

same time and could not understand why these names were not on the list. He thought that Zangara's name may have been on a missing sheet. DiSilvestro also mentioned a young man whose conversation had been overheard in a railway station at Newark, New Jersey, in the course of which DiSilvestro's name was mentioned, and the man is alleged to have said "I will see you in Florida". DiSilvestro said that this man had talked to Judge Alessandrone. DiSilvestro also said that a newspaper known as L'Adunata dei Refarattari was an anarchist publication at Newark, New Jersey, and he thought that this publication was behind anarchist and communist movements. DiSilvestro also had a report from the Pennsylvania State Police giving the name of a notorious anarchist at Jessup, Pennsylvania and referred to anarchist meetings at Jessup. He also mentioned a communist paper known as La Stamba Libera published in New York City. He also referred to an organization known as the Amalgamated Union, which he said was communistic. He stated that Zangara may have had something to do with the bombing of his home previously referred to and mentioned the names of persons interested in the publication of L'Adunata dei Refarattari and said that they were working in Newark and surrounding places, and also mentioned the name of Carlo Tresca. He said that Carlo Tresca had gone to California and he had heard that he was returning to New York City prior to the time his house was bombed, but, however, Tresca did not make the trip. DiSilvestro said he was sailing for Italy the next Saturday. He said that he had been informed that Zangara was not known in Italy, which would indicate that this was a fictitious name. He believed that Zangara and the two bricklayers who accompanied him to Philadelphia had something to do with the Easton, Pennsylvania, bombing and the bombing of his home. He said that the bomb used at Easton, Pennsylvania, was made on Eleventh Street in Philadelphia and he said that Zangara had been seen on Eleventh Street the previous year. He said it is his opinion that Zangara had associates in his attempt on the life of President-elect Roosevelt. He said that DiRocca is a good man but is fearful that his house may be bombed. He suggested that the Agents interview Reverend Father Neporte, who brought Gaspari to DiSilvestro. He also said that Antonio Mezzanotte may be involved in anarchist activities. He also mentioned one Gebbia, formerly a member of the Sons of Italy. He stated that Gebbia was not a radical, but that Gebbia had given him a story of all explosions in Pennsylvania. He thought Gebbia might have further information pertaining to the activities of Zangara, but suggested that Gebbia not be approached now. He said that Gebbia had furnished the name of Alfredo Moriconi, general organizer of Amalgamated Unions. He said that one DeLuca transmits orders from Bellanca on bombings and other matters.

The Bureau under date of February 25th wrote the Special Agent in Charge at Philadelphia to interview Judge Alessandrone and Father Neporte.

Under date of March 3, 1933, there is a communication from the Special Agent in Charge at Philadelphia stating that he had interviewed Judge Eugene Alessandrone of the Common Pleas Court, City Hall, Philadelphia. Judge Alessandrone stated that a week after the bombing of DiSilvestro's home, February 5, 1933, a young Italian American, while partaking of a soft drink at the railroad station at Newark, New Jersey, heard a conversation in Italian by two Americans, one a short, stocky man about 45 years of age, dark complexioned, clean shaven, and the other a younger man about 30 years of age, 5' 8½", light hair, and clean shaven. The stocky fellow said to the other individual, "Well, how about your brother-in-law". The other answered, "He's all right. I got the thousand dollars. I am going to deliver it to my brother-in-law in Miami, and then we will all meet later in California." The name of the Grand Venerable and Judge Alessandrone were mentioned in the conversation heard by Alessandrone's informant. Judge Alessandrone said that Acting Superintendent of Police LeStrange has a summary of the conversation furnished by the informant, whose name is Mida. He also gave the Agent in Charge a photographic copy of a letter addressed to Judge Alessandrone and an envelope, which anonymous letter gave information relative to bombs made at 811 South 11th Street, Philadelphia, and which were supposed to have been used in the bombing of the Easton Post Office. Judge Alessandrone desired that photographic copies be made of these and that they be returned to him.

The Agent in Charge at Philadelphia had interviewed Reverend Father Dominic Nepote, Germantown, Pennsylvania. Father Nepote said he had been informed by Angelo Gaspari and two other reliable Italians that the information concerning Zangara's working in Philadelphia for Antonio DiRocco on a contracting job was not correct. Father Nepote said that there was a man working for DiRocco who somewhat resembled Zangara, but he was positive that it was not Zangara. Father Nepote said he is positive that Zangara was not in Philadelphia because the Italians interviewed by him are most reliable and that those who were associated with DiRocco and DiRocco himself claimed that the person thought to have been Zangara was not, in fact, Zangara. Father Nepote would not divulge the name of any of his informants. Father Nepote is acquainted with Antonio Mezzanotte and claims that he is not reliable. He said it would not be advisable to interview Mezzanotte.

Under date of March 10, 1933, the Philadelphia office of the Bureau was directed to interview Acting Superintendent of Police LeStrange relative to information possessed by him, as indicated in the foregoing.

On March 18, 1933, the Agent in Charge of the Washington Field Office interviewed former Vice President Curtis, who stated that two days before the inauguration some man, whose identity he has now forgotten, called at his office and said that the Post Office Department was in possession of information to the effect that Zangara had a Postal Savings account of considerable volume some place in New Jersey and that several deposits to and withdrawals from this account had been made.

Information was received from the Agent in Charge of the Washington Field Office on March 19, 1933, to the effect that Agent Merrick, of the New York office, on March 18, had located at Patterson, New Jersey, the account of Zangara and ascertained that the following currency deposits had been made by Zangara in person at the Patterson Post Office:

August 8, 1931	\$200.00
August 10, 1931	300.00
July 1, 1932	700.00
	<u>\$1,200.00</u>

Vincent Cafaro, of Patterson, New Jersey, the uncle of Zangara, told the Bureau's 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 told him some years later that he had saved a total of \$3,000.00, which had been sent back to Italy. The uncle further states that Zangara was operated on at Patterson, New Jersey, 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, New Jersey, in July of 1932. At this time Zangara requested 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 \$1,200.00 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 states that he had heard that Zangara had lost all of his money through betting on races in Florida.

The following information was received relative to Zangara's withdrawals from the records of the Post Office in Patterson, New Jersey:

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, 1932	\$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 \$1,000.00, leaving a balance of \$200.00 to this account, which, presumably, may still be in the possession of Zangara, as represented by Postal Savings Certificate #1294.

Special Agent in Charge Harvey, of the Philadelphia Office, reported on March 18, 1933, that he had an interview with Assistant United States Attorney Todaro, who had no information in addition to that already contained in this memorandum, with the exception that a letter had been sent by him to Mr. Wells, United States Attorney, on February 21, 1933, which letter had been transmitted by Mr. Wells to Mr. Houghton, of the Secret Service, the letter reading as follows:

"Believing that the man who attempted to kill President-elect Roosevelt at Miami is a member of a widespread 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 Street, Germantown, by contractor Antonio di Rocco, of Manoa Park, Pennsylvania. 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, Gaspari, and two other men, Gennarino Ianniuzzi and Vincenzo Cutri, both of Germantown, seemed to recognize the name of Zangara. In order to make sure they produced a newspaper and after examining the published photograph agreed that Zangara was one of the three strangers from New York that worked with them at the Chew house construction. These three strangers worked there for about two weeks during which time they made utterances and remarks showing strong radical leanings.

Judge Alessandrone 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 (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 well. The short man then mentioned 'Grand Venerable', 'Judge' and 'Alessandrone', 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 Postoffice were made at 811 South 11th Street, and that the DiSilvestro bomb was made in New York. It is also reported that Zangara had been seen around 11th and Christian Streets,

Philadelphia. Zangara is also reported to have, while residing in Germantown, made speeches assailing Government, Capitalists and specifically DiSilvestro and Judge Alessandrone. 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 Antonio Zangara living at 6th. and Washington Avenue. 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, it is obvious the mention of Miami in the conversation overheard in the Newark Railroad Station is in the letter received by Judge Alessandrone, 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 Carlo Tresca, 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."

It will be noted that the major part of this information has already been referred to in the prior part of this memorandum. It should also be noted that it has been furnished to the Secret Service. Todaro stated that DiSilvestro had no further information than had been given to Harvey. Harvey also stated that Todaro, DiSilvestro, Superintendent of Police LeStrange and United States Attorney Wells had a conference about two weeks before DiSilvestro left for Italy, and as a result of that conference Wells decided to forward this letter to the Secret Service and agreed with Todaro that perhaps there was a gang which participated in the attempted assassination of Roosevelt. It was Todaro's personal opinion, also, that this same gang bombed DiSilvestro's house and that Zangara was in Philadelphia. Harvey was of the opinion that Zangara was not in Philadelphia.

Under date of March 18, 1933, a communication is recorded from the Agent in Charge of the Bureau's office at Philadelphia covering an interview with Superintendent LeStrange, of that city. LeStrange stated that a statement was taken from Maurice Maida, the individual who overheard the conversation between two Italians in the railway station at Newark, New Jersey. He furnished this Bureau with a copy of said statement. LeStrange stated that in his opinion he doubted whether there was any connection between Zangara and the bombing of DiSilvestro's home.

A copy of the report of Lieutenant Clark, of the Philadelphia Police, was also received, concerning the residence at 811 South 11th. Street,

Philadelphia, at which place it was alleged bombs had been made. This report indicated the ownership of the premises in question and stated that it is now owned by one Joseph Marciano, who is in the real estate business. It specifies the identity of the present occupants, whose occupations are unknown. It is also stated that in the year 1930 the third floor was rented by Mr. Pasquale Salanitra, who lived there with a girl known as Mary, who was an Italian. Salanitra was said to be employed as a hairdresser. Salanitra is said to have left the apartment to go to Miami Beach, Florida, in company with the woman who was known as Mary, proceeding in a Ford Sedan. The Philadelphia Office ascertained that the individual who conducted the beauty shop at which Salanitra had been employed stated he had been there "off and on" for the past four years and as late as last Fall, and that he was now employed as a hairdresser by the Freschen Beauty Company, which owns a chain of beauty shops, and is, at the present time, at a branch belonging to that company at 1637 Alton Road, Miami Beach, Florida.

The statement taken from Maurice Maida, referred to in the foregoing, refers in detail to the conversation alleged to have been overheard by Maida at a soda fountain in the station at Newark, from which he gathered that the brother-in-law of one of the speakers was in Miami, Florida. He gathered that the man in Florida had a job as a waiter in Miami. One of the men said his brother-in-law wanted a thousand dollars and he was going to take it to him; that the thousand dollars had been received from a man named Mariano. The speakers mentioned in Italian "Grand Venerable" in a seemingly sneering fashion and also mentioned the name of Judge Alessandroni. They also said something about the Philadelphia Police. Finally one of the speakers said to the other "I will see you in California". The rest of the statement contains a detailed description of the two speakers and other collateral matters. Maida identified one photograph which was handed to him from the Identification Division in Philadelphia as being the type of one of the men with the exception that his face was not so round; however, no specific identification was made.

FROM

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR, UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

TO

OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

Assistant Director Nathan (X)
Assistant Director Tolson ()
Assistant Director Edwards ()
Assistant Director Clegg ()
Inspector ()
Division ()
Secretary ()

See Me (X)
Prepare Reply ()
For Your Information ()
Note and Return ()
File ()

Remarks:

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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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)

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Section 552

Section 552a

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(b)(6)

(k)(7)

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VNH:RG

June 16, 1933.

62-28219-58

RECORDED

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INDEXED

JUN 20 1933

b7c

Dear Madam:

Your letter addressed to the Office of the Attorney General dated June 4, 1933, with reference to Giuseppe Langara and the Italian Black Hand Society has been referred to this Bureau for appropriate attention.

You are advised that your letter has in turn been referred by this Bureau to Mr. W. H. Moran, Chief, Secret Service Division, Treasury Department, Washington, D. C., for his information.

Very truly yours,

Director.

ms

JUN 10 1933

K

VEH:RG

62-28219-58

June 16, 1933.

JUN 20 1933

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

Dear Sirs

For your information and whatever attention you may deem appropriate, there is enclosed herewith a photostatic copy of a letter addressed to the Office of the Attorney General by [redacted] dated June 4, 1933, with reference to the associates of Giuseppe Zangara, the assassinator of Mayor Cermak of Chicago, and the Italian Black Hand Society.

b7c

Very truly yours,

Director.

Enclosure #546938.

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten mark]

Chicago. June 11, 1935

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
Chief, Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

Your vigorous prosecution of criminals and notable success in your investigations leads me to hope you may take my statements seriously and my motives as without malice.

I have one or two clues that may lead to the uncovering of activities in connection with protecting the estate of the late Anton J. Cermak, formerly Mayor of Chicago. I am told by sources I consider reliable that his estate greatly exceeded in value the three hundred odd thousand admitted to probate, and that shortly before his death in the Miami hospital in 1933, some of his associates here in Chicago hastily gathered his cash and securities together and took them over to Canada for sequestration there and for the obvious purpose of evading income and inheritance taxes.

In the fall of 1933, actuated by public spiritedness, I called at the Intelligence Unit of the Internal Revenue Service in the U. S. Court House here, gave the inspector what meagre information I had, and asked that he probe further. He informed me he had received similar intimations from other sources regarding the Cermak estate but had developed nothing. He said that before he could run down any clues he would have to have affidavits and proofs and suggested that I get these. His attitude struck me as so evasive and so unwarranted that I permitted the matter to drop. I felt that for political reasons any alleged investigation made by the Chicago unit would be a whitewash so why waste my time and effort.

RECORDED

I am encouraged to believe that you mean business and I firmly believe there is considerable truth in the statements and office gossip at the City Hall and enough to make it worth while investigating from Washington.

If you give the matter credence and wish to have me assist in any way, I am at your service.

Very truly yours,

[Redacted signature]

Residence -

[Redacted address]

Office -

[Redacted office address]

[Redacted]

b7c

AGB:RD
62-28219 - 59

RECORDED

June 18, 1935

b7c
[REDACTED]
Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter dated June 11, 1935 concerning the former activities and the estate of the late Anton J. Cermak, formerly Mayor of Chicago. You advise that this matter has been referred to the Internal Revenue Bureau at Chicago, Illinois.

Please be advised that the activities of this Bureau are limited to conducting investigations of violations of specified Federal Statutes and to the collecting of evidence in certain cases in which the United States is or may be a party in interest. The contents of your communication do not appear to constitute such a violation and I am, therefore, unable to take any action in regard thereto.

The matters of income and inheritance taxes come within the jurisdiction of the United States Treasury Department.

I desire to express my appreciation for your commendatory remarks concerning criminal investigations which have been made by this Bureau.


Sincerely yours,

COPIES DESTROYED

161 AUG 21 1964

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

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H



INGTON WAS NOT BORN ON FEBRUARY 22 AND HE WAS NOT IN
MADE OF TWO DEADLY WEAPONS "A QUART OF BIBLE CONTAINS 14
SHIP IN THREE MINUTES "WHEN YOU GO TO MEAR HIS OWN
LED "ICE FISH IS NOT BORN IN THE NORTH OCEAN
THAN FROM VERMONT TO MISSOURI "THEY CARRY WOMAN IN
LISH "THE SUN IS NOT BORN IN THE EAST "THE SUN IS NOT
THE YOUNGEST SON OF A YOUNG MAN "THE YOUNGEST SON OF A
KING OF THE UNCLE "THE GOOD "A LITTLE MORE PICKER
WAR OF THE UNCLE "THE GOOD "A LITTLE MORE PICKER
CAPTAIN "THE SUN IS NOT BORN IN THE EAST "THE SUN IS NOT
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FLAME "THE SUN IS NOT BORN IN THE EAST "THE SUN IS NOT
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SOUND OF A BIRD "THE SUN IS NOT BORN IN THE EAST "THE SUN IS NOT
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AMERICAN "THE SUN IS NOT BORN IN THE EAST "THE SUN IS NOT
RABBIT "THE SUN IS NOT BORN IN THE EAST "THE SUN IS NOT
AND DAY FOR SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS "THE MAN WHO FINANCED THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION WAS LATER JAILED FOR HIS DEBTS "CHARLES V RULED HALF THE KNOWN WORLD WHEN HE WAS 20 YEARS OLD "ICEBERGS ARE DRY "MAMMALS ARE MORE GRASS THAN AN

Syndicated by the
UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE NEW YORK

BY
JOHN HIX

On the Air Every Thursday
COLUMBIA BROADCASTING SYSTEM

JAN. 19,
1940.

W. Hix

but this is really not true

Mr. Walter Winchell,
New York,
N. Y.

Dear Walter Winchell:

With reference to your column of January 18 in the local
Herald Express and your paragraph on Zangara.

Here is a story which you may have heard; if not, I am sure
you will be interested.

Cermak was muscling in on the beer racket in Chicago. The
various mobs knew they had to do something to stop him as
their beer was being thrown out and Tony's beer put in.
Zangara was living on borrowed time. He had an incurable
disease. The mob told him that if he would get Cermak, they
would take care of his family; otherwise, on his death the
family would be penniless. The opportunity came at Miami.
Zangara got his man as he was not after Roosevelt.

It would be interesting to know just where the Zangara family
is now and how they are faring.

I have been shown a lot of reports on this case by a former
G-man. You might ask J. Edgar about it the next time you see
him.

Cordially yours,

Ernest Hix

Ernest Hix,
6362 Hollywood Blvd.,
Hollywood, Calif.

62-26219-6
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 9 1940
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
RECORDED

*Walter Winchell
Jan 11 1940*

Reference:-- NEW YORK CITY TWX 6-23-42
100-2-60-76

The following individual was: Presidential warrant issued for:

NAME:-- JOSEPH ZANGARA

PLACE:--

DATE:--

REMARKS:-- Italian
Member of the Federation of World War Veterans in the
United States of America, Inc. - Associazione Nazionale Combattenti
Italiani Federazione Degli Stati Uniti D America.

7 JUL 12 1942

REINDEXED

DATE: 1-11-57

62-28219-

FILE RECORDED

JCS

FIVE

The Attorney General

February 13, 1950

Director, FBI

Giuseppe Zangara, aka
Joseph Zangara, aka
Giuseppe Zangara

gm

127

Giuseppe Zangara, Italian-born, naturalized American citizen, on February 15, 1933, at Miami, Florida, shot into a crowd which included, among others, President-elect Franklin D. Roosevelt. Five individuals, including Mayor Anton J. Cermak of Chicago, were wounded. Mr. Roosevelt escaped injury.

Zangara was indicted under local charges and after pleading guilty, on February 20, 1933, was given an eighty-year sentence, twenty years each on four charges of attempted murder. On March 6, 1933, Mayor Cermak died. Zangara was then indicted for first-degree murder, to which charge he pleaded guilty. On March 20, 1933, he was electrocuted by the State of Florida.

INVESTIGATION OF CASE:

The primary investigation regarding the attempted assassination of President-elect Roosevelt was conducted by the Secret Service, which is charged by law with this responsibility.

The FBI, in this instance, conducted only minor, collateral investigations. On February 18, 1933, Frank M. Parrish, Acting Head of the Criminal Division, Department of Justice, by letter, stated that the Attorney General had instructed him to start an inquiry to determine whether a suit to cancel the naturalization of Zangara could be successfully maintained. He requested the FBI to undertake an investigation.

In addition, the FBI made limited inquiries in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, regarding the possibility that Zangara might have participated in anarchist activities in that area. Likewise, the FBI located a Postal Savings Account maintained by Zangara at Paterson, New Jersey. The results of these inquiries were furnished to the Secret Service. Various letters received by the FBI from individuals who desired to furnish information about the case were also forwarded to the Secret Service.

Quinn Tamm

- Tolson _____
- Ladd _____
- Clegg _____
- Glavin _____
- Nichols _____
- Rosen _____
- Tracy _____
- Harbo _____
- Mohr _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Nease _____
- Gandy _____

FCS:nb

MAILED 3
FEB 14 1950
COMM - FBI

RECORDED - 48 62-28211-61

FEB 14 1950

ENCLOSURE
55 FEB 16 1950

initials on top yellow

Memorandum to The Attorney General

February 18, 1950

Re: Giuseppe Zangara, aka
Joseph Zangara, aka
Giuseppe Zangara

EVIDENCE REGARDING ZANGARA'S CONNECTION WITH CHICAGO MOBSTERS:

(1) The FBI files reflect the following:

On February 18, 1933, an anonymous letter, addressed to the Department of Justice, Washington, D. C., was mailed at St. Paul, Minnesota. This letter which was furnished the Secret Service stated:

"Louis Gleckman St Paul Minn underworld character, racketeer, licker runner, etc. was in Florida at the time of the attack on President elect Roosevelt. If it was intended to kill Cermak for activities against Chicago underworld why not find out what he was doing in Florida"

On March 1, 1933, the Special Agent in Charge at Chicago advised that Mr. Green, United States Attorney, Chicago, had informed that he had received information to the effect that a check signed by an alleged hoodlum or gangster of Chicago, on a closed bank in Chicago, the name of which was unknown, was found on the person of Zangara. Mr. Green requested to be furnished any information the FBI might have on this point.

The FBI, pursuant to Mr. Green's request, made pertinent inquiries in Florida. Mr. Guy C. Reeve, Head of the Criminal Division of the Sheriff's Office of Lake County, Florida, who had direct charge of Zangara since his arrest, was interviewed. Mr. Reeve 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.

Chief Inspector Frank Mitchell, of the Miami Police Department, advised that it was 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

Memorandum to The Attorney General

February 18, 1950

Re: Giuseppe Zangara, aka
Joseph Zangara, aka
Giuseppe Zangara

was found but he had not seen this check. He 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. Inspector Mitchell was of the opinion that all data obtained by the Secret Service operatives had been forwarded to Washington, D. C.

Mr. Walter Winchell furnished the FBI a letter dated January 19, 1940, addressed to him by Mr. Ernest Hix, 6362 Hollywood Boulevard, Hollywood, California, a newsman. Hix stated:

"Here is a story which you may have heard; if not, I am sure you will be interested.

"Cermak was muscling in on the beer racket in Chicago. The various mobs knew they had to do something to stop him as their beer was being thrown out and Tony's beer put in. Zangara was living on borrowed time. He had an incurable disease. The mob told him that if he would get Cermak, they would take care of his family; otherwise, on his death the family would be penniless. The opportunity came at Miami. Zangara got his man as he was not after Roosevelt."

(2) Secret Service Files:

The Secret Service files reflected that there were many allegations, most of which were in the form of anonymous letters, that the attempted assassination was planned by gangsters or some organized criminal group, and that Zangara had been sent to Miami expressly for that purpose. Subsequent investigation, however, indicated that he had been in Miami for several months prior to the incident. There is no indication that Zangara had any knowledge as to the identity of Mayor Cermak of Chicago.

Investigation was conducted in both Philadelphia and Chicago in an attempt to determine whether Zangara had any connections in either of these cities which might implicate him as being a member of a criminal gang. However, there was no evidence that Zangara had even been in Chicago nor had any relatives or associates in that

The Attorney General

February 13, 1950

Director, FBI

GIUSEPPE ZANGARA, aka
JOSEPH ZANGARA, aka
GIUSEPPE ZANGARA

filed-1

Pursuant to your request of Assistant Director L. B. Nichols of February 10, 1950, requesting information regarding the case of Giuseppe Zangara, I am enclosing a memorandum which sets forth the desired data. It has been necessary to review the files of the FBI and the Secret Service and to check the court records at Miami, Florida.

In reference to the mention of Mr. Helgerson on page four of the memorandum, I desire to point out that Helgerson who was Executive City Editor of the Washington Times Herald is well-known to the FBI. On numerous occasions in the past the FBI has found him to be most unreliable. It should be mentioned in this connection that Helgerson was not advised by Mr. Harry E. Neal, Aide to the Chief of the Secret Service, at the time of Helgerson's inquiry that Zangara's statement clearly showed that he meant to kill President-elect Roosevelt. Neal felt that it might inspire a revival of the whole story in a sensational and undesirable manner.

Enclosure
FCS:mb

RECORDED

162-28219-62
FEB 15 1950

- Tolson
- Ladd
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Nichols
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Harbo
- Mohr
- Tele. Room
- Nease
- Gandy

MAILED
FEB 13 1950
COMM. DIV.

FEB 13 5 28 PM
RECEIVED
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

called at 6:30 no answer

FEB 13 1950

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

FEB 13 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Ladd	✓
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	✓
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

[Handwritten signature]

FBI, MIAMI

2-13-50

2-56 PM EST

E C E

DIRECTOR, FBI.....U R G E N T

...ATTENTION - ASSISTANT DIRECTOR NICHOLS...

GUISEPPE ZANGARA. RE TELEPHONE CALL FROM ASSISTANT DIRECTOR NICHOLS FEBRUARY TEN LAST. REMYTEL ELEVENTH INSTANT. FILE IN THIS CASE AT STATES ATTORNEY OFFICE, MIAMI MISSING FOR MANY YEARS. NO FILE ON CASE AT SO, MIAMI. RECORD MIAMI PD REFLECTS ONLY ARREST INFORMATION AND NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS. RECORDS OFFICE OF CLERK OF CRIMINAL COURT, MIAMI, REFLECT CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS AND QUESTION AND ANSWER TESTIMONY IN OPEN COURT. RECORDS IN NEWSPAPER MORGUE OF MIAMI NEWS AND MIAMI HERALD CHECKED. NO INFORMATION REVEALED THAT ZANGARA INTENDED TO KILL ANYONE BUT PRESIDENT ELECT ROOSEVELT. ZANGARA STATED HE BOUGHT REVOLVER TO KILL PRESIDENT HOOVER BUT HEARD ROOSEVELT WAS COMING TO MIAMI AND DECIDED TO KILL HIM. HE SAID HE WANTED TO KILL ALL KINGS, PRESIDENTS AND RICH PEOPLE AND DID NOT TALK HIS PLANS OVER WITH ANYONE. IN COURT ZANGARA STATED HE DID NOT KNOW ANTON CERMACK OR KNOW HE WAS MAYOR OF CHICAGO AND AIMED AT PRESIDENT ELECT

..END PAGE ONE..

RECORDED - 144

FEB 16 1950

36

..PAGE TWO..

ROOSEVELT BUT MISSED BECAUSE HIS ARM WAS STRUCK BY A WOMAN.
ZANGARA EXECUTED MARCH TWENTY, NINETEEN THIRTYTHREE AT STATE
PRISON, RAIFORD, FLA.

C A R S O N

END

301PM OK FBI WASH DC CCW

cc: Mr. Nichols

FEB 11 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Mohr	.....
Tele. Room	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

FBI, MIAMI

2-11-50

3-25 PM HEK

DIRECTOR, FBI URGENT

GUISEPPE ZANGARA. RE TELEPHONE CALL FROM ASSISTANT DIRECTOR NICHOLS LAST EVENING. COUNTY COURT RECORDS NOT AVAILABLE TODAY INASMUCH AS ALL OFFICES CLOSED SATURDAYS. ATTEMPT WILL BE MADE EARLY MONDAY TO CHECK RECORDS FOR PERTINENT INFORMATION IN THIS MATTER. MIAMI FILE REFLECTS REPORT OF FORMER SA [REDACTED] DATED MARCH TWENTYEIGHT, NINETEEN THIRTY THREE AT JACKSONVILLE IN CASE ENTITLED "GUISEPPE ZANGARA, MISCELLANEOUS DASH ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE PRESIDENT FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT", CHICAGO ORIGIN. COPIES FURNISHED TO BUREAU. CONTAINS INFORMATION CONCERNING ALLEGATIONS THAT ZANGARA AT TIME OF ARREST HAD IN HIS POSSESSION A CHECK SIGNED BY AN UNNAMED GANGSTER OF CHICAGO AND DRAWN ON A CLOSED CHICAGO BANK. FURTHER ALLEGATIONS THAT SECRET SERVICE OPERATIVES INVESTIGATION ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT HAD ALLEGEDLY REVEALED TO FORMER LOCAL OFFICIALS THAT SECRET SERVICE INVESTIGATION HAD DISCLOSED INFORMATION INDICATING ZANGARA INTENDED ASSASSINATING CERMAK. THIS REPORT INDICATES THAT ABOVE DESCRIBED INFORMATION ALLEGEDLY DISCOVERED BY SECRET SERVICE HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN FORWARDED TO WASHINGTON HEADQUARTERS. THIS REPORT CONTAINS FURTHER DATA THAT INVESTIGATION BY MAIN HAD FAILED TO CONFIRM ANY SUCH CHECK AS ABOVE HAVING BEEN IN ZANGARA-S POSSESSION. BUREAU ALSO APPARENTLY HAS SEPARATE FILE ENTITLED " GUISEPPE ZANGARA, NATURALIZATION MATTER" WHICH APPARENTLY CONTAINS CONSIDERABLE INFORMATION NOT AVAILABLE IN MIAMI FILE .

b7c

P.R. - 7

RECORDED - 71

62-28219-6
 FEB 16 1950
 370
 W

CARSON

EX-3

END 2 150

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson
FROM : L. B. Nichols
SUBJECT: *F. P. Delano*

DATE: February 13, 1950

Tolson	_____
Ladd	_____
Clegg	_____
Glavin	_____
Nichols	_____
Rosen	_____
Tracy	_____
Harbo	_____
Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Nease	_____
Gandy	_____

Late Friday the Attorney General called and requested a review of old files on Guissipe Zangara, who attempted the assassination of the late President Roosevelt and in the attempt assassinated Mayor Cermak of Chicago. He stated he particularly wanted to know of any information or evidence that Zangara was out to get Mayor Cermak rather than President Roosevelt.

We had a file in the Bureau; however, our investigation was on collateral aspects and by no means could be considered as reflecting the complete story. We had Liaison check with Secret Service for their files on Saturday. It took considerable time to locate the file and the only thing of value was Zangara's statements. We got photostatic copies of these.

I called SAC Carson in Miami Friday night. It was impossible for the Miami Office to get into the court records on Saturday. I had one of the supervisors go over everything yesterday. He is now in the process of preparing the summary and upon receipt of the information from Miami the summary will be completed.

b7c This morning, [redacted] called my office and stated the Attorney General wanted the summary right away. I explained to her that preparation of the summary necessitated checking Secret Service records and checking the court records in Miami. I further explained to her I specifically asked the Attorney General on Friday how soon he wanted this and he stated the first of the week. I told her we would have the summary ready today. She stated somebody was in talking to the Attorney General and she thought that I should tell him what the situation was.

The Attorney General came on. I told him briefly the facts. I told him that there was no substantial information or evidence that Zangara was out to shoot Cermak; that, as a matter of fact, Secret Service had an inquiry from a newspaperman about two years ago for information along this same line and had declined to furnish any information since there were no substantial facts and since they did not want to revive the sensational story. I told him that we could not get into the court records in Miami on Saturday but we would do this today and have the memorandum today. He stated that that would be fine.

LBN:hmc

RECORDED - 27
EX-61

65-27019-65

274 e

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. NICHOLS
FROM : MR. R. W. LAWRENCE
SUBJECT: COOPERATION BY SECRET SERVICE
LETTER OF THANKS FROM DIRECTOR

DATE: February 13, 1950

- Tolson
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Nichols
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Harbo
- Mohr
- Tele. Room
- Nease
- Gandy

62-27799-

You will recall that over this last weekend it was necessary to check the files of Secret Service in connection with the case of Giuseppe Zangara. In order to accomplish this, it was necessary for [redacted] of Secret Service to spend almost all day Saturday in his office and here at the Bureau. This was not his regular tour of duty and he performed this service voluntarily and expressed no objection to so doing.

b7c

In view of his excellent cooperation, it is suggested that a letter of thanks be directed to him over the Director's signature. If you approve, there is attached such a suggested letter.

Attachment

RWL:iml

✓ [handwritten initials]

ah

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 62-27799-1

RECORDED - 20

INDEXED - 20

62-27799-66

[handwritten initials]

[handwritten initials]

EX-103

271
58 FEB 28 1950

February 14, 1950

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
VIA LIAISON

b7c

[Redacted]

United States Secret Service
The White House
Washington, D. C.

*Delivered
by Special Delivery
2/16/50*

*412-1
Rec'd - P*

Dear [Redacted]

I wish to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for the excellent cooperation which you extended to this Bureau on February 11, 1950, in connection with the case of Giuseppe Zangara - Attempt to Assassinate President Roosevelt.

Knowing that we can call upon you in such cases of emergency is personally appreciated by me.

Sincerely yours,

RWL:iml:ejj *ejj*

V
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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

- Tolson _____
- Ladd _____
- Clegg _____
- Glavin _____
- Nichols _____
- Rosen _____
- Tracy _____
- Harbo _____
- Mohr _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Nease _____
- Gandy _____

RECORDED - 11

EX-55

Wm
67
FEB 17 1950

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nichols
FROM : M.A. Jones
SUBJECT: GUISEPPE ZANGARA, was

DATE: February 16, 1950

Handwritten signature and initials

There is being returned to you a memorandum concerning the above captioned individual, prepared for you by SA [redacted] from the Secret Service files. You loaned this memorandum to the Crime Records Section to be used in the preparation of a memo for the Attorney General. One of the two photostatic copies of Zangara's statement, which accompanied the memorandum, was furnished to the Attorney General.

b7c

Handwritten note: see file 100-111150

RECORDED - 16

Handwritten note: 62-28219-68

53 MAR 5 1950 73

Handwritten signature: RWJ

SWORN STATEMENT OF

JOSEPH ZANGARA

Miami, Dade County, Florida,
February 16th, 1933.

For Mr. Truman Hawthorn
State Pros. Atty.
JEM.

SWORN STATEMENT OF JOSEPH ZANCARA

TAKEN IN MIAMI, DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,

this 16th day of February, A. D. 1935.

WHEREUPON, JOSEPH ZANGARA testified

as follows:

BY SHERIFF DAN HARDIE:

Q. Joe, what is your name? Your name is Joseph?

A. Zangara.

Q. Now, Joe, listen, how old are you--how many years?

A. Thirty-three.

Q. When you came to this country--the United States?

A. I came here 1923, the first of September.

Q. What did you see--

A. Martha Washington.

Q. Joe, I asked you questions. Before you tell me--see, if this man die--if somebody die you shoot,

I hang you. That will be too bad for you. If you

like me all right you tell me the truth.

A. I tell you the truth.

Q. This big man is big lawyer--grand lawyer . .

A. I understand, speak in English.

BY MR. MATTHORNE, STATES ATTORNEY:

Q. Do you know what it means to be sworn to tell the truth?

A. Yes.

Q. Will you raise your right hand. You do solemnly swear or affirm that the testimony that you will give and the answers you give will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

A. Yes, I told all the truth.

Q. Under the laws of Florida--this is the State of Florida, you know?

A. Yes.

Q. If you are prosecuted for murder, you understand, you are not compelled to say anything at all. You can talk or you don't have to talk.

A. Well, I talk.

Q. If you talk and answer the Sheriff's questions-- you don't have to answer them, but if you do, then what you say can be used against you or for you. But if you do answer the Sheriff's questions you have to tell the truth, but you don't have to answer them.

A. I understand.

BY SHERIFF HARDIE:

Q. Joe, you have a pistol tonight?

A. Yes, I have a pistol.

Q. Where did you buy pistol?

A. In a store.

Q. What store--where?

A. On Miami Avenue.

Q. What kind of store?

A. A loan . . .

Q. Money to loan?

A. Yes.

Q. When did you want to kill President--how long ago?

A. I got this idea when I was seventeen years.

Q. Seventeen years ago?

A. No, seventeen years--I was sixteen.

Q. Had you tried to kill in Italy?

A. Yes, the King.

Q. Why didn't you kill the King?

A. Because I didn't have no chance.

A. You didn't have no chance?

A. No.

Q. Who tell you that the President was there tonight?

A. The paper.

Q. You read English?

A. Yes.

Q. When did you read the paper?

A. Yesterday.

Q. Morning or night?

A. Down by the docks, when the morning paper . .

Q. The morning paper?

A. It says President come to make speech. I buy one.

Q. When did you buy the pistol?

A. The pistol?

Q. What day?

A. The night--the night the President come--in the morning.

Q. The President come today. You bought it this morning?

A. I bought it yesterday.

Q. You bought it yesterday?

A. I buy day before yesterday. Maybe day before yesterday.

Q. Did you shoot the President when he stood up and make speech or when he sit down?

A. When he make speech I didn't have a chance.

Q. Why didn't you have a chance?

A. Because there was people in front. I jumped on a chair. I thought he might speak a long time--about

twenty minutes. He said just one second--just like

that--ba-ba-ba--quick that way. When I see him speak in

automobile I don't get a chance.

Q. Was anybody with you?

A. No friends?

A. No.

Q. No anger?

A. No.

Q. Nobody in Miami?

A. No, no place.

Q. How did you come here--by train, or how?

A. By bus.

Q. How long you lived in Miami?

A. I was here last winter.

Q. You was here last winter?

A. Yes.

Q. And then you come this season?

A. Yes.

Q. How long this season--how long you been here?

A. Two or three months.

Q. You have money?

A. No.

Q. How much money you got?

A. A little in Post Office.

Q. How much?

A. Two hundred dollars. More than that. I have forty-five dollars in my pocket when Police took me.

Q. When you shot, Joe, how many times did you shoot?

A. Two or three times.

Q. Two or three times?

A. Yes, I told you.

Q. Did you want to kill other people too?

A. No, just him.

Q. Did you know you might shoot other people?

A. No, just him. Just President.

Q. Did you shoot that way or this way?

A. Just shoot that way at him. I moved my hand.

I was in a chair.

Q. Why do you want to kill President?

A. Because the President rich people--capitalists
spoil me when I'm six years old.

Q. They ruin you?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you hate President Roosevelt as a man?

A. As a man I like him all right.

Q. But as a President?

A. President--always the same bunch.

Q. Do you like to live in a country where there is
money? Do you like Anarchism?

A. No, foolish.

Q. Do you like Socialism?

A. No, more foolish.

Q. Do you like Communism?

A. No.

Q. Do you like Russia?

A. I never been over there.

Q. Joe, would you kill the President now if you
had a chance?

A. Sure.

BY SECRET SERVICE OFFICIAL:

Q. Would you kill him as Sheriff?

A. No.

BY SHERIFF HARDIE:

Q. Why won't you kill me?

A. Because you are a working man like me.

Q. Would you kill these men?

A. No.

Q. Do you believe in Government?

A. I believe in Government that--government that we like him--everybody know me.

Q. No rich men?

A. No rich men.

Q. No money?

A. No.

Q. You don't like socialism?

A. No.

Q. Do you like Communism?

A. No, my mind is the same.

Q. Do you believe in God?

A. No.

Q. Jesus Christ?

A. No.

Q. What do you believe in?

A. The land, the sky, the moon--what I see.

Q. Who make the world?

A. Nobody knows.

Q. Yes, when you shoot tonight you try to kill the President then what did you do?

A. Nothing. I was in chair. I shot and several men pushed me in back--touched me when I was going

to shoot.

Q. Then the Policeman and I were on top of you?

A. Yes.

Q. Would you shoot the Policeman or me?

A. No.

Q. Would you shoot to get away?

A. No. Before I shoot you I no shoot him.

Q. Joe, where did you get your money from?

A. From the Post Office here.

Q. Do you work?

A. Yes.

Q. What kind of work?

A. Brick layer.

Q. Joe, are you a Union man?

A. Yes.

Q. What is the number of your Union?

A. Number two.

Q. Joe, how long have you been a Union man?

A. Since I come to this country.

Q. Joe, you like the Union?

A. No. What is the difference.

Q. Why did you go into the Union?

A. Because if I don't go into Union I don't get no job.

Q. Do you belong to any associations?

A. No, I told you the truth. However I do I tell you.

Q. When did you lay bricks the last time?

A. Two years now and I did.

Q. Why don't you work for two years?

A. Because I can't find no job.

Q. You can't find no job?

A. No.

Q. How much money you make--you have?

A. Two thousand and a half.

Q. Do you have any bank, Joe?

A. I have a little banking--the Trust Company.

Q. What is the name of the bank?

A. The United--Union State . . .

Q. The Union State Trust Company?

A. Yes. I had there before.

Q. Joe, if I tell you you killed the President tonight, what you say to me?

A. I try to kill him.

Q. Are you glad you kill the President tonight?

A. Yes. I try to.

Q. If you shoot somebody else you glad or sorry?

A. Somebody else, I am sorry.

Q. Do you think all the time about killing a President?

A. To change the Government.

Q. Why didn't you kill Hoover?

A. The same thing. The same bunch.

Q. Did you want to kill Hoover?

A. Yes, the same thing. Hoover and Roosevelt--everybody the same.

Q. Did you try to kill Hoover?

A. No, because I wasn't around to have a chance.

Q. Too many policemen?

A. No, I never did try because I had to wait.

Q. When you make up your mind to kill President--
today or last night?

A. When I read the paper yesterday.

Q. Yesterday when you read the paper?

A. Yes. I read the paper before yesterday.

Q. When you seen the paper did you have the pistol or
did you go buy the pistol?

A. I don't remember.

Q. You don't remember?

A. No.

Q. Did you have the pistol when you read the paper?

A. No.

Q. Where was it? Where was the pistol?

A. In the store. Or home. I don't know. I don't
know whether I buy it the day before or after.

Q. Joe, why did you buy the pistol?

A. To kill the President.

Q. Joe, when you bought the pistol did you look in
the paper to see President was coming and then you buy
pistol?

A. I think that was about--before or after I don't
remember.

Q. In the store where you bought the pistol--was he a
Jew?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you tell him why you bought the pistol?

A. No.

Q. Did he ask you why you bought it?

A. No, he get the money. That's all he wanted.

Q. How much did you pay for it?

A. Eight dollars, he said and I gave it to him.

Q. See, when you shot the President tonight,

supposing the people get you and killed you--what then?

A. Very well. If they going to kill you what's the use of living?

Q. Do you hate all rich people?

A. What?

Q. You don't like no rich people?

A. No.

Q. Would you kill the President of a Rail Road?

A. No, what's the use?

Q. You got to kill the Government men?

A. Yes.

Q. Would you kill Hoover tonight if you could?

A. Sure, the same thing.

Q. See, if you kill a man you don't care if you die or where you go?

A. No.

Q. You have no soul?

A. No.

Q. No Heaven or Hell?

A. No. I go in the ground.

Q. Was you scared tonight?

A. No, no scared.

Q. What was you going to do--walk away?

A. No, I wasn't going to walk away.

Q. If you killed the President tonight, how you feel in your mind? Happy?

A. Yes. Because I was trying to kill him. I would be happy.

Q. This man--if he was a working man how you feel?

A. I don't want to kill working man working for bread.

Q. You ever been loco--asylum--crazy?

A. No.

Q. In Calabria--your padre, your madre not crazy?

A. No.

Q. Your sisters of brothers?

A. No.

Q. Nobody crazy?

A. No.

Q. Ever see crazy people?

A. No.

Q. Never saw them?

A. No.

Q. Were you ever arrested? In jail?

A. No, never been in jail.

Q. Do you ever read books?

A. No, nothing. I don't believe in nothing.

I don't believe in reading books because I don't think--I don't like it. I don't believe in no

partidos. I got everything in my mind.

Q. Where did you get the idea you want to kill rich men and kings from?

A. Because rich people make me suffer and do this to me. My father he sent me to school and then made me work.

Q. See, the rich man makes you suffer? Since you were how old?

A. Six years old.

Q. Six years old?

A. Yes, since they sent me to work in a big job.

Q. What makes your belly burn?

A. Because when I did tile work it hurt me there. It all spoil my machinery. My stomach--all my insides. Everything inside no good.

Q. All because you worked when you were too young?

A. Doctor say so. My father bring me to doctor.

Doctor told my father it spoil me.

Q. The doctor told your father it would spoil you? Hurt you?

A. Yes.

Q. What did your father say?

A. He said nothing because he say he have to send me to work.

Q. Your father sent you to work?

A. Yes.

Q. See, do you like your father or do you hate him? You love your father?

A. I don't know much.

Q. He make you work?

A. He didn't have no brains--no--no . . .

Q. No education--no school?

A. No education, no.

Q. Your belly gets bad?

A. All the time.

Q. How many years?

A. Since I am six years old.

Q. Your belly bad?

A. Yes, all the time.

Q. How long the mind tell you to kill kings or presidents?

A. About sixteen or eighteen. Whenever I get big.

Q. You have any friends in Italy that get together and talk about it?

A. No, all in my mind I make it.

Q. You don't talk to nobody?

A. No. All in my mind. This is how they make that mind work.

Q. When you get the ideas you don't tell them-- you don't like lies, do you?

A. No.

Q. You don't talk like that at all?

A. No.

Q. If I tell you, Joe, . . .

A. In Italy, before Mussolini there has been Socialism and I never been in there.

Q. You don't like Socialism?

A. No.

Q. Do you like Fascism?

A. Do you like

A. No.

Q. Do you like Mussolini?

A. No. I don't like Lu: solini.

Q. Would you kill a rich man's child?

A. A rich man?

A. A rich man's baby?

A. No. Why kill them.

Q. You just like to kill Presidents?

A. Yes. Just them.

Q. Would you kill a Governor?

A. No.

Q. Just kings?

A. Yes.

Q. And Presidents?

A. Yes.

Q. Emperors?

A. No, just kings or President--King or President all the same.

Q. Joe, how you feel now I tell you you shot the President?

A. Well, I feel good.

Q. I tell you the President is dead--what you say?

A. What else I say--I got to say nothing.

I tried to kill him.

Q. You are happy?

A. I am happy if he died or if he lived. I tried. If he is not dead that is not my fault.

Q. Supposing all the people down there in the Park should kill you?

A. Kill me? I'm half killed now. So use living now.

What's the use of living?

Q. Joe, did you ever have a fight in your life when you was a boy?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever get hurt with a knife?

A. No. Never had a fight.

Q. Did you ever shoot a pistol before?

A. No, no shoot people.

Q. You never shot a pistol before?

A. Yes.

Q. Where?

A. Italy on Christmas.

Q. What did you shoot at--birds or what?

A. No, on Holidays--New Years and Holidays.

Q. For pleasure?

A. Yes, just Holidays.

Q. Joe, have you got papers making you a citizen?

A. Yes.

Q. What place you got them?

A. Patterson, New Jersey.

Q. How many years ago?

A. I think it was about '28 or '29. (1928 or 1929)

Q. Did you go before a judge--a big judge?

A. Yes, before the Court.

Q. Did he ask you if you liked the United States?

A. Yes.

Q. What did you say?

A. I said "Yes, I like the United States".

Q. Did he ask you about the President?

A. No.

Q. Joe, you had twentyfive hundred dollars--two thousand and a half?

A. Yes.

Q. When did you earn it?

A. I was a mason--brick layer. I make houses. Contractor for myself. Make little house.

Q. Did you hire men to work for you?

A. I used to.

Q. Italians?

A. No, Americans. All Americans.

Q. Union men?

A. Yes.

Q. How much a day you pay them?

A. It depends. I don't remember.

Q. Union wages?

A. Well, union wages you got to pay them. Sure.

Q. How much were they?

A. Fourteen dollars a day.

Q. Fourteen dollars a day? What town?

A. Patterson, and other towns.

Q. What other town?

A. Ridgewood and all places there.

Q. What was meeting you was in with other Italians?

A. No Italians.

Q. What meeting you go to where they make speech--big speech?

A. Tonight?

Q. No, in Patterson.

A. No, local Union.

Q. Do you like the President of the local Union?

A. Well, he is a man.

Q. You no kill him?

A. No, he is a working man like me.

Q. Joe, when you see President you get mad?

A. No.

Q. You just kill them?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you ever try to kill a President before?

A. No. I never had a chance.

Q. What do you want me to do now with you?

A. Well, no matter.

Q. Joe, if your belly is all right--the doctor make you all right--you drink and eat and no pain--would you hate Presidents?

A. No. If I don't suffer in my body no body no more.

Q. Joe, if I am going to tell you I will turn you loose tonight--if I turn you loose and your belly hurts you and you get chance you kill President tomorrow?

A. All the time my belly hurts me.

Q. All the time his belly hurts him and he is going to kill him. If your belly get better?

A. I wouldn't bother then.

Q. Joe, when you eat food and water . . .

A. I eat--anything I eat.

Q. Makes you suffer?

A. Yes. Makes me pain.

Q. Joe, when do you--how many times do you eat at restaurants?

A. About two times.

Q. Where you eat--where is restaurant?

A. The fifteen cent place.

Q. Murphey's?

A. Yes. By the Post Office.

Q. By the new Post Office?

A. Sometimes there and sometimes other place.

Q. What you eat?

A. Any kind they have.

Q. Kopa?

A. Anything they have.

Q. Meat?

A. Yes.

Q. But that's bad?

A. Everything's bad.

Q. When your belly had that makes you want to kill

Presidents?

A. Yes.

Q. Did your belly hurt you tonight in the Park?

A. Yes. It hurts all the time.

Q. Your belly hurt when you shot the President tonight?

A. Yes.

Q. Was your brain mad?

A. Certainly.

Q. You wasn't scared of all those people?

A. No. Why? I'm half dead now. What's the use of
living. I'm half dead from capitalists.

Q. You know the President has got children?

A. Yes. He's a good man but he is President.

Q. You like the President's children to see their papa
dead? Their papa?

A. I don't want to, no. They wouldn't care for me--

Capitalists wouldn't care for me.

Q. Would you kill the President's children?

A. No.

Q. You wouldn't kill their children?

A. No.

Q. Do you know Henry Ford?

A. Yes.

Q. A rich man?

A. Yes.

Q. Would you kill him?

A. No.

Q. Would you kill a banker? A rich banker?

A. No. No. No.

Q. Now, if the President ne come here tonight what would you do?

A. Nothing.

Q. Why do you come here?

A. I come here for I have to. I was figuring to go to Washington.

Q. Why?

A. I was figuring to go to Washington to kill President.

Q. To kill him there?

A. Yes.

Q. Why didn't you?

A. Because I couldn't go there. Too much in the cold.

I wanted to stay a couple of months here.

Q. Then you read the papers?

A. Yes. Then I thought I would take a chance here.

Q. In the bed you think that--that you will kill him?

A. Yes.

Q. Lying in the bed?

A. Yes.

Q. Then you go there with the gun and wait there?

A. Yes.

Q. You know he is not President?

A. Yes, he is.

Q. No.

A. He is elect. That is President.

Q. No. Joe, if you go to Washington--listen, this man is President Hoover and that man is President Roosevelt you kill all of them?

A. I try to all.

Q. You don't like President?

A. No.

Q. The States Attorney--Grande Hombre here--he tells you what you say now if you tell it in Court the Jury may hang you--they may hang you--is that all you say?

A. I know. I will talk there the same thing.

Q. All the same thing in Court?

A. Yes, all the same.

Q. You say that in the Court?

A. Yes.

Q. Then the Jury say to me . . . "You say that?"

A. Yes, I say it.

Q. Then they say "Sheriff, you hang him".

A. Sure.

Q. That all right?

A. Sure, what's the use of living?

BY MR. CHARLES MORANHEAD, COUNTY SOLICITOR:

Q. Where was first place you worked?

A. In Italy. In the ground. My father had a farm.

Q. What is the name of the town?

A. Farronanno.

MY SHERIFF HARDIE:

Q. How much you go to school?

A. I never been.

Q. No more?

A. I got started going to school and my father wasn't able and I had five years. My father was over there. I was two months in school. My father come and take me out like this and say "You don't no need no school". "You need to work". He take me out of school. Lawyers ought to punish him--that's the trouble--he send me to school and I don't have this trouble. Government.

Q. You hate government?

A. Yes.

Q. Joe, then you come here. You no go to school no more?

A. No, I was too big. I tried but it was hard to learn.

Q. You are a brick layer?

A. Yes.

Q. When you make an arch--an arch like that out of brick--how do you do it?

A. I mark it.

Q. How do you know?

A. Because I learn.

Q. Not because you go to school?

A. No, just on the work.

Q. You measure from here to the top and then you mark that?

A. So have wood. We follow the wood.

Q. Joe, are you a contractor?

A. Once in a while. I little contract.

Q. Can you take a pencil and draw your own house--pictures?

A. Yes, sure. I figure it out myself.

Q. You can make that out--your own hou.?

A. Yes. Everything in my trade.

Q. You figure it out--you can figure?

A. No, no much figuring. I learn just a little figuring.

Q. Are you mad because you didn't have school?

A. Yes.

Q. If you had school then you wouldn't kill Presidents?

A. No. I would be well. I wouldn't have this kind of sickness.

Q. How did you learn brick laying?

A. I learned it in Italy and after here.

Q. You were apprentice?

A. Not here. In Italy.

Q. Did you ever have a girl here?

A. No. Never had.

Q. You like girls?

A. No.

Q. You marry?

A. No.

Q. You don't want wife?

A. No. I like the wife but since all the time there is suffer all the time. I want well.

Q. Joe, if I tell you this morning--you will be good friends--if I tell you Joe, don't kill the President tonight, what you tell me?

A. If you tell me that I'll--I can't tell you. I wouldn't say that for nobody.

Q. If you tell me that you still kill him?

A. Yes.

Q. If I let you out tomorrow for good you try to kill more

Presidents?

A. Sure.

Q. If they are out of office, you still kill Presidents?

A. Yes. Presidents.

Q. Hoover--he is out next month--he is no more President.

A. No, he is out.

BY MR. MOREHEAD:

Q. What boat did you come here on?

A. The Martha Washington.

Q. What Port?

A. Philadelphia.

Q. What did you do after you landed--what was your first job?

A. Brick layer.

Q. Where?

A. Patterson.

Q. You have lived in Patterson ever since?

A. Except once in a while for jobs I was doing.

BY SHERIFF HARDIE:

Q. When you was six years old your belly was bad?

A. Yes.

Q. What year did you come here?

A. On Martha Washington.

Q. What year?

A. Twenty-three coming here.

Q. You suffered all the time?

A. Yes.

Q. From the time you were six to twenty-three what were you doing for a living?

A. I was a brick layer.

Q. All the time?

A. Yes.

Q. Joe, did you ask a man to go to work here? Did you try to get brick laying here?

A. No.

Q. Why?

A. Because I was sick. I was wanting to get to go back to work up there. I was here two or three months. I can't stand the cold weather.

Q. Every day you hate the President?

A. Yes.

Q. Every day you want to kill the President?

A. No, not every day. Not every day.

Q. Joe, what big contractor in Patterson do you know?

A. Several.

Q. Who. Name one.

A. John Marx.

Q. Any other one?

A. Wax & Company.

Q. When did you work for Wax & Company?

A. Six years ago. About four months and then they make new table--big building and I work for John Wax and Company.

Q. Did you put your card in the Union here?

A. No. I no longer pay dues in Union.

Q. How long since you have paid your dues?

A. About one and a half year.

Q. You no pay dues for one and a half year?

A. No.

Q. Do you go to California?

A. Yes, last year.

Q. Did you know President Hoover was in California when you was there?

A. No, I didn't know it.

Q. If he was there when you was there you would kill him?

A. Yes, if I had a chance.

Q. Tonight when you shot, he was sitting there and I was sitting here. You didn't think you might miss him and shoot somebody else?

A. I wanted to shoot him.

Q. You didn't think?

A. No, I was shooting him.

Q. You didn't think about that?

A. No. I was on a chair and the chair moved. I was standing in front of chair and they shoved me in back. I don't know who.

Q. Yes, one day--you say to one man that if you don't kill the President tonight your friends kill you tomorrow. You say that?

A. That?

Q. You say your friends kill you tomorrow? You think that?

A. No.

Q. You don't tell no man that?

A. No.

Q. How many Italian friends that know you kill the President?

A. You mean crowd of people in Park?

A. No. Your crowd.

A. No, I don't belong to them. No party.

Q. Yes, I am going away. You understand that when you talk

to me and you tell me about yourself that maybe I will go into Court and the Big Judge, he ask me what Joe said and I tell him Joe said "I want to kill the President-- I shoot the pistol. Yes, I kill President--I tried. I want to kill him because I hate Government. If he didn't I am sorry, sorry I didn't kill him. So if I kill him I am glad". Then I say to you if you tell me that maybe I have to go in the Court and remember what you say. You say "I don't care".

Q. No, I don't care. I am half dead. What is the use of living? No use of living. I'm half dead now because

the Capitalists they make me this way.

Q. You don't believe in God?

A. No.

Q. What you tell the truth?

A. Yes. I don't believe in God because I see lots of things I see in my mind--everything wrong--somebody trying to kill and steal and everything wrong. I figure no God--no nothing. Only air and land. I feel to myself that. If there was a God here--why I suffer all the time. Everything wrong.

Q. Is your father a Catholic?

A. Yes.

Q. Your mother?

A. Yes.

Q. Are you a Catholic?

A. No. I wasn't in a Church. I need to go some of the time. When I was young boy I go to Church with my father. I go for fun.

Q. You remember I told you if you tell me you kill

the President or you kill somebody that I tell the Court and maybe they tell me to hang you--you want to tell me anyhow?

A. Yes, I know that.

Q. If you go into Court you tell the same thing you tell here?

A. The same thing I told you.

Q. You tell them anyhow?

A. Yes, I tell them everything--I tell them everything I know--I tell anything.

Q. You don't lie?

A. No. What's the use? I'm going to tell them.

Q. You don't like liars?

A. No. I tell you what I believe. I don't like no parties or no nothing.

Q. You don't like liars?

A. No.

Q. You wouldn't tell a story?

A. No. I tell the truth. That's all. I tell just the truth.

Q. Now, Joe, I am going to leave you. Now, are you sorry you tried to kill the President?

A. No, no sorry. Because I suffer all the time from the stomach.

Q. So if you shot other people tonight, what do you say?

A. I am sorry I do want to hurt them.

Q. You did shoot some people?

A. I knew it.

Q. Are you sorry?

A. I am sorry.

Q. Joe.

A. Yes.

Q. Just think one minute.

A. Yes, you stay all night if you want to.

Q. Do you remember whether you bought pistol....

A. Yes, I remember it.

Q. After you read the paper or before?

A. No. Because I was figuring to go to Washington--
straight to Washington to kill Hoover before Hoover go
out.

Q. You was thinking of going to Washington to kill
Hoover?

A. Yes.

Q. When? What day?

A. About two or three days ago. Three days ago.

I think I kill him was why I buy it. I don't know the day.

I don't tell you the day because I don't want to tell lie.

I don't remember the day. The man may know.

Q. Two or three days ago?

A. I was figuring to go to Washington and after that I

was at the desk and the boy said "Paper" and "President

Roosevelt coming to Miami", and I was figuring on going

to Washington--planning a trip to Washington, and I think

"What is the difference"? I don't belong to any bunch

or party. It is all in my mind.

Q. Then you bought the pistol to kill Hoover with and then
you go to desk and see where Roosevelt is coming?

A. Yes. The same thing.

Q. You had the pistol at home, then?

A. Yes.

Q. You bought the pistol and thought you go to Washington?

A. Yes.

Q. To kill Hoover?

A. Yes.

Q. And then you read the paper and Roosevelt come to town?

A. Sure. What's the use?

Q. Joe, how long you work--in three years how much work you do?

A. I don't know. I can't tell you.

Q. Did you come here last winter?

A. Yes. From California here.

Q. Did you work in California?

A. Yes. No, not there.

Q. Did you work before you went to California?

A. Yes.

Q. What was the last time you worked?

A. The last time--I can't remember because I don't remember the time.

Q. Two or three years ago?

A. The last time was before I was in California. I took a boat in New York and went to California. The Doctor told me I might be able to get well. Now I know I went. I got chronic sickness.

Q. Joe, did you keep it in a bank or in the Post Office?

A. In a Bank. Banks.

Q. The Union State Trust Company in Patterson?

A. Yes. and in a Sazine bank. The United State Bank in Patterson, I keep it there. I have little bit in Post Office because I was afraid I would lose it.

BY MR. MAWTHORNE:

Q. In the forty-five dollars you had in your pocket--
is that all you got?

BY SHERIFF HARDIE:

Q. How much you got in the Post Office?

A. Fifty Dollars.

BY MR. HAWTHORNE:

Q. How long were you going to stay in Miami?

A. It won't be long.

BY SHERIFF HARDIE:

Q. How much did you lose on the dogs?

A. Two hundred dollars.

BY MR. HAWTHORNE:

Q. When did you lose that?

A. This season.

Q. Do you go every night?

A. No.

Q. Do you go to the horse races?

A. No. I go out two or three times. No more.

Q. There is no such place as this address.

A. I got everything over there. I told you the place--
right where you find it.

BY SHERIFF HARDIE:

Q. If I put you in a car will you take me to the place?

A. Yes. I no go away. You no have to lock me. No use.
I am safe. What's the use to go away? I no like to go
away.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. [redacted]
FROM : Mr. R.W. Lawrence
SUBJECT:

DATE: February 11, 1950

- Tolson _____
- Ladd _____
- Clegg _____
- Glavin _____
- Nichols _____
- Rosen _____
- Tracy _____
- Harbo _____
- Mohr _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Nease _____
- Gandy _____

GIUSEPPE ZANGARA aka
JOSEPH ZANGARA

In accordance with your request I checked the files of the Secret Service for information concerning the attempted assassination on February 15, 1933, of former President Roosevelt and the actual shooting of Mr. Cermak of Chicago by Joseph Zangara.

The only file available in connection with this case was one which was mainly administrative in character. However, it did contain a copy of the sworn statement of Zangara which was taken at Miami, Florida, February 16, 1933. This statement reflected that Zangara intended to kill President Roosevelt and had no intention of killing or injuring anybody else. A photostatic copy of this sworn statement is attached to this memorandum. According to Zangara he had built up in his mind a hatred for "presidents and kings" since he blamed them for his lack of education and his chronic illness which he claims to have had since he was six years old. Apparently he was subject to severe pains in the stomach and this condition gradually affected his mind to the point where he blamed all of his troubles on the President of the United States. The statement reflects a very definite mental derangement.

The file reflected that there were many allegations, most of which were in the form of anonymous letters, that the attempted assassination was planned by gangsters or some organized criminal group, and that Zangara had been sent to Miami expressly for that purpose. Subsequent investigation, however, indicated that he had been in Miami for several months prior to the incident. There is no indication that Zangara had any knowledge as to the identity of Mayor Cermak of Chicago. In his statement he reiterates several times his story that his only desire was to assassinate the president. He stated that he had thought of going to Washington to assassinate President Hoover but when he heard that President-Elect Roosevelt was coming to Miami he planned to assassinate him since to him he was just another president.

Investigation was conducted in both Philadelphia and Chicago in an attempt to determine whether Zangara had any connections in either of these cities which might implicate him as being a member of a criminal gang. However, there was no evidence that Zangara had even been in Chicago nor had any relatives or associates in that city. There was no indication that he was involved in any gang in Philadelphia. The entire investigation pointed to the fact that Zangara intended only to assassinate the president and no evidence was ever uncovered indicating that the attempt was intended for Cermak. Zangara's statement

Enclosures

RECORDED - 16

SE 3462-28214-69

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*73
present to
AG, 2/12/50.*

Handwritten signature

indicates at the time the statement was taken he still thought he had shot President Roosevelt.

It is interesting to note that on September 25, 1947, Mr. Harry E. Neal, Aide to the Chief of Secret Service, received a call from [REDACTED] of the American Weekly in New York City. [REDACTED] asked for any information available concerning the Chicago background of Zangara. [REDACTED] claimed that he had information from a very reliable source that Zangara was hired in Chicago by a group of gangsters to assassinate Gernak and that they had trained Zangara in the use of a revolver. Neal told [REDACTED] that the file did not disclose any Chicago associates or relatives and did reflect that Zangara never lived there. [REDACTED] then told Neal that in view of the doubt that Zangara never lived in Chicago he might kill the story which he intended to write. [REDACTED] was not advised by Neal that Zangara's statement clearly showed that he meant to kill President Roosevelt because of feeling that it might inspire a revival of the whole story in a sensational and undesirable manner.

The file will still be available at Secret Service in the event there is any further information you may desire.

IS WELL KNOWN TO

The Bureau

ma

Office Memo *um* UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson *um*
FROM : R. T. Harbo *PR*
SUBJECT: *GUISSEPPE ZANGARA, a.k.a. Joseph Zangara*

DATE: August 3, 1951

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Harbo _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Nease _____

mak 11-1

JUS

[redacted] of the Lincoln Museum telephoned and inquired whether we had the gun or a photograph of the gun used by Joseph Zangara in the attempted assassination of Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1933. He indicated that they have in the Museum the gun used by the assassin of Abraham Lincoln and he was interested in obtaining a photograph of the gun used by Zangara to add to the collection.

b7c

After checking the file I advised [redacted] that we had not investigated this matter, that it was handled by the Secret Service.

[redacted] indicated that he had been collaborating with [redacted] of the White House Secret Service Detail who so far had been unable to find photographs of either the gun or Zangara in the Secret Service files. [redacted] indicated that he will check further with Secret Service in an effort to obtain the desired material.

ACTION

None, for information only.

RT [redacted] *b7c*

62-28219

cc: Mr. Nichols

RECORDED - 5
SER 12
AUG 8 1951
EX - 52
62-28219-70

file

AUG 24 1951