

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Clegg
.....

U. S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Investigation

735 Philadelphia Saving Fund Building,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

March 18, 1933.

Director,
United States Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to my letter dated March 3, 1933 and your letter of March 10, 1933, suggesting that I confer with Superintendent of Police Le Strange, Philadelphia, relative to the conferences with Mr. John N. Di Silvestro and Judge Alessandroni.

I conferred with Superintendent Le Strange under date of March 16, 1933. Le Strange informed that a statement was taken from Maurice Maida, the individual who overheard the conversation between two Italians in the railway station at Newark, N. J., and called Captain Creeden, who furnished the writer, copy of Maida's statement together with copy of report submitted by Lieutenant Clark. I am transmitting herewith two copies each of the statements mentioned.

Superintendent Le Strange stated that in his opinion, from the information at hand, he doubted that there was any connection between Zangara and the bombing of Di Silvestro's home. He is of the opinion that the persons responsible for the bombing may have had a grudge against Di Silvestro for political reasons, although, of course, he has not definitely verified this.

The statement taken by Captain Creeden from Maurice Maida outlines detailed information concerning the conversation between the two Italians in the railway station at Newark.

The copy of the report from Lieutenant Matthew H. Clark outlines data concerning the residence at 811 So. 11th Street. You will recall that the anonymous letter turned over to the writer by Judge Alessandroni gives information relative to bombs said to be made

Handwritten note: See info. concerning...

Handwritten notes:
Lead
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BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
DIRECTOR
NATHAN
Div. One
ME

made at 811 So. 11th Street Philadelphia. It is believed that you will desire to make a check of the records in the Identification Division for the purpose of developing information concerning the individuals mentioned in Lieutenant Clark's report.

Newspaper clippings from the local press, concerning Di Silvestro's conference with Premier Mussolini, are transmitted herewith.

I interviewed C. James Todero, Asst. United States Attorney, Philadelphia, Pa., in accordance with your request, and was informed by Todero that Mr. Di Silvestro is in possession of no information other than already furnished to this office relative to Zangara being implicated in the bombing of Di Silvestro's home, or other bombings in Pennsylvania. Mr. Todero said that he has no further information than the data he furnished to United States Attorney Wells, under date of February 21, 1933, which in turn was transmitted by Wells to Wm. H. Houghton in charge of the local Secret Service Office. He turned over to me a copy of this letter and I am transmitting herewith two copies thereof for your information. You will note that this letter refers to information which has already been obtained from Di Silvestro and Judge Alessandrini, and in addition, the personal deductions of Mr. Todero. Todero claims that Di Silvestro discussed with him fully all information in his possession relative to this matter and there is no possibility of Di Silvestro having any further information that Todero would not know about.

Todero said that shortly after furnishing this information to Mr. Wells, a conference was held between Di Silvestro, Superintendent Le Strange, Mr. Wells and Todero, at which time it was decided to submit this information to Houghton and same was transmitted with a cover letter, to Houghton and Operative Rubano of the Secret Service. Todero claims that he did not give any information to the local press linking Zangara with the bombing of Di Silvestro's home. He claims that this information undoubtedly was given out by Di Silvestro in Rome. He also states that he believes that Di Silvestro should not have given out this information. He advised that if it was true that Zangara was in Philadelphia working for Di Rocca during the latter part of February, 1932, that it is his opinion that Zangara was involved in the bombing of DiSilvestro's home, and possibly the Easton bombing. He admits that there is no specific evidence to link Zangara with the Di Silvestro bombings other than the circumstances outlined in his letter referred to herein. He says that he feels in his own mind that Zangara was in Philadelphia.

I pointed out to Mr. Todero the fact that Father Nepote had alleged that as a result of his interviews with persons employed on the construction of a stone wall at Clivenden & Morton Streets, Germantown, he was positive that those persons who had previously alleged that Zangara was employed on this job, were mistaken and now stated that it was not Zangara but a person who resembled him. Todero said that he was aware of this and had been informed by Father Nepote that Angelo Gaspari has now denied that Zangara was employed at the contracting job mentioned.

I asked Todero if he had any other information which might be of value in determining Zangara's connection with the Di Silvestro bombing, and he said that he had not. I asked Todero if he had any suspicion that Di Silvestro's home might have been bombed by persons antagonistic for political reasons, and Todero said that about eight years ago a group of radicals belonging to the organization known as the Sons of Italy, of which Di Silvestro is Grand Venerable, were expelled from the organization because of their radical activities and the fact that they were anti-facist. In this connection he said that this Sons of Italy organization stood for all forms of constituted government and were not anxious to have any one as a member who denounced other governments. It was the consensus of opinion that the Italians had the right to be governed as they saw fit.

I will endeavor to obtain a copy of the cover letter transmitting Mr. Todero's communication to the Secret Service from Mr. Wells. It was impossible to obtain this information today because the United States Attorney's office is closed and I interviewed Mr. Todero at his private office. It is doubtful, however, that this letter will contain any additional information.

I did not interview Mr. Wells because he has no information other than what has already been obtained.

Regarding telephone request of Special Agent in Charge Keith, you are informed that I was unable to interview Post Office Inspector in Charge, Johnson, concerning Postal Savings Account #6762 covering Zangara's account of \$200. deposited with the Post Office at Hackensack, N. J. on August 8, 1931, and which account was later transferred to the Patterson, N. J. Post Office. I interviewed Post Office Inspector McCune who in-

formed that Mr. Johnson was in receipt of a letter from the Postmaster at Patterson, N. J., which contained information about this account, which letter was forwarded to the postal authorities at Washington. Mr. McCune said that their office has no further information relative to this matter and any information relative thereto must be obtained through the Postmaster at Patterson. The card or slips pertaining to this account were not forwarded to the Post Office Inspectors' Office by the Postmaster at Patterson, N. J.

Very truly yours,

R. G. Harvey
R. G. HARVEY,
Special Agent in Charge.

RGH:EPL

COPY

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
BUREAU OF POLICE
PHILADELPHIA

March 13, 1933

First Detective Division

From Lieutenant Matthew H. Clark
To Acting Superintendent Jos. A. LeStrange
Subject V. Alessandrone regarding house at 811 South 11th St.

Detective Sergeant Chas. E. Brown #1 of this Division was assigned to investigate the above, and the following is his report.

"In reference to the above subject, I respectfully wish to state that I made an investigation of the premises at 811 S. 11th St., to determine the identity of the barber who was supposed to live at that address in the year 1930.

"I learned that the premises at 811 S. 11th St. is a three-story brick apartment house, owned by Joseph Marciano, 813 S. 11th St., who is in the Real Estate Business. I learned that the first and second floor front is occupied by Thomas Barone (wife and two children). The first and second rear apartment is occupied by Thomas Saggo (wife and two children), and the third floor front is occupied by Frank Digilo (wife and two children). I interviewed Joseph Marciano, the owner and agent, and his secretary, Miss Wilma Oddi, 1043 Emily St., who were unable to enlighten me as to the occupations that their tenants pursue.

"But, from an authentic source, I learned that in the year 1930, an Italian named Pasquale Salanitro, twenty-eight to thirty years old, very small, and possibly four feet two inches tall and weighing 105 pounds, and a very dapper dresser, rented the third floor rear room and lived there with a girl known as Mary. The girl, Mary, was an Italian immigrant, and did not speak any English.

"I also learned that Pasquale Salanitro was employed as a hairdresser in a beauty shop in the Penfield Building, 1328-1330 Chestnut St., in 1930.

"From the same source, I also learned that Pasquale Salanitro left the apartment at 811 S. 11th St., and also his position as a hairdresser in the Penfield Building Beauty Shop, to go to Miami Beach, Florida, in company with the woman who was known at that residence as Mary, in a Ford Sedan.

"I made a search of the records of our Identification Bureau,

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but failed to find any record of Pasquale Salanitro.

"I also caused a search to be made of automobile registrations during the years 1930, 1931 and 1932 at the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, Harrisburg, Pa., but failed to find any automobile ever registered in the State of Penn'a under the name of Pasquale Salanitro.

"After making a check of all beauty parlors in the Penfield Building, I finally learned from Mr. Chas. S. Schmitz, who conducts a hairdressing parlor in Room #602, Penfield Bldg., that Pasquale Salanitro has been employed by him "off-an-on" for the past four years, as late as last Fall.

"Mr. Schmitz stated that at the present time Salanitro was employed as a hairdresser for the Freschen Beauty Co., main office in New York City, with a chain of beauty parlors all over the country, and that Salanitro is at the present time employed as a hairdresser at the branch beauty parlor belonging to this company at 1627 Alton Road, Miami Beach, Florida."

I therefore submit the above report on assigned investigation for your approval and action.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) Matthew H. Clark,
Lt. Commanding
First Det. Div.

COPY

CHAMBERS OF HON. EUGENE V. ALESSANDRONI

Feb. 14th, 1933.

INFORMATION FROM:

Maurice Maida, age 30,
6081 Cedarhurst St.,
Phila., Pa.

IN PRESENCE OF:

Judge Eugene V. Alessandroni
Captain John J. Creeden
Stenographer James P. Dougherty

BY CAPTAIN CREEDEN:

Q. What is your business?
A. Insurance Salesman.

Q. Is 6081 Cedarhurst Street your home?
A. My brother-in-law's. I have been living with him for the last month and a half.

Q. Is your home in Philadelphia?
A. Yes. I have always lived around 65th & Chester Ave.

Q. On Sunday, Feb. 12th, you were out of the city. Where were you?
A. Belville, N. J. Right outside of Newark.

Q. You spent the day there?
A. I went there Saturday afternoon.

Q. What time did you return to Philadelphia?
A. I got the 9.22 and got back here at 11 o'clock.

Q. You were in the Station at Newark -
A. About 20 minutes to 9.

Q. Will you tell me just what happened, to your knowledge?
A. We were up on the second floor waiting for the train. Right directly in front of us was a Soda Fountain. I walked into the Soda Fountain to buy a Coko Cola. The girl was busy talking to a fellow right at the edge of the fountain. I took my Coca Cola and walked back to the door something like this (indicating door facing desk) and I was standing in this corner here (left hand corner of door) leaning against the post and sipping my Coca Cola. I heard two men greet each other in Italina and they drew aside. Because I understand the Italian language, it attracted my attention. One fellow greeted the other - a regular salutation. He asked him how his brother-in-law was and the other fellow said, "All right." What I can gather from the whole conversation I am telling in my own way. I gather his brother-in-law was in Florida, in Miami. He mentioned the word Waiter. I think he meant that the man in Florida has a job as a Waiter in Miami. Of course the fellow answered what was fine. Then he said - one fellow was short

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and the other fellow was a little taller, light complected, brother-in-law to the man in Florida. He (the taller man) said his brother-in-law wanted a Thousand Dollars and that he was going to take it to him; that he had received the Thousand Dollars from a man named Mariano. He seemed to be satisfied. There followed some words I didn't get. One fellow spoke Northern Italian. Sometimes I don't understand these fellows very well. His language appeared to me as if he were talking Sicilian. Of course the conversation didn't mean anything to me at the time; I didn't pay strict attention. I was listening to it unconsciously. Then they mentioned in Italian 'Grand Venerable'. He said it in such a way - I didn't see his face - I would almost think he was sneering. The tall fellow, the blonde, said to him "How about the Judge?" He said, "Judge Alessandrone, nothing to it." He also said something about the Philadelphia Police. What I gathered from their conversation was that they were not afraid of Judge Alessandrone or the Philadelphia Police. That's the whole thing.

Q. Is that your interpretation of the conversation?

A. Yes. Then they shook hands. When they mentioned Grand Venerable, something clicked in my mind, and when they mentioned Judge Alessandrone's name, the whole thing came out. Then he said the Philadelphia Police. Hell, I couldn't move from that spot if you gave me \$2000. It struck me that something was wrong. I didn't think of Judge Alessandrone, DiSilvestro, the bombing or anything. Finally they said Goodbye and the short fellow said to the other fellow, "I will see you in California". That was the end of the conversation. I gave them time. I had some friends of mine at the Station and I couldn't leave them. I went to them and said, "Pardon me, I will be right back." I went downstairs, but people were coming up and that stopped my progress down the stairs. I walked to the Station, looked around and went outside. It is a bit dark in the Newark Station. My eyesight is good, but I couldn't see them; it seemed to me they just disappeared. When I came inside again I looked around for the men's room. I saw the lady's room. If the men's room was on the other side, I don't know. I was somewhat excited.

Q. We will take Number One man, the tall man. How old would you say he was?

A. I would say in the 30's.

Q. How tall?

A. Let's get at it this way. The shorter fellow was just a bit taller than I am; a trifle taller. I am 5' 6". He was possibly 5' 6½", but stocky, very well built.

Q. Chunky?

A. Yes. The other fellow was taller, possibly a couple of inches. He had light hair.

Q. Take the short man now, he is 5' 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". How old was he?

A. 45 or 46. In his late 40's.

Q. Did he have a moustache

A. No.

Q. Was he dark complected?

A. Very dark complexion.

Q. Did he have a heavy beard?

A. I would not say much about his beard. He didn't have his hat off.

Q. Did he wear glasses?

A. No.

Q. Any marks of any kind on his face?

A. No.

Q. Any jewelry on him?

A. He was walking with his hands in his overcoat pocket.

Q. What kind of hat?

A. He was wearing a black hat; real black.

Q. Derby or soft hat?

A. Soft black hat.

Q. What kind of overcoat?

A. His overcoat was dark, between blue and black. It was either blue or black.

Q. Short or full length?

A. Full length.

Q. Can you recall the color of his suit?

A. No, he was on the other side of the other fellow. I got a good view of his face, but I didn't pay any attention to his clothes. The tall fellow, I had a better description of his clothing.

Q. Would you say the short fellow was well dressed?

A. Medium, not bad. Not dressed in the height of fashion.

Q. His clothes were plain?

A. Yes.

Q. They were good?

A. They seemed to be all right.

Q. Is there anything else about him you can recall?

A. No.

Q. What about his walk?

A. They were walking slow.

Q. You say Number Two man was taller.

A. One fellow was so chunky he appeared smaller. The other fellow was taller; about as tall as you are.

Q. I am 5' 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". How old was he?

A. He was in his 30's. Somewhere around 33 or 35.

Q. You say he was light complected. Would you say light or fair?

A. As I told the Judge yesterday, when you looked at him the first time you would never think he was Italian. If you saw him on the street you would not take him for Italian.

Q. Did you see him with his hat off?

A. Neither had their hats off. I saw the hair on the back of his head, because his collar was turned down. The other fellow had his collar up.

Q. Did he have a good crop of hair.

A. It was combed in back where the hat sits. He had a haircut where they didn't run the clippers very high.

Q. Did he have a smooth face?

A. He was smooth faced; sort of reddish glow in his cheeks.

Q. Did he have high cheek bones?

A. No, I would not say that.

Q. Were there any marks or scars on his face that you recall?

A. I couldn't say anything about scars.

Q. Did you notice any jewelry on him?

No, he was wearing gloves.

Q. What kind of hat did he wear?

A. He was dressed entirely in brown; dark brown hat; dark brown coat; brown suit; tan shoes.

Q. Was he much better dressed than the shorter man?

A. Pretty well groomed.

Q. Would you take him for a workman.

A. That is pretty hard to say on a Sunday.

Q. Which would you think was the smarter of the two? Who appeared to be boss?

A. The little fellow.

Q. Which one was going to Florida?

A. The tall fellow.

Q. Did you see them as they met?

A. I heard them.

Q. Their talking attracted your attention?

A. As I walked there I heard the salutation in Italian.

Q. You don't know if they got off a train?

A. No.

Q. What train were you waiting for?

A. 9'o'clock from New York.

Q. Just to Philadelphia or did it go to Florida?

A. That's a Philadelphia train.

Q. Where did you get off?

A. 30th Street.

Q. Where was the train going from there?

A. Broad Street Station.

Q. To the best of your knowledge they did not get on that train?

A. No, because I walked through a couple of coaches looking for them. They might have been in the Station when I left, I was so excited.

Q. Would you know the men if you saw them again?

A. I would know them among a million people.

(At this point Captain Creeden handed a number of photographs to Maurice Maida, who after looking at them stated that photograph of C-5106 is somewhat like the type of one of the men, with the exception that his face was not as round as that in the photograph, nor was his mouth as large as the mouth in the photograph. However, he said the photograph was not that of either of the men.)

Q. Are you known in Newark?

A. I have some friends in Belville, but I don't go there often.

Q. Are you very busy this morning?

A. No.

- Q. Is there anybody in the Bureau you know? That is the Detective Bureau.
- A. Not offhanded. The best one I know is Detective Dave Hemphill, 32nd & Woodland Ave. I met some of the other boys. I told you he said Grand Venerable with a sneer. He didn't think much of Judge Alessandroni or the Philadelphia Police Department. That is the meaning he conveyed to the other fellow. The conversation didn't take very long.
- Q. How long had you been in the Station before you saw them?
- A. 5 minutes.
- Q. While you were there did any train come in on the side you were on.
- A. That is what I am trying to clear in my mind. The northbound tracks I think a train came in.
- Q. If they came in on the northbound track they would have had to go down and come up on the side you were on.
- A. The trains coming in come in downstairs and the outgoing trains leave from upstairs. When I came in in the morning I know I came in from the northbound side downstairs and left from upstairs. I have a faint recollection of people coming from somewhere, and I think they got off a train. They may have been a train come in but I am not sure. Evidently when I got to the station one of the men must have been in there. One man must have been expecting the other fellow.
- Q. You heard the start of the conversation?
- A. Yes. I would take it that one came in on a train and the other fellow met him.
- Q. After their conversation do you think they left the station?
- A. They left together and went walking toward the stairway which faced where I was and they went down the stairway. By that time people were coming up the stairs on both sides; there is a railing in the center. They went down the stairway and I couldn't make quick progress to follow them. I don't know if I saw them that possibly I would call a police officer. I couldn't very well leave my friends.

C O P Y

PHILADELPHIA.

February 21, 1933.

Honorable Edward W. Wells,
United States Attorney,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Dear Mr. Wells:

Believing that the man who attempted to kill President-elect Roosevelt at Miami is a member of a wide-spread group of Anarchistic and Anti-social individuals who are responsible for a long series of bombings in this state, I am submitting this report for whatever consideration you may deem proper to give it.

I have interviewed a man by the name of Angelo Gaspari of Germantown, who states the following facts, to wit:

That in March or April, 1932 he, Angelo Gaspari, was employed in the construction of a stone wall at the Chew House, Clivenden and Morton Streets, Germantown, by Contractor Antonio Di Rocco of Manoa Park, Pennsylvania, telephone Hilltop 1238. That with him there were also employed three other men who were strangers and stated they were from New York. These men were hired on the job and had no working clothes and started to work as soon as hired, using burlap bags as aprons. That upon reading the reports of the attempt against President-elect Roosevelt he, Gaspari, and two other men (Gennarino Iannuzzi and Vincenzo Cutri, both of Germantown) seemed to recognize the name of Zangara. In order to make sure, they procured a newspaper and after examining a published photograph, agreed that Zangara was one of the three strangers from New York who had worked with them at the Chew House construction. These three strangers worked there about two weeks, during which time they made utterances and remarks showing strong radical leanings.

Judge Alessandrini states that a young man by the name of Maida of Ardmore, Pennsylvania, was in to see him and related that on Sunday, two weeks ago, while at the Newark Railroad Station, he saw two Italians (one tall and light complexioned, and the other short and stocky) who were conversing in Italian. The short stocky man was asking the other how things were and how his brother was getting along, to which the tall man replied that everything was going well. The short man then mentioned

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"Grand Venerable", "Judge" and "Alessandroni", to which the tall man replied that there was nothing to fear, that they could do nothing. The short man replied that they would have to be careful. In their conversation the tall man mentioned "Miami" and "California". Miami is also mentioned in an anonymous letter addressed to the Judge, warning him to be careful because he would be next; this letter states that the bombs which exploded in the Easton Post Office were made at 811 South 8th Street (near Christian Street) and the Di Silvestro bomb was made in New York.

It is also reported that Zangara has been seen around Eighth and Christian Streets, Philadelphia. Zangara is also reported to have, while residing in Germantown, made speeches assailing Government, Capitalists and specifically Di Silvestro and Judge Alessandroni. While in Philadelphia, Zangara is reported to have been frequently seen at the Cavour Restaurant on South 8th Street, near Christian Street, and that he has either a brother or a cousin by the name of Antonio Zangara living at Sixth and Washington Avenues.

It is significant that, if, as reported, it is true that Zangara was in Philadelphia, no mention of his having been here has been made by him since his arrest. The reason for this, assuming that it is true that he was in Philadelphia, is obvious. The mention of Miami in the conversation overheard at the Newark Railroad Station and in the letter received by Judge Alessandroni is, to my mind, also very significant. The reference to California in the conversation at the Newark Railroad Station, is also important for the reason that Carlo Tresca, the director of the Communist Newspaper in New York whose publication has been recently discontinued, is reported to be in Los Angeles, California.

It is my firm belief that these facts are very important and should be referred to the proper Federal Agencies for further investigation.

Undoubtedly, Zangara must have had associates and the attempt upon the President-elect was an effort on the part of these Anarchists to throw the country into turmoil as a prelude to a possible revolt.

With the other members of this group still at large, the President-elect and other officials and prominent citizens may be made the targets of other attempts on their lives.

Very respectfully yours,

C. JAMES TODARO
Assistant United States Attorney.

CJT:EA

"The Philadelphia Evening Public Ledger"

March 17, 1933

MUSSOLINI HONORS

MRS. DI SILVESTRO

Philadelphia Evening
Will Include Phila. Bomb Vic-

tim in List of Fascist
Martyrs

Public Ledger

Mrs. John M. Di Silvestro, who was killed January 28 by a bomb which injured four of her children and destroyed her home at 1619 South Broad street, is to be included in Premier Mussolini's list of Fascist martyrs.

Announcement to that effect was made by Mussolini, according to an Associated Press dispatch from Rome, while Mr. Di Silvestro, Philadelphia attorney and grand venerable of the Sons of Italy in America, was visiting the Premier this morning to discuss the bombing and the affairs of the order.

The dispatch says that Mussolini expressed indignation at the attack.

At the time of the bombing belief was expressed that the Fascistic sympathies of Mr. Di Silvestro, who was counsel for the Italian Consulate here and a warm supporter of Mussolini, led political opponents to destroy his home in an attempt to kill him. This belief was partly confirmed later when it was learned that a bullet was fired at him through the window of his office two days before the bombing.

Mr. Di Silvestro was not at home when the bomb exploded, but his wife was thrown from bed and killed. His children, who were also in bed, were injured. Police said the bomb probably contained eight or ten sticks of dynamite and was placed in the vestibule or under the stairs of the home.

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"The Record" (Philadelphia)
March 18, 1933

Di Silvestro Links Zangara to Bombing of Home

DUCE CONSOLES ATTORNEY AT ROME AUDIENCE

Says Fascists Will Honor
Philadelphian's Wife,
Killed in Blast.

THEORY IS DOUBTED

Officials Here Question
Charge Assassin Had
Hand in Explosion.

John M. Di Silvestro declared in Rome yesterday that he has evidence linking the attempt to assassinate President Roosevelt with the bombing of his home here in January and the bomb explosion in the Easton post-office 15 months ago.

He said he has discovered that Giuseppe Zangara, who tried to kill Roosevelt at Miami, February 15, and, instead, killed Mayor Anton J. Cermak, of Chicago, may have had a hand in the other outrages.

Zangara, according to the Philadelphia lawyer, who is head of the Sons of Italy in America, is a member of a nation-wide ring of "terrorist radicals." Di Silvestro said he turned his evidence over to Federal authorities in Philadelphia.

Has Audience With Duce.

Di Silvestro's statements came after a private audience with Premier Mussolini. Mussolini expressed extreme indignation at the bombing of Di Silvestro's home, 1619 S. Broad st., early in the morning of January 28.

The Premier promised that the name of Di Silvestro's wife, Elizabeth, who was killed in the explosion, would be enrolled in the list of Fascist martyrs.

Di Silvestro also declared that his friends, Judge Eugene V. Alessandrini, received an anonymous warning saying the leaders of the terrorist band divided their time between Philadelphia and Miami.

He said also he has information that a man resembling Zangara was seen loitering near his home.

In Philadelphia, however, Di Silvestro's statement was questioned. Captain William H. Houghton, chief

of the Secret Service Bureau here, said:

"Our investigation and questioning of numerous persons following Zangara's arrest showed they had no evidence that Zangara was connected with the bombing at the Di Silvestro home of the Easton postoffice.

"The persons who said they saw a man resembling Zangara in the vicinity of both places about the time they were bombed were shown police photographs of Zangara, but none could identify him."

Prosecutor Doubtful.

And Assistant U. S. Attorney C. James Todaro, at whose offices in the Market Street National Bank Building Di Silvestro was conferring at the time the Di Silvestro home was bombed, said he knew nothing about the reported new information.

"It is true," he said, "that Mr. Di Silvestro was here at my office on the night of the bombing, but I know nothing about this Rome information."

From Washington came word that investigation so far indicates that Zangara was not a member of any anarchistic organization, though he was an avowed radical.

Investigation here has failed to reveal any clues to the bombers of the Di Silvestro home, police say. Four children and their governess were injured in the blast, which killed Mrs. Di Silvestro.

In the Easton explosion, December 30, 1931, two postoffice employes were killed. Later an explosives expert was killed examining a similar bomb sent to the postoffice.

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DI SILVESTRO LINKS ZANGARA IN BOMB DEATH

Phila. Attorney Tells Mussolini That Assassin Has Been Identified as Dynamite Terrorist

Also Reveals Warning to Judge Alessandrini by Member of Ring; Many Outrages Laid to Gang

By SEYMOUR BERKSON

ROME, March 17.—Giuseppe Zangara, Italian fanatic who killed Mayor Anton J. Cermak, of Chicago, in an attempt to assassinate the then President-elect Roosevelt, was linked today with a wide-spread radical terrorist organization in the United States.

Charges also were made directly to Premier Mussolini, of Italy, that Zangara and accomplices might have been responsible for the mailing of the bombs which wrecked the Easton, Pa., postoffice, killing three and injuring three others, on December 31, 1931.

These bombs, together with many others, were said to have been manufactured in Brooklyn, New York, by "experts" of the radical gang.

John Di Silvestro, Philadelphia attorney and president of the Society of Sons of Italy, whose wife was killed when their Philadelphia home was bombed in January, revealed evidence supporting these charges in a special audience with Il Duce.

Letter Attacked

Di Silvestro said the evidence of an investigation linking Zangara with the outrage had been given to Federal agents in Philadelphia. It is thought here Zangara's execution, set in Florida for next week, may be delayed while he is questioned about activities of the terrorist outfit.

Di Silvestro made public the text of a report from James Todaro, Assistant United States Attorney in Philadelphia, revealing that this information was sent to the Federal Bureau of Investigation by Edward W. Wells, United States Attorney in Philadelphia.

The report was accompanied by a photostatic copy of an anonymous

letter from a former member of the terror gang, now ill of tuberculosis, which was received on January 30, two days after the Di Silvestro bombing, by Judge Eugene Alessandrini of Philadelphia.

Judge Alessandrini, prominent in Philadelphia affairs, was told that the Easton bombs directed against Consul Grazi and Generoso Pope, wealthy New York contractor and publisher, and others, were made in Brooklyn. Alessandrini was warned:

"You'll be the next. For God's sake, watch yourself."

The anonymous writer said he withdrew when others began talking of violence. He explained his own illness, and said further that a "short, stocky Italian, former barber, is the leader of the group. He divides his time between Philadelphia and Miami."

It was the significant mention of Miami, where Zangara fired at President Roosevelt and killed Mayor Cermak, that led to a search for the "barber" as Zangara's possible accomplice in Florida.

Identified as Radical

Di Silvestro said:

"Zangara has been positively identified as a radical by three construction workers who worked with him putting up a stone wall in Germantown. He made revolutionary speeches with others on Saturday afternoons.

"I have every reason to believe Zangara was a member of nationwide ring of terrorists responsible not only for the attempt on President Roosevelt, but also for the recent New York and Philadelphia bombings."

The men who identified Zangara in Philadelphia are Angel Gaspari, Gennarino Iannazzi and Vincenzo Cutri. They recognized his name and photographs in newspapers and then positively identified him, in statements to Assistant U. S. Attorney Todaro, as the radical speaker they remembered.

The bombing of Di Silvestro's home in January was at first laid to Anti-Fascists, enemies of the Philadelphian, who is close to the Roman Duce.

Other attempts at terrorism, besides the Easton explosions, likely to be linked with the nationwide radical organization are the delivery of bombs in Chicago, Detroit, Youngstown and Cleveland; the discovery of a bomb in Vatican City in February, 1932, of which a cable from the United States warned, and

"The Philadelphia Inquirer"

March 18, 1933

other outrages extending back for more than 18 months.

(Copyright 1933)

Di Silvestro Home Wrecked by Bomb Early on Jan. 28

The bombing of Mr. Di Silvestro's home, at 1619 S. Broad st., occurred at 1.50 A. M. on January 28 last. Mr. Di Silvestro was not at home, but his wife, Elizabeth; four children—two of them twins—and his private secretary, who also cared for the children, all were asleep in their rooms.

The explosion reduced the front part of the home to a heap of debris. The children and the governess were carried out and taken to St. Agnes Hospital from which they were released several days later.

Mrs. Di Silvestro lost her life in the outrage. Pinned beneath tons of debris, her body was recovered about 9 o'clock that morning by firemen, who had worked through-out the cold, rain-drenched night in a futile attempt to rescue her alive.

Mr. Di Silvestro, chief legal advisor to Pio Margiotti, Italian Consul in Philadelphia, had been in the office of Assistant U. S. Attorney C. James Todaro, in the Market Street National Bank Building, and reached his home a few minutes after the blast, which rocked a whole neighborhood.

Mr. Todaro said yesterday that he knew nothing about the information which Mr. Di Silvestro is reported to have given to Premier Mussolini.

"It is true that Mr. Di Silvestro was here in my office that night," Mr. Todaro said, "but I know nothing about this Rome information. I was not the Assistant U. S. Attorney who sent him Zangara's identification."

Houghton's Statement

Captain William H. Houghton, chief of the local office of the U. S. Secret Service, said:

"Our investigation and questioning of numerous persons following Zangara's arrest showed they had no evidence that Zangara was connected either with the bombing of the Di Silvestro home or the Easton Postoffice.

"The persons who said they had seen a man, resembling Zangara, in the vicinity of both places about the time they were bombed were shown police photographs of Zangara and none could identify him."

The perpetrators of the Di Silvestro outrage have not been apprehended. Police have laid the blame to anti-Fascists, and have expressed the belief that the bombing was of a political nature.

Zangara, Sullen, Broods in Cell Awaiting Death

RAIFORD, Fla., March 17 (A. P.). —Giuseppe Zangara, the assassin who boasted he was going to write a book but who can scarcely write his name, was sullen tonight as he brooded in his death cell.

The electric chair is next door. Zangara is to be electrocuted next week because he killed Mayor Anton Cermak of Chicago while trying to shoot Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The assassin is ignored now by other death house prisoners, although they sneered and hooted at him when he first came here.

He sits or lies on the cell cot all the time. He has nothing to say. Only the guards ever speak to him—or the attendants who bring him food. When he was in jail at Miami and talked constantly about "pains in my stomach" he received milk and eggs, but he has not asked for "outside" rations since he entered the death house.

He has not shown any sign of remorse. He refuses to see a clergyman. He was defiant in Miami, a little man with a big boast. He was going to write book about his life.

But he won't write it. There won't be time.

Names Zangara



JOHN M. DISILVESTRO

Philadelphia attorney, whose home was bombed on January 28, had an audience with Premier Mussolini in Rome yesterday, and revealed that he has given U. S. Federal authorities information which may link Joseph Zangara, slayer of Mayor Anton Cermak, with the local outrage.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Edwards	
Mr. Clegg	

U. S. Bureau of Investigation

Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

VWH:RG

March 18, 1933.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

At Miss Gandy's request, I called the file on Giuseppe Zangara and advised Mr. Dodge of the statement made by John M. di Silvestro, an Attorney at Law, with offices at 2404 Philadelphia Saving Fund Building at Philadelphia, to the Special Agent in Charge of our Philadelphia Office; and of the fact that inquiries had been made following the receipt of this statement, which fail, so far at least, to substantiate said statement, although the Philadelphia Office had been requested as late as March 10 to obtain copies of certain statements from the Superintendent of the Philadelphia Police Department.

Mr. Dodge stated that the inquiries from the Press indicated that information had been received by agents of this Bureau from Rome. I advised him that di Silvestro had given us the information at Philadelphia. Apparently Mr. Dodge did not have the story quite correct, because it appears from the morning papers that di Silvestro gave out a statement while at Rome, to which place he has recently gone on a visit, and the press notices are to the effect that the information was given to Benito Mussolini.

Respectfully,

V. W. Hughes

V. W. Hughes.

62-28219-42	
RECEIVED	
MAR 20 1933 P.M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
NATHAN	FILE

MAR 21 1933

735 Philadelphia Saving Fund Building,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

March 18, 1933.

Mr. C. James Todaro,
Asst. United States Attorney,
Market St. National Bank Bldg.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir:

I am returning herewith copy of letter to
United States Attorney Wells, having reference to the possible
connection of Zangara with the bombing of Mr. Di Silvestro's
home.

Your courtesy in loaning me this letter is
certainly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Enc.
cc - Bureau
RGH:EPL

R. G. HARVEY,
Special Agent in Charge.

62-28211
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAR 20 1933
DISTRIBUTION

POSTAL

UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
311 HURLEY-WRIGHT BUILDING
WASHINGTON D C

MARCH 18 1933

T F CULLEN
UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
ROOM 1403
370 LEXINGTON AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY N Y

TELEPHONE ME DEVELOPMENTS ZANGARA INSTEAD DIRECTOR AT OFFICE OR WALNUT EIGHT
FOUR FOURTEEN

KEITH

1:50pm
REN/ren
cc BUREAU ✓

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161 AUG 17 1964

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BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
MAR 20 1933 A.M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
NATHAN Div. One	WPS

Mr. Nathan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tolson	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Edwards	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Clegg	<input type="checkbox"/>

U. S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation

735 Philadelphia Saving Fund Building,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

March 20, 1933.

Director,
United States Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Mr. Harvey's letter dated March 18, 1933, relative to the John M. DiSilvestro matter, particularly to page three wherein it is stated that efforts will be made to secure a copy of the cover letter transmitting Mr. Todaro's communication to the Secret Service.

Please be advised I have today obtained a copy of the said cover letter, which is dated February 23, 1933, from Edward W. Wells, United States Attorney, to Mr. William H. Houghton, operative in charge of the Secret Service here. The letter is merely one of transmittal and contains the statement by Mr. Wells that during the conference at his office relative to the matter the opinion seemed to prevail that the attempted assassination of President Roosevelt by Zangara was not an isolated incident but rather the work of a combination of individuals who had a hand in the Easton Post Office bombing and also the bombing of DiSilvestro's home.

Mr. Wells merely submitted the information to the Secret Service for whatever action that organization deemed advisable and did not request any specific investigation to be conducted in the premises.

Very truly yours,

B. E. Sackett
B. E. Sackett, Acting
Special Agent in Charge.

RES:AVM
62-959.

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&
INDEXED

MAR 22 1933

12-12717-43	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
MAR 21 1933 A.M.	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
DIRECTOR NATHAN	FILE

mrc

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Clegg

U. S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Investigation

311 Hurley Wright Bldg.,
 Washington, D.C.,
 March 18, 1933.

Director,
 United States Bureau of Investigation,
 Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

On your instructions, I interviewed Honorable Charles H. Curtis, former Vice-President of the United States, at his offices, Room #625, Shoreham Building.

He stated that a press article which he noted this morning had reminded him of information which had come to him about two days before the inauguration from some man whose identity he has now forgotten; that this man called at his office and told him that the Post Office Department was in possession of information that Zangara, the assassin, had a Postal Savings account of considerable volume some place in New Jersey; that several deposits to and withdrawals from this account had been made. Mr. Curtis further stated that this was the sole information obtained by him from the unknown man and that he thought that the matter should be checked in thorough detail to ascertain the source from which Zangara had received the funds deposited to this account.

[REDACTED] in the office of the Director of Postal Savings, Room 336 Post Office Department Building, was contacted by Special Agent [REDACTED] and advised that the Post Office Inspector in Charge at Philadelphia, Pa., had referred to his office a letter written by the Postmaster at Patterson, N.J., which stated that Zangara, the assassin, had opened an account, #6762, on August 8, 1931, with a deposit of \$200, at which time he furnished the address of 100 Green St., Hackensack, N.J., and later changed this address to #6 Lewis Place, Patterson, N.J.; that this account was closed out January

b7c

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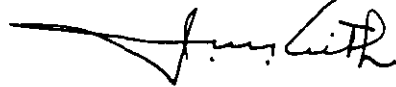
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BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
MAR 21 1933 A.M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
NATHAN Div. One	H. J. [Signature]

20, 1933, with a withdrawal of \$200. Zangara gave the name of Joseph Zangara at the time the account was opened.

b7c
[REDACTED] advised that he had no information concerning deposits or withdrawals, and that the above information is all that was contained in the letter referred to his office; that this letter was received at his office February 28, 1933, and that no inquiries had been received from any other Government bureau regarding this account.

Very truly yours,



J.M. KEITH,
Special Agent in Charge.

JMK:KP

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Clegg

U. S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation

311 Hurley Wright Bldg.,
Washington, D.C.,
March 19, 1933.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

With further reference to my letter of March 18th, concerning the Postal Savings account of Zangara, the assassin, investigation at Patterson, N.J., as to the details of this account revealed that the information in possession of the Post Office Department here in Washington was inaccurate.

Special Agent Wayne Merrick, at Patterson, N.J., late on March 18th, located the account in question, and ascertained that the following currency deposits had been made by Zangara in person at the Patterson Post Office:

August 8, 1931	\$200
August 10, 1931	300
July 1, 1932	700
	<u>\$1200.</u>

Vincent Cafaro, of #78 Lewis Street, Patterson, N.J., uncle of assassin, told our Agent that Zangara had worked at his trade of brick layer for a number of years after arriving in Philadelphia from Ferruggano, Italy, in 1923. The uncle said Zangara had told him some years later that he had saved a total of \$3000, which he had sent back to Italy. The uncle further stated that Zangara was operated on at Patterson, N.J., for a stomach ailment, and in the winter of 1927 had gone to New Orleans for his health. In 1930 Zangara went to California, and proceeded from Los Angeles to Florida and back to Patterson, N.J. in July of 1932. At this time Zangara asked his uncle to let him stay in his home until he, Zangara, could get some of his money from Italy. The uncle was of the opinion that the \$1200 deposited by Zangara in 1931 and 1932 represented the money he had previously saved in the United States and which had been sent to Italy. The uncle further stated that he had heard Zangara had lost all his money through betting on races in Florida. This recent loss and stomach trouble was believed to have made him violent.

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BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

MAR 21 1933 4 P.M.

NATHAN

THO. O'NEILL

Handwritten initials: JH, MS

Agent Merrick obtained the following information as to Zangara's withdrawals from the records of the Post Office in Patterson, N.J.:

April 7, 1932 \$100 mailed to Zangara at #20 N.E. 17 Street, Miami, Fla.
May 6, 1932 \$ 50 in person.
May 27, 1932 \$ 50 in person.
July 19, 1932 \$100 in person.
July 23, 1932 \$100 in person.
August 23, 1932 \$200 mailed to Colonial Hotel, Miami, Fla.
December 30, " \$200 mailed to 126 N.E. 5th Street, Miami, Fla.
January 20, 1933 \$200 mailed to 126 N.E. 5th Street, Miami, Fla.

This represents the withdrawal of \$1000, leaving a balance of \$200 to this account, as represented by Postal Savings Certificate #1294, which certificate is presumably in the possession of Zangara at present.

The New York office was instructed to immediately prepare a detailed report as to this investigation and send it air mail, special delivery, to you.

Respectfully,

J. M. KEITH,
Special Agent in Charge.

JRN:KP

U. S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Investigation
Post Office Box 251
Grand Central Station
New York City

EPG:SH
62-3245

March 22, 1933

Director
United States Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent Wayne Merrick, dated at New York City, March 18, 1933, in the case entitled JOSEPH ZANGARA - Inquiry as to Postal Savings Account.

Please advise whether any further investigation is desired in this matter.

Very truly yours,


T. F. CULLEN
Special Agent in Charge

RECORDED
MAR 27 1933

62-28219-46
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAR 25 1933 A.M.
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

VFH:EB
62-28219-46

RECORDED

MAR 27 1933

March 24, 1933.

Special Agent in Charge,
United States Bureau of Investigation,
Post Office Box 251, Grand Central Station,
New York City.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of the 22nd instant,
with reference to the matter entitled JOSEPH ZANGARA,
you are advised that no additional inquiry is desired.

Very truly yours,

Director.

MAR 24 1933

10/13



Mr. Nathan: Mr. Hoover asks that you read the attached letters and memoranda carefully and prepare a complete memorandum. Mr. Hoover wants to be sure there is nothing more for the New York and Philadelphia offices to do in the matter, and would like to have the memorandum as soon as possible.

hwg

3-20-33.

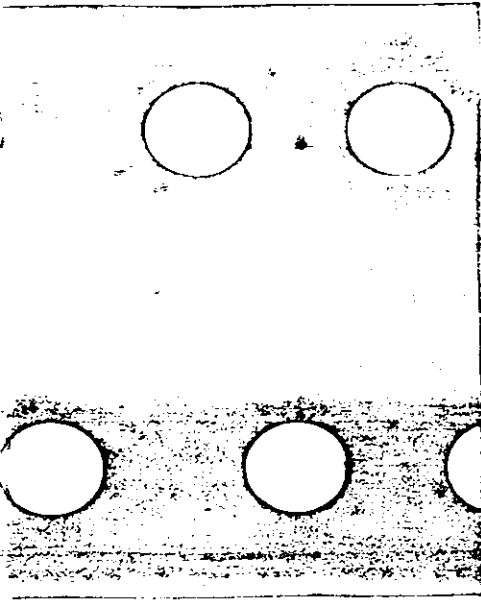
Memo to Director

3/20/33

hw

62-21216

*See
Serials 41-44-45*



U. S. Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

March 18, 1933.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. NATHAN.

Special Agent in Charge Harvey, of the Philadelphia Office called this afternoon and gave the following information:

"I had an interview with Mr. C. James Todaro, Assistant United States Attorney, and he has no further information, other than what I developed and have furnished the Bureau, with the exception of a letter which was sent by him to Mr. Wells, United States Attorney on February 21, 1933, which letter was, in turn, transmitted by Mr. Wells to Mr. Houghton, of the Secret Service. The letter stated as follows: "Believing that the man who attempted to kill President-elect Roosevelt at Miami, is a member of a wide-spread group of anarchistic and anti-social individuals who are responsible for a long series of bombings in this State I am submitting this report for whatever consideration you may deem proper to give it. I have interviewed a man by the name of Angelo Gasperi, of Germantown, who states the following facts; to wit, - that in March or April 1932 he, Angelo Gasperi, was employed in the construction of a stone wall at the Chev house, Olivenden and Morton Street, Germantown, by contractor Antonio di Rocco, of Kinca Park, Pa. With him were also employed three other men who were strangers, and stated that they were from New York. These men were hired on the job and had no working clothes, but started to work as soon as hired using burlap bags as aprons. That upon reading the report of the attempt against President-elect Roosevelt he, Gasperi, and two other men, Gennarino Ianniuzzi and Vincenzo Cutri, both of Germantown, seemed to recognize the name of Zanpara. In order to make sure they produced a newspaper and after examining the published photograph agreed that Zanpara was one of the three strangers from New York that worked with them at the Chev house construction. These three strangers worked there for about two weeks during which time they made utterances and remarks showing strong radical leanings.

"Judge Alessandróni states that a young man by the name of Meida, of Armore, Pa., was in to see him and related that on Sunday, two weeks ago (that is February 21st) while at the Newark Railway Station he saw two Italians (one tall and light complexioned the other short and stocky) who were conversing in Italian. The short stocky man was asking the other how things were and how his brother was getting along, to which the tall man replied that everything was going

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161 AUG 17 1964

well. The short man then mentioned "Grand Venerable", "Judge" and "Alessandroni" to which the tall man replied that there was nothing to fear; that they could do nothing. The short man replied that they would have to be careful. In their conversation the tall man mentioned Miami and California. Miami is also mentioned in an anonymous letter addressed to the Judge, warning him to be careful because he would be next. This letter states that the bombs which exploded in the Boston Postoffice were made at 811 South 8th Street, and that the diSilvestro bomb was made in New York. It is also reported that Zangara had been seen around 8th and Christian Streets, Philadelphia. Zangara is also reported to have, while residing in Germantown, made speeches assailing Government, Capitalists and specifically diSilvestro and Judge Alessandroni. While in Philadelphia Zangara is reported to have been frequently seen at the Cavour Restaurant on South 8th Street, and that he had either a brother or a cousin by the name of [REDACTED] living at [REDACTED]. It is significant that, as reported, it is true that Zangara was in Philadelphia no mention of his having been here has been made by him since his arrest. The reason for this, assuming that it is true that he was in Philadelphia, it is obvious the mention of Miami in the conversation overheard in the Newark Railroad Station is in the letter received by Judge Alessandroni, is to my mind also very significant. A reference to California in the conversation at the Newark Railroad Station is also important, for the reason that [REDACTED] the director of a Communist newspaper in New York, whose publication has been recently discontinued, is reported to be in Los Angeles, California. It is my firm belief that these facts are very important, and should be referred to the proper Federal agencies for further investigation. undoubtedly Zangara must have had associates and the attempt upon the President-elect was an effort on the part of these anarchists to throw the Country into a turmoil as a prelude to a possible revolt. With the other members of this group still at large the President-elect and other officials and prominent citizens may be made the targets of other attempts upon their lives. Signed - C. James Todaro."

Mr. Harvey stated that Mr. Todaro informed him that the information contained in the above quoted letter was all that he had and outlined to Mr. Harvey other facts, all of which are contained in Mr. Harvey's letter to the Bureau concerning his interview with diSilvestro. Mr. Todaro further stated to Mr. Harvey that he had given this case no publicity there; that he had received calls from the newspaper offices but had told them that he had nothing to say. Mr. Todaro stated that Mr. diSilvestro absolutely has no further information than was given to Mr. Harvey.

Mr. Harvey further advised that Todaro, Mr. di Silvestro, Superintendent of Police Lastrange and United States Attorney Wells held a conference about two weeks before di Silvestro left for Italy, and as a result of that conference Mr. Wells decided to forward this letter to the Secret Service, and agreed with Todaro that perhaps there was a ring in on the attempted assassination of Roosevelt.

3.

Mr. Harvey also stated that it is Todaro's personal opinion that this same gang bombed di Silvestro's home and that Zangara was in Philadelphia, although Mr. Harvey is of the opinion that Zangara was not in Philadelphia.

Mr. Harvey interviewed Father Nepote in Germantown (he has forwarded a letter to the Bureau covering such interview), who has talked with all parties involved and has stated that he is positively sure that Zangara was not in Philadelphia and that all who made alleged identifications of Zangara as being in Philadelphia have now denied that it was he.

Mr. Harvey stated that Todaro is positive that di Silvestro has no information which was not disclosed before he left this country.

Mr. Harvey advised that Mr. Keith had called him regarding the postal savings account of Zangara, and that he would report back to Mr. Keith.

Very truly yours,

Director.

C
O
P
Y

RD
mc

512 Taylor Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C.
March 21, 1933.

Office of the Attorney-General,
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

Zangara Case.

In case it should be decided to translate in Washington the statement - presumably in Italian - left by Zangara, and arrangements have not already been made for someone else to do this, I should be interested to undertake this in line of Government duties.

[redacted] and arrangements could no doubt be made for me to take such time as might be needed to make this translation.

b7c

Very truly yours,

/s/ [redacted]

62-28219-47	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
MAR 23 1933 A.M.	
DEPT. OF JUSTICE	
Mr. Clegg	Mr. Egan

RECORDED

INDEXED

MAR 27 1933

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VH:EB

March 24, 1933.

RECORDED

MAR 27 1933

62-28219-47

[REDACTED]

b7c

Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs

Your letter addressed to the office of the Attorney General under date of March 21st, offering your services with reference to translation of a statement left by Guiseppo Zangara has been referred to this office, and inasmuch as the Zangara matter is entirely in the hands of the Secret Service Division of the Treasury Department, I have taken the liberty of forwarding a copy of your letter to that division.

Very truly yours,

Director.

RECEIVED
MAR 24 1933
DEPT. OF JUSTICE

FMS

[Handwritten signature]

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X

VH:EB

March 24, 1933.

RECORDED

62-28219-47

MAR 27 1933

Mr. W. H. Moran, Chief,
Secret Service Division,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

For your information I enclose herewith a copy
of a letter addressed to this Department by [redacted]
[redacted] Washington, D. C.,
under date of March 21st, offering his services as a
translator in connection with the case of Guiseppe Zangara.

b7c

[redacted] is being advised of this reference.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Enc. #200699.

MAILED
MAR 24 1933
DEPT. OF JUSTICE

ms

[Handwritten signature]

26

Mr. Nathan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tolson	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. E. A. Tamm	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Clegg	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Glavin	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Ladd	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Nichols	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Rosen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tracy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Carson	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Egan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Gurnea	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Hendon	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Pennington	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Quinn	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Nease	<input type="checkbox"/>
Miss Gandy	<input type="checkbox"/>

U. S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Investigation
 735 Philadelphia Saving Fund Building
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

March 24, 1933

Director
 United States Bureau of Investigation
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

As of possible interest to the Bureau in connection with the Zangara case, I am transmitting two copies of a communication received by Mr. John Todaro, Assistant United States Attorney, Philadelphia, Pa., from [REDACTED]

I have been advised by the secretary of Mr. Todaro that he has no further information relative to this matter, and that the enclosed letter is the first he has received from [REDACTED]

Very truly yours

B. E. Sackett
 B. E. Sackett, Acting
 Special Agent in Charge

BES:LEC
 Enclosures

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

b7c

MAR 31 1933

Letter from
 2-29-33
 vwd

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 &
 INDEXED

62-29317-48

MAR 27 1933

DIRECTOR
 NATHAN

C O P Y

Miami, Fla.
March 18, 33.

Mr. John Todaro,
Ass't. U. S. Attorney,
Phila., Pa.

Dear Mr. Todaro:

Just recently, I read of linking Zangara with a terrorist group mentioned in connection with the Easton, Pa. Post Office bombing.

I have taken the following before [REDACTED] County Sheriff, the following day after the shooting here at Bayfront Park. b7c

Today I visited the U. S. Agent and explained in detail what happened at about four o'clock the afternoon on the day of the shooting.

What happened on that day and the account I read in today's and yesterday's paper makes me believe all the more that my idea in this matter is not far from being correct.

It was my intention to replace the old City of Miami flag upon the Band Stand with a new clean flag in favor of the arrival of our new President. It happened that I was the only person having one of these flags that was new. I am the designer of the City of Miami flag and had the above flag hanging upon my wall in my room. I promised the property man at the Park I would bring it over to the Band Stand at four o'clock on the day of the expected arrival of our President.

I arrived at the Band Stand with the new flag and assisted the property man in removing the old flag from its staff and replacing the new, clean flag, after this job was completed I walked down from the front of the Band Stand heading to walk through the park towards home.

Before I had a chance to enter the aisle where the seats were placed in the park, I noticed three people, two women, one heavy set and the other smaller in size dressed in white and sitting between both these two women was Zangara leaning back with his elbows resting upon the back of the long

60-23211-4

bench upon which all three were seated.

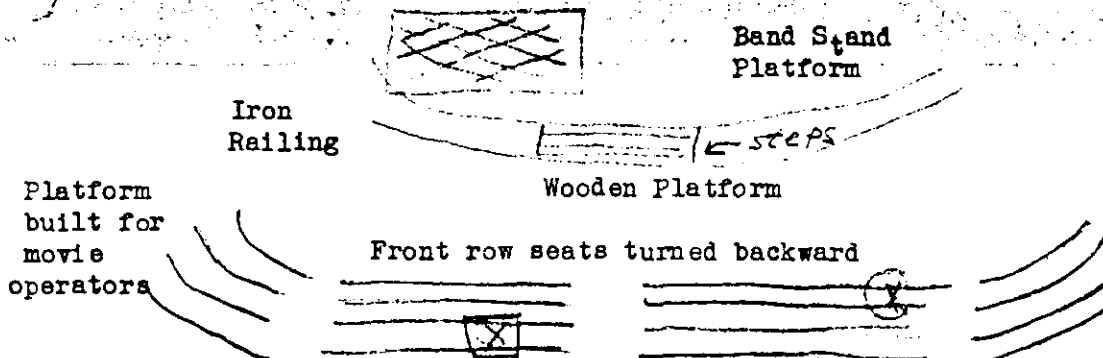
The stout woman on the end of the seat noticing my looking at them as they were seated in the second row of seats asked me if it was all right for them to remain where they were in order that they might see the President. I remarked, yes, that the seats were all free to the public and requested them not to wait until his arrival as it was then 4 P.M. and they had five or six hours to wait until the arrival of the President.

They all joined in together in a defiant way and all spoke in broken English with an Italian accent that they wanted to be sure to see the President when he arrived to-night. I thought it rather strange that they wanted to wait at that hour with only a few other people in the park at the time. After what happened and seeing Zangara's picture published in the newspaper later, I called upon [redacted] Sheriff and told them my story, believing at that time that Zangara was assisted and aided to carry out his plans with the help of these two women. b7c

I imagine these two women were engaged to shield him and try to avoid any interference from outsiders sitting on either side of Zangara when he was planning and getting in readiness to perform his shooting. Had he been alone someone would perhaps see him take out the gun and stopped him. The more I think of this matter the more I am convinced that he was a member of a radical gang operating here in our country.

When I first saw Zangara he was bear headed with his short collar open at the front and had a clean white shirt and no coat, both the women had large size hand bags lying upon their laps.

I also want to mention that they asked of me in what direction the President's carriage would enter the park. I answered saying that he was expected to enter on the left side of the band stand and leave at the right side. However, I will give you an idea of the plan as it looked before and at the time of the shooting.



1st row of seats were turned backward in order not to have them occupied.

(X) where the 2 women and Zangara sat at the time they questioned me at 4 P.M.

X place where shooting took place when Roosevelt's auto stopped at the time he made his speech.

The flood lights at the roof of the Band Stand are powerful and the light from them show up the first, second and third row of seats very clearly - Zangara's sitting in about the third or fourth row accounts for his being away from the front at the time of shooting.- It perhaps looked too bright to them after the flood lights were turned on and perhaps is responsible for the change of seats. Trusting that I may be of some assistance in running down the gang I am

Yours very truly,

(signed  b7c

RECORDED

VNH:RG
62-28219-48

MAR 31 1933

March 29, 1933.

Mr. W. H. Moran,
Chief, Secret Service Division,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

For your information, there is enclosed herewith a copy of a letter which I have received from my Philadelphia Office under date of March 24, 1933, which has attached a copy of a letter addressed to Mr. John Todaro, Assistant United States Attorney at Philadelphia, by [REDACTED] Florida, with reference to the attempt upon the President's life by Giuseppe Zangara.

b7c

Very truly yours,

Director.

Enclosure #211447.

MAR 29 1933

Handwritten initials

Handwritten signature

ME

735 Philadelphia Saving Fund Building
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

March 24, 1933

Honorable Edward W. Wells
United States Attorney
Federal Building
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Dear Sir:

Please accept my thanks for forwarding the copies of
the letter received by Mr. John Todaro from [redacted]
[redacted] regarding the Zangara matter.

b7c

Very truly yours

B. E. Sackett, Acting
Special Agent in Charge

BES:MEC
cc: Bureau

62-2117-

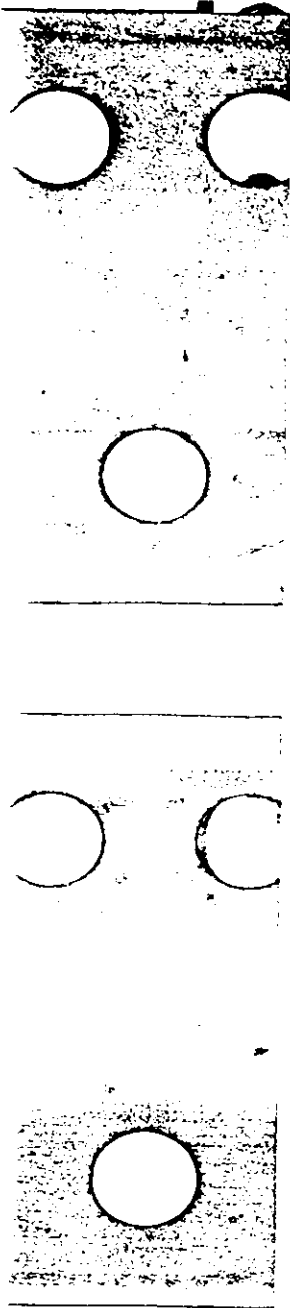
ME

From

Assistant Attorney General Dodds

To

Official Indicated Below by Check Mark



- The Attorney General.....
- The Solicitor General.....
- The Assistant to the Atty. Gen., O'Brian.....
- Assistant Attorney General Richardson.....
- Assistant Attorney General Sisson.....
- Assistant Attorney General Youngquist.....
- Assistant Attorney General Rugg.....
- Assistant Attorney General St. Lewis.....
- Mr. Hoover, Dir. Bureau of Investigation.....
- Mr. Bates, Dir. Bureau of Prisons.....
- Division of Accounts.....
- The Chief Clerk.....
- The Appointment Clerk.....
- Division of Supplies.....
- Mail and Files.....
- Mr. Finch.....
- Mr. Ridgely.....
- Mr. Parrish.....
- Mr. Wixson.....
- Mr. Fisher.....
- Mr. Ramsey.....
- Mr. Wharton.....
- Mr. Harness.....
- Miss Brookley.....

MEMORANDUM

✓

Letter to [redacted] b7c

Letter Mr. H. [redacted]

5-27-33

104

RECORDED & INDEXED

MAR 29 1933

100

all

of

the

file

62-29317-49	
MAR 26 1933 P.M.	
Dir. O...	FILE

C
O
P
Y

b7c



New York

Bureau

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

62-28219-49
March 21, 1933

W. M. M. 7-
3-2
V. H.

MAR 23 1933 PM	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
Div. One	FILE

Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

MAR 29 1933

Dear Sirs:

On the date of February 17, 1933, while in New York I had occasion to make some notes in the back of my check book which up to the present time I have not had opportunity to report to you. The instance herein related followed closely the attempted shooting and assassination of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt at Miami, Florida.

I was having my shoes shined in the vicinity of Fifty-eighth Street and Seventh Avenue at a small repair shop and shoe shining parlor, and about twenty minutes later was sitting in a barber chair being shaved at a place about a block north, opposite the New York Athletic Club. While in the shoe shining parlor, I was attracted by the peculiar and brazen actions of a couple of taxicab drivers, one driving a Checker cab and the other driving a Keystone cab. The two were Italians, at least one of them was; the other might have been Jewish. The conduct of both was particularly brazen and obnoxious, especially so as they left their taxicabs a moment to dash across the sidewalk into the shoe shining parlor. Their laughter was noisy and raucous, as they paid little or no attention to pedestrians walking along the sidewalk, but elbowed their way through and seemed to purposely collide with people passing by. Most of their conversation as they entered the shoe shining parlor was in either Italian or Jewish and occasionally they used a few words of English, as they seemed to be "damning" things.

This all would not have attracted my attention so much but for the fact that about twenty minutes later as I sat in a barber chair, next to me was an Italian being shaved or having his hair trimmed, who was one of the individuals whom I had seen in the shoe shining parlor. As he was leaving his chair and as he held the front sheet of a tabloid newspaper up to the barber who had shaved him he spoke some Italian and then re-marked in English as he pointed at the picture of the attempted shooting of Mr. Roosevelt, "Damn fool, damn worthless shot, can't hit anything."

I turned in my chair to try to get a good look at the individual but was unable to sit upright and see the man before he had gotten well out of the barber shop across the sidewalk when I could only see him through the window.

I give you this information for what it may be worth as indicating the mental attitude of some of the Italian and Jewish element in New York.

COPIES DESTROYED

161 AUG 21 1944

Very truly yours,

/s/ [Redacted]

b7c

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

VWH:HCB

March 27, 1933.

62-28219-49

MAR 29 1933

b7C

[REDACTED]

New York.

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of the 21st instant, advising of certain of your observations in conversations overheard by you, which might have some connection with the attempt on the life of the President-Elect at Miami, Florida, by Guissoppe Zangara.

The investigation of this attempted assassination is in the hands of the Secret Service Division of the Treasury Department, and your letter has been referred to that Division.

Very truly yours,

Director.

MAR 27 1933

WES

[Handwritten signature]

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

MAR 29 1933

VHR:HCB

March 27, 1933.

62-28219-49

Mr. W. H. Moran, Chief,
Secret Service Division,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

For your further information in connection with the attempted assassination of President Roosevelt in Miami by Guiseppe Zangara, there is inclosed herewith a copy of a letter addressed to this Department by [REDACTED] New York, under date of March 21, 1933. The correspondent has been advised of this reference.

b7c

Very truly yours,

Director.

Incl. #545179

MAR 27 1933

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you.

Section 552

Section 552a

(b)(1)

(b)(7)(A)

(d)(5)

(b)(2)

(b)(7)(B)

(j)(2)

(b)(3)

(b)(7)(C)

(k)(1)

(b)(7)(D)

(k)(2)

(b)(7)(E)

(k)(3)

(b)(7)(F)

(k)(4)

(b)(4)

(b)(8)

(k)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(9)

(k)(6)

(b)(6)

(k)(7)

Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

_____ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s): _____

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

HQ 62-282 19-50

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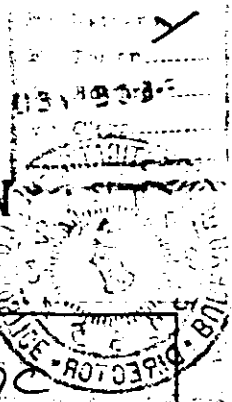
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X FOR THIS PAGE X
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UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT Chicago, Illinois

Jax FILE NO. 62-835



REPORT MADE AT: Jacksonville, Fla.	DATE WHEN MADE: Mar. 28, 1933	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: Mar. 14-17, 1933	REPORT MADE BY: [REDACTED]
TITLE: GUISEPPE ZANGARA		CHARACTER OF CASE: MISCELLANEOUS--ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE PRESIDENT FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

No information obtained at Miami, Florida, to indicate that Guiseppe Zangara had in his possession a check signed by a gangster of Chicago which was drawn on a closed Chicago bank.

RUC

REFERENCE:

Letter from the Chicago Bureau Office dated March 1, 1933.

DETAILS:

Special Agent John D. Glass, of the Jacksonville office, at Miami, Florida, interviewed [REDACTED] Criminal Division of the Sheriff's office of Dade County, Florida. [REDACTED] had direct charge of Guiseppe Zangara since his arrest at Miami, Florida, on the night of his attempt to assassinate President Franklin D. Roosevelt, which attempt resulted in the fatal injury to Mayor Anton Cermak of Chicago, Illinois, and also serious injuries to three other persons. [REDACTED] advised that he carefully searched Zangara, closely examined all of his personal effects, and is positive that no check or other paper bearing the name of any Chicago gangster or hoodlum was found on Zangara. He also stated that he had been in charge of the investigation conducted by local authorities concerning Zangara's activities; that he had inspected all articles taken from Zangara's room and had not seen or heard of any such check.

[REDACTED] of the Miami Police Department, advised that it is his understanding from conversations had with Secret Service operatives that mail for Zangara had been intercepted, and it was his understanding a check of some nature was found but he had not seen this check. He

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	62-77219-51	RECORDED AND INDEXED: MAR 30 1933
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: 2 Bureau 2 Chicago 2 Jacksonville	UNITED STATES	CHECKED OFF: APR 1 - 1933
COPIES DESTROYED 161 NOV 16 1964	BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION ROUTED TO: FILE	JACKETED:

b7c
also stated that Secret Service operatives indicated that their investigation disclosed that Zangara also had in mind the assassination of Mayor Anton Cermak at the time of his attempted assassination of President Roosevelt. [REDACTED] was of the opinion that all data obtained by the Secret Service operatives had been forwarded to Washington, D. C.

Efforts were made to locate [REDACTED] Secret Service Operative, of Atlanta Division, who generally handles matters in the state of Florida, and who was in Miami while investigation was being conducted by Chicago detectives in conjunction with the Secret Service operatives concerning Zangara. [REDACTED] could not be located in Jacksonville for interview to obtain any information as to documents found on Zangara or located subsequent to his arrest.

The Jacksonville office is not setting forth leads in this report for further investigation. It would appear that had a check, as referred to in letter of reference, been found in Zangara's personal effects or in mail addressed to him subsequent to his arrest, the head of the United States Secret Service at Washington, D. C., or the Chicago detectives, who also conducted investigation at Miami, would be in possession of the information, and, should the United States Attorney at Chicago desire further information in this matter, inquiry should be directed to the United States Secret Service, Washington, D. C., or the names of the Chicago detectives who were at Miami should be obtained through the Chicago Police Department and interview conducted with them.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN

UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT WASHINGTON, D.C.

NY FILE NO. 62-3233

REPORT MADE AT: NEW YORK CITY	DATE WHEN MADE: 3/27/33	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 3/18/33	REPORT MADE BY: [REDACTED] b7c
TITLE: JOSEPH ZANGARA		CHARACTER OF CASE: MISCELLANEOUS - Inquiry as to Postal Savings Account	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

b7c

Interviews with Chief of Police, Postoffice Officials, [REDACTED] and persons at the place where subject formerly resided fail to elicit any information concerning bank accounts or postal savings account maintained by Zangara at Hackensack, N.J.

-RUC-

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent W. Merrick, New York City, 3/18/33

DETAILS: AT HACKENSACK, NEW JERSEY.

DETAILS: In compliance with instructions from Special Agent in Charge T.F. Cullen, the writer proceeded to Hackensack, N.J. for the purpose of ascertaining all available information concerning any postal savings account or bank account which Zangara may have had at that place.

Agent interviewed [REDACTED] which is the former residence of Zangara. [REDACTED] informed that Zangara had come to Hackensack from [REDACTED] b7c

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

62-28217-52

RECORDED AND INDEXED:

3-31-33

CHECKED OFF:

APR 1 - 1933

JACKETED:

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- 3 Bureau
- 2 Washington Field
- 1 New York.

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UNITED STATES

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ROUTED TO:

FILE

62-3233

Paterson, N.J. in 1930 and had rented the upstairs of premises, 100 Green Street. [redacted] Zangara occupied these rooms by himself and resided at that address for approximately eighteen months, paying a rental of \$20. per month. [redacted] states that Zangara was very secretive and did not discuss his personal affairs with anyone; that Zangara had no visitors and to the best of his knowledge had no friends around Hackensack. [redacted] states that he had never heard Zangara mention having a bank or postal savings account in Hackensack. [redacted] also mentioned that the Hackensack Police and the Secret Service Agents had questioned him regarding this particular item.

Agent interviewed [redacted] who also resides at 100 Green Street, and she stated that he knows Zangara. [redacted] informed that Zangara had occupied the upstairs rooms at that address and that he had always kept to himself, having no known friends and saying very little about his personal affairs. She stated that she had never at anytime heard Zangara mention having a bank or postal savings account.

Agent interviewed Mr. Frederick Rippergef, Chief of Police, Hackensack, N.J., who stated that at the time of Zangara's assault upon certain persons in Florida, his department had conducted an investigation in and around Hackensack relative to Zangara and his connections but that his investigation had not revealed that Zangara had any bank or postal savings account in Hackensack. Chief Rippergef referred agent to [redacted] N.J., who was Zangara's [redacted]

At [redacted] agent ascertained that [redacted] was absent from his home, but [redacted] informed that she and her husband had both discussed the Zangara matter when they had read the papers that Zangara had shot certain persons in Florida; that at the time a certain newspaper article had stated that Zangara had quite a sum of money somewhere in New Jersey; that she and her husband had also discussed that matter and that her husband had no knowledge that Zangara had a bank or postal savings account, and that her husband had expressed surprise at the time that Zangara had any such sum of money.

At the City Postoffice, Hackensack, N.J., agent found same to be closed but [redacted] contacted [redacted] by telephone at his home, and this agent talked with [redacted] relative to any postal savings account of Joseph Zangara. [redacted] informed

b7C that [redacted] and that with all the notoriety given to Zangara in the papers, had Zangara been one of the postal savings depositors at Hackensack, it would have assuredly been called to his attention. Agent then requested that [redacted] make a more definite statement, and was informed by [redacted] that he was positive that Joseph Zangara did not have a postal savings account at Hackensack, N.J.

The above information was communicated by telephone to Special Agent Bailey at the New York Office at 4:35 P.M. on March 18, 1932, for transmission to the Washington Field Office.

For the information of the Washington Field Office a copy of the reference report is attached to copies of this report for that office.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

NEW YORK CITY

APR 3 1933 AM

DEPT. OF JUSTICE

March 24 1933

K
b7c

[REDACTED]

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

MEMORANDUM FOR FILE

INDEXED

APR 3 - 1933

Re: JOSEPH ZANGARA
Inquiry as to Postal
Savings Account

62-28219-53
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAR 31 1933 A.M.
DEPT. OF JUSTICE
Div. One

In compliance with instructions from Special Agent in Charge T. F. Cullen, the writer proceeded to Hackensack, New Jersey, for the purpose of ascertaining all available information concerning any postal savings account or bank account which Zangara may have had at that place.

Agent interviewed [REDACTED] 100 Green Street, which is the former residence of Zangara. [REDACTED] informed that Zangara had come to Hackensack from Paterson, N. J. in 1930 and had rented the upstairs of premises 100 Green Street. [REDACTED] Zangara occupied these rooms by himself and resided at that address for approximately eighteen months, paying a rent of \$20.00 per month. [REDACTED] states that Zangara was very secretive and did not discuss his personal affairs with anyone; that Zangara had no visitors and to the best of his knowledge had no friends around Hackensack. [REDACTED] states that he had never heard Zangara mention having a bank or postal savings account in Hackensack. [REDACTED] also mentioned that the Hackensack Police and the Secret Service men had asked regarding this particular item.

b7c

Agent interviewed [REDACTED] who also resided at 100 Green Street, and states that she knew Zangara. [REDACTED] informed that Zangara had occupied the upstairs room at that address and that he had always kept to himself, having no known friends and saying very little about his personal affairs. She states that she had never, at any time, heard Zangara mention having a bank or postal savings account.

Agent interviewed Mr. Frederick Rippagef, Chief of Police, Hackensack, N. J., who stated that at the time of Zangara's assault upon certain persons in Florida, his department had conducted an investigation in and around Hackensack relative to Zangara and his connections but that his investigation had not revealed that Zangara had any banking or postal savings account in Hackensack. Chief Rippagef referred agent to [REDACTED] N. J., [REDACTED]

62-3245

At [redacted] agent ascertained that [redacted] was absent from his home but [redacted] informed that she and her husband had both discussed the Zangara matter when they had read in the papers that Zangara had shot certain persons in Florida; that at the time a certain newspaper account had stated that Zangara had quite a sum of money somewhere in New Jersey; that she and her husband had also discussed that matter and that her husband had no knowledge that Zangara had a bank or postal savings account and that her husband had expressed surprise at that time that Zangara had any such sum of money.

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[redacted] by telephone at his home and this agent talked with [redacted] relative to any postal savings account of Joseph Zangara. [redacted] informed that [redacted]

[redacted] and that with all the notoriety given to Zangara in the papers had Zangara been one of the postal savings depositors at Hackensack it would have assuredly been called to his attention. Agent then requested [redacted] for a more definite statement and was informed by [redacted] that he was positive that Joseph Zangara did not have a postal savings account at Hackensack, N. J.

The above information was communicated by telephone to Special Agent Bailey at the New York Bureau office at 4:35 P.M. on March 18, 1933.

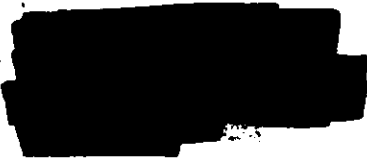
The above information has been incorporated in the report of Special Agent [redacted] New York City, dated March 18, 1933, in the above entitled matter.

Respectfully submitted,

[redacted] b7c
Special Agent

Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Edwards.....
Mr. Clegg.....
.....

b7C



62-29219-54

March 29th, 1933

RECORDED

APR 12 1933 P.M.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

NATHAN

Div. One

FILE

Mr. Edger Hoover
 Bureau of Criminal Investigation
 Department of Justice
 Washington, D. C.

APR 13 1933

Dear Sir:

A few weeks ago, during the trial of Zangara for the murder of Mayor Cermak, I was again impressed with the futile attempt to guard against crimes of assassins with everybody carrying concealed weapons and I made some comments that met with considerable favorable press attention throughout the country. I am undertaking to make some specific investigation as to what statistics show in regard to the record of crimes of this kind in the United States and in other countries, say England and France. I am anxious to know what regulator laws they have in those other countries as compared with those we have in America and what record of crimes of this kind there is. I have been directed to write you with the assurance that your office has all of this data and I should be grateful, indeed, if you would send me any and all information that you have, as well as copies of any reports and comments upon the subject. I have received many interesting letters in the last few weeks touching the matter.

It is possible that your Department might be interested in one or two communications that I received, as they carry veiled threats or, at least, imputations of criminal minds and I, therefore, enclose a copy of a telegram received from one [redacted] La., and the original of an unsigned letter that came to me from Santa Clara, California. Zangara testified that he had made one or more trips to California and I thought this party might have some connection with him. There is a number of other letters that I don't think of sufficient importance to send you. If you get any specific data on either of these people, I wish that you would advise me. I do think that all precaution should be taken to guard President Hoover against any attacks and I should judge that the fellow that wrote the letter from California would be glad of such an opportunity. You may have some method of determining who he is.

Would you, also, have sent to me by the proper department, a copy of the last two years' Statistical Abstract as published by the Government? I don't know whether it is the Department of Commerce or just which department publishes this work.



Vertical handwritten notes and markings on the left margin, including 'b7C' and other illegible scribbles.

4/11/33

Department of Justice
Page 2
March 29th, 1933

Have you any facilities for gathering up copies of editorials which appeared in many of the leading papers throughout the country a day or two after the sentencing of Zangara? I made certain observations at the time of passing sentence to the effect that Congress ought to pass an Act prohibiting the manufacture, sale and ownership of pistols and other like firearms to the public. A great number of editorials have appeared and I would like to procure a copy of each, if possible. Will you not kindly advise me? If you have these in your Department, either give me the list of papers publishing them or send me copies of them, if they are available.

Yours very truly,



Encls.

b7c

COPY

1933 MAR 11 AM 2 17

JEB 71 51 NL

SHREVEPORT LOU 10

MIAMI FLO

AM SORRY THAT I HAVE BEEN BROUGHT UP IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA WITH

SUCH IRRESPONSIBLE JUDGES AS YOU STOP A MAN THAT WILL CONDEMN

AN IRRESPONSIBLE MAN TO DEATH I SHALL NEVER ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I

WAS RAISED IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA I AM ASHAMED OF YOU AND THE JURY



Sat. Mar. 11, 1933

el is speaking and el is
like to no, and that is if
police mans got all the rights
and the slave have no rights

Here the police mans shut
and kill the slaves for doing
nothing and get away with it

up by Los Gatos Calif
a while back a police man
by the name that el can't

Remember the name at the
present time.

He got away with
it and nothing said.

el do not no who
page 11 next

11

this man that Zangara
killed, and I don't much
care.

We the working man,
slaves in other words, are
starving and suffering.

I is at this time not
saying very much. I

is got to go and see if
I can find something to eat.

I is no feeling very good
I is no got no job.

There is no money in job anyhow,
I is no got no money.

I is got garbage at the
County Community kitchen

over

the other day,
 the garbage not so good
 working man ought to get
 three good meals a day
 and good pay
 pay not good, very
 poor and very poor,
 Eats very poor,
 Every thing very poor,
 Not very poor for all the people
 though, Big graft some place,
 I is not working and I don't
 much care to work for nothing,
 I don't mind to work if I
 get paid for my work,
 I is stop writing at this time, No
 close now, I am a slave,

who is turn things
up side down in this
Country.

Hoover and who else
turn things up side down.
Hoover is no good
for president.

He Big Crook,
He should be put
behind the bar in some
poor jail.

So send the police man
to go after Hoover and tell
them to bring him to San
Jose County Jail. San
Jose County Jail very poor
from a slave.

VWH:EB

APR 13 1933

April 14, 1933.

RECORDED
INDEXED

62-28219-54

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Florida.

b7c

[REDACTED]

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
APR 12 1933 P.M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
	FILE

I desire to acknowledge receipt of your communication of the 29th ultimo, requesting certain information with reference to available statistics on the use of firearms, and certain other matters which have become of interest as a result of the attempted assassination of the President-elect at Miami. I also desire to acknowledge receipt of the enclosures which accompanied your letter.

I regret to advise that this Bureau has no data concerning the laws of foreign countries governing the carrying or use of firearms. Neither has it any adequate statistics covering the carrying and use of firearms in this country. However, I am enclosing herewith for your information a copy of the bulletin published by this Bureau entitled Uniform Crime Reports. This bulletin, which is the fourth quarterly one for the year 1932, summarizes statistical data obtained during the year from a large number of police departments throughout the country. The analysis of the data received is based, however, solely on seven major classifications of offenses. The carrying of concealed weapons is not included in these major classifications. However, crimes of violence, such as murder, manslaughter, robbery, aggravated assault and burglary or breaking and entering are frequently accomplished by, or certainly accompanied with, firearms.

Beginning on page thirteen of the enclosed bulletin you will find some observations based on the data compiled from the fingerprint records received by the United States Bureau of Investigation. That particular information is separated into twenty-two classifications, included among which is the carrying or possession of weapons, in addition to the many offenses of violence. It should be borne in mind, however, that this table cannot be considered to represent the extent of the particular crimes named therein. It is based solely on arrests as indicated by the fingerprint cards received from a large number of contributing police departments throughout the United States. As you may be interested in this type of information, it gives me pleasure to place your name upon our mailing list to receive these bulletins as they are issued quarterly.

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161 AUG 17 1964

b7c [REDACTED]

With reference to the laws governing the carrying and possession of firearms, I might state that a number of bills were introduced in both the House and Senate in the Seventy-First and Seventy-Second Congress. In fact, a hearing was held by a sub-committee of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, on April 11, 1930, for the purpose of considering the various firearm bills and endeavoring to agree upon one bill to include all desirable features of the several bills introduced. House Resolution 8754, which it is believed probably embodied the results of the several hearings on firearm bills, was reported to the Senate on April 19, 1932, by Senator Capper. It is believed, therefore, that Senator Capper may have compiled some comprehensive information on this subject, and possibly the committee may have had before it a compilation of State statutes.

With reference to statistics of other countries, I might state that no report of this kind has ever been received by this Bureau from France. However, rather comprehensive statistics can be found covering England and Wales in an annual report entitled Criminal Statistics, England and Wales.

Relative to the enclosures which accompanied your letter, I desire to advise that inasmuch as the Secret Service Division of the Treasury Department has conducted all investigation of the attempted assassination of the President-elect, and the murder of Mayor Cermak by Giuseppe Zangara, I am taking the liberty of forwarding your enclosures to the Chief of that Division, Mr. F. H. Moran.

With reference to your request concerning editorials taken from the leading papers commenting upon the sentencing of Zangara, I regret very much to advise that this Bureau is unable to furnish you with such material through reason of the fact that it did not take any steps to collect such comments.

If there is any further information which this Bureau can furnish you at any time, or if there is any other way in which the Bureau can serve you, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure #211354.

Director.

VH:CS

April 5, 1933

62-28219-54

RECORDED
APR 13 1933
Mr. W. H. Moran,
Chief, Secret Service Division,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

This Bureau has received a letter from the [redacted] Florida, dated March 29th, requesting certain information with reference to the carrying and possession of firearms, and other matters which have become of interest to him since the sentencing of Giuseppe Zangara at Miami for the murder of Mayor Cermak.

b7c

[redacted] enclosed with his letter an anonymous communication addressed to him from Santa Clara, California, as well as a copy of a telegram addressed to him by one [redacted] Louisiana, dated March 11th, and those communications are enclosed herewith for your information. [redacted] stated that Zangara testified that he had made one or more trips to California. Consequently he, [redacted] felt that the communication from California might have some connection with Zangara. [redacted] states he has received a number of other letters, but he does not think that they are of sufficient importance to warrant further attention.

[redacted] has inquired of this office if it has any collection of editorials based upon his sentencing of Zangara. I have advised that this Bureau has no such collection, but it occurs to me that possibly you may have some information of this sort which you may desire to forward to him. [redacted] has been advised of this reference.

Very truly yours,

APR 6 1933

Enclosure #211355

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
Director.	APR 6 1933 P.M.
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
	FILE

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

3 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you.

Section 552

Section 552a

(b)(1)

(b)(7)(A)

(d)(5)

(b)(2)

(b)(7)(B)

(j)(2)

(b)(3)

(b)(7)(C)

(k)(1)

(b)(7)(D)

(k)(2)

(b)(7)(E)

(k)(3)

(b)(7)(F)

(k)(4)

(b)(4)

(b)(8)

(k)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(9)

(k)(6)

(b)(6)

(k)(7)

Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

_____ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s): _____

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

62-2819-55

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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HN:DSS

May 23, 1933.

62-28219-56

RECORDED

MAY 25 1933

Mr. W. H. Moran,
Chief, Secret Service Division,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am transmitting, attached hereto, a copy of a memorandum relative to certain information furnished the Bureau in connection with subversive activities in general and more particularly referring to data furnished the representatives of this Bureau in connection with allegations from John M. DiSilvestro, formerly of Philadelphia, to the effect that Guiseppe Zangara was in Philadelphia in the Spring of 1932.

This Bureau did not pursue these leads to their final conclusion because this would involve investigative activity which it was understood you had already conducted. The Bureau was also informed that the information in question was already in your possession. However, it is deemed appropriate to forward this memorandum to you at this time in order that your files may be complete.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Encl. 320499.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Clegg

U. S. Department of Justice

HN:DSS

Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D. C.

March 20, 1933.

ag

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR.

There is transmitted, attached hereto, a memorandum relative to the file of this Bureau covering the statement made by John M. DiSilvestro, of Philadelphia, relative to the attempted assassination of the President. There are no outstanding leads on this phase of the investigation. It should be noted, however, that this Bureau has made no investigation into the possible implication of others in the attempted assassination of the President other than the specific procurement of the information from DiSilvestro referred to in the foregoing and also information as to the Postal bank deposits of Zangara. It is my understanding that the Secret Service has been in charge of this matter and has conducted requisite inquiries. Of course, a thorough investigation would make it necessary to check Zangara's record in this country, his various movements, his associates, and the like.

Investigation Zangara

Very truly yours,

H. Nathan.

Handwritten notes:
K...
98

Handwritten signature: H. Nathan

RECORDED
INDEXED

Handwritten: 57-3/23

MAY 25 1933

62-28219-56	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
MAY 24 1933 A.M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
SEARCHED	FILE

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

U. S. Bureau of Investigation

Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

March 20, 1933.

INFORMATION FURNISHED RELATIVE TO POSSIBLE SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES

Under date of February 21st, a communication was received from Francis Ralston Welsh to the effect that one John M. DiSilvestro of Philadelphia, whose house had been bombed on January 28th. this year and his wife killed and several children injured, possessed information of importance. It was indicated in said communication that this information concerned Guisepe Zangara.

Telephonic instructions were transmitted to the Philadelphia office to interview John M. DiSilvestro at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It was found that DiSilvestro was Supreme Venerable of an organization known as the Sons of Italy. He stated that he had received information that Guisepe Zangara was in Philadelphia about one year previously. He had secured this information from one G. Gangemi, 811 South 11th. Street, Philadelphia. His informant alleges that Zangara had made speeches denouncing DiSilvestro and Judge Alessandroni. The latter is Municipal Court Judge.

According to DiSilvestro two or three persons had stated that an individual known as Angelo Gaspari had seen Zangara in Philadelphia and worked with him on the same job. Gaspari is a bricklayer and worked for a contractor named Antonio DiRocco. Gaspari had told DiSilvestro that Zangara came from New York with two other bricklayers. These alleged bricklayers were said to have stolen certain articles from a church and DiSilvestro said they were anarchists. The person who DiSilvestro thought was Zangara and the other two men in question were employed by DiRocco only four days, from February 26th. to March 1st., 1932. Two days previously DiSilvestro had sent for DiRocco, who consulted certain time sheet records belonging to him and recognized the name of Gaspari, one of the alleged bricklayers. Zangara's name did not appear in these records. DiSilvestro said that DiRocco was probably afraid to give Zangara's name. DiRocco stated that these three men wore good clothes and that one of them was named Bruno, whose description was given as 5'4", dark brown hair, stout. DiSilvestro stated that Gaspari had said that Zangara worked on this job. DiSilvestro said that DiRocco apparently did not have the name of another person who he knew had worked on the job at the

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161 AUG 17 1964

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