one, forget it.

16 MR. WILSON: Now I'd like to step back to
17 Deegan.

18 (Discussion off the record.)

19 MR. WILSON: Let's start a new subject.
20 We're going to get back to the chronology we were
21 just discussing in a minute, but let's discuss the
22 murder of Teddy Deegan. I'm going to try and not
23 cover things that we covered completely in our last
24 interview, but I'll ask a few preliminary
25 questions.

1 Did you know anything about the proposal
2 to murder Deegan before the actual event happened?

3 MR. SALEMME: Before the fact?

4 MR. WILSON: Correct.

5 MR. SALEMME: No.

6 MR. WILSON: It would probably just be
7 best if you give us a chronology of what you knew
8 about the Deegan murder, when you knew it, and move
9 to sort of when you first heard about the Deegan
10 murder and move chronologically forward in time.

11 MR. SALEMME: I first heard about the
12 murder from James Vincent Flemmi. Steve and I knew
13 about it from the newspaper, but down at the garage
14 we didn't know what happened with Teddy Deegan.
15 Teddy Deegan was kind of friendly with Steve and
16 had done a few scores before with Steve. I think
17 we went over that before, you know, about
18 rappelling to get in houses. Stephen got a call at
19 the garage from his brother, he was down at the
20 real estate office, and he said take a ride down to
21 the real estate office. The market and the real
22 estate office were right next to each other. So if
23 I say the market or the real estate office, it's
24 the same thing. It's one building with upstairs
25 rooms to it.

1 MR. WILSON: It's my understanding that
2 Stephen Flemmi owned that premises.

3 MR. SALEMME: Right, that whole premises,
4 with the rooms he rented out at the top. We took a
5 ride down, it was a short drive, not more than a
6 hundred yards, and his brother told him what had
7 happened, that they had killed Teddy Deegan. And
8 the whole conversation, there's a lot to it, but
9 just to get to the pertinent parts about what did
10 you kill him for, why did Teddy have to go, well,
11 he was helping the McLaughlins, bullshit, Steve
12 said, that wasn't true.

13 MR. YEAGER: You were present during this
14 conversation?

15 MR. SALEMME: Yes. He made out that he
16 had to go because he was helping the McLaughlins.
17 We knew he wasn't helping the McLaughlins. Vincent
18 Flemmi had to make up an excuse. I told you we
19 never had anything to do with him or never let him
20 know what was happening. He never knew his brother
21 was burglarizing bookmakers' homes with this guy.
22 So he made up an excuse that he was killed because
23 he was helping the McLaughlins, but we knew it
24 wasn't true.

25 So Steve kept pushing him and pushing

1 him, who was there, who was there, and he told him
2 who was there, who was in the car. And
3 Stathopoulos, they were supposed to kill him, too,
4 but he got away. Vincent Flemmi was more concerned
5 about Stathopoulos getting away, that eventually he
6 would be a problem if he opened up. That's my
7 interpretation, because he said it, you know, but
8 also it would make sense.

9 MR. WILSON: Let's just stop for a
10 second. He said that he killed Deegan, and he said
11 that he did it because of what appears to be a gang
12 war motive.

13 MR. SALEMME: Right. At that time it was
14 hot and heavy in the gang war, so he was helping
15 that side, which wasn't true.

16 MR. WILSON: Who did he say was involved?

17 MR. SALEMME: He never made himself as
18 the shooter, but there was him, Joe Barboza, Ronnie
19 Cassesso, Roy French, Romeo Martin. Is that five?

20 MR. WILSON: I think you mentioned before
21 another name, Imbruglia, the last time.

22 MR. SALEMME: He wasn't there. Imbruglia
23 was part of the pickup crew. Imbruglia wasn't a
24 shooter or that type of a guy, but he knew the
25 area, where they would pick up Joe Barboza's

1 shylock money, Revere, Chelsea, east Boston.
2 Imbruglia knew those areas and he knew the persons
3 they owed money to. That's why he would be picking
4 up money with Nicky Femia for Joe Barboza and
5 Fitzgerald and Mrs. Baron.

6 MR. WILSON: When he mentioned this in
7 the real estate office, did he talk about planning
8 the Deegan murder? Did any type of conversation
9 take place about when did you think you'd do that,
10 did you make any plans to do the Deegan murder?

11 MR. SALEMME: Not really. We were more
12 interested in why he got killed and who was there.
13 We always wanted to know who was capable of doing
14 that, because you had to know who was out in the
15 street that would do that. Now, when we heard that
16 Barboza was involved with him and Cassesso -- there
17 were six guys there, I think, five or six guys,
18 that killed this guy in an alley. One or both of
19 them was supposed to -- Barboza and Flemmi was
20 supposed to kill Stathopoulos, but he got away.
21 That's typical of them. He lets the guy get away,
22 and now he's concerned about the guy.

23 MR. WILSON: So what did he say? Did
24 they say they were going to do something to
25 Stathopoulos?

1 MR. SALEMME: That if he could find him
2 he'd kill him. But the odds are if this kid stayed
3 out of Chelsea and went next door to his boss, he'd
4 be safe as a bug in a rug with them. I mean, they
5 couldn't find their way off of Hanover Street,
6 believe me, so they would have no chance of finding
7 this guy, little or none.

8 MR. WILSON: Were you aware at the time
9 of any police reports about the Deegan murder?

10 MR. SALEMME: At the time, no. Excuse
11 me. There was a police report of -- I don't know
12 if it was Chelsea police or Revere police. I think
13 it was the Chelsea police. A police captain, a
14 police officer or somebody with authority, had gone
15 by the car and witnessed the back plate was turned
16 up.

17 MR. WILSON: I'm asking here about that
18 time, at the contemporaneous time period. Did you
19 know about any police report or police information?
20 Let me cut to the chase here. You had some sources
21 in various police departments and you talked to a
22 lot of people. At the time of the Deegan murder,
23 not two years later or three years later --

24 MR. SALEMME: This was right then.

25 MR. WILSON: Right at that time did you

1 or Stevie Flemmi check around and learn anything
2 more?

3 MR. SALEMME: The Boston police and the
4 FBI would come in the garage. The state police --
5 there was two state police, the state police and
6 the Metropolitan District Commission in
7 Massachusetts. Until they merged, the Metropolitan
8 District Commission would be around the city
9 somewhat in beach areas, but the state police, they
10 had jurisdiction to arrest, naturally, but to come
11 off the turnpike and chase somebody around Boston,
12 they couldn't do it. There was no jurisdiction
13 unless there was a murder that took place in their
14 jurisdiction. Then they could come in and
15 investigate it, look around for an intelligence
16 report or go to Boston, but they were very seldom
17 in Boston at that time, the state police, except
18 for a marked car occasionally that turned in to
19 Boston.

20 MR. WILSON: Until Joe Barboza was picked
21 up and it looked like something might be happening,
22 is there something more you can tell us that you
23 knew about the Deegan murder?

24 MR. SALEMME: No, not really.

25 MR. WILSON: You had this one

1 conversation in the real estate office, and you
2 talked to Jimmie Flemmi, and he told you what he
3 told you. Did you go back in the next few days or
4 did Stevie ask him any more questions?

5 MR. SALEMME: It's very possible that he
6 did. Something came up when Barboza had decided to
7 flip after they killed DePrisco and Tash Bratsos,
8 after they killed them and he decided -- and they
9 robbed him of \$75,000, his bail money, and he
10 needed \$100,000 cash to get out of jail. But they
11 killed those two guys and they took the money. And
12 somewhere in there it came out that Stathopoulos,
13 Steve told me that, had identified the people that
14 were involved in the case and that Jimmie Flemmi
15 was a participant, was a participant in it, but
16 they never used Stathopoulos.

17 That's when Rico and Condon come into the
18 picture. It's not a hundred percent clear to me,
19 but that's when he went up to Walpole, Steve
20 Flemmi, to visit his brother after conferring with
21 Rico, not so much Condon, but Rico, and that's when
22 they concocted the story and put -- I don't
23 remember who they put in the back seat with a bald
24 headed wig on. That was Jimmie Flemmi in the back
25 of the car with the bald headed wig.

1 MR. WILSON: So chronologically, you're
2 at the real estate office, and then you go forward
3 a couple of years and nothing happens. The Deegan
4 murder is more or less forgotten.

5 MR. SALEMME: There were so many murders
6 at the time. It was an incidental murder. It
7 didn't pertain to anything that was reflecting back
8 on Steve or myself. That's what our concern was.
9 And I was mostly concerned for Steve, because Steve
10 was more Deegan's friend than I was, and Roy
11 French. I mean, they had done a few things
12 together as far as robberies went.

13 MR. WILSON: It sounds like the next time
14 that Teddy Deegan comes back into your life in any
15 way is this time when Stephen Flemmi came to
16 Walpole prison. Is that correct?

17 MR. SALEMME: No. He doesn't come --

18 MR. WILSON: Well, just the name comes
19 up.

20 MR. SALEMME: That's when Stevie went to
21 visit Jimmie. Unbeknownst to me he visits Jimmie
22 and Joe Barboza.

23 MR. WILSON: And how do you know about
24 this visit of Stevie Flemmi to Walpole?

25 MR. SALEMME: Well, we knew he was going

1 to see his brother. I didn't know what the context
2 of the visit was going to be, but he used to
3 periodically go visit his brother in jail. And one
4 of the concerns was that -- and there had been like
5 street talk that Jimmie was going to get named in
6 this indictment because of Stathopoulos, his
7 identification of who was there.

8 MR. WILSON: Where were you at the time
9 that Stevie Flemmi told you he was going to
10 Walpole?

11 MR. SALEMME: Either the garage or -- 90
12 percent of the time during the day I was in the
13 garages. That was my business, so I would be in
14 there unless I went out for lunch or went over to
15 buy cars or one of those things.

16 MR. WILSON: So Stevie Flemmi came in and
17 told you he was going to go talk to --

18 MR. SALEMME: He said he was going to see
19 Jimmie.

20 MR. WILSON: Did he also mention he was
21 going to talk to Joe Barboza?

22 MR. SALEMME: Absolutely not, because
23 that -- well, what are you talking to him for. We
24 supposedly didn't like this guy, both of us.
25 Barboza, I would not let him around my area, my

1 garages, my Roxbury south end area. He wasn't a
2 welcomed guy, and he knew it because I told him.

3 MR. WILSON: So Stevie said he was going
4 to go talk to Jimmie. Tell us with as much
5 specificity as you can what Stevie said he was
6 going to go and talk to Jimmie about.

7 MR. SALEMME: He never elaborated and I
8 never would ask. You just don't do those things.
9 If he volunteered something, fine, but nine times
10 out of ten he wouldn't volunteer it. Most of the
11 time it was always looking for money, I got to go
12 see Jimmie, he's looking for money. He was a
13 junkie, and that's what he wanted most of the time
14 from Steve, and he'd have to leave him a couple of
15 hundred dollars. They'd have those type of
16 arguments, and he'd end up buying drugs or paying
17 off drug bills in Walpole, which he eventually OD'd
18 in state prison, as you know, which was inevitable.

19 MR. DURHAM: I don't know that
20 Mr. Salemme's ever seen this. You know this
21 document that you all received previously, right?
22 There's reference to some of this at the bottom.
23 That's a June '67 memo.

24 MR. WILSON: Just to get back to this
25 particular time when Stephen Flemmi said to you he

1 was going up to Walpole, you said Stephen had
2 already gone up to visit Jimmie a number of times.
3 What was it that particularly singles out this
4 particular visit? What did Stephen Flemmi tell
5 you? Why are you telling us now that this
6 particular encounter between you and Stephen Flemmi
7 might have had something to do with the Deegan
8 situation.

9 MR. SALEMME: There was nothing unusual
10 about it at the time. He was going to see his
11 brother, and that was the end of it, he probably
12 wants money or something, one of those remarks. It
13 was unusual when he came back and said Jimmie was
14 concerned about the Stathopoulos guy, Stathopoulos,
15 whatever his name was, but he didn't really know
16 specifics about it. He was just more or less
17 making conversation as we went out, I believe, to
18 dinner, which we did quite frequently, three or
19 four times a week. We'd hit some little restaurant
20 or whatever. But there was nothing at that time
21 that really made any antennas come up.

22 MR. WILSON: So his going out wasn't
23 remarkable, but then Stephen Flemmi came back and
24 had a conversation with you.

25 MR. SALEMME: That was part of the

1 conversation, you know, is he still doing the
2 drugs, he's concerned about Stathopoulos and all
3 that, but he never told me he met with Barboza,
4 too.

5 MR. WILSON: But it's fairly clear from
6 that conversation in your mind that Stephen Flemmi
7 was told by his brother that he was worried about
8 this fellow Stathopoulos in connection with the
9 Deegan murder?

10 MR. SALEMME: That was part of the
11 conversation. And in retrospect, it was also clear
12 that that was the meeting that he was sent to by
13 Mr. Rico. That became clear from Plymouth, when I
14 picked up documents that could put two and two
15 together, and I accused him of it.

16 MR. WILSON: So you confronted Stephen
17 Flemmi with this information that you're putting
18 together in your own mind. Is that correct?

19 MR. SALEMME: I'm not putting it together
20 in my mind; I'm putting it together from the
21 documentation. And I believe -- I know
22 historically what transpired back then. I knew in
23 my own mind this is what happened. I wasn't, you
24 know, putting together something that may have
25 happened. I knew this happened now, and I accused

1 him of it in Plymouth. I put it right on him.

2 MR. WILSON: And that was approximately
3 when?

4 MR. SALEMME: Well, it was between '95
5 and '99. I'd say around, to be safe, '97.

6 MR. WILSON: And when you talked to
7 Stephen Flemmi about this, what did he say to you?

8 MR. SALEMME: He didn't deny it. He
9 said, what could I do, you know, he's my brother.
10 I accused him with words that I wouldn't want to
11 repeat here, but he said, I had to protect my
12 brother. I accused him right out, you went up
13 there for this guy, Rico, and he just put his head
14 down and was nodding his head yes.

15 When I left the conversation, DeLuca was
16 there. Now, he thought he had DeLuca's confidence,
17 and he made a disparaging comment about the fact
18 that he wanted to F with Dennis Condon. He said
19 Dennis straightened him out. The general, he said.
20 He said he wanted to F with Dennis Condon.

21 MR. DURHAM: Would you explain to
22 Mr. Wilson the reference to Dennis Condon, wanting
23 to mess around with Dennis Condon? Did an event
24 occur at the garage after the convictions had been
25 obtained in the Deegan murder that you associated

1 that comment with?

2 MR. SALEMME: Yes.

3 MR. DURHAM: Why don't you explain that?

4 MR. SALEMME: Well, shortly after the
5 conviction of the fellows that got convicted, I
6 knew it was a wrong conviction, but what are you
7 going to do? You live and die by the sword.
8 That's the way it is. But Dennis came in with Paul
9 Rico. He was elated this day about getting these
10 guys convicted, and he made the statement, I wonder
11 how Louie Greco likes it on death row, and he
12 wasn't even there. I was thinking, why was he
13 saying that.

14 There were four or five of us in the
15 room. Steve, Rico, myself, and Dennis Condon. I
16 don't know if George was there that day or not.
17 They were ecstatic that they had pulled this off.
18 And I got into a heated conversation with them and
19 said how can you say that, Dennis.

20 Now, mind you, I don't know Louie Greco,
21 but he was specifically zeroing in on Louie Greco,
22 for whatever he did to him, except he was an LCN
23 member. I said you're a Knights of Columbus,
24 you're a holy name society, and I know this because
25 we had conversations about this. We used to get

1 into it. I don't know anything about the Knights
2 of Columbus. If I even suggested to my father to
3 take me into the Knights of Columbus, he might have
4 hit me in the head with a hammer.

5 MR. DURHAM: He didn't think you were
6 ready yet for that?

7 MR. SALEMME: I wasn't ready yet for
8 that, but come to find out they have quite an
9 initiation. The Mafia induction ceremony has
10 nothing compared to theirs.

11 MR. DURHAM: Yours was short and sweet in
12 comparison?

13 MR. SALEMME: In comparison. But anyway,
14 he said well, if you're so smart and you think you
15 know so much, why don't you get on the stand and
16 testify. I said Dennis, who's going to listen to
17 me, who's going to believe me. I'll go on the
18 stand if you do. I said you won't get by St. Peter
19 in the gate, you can't, you broke one of the ten
20 commandments, thou shalt not bear false witness,
21 you can't get by him, Dennis.

22 The more I kept hitting him with that, he
23 got mad, and there were words back and forth. It
24 was much more extensive. Once I hit the sore spot
25 of the religious aspect with him, then he really

1 blew his top. Rico was on the other side looking
2 at Flemmi. In retrospect I knew what it was. I
3 could catch the look, but I didn't know at the
4 time.

5 The look in my estimation now was him,
6 Rico, saying to Flemmi, does he know, meaning what
7 they had done with Barboza and the rest of it. I
8 know what that look is now. I wasn't told that.
9 It's just my own visual conception of what happened
10 then. Do you follow me?

11 MR. WILSON: It's fair to say, then, from
12 what you knew at the time, that Stephen Flemmi did
13 not confide in you specifically.

14 MR. SALEMME: No. I never could have
15 tolerated that. George McLaughlin was one of the
16 participants in the McLaughlin and McLean feud, our
17 feud, and they wanted to keep -- Rico hated him,
18 too, and he made a suggestion -- he got indicted
19 for murder, George McLaughlin. That's when Punchy
20 McLaughlin, Eddie McLaughlin got killed. He was on
21 the way to the trial of Georgie McLaughlin.

22 He had to show up at a certain time in
23 the courthouse, but this was the Suffolk Superior
24 Court house in downtown Boston. It's tough to walk
25 up to a guy and snuff him right there. I mean,

1 that's too much. But he had to get to there, so
2 that's what made me -- that's how important that
3 address was.

4 That address was a starting point, and
5 then picking him up in different spots until he
6 finally got to the VA hospital at West Roxbury,
7 when the bus made a turn around, at the bus stop,
8 make the hit, back out again on the road, and there
9 was no jeopardy to people around. You could back
10 out again, and you were blinded from trees and
11 everything, and nobody could really see what
12 happened unless they witnessed the murder, and they
13 couldn't get back outside on the road.

14 Paul Rico had made a suggestion to Stevie
15 that there was a kid -- Georgie killed a kid at a
16 project at a christening right down the street from
17 my garage, and there were some girls that were
18 going to go in and testify that Georgie wasn't the
19 one that did it. Paul Rico had got this
20 information, and he said to Stevie while I was
21 there in the garage, you know, it would be nice if
22 these girls didn't show up, if somebody could talk
23 to these girls and not have them show up for
24 Georgie.

25 So after Paul left, I said Steve, no way,

1 we hope this little clown comes out, you don't want
2 to get involved in something like that.
3 Unbeknownst to me, that was the first thing he
4 wanted to do. But anyway, it wasn't done. He got
5 convicted anyway.

6 MR. YEAGER: You had talked earlier about
7 putting two and two together and looking at
8 documentation and concluding that Stevie Flemmi had
9 gone to Walpole to talk to Barboza instead of his
10 brother. Maybe this came up in the interview, but
11 I'm not understanding what you're talking about.

12 MR. SALEMME: We got arrested in 1995, or
13 the indictments came out in '95. We filed a motion
14 about 1997, I think, to disclose informants.
15 Anthony Cardinale put the motion in on my behalf.
16 I sat down and told him something doesn't smell
17 right, Tony. He said he was going to put in a
18 motion to disclose. I said disclose everybody.
19 That's when we got the 176 coconspirators and all
20 that stuff. But this documentation came out, and
21 Steve Flemmi was disclosed as an informant during
22 these hearings.

23 MR. DURHAM: Well, he had disclosed
24 himself. He identified himself eventually in his
25 affidavits that he was an informant.

1 MR. SALEMME: Not beforehand. He didn't
2 disclose himself; we disclosed him. And when the
3 Bureau went in with the documentation to say Steve
4 Flemmi was an informant, Judge Wolf excused us from
5 the room. We were in an in camera session, much as
6 we are now, and we left the room and sat outside
7 saying what's this all about, and Tony said what do
8 you think, and I said I think you're right.

9 So then Judge Wolf said, I have to make
10 this disclosure to you people, which he knew all
11 along, but it's not within his legal right to say
12 it until he put in this documentation, that
13 Mr. Flemmi is an informant for the Federal Bureau
14 of Investigation for so many years, I forget how
15 many years, 30 years or whatever it was, but he
16 said he has chosen not to put himself in protective
17 custody, he wants to stay down and fight the case.

18 That's when he said to see, Mr. Salemme,
19 I don't want any problems to happen to Mr. Flemmi
20 because there's documentation coming out that you
21 might not be happy with. So I said well, your
22 Honor, you have my word nothing will happen to him,
23 but I can't give you everybody else's word, I'm not
24 God here.

25 That's why I brought it up in court to

1 Judge Wolf, but he knew what I meant. I said all
2 right, I'll give you my word that nothing happens.
3 And he said well, I'm quite sure if you give me
4 your word you'll see that nothing happens. I said
5 I'll do my best, your Honor.

6 But there came out documentation, this
7 much (indicating), every single day. So one day he
8 said, when stuff was coming out, he said that f'ing
9 Paul Rico, he told me this wasn't going in writing.
10 And I said well, so much for Paul Rico's word. He
11 would tell me things before it would even come out
12 because he knew it was coming out when it pertained
13 to me.

14 They put a Title 3 in in December of
15 1987, I wasn't even out of prison yet, and they
16 said Steve Flemmi was going to be the informant for
17 me and they were going to set a Title 3 on me. It
18 was Operation Jungle Mist, I think, an extension of
19 that. But to answer your question, it was kind of
20 a long way to get there --

21 MR. YEAGER: Much later in time, though.

22 MR. SALEMME: Exactly. And I confronted
23 Stephen Flemmi after that time, when that
24 documentation came out in Plymouth. Now it's like
25 the proverbial light bulb or hammer, bong,

1 everything goes off at once, and I knew then. I
2 could see that scene in the garage just like it was
3 yesterday, and I could see the visit to Walpole
4 just like that. It just put it together. It was
5 just the last piece of the puzzle. That was it.
6 We had a ton of documentation probably this high
7 (indicating). You could probably fill this room
8 with all the stuff that was out there.

9 MR. WILSON: There may be something sort
10 of in the middle of this chronology, sort of
11 walking through your interaction with Stephen and
12 Jimmie Flemmi. There's the real estate office, and
13 that's right after the Deegan murder, and then a
14 couple of years go by, and then there's the
15 situation where Stephen Flemmi goes into Walpole.
16 It's my recollection that you described to us
17 another meeting where you had a conversation with
18 Jimmie Flemmi in Walpole.

19 MR. SALEMME: That was afterwards. That
20 was 1973. Chronologically it wouldn't fit in right
21 where you are right now. It was afterwards.

22 MR. WILSON: We may as well talk about
23 that now. There was this meeting between yourself
24 and Jimmie Flemmi in Walpole in 1973 approximately.

25 MR. SALEMME: It wasn't a meeting. We

1 were incarcerated in Walpole. I got arrested in
2 '72 and incarcerated and convicted in '73, June.
3 When I got to Walpole, Limone and Tameleo and
4 Greco and all those guys were out in population.
5 They were off death row at that time. Joe Barboza
6 had been arrested for a gun violation and went back
7 into Walpole. He was in 10 Block, in isolation.
8 That's when he decided he was going to recant, when
9 he recanted the recantation and all that. You know
10 all about that. When I got there, Henry, who I was
11 friendly with --

12 MR. WILSON: Henry Tameleo?

13 MR. SALEMME: Yes. He was the elder
14 statesman of the New England crime family. He was
15 around before Raymond was even thought of. They
16 were having conversations, and naturally they would
17 call me into the conversation. I lived in A1, and
18 Jimmie Flemmi would come in and be all paranoid
19 because he would see us talking. He didn't know
20 Joe Barboza was recanting, and he didn't know what
21 Joe Barboza was putting in their heads and telling
22 them he was part of this thing.

23 So when I would finish with a meeting
24 with those -- not a meeting, but a conversation in
25 Henry's rooms. Henry lived in the Flats, we

1 called, it, so there would be three or four of us
2 talking, and he would come by and look in but never
3 interrupt. So when I'd leave and go back up to the
4 block, he was also curious. One day he was stoned
5 out of his mind and decides to come into my cell on
6 the third tier.

7 He said, what are you going doing, what
8 were you talking about down there, were you talking
9 about me, in other words. I said, what do you
10 mean, what were we talking about. You don't ask
11 those questions. I don't ask you what you're
12 talking about when you're with Dick or somebody.
13 I said, why, what's the matter. You know, he says,
14 I had to do what I had to do, I had to protect
15 myself, I had to do what I had to do.

16 So then he starts getting pushy, you
17 know, I don't like the idea of you letting
18 everybody know what my brother did, you know he's
19 in Montreal, and I swear to this day I didn't know
20 he was in Montreal. I didn't know he was up there.
21 But he says, you're letting these guys know where
22 my brother is, I had to do what I had to do, and
23 you shouldn't discuss my business and my brother's
24 business with them. I said what do you mean, you
25 to do what you had to do, explain that to me.

1 And he gets kind of flighty and bounced
2 off my bookcase and all my books started falling,
3 and I grabbed him, and he starts shouting, so I
4 push him out and throw him against the rail. The
5 next day he came in the kitchen, we had a little
6 kitchen set up, and he was apologizing. I know now
7 what it was, but I knew it stunk, what he said
8 right there, but I didn't know what it really
9 meant. Again, another piece of the puzzle went in
10 that fit with the documentation.

11 MR. WILSON: There's no concise way to
12 ask this question, but we've forwarded now sort of
13 past the time of the Deegan trial, but let's go
14 back to the time when Joe Barboza seems like he's
15 going to be cooperating and nobody's sure what's
16 happening at the time. You told us Raymond
17 Patriarca was very concerned that he would somehow
18 be implicated in something and that Barboza would
19 testify against him.

20 Is there anything more you can tell us
21 about the Deegan murder prosecution and all the
22 events that were taking place around the murder
23 prosecution? For example, did you have any
24 interactions with people like Paul Rico about what
25 was going on at that time?

1 MR. SALEMME: No. Like I said before,
2 Jim, I was not concerned with that. I mentioned my
3 concern for Vincent Flemmi only because of Stevie
4 Flemmi, who I thought was my friend. Teddy Deegan
5 was a nonentity. As far as I was concerned he was
6 a maverick. He put himself in his position. Roy
7 and him were -- that was one thing that came up,
8 mentioning Roy. Roy was the one that lugged him on
9 the pretense of the score. He was one of the ones
10 that shot him. They threatened -- that's another
11 thing. See, it's hard to remember everything.

12 MR. DURHAM: When you say Roy, you're
13 talking about Roy French, just for the record?

14 MR. SALEMME: Right, who I got to know
15 very well in Walpole. He was a nice guy, but he
16 went soft after he set up his friend. He didn't
17 have to do that. There's a certain amount of honor
18 you have to have even among thugs like us. If you
19 don't have it, like me setting up Stevie would be
20 out of the question, you know. I'd rather go down
21 or him and I take off and go down fighting, and all
22 the time he's given up on me. I would never do
23 that. That was my mindset in the '40, '50s and
24 '60s. You just didn't do those things.

25 They got Roy to lug him, and they were

1 going to kill Roy. That's one of the things that
2 came up in the conversation with Jimmie Flemmi,
3 that they were going to kill Roy, and Roy brought
4 him in, and he thought he was going on a burglary
5 with Roy, and the kid Stathopoulos drove them
6 there, but Roy was one of the triggermen in the
7 alley. Subsequently he did go a little nuts. He'd
8 made an altar out of the toilet bowl and was
9 blessing himself with the toilet water. We didn't
10 see it, but we heard it from the guys. They said
11 this guy's gone nuts.

12 MR. WILSON: At the time of the Deegan
13 trial, when it was clear that there were a bunch of
14 guys who were facing a death sentence and Jimmie
15 Flemmi wasn't one of them, was there any talk
16 amongst yourselves as to how Jimmie Flemmi managed
17 to get off the hook?

18 MR. SALEMME: No. The only talk would be
19 with myself and Steve, you know, that Joe Barboza
20 was his friend, was Jimmie Flemmi's friend, and he
21 wouldn't put Jimmie in with it, he took Jimmie out
22 of it. That part of it was all right morally, if
23 that's such a term, gangster morals, in other
24 words, not legitimate people or real world morals.

25 In other words, for Jimmie to accept

1 that, in other words, what could I do, I can't tell
2 them to stop doing it, not that it was all right
3 for Joe Barboza to do it. It was all right for
4 Vincent to accept that, but he should have been a
5 little more adamant probably in saying don't do
6 that to them. But that wasn't him anyway, and not
7 many guys would do that. He wasn't ratting out
8 anybody in one sense; he was just accepting a gift
9 of life from Joe Barboza.

10 MR. WILSON: From what you just said,
11 I've concluded that Stephen Flemmi did say to you
12 that Joe Barboza kept Jimmie out because they were
13 friends.

14 MR. SALEMME: Exactly.

15 MR. WILSON: And that was just in various
16 conversations you had?

17 MR. SALEMME: It was kind of an unspoken
18 thing. It was obvious that he left Jimmie out of
19 it. I know Jimmie was there because he said he was
20 there.

21 MR. DURHAM: Frank, did you say earlier
22 something about that Rico had provided a photograph
23 showing Raymond L.S. and Peter together?

24 MR. SALEMME: Yes.

25 MR. DURHAM: When did that occur?

1 MR. SALEMME: During the prosecution and
2 when he was going to put his defense on for Peter
3 Limone. There was a photograph, it had to be an
4 eight by ten, and it was a blown-up photograph of
5 Peter Limone.

6 MR. DURHAM: Like a surveillance
7 photograph?

8 MR. SALEMME: Yes.

9 MR. DURHAM: And who did he show it to?

10 MR. SALEMME: I took it down to the north
11 end to Joe Lombardo, he was the consigliere for the
12 family at that time, and explained that they were
13 going to use a defense of Peter not knowing them,
14 that they'd better not do it, here's a photograph.
15 Why this guy did that to build himself up to me, I
16 don't know, but I took the photograph and went down
17 with it. It should be a matter of record, that
18 photograph.

19 MR. WILSON: This is a question that goes
20 out of chronology a little bit, but just to get a
21 sense of Jimmie Flemmi and the gang war, you had
22 said previously that you personally didn't care
23 much about the gang war but Jimmie Flemmi did, and
24 that he was involved and more interested in what
25 was going on than some other people, yourself

1 included, and he sort of dragged you into it.

2 Can you give us a sense of why Jimmie
3 Flemmi was interested in the gang war?

4 MR. SALEMME: First of all and most
5 important, he was in the can with a lot of these
6 guys. He was in the can with Buddy McLean, with
7 Tony Dagostino, Joe McDonald, names that might ring
8 a bell to you from your investigation. Plus, he
9 wanted to be Mr. Macho around in the gang. He
10 wasn't interested in like starting a business or
11 having a business going like I was. I wanted my
12 football business, I wanted my car business and all
13 that stuff. I had that going.

14 He was into the night scene, going to
15 after hour joints, all that stuff. And he had
16 arguments with guys from around the Dorchester
17 Roxbury area, with Jimmie O'Toole, who was part of
18 the McLaughlin gang. He had an argument with him.
19 Buddy I liked very much. I might have even given
20 him a heads up a couple of times. I'm pretty sure
21 I did. And I wouldn't do that for the other crowd.
22 Although I met Punchy a couple of times, he wasn't
23 my cup of tea, and the Hughes brothers, they were
24 dangerous guys, just enough to keep your distance,
25 you know.

1 MR. WILSON: I'm going to read something
2 that I got recently to you and see if you can help
3 me with some of the names here, if I can find it.
4 Let me just read this to you and see if you can
5 help me out with some of the names. These couple
6 of sentences come from some notes that were taken
7 when an FBI special agent was listening to the
8 microphone surveillance of Raymond Patriarca. He
9 wrote stuff down by hand. This was three days
10 before Teddy Deegan was killed on March 9, 1965.

11 Jimmie tells Raymond they are having a
12 problem with Teddy Deegan, Teddy did what he did to
13 press some other people. Jimmie says that the kid,
14 they're talking about Rico Sacramoni, did not have
15 to be killed. Bobby did not, he is friendly with
16 Rico Sacramoni, and Deegan is looking for an excuse
17 to whack Donati. Donati thinks he's trying to set
18 him up for Buddy McLean. This is what Jimmie
19 Flemmi's telling Patriarca three days before Deegan
20 gets killed.

21 How does this fellow Bobby Donati fit
22 into the landscape?

23 MR. SALEMME: Bobby and Nicky Donati are
24 two brothers, a street kid, a thief, you know, who
25 was suspected in the Gardner Museum robbery, but he

1 subsequently gets killed too, found in Revere
2 killed in a trunk. But at the time he's a
3 knock-around kid. He and his brother track, you
4 know, choosing horses, all that stuff. He would be
5 a setup guy, but he had no courage whatsoever face
6 up, one-on-one. Nicky was a more standup guy than
7 him.

8 MR. WILSON: Was Donati tied in the
9 McLaughlin side of the gang war?

10 MR. SALEMME: I would say no. Donati was
11 east Boston, Revere, so he would be on neither
12 side. But if somebody asked him to do a favor for
13 them, like Barboza, Cassesso, he would definitely
14 look to -- even if he flubbed it at the end, he
15 would agree that he would do it. That's my
16 interpretation of him.

17 MR. WILSON: The other interesting thing
18 about this exchange between Jimmie Flemmi and
19 Patriarca, Flemmi says, and this is a quote from
20 the notes, Deegan fills Peter Limone's head with
21 all kinds of stories.

22 Can you shed any light on Teddy Deegan
23 and any relationship he might have had with Peter
24 Limone at the time?

25 MR. SALEMME: Teddy Deegan is a west end

1 kid. Peter Limone is a west end kid. That's an
2 Italian-Jewish section. It's now all hospitals,
3 very little domestic housing there at all. It was
4 all old tenement houses, three-deckers and all
5 that. Limone had an after hours club on Cambridge,
6 the Harvard Gardens on Cambridge Street. Up above
7 was his club, and everybody went there, all the
8 late night wannabe guys. They'd all end up there
9 or the Coliseum or one of those places.

10 They could have been on burglaries
11 together, too. They could have done a few
12 burglaries together. But shortly after -- I don't
13 know about that document, but shortly after -- it
14 was around that time Raymond L.S. -- Stevie and I
15 both went to see Raymond L.S. I think he asked to
16 see me. He used to go to Tom DiSilva, the trucking
17 firm. He had a piece of Tom DiSilva, and he'd get
18 word to me that the man George wants to see me.

19 MR. DURHAM: George was the code for
20 Patriarca?

21 MR. SALEMME: He called him George. So
22 we went down there, and we had a conversation, but
23 I know the conversation we were having with him
24 wasn't really the conversation that he wanted to
25 see us about.

1 So when we were leaving he said Frank, he
2 says, hold up a second, Steve. And he said Frank,
3 I just want to explain something to Stevie here, so
4 I was from here to the door, and I said sure, go
5 ahead. He didn't want to say anything in front of
6 me to embarrass Stevie. That's the protocol of
7 that situation. He said listen, your brother's
8 coming down here, he's coming down here with
9 Barboza, I don't want him down here anymore, I want
10 you to talk to him and tell him not to come here
11 anymore, in other words showing his respect to
12 Stevie instead of just ordering his brother out.

13 He said tell your brother to stay out of
14 here, and so I says I will. Probably not too long
15 after that scene, as far as I know, I never went
16 down there again. But it was more of a kiss-off
17 with George. He would like kiss them off, you
18 know, more than anything, but he was in a position
19 he shouldn't even have accepted it, but I could
20 never question him. And I said, what are you going
21 to do, let these guys in? They used to buy him
22 boxes of Cuban cigars and white stockings. He was
23 diabetic and wore white stockings. But he used to
24 let the guys in the office down there.

25 MR. WILSON: One of the documents that

1 we've seen talks about Patriarca saying that Flemmi
2 and Barboza should check with Angiulo before the
3 Deegan murder, and I know we talked about this last
4 time, but my question is: Is that in character
5 with the way things would have worked?

6 MR. SALEMME: He would tell them that was
7 part of the kiss-off, oh, don't worry about it,
8 I'll check with Angiulo, don't worry, in other
9 words don't come down here looking for an answer,
10 go see Jerry, kissing it off to him, if there was
11 even going to be an answer.

12 And if you had the other side of it, if
13 there was a follow-up somehow, then I'd say well,
14 then the whole conversation was legitimate. But to
15 me it sounds like it was just a kiss-off. And why
16 did they go to Angiulo? I know Jimmie Flemmi used
17 to go to Angiulo and took credit. He took credit
18 for the Punchy McLaughlin murder and got \$500 off
19 of Angiulo. Raymond L.S. said Jimmie went down.
20 And they'd go along with it.

21 All he wanted to do was have notches on
22 his gun. He was like something from the OK Corral.
23 The more notches he had on his gun the bigger man
24 he thought he was, but all the while these guys
25 would be thinking what a fool you are, we know who

1 did it. Raymond L.S. knew what was happening. He
2 knew what I was doing and who took part in this and
3 that, he did, but he was the only one.

4 MR. WILSON: Just to move back to the
5 issue of the police reports and what was going on
6 in law enforcement at the time of the Deegan trial,
7 maybe if we can step back a minute. We touched
8 upon the DiSeglio trial before and you had some
9 concerns and didn't answer some questions about
10 DiSeglio. If we could just move through that
11 fairly quickly and get a sense of what happened
12 with the DiSeglio trial.

13 MR. SALEMME: Well, I didn't have
14 concerns about the murder itself.

15 MR. WILSON: For the record, we had some
16 concerns about our asking some questions at that
17 time without the immunity order being granted.

18 MR. SALEMME: I don't think that would
19 have mattered anyway, the immunity. The witnesses
20 now are gone. I went into the courthouse, Suffolk
21 Superior Court house, one evening. The head
22 custodian in there was a fellow from the
23 neighborhood, an old-timer, Benjamin Eisenstadt.
24 His brother was a judge, Tommy Eisenstadt. And
25 Raymond L.S. -- at that time jury fixing was not

1 beyond the realm of possibility, more so then than
2 it is today.

3 I knew one of the jurors, and I went in
4 and spoke to that juror, with her husband, and got
5 her -- her and her friend was the forelady of the
6 jury, and they'd come back not guilty.

7 MR. WILSON: Now, at that time, when all
8 these three trials are sort of percolating, there's
9 this Angiulo prosecution for the DiSeglio murder,
10 the Marfeo conspiracy, and the Deegan case, were
11 you getting any feedback or information from law
12 enforcement at the time as to what was really going
13 on behind the scenes?

14 MR. SALEMME: I know we were, and I can't
15 come up with it off the top of my head right now,
16 but I know we were getting feedback on it. I know
17 the Marfeo trial, for instance, I think I went over
18 this, with how Raymond was perturbed with Joe
19 Balliro. He was supposed to put on a defense
20 for --

21 MR. WILSON: You had mentioned that some
22 Marfeo family members might come and testify, and
23 Angiulo discouraged Patriarca from going down that
24 path, and they ended up not putting witnesses on.

25 MR. SALEMME: He actually discouraged Joe

1 Balliro to go in when he talked to Raymond before
2 the trial or when they had their conferences that
3 this would not be a good idea and this was their
4 opinion. And Raymond, he was furious for a long
5 time with Jerry Angiulo.

6 MR. WILSON: So what about individual
7 members of the police force, the local police
8 force? Did you get any feedback or intelligence
9 from them about any of the various events involving
10 Barboza, if you can recall? Bill Stewart, for
11 example?

12 MR. SALEMME: Bill Stewart would give
13 information. He's the one that I think told us
14 that -- I think it was Bill that said that --
15 Linsky was the cop, Linsky was the detective that
16 set up Joe Barboza and put the pistol in his car.
17 He was the one that arrested him, and he said he
18 set him up. And I'm 99 percent sure it was Bill
19 Stewart. But we got a lot of information, you
20 know, plate numbers, like different guys, like
21 Jimmie O'Toole, what he was driving. Jimmie
22 O'Toole was another one of Dottie Barshad's -- he's
23 the one that had two kids with Dottie.

24 MR. WILSON: I'll get back and ask a
25 couple of questions about O'Toole in a bit, but

1 what about Ed Walsh? Did he provide any
2 information?

3 MR. SALEMME: Eddie Walsh, my
4 understanding was he was giving information to Nick
5 Angiulo, who was Jerry's brother, but I don't know
6 that firsthand, and I never heard it. Bill
7 Stewart, as a matter of fact, or one of them, might
8 have been the ones that said that, you know, be
9 careful when he comes down here because he goes
10 right back to Angiulo with everything, but he was
11 the one that kicked in Angiulo's door. He led the
12 charge on Angiulo when the indictments came down.
13 But there was Bill McLean.

14 There was a whole bunch of -- Jimmie
15 Flemmi one time -- what the hell was their names,
16 the two cops -- shot a guy in the south end. Was
17 it -- he shot one of the guys in the south end, and
18 they witnessed the shooting. Jimmie Flemmi got out
19 of the car and left, and they took the car and
20 pushed it out of their division so it would be in
21 another division and they wouldn't have to
22 investigate it.

23 They came down to the corner and got
24 \$2,500 off of Steve, Steve Flemmi, so they wouldn't
25 have to explain what they did. But that's the era

1 that it was, anything for money, even murder. But
2 the end justified the means. Like I think I said
3 before to you, it wasn't considered illegal to do
4 that kind of thing, as crazy as that may sound
5 today.

6 MR. WILSON: What about police reports?
7 At the time of the Deegan trial or the other two
8 trials, did you or any of your friends or Patriarca
9 have access to any of the police reports? We have
10 them so we've seen them. There were a number of
11 different contemporaneous police reports about the
12 Deegan murder.

13 Three years later, when the trial was
14 taking place, did you have in your possession or
15 any of your friends have in their possession these
16 police reports?

17 MR. SALEMME: I don't think so. I know
18 like the captain with the turned up plate or the
19 guy with the bald wig, all of that came out, but I
20 don't remember written documents. Subsequently I
21 come to find out that there was all kinds of
22 notification by different agencies. Chelsea
23 certainly was informed. Revere was certainly
24 informed. We were given a statement about who was
25 involved initially, and that was somehow brushed

1 aside. We found that all out afterwards, but at
2 the time, no, I didn't see any written documents.
3 It was all street talk.

4 MR. WILSON: We went over this last time,
5 so we won't take much time, but with Stathopoulos,
6 he was under the impression that John Fitzgerald
7 was involved in a couple of attempts to kill him.
8 Are you aware of any involvement between anybody in
9 reference to kill Stathopoulos?

10 MR. SALEMME: No, I'm not. I'm sure that
11 there was, but I can't think of it because he was
12 definitely supposed to be -- he was a witness, you
13 know, so whether it was the Barboza faction or
14 whether he was going to cooperate now with Barboza,
15 I can't really say. I hardly even knew the kid.
16 I'd see him around, and that was it.

17 MR. WILSON: Jimmie O'Toole, you
18 mentioned him briefly a little while ago. Do you
19 have any information that would sort of help us out
20 with Jimmie O'Toole? Did he have any real
21 involvement in what was going on?

22 MR. SALEMME: He was a member of the
23 McLaughlin gang. He was the one the night that
24 Jimmie Flemmi -- he was the one that Jimmie Flemmi
25 had an argument with on the phone, one of the ones,

1 and a short time afterwards they ambushed Jimmie
2 Flemmi at his house. Stevie was involved, and
3 naturally I was involved because he was my friend.
4 He was there the night Jimmie Flemmi got shot. It
5 was Jimmie O'Toole, Stevie Hughes, Punchy
6 McLaughlin, and Hughes drove the car. Those three
7 made the attempted hit on him in Dorchester,
8 Massachusetts.

9 MR. WILSON: Now, I think last time you
10 mentioned that there was a time when there would be
11 animosity between Fitzgerald and O'Toole. Can you
12 tell us about that?

13 MR. SALEMME: Well, Fitzgerald ended up
14 living with Dottie Bershad while he was in prison,
15 O'Toole. Jimmie O'Toole had vowed through street
16 talk that he was going to kill John Fitzgerald when
17 he got out. John Fitzgerald was now living with
18 her, and he had a wife and, I think, four kids in
19 Westwood, Massachusetts, which was the opposite end
20 of the universe as far as Everett, where he lived,
21 or Malden, I'm not sure, but they were side by
22 side. And Westwood, it was miles apart, plus you
23 had to go through the city to get there. So it
24 wasn't like he could sneak up there and see her and
25 sneak back home. He lived there.

1 MR. WILSON: But was there any sort of
2 talk that you're aware of about Fitzgerald wanting
3 to go after O'Toole?

4 MR. SALEMME: Positively. As a matter of
5 fact, it came out -- that's part of the
6 transcripts. At my trial, the in camera session,
7 there's 50 or 60 or 70 pages that I never got. I
8 know they had an in camera session, Mulvey, Roger
9 Donohue, F. Lee Bailey and John Fitzgerald. And
10 for character witnesses and whatever, we were
11 bringing in John O'Toole, who was Jimmie O'Toole's
12 brother, Dottie Bershad was coming in, and numerous
13 other witnesses to discredit Barboza and the mere
14 fact that somebody else had motive and means and
15 opportunity to kill John Fitzgerald.

16 And in this session in the back room,
17 this in camera session, I didn't have any idea what
18 an in camera session was at that time, and they
19 were in there for at least an hour and a half. And
20 at that meeting John Fitzgerald makes a joke.
21 Bailey says I've got to bring this up, he's going
22 to bring in Dottie Bershad. It's right in the
23 transcript, you hired me, you retained me to
24 represent you, and if you killed James O'Toole I
25 was to represent you, and if you got killed by

1 O'Toole I was to give the money to Dottie Bershad,
2 how do I get around that.

3 So they're going back and forth, and
4 Mulvey interjects, and then Fitzgerald says I'll
5 bring up about you, and he mentions a time that F.
6 Lee Bailey had a girl that he had some kind of a
7 relationship with. Well, what good's that going to
8 do? Roger Donohue got up in the middle with the
9 judge and said let's get all this together, let's
10 come to a decision here, I've got a jury waiting
11 out there, what are you going to do? So they made
12 the agreement not to bring my defense in. They
13 threw my defense out.

14 So when he came out, Bailey got me in a
15 huddle and said trust me, you don't want to bring
16 this up, you don't want to make this guy look bad.
17 So subsequently Fitzgerald walks in and limps down
18 the aisle, he had a walker, and he never did this
19 much to scratch him, all because of Bailey and him,
20 the judge and Mulvey making this agreement in the
21 in camera session to leave this part of the defense
22 in, but he kept giving me this, don't worry about
23 it, it's okay, it's okay, don't worry about it.

24 There was an evidentiary hearing where
25 all this came out, all this, but Judge Donohue

1 ruled against it then on a conflict of interest,
2 newly discovered evidence, when I filed this, and I
3 wasn't supposed to get this, I got this by
4 accident. I filed a motion for an evidentiary
5 hearing in front of Roger Donohue, who was now
6 sitting, they interchange counties up there with
7 Superior Courts, but he went from Middlesex, where
8 I was convicted, to Suffolk County.

9 And we had a lengthy hearing on that
10 along with a state police report about a fellow by
11 the name of Sonny Calantonio that tried to
12 assassinate John Fitzgerald out at the lounge, the
13 Dedham Lounge at the Rotary circle. That was all
14 stuff that I didn't know about.

15 MR. WILSON: When did that happen, that
16 attempt?

17 MR. SALEMME: Probably three weeks before
18 the bombing, three or four weeks. He used to go
19 into this place on the way home. He was a drinker.
20 Buddy was a ladies' man the drunker he got. So
21 Sonny Calantonio's girl who became his wife worked
22 as a waitress in this Dedham Lounge, and John
23 Fitzgerald stopped there a few times and used to
24 hit on her, for lack of a better word, and she
25 fluffed him off and told Sonny about it.

1 Sonny showed up one day. He comes in and
2 makes a play, and Sonny was an ex-boxer, and
3 punches him all over the place and knocks him out
4 into Washington Street, the main thoroughfare out
5 there, and gives him a good beating, booted him and
6 everything, and he told him he was going to kill
7 him. He gets up and gets away from there. Now
8 cops come around and break it all up. And he says
9 I'm going to kill you, Sonny Calantonio.

10 Detective Sergeant Hiteman of the
11 Massachusetts state police had this report. He
12 goes to the Dedham police station and makes the
13 report, John Fitzgerald, about Sonny Calantonio.

14 That's when the state police get called
15 in, and he makes that statement to a Detective
16 Sergeant Hiteman, and that's the Hiteman report
17 that I never got, but that was also turned over in
18 discovery as newly discovered evidence that went in
19 as part of my conflict of interest, newly
20 discovered evidence charge that I went before Judge
21 Donohue with. He took 23 months and shot it down
22 in half a paragraph.

23 MR. WILSON: A couple of questions about
24 Joe Barboza. After the Deegan trial do you know if
25 Barboza was coming back to Massachusetts?

1 MR. SALEMME: Definitely, yes.

2 MR. WILSON: And how do you know that and
3 what do you know?

4 MR. SALEMME: Well, it was common talk
5 that he was bouncing in and out. He was around the
6 Fall River New Bedford area. That's where he was
7 from anyway. There were kids around that would
8 occasionally come to Boston and look to buy a car.
9 I had a great business with legitimately buying
10 cars at Pontiac Village, Herb Connolly Buick,
11 luxury cars, fixing them up, and they'd come from
12 all over the state. You'd get that kind of word
13 that he was bouncing around from them. I think
14 there was police -- one of the police intelligence
15 reports, not a written report, that he had been
16 spotted down there.

17 MR. WILSON: Well, outside of the
18 documents that you might have seen, do you have any
19 knowledge or any recollection of Barboza doing any
20 work for law enforcement when he came back to
21 Massachusetts?

22 MR. SALEMME: Setting people up or
23 whatever?

24 MR. WILSON: Well, there are various
25 documents that go into certain things, things that

1 Barboza allegedly was involved in that say he was
2 brought back for various projects.

3 MR. SALEMME: I'm not aware of that.

4 MR. WILSON: What about Barboza's
5 activities once he was resettled? Were you aware
6 of anything that was going on with Joe Barboza once
7 he was moved out of Massachusetts, for example in
8 California, when he was there, the murder that he
9 committed there?

10 MR. SALEMME: Most of that time I was in
11 jail, but sometimes the word you get from the jail
12 grapevine is faster than you get on the streets,
13 believe me. And I knew what transpired with
14 Barboza and the killing of that fellow in Santa
15 Rosa or Santa Barbara or one of those places.

16 MR. WILSON: Santa Rosa.

17 MR. SALEMME: I know what transpired
18 there. Garroway, Jim Garroway or Bobby Garroway.

19 MR. DURHAM: Billy Garroway.

20 MR. SALEMME: Right. He's the one that
21 Barboza made this confession to that subsequently
22 led to the grabbing of the wife of the guy that
23 they killed out in California. That's when
24 Harrington and Rico went out there and said he
25 thought it was a guy -- the guy got shot in the

1 back of the head and buried. But anyway, she did
2 it in Montana, I believe. But that type of
3 information, sure, there was plenty of that.

4 MR. WILSON: Any other sort of inside
5 grapevine information about Joe Barboza and his
6 possible involvement in other killings?

7 MR. SALEMME: Was he involved?

8 MR. WILSON: Yes.

9 MR. DURHAM: What's the time frame you're
10 talking about?

11 MR. WILSON: After Barboza moved out of
12 Massachusetts. There was the Wilson murder, and
13 there were allegations of other murders as well.

14 MR. SALEMME: Romeo Martin he killed.
15 Those murders, there are plenty of those. The cab
16 driver they beat to death with a tire iron. But
17 afterwards out in California -- he ended up with a
18 Greek kid that used to be from Lynn, Massachusetts.
19 He ended up with him. Shamas. That's how he got
20 jacked up, through Shamas. But Shamas, I think,
21 was an informant. I don't know if I've heard that
22 or if I surmised that.

23 But anyway, he ended up with Shamas,
24 figuring out he could do good for himself making
25 money and shaking people down, and Shamas saw a

1 good way to get rid of a potential nemesis, and
2 that's when he made the call to Boston, you know.

3 MR. WILSON: And what do you know about
4 that from the time, not from subsequent documents
5 or --

6 MR. SALEMME: I don't know anything about
7 it firsthand at all. I know Joe Russo was not a
8 participant in that crime. I know he was in
9 Boston. Even though he pled out to it on a RICO,
10 he was in Boston at the time of the shooting. And
11 who the guys were, I can't say. I really can't say
12 truthfully how or who I heard it from. I know it
13 was not Joe Russo. He was in Boston. I know
14 people that were with him when that murder happened
15 in San Francisco and he was in Boston.

16 MR. WILSON: You know people who were
17 with Russo at the time?

18 MR. SALEMME: Right. But it was
19 definitely Shamas that set him up.

20 MR. WILSON: Paul Rico, we can shift our
21 attention to him briefly. When last we spoke you
22 talked about Ronnie Dermody, and if you could just
23 go back through the story that you recounted the
24 last time we talked, that would be helpful.

25 MR. SALEMME: Well, this call comes from

1 Buddy McLean. Dermody was high on Buddy's hit
2 list. He was a McLaughlin guy. He was living with
3 Dottie Bershad again at I think the Commodore Hotel
4 in Cambridge, Harvard Square. Dermody makes a
5 phone call, according to Buddy, to Paul Rico, and
6 makes a prearranged meet with Rico. Rico gets
7 ahold of Buddy to tell him where Dermody's going to
8 be, and Buddy goes there and kills him. He walks
9 out, kills Dermody, gets picked up and taken to
10 Rico's house in Belmont, that's where he's living
11 at the time, and gets safely tucked away for a few
12 days until the heat rolled over.

13 This is Buddy telling me. Although I
14 knew Paul Rico, I didn't know that Paul -- I never
15 approached him on something like that at this time,
16 but Paul's an all right guy, this is what he did
17 for me, you'll find he's all right, Frank, you can
18 trust Paul. It was all strictly from Buddy.

19 MR. WILSON: I think we covered this
20 before, but I'll ask the question again just for
21 clarity of the record. Rico's interest on the
22 McLean side versus the McLaughlin side came from
23 where?

24 MR. SALEMME: His like for Buddy and his
25 dislike for Punchy McLaughlin. He disliked

1 Georgie. He was a psychopath. He was dangerous,
2 psychopathic like, and he did not like him. He was
3 an O'Toole, and Georgie McLaughlin, they hung
4 together, that crazy part of the McLaughlin crowd.
5 They had a pretty good crowd around, and he had a
6 dislike for those guys and the way they used to
7 come after him.

8 MR. WILSON: Because of the surveillance
9 that you talked about before?

10 MR. SALEMME: Yes. Don't forget, Dennis
11 Condon was a Charlestown guy, and that's where this
12 McLaughlin crowd originated from, Charlestown, and
13 the Knights of Columbus were over there, but in
14 combination with the states and feds and all them,
15 they were all from the same area, and that's how
16 they knew each other.

17 MR. DURHAM: You'd mentioned earlier or
18 made reference to the fact that at one point you
19 and Stevie Flemmi had given Paul Rico a handgun or
20 maybe you just said a gun. Can you describe what
21 the circumstances were surrounding that and why you
22 gave him a gun?

23 MR. SALEMME: Well, he wanted a
24 throwaway. I'm sure he could have got a gun
25 somewhere, but he wanted a throwaway, one that's

1 clean, one that either had the numbers obliterated
2 or else could not be traced. When he made the
3 request, I had an arsenal all over the city in my
4 garages, so I went and got him a clean .38 and
5 slipped him the gun at the garage. He was in that
6 much concern, I won't say fear, because he wasn't
7 the type of guy that would show fear, he was a very
8 savvy, suave type guy, but he was very concerned.
9 And also, Georgie McLaughlin and Jimmie O'Toole
10 were lamsters at the time from the Georgie
11 McLaughlin gang.

12 MR. DURHAM: Would you define lamster for
13 the record?

14 MR. SALEMME: Fugitives from justice. I
15 keep going back to the vernacular. You can take
16 the boy out of Boston but you can't take Boston out
17 of the boy, and that's not the university side of
18 Boston, believe me. But Paul made the statement
19 about this gun, that if he got the opportunity to
20 bang out Georgie McLaughlin he was going to do it.
21 That was one of the concerns.

22 MR. WILSON: He said that to you?

23 MR. SALEMME: Right, to us, to Steve
24 Flemmi and myself. But I got the gun and handed it
25 to him. He said if he has an opportunity for

1 Georgie, Georgie's gone. But he was concerned
2 about, you know, about Stevie Hughes, a very
3 capable, very dangerous guy, and Punchy McLaughlin,
4 Eddie McLaughlin, also very dangerous.

5 MR. WILSON: Now, when we spoke last time
6 you mentioned a time when a car was given to Paul
7 Rico. If you could just tell us that story again,
8 please.

9 MR. SALEMME: Paul wanted a car, and I
10 think it was at Marshall Motors. Georgie Kauffman,
11 my partner, was going back and forth. George
12 bought the car for us and brought it to Marshall to
13 have it fixed because we used to do that. I didn't
14 want those guys coming to my garage. The more you
15 keep away from your area, the better off you are.
16 The normal truck thieves, that's one thing, but
17 when this gang thing was going on, we didn't want
18 everybody mobbed up down there.

19 I gave George cash to let him fix the
20 car, to buy the parts or whatever they had to do, I
21 gave him the cash for it. I'm almost a hundred
22 percent sure that the car was brought to Marshall
23 and fixed up, and he made the comment afterwards
24 thank you, that was a beautiful piece, no mention
25 about money. You don't mention those things. Just

1 like when the FBI car was fixed. I mean, it was a
2 substantial amount of damage.

3 MR. WILSON: It's my understanding that
4 Paul Rico brought in a government car that was
5 damaged and wanted you to fix it.

6 MR. SALEMME: It was a motor pool car.
7 He was down at the track and somehow got rammed and
8 had substantial damage to it, the right driver's
9 side fender, a door, a driver's side door, not that
10 he wasn't in the car at the time. Somebody rammed
11 him. Maybe they did it on purpose? Who knows. We
12 never ascertained just how it happened. But he
13 couldn't bring it back to the motor pool, he had to
14 get it fixed. If he had to go in with the car
15 damaged there was going to be too many explanations
16 or whatever. If it was true or wasn't, maybe this
17 lady can answer.

18 When he called for it to see if we were
19 going to be there, you know, Georgie took the phone
20 and said, Paul's on his way up with a car, it's
21 just a little fender, so I thought it was put a
22 skin on the fender and maybe a skin on the door.
23 And when I go up and see it, jeez. He left for a
24 while, but we didn't finish the car until 10:30 at
25 night, and it went out of there with the paint

1 still not even dry. But he was happy.

2 MR. WILSON: You mentioned before that
3 Flemmi got informant money from the FBI for the
4 information he was giving up, information about you
5 in particular. Was Rico getting any of that money?

6 MR. SALEMME: I would have no way of
7 knowing that, but he claimed -- when it came out in
8 Plymouth Steve Flemmi claimed to me that he never
9 got any money, because to me that was like the
10 ultimate. When it came out, I said for money, you
11 jewed this, I mean come on, I never got the money,
12 Paul took it, Paul took it, but that's him saying
13 it. Why would Paul take it unless he was hooked at
14 the track or something? I don't know, but I can't
15 believe he would be that petty, either.

16 But it was a substantial amount of money.
17 There was money for Patriarca, there was money for
18 Zannino, there was money for different information
19 that this clown was making up and turning in, some
20 made up and some not. I never tallied it up, but
21 it was a substantial amount, a few grand, if my
22 memory serves me right.

23 He claims that he never got the money,
24 but that could very well be to make himself not
25 look as bad, if that's possible. I mean, what's

1 the difference whether he did or didn't? Still, in
2 my eyes I couldn't change him from the low life
3 that he was.

4 MR. WILSON: So why do you think Stephen
5 Flemmi and Jimmie Flemmi became informants?

6 MR. SALEMME: Stevie Flemmi, no question,
7 loved the -- let me back up a little bit. He may
8 have become an informant because -- I'm convinced,
9 knowing what I learned at these hearings, that
10 Wimpy Bennett was an informant also. I'm convinced
11 of it. So he was a protegee of Wimpy Bennett's.
12 Him and Wimpy, they were together before I got into
13 it, when they had numbers and they had their
14 shylock. They used to be in the garage all the
15 time with me. I was never part of their business.
16 I didn't need it. I had my own thing. I didn't
17 want anybody to be part of me, and I didn't want to
18 be part of them. That was one reason.

19 Another reason, again in retrospect, I
20 think he was fascinated with it. It gave him a
21 safe boundary so that he could do what he wanted,
22 and obviously he could do what he wanted up until
23 the time that we got indicted. It gave him that
24 sense of security that he could continue his
25 criminal activity, and all he had to do was give up

1 on jerks like me and he'd be all set.

2 As it turns out, he had a natural dislike
3 for the LCN, that's for sure. I know he had a
4 physical confrontation with Baione and Phil
5 Wagenheimer, I believe at a pool room on Dudley
6 Street. Right down by my garage they had a
7 physical confrontation, but that was supposedly all
8 cleaned up, and that was part of what the
9 association with Raymond was about.

10 And Raymond -- and then we became
11 friendly with Larry. Don't forget, I didn't
12 mention this, but Larry was very friendly with
13 Stevie Hughes. Larry wanted to get involved in the
14 gang war for Stevie Hughes. He was in prison with
15 Stevie Hughes and he liked Stevie Hughes, and I
16 never was that close with him at that time. He
17 went to Raymond to get permission to be helpful to
18 the McLaughlin/Hughes faction.

19 So when I got word from Raymond to come
20 and see him, he explained to me what Larry had
21 done. He said but don't worry about it, you know.
22 And then he says, all the help you need you've got
23 with us, you know that, don't worry about Larry.
24 Now, Larry doesn't know whether Raymond told me or
25 not, and he's trying to be friendly and friendly

1 and friendly, you know, but I never let on.

2 Naturally I wouldn't let on what L.S. told me. But
3 maybe that was part of the dislike that Stevie had.

4 With Stevie, it's more personal with him.
5 Anything against him, it's personal. He doesn't
6 look at it, well, I know I had an argument with a
7 guy but for the good of everybody I'll overlook it.
8 That wasn't him. Do you follow me? He had a very
9 good rapport with Paul Rico, a very good rapport,
10 you could see that. I guess I did too up until the
11 time I had the argument with Dennis and I refused
12 the lunch. I know he hit on me that day because I
13 told him about it, that I can't do that.

14 MR. WILSON: What about Jimmie Flemmi?
15 It seems that one traditional reason for someone to
16 become an informant is that somebody's got
17 something on you and you're in a bind. What about
18 Jimmie?

19 MR. SALEMME: I don't know firsthand, but
20 it's very possible that they could have had that on
21 him. I don't know when he became an informant, but
22 after the Deegan murder it's very possible that
23 they held that over his head.

24 MR. DURHAM: Frank, did you know anything
25 about Jimmie Flemmi having been an FBI informant

1 for even a short period of time prior to the fairly
2 recent disclosure of materials in connection with
3 the Deegan murder?

4 MR. SALEMME: No.

5 MR. DURHAM: Would your knowledge be
6 limited, then, to what was disclosed in some of
7 these documents about the Deegan murder when
8 information spilled out? Your knowledge as to
9 whether Jimmie Flemmi was an informant, would it
10 just be based on what came out fairly recently on
11 that? You don't have any independent knowledge
12 that Jimmie was also an informant?

13 MR. SALEMME: I had this knowledge, and I
14 don't know which one of the Boston police brought
15 it to us, but he identified the fellows that shot
16 him when he was in the hospital. I knew that
17 anyway, but that report came out afterwards, and I
18 was told by, I don't know if it was Stewart or --
19 Jesus, I don't know who it was -- that he
20 identified the --

21 MR. DURHAM: The people who had shot him?

22 MR. SALEMME: The people who had shot
23 him. To me that's an informant.

24 MR. DURHAM: Sometimes the rest of us
25 don't understand these rules, but if you know who

1 shot you you're not supposed to say.

2 MR. SALEMME: Well, I got shot, I got
3 riddled, and I didn't say who did it. As a matter
4 of fact, they came in the ambulance with me. But
5 Tom Spottocino was the lieutenant detective for the
6 state police who was at my trial. He was a good
7 guy. He sat with me at the hospital. I wouldn't
8 say anything to him. I never said -- until this
9 day I really never said who shot me.

10 MR. WILSON: How about if we take a break
11 now?

12 (Whereupon, at 1:41 p.m., the proceedings
13 in the above-entitled matter were recessed, to
14 reconvene at 1:56 p.m., this same day.)

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1 AFTERNOON SESSION

2 (2:04 p.m.)

3 MR. WILSON: The microphone surveillance
4 of Raymond Patriarca is of great interest to the
5 committee. Earlier we talked about some of the
6 handwritten notes to some of the surveillance and
7 we had access to the tapes. If you could, tell us
8 what you know about Taglianetti and the efforts to
9 obtain copies of microphone surveillance
10 transcripts.

11 MR. SALEMME: Well, I don't really know
12 that Raymond gave the order for it. He didn't tell
13 me he did, but I know from Billy Candelmo and from
14 Louie Monacio that that was the reason, that they
15 were part of the Rhode Island faction. There's two
16 parts of the New England crime family, Boston and
17 Providence. That's what caused a friction when
18 Connecticut stepped into it.

19 But Monacio and Candelmo were part of,
20 although the same family, the New England crime
21 family. At that time it was known as the
22 Patriarca, but after the kid did what he did, they
23 changed it back to the New England crime family.

24 But that faction was upset that Louie
25 Taglianetti was taken out like that. He had a

1 young girlfriend and she was killed with him in the
2 car. That set a very bad taste, and that was the
3 reason for it. It could have been handled
4 differently. That faction of the family felt that
5 it shouldn't be done like that, that it was just
6 vindictive on his part. In one sense you can say
7 that. But if you're looking at it from the real
8 side of it, Louie Fox should have known better than
9 to have crossed him. I mean, after all, he's the
10 representate, the boss, and he had a purpose for
11 doing it. 18 months is not the end of the world,
12 and then save the girl. That's the bottom line.

13 MR. WILSON: Just for the purpose of the
14 record, Taglianetti was killed because he pursued
15 the requests to get the microphone surveillance
16 records?

17 MR. SALEMME: Right, to help me get a new
18 trial, an evidentiary hearing for a new trial on
19 newly discovered evidence that these tapes were
20 illegal and what was on those tapes was used to
21 prosecute. That's my understanding. I didn't get
22 that from Louie Fox. He was gone by then.

23 MR. WILSON: And you made a statement the
24 last time we spoke about Joseph Balliro and
25 microphone surveillance. If you could go back

1 through that, that would be helpful.

2 MR. SALEMME: Joe Balliro had information
3 that would have -- how the hell did that work now?
4 Man, I can't think. It would have helped Angiulo
5 and hurt Patriarca or helped Patriarca and hurt
6 Angiulo. But he was privy to that and he didn't
7 use it, and whoever it was was upset about it, and
8 it should have been used. I just can't think, Jim.

9 MR. WILSON: Is this something that
10 you've picked up from subsequent revelations or
11 something you knew about at the time?

12 MR. SALEMME: We knew about it at the
13 time. He had to get that from L.S., because he's
14 the one that had the connections anyway to get it
15 down there, connections with the Providence
16 Journal. There was nothing in the State of Rhode
17 Island that this man didn't have control of,
18 including the chief justice.

19 MR. WILSON: And why do you say that?

20 MR. SALEMME: Well, he didn't want the
21 tapes.

22 MR. WILSON: I'm asking specifically
23 about the chief justice.

24 MR. SALEMME: Because that would have
25 come out, that he had conversations with either the

1 vending company or the cleaners with the chief
2 justice and about the chief justice. That's a very
3 close-knit community down there. Maybe in Boston
4 the chief justice wouldn't go into it, but up in
5 Federal Hill, it's a very, very small community,
6 Rhode Island, very small, and I think the state is
7 like 75 percent Italian. They just elected an
8 Italian governor again now. But he wanted that
9 protection for Joe Bevilacqua.

10 MR. WILSON: One thing we didn't finish
11 before, just to jump back, was the chronology after
12 you left Massachusetts and went down to New York
13 and Stephen Flemmi had gone off to California and
14 come back.

15 MR. SALEMME: Well, we went to California
16 before I went back to New York.

17 MR. WILSON: Let's go through the rest of
18 that chronology, because we haven't touched on it
19 today.

20 MR. SALEMME: I have him back in New York
21 now and I'm back in New York, and we're living in
22 Billy Candelmo's apartment until we can get put up
23 in our own places, so I had plenty of time to talk
24 to him about it. And that was the conversation.
25 Was initially when he came back, it was on Poulos,

1 and I didn't want to keep dwelling on it with him
2 because it made him uncomfortable when I brought it
3 up. So I thought I can't resurrect this kid,
4 what's done is done, but I had to say something, I
5 had to say something, why, and in his mind it was
6 because this guy, if he ever did come in, would be
7 a damaging witness.

8 MR. WILSON: Was there a concern at the
9 time that Poulos was an informant?

10 MR. SALEMME: It was no concern of mine,
11 unless he knew something about him being an
12 informant. I don't know.

13 MR. WILSON: Moving forward from that
14 time until the time that you had your encounter
15 with John Connolly on the street, sort of walk us
16 forward to the point where you and Connolly met up
17 on the street.

18 MR. SALEMME: It was a strictly by chance
19 meeting. I went to the Prudential Center off of
20 the Massachusetts turnpike, which is a pretty good
21 place to slip a surveillance if you had any. You
22 could take turns that if somebody else took them
23 with you, you could pick up on them immediately,
24 and it's a good spot to go because you could leave
25 your car and walk around.

1 I happened to be on the phone this one
2 particular day, and I hear Frankie, Frankie, and I
3 look up and there's John Connolly walking up to me.
4 I was talking to DeLuca on the phone, giving him a
5 call back on the beeper to call me back. I said
6 I'll call you back, that Connolly kid is calling
7 for me, and I hung up.

8 He struck up a conversation about jeez,
9 it's good to see you, you look great, that type of
10 thing, good to see you, John. He said, you know,
11 no hard feelings, I did what I had to do, and we
12 shook hands. And I said no hard feelings, John, I
13 told Walt Steffens and another agent, I can't think
14 of who it was, when they came to my house. In
15 other words, I knew what they were doing out there.
16 I said I had no hard feelings with John Connolly, I
17 knew him from when he was a kid from the L Street
18 bath house. John Connolly, Ray Flynn, they were
19 all over there, younger than me by a few years.

20 I told Steffens that I liked Connolly,
21 that I had no hard feelings. So we talked, and he
22 said why don't you come up to my office. I said I
23 can't go today, John. He said why don't you come
24 up, you have an open invitation to come up to my
25 office any time. I think it was the 30th floor,

1 the 31st floor. It was up there somewhere in the
2 Prudential Center.

3 So we made a little more small talk. I
4 get back on the phone, shook hands with him, and
5 made my appointments. I met with DeLuca and my
6 son, Frank, Jr., and I explained to them later at
7 lunch what happened. My son said why don't you go
8 up, and DeLuca said yeah, go up, and I said why go
9 up, and he said well, because you don't know what
10 he'll say, let's see what he has to say, we're
11 taking care of this guy after all.

12 So the next day or the day after I went
13 up and announced myself to the secretary, and she
14 went inside, and out he comes, come in, come in,
15 his arm around me, come in. We sat for a pretty
16 lengthy conversation that day. The text of the
17 conversation was basically -- well, he had a
18 manuscript of a book and a movie, but the book was
19 the big thing. He said he was writing a book, and
20 he carries a big conversation on, and I said that's
21 great.

22 So he says you're going to be a big part
23 of it. I says, me. To myself, I'm saying good
24 thing I came up, to myself I'm saying this. And he
25 explains to me, you were one of the most standup

1 guys I ever met in my life, even when I was a kid,
2 you went to jail like a man, blowing smoke, you
3 know, and I said yeah, right. And he says, you
4 know, Jules and Joe Pistone thought that I gave you
5 a tipoff on Gill Street. And I said who's Jules
6 and Joe Pistone, and he says they're agents from
7 New York, and if they didn't know better they'd
8 swear I tipped you off.

9 And I said John, I was riddled, how could
10 I go there, and he says I know, but that's the way
11 it looked. It was that kind of conversation. He
12 said he was going to make a chapter, it will be a
13 great chapter, and it will make you out to be the
14 person you really are. Then we get off of that.

15 I wanted to get going, and now I'm giving
16 him this with my watch because he's a windbag when
17 he gets going. So he tells me, you know, that
18 things will be all right, don't worry about it, I
19 think things will be all right, you stay in touch
20 with your friends and Steve, and I'll let you know
21 when things are not good if you have to leave, much
22 the same way Paul Rico did. But he didn't say
23 there was anything out there because there wasn't.

24 So I left and went down and discussed it
25 with my son. I don't know where we went, but we

1 went for lunch again with DeLuca, but something
2 kept bothering me. I said I can't have this thing.
3 I said to myself why does he have to put me in
4 there or is he going to put in that they tipped me
5 off to the induction ceremony. I said that's going
6 to look like shit if I knew about it. I said I
7 don't want that thing in the chapter.

8 And my son said well, he didn't say he
9 was going to put it in the chapter, did he, and I
10 said well, I don't want anything in there, I don't
11 want a chapter.

12 Anyway, I went back up there a second
13 time. Now they know who I am. There's no question
14 in my mind. The girl comes out all smiles, and he
15 comes running out. She buzzed him or went in for
16 him, and he comes out and puts his arm around me
17 again and took me into the office. Now there's
18 another gentleman in there with him. He introduces
19 me, and I thought it was Tom, but as it come out it
20 wasn't. But anyway, he was an ADA, and I thought
21 he said Middlesex, but as it came out it was
22 Suffolk, but my recollection was that he said
23 Middlesex. Maybe I had Middlesex on my brain
24 because of the car bombing conviction over there.

25 But anyway, he was an ADA in the Superior

1 Court in Suffolk, and he introduces me to him, uses
2 my right name, and the guy's like, he pulls his
3 hand back. I have a reputation up there. I'm in
4 the paper like seven days a week, you know, front
5 page. Like I used to tell my son, I'm riding in a
6 train and everybody stares at me. And he says pa,
7 look, that's the front page of the Herald, you're
8 on it. That's the way it was with this guy. John
9 could not wait to introduce me as Frank Salemmme, he
10 couldn't wait. The kid was really taken aback by
11 it. He was polite, but he excused himself. Within
12 30 seconds he was out of there, you know.

13 But I went through with him about the
14 chapter. Oh, no, no, I would never do that to you,
15 I would never do that, I told you I'm going to make
16 you look good. I said why don't you just leave me
17 out of it. He said it will fit in, don't worry
18 about it. This was a very short conversation
19 compared to the last time. 15, 20 minutes and I
20 was out of there. And then he paraded me right out
21 to the elevator, right past the girl, like a dog
22 and pony show. That was the extent of that.

23 MR. WILSON: Before I forget about this I
24 should go back to New York before you got arrested,
25 and Connolly did arrest you. We haven't done that

1 today. I'd like to just go through that fairly
2 quickly. If you can just sort of briefly sort of
3 provide the chronology. You and Flemmi end up in
4 different apartments. Correct?

5 MR. SALEMME: Right.

6 MR. WILSON: Just sort of walk us forward
7 from there until you get arrested. Tell us what
8 happened.

9 MR. SALEMME: We used to meet in Central
10 Park. Candelmo had a little watch shop and he sold
11 watches in Hell's Kitchen. So we went to Central
12 Park. One day he shows up in Central Park and
13 tells me he's leaving, he doesn't know where he's
14 going but he's leaving. He might have even said, I
15 might go to Montreal. But he said, I'm getting out
16 of here, it's too hot down here. And I said well,
17 you can't leave unless you put it on record.

18 We got in kind of an argument about it,
19 not an argument, but you're not supposed to do
20 this, how come so sudden, what did you hear, did
21 you hear something. It was too spontaneous. It
22 didn't make sense, that two or three days before,
23 nothing, and this day, bing, he's going to leave.

24 So I couldn't change his mind, decided it
25 wasn't even going to be worthwhile to change his

1 mind, just to let him go. You'll see some of the
2 documents I didn't get until afterwards about
3 Flemmi and Salemme having an argument in New York.
4 There's only one person. That's so singular in
5 nature. I know it came out of his file anyway, but
6 that's what he was doing, setting the whole thing
7 up, Jack from south Boston calling Paul Rico, and
8 Condon was the fugitive coordinator at the time,
9 and he was getting all this stuff, and that didn't
10 come out of Flemmi's file, I don't believe, because
11 he was closed in '69, and he wasn't opened again
12 until '75, when he came back, and they had that
13 meeting with Dennis Condon and Connolly and Bulger
14 in Newton Center.

15 But anyway, that cemented the fact that
16 it was time for him to move. John Connolly had
17 transferred from San Francisco to New York, and he
18 could identify me. Like I said, I knew him since
19 he was a kid in L Street, along with Billy Bulger
20 and a few more of them, but that was his purpose
21 for being there. They knew I was there, they knew
22 I was in that vicinity, and they couldn't go to the
23 house without making it too singular in nature with
24 Flemmi.

25 They had me without going to the house,

1 but they had to get him out of New York, and so
2 they put the whole thing together. They got it
3 together with Daddeico and that crew. They got the
4 money and put their money together to save Steve
5 and let the other guy sink. He got out of there,
6 and it wasn't shortly after that I was bumped into
7 by John Connolly on 83rd Street and 3rd Avenue.

8 MR. WILSON: About how long after Steve
9 finally left New York did it take for them to find
10 you?

11 MR. SALEMME: Months. It wasn't double
12 digit months, it was single digit months. It
13 wasn't long afterwards. I couldn't say truthfully.
14 I wouldn't hit you with a figure and be a hundred
15 percent sure of it, but I know it was single digit
16 months.

17 MR. WILSON: And are you aware of any
18 contacts between Flemmi and any law enforcement
19 personnel after he left New York?

20 MR. SALEMME: Well, I'm aware of them
21 through the documents, all kinds of them, and his
22 own testimony, which I'm sure you have. He was
23 jacked from south Boston. See, a lot of stuff with
24 Rico, if we had had it at the time of his
25 testimony, we could have ripped him apart. For

1 instance the jai alai stuff. We got this much
2 stuff on the jai alai after the fact. Judge Wolf
3 gave us the option of calling him back. Why we
4 didn't, I don't know.

5 I think Paul Rico went on before Flemmi
6 did, I know he did, and if we'd had Flemmi's
7 testimony, if it was put more in a chronological
8 order we could have done more damage than we did
9 with Rico. He was so bad that Judge Wolf asked him
10 if he ever heard of plausible deniability. Sure,
11 an FBI agent never hearing of plausible
12 deniability. The same with Dennis Condon. He
13 disavowed the fact that he was an alternate handler
14 for Flemmi.

15 We didn't get the documents until
16 afterwards, the documents that he signed on Flemmi.
17 I didn't know at the time naturally, but I knew
18 afterwards that he was in constant contact, and
19 they put it together for him to come back in after
20 I got arrested. Dennis Condon met him at the
21 Suffolk courthouse when he got the bail put on him.
22 He was there to give him --

23 MR. DURHAM: Mitchell?

24 MR. SALEMME: Mitchell. Dennis was there
25 to give him the heads up, everything's going to be

1 okay, everything's okay in Middlesex.
2 Chronologically I may have them backwards, but I'm
3 almost positive it was Suffolk first. Then he got
4 \$250,000 bail put on him, and then he went to
5 Middlesex and had the same bail put on him, so it
6 was \$250,000 bail for both offenses. It was a
7 gangland figure murder by a gangland figure, and he
8 got bailed shortly after that and was out in the
9 street. He tried not to come back, as I'm sure
10 you're aware of, from Montreal.

11 MR. WILSON: First of all, is it correct
12 to say that when Flemmi left New York he did not
13 contact you?

14 MR. SALEMME: That's correct.

15 MR. WILSON: I don't know when the next
16 contact was, but not before you were arrested.

17 MR. SALEMME: That's right. The next
18 contact was years later. He went to my house and
19 saw my first wife when he got bailed, and I'll
20 never forget this, strictly the dog and pony show,
21 he's my man, he's this and that, he broke down
22 crying. And there I was saying, he'll do the right
23 thing, L.S., and him telling me he's a phony,
24 you'll see it. But he did go to the house and make
25 the appearance, because he knew it would get back

1 to me through her, and I'd take the attitude well,
2 at least he's back, maybe he'll do something now,
3 but nothing.

4 MR. WILSON: Follow that strain by he
5 didn't want to come back from Montreal.

6 MR. SALEMME: Right. He didn't want to
7 come back. He told Rico he was happy where he was
8 at and, you know, he was working, and he would
9 prefer to stay there for a while, he had his stuff
10 all put together, and Rico got indignant with him,
11 this is his testimony now, and told him that he had
12 to come back. And he told him, you know, that we
13 didn't put all this together for you staying in
14 Montreal, and told him that Dennis was going to be
15 there to put things in motion and take care of him,
16 which he did.

17 MR. DURHAM: The basis of your knowledge
18 is what Flemmi testified to in front of Wolf?

19 MR. SALEMME: That's right. Sure. I
20 wouldn't have no way of knowing. If I knew that I
21 knew he was an informant. But as it came out, then
22 that fell right in order, when he got back and got
23 bailed. They didn't make the meet between
24 Connolly, Condon, and Flemmi until his cases were
25 all resolved. They didn't make the meet.

1 Then when it was resolved sometime in
2 1975, I'd like to say in the spring of '75, but I'm
3 not sure, they made a meet in Newton Center, and
4 Flemmi and Bulger were properly introduced by
5 Dennis Condon being the alternate. We didn't have
6 that. At the time Condon was on, we didn't know he
7 was an alternate, and John Connolly was now -- it
8 was not his alternate then. Dennis was, I think,
9 then the commissioner of public safety or something
10 at the time maybe. I think he was out of the
11 bureau by then.

12 But he was the sponsor of Flemmi, he and
13 Rico, so he could introduce him as a top echelon.
14 A person can't say they're a member of the Cosa
15 Nostra unless they're introduced by a member who
16 knows them. I couldn't tell you, for instance. I
17 could say John's a friend of ours. Otherwise, if
18 John goes up and says I'm a friend of yours, it
19 would be see you later.

20 Anyway, they were introduced in a coffee
21 shop in Newton Center, and that's when they took
22 off together and Connolly became their primary
23 agent, and Nick and John -- anyway, Nick Gianturco
24 was an alternate for them, too, I believe.

25 MR. WILSON: So take us back to the times

1 that you were close to Stephen Flemmi. Jim Bulger,
2 was he in the picture at all?

3 MR. SALEMME: Not at all.

4 MR. WILSON: Tell us, beyond what you
5 told us, what you know about that developing
6 relationship between Stephen Flemmi and Jim Bulger.

7 MR. SALEMME: I know that Steve Flemmi, I
8 find out afterwards in a conversation with Jimmie
9 Martorano down at Plymouth jail, whatever it's
10 called, Plymouth --

11 MR. DURHAM: Correctional center.

12 MR. SALEMME: They're in constant contact
13 with Steve. Ed helped put that together and put
14 Daddeico in with the van and all that stuff.

15 MR. WILSON: For the record, you made a
16 reference to the Somerville gang, and if you could
17 in a sentence or so just wrap that up.

18 MR. SALEMME: Before he leaves Plymouth,
19 Martorano wants to clear the air between him and I.
20 Well, not clear the air. He wants to tell me he's
21 going to inform and wants to put it on record.
22 DeLuca comes to me and said John wants to talk. I
23 didn't have much conversation with John Martorano.

24 MR. DURHAM: For the record, you're
25 talking about Jimmie Martorano?

1 MR. SALEMME: Yes. But we talk, and he
2 says, I want to tell you what I'm going through,
3 I'm going to testify against them after what they
4 did to us, meaning him and I, they deserve it, I'm
5 going to testify against them. I hadn't even been
6 approached by John and Gary at that time. This was
7 much before that. He went what, '97 or somewhere
8 around there? But I said do what you have to do,
9 you don't have to inform me about it, what are you
10 telling me for, in other words you have nothing to
11 do with me, you're not a member of my organization.
12 To myself I'm saying that. So I say, what are you
13 telling me for, and he says, well, after what he
14 did to us.

15 It's just the way he said it, it just
16 struck me wrong. What did he do to you was my
17 response to him. Well, you know, he ratted us up,
18 what did he do to you. I said forget me, I'm
19 asking what he did to you. He said well, he, he,
20 and he started stammering. And he said well, he
21 said he gave you over a million dollars for the
22 time you went away in the numbers business and the
23 shylock business, and he said I didn't get any more
24 than \$500,000, and I said is that right, I wish I
25 got \$500,000 from him when I'm in for the 17 years

1 and I'm his partner and boyhood pal.

2 He said he knew you were in southern
3 Florida, he knew you were in Boca Raton, he knew
4 you had a house and wife, and you were still out on
5 the day the indictments came out. John Connolly
6 put reports in on you, you had dinner and lunch and
7 known informants in the Boston area, and I know
8 that because people would say it. I was in George
9 Kauffman's house one day when you called from Boca
10 Raton.

11 I said, John, they saved you, what are
12 you doing this for, in case Flemmi or Bulger or
13 both of them decide to turn and put the finger on
14 you, you're beating them to the Punchy. That's
15 telling it like it is, kid. Well, I know he did
16 worse to you than me. And I said well, I wish he
17 did to me what he did do you, I'd be sitting here
18 happy as a lark right now.

19 But he told me all about the
20 conversations with him, the conversations with
21 Daddeico, the large sum of money they gave Daddeico
22 and the van, that they were taking him to a safe
23 house in Minnesota, which I had heard anyway, and
24 I'll explain that to you afterwards, to a lawyer
25 out in Oregon that Mr. Daddeico went to. But I'll

1 get to that.

2 MR. DURHAM: Your understanding was that
3 George Kauffman and Johnny Martorano had put money
4 up for Daddeico. He needed money to get a truck
5 and have him get lost.

6 MR. SALEMME: Johnny Martorano and Howie
7 Winters were the ones that gave him the money.

8 MR. DURHAM: And what was going to
9 happen?

10 MR. SALEMME: He was not going to testify
11 against Steve, and he was going to get off the
12 scene so that he wouldn't be brought in to testify
13 if he left. But I said John, he was a federal
14 witness. He said everything's been arranged, he's
15 going to get off the scene and nobody's going to
16 look for him, and that's just what happened,
17 nobody's going to look for him.

18 He testified against me in the bombing,
19 and that was the last anybody ever saw of him. Now
20 he's a federal witness. Even though he was
21 testifying for the county, for the state, Middlesex
22 County, he was still initially a federal witness.
23 And as we found out subsequently, he was approached
24 and offered a sum of money by a federal agent like
25 Buckley, so he's still a federal agent. I can see

1 them not finding Bin Laden, but Bob Daddeico?

2 Well, you met him, you know. But they didn't want
3 him found. They wanted him off the scene. It's
4 just as plain and nice and sweet as you can
5 possibly imagine as you look at it.

6 MR. WILSON: What about Stephen Flemmi
7 meeting with Rico? Did you have any record that
8 from the time of the indictment and you fled to the
9 time that Flemmi came back to Boston, when
10 everything got taken care of, have you heard of any
11 meetings or conversations or interaction between
12 Rico and Stephen Flemmi?

13 MR. SALEMME: I heard that he went to
14 Miami when he left New York to meet with Rico

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MR. WILSON:

1 MR. SALEMME:

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He had the
8 wife and Marian Hussey, that sweet little thing he
9 ended up killing. That was part of his harem.

10 We didn't have a lot of this stuff coming
11 out when Rico was on the stand. But Daddeico was
12 living on the west coast for a while. He was
13 approached to come in and testify against Angiulo
14 and Zannino in those trials, and he positively
15 refused. He said I don't want to testify against
16 them. They said well, we can subpoena you, we'll
17 subpoena you in, and then you'll be forced to
18 testify, and he said, well if you subpoena me, then
19 I'm going to tell how you people made me frame
20 frank Salemme.

21 MR. WILSON: That comes from the
22 documents, though. Correct?

23 MR. SALEMME: Right.

24 MR. WILSON: That information comes from
25 documents, not from something you knew

1 contemporaneously.

2 MR. SALEMME: Well, I'm leading up to
3 that. He leaves from there because he doesn't want
4 to get a subpoena. They don't touch him. And to
5 the best of my knowledge, they don't write a
6 document on that. Quinn doesn't write a document
7 on that. I'll stand corrected, but he doesn't
8 write -- and that was the part that stuck out, that
9 they didn't write it up. How can you go, an FBI
10 agent, two FBI agents, how can you have an
11 interview like that and not have a document on it?
12 That's my understanding, there's no document, and
13 that's what stunk about it, you know, stay off of
14 this, this kid's going to blow the whistle on it.

15 So this makes culpability for not just
16 one or two agents but it stretches the whole thing
17 out. And he gets money from George Kauffman and he
18 has to leave California because now they're going
19 to come back and he's afraid they're going to come
20 back and subpoena him, and he doesn't want to go
21 back to Boston. He knows he lied and he doesn't
22 want to get caught up in any more lies, that's my
23 interpretation of it, he goes to Oregon, and
24 somehow he looks up with a lawyer by the name of
25 Royce Ferguson.

1 He gives Royce Ferguson the story of how
2 he framed Frank Salemme, and he wants a certain
3 assurance that his life will be not in jeopardy if
4 he comes back. Royce Ferguson calls F. Lee
5 Bailey's office and talks to -- I don't know if
6 Bailey was in the office then, but he talks to Jim
7 Murberg, who was a junior partner or whatever with
8 Bailey back at the time of my trial. He sat in on
9 my trial.

10 Royce Ferguson runs the story by Jim
11 Murberg. Jim Murberg gets ahold of my brother
12 John, and he talks to Royce Ferguson by conference
13 call, and Murberg is down in Boston on the harbor,
14 and they talk in a conference call. He's asking
15 Daddeico questions and he's answering them back and
16 forth. Jim makes all the notes on it, Murberg, and
17 he says he'll get back to you. Royce Ferguson
18 says, I'll call you back, I'll sort through this,
19 call me in a couple of days.

20 My brother Jackie comes and sees me in
21 prison and tells me what happened, and he's all
22 elated. And I said what are you getting all happy
23 about, and I said we have no break. First of all,
24 I have 13 years in, and this clown wants me to give
25 him the okay that he won't be killed. Thank God

1 that I didn't, because I know his kid would have
2 come back here and Connolly would have said okay,
3 he's back, he's going to tell this and that, and he
4 would have got it and I would have been blamed
5 again.

6 But I can't give this guy the okay. All
7 I can do is tell them I have no animosity
8 personally myself, Jackie, and make sure you tell
9 Jim Murberg, I don't know if he comes back or not,
10 see you later. By this time I'd had it up to here
11 with him, and who wants that. But anyway, he makes
12 this statement, and Jim Murberg contacts Royce
13 Ferguson, get me some affidavits and send them,
14 Murberg says to them. They never did, as far as I
15 know, but I wasn't interested in them.

16 Then he ended up going from there to
17 Maryland or somewhere, I don't know, and he ended
18 up -- he ends up getting arrested a couple of times
19 for peeping tom, voyeurism, Daddeico. Why he
20 turned on me, I wouldn't let him in the city of
21 Boston, you know. I told him stay over there where
22 you come from, get out of there, and he's lucky I
23 didn't kill him because of one thing he did to this
24 particular girl. He beat this girl almost
25 senseless, and I saved him from getting a sentence

1 on it because he shot at a cop and the rest of it,
2 but get out of town, get over there with Winters
3 and stay over there. And he did the same thing
4 with Winters, with a postman's daughter. That's
5 the kind of a pervert this guy was. He was a woman
6 abuser, he was a voyeur, and he was a witness
7 against me, and I got my 30 years.

8 But those are things you should know in
9 case he comes back in again. It's a matter of
10 record. It's not something that's pulled out of
11 blue. It's a matter of record.

12 MR. WILSON: A couple of last things.
13 You've talked about Dennis Condon in a number of
14 areas. Is there anything you know about his
15 interaction with you or other people that you want
16 to tell us that you haven't already asked you
17 about.

18 MR. SALEMME: Dennis?

19 MR. WILSON: Yes.

20 MR. SALEMME: No. Dennis was pretty low
21 key. Paul was the point man. Dennis was low key.
22 That's why it was so shocking to see him come in so
23 elated about this other thing, but that was a big
24 case. That was a big case to get those guys
25 convicted, as it was a big case to get Patriarca

1 convicted. To get one and two, you knock them
2 down, and Paul was instrumental, and Dennis too, in
3 getting those convictions.

4 MR. WILSON: Condon says that he wasn't
5 aware that Stephen Flemmi was an informant.

6 MR. SALEMME: Exactly. He said that in
7 open court.

8 MR. WILSON: Does that strike you, based
9 on what you know and your interactions with him, as
10 believable?

11 MR. SALEMME: Absolutely false. I mean,
12 there's documents, they've got -- this young lady
13 will know. There's documents with him signing
14 them, Dennis. He was an alternate. He was
15 Flemmi's alternate.

16 MR. WILSON: I'm just going to jump
17 around a little bit to finish up. But the 1995 tip
18 that allowed Bulger to get out of Boston, yourself
19 to get out of Boston, and of course Flemmi did not,
20 what can you tell us about that? What do you know,
21 aside from what you learned from documents after
22 the fact?

23 MR. SALEMME: I didn't learn anything
24 from documents beforehand. I was given the heads
25 up sign by John Connolly when I went to his office.

1 Now when I got a beep from my son's house, my first
2 wife's house, and I went up there with Joe
3 Ruggiero, who was sitting in the kitchen.

4 Steve Flemmi tells me, well, we've got
5 bad news, the indictments will be out the 10th.
6 This was January 5th. I didn't know Flemmi was
7 there. I got a beep. My son was sick with
8 lymphoma and was dying and subsequently he did die,
9 but when I got into the house I was very surprised
10 to see Steve Flemmi sitting in the kitchen because
11 he didn't park his car there, he parked in a wooded
12 area.

13 And I went in the kitchen, and it's not a
14 big kitchen, and Joe Ruggiero stood at the door of
15 the kitchen and Steve told me we've got bad news,
16 the indictments will be out the 10th. This was the
17 5th, I believe, January 5th, I believe. And he
18 says -- I said well, how bad are they going to be,
19 and he said there are going to be racketeering
20 indictments. And I said John Connolly. He said
21 John Connolly got in touch with me, and you better
22 be out of here.

23 MR. DURHAM: Did he tell you Bulger had
24 already left?

25 MR. SALEMME: Jimmy's already left, but

1 he didn't know -- he left before even the morning
2 of the indictments. He just left. He knew they
3 were coming, and he was setting things up, plenty
4 of money, and he took his girl and went up and set
5 up a lot of drops. I said are you going to leave.
6 This was a Thursday, I think, or a Friday, a
7 Thursday, I think, and the indictments were going
8 to be out that Tuesday.

9 He said, I'm going to leave this weekend,
10 I'm just putting things together. He had a
11 restaurant downtown on Exchange Street. I think it
12 was the Exchange Restaurant and Bar, a nice place,
13 one of those cigar places that you can smoke in.
14 In the meantime he's saying he didn't have any
15 money. But he outfoxed himself. I left right from
16 there, and I said that's it. I went down to Quincy
17 to a restaurant on the water and I beeped DeLuca
18 and met him down in Rhode Island, putting things
19 together, and I met with a couple of other guys.

20 I said that's it, I'm going to be
21 leaving, I'm putting this together, putting that
22 together, and getting out of here. I get a beep
23 from my second wife. Steve Flemmi had got
24 arrested. So that was the end of that. They
25 pulled the rug out from under us. They had arrest

1 warrants out for us. But before the indictments
2 come down, they got the arrest warrants five days
3 ahead figuring if we got wind of it we'd be gone,
4 and they were right. That's how I got out of
5 there.

6 MR. WILSON: Did Flemmi ever talk to you
7 about any of Bulger's assets, the money he'd
8 squirreled away in various places?

9 MR. SALEMME: No, he never did, but
10 anything money-wise that would come up, different
11 allegations in the paper, he'd say that was Jimmie.
12 And Patriarca, the kid, junior., not even a junior,
13 but Patriarca the kid said they had money with Mike
14 Carrauna, that Patriarca was present when they cut
15 up \$700,000 apiece. I said what kind of money are
16 you talking about here, Steve, and he said oh, I
17 had nothing to do with it, and Patriarca swore they
18 got \$700,000 apiece.

19 MR. WILSON: And what was that deal?

20 MR. SALEMME: That was with Frank LaPere,
21 who ended up testifying against Dave Toomey, who
22 was a police attorney.

23 MR. DURHAM: When he was prosecuted he
24 had already left, hadn't he?

25 MR. SALEMME: He was the connection for

1 Frank LaPere, who owned a fish processing plant and
2 boats in Plymouth. He'd even go into Canada
3 illegally and poach swordfish and process it at
4 this plant. They used to have boats come in and
5 drop bails of grass back in the '70s. He had the
6 connection with Toomey and went to bring the boats
7 in and out. And tons -- I heard one astronomical
8 figure and no way of verifying it, that there was a
9 \$23 million loan commitment, and they had Joe
10 Murray from Charlestown with barrels of money
11 coming in with the trucks and took money off the
12 boat at that time and pocketed that money and sent
13 out garbage.

14 When they arrested the boat over in Irish
15 waters it had nothing on it. They pocketed over a
16 million dollars apiece on that deal. I heard they
17 were worth at least \$20 million apiece.

18 Bulger was a squirrel, and so was Flemmi.
19 They're not extravagant people. They're not
20 nightlifers or boozers. They weren't gamblers and
21 they didn't do drugs, so he had plenty of money.
22 Flemmi made three or four, maybe a half a dozen
23 trips that I know of to various countries. He
24 joined an international parachute company and he
25 jumped all over, South Africa, Thailand, Europe,

1 Russia. He went to Russia one time. He went to
2 Haiti one time and he went to the Grand Cayman
3 Islands. It doesn't take much to figure out what
4 he's doing there.

5 Bulger made a lot of trips to Iowa. They
6 probably have as strict laws as Switzerland used to
7 have, I don't know about now, but that's a good
8 place to deposit money. And I don't know for sure,
9 but I know that's what Flemmi was doing. He
10 claimed to me that he was going to China, and he
11 had a Chinese girlfriend, another one of his girls,
12 but he said he was going to China, so you know he
13 had money there. He went twice to Asia.

14 MR. WILSON: The China claim was made in
15 '95, just before he was arrested.

16 MR. SALEMME: Right. I forget her name
17 now. She was with him when he got arrested. He
18 had suitcases and not all his stuff, but he had
19 suitcases and everything in the car.

20 MR. WILSON: Schneiderhan, what can you
21 tell us about Richard Schneiderhan?

22 MR. SALEMME: In Plymouth, Schneiderhan
23 by name, I don't know, but in Plymouth we were
24 trying to get from him, which he gave us, numerous
25 names of informants. That was part of my testimony

1 at John's trial, when Kevin Weiss came up and
2 showed they'd been informants for the affidavits on
3 Gill Street. That was an important notice to get,
4 because we wanted to attack that affidavit to
5 attack the bug, and if we could prove that one or
6 more of the informants was present at the induction
7 ceremony -- I didn't care about the induction
8 ceremony. I already had the wording and all the
9 rest of it. What's the difference, you know?

10 I cared about the legality of it, that
11 from that document they went and got probable cause
12 for another bug, probable cause for another bug
13 after that. It was a domino theory. So if they
14 knocked this one out maybe they could topple the
15 rest and knock Rico to hell. Your question was
16 what?

17 MR. WILSON: Well, it was just a very
18 general question about your knowledge of
19 Schneiderhan's activities. The specific question
20 would be him providing Stephen Flemmi with
21 information or anybody else he shouldn't have
22 provided information to, do you have firsthand
23 knowledge about that.

24 MR. SALEMME: Well, I was paying him. It
25 turns out it was Schneiderhan, but he's the one

1 that got \$5,000, too, and state policeman in the
2 attorney general's office, his name to us was Lou.
3 He had various names for different people. You
4 might call Schneiderhan Lou to him, Pete to him.

5 MR. WILSON: If we can just back up, this
6 was Stephen Flemmi obtaining information from law
7 enforcement people, and he's giving you alias
8 names, and you're giving him money to be passed on
9 to those people?

10 MR. SALEMME: Right.

11 MR. WILSON: And to the extent you know
12 what happened, tell us all you can about that, to
13 the extent you know that a particular thing did
14 happen.

15 MR. SALEMME: Well, we took two \$500[0]
16 payments off our numbers business to give to
17 Connolly, and we took a \$5,000 payment out to give
18 to the connection, Lou, in the attorney general's
19 office, who used to work for the attorney general's
20 office who gets all the information on bugs, which
21 is a very important thing for --

22 MR. DURHAM: For people in your business?

23 MR. SALEMME: It's the truth. If you
24 don't have a clean phone, you're not going to stay
25 in business very long. Plus, we were looking for

1 him along with Connolly to get information on an
2 informant from Rhode Island. It ended up we knew
3 he was an informant anyway with the CS3. That was
4 important. Both ways we could have it.

5 Now it's beyond the bug stage. Now it's
6 the informant stage to know what we can knock out
7 of this racketeering indictment and what we can't.
8 Once he got exposed down there, we could open him
9 up pretty good. I stayed talking with him up until
10 the point that he took the stand and named John
11 Morris, all the way up to the elevator from the
12 court, from our holding cell downstairs.

13 MR. WILSON: This is Stephen Flemmi?

14 MR. SALEMME: Stephen Flemmi. He's
15 naming John Connolly, John's going to come in, he's
16 going to help us and so forth and so on, John
17 Connolly, John Connolly, John Connolly. I was
18 telling Anthony Cardinale, John Connolly was coming
19 in, and he was saying he's giving you a story, he'd
20 ruin himself if he came in. All the way up the
21 elevator he's telling me and DeLuca. He gets on
22 the stand, and the first question was who tipped
23 you off to the indictments, John, and I was
24 thinking here it comes, and then he says Morris. I
25 didn't say anything.

1 I took him downstairs and grabbed him and
2 threw him against the wall and started choking him,
3 and the marshal saw, but they didn't come in to
4 stop it, they wanted to hear what was going on, and
5 I said you SOB, you're doing this, you can't even
6 tell the truth, why didn't you say John Connolly
7 like you were going to say. They were going to
8 testify for you, weren't they.

9 MR. DURHAM: They did.

10 MR. SALEMME: They did? They testified?
11 But how I could have kept myself from causing him
12 severe -- after learning all that. Had I learned
13 about the two little girls, Debbie Davis and
14 especially Debbie Hussey, she was like a niece to
15 me, she was his stepdaughter, molesting her at 13
16 and killing her at 26. I mean, I used to take this
17 kid to the beach with my daughters. But if I knew
18 that at the time I couldn't have held back. I knew
19 the truth.

20 I don't know how he thought he was going
21 to get away with it, which he didn't, but I don't
22 know how he thought he was going to, how he held it
23 up, and then I hear John Morris. He wanted to get
24 it out before I could stop him. He was convinced
25 John Connolly was going to ride him or the Bureau

1 was going to come through and John Connolly ride
2 him out.

3 He asked for Charlie Gianturco. I don't
4 know if Charlie ended up one of his alternates or
5 what, I don't think so, but it was two brothers,
6 Charlie and Nick Gianturco. Nick ran Operation
7 Lobster that you probably read about, and Bulger
8 saved his life because there was a guy from
9 Charlestown, Patty McGoneghal, who was going to
10 kill him. Even Judge Wolf picked up on that. The
11 operation went on for -- it was an 18 month
12 operation. At the 17th month you find out that
13 this guy's going to kill you. They all get
14 commendations for it.

15 You know, it stunk, but no way that was
16 going to happen. But he asked for Charlie
17 Gianturco the day he got arrested. He asked Jack
18 Smith, the marshal in the old courthouse, to call
19 Charlie Gianturco for him, and Jack did. Jack told
20 me. He said this guy called and asked for Charlie
21 Gianturco. And I said well, maybe he's a friend of
22 Connolly's. I said who's Charlie Gianturco. He
23 said he's an FBI agent, he and his brother Nick. I
24 thought well, maybe he's a friend of Connolly's, I
25 don't know, but then it all came out.

1 MR. WILSON: You were talking before
2 about money that went out to people to obtain
3 information. Can you tell us anything more about
4 other money that went out to law enforcement
5 sources to obtain information?

6 MR. SALEMME: There were small payments
7 for local police and all that, but the office would
8 take care of that, a hundred, two hundred, whatever
9 it was. The ones I was interested in was when he'd
10 come in and say he have to take an EX for \$5,000.
11 It was a very lucrative number business, we did
12 like \$120,000 a week, like \$5 million or \$6 million
13 volume for the year, and you win like 16 or 20
14 percent of that, so numbers are a good business,
15 it's a profitable business, and if it's run right
16 it could be a good business.

17 But the small stuff that the office paid
18 out, your phone man, that's something else, if he's
19 robbing me a couple hundred here or there, what's
20 that. If it starts getting out of hand, you catch
21 it. A fellow by the name of Jake Rooney used to
22 run that for us.

23 (Discussion off the record.)

24 MR. WILSON: Going back to the Poulos
25 murder indictment, just to characterize the

1 indictment, or at least there was a warrant that
2 was issued at one point, and I'm aware of this
3 warrant, if you could tell us what you know about
4 the warrant that was ultimately issued for the
5 Poulos murder.

6 MR. SALEMME: A warrant was issued
7 against me, and I found out that there was one
8 issued against Steve Flemmi also. I filed under
9 the speedy trial act, the interstate system act. I
10 filed in Walpole through Joe Balliro, but in the
11 law library I did it myself, and Joe signed it,
12 Joe's office, and I got the response back that due
13 to the lengthy sentence of Mr. Salemme's serving
14 that Nevada is no longer interested in interviewing
15 him for this murder or words to that effect, not
16 verbatim. In other words, they dropped the charges
17 against me because I filed that. And they weren't
18 interested -- they certainly knew where I was, and
19 they knew when I got discharged and all the rest of
20 it.

21 He never filed that, because when he
22 found out I filed it, he asked did I have one filed
23 for me, and I said I don't know, did you put one
24 in, you don't file it, the FBI files it for you.
25 But that was as far as that went. I don't know of

1 any law enforcement interference on my behalf. I
2 know how I got the case dropped, and I got it
3 dropped that way. I don't know about him.

4 He never filed for a speedy trial or
5 anything else. He just forgot about it, and they
6 never came or asked for an apprehension warrant or
7 a detention warrant or something like that on it or
8 have him extradited to Nevada. So you can assume
9 what you want. I know what I think, but that's
10 only a thought. It's speculation, not anything
11 based on fact.

12 MR. YEAGER: Would you care to describe
13 what you know of Joe Salvati's role, if any, in the
14 Deegan murder?

15 MR. SALEMME: Well, it was street talk
16 that Joe Salvate was part of the murder, but I
17 don't know if he knew that there was a score. This
18 is strictly street talk, that he was going to be at
19 a house, if my memory's right his aunt's house in
20 Chelsea. Whether my memory's right, I don't know.
21 But he was very, very close with Cassesso and Eddie
22 Edolino, Mike Amari. That's how he fit in. He
23 didn't fit in in the Barboza part of the faction.

24 I like to call it the banding of the
25 misfits, because since they couldn't hook on

1 anywhere else, they hooked on with themselves, and
2 they used to hang out together, and Joe Salvati was
3 a runner for them, a gofer for them basically.

4 MR. DURHAM: What did you understand
5 Salvati's role was supposed to be that night?

6 MR. SALEMME: As not a crash car but as a
7 pickup car in case they needed somebody. And I
8 understand also that -- it had nothing to do with
9 this story that he owed \$400 to Joe. That's
10 ludicrous, \$400. That's chump change, \$400. But
11 they held -- Joe Barboza held Ronnie Cassesso
12 partly responsible for Tash Bratsos and Tommy
13 DePrisco getting killed. He used to pass himself
14 off as LCN, and he wasn't LCN, Cassesso, and he
15 wasn't a well liked guy at all with the LCNs. He
16 was a wannabe, and that's why he hooked up with all
17 these different people.

18 But the story I heard for whatever it's
19 worth was Joe Salvati was asked to corroborate Joe
20 Barboza, and he refused, and Cassesso was asked and
21 he refused, and when he refused, he said if you
22 don't want to help me, that proves you're with
23 them. Now, that's what came out of Cassesso's
24 mouth to me in Walpole. I had numerous
25 conversations with these guys. I would go and talk

1 with Peter and Henry Tameleo mostly.

2 MR. DURHAM: Peter being?

3 MR. SALEMME: Peter Limone. Not the
4 other one. REDACTED There's two Peter Limones.
5 But that's Cassesso.

6 MR. DURHAM: What did Cassesso tell you
7 about Salvati?

8 MR. SALEMME: He wouldn't go along with
9 him. Just that Joe wanted those two to go out and
10 corroborate his testimony, which would have
11 solidified the case. So when he put Salvati in the
12 back of the car with the bald head, that was Jimmie
13 Flemmi, a bald headed wig on or whatever it was.

14 MR. WILSON: What would have been in it
15 for Salvati or Cassesso to have corroborated the
16 testimony, if they told you?

17 MR. SALEMME: What would have been in it?
18 They wouldn't have been doing life in prison.
19 Salvati never got the death sentence. He's got a
20 nice family, Marie and Sharon and a young boy I
21 don't know. But Joe's a full time asshole, believe
22 me, and that's the truth. He never got sentenced
23 to the chair, and he never corrects it when he gets
24 in conversations with reporters. He loves to give
25 out interviews.

1 He went to a play with Brian Dennehy at
2 the Wang Center and went up and shook hands. It
3 was a play about guys who get convicted wrongly.
4 He didn't get sentenced to first degree, to life --
5 to the chair. He got sentenced to first degree,
6 which was bad enough, but Joe did about five years
7 in Walpole, and when I get to Walpole he
8 transferred to MCI Framingham

9

REDACTED

10

11 He got into the computers and he ran the
12 commissary up there for MCI Framingham

13

14 REDACTED

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16 But what gets me is don't play off like
17 you're some kind of abused hero. You were part of
18 that crew. I told him that in Walpole. I wasn't
19 clairvoyant to the point that I knew what he was
20 going to come out and say afterwards, but now he's
21 making himself off like sure you got screwed, so
22 has everybody, that's the life you chose, kid, you
23 want to be a gofer, opening and closing the doors
24 in the after hours joints, that's the price you
25 pay.

1 But he spent a good percentage of his
2 time in MCI Framingham until it got busted because
3 they were running a numbers game on the computers
4 up there. But he spent a lot of his time in MCI
5 Framingham, so he wasn't so abused to the point
6 that he was on death row for 10 or 15 or 20 years.
7 Henry died in prison. That's abuse. Louie, that's
8 abuse. He died in prison. Even Peter Limone, that
9 wasn't right, five years on death row. That's like
10 25 years of your life gone right there. You don't
11 know what it's like to be in that kind of a lockup,
12 and to be there falsely accused. That's tough.

13 I know what it's like to be falsely --
14 you can't do a thing about it. Who's's going to
15 listen to you? But Salvati had a nice woman,
16 Marie, and Sharon, a nice daughter, and the son,
17 too, nice, nice people. And I could never tell
18 them. Over the years they wanted me -- Sharon
19 approached me a number of times, you've got to help
20 my father, you know the story, Frank, you know my
21 father's innocent, I know, Sharon.

22 I had dinner with her a couple of times
23 when she came in the restaurant, and she would ask,
24 you've got to help my father, and I'd say I can't
25 help him, I don't really know, Sharon, you know,

1 you know, it should be Flemmi.

2 Joe Balliro had information that he
3 couldn't divulge because of the attorney-client
4 privilege he had with Vincent Flemmi. So I said
5 Vincent Flemmi's dead, you know, I can't go to them
6 and tell them to waive that on the son, who I
7 thought was my friend, too, and Stephen Flemmi, I
8 can't do that, you've got to tell your father he's
9 got to bite the bullet, that's the life, the
10 proverbial street life.

11 He was abused, yes, but I think he's
12 carrying it to the point now of being ridiculous,
13 you know. But that's the story I got right out of
14 Cassesso's mouth because they would not corroborate
15 Mr. Barboza or help go along with Mr. Barboza to
16 make that case, and he turned on them, and Barboza
17 went to his grave thinking that Cassesso, that
18 clown, was a made man, and he wasn't, so it cost
19 Cassesso.

20 MR. WILSON: Your conversation with Rico
21 and Condon about Greco, you described that fully.
22 Was there talk at the time, and I know it was part
23 of the trial, but was there talk at the time that
24 Greco really wasn't really in Massachusetts at the
25 time of the murder?

1 MR. SALEMME: Absolutely. Every cop that
2 came in my garage and every one you met on the
3 street, some was sympathetic to him, some thought
4 it was a joke, but not to the extent that Condon
5 carried it. And Condon and Rico -- what perturbed
6 me about it was they initiated this thing with
7 Barboza. I didn't know they went to that extreme.
8 I just thought Barboza gave them a story, the FBI,
9 and they couldn't help it that they substituted
10 people. But when he made it known that they knew
11 he substituted people, that makes it a different
12 ball game as far as I'm concerned.

13 MR. DURHAM: Why don't you just quickly
14 describe for the record, and I know the fingers are
15 about to fall off on Keith, but what your
16 relationship with Greco is? What was your
17 relationship with Greco.

18 MR. SALEMME: Up until that point I had
19 never formally met Louie Greco. Him and Maxie used
20 to hang together, Maxie Cataldo from Revere. Louie
21 was a big tough guy, and so was Maxie. That's why
22 they pummeled Nicky Femia down at Bennington and
23 Saratoga Street. They gave him a serious beating.

24 But as I met him going on, he was just a
25 big dummy, an easy person to put in that position

1 if you had some kind of a vendetta to go against
2 him. He was easy because he didn't know how to
3 talk even. But I didn't know him.

4 It just galled me the way Dennis came on
5 the way he came on, and it was very unusual for
6 Dennis to show that kind of emotion, but he was
7 elated over it. He was more laid back. You would
8 think that it would be more Paul that came on like
9 that, but Paul, like I said, was suave, and he was
10 kind of -- he knew how to handle himself, Paul. He
11 was a street guy, and obviously he was suave with
12 the director because he was down there. I've seen
13 pictures of him with the director.

14 MR. WILSON: Well, thank you very much,
15 Mr. Salemmé. Thank you very much to John Durham
16 for coming down and being part of the process.
17 Thanks to the Justice Department for helping
18 organize this. Again, my apologies for what we
19 discussed at the beginning, but thank you very much
20 for coming.

21 MR. SALEMME: If I might say, in the
22 future, and you don't have to put it down if you
23 don't want, if there's any contact, if I can get a
24 heads up just so I can prepare myself mentally if
25 I'm in the middle of like I am with this medical

1 thing, I would like to get myself prepared mentally
2 for it.

3 MR. WILSON: Absolutely. Thank you.

4 (Proceedings concluded at 3:28 p.m.)

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