



Allen Smiley, above, Hollywood sporting figure, was an eyewitness to the shooting of Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel. He was sitting in a room with Siegel when the gunfire blasted through a side window. His coat was pierced by one of the bullets.

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LOS ANGELES HERALD & EXPRESS

DATED

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192

## Recall Siegel Had 'Life of Riley' While in L.A. Jail

Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel's reputation for being "soft" on the "life of Riley" in the county jail under a murder indictment, which precipitated a grand jury investigation of alleged irregular jail activities, was recalled here today as police probed underworld haunts in search of his murderer.

While he awaited trial for the slaying of Harry "Big Greeny" Schacter, of which he was later cleared, it was charged that he ate steak and pheasant at mealtime while the other prisoners got beef stew and beans.

He wore tailored clothes while the others sported faded blue denim. Fellow prisoners even shined his shoes.

He kept getting out of jail to "go to the dentist," and was only kept in 15 days out of the 49 he was supposed to have been confined.

On one of the 19 "visits to the dentist" his deputy sheriff guard introduced him to Actress Wendie Barrie and they all had lunch together in a Hollywood cafe.

It was charged that when he left the jail on one of his frequent trips he was attired in expensive clothes laid out for him by a private valet he assertedly chose from among fellow jail inmates.

Investigators later found \$22,000 worth of unmailed checks Siegel had given Dr. Benjamin Blank, the county jail physician, who gave Siegel permission to see the dentist.

Dr. Blank explained that he and Siegel were old friends and that the checks merely repaid a loan.

He was suspended as a result of the investigation.

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## Buron Fitts

"I always felt we had a pretty strong case against 'Bugsy' Siegel in 1949," former District Attorney Buron Fitts recalled today.

Colonel Fitts, a prominent attorney now awaiting his discharge from the United States Army, said he was prepared to try Siegel for murder after the gangster was indicted by the Los Angeles County Grand Jury for the murder of Harry "Big Greeny" Schacter on Thanksgiving

## Recalls 1940 Murder Case Against Siegel

ing eve, 1939, at 1804 Vista Del Mar avenue.

"I remember Siegel as a pal of Louis (Lepke) Buchalter, New York mobster," Fitts said. "We had woven a pretty tight net around Siegel for the Schacter killing. But before the case came to trial I went out of office and the charge against Siegel subsequently was dismissed."

Fitts indicated he was not surprised to hear Siegel had been "rubbied out."

193



...and following afternoon...  
 Beverly Hills residential district...  
 in a shooting which may have...  
 Dr. Newbauer...  
 nine slugs were fired at the car...

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Martin Belovoff, from whose driveway the shots were fired, said he was awakened and instinctively yelled "Police!"

Across the street Lou Shere, and Mr. Elm Dr., visiting a friend, ran to the street just as a car jumped out of sight.

But inside the Hill home panic reigned.

Miss Mason said she ran downstairs, saw Smiley sprawled on the floor and thought he was dead.

Then she saw Mood running down Buggy's face and Smiley yelled: "Douse the lights—they're shooting through the windows!"

The nine slugs which shattered through the window spread destruction in the room. Two found their target and one grazed Smiley's shoulder.

Expensive oil paintings, statuary and other art objects also were hit.

Nine empty .30-caliber shells were found on the driveway.

Buggy and Smiley had just returned from a beach dinner with Miss Mason and Charles Hill.

"Buggy was in good spirits throughout the evening," redheaded Miss Mason said.

That Siegel had no forewarning was indicated by his attorney, Joe Weiss, who said Buggy was "unmarried" when he discussed business matters with him late yesterday.

Siegel flew in from Las Vegas yesterday morning. He stayed at the Hill mansion, leased only two months ago from Juan Romero, one-time manager of Rudolph Valentino.

Described by friends as a Broadway habitue and hostess of fabulous wartime parties in New York, Mrs. Hill left Beverly Hills Saturday and is reported to be in Paris.

Mrs. Hill had been reported a frequent escort of Frank Costello,



ALAN SMILEY  
 Shoulder grazed

The slayer, believed by police to be a high-priced, expert gunman, apparently crept up the adjoining driveway at 806 N. Linden Dr.

As Buggy and Smiley sat in full view in the well-lighted living room of the Hill residence, the gunman fired nine times from behind a portico, through the latticework frame into the death room.

194

It was at Valentine's in the "Palace 14th," where Sam Hill established himself when the first came to the West Coast.

The mystery woman, made a brief appearance at the actress when she played in a late scene in Sam Goldwyn's "Ball of Fire."

She was said to have come from a poor Georgia family and crashed society when she married a wealthy Southerner. This marriage later mysteriously was annulled.

Questioned at length this morning at the death home was one of Siegel's henchmen, Buddy (The Comedian) Morgan, who flew here with Bugsy yesterday.

A short, bearded man with a penchant for new clothes, said he last saw Siegel yesterday morning.

Held in protective custody in Beverly Hills jail as a material witness, Smiley told chief deputy district attorney Ernest Ball the shooting took place "10 minutes after we arrived home."

Smiley left jail shortly before noon for an undisclosed destination.

Siegel's two daughters by a former marriage—Millie, 14, and Barbara, 11—were reported en route here from a New York finishing school with their mother.

They were due to arrive tomorrow morning at Union Station.

Siegel's colorful career as a West Coast gangster covered a decade and included arrests, trials and acquittals on charges ranging from misdemeanors to murder.

In August 1940 Siegel and Smiley were captured by police at Bugsy's Hollywood Hills estate in a roundup of suspects in the 1939 Thanksgiving eve slaying of Harry (Big Greenie) Greenberg, alias Harry Schachtel.



—Path News photo.

#### BUGSIEGEL

Indicted in 1941

Indicted in 1941 for the slaying along with Louis (Lepke) Buchalter, Emmanuel Weiss, Harry Siegel and Frank Carter, Siegel was acquitted after a four-month trial in which he was labeled America's No. 1 gangster and West Coast chief of Murder, Inc.

While awaiting trial in county jail, disclosures of favoritism toward Bugsy led to suspension of two jail officials. Bugsy, it was revealed, ate steak and pheasant for breakfast, once lunched with actress Wendie Barrie when he presumably was allowed out of jail to get his teeth fixed.

In 1941 Siegel was arrested at his home at 250 N. Delcarn Dr., West Los Angeles, where he lived with his wife and two children.

This time he was indicted on a charge of harboring New York gangster Buchalter. He was never convicted.

During the hearing, Bugsy created a sensation in testifying that at the time he was alleged to have been harboring Buchalter he actually was having an affair with the Pope in Rome.

Siegel also claimed to be palmy with the King of Greece, King Victor Emmanuel of Italy and the Duke of Apollito, who later became the King of Croatia.

But Siegel was arrested with Smiley on felony bookmaking charges. At his trial actor George Raft called the charges "the most ridiculous thing I ever heard of."

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# Revenge, gangster quarrel held motives in Bugsy Siegel murder

Two slugs that punctuated the career of Bugsy Siegel last night with some pretty definite periods, also left some pretty important question marks.

Who did it? Why? Who's next?

Bugsy's life was not one that lacks in plenty of meat for theorizing as to who dunnit and why—placing a finger almost anywhere in any known racket could develop a reason for killing him.

Bugsy, said one old-time homicide detective today, had been a candidate for a morgue slot for a long, long time. Actually, he declared, it's amazing Siegel kept his health as long as he did.

Police theorizing—keeping strictly to the line that it was a professional job—followed these main theories.

1—Revenge for the murder of Harry (Big Greenie) Greenberg, alias Harry Schachtel, who was bumped off in front of his Hollywood apartment in typical gangster style in 1939.

Big Greenie and Bugsy were once members of Murder Inc., an outfit that fell, in later days, to turning its talents on its own members.

When the organization was broken up, Bugsy reportedly got the job of liquidating Greenberg. He was arrested for the murder

but released after a four-month trial.

Some of Greenberg's friends are still around—they may feel that justice miscarried on that one and so took matters in their own hands.

2—The local angle: West Coast gangsters have often demonstrated they take a back seat to nobody in the style and frequency of their killings.

Local underworld characters say Bugsy had been losing money on his part of the \$5,000,000 super-gambling club Flamingo in Las Vegas.

One source said the Flamingo had lost \$200,000 at the gaming tables and that certain syndicates which bought blocks of the stock were "extremely annoyed" by Bugsy's failure to earn them a profit.

Yesterday, others say, Bugsy came down from Vegas to put the pressure on the network of subordinate gamblers and bookies he runs for an increase in his take.

It was that pressure that may have pulled the trigger on Bugsy

—and not the first time a gangster has been paid off with lead.

Tacked on to the local theory was the possibility one of Siegel's associates was getting ambitious and wanted to take over.

A recent "associate," one investigator said, was a young man with police rape—including murder—and suspected of having more guts than brains.

"It is my strongest hunch that this fellow did away with Siegel," the investigator said, "and he undoubtedly will be one of the first brought in for questioning."

3—Getting a lot of attention here even before the Siegel killing is the theory eastern gangsters are slowly moving in and taking over West Coast operations.

Supporters of this theory cited the killings of Big Greenie, Benny (The Meatball) Gansson, Pauley Gibbons and George Levinson, as well as numerous gangland incidents that seemingly followed no set pattern of policy as support for their beliefs.

And whether the slaying of Bugsy was the result of inter-gang warfare here or of eastern interests moving in, observers predicted more and bloodier of the same.

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LOS ANGELES DAILY NEWS

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JUN 21 1947

196





**EVEN BUGSY WOULD HAVE AGREED KILLER KNEW WELL HOW TO HANDLE HIS AUTOMATIC**  
The cops tipped through the curtain for fight, and Stogie thumped back from his newspaper

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LOS ANGELES DAILY NEWS  
DATED JUN 21 1947

197



SLUGS SPENT THEMSELVES IN RICH STATUARY AND ORIGINAL OILS  
Rubout played hob with Virginia Hill's chintz and antiques

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LOS ANGELES DAILY NEWS  
DATED JUN 21 1947

198





THEIR GAY BEACH PARTY ENDED IN BUGSY'S SUDDEN DEMISE  
Charles Hill, 20; Jerri Mason, 24, were upstairs

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LOS ANGELES DAILY NEWS  
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KILLER STOOD AGAINST LATTICE TO PUMP BULLETS INTO VICTIM'S BODY  
Daylight disclosed nine empty cartridge casings in neighbor's driveway

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LOS ANGELES DAILY NEWS  
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JUN 21 1947

200

# Where death caught up with Bugsy Siegel



ONLY STONE LIONS STOOD SENTINEL IN FRONT OF MANSION WHERE SIEGEL WAS RUBBED OUT  
Swank Linden Ave. home, near Sunset Blvd., is cloaked with thick shrubbery

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LOS ANGELES DAILY NEWS  
DATED JUN 21 1947

201



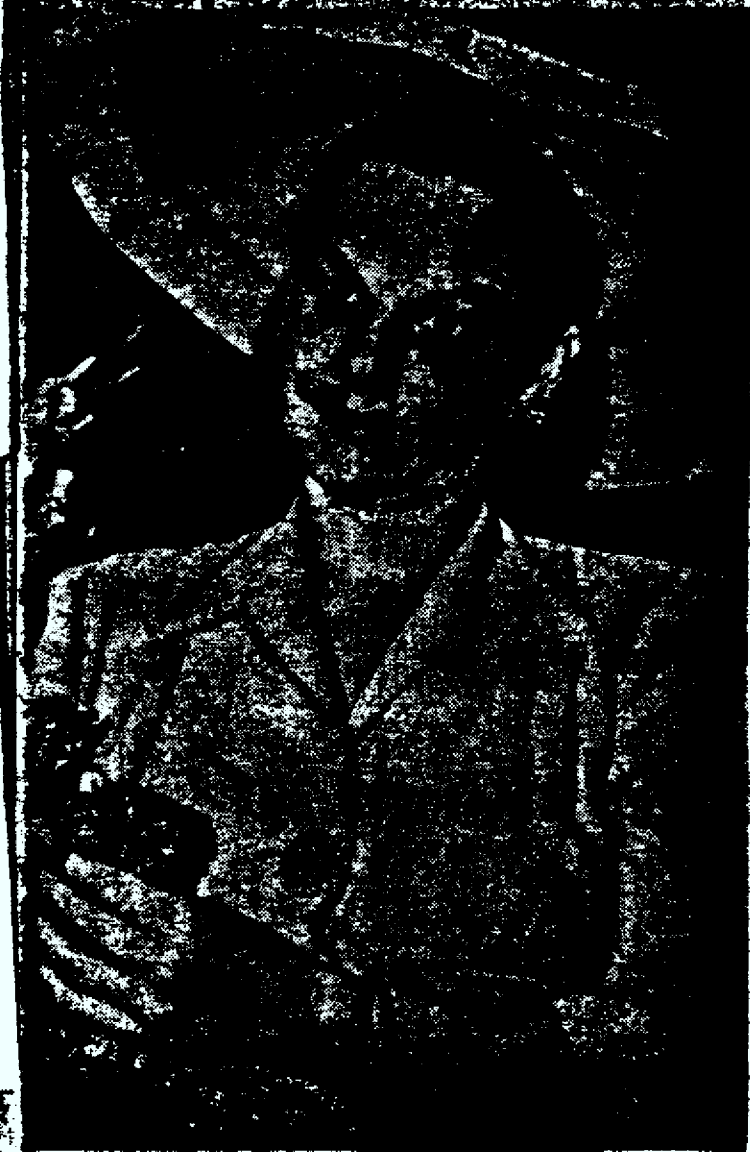


**SWIFTY (THE COMEDIAN) MORGAN QUESTIONED**  
Bugsy Siegel's pal says he wasn't around for the shooting

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LOS ANGELES DAILY NEWS  
DATED **JUN 21 1947**

Police said man in  
or killer of racketeer



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LOS ANGELES DAILY NEWS  
DATED JUN 21 1947

203



# Crashing Gunfire Told by Smiley at Siegel Inquest



Allen Bentley, who identified Siegel's body, is shown as he looked at the legend that he was Siegel's associate.



Lennie Rosen, secretary to Virginia Hill, in whose mansion Siegel was slain, and Charles Hill, brother of Hill's wife, are shown as they appeared today at the inquest. They reportedly were in another part of the house when a bullet killed Siegel.

## End of Gangland Trail



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A dramatic eyewitness account of the gangland slaying of Charles Hill, who was shot dead in his home in Beverly Hills, California, last night when a burst of machine bullets turned a Beverly Hills mansion into a shooting gallery was related today by Miss Smiley, Hollywood apartment house owner and co-conspirator.

The tall, gray-haired Smiley, who barely escaped death himself in the blast that killed Siegel, testified that he was sitting in the livingroom at the home of Virginia Hill, Alabama heiress, with Siegel, when he heard a series of sharp explosions.

"At first I thought it was fire crackers—maybe a gag of some kind," Smiley said.

Then I turned and saw Siegel slumped on theavenport next to me with four or five holes in his chest, all covered with blood.

#### YELLS FOR POLICE

"In less time than it takes to tell it, I flew to the floor and yelled to the people upstairs (Charles Hill, the heiress's brother, and Miss Jerri Mason, her secretary).

"I shouted, 'Lights out! Call a doctor! Call the police!'

"They wanted to know what had happened, and I yelled back:

"Siegel's been shot. Hurry up and get a doctor."

A few minutes later Miss Mason came downstairs to the livingroom, and stood beneath a light, he said.

"I told her to get that light out in a hurry, and get out of there," Smiley told the jury.

"Then she put out the lights and told me that a doctor and the police had been called."

He said he had been sitting nearest the window, directly in the line of fire, and that one of the .30 caliber carbine shots had ripped through his sleeve.

"I didn't even notice it in all the excitement," he said, "until somebody pointed at my coat sleeve when I got to the Beverly Hills police station."

He admitted that he was associated with "Bugsy" as a stockholder in the ganglord's fabulous \$5,000,000 Flamingo gambling casino in Las Vegas, but added:

"I don't know of any trouble that could have caused the shooting, and I have no idea who could have fired the shots."

#### 'A COMPLETE SHOCK'

"It all came as a complete shock to me and I have no inkling of what was behind it."

A few minutes before taking the stand Smiley went to the county morgue, where Siegel's body has lain unclaimed on a slab, and identified the body.

He looked at the body for a few seconds and said laconically:

"That's him."

#### BIG TOE TAGGED

The body was unclad, save for a sheet, and a tag attached to the big toe of the right foot marked the gangster's epitaph.

It read:

"June 21, 1947. Homicide. Benjamin Siegel, 810 North Linden drive."

Later the coroner's office was notified by Groman's Mortuary, 830 West Washington boulevard, that they had an order signed by Dr. Maurice Siegel, the slain man's brother, to remove the body for funeral services and burial. Arrangements were being completed today.

A second witness, the flaming red-haired Miss Mason, corroborated Smiley's story before the jury which returned a verdict that the underworld czar's death was caused by a cerebral hemorrhage "as a result of gunshot wounds inflicted by a person or persons unknown."

"I was upstairs with Mr. Hill pulling tacks out of a carpet because we were going to move to Florida."

Continuing her testimony, Miss Mason said "we heard quick shots downstairs."

"Then I heard Mr. Smiley yell for us to call a doctor quick," she said.

"They're shooting through the windows," he was yelling. "Douse all the lights."

In answer to Chief District Attorney S. Ernest Roll's query as to whether Siegel maintained a room regularly at the Hill home, she said:

"There was a guest room there, and many guests used it."

"Did Mr. Siegel have a key to the door?"

"I don't know," she replied.

#### PARIS CABLE

Miss Mason also testified that telegram to Charles Hill from his sister was received from Paris on June 20, which read:

"Arrived O. K. Send all of my things in care of Nicholas Fouillat, 4 Rue de Castiglione, Paris."

Charles Hill also took the stand briefly, relating the same story told by the others.

After the inquest, District Attorney William E. Simpson "invited" Hill and Miss Mason to his office, where they were interrogated at greater length.

District attorney's investigators revealed that Miss Mason, who once was personal hairdresser to Marie "The Body" McDonald, was engaged to Hill and that they planned to marry soon.

Efforts were being made to prevent a large Chicago-style gangster funeral, and keep the services private for the sake of Siegel's two daughters, Barbara, 14, and Millicent, 16, who arrived here from New York last Sunday.

Meanwhile, it was reported from Las Vegas that Miss Hill, who had left for Paris a week before the slaying, became ill from an overdose of sleeping tablets when she visited the Nevada resort town with the gang chief last month, according to Clark County Physician Jack Cherry.

Siegel brought her to the doctor's office on May 5 to have her stomach pumped out, Dr. Cherry said.

"When I asked them whether it was an accident or a suicide attempt, they would give neither reason nor motive," he said.

#### RETURNED TO CASINO

He added that Siegel waited until Miss Hill was revived six hours later and took her back to his ornate gambling casino.



LOS ANGELES EXAMINER  
DATED 6-26-47

## Siegel's Friends Tell Terror During Slaying Dropped to Floor in Fright, Inquest Told; Smiley First Thought It Was Gag

Bugsy Siegel's companions turned out the lights and lay terrified on the floor of Beverly Hills mansion when bullets poured through a window at the gangster last Friday night.

They told their stories yesterday to a coroner's jury which gave the same drab verdict it might render in the case of a murderer's body found in an alley:

"Death at the hands of person or persons unknown."

Allen Smiley, who was sitting beside Siegel on a divan when a ripping burst of nine shots killed the gangster, said:

"At first I thought it was firecrackers or a gag of some kind."

"Then I saw Ben slump on the davenport. His head was streaming with blood."

"I dove to the floor and yelled to the people upstairs: 'Lights out! Call a doctor! Call the police!'"

"Miss Mason (Jerri Mason) ran downstairs and was standing under a light. 'I shouted 'Get out of here! Turn off that light! They're shooting through the windows!'"

"Then everything was quiet. We didn't hear anybody running away or hear a car leave."

Smiley, who described himself as a stockholder in Siegel's Flamingo Hotel in Las Vegas, made the formal identification of the racketeer at the county morgue.

"That's him," he said shortly as they drew back the sheet showing the once-dapper gambler wearing only a tag on his big toe.

### WERE UPSTAIRS

"His death was a complete shock to me," Smiley told the jury of nine men. "I have no idea who killed him."

Smiley said he met Siegel Friday afternoon, took him to a barber shop, met him at the home at 810 Linden drive for dinner, and went to a new restaurant in Ocean Park.

"There were four in the party—Siegel, Smiley, Jerri Mason and Charles E. Hill, the latter two the secretary and brother of Virginia Hill, who rented the Linden drive house."

Miss Mason corroborated some points of Smiley's account and added:

"We (she and Hill) were upstairs while Mr. Siegel and Mr. Smiley sat downstairs. We were pulling ticks out of a carpet because we were getting ready to move to Florida."

"Then we heard the shots and shouting downstairs. We didn't hear anybody running away."

Hill said he worked at the machine as a slot machine

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mechanic and Siegel was "top over the whole place."

"When I heard the shots I thought of my gun—a Mauser—but I didn't know where it was. Siegel had a gun, too, a Colt .38. He had asked me for it that day. I guess he was going to pack it. He put it in a drawer."

(A Colt .380 and a Mauser were found by police in a locked closet upstairs with Siegel's suits.)

The only other inquest witness was Captain of Detectives William W. White of Beverly Hills. He set the time of the shooting at 10:50 p. m., exhibited photographs of the scene and told the jury how the shots were fired. He said he had "no theory" as to the killers.

## LAS VEGAS PROBE

District Attorney's investigators returned from Las Vegas yesterday, saying they had been unable to find strong evidence that Siegel's assassination was ordered from there.

They found Siegel originally owned 10 per cent of stock in Nevada Projects Corporation, which built the Flamingo. He became president when William R. Wilkerson, Hollywood publisher and cafe owner, sold his reported \$125,000 interest. Siegel may have acquired more stock then. Siegel reportedly lost between \$20,000 and \$50,000 in a head-and-head crap game against a gambler named Stoper, the agents learned, and was playing with the Flamingo's money.

In Tijuana, Federal agents were questioning Francisco (Frankie the Goon) Orbe, convicted of murder two years ago, who said Siegel cheated him of \$2,500 in opium transactions.

Siegel's connections with the narcotics traffic have been established by narcotics agents who say Charles (Lucky) Luciano, Mafia leader, had threatened to put Siegel on the spot.

In Mexicali, suspected narcotics peddlers were rounded up in an effort to solve the machinegun slaying of Helen Chick Jean Meneses Sunday night.

Inspector-General Chaigto Robinson of the Lower California police force said he had information that would "almost certainly" lead to Meneses' slayers. Meneses had been fighting

gunners on the Mexico-California border.

Investigation of Siegel's death in the bookmaker wire service racket revealed that his "Trans-American News Service" was dissolved, at least nominally, in Los Angeles last month.

The Examiner learned that Trans-American had "merged" or made some other deal with Continental News Service, one of the successors of Moe Annenberg's Nationwide News Service.

Sergeant John Hanrahan of the Chicago police conferred with Captain White in Beverly Hills yesterday. He was accompanied by Lieutenant George Bonnell of the Los Angeles gangster squad. Hanrahan was here to pick up a prisoner wanted in Chicago and give White information about

Chicago associates of Siegel.

A third powerful Federal agency moved into the Siegel case yesterday when the Alcohol Tax Unit went into action. It will operate under the National Firearms Act.

Shortly after the inquest, Siegel's body was taken from the county Morgue by Gorman Brothers' Mortuary, 230 West Washington boulevard.

The coroner's office said Dr. Maurice Siegel, brother of the slain man, gave his permission. No funeral arrangements have been announced, but it was believed it would be a small, private service. Siegel's ex-wife and two daughters are in seclusion here.

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# **SIEGEL PROBER SCAN HILL GIRL'S DASH TO PARIS**

**Sudden Hop Studied; Raft, Too,  
Books Plane Seats to City**

Virginia Hill's sudden departure for Paris two weeks before her friend, Bugsy Siegel, was shot to death in her Beverly Hills home was studied closely yesterday by authorities seeking his slayer.

In fact, Paris strangely came to figure more and more in the news of the investigation.

William R. Wilkerson, former partner of Siegel in the Flamingo Hotel at Las Vegas, is also in the French capital.

Movie Gangster George Raft, lifelong friend of Siegel, booked two plane seats on TWA for Paris next Saturday, the Examiner learned.

In Los Angeles, Miss Hill's secretary, red-haired Jerri Mason, and her younger brother, Charles E. (Chick) Hill, were questioned by investigators for the District Attorney's office.

They were in the house when Siegel was killed.

Miss Mason and Hill, who are engaged to be married, joined Ben Smiley, Mason's business associate, in telling a dramatic story the dramatic story of the slaying yesterday.

## **LIGHTS OUT**

They said they turned out the lights and lay on the floor when bullets started beating through the window at Siegel.

The name of Marie (The Body) McDonald, Florida actress now engaged to movie Magnate Harry Kell, was linked with the recent personal life of Siegel yesterday.

She said she was working in a beauty parlor when Miss McDonald met her and employed her as a secretary.

They went to Las Vegas in April for a "double feature" of romance and sex, Siegel and Miss Hill.

"I have kept trying to get my life," said Miss Mason. "She seemed to be jealous because I was attractive to him. I quit and went to work for Miss Hill."

## **WARNED**

Miss Hill in Paris has received underworld orders to keep her mouth shut, the New York Mirror learned.

Newspapers located and interviewed her for two days before "The Mob" got her on the trans-Atlantic telephone.

The dangerous operations of Siegel in gambling, bookmaking and narcotics were also being explored by local and Federal authorities.

His Trans-American News Service, which furnishes fast race results to bookmakers, was said to have been established in Chicago by remnants of the old Capone gang. It competed with established firms in Phoenix, Las Vegas, Reno, Los Angeles and St. Louis.

(Photos and details of Siegel in next on Page 3.)



LOS ANGELES TIMES  
DATED 6/26/47



**SHOCKED** — Jerl Mason, secretary of Virginia Hill, in whose home Siegel died.



**TESTIFIES** — Charles Hill, brother of Virginia Hill, who intends to wed Jerl Mason.



**CLOSE** — Allen Smiley, right, points out to Chief Dep. Dist. Atty. S. Ernest Koll where Smiley and Ben. (Bugie) Siegel were sitting when latter was shot.

## Underworld Keeps Its Secrets About Siegel

Los Angeles Officers Discover No Clues on Sensational Slaying in Trip to Las Vegas

The underworld yesterday clung tightly to its secret of the Benjamin (Bugie) Siegel murder.

An inquest into the Friday night gangland slaying resulted in a cryptic finding: "Cerebral hemorrhage . . . gunshot wound of the head inflicted by person or persons unknown . . . We recommend further investigation."

Las Vegas (Nev.) gamblers disclosed nothing.

If any knew the murderer, he would not talk. If any knew any clues, he played possum.

### No Clues in Nevada

Chief Investigator H. Leo Stanley, Capt. Everett Davis and Charles Ebbets Jr. of the District Attorney's office returned from Nevada almost empty-handed.

So did Lt. Joe Vignone, head of the Sheriff's gangster squad. They know that Siegel ran in to a terrific feud when he began moving out of the Trans-American Wire Service and buying in to the Consolidated Wire Service, both providing strong evidence.

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Stanley said bookkeepers were paying \$1100 a day for the Consolidated service. Some gangland heads feared Siegel would become one of a spring-returns and bookie kingdom which would rule eight western states.

#### Fearful Dope Control

Others feared he would seize control of narcotics smuggling on the Mexican border.

Federal inspectors yesterday said the same gang might have killed Siegel in Beverly Hills Friday night and engaged in a gun fight with customs patrolmen near Calexico Sunday night. A few hours later Police Chief Juan Meneses of Mexicali was slain in a machine-gun blast. Meneses long was a foe of dope smugglers.

The District Attorney's and Sheriff's men learned that Siegel owned only a 10 per cent share of the luxurious Flamingo Club in Las Vegas, but he controlled its gambling casino.

The club opened last year with an investment of \$1,500,000. Stanley and Capt. Davis said it ran up the red up to \$5,000,000. Siegel, seeing it was losing, stepped in with more funds in an attempt to recoup.

His Hollywood playboy tactics proved helpful. Film stars placed the chips. Once Siegel dropped \$50,000 in cash while shooting dice with an eastern gambler named Stoner. "That \$50,000 was house money though," Stanley remarked.

Among the visitors were Virginia Hill, the divorcee at whose Beverly Hills home Siegel was slain.

#### Raft Going to Paris

Miss Hill now is in Paris. Siegel's long-time friend, George Raft, got a reservation to fly tomorrow on a T.W.A. Constellation to New York and from there to Paris on Sunday.

The film actor denied that he will see Miss Hill, but investors speculated otherwise.

Raft is part owner of Star Films, an independent company, and is traveling with Herbert Silverberg, attorney for Star. Raft's departure is contingent upon getting visas approved.

"Strictly business," he insisted. "We've been planning this trip for two months, to get back-bound material for our next picture."

Miss Hill's brother Charles admitted he intends to marry her secretary, Fern Mason. They are moving to Miami. "They said Miss Hill intends to buy wine in France and establish a wine agency in Florida, where she has another home."

#### Smiley Becomes Tense

The inquest in the Hall of Justice was held behind doors guarded by deputy sheriffs. The coroner's room was jammed with spectators. Scattered among them were Los Angeles and Beverly Hills plainclothes men, District Attorney's investigators and Sheriff's officers.

Most tense of the witnesses was Allen Smiley, who sat beside Siegel in the home at 514 N. Linden Drive, Beverly Hills, when the gangland bullets flew Friday night.

Smiley parked his car on Broadway, across the road cautiously and kept peering at the windows.

"We got home some time after 10:30 Friday night," he testified. "Then I sat down on theavenport to read the morning papers. Miss Mason and Charles Hill went upstairs."

"Suddenly there was a noise. I looked up quickly and thought it was a bunch of firecrackers. For a second I thought it might be a gag. I looked up at Ben's face and saw blood all over it so I instinctively fell on the floor for my own protection."

"I yelled up to Miss Mason and Hill to call the doctor and the police, and to get out the lights. Miss Mason came down and stood there in the light."

#### Watched Windows

"I yelled, 'Get out the lights and get out of here! Call the police! Call the doctor!'"

Smiley's hands twitched. He was watching the windows again.

His story of that fatal day was similar to that told by reclined Miss Mason and Hill, an electrician.

They recalled how the dapper Siegel had arrived at 11 a.m. from Las Vegas.

Det. Coroner Lewis G. Lancer said: "This is the story."

Miss Mason explained: "No, but he came there quite often. He used one of the guest rooms."

#### Appeared Unworried

Smiley drove Siegel to his attorney's at 3 p.m. In the evening Siegel, Smiley, Hill and Miss Mason went to dinner at a new cafe on the Ocean Park Pier. Siegel appeared unworried.

They returned to the Moorish mansion in Beverly Hills. Hill and Miss Mason went upstairs to pull tasks from a fur they're taking to Florida.

Downstairs the windows were up on all the windows. Siegel and Smiley were clearly visible to the killer outside.

"It came to me as a complete shock," Smiley summarized.

The sportsman served as an identifying witness, viewing the body in the County Morgue because no members of Siegel's family were present.

#### No Bodyguards?

Det. F. Gene Bechtel of the police homicide squad took stenotype notes of all the testimony, a rare procedure at inquests here.

As Smiley left the building, a Times reporter asked, "Did you come down in your own car?"

"Yes," the sportsman said. "Where is it parked — on Broadway?"

Smiley, with no visible bodyguards, answered: "Shhh — not so loud."

The inquest proved fruitless for clues.

Capt. W. W. White of the Beverly Hills police said he got the first call at 10:58 p.m. Friday and arrived on the heels of radio officers two minutes later. Neighbors told him they heard the blast of gunfire and an automobile racing away. That was all.

#### "King Beaks" Viewed

Later in the day, Sept. 27, he was visited by Sgt. John Hanrahan of the Chicago Police Department, who was in Los Angeles to return a prisoner to Chicago. Both officers said the visit was just a "social call," but they examined "mug books" containing photographs of known hoodlums.

Accompanying Sgt. Hanrahan was Lt. George Bowman of the Los Angeles Police Department.

gangster squad. Sgt. Hanrahan insisted that he didn't know Siegel and that, as far as he knows, the slain gambler has no tie-in with Chicago mobsters.

After the inquest Miss Mason and Hill were questioned further at the District Attorney's office.

Miss Mason said she was formerly a beauty operator. She met Marie McDonald, an actress, in her beauty shop and learned they both were going to Nevada for divorces. She became Miss McDonald's secretary but at the Flamingo on she left to become Miss Hill's secretary.

The club's attorney, Len Weiler, informed investigators that Miss Hill was tempestuous, cigarette girl at the Flamingo with whom she tussled to no ruling both Miss Hill and the club for damages.

Late yesterday Dr. Mauri Siegel, brother of the slain gambler, claimed his body at the County Morgue.

The Gorman Mortuary is making funeral arrangements.

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LCS ANGELES DAILY NEWS  
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# Coroner's jury draws blank at inquest of Bugsy Siegel



ALLEN SWARTZ TESTIFIES AT INQUEST INTO DEATH OF BUGSY SIEGEL  
The Coroner's Jury, Dr. James H. and Attorney John H. H. H.



big a mystery to me as  
 for a moment, I felt  
 hear to looking around  
 a moment, I felt  
 We had the door open  
 outside committed by a person  
 or persons unknown. I did not  
 understand further investigation  
 and the preliminary report.  
 Even in the investigation of the  
 law were being carried out, it was  
 and known that they had been  
 a testimony a year or more  
 in which he stated the name  
 was to be kept until later  
 to eliminate them.

Principal witness of the case  
 was Allen Bailey, Buggy's  
 associate in the Madison  
 Building Club of Las Vegas, who  
 came to them to bring Buggy in  
 saying that he was still alive.  
 Buggy never took his gun out  
 the window as he said he was  
 just west, apparently saying that  
 someone would pay my bill for  
 my tuition and all that he had  
 to lead to was Buggy.

There were men who were  
 eliminate Bailey, but he had  
 too much. Although Bailey  
 stated firmly to know nothing.  
 At any rate, Bailey added only  
 a few details to the story already  
 known.

Bailey, Buggy, Miss Ann Mason  
 and Charles Hill went to Town  
 Park for dinner last Friday night.  
 Miss Mason is secretary to Mr.  
 Hill, in whose Beverly Hills  
 home the slaying took place.  
 Charles Hill is her brother.

Hill, said Bailey, saw  
 Buggy and Miss Hill separately  
 for the first time.  
 They were seated in a chair  
 in the living room of the house  
 at 810 N. Linden St. Bailey said  
 he just finished and standing  
 through the paper.

"All of a sudden I heard  
 noise," he stated. "I looked  
 and a lot of blackheads.  
 I don't know if it was a gun or not.  
 I glanced over at Bailey  
 and there were tears in his eyes  
 in his face. Blood was coming  
 out of his eyes.

"Quicker than I could say  
 it was, I reached out  
 and pulled off the gun.  
 I called upstairs for Miss  
 Hill, the police, and  
 for the doctor.

"Miss Mason and Miss Hill  
 remained down when the  
 the night talk. Miss Hill  
 going up the house and  
 staying in the house.

Bailey answered: "I don't know  
 what I went down. Mr. Bailey  
 shouted at me to turn off the  
 lights because they were shooting."

Hill and Miss Mason were  
 crawling around on the floor trying  
 to find a gun Hill had hidden  
 in a closet when police arrived—  
 five minutes after the fall was  
 made, according to testimony of  
 Capt. W. J. White of Beverly  
 Hills police.

Deputy District Attorney O. Lester  
 asked only perfunctory questions  
 which brought out that Buggy had  
 no known enemies. Testimony of  
 Hill, White was concerned pri-  
 marily with identifying photo-  
 graphs of the death scene and  
 with relating his preliminary con-  
 versations with Bailey.

Before the jury was seated,  
 Chief Deputy Victor Wallace  
 asked if Dr. Maurice Siegel, bro-  
 ther of Buggy, was in the packed  
 room. There was no answer, so  
 Bailey was called upon to identify  
 the body of the slain gangster.

Deputy District Attorney's investiga-  
 tors Everett Davis and Charles  
 Hunter Jr. took Miss Mason and  
 Hill to their offices for further  
 questioning.

That if Lee Bailey, chief of  
 the bureau of identification  
 turned nothing pertinent to the  
 case.

Miss Mason said she had been  
 working as a hair dresser in a  
 Wilshire Blvd. cottage, where  
 she met Marie (The Lady) Mc-  
 Donald, because the actress' sec-  
 retary.

They went to Las Vegas to-  
 gether and there simultaneously  
 met their husbands. Meanwhile,  
 said Miss Mason, differences arose  
 between her and Miss McDonald  
 who left her and became Miss Hill's  
 secretary.

Buggy's "father of death," it  
 was understood, named many Las  
 Vegas underworld characters. It  
 was reported to be in a variety  
 of ways, and to be known to  
 several agents.

The list was compiled, it was  
 understood, to safeguard Buggy's  
 path after a bitter quarrel with  
 Charles (Lucky) Luciano in the  
 last winter.

When Luciano, backed by a  
 of underworld agents with Frank  
 Costello and other big names, left  
 the city, Buggy to "keep out  
 the door of the underworld."  
 "Buggy," Buggy answered  
 at last, "I don't know."

Bugsy was said to have been in the hands of the federal government in the last few days of his life. He was taken from Chicago, where he was held in a hotel, to Detroit and then to Washington, D. C. for trial.

It was said that the federal government was in a hurry to get him out of the hands of the underworld and into the hands of the federal government. The federal government was said to be in a hurry to get him out of the hands of the underworld and into the hands of the federal government.

Local FBI chief Richard Hood said that he was a fan of Bugsy's. He was in his possession and would not let him go. He was in his possession and would not let him go.

Mickey Cohen, a well-known gangster, said that he was a fan of Bugsy's. He was in his possession and would not let him go. He was in his possession and would not let him go.

As far as a trial is concerned, it would be more than a trial. It would be more than a trial.

## Siegel case baffles jury

(Continued from Page 2)

jump off a 10-story building," said Cohen.

"He was always capable of taking care of his troubles without putting it on paper. I wish I could lay my hands on the killer."

"And that tale of Virginia Hill that Bugsy wore a dirty sports shirt—that's a lot of hokey. Bugsy was the cleanest guy I ever knew. He took three showers a day."

Treasury Department narcotics officials, however, were quick to point to pin Bugsy down to an international giant dope ring.

"We'll have some amazing disclosures fairly soon in the case," said local narcotics chief W. J. Craig.

"This ring, which included such prominent gangsters as Siegel, Luciano and Costello, has been operating with millions of dollars and an army of gunmen from coast to coast and in other countries," he said.

Craig revealed that a man described as the "biggest dope operator in Mexico" is in custody in the county jail at El Centro.

He is Pablo Martinez, 39, who participated in a recent 45-minute gun battle with six police agents heading for him.

That battle, which took place along the All-American Canal on the Mexican border, was the outcome of undercover investigation by our office and the United States Customs Department," Craig said.

Bugsy was said by Craig to be a Los Angeles contact man for the international smuggling team.

Cohen was scornful of the charge that Bugsy was up to his ears in the narcotics racket.

"As far as this narcotics rap is concerned," he said, "Benny hated the stuff and he hated anybody connected with it. What I know for sure."

"This whole thing is a complete mystery to all of us. He had a lot of friends. He helped a lot of people."

"One thing for sure: It's nothing that came locally." (That's the meaning Mickey meant.) "You know the gangster detail picked me up yesterday with several of my boys. I told them I wouldn't be stupid. Benny was my closest associate."

## VIRGINIA HILL ILL WHILE VISITING BUGSY

LAS VEGAS, Nev., June 25.—(UP) Virginia Hill, close friend of the late Benjamin (Bugsy) Siegel, became ill from an overdose of sleeping tablets when she visited here with the gang chief last month, county physician Jack Cherry said today.

Siegel was shot to death in the wealthy Alabama divorcee's home at Hollywood Friday night.

Cherry said Siegel brought Miss Hill to his office May 8 to have her stomach pumped out.

"When I asked them whether it was an accident or a suicide attempt, they would give neither a reason nor motive," he said.

He said Siegel waited until Miss Hill was revived six hours later and took her back to his Flamingo Club the next morning.

"He insisted they had not had a row."

## GIRL'S SUICIDE ATTEMPT OVER BUGSY BARE

Hospital Records Reveal Try  
by Virginia Hill in Nevada

Hollywood Playgirl Virginia Hill, in whose Beverly Hills mansion Bugsy Siegel was shot to death Friday night, attempted suicide over the gangster in Las Vegas May 5, it was learned yesterday.

Miss Hill, unconscious from an overdose of sleeping tablets, was taken by Siegel to the Clark County Hospital at 3 p. m. that day.

Siegel waited until she had recovered six hours later and took her away the next morning.

Dr. Jack C. Cherry, who treated her, said she was in hysterical condition when she arrived.

### NO REASON

Siegel and Dr. Cherry tried unsuccessfully to learn why she had taken the overdose. Cherry said she had not been drinking and talked amiably, but refused to give her reason.

At the same time police emptied Siegel's personal affairs in search of his killer. It was said that Miss Hill, the "Alabama heiress" who gave lavish Hollywood parties, was the former girl friend of Brooklyn Gangster Joe Adams. Adams reportedly kept her in mental funds in New York and asked Siegel to "watch out for her" in Hollywood.

Siegel apparently moved in as the Number One man in her life and paid the check for her personal which totaled \$17500. She is now in Paris.

### WARREN ALARMED

Governor Earl Warren, alarmed by the California gangsterism uncovered by the Siegel case, asked yesterday to organize a statewide crime inventory. He said he would sign a bill now on his desk empowering him to appoint special crime commissions.

Police Chief Clinton W. Anderson of Beverly Hills and his captain of detectives, William W. White, called on Asst. George Raft yesterday to question him concerning his close relationship with Siegel.

Raft is a lifelong friend of Siegel, loaned him money and had testified as a character witness for the racketeer.

"Ben was a swell guy and we thought a lot of each other," Raft told the officers. "But I hadn't seen him since last Christmas. I have no idea who killed him."

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# Warren to Open State Probe of Gangsterism

By Carl Greenberg

(Los Angeles Examiner Staff Correspondent)

EXAMINER BUREAU, SACRAMENTO, June 24

Governor Earl Warren today declared he is "alarmed" by the development of organized gangsterism in California and will launch a special crime commission investigation into every phase of underworld operations and official corruption.

His disclosure of the plans was accompanied by caustic comment about the development of an Eastern-type "mob" underworld in the state. It came when he was asked whether he is "disturbed" by the gang activities climaxed by the killing of Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel, the nation's top "mob" leader.

"Yes—I am concerned about it," Warren replied. "No one can read of an assassination like Siegel's and listen to the stories of organized gangsters coming into our state without having great concern over it."

## 'ALARMING'

"We kept the gangsters out for many years and it is alarming to see them coming in now."

The Governor said he intends to use SB 641, creating a special commission for crime studies, "to look into conditions throughout the state and make an appraisal of them for the purpose of getting enforcement agencies together to stop the spread of organized crime."

The Governor said law enforcement activities in the state are centered in the Department of Justice, headed by Attorney General Fred N. Howser. But when asked whether he has inquired of Howser what steps the Attorney General is taking, Warren replied:

"The only general law enforcement official in the state is the Attorney General. The constitution says he is the chief law enforcement officer in the state and shall have direct supervision of the District Attorneys and Sheriffs to maintain law and order."

## TAKE INVENTORY

"I think now is the time for us to take a complete inventory

of our crime situation in California and its enforcement—or break down," the Governor continued.

The presence and activities of gangsters in California, Warren stated, and gangster killings, "do not represent a healthy condition."

"One lone gangster coming to California from another state where he was a power doesn't mean much, but when he becomes connected with narcotics, gambling, bookmaking and jewel and fur thefts, he becomes a dangerous article," stated Warren, former attorney general and for years District Attorney of Alameda County.

## BOOKMAKING

"Bookmaking is a delicate part of the underworld and involves millions of dollars."

"Do you think bookmaking can run as rampant in California as it does without protection?" the Governor was asked. He responded:

"No! These things can't operate unless there is protection! And that goes for slot machines, too."

The Governor emphasized:

"I am talking about crime and conditions and not individuals and I am not making accusations, veiled or otherwise, against any community or any public official."

"No doubt all honest law enforcement officials have the same concern that I have."

Attorney General Howser commented later that he planned to submit a program to the state district attorneys for a unified attack on slot machine and bookmaking operations and houses of prostitution.

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LOS ANGELES EXAMINER  
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## SIEGEL BOOKIE EMPIRE SIFTED

Bugsy's Drive to Corner Bets  
Made Enemies by the Score

Ben (Bugsy) Siegel's swift drive to corner the bookmaking business as far east as St. Louis gave police a wide new field of motives yesterday as they sought the gangster's slayers.

Starting his race wire service in Phoenix, Siegel had moved east in Las Vegas, Reno, Los Angeles and St. Louis, making enemies by the score.

He had gone directly into bookmaking by owning the bookie concession at Guy McAfee's "Golden Nugget" in Las Vegas, the Examiner learned authoritatively.

### COMPETITION

In all bookmaking operations Siegel was bucking old-established firms such as Daily Racing Service, successor to Moe Annenberg's monopoly, Nationwide News Service.

Chief Deputy District Attorney S. Ernest Roff planned to question Russell L. Brophy, local race wire operator.

Brophy is a son-in-law of James M. Ragen, millionaire Chicago race wire magnate shot-gunned to death last June 24 by mobsters who were trying to take over his territory.

At the same time, the Examiner discovered Siegel was president of Nevada Projects Corporation which operated the Flamingo Hotel in Las Vegas, although previously he had been described as "only a stockholder."

### TOOK OVER

Siegel was vice president of the company when it was formed last year and took over when William R. Wilkerson, Hollywood publisher and cafe owner, resigned as president.

Wilkerson sold out his interest in Nevada Projects and went to Paris May 21. Virginia Hill, in whose home Siegel was slain, is also now in Paris.

The three friends who spent the evening with Siegel before he was slain were subpoenaed yesterday to his inquest at 9:30 today.

They were Allen Smiley, business associate who was sitting with Siegel when the gangster was killed; Charles E. Hill, brother of Virginia Hill, and red-headed Jerri Mason, Miss Hill's secretary.

When the summons was served on Smiley, officers found a bodyguard was staying with Smiley at his apartment.

A "member of the family" will appear to identify and claim Siegel's body, the Coroner's office was notified yesterday.

Grosman Brothers' Mortuary said arrangements were being made there for Siegel's funeral. The body is in the County Morgue.

Detective Sergeant J. D. Alcorn, who made the first investigation of the shooting at 510 Linden drive, will also appear at the inquest.

Colonel George H. White, Detroit narcotics bureau chief, yesterday said Siegel was killed to avenge the murders of four gangsters who tried to muscle in

on his West Coast narcotics racket.

White agreed with U. S. Narcotics Commissioner Harry J. Anslinger and Colonel Garland H. Williams, New York chief, in accusing the worldwide narcotics ring of the notorious Italian Mafia (Black Hand).

Siegel, White said, was not a member of the Mafia, but was close to Charles (Lucky) Luciano, Frank Costello and other leaders.

White's theory was that Siegel ordered the Mafia to eliminate Nick de John in San Francisco May 9 and Tom Buffa in Lodi. He did not name the other two killed on Siegel's complaint.

Friends of the four men, perhaps out of favor with the Mafia, killed Siegel, White suggested.

Another link between Siegel's death and the narcotics trade of Luciano was forged when the New York Mirror learned Luciano

had threatened Siegel with death. Narcotics agents tapped Luciano's telephone in Havana last winter and intercepted three calls to Las Vegas. Siegel reputedly had defied the syndicate.

### COHEN GRILLED

Mickey Cohen, Los Angeles underworld figure, who was said to have opposed Siegel last year in a whisky agency deal, was questioned by detectives but not held. He said he knew nothing of Siegel's death.

"I don't think they are gunning for me," Cohen said.

Mrs. Estelle L. (Estie) Siegel divorced the gangster last August 3 in Reno for mental cruelty. She got a "substantial property settlement" and custody of the daughters, Millicent, 16, and Barbara, 12.

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LOS ANGELES TIMES  
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# SLAYING OF SIEGEL LAID TO GANG FEUD

## Investigators Link Mystery Death to Rival Dope Smugglers or 'Bootleg' Racing Service

Benjamin (Bugsie) Siegel was murdered either by rival dope smugglers or as the result of an internal row in a new "bootleg" racing news service he controlled.

Federal and local investigators focused on these two theories yesterday.

Both agreed that the slayer playboy was "reaching too far" in his ambitions. Reprisal came last Friday night when Siegel was killed by nine bullets flying into a Beverly Hills mansion.

Who killed him—bookmakers or smugglers?

That remained the major mystery while detectives traced a horde of clues.

William J. Craig, head of the Federal narcotics unit here, strung along with the smuggling theory. He said:

"Bugsie was one of the biggest dope peddlers in the United States.

"He was financing international deals in various narcotics.

"We'd like to know more about the activities of his cohorts."

### Study Siegel Files

The Times learned that Dist. Atty. William E. Simpson is interested in getting the narcotics bureau's entire file on Siegel.

Simultaneously the Sheriff's office is studying its complete files on all narcotics activities. It hoped to link Siegel with recent smuggling operations on the Mexican border.

Police Chief C. B. Horrall and Chief of Detectives William J. Bradley, however, were concentrating on the bookmaking angles.

They told this newspaper that they know a new racing news service was formed six months ago to telegraph results and odds. After some time, Siegel seized control of this "bookie" setup, the officers said.

### Bugsie Wins Control

Two weeks ago a showdown came at Siegel's Flamingo Club in Las Vegas, Nev.

Chief Horrall and Bradley said Siegel won the right to run the secret news service and to control bookmaking in California, Nevada and Oregon.

Somebody didn't like that. That somebody may have killed Siegel.

On the less secret side came announcements of plans for an inquest into the 42-year-old sportsman's death at 9:30 a.m. today.

Witnesses subpoenaed by Police Chief C. H. Anderson of Beverly Hills include:

1—Allen Smiley, the friend who sat on a davenport beside Siegel on the murder night.

2—Charles Hill, brother of Virginia Hill, the red-headed divorcee who rented the home where the tragedy occurred, 810 N. Linden Drive, Beverly Hills.

3—Miss Jeri Mason, Miss Hill's secretary.

Hill probably will identify the body at the inquest in the Coroner's office.

### Body Unclaimed

Late yesterday the body still remained unclaimed at the County Morgue.

"A friend" telephoned the Groman Mortuary to prepare to make funeral arrangements but relatives failed to appear.

No will has been found. Siegel was divorced and his heirs apparently will be his two daughters, Millicent, 16, and Barbara, 11.

Police Chemist Ray Pinker is testing the coat Smiley wore on the murder night. One carbina bullet ripped Smiley's sleeve but missed the flaring.

### Bigger Gamble

Chief Dep. Dist. Atty. S. Ernest toll disclosed yesterday that Smiley remarked significantly Friday night:

"I was the biggest gambler in the city."

Smiley presumes that meant Smiley must have bet he was due to be killed. He hit the door that night to miss most of the hail of nine bullets.

Chief Anderson and Capt. W. W. White of Beverly Hills talked to George Ratt, film actor who has been a friend of Siegel since boyhood.

Ratt said: "He was a hell of a fine guy. I haven't seen him since the opening of the Flamingo, though, and don't know anything about his recent activities."

The officers also questioned other Beverly Hills acquaintances of Siegel.

### Las Vegas Cite Reported

Lt. Joe Vignean, head of the Sheriff's gangster squad, and H. Leo Stanley, chief of the District Attorney's investigators, both were out of the city. Rumors flew that they raced in Las Vegas on a hot lead.

Elaborating on the dope-smuggling theory of the murder, Craig said at the Federal narcotics office that Siegel was slain almost on the eve of his indictment for narcotics violations.

Harry J. Anslinger, Federal narcotics commissioner in Washington, earlier had identified Siegel as a big operator in the narcotics division of New York's infamous Murder, Inc.

Anslinger also said the Las Vegas and Hollywood playboy bought narcotics from wholesalers of the Charles (Lucky) Luciano ring.

In the Southland Federal information came largely from Frank Orbe, held in Tijuana for a year as a murder suspect. Orbe insists Siegel made some payments for smuggled heroin but cheated him out of \$6500.

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## Warren Tells Concern Over Gang Crimes

By a Times Staff Representative  
SACRAMENTO, June 24.—

Concern was expressed by Gov. Warren today over the growth in recent months of crime in connection with organized gangster activities in California.

At his press conference he was asked about the series of killings over the State, the most recent being the shooting of Bugsie Siegel in Los Angeles. There have been some in the North also, such as San Francisco, Iodi, and one possibly in Sacramento.

"There was no question that 'something is doing' in gangsterland, in the Governor's opinion.

"One gangster moving into California from another State where he was a power does not mean much," said Warren. "But the minute he becomes associated with others in fur thefts, narcotics, jewel thefts, bookmaking and the like it becomes serious." Asked if he thought there was "something doing" in gangland, Warren said:

"These fellows don't move in until there is something doing. By that I mean criminal activities by which they profit tremendously. And they don't become dangerous until there is something doing."

"One of the jobs of the new crime commission provided for in a bill passed at this session of the Legislature will be to try to find out 'what is doing.'"

"The presence and activities of organized gangsters in various parts of the State, accompanied by gangster killings, does not represent a healthy condition. If it continues it will be very, very bad for the people."

**Bookmaking Included**

Asked if he included bookmaking and slot machines in the gangster category of criminal activities, Warren said he did. Asked if he believed bookmaking and slot machine activities could operate as openly as they do now without "protection" Warren said:

"I don't think bookmaking and slot machine activities could operate apparently as rampant as they are unless there is protection."

"No Governor could or should view with complacency a condition which can be so harmful to his State as the development of an underworld."

**Howser Shares Views**

"I have no doubt that all honest law enforcement officers have the same concern as I have and their feelings are more intense on the subject than mine because it is their immediate job to take care of such situations," said Warren.

Atty. Gen. Howser was in the executive office later and the two discussed the crime situation.

There is a general plan being formulated against bookies, prostitution and all forms of organized vice, said Howser. He shared the Governor's concern over the situation, he said.

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218



LOS ANGELES HERALD & EXPRESS  
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# GOV. WARREN CALLS FOR CALIF. WAR ON GANGSTERISM

By International News Service

SACRAMENTO, Cal., June 24.—Gov. Earl Warren today expressed alarm over the growth of organized gangsterism in California and called for a "complete inventory" of the crime situation in the state.

Pointing to the murder of Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel in Los Angeles as evidence of a dangerous influx of mobsters into the state, Warren declared gravely:

"I am very much concerned about this situation. We are now faced with assassinations like the Siegel murder and listen to the stories of organized gangsters pouring into our state without having great concern over it."

Warren said at a news conference that under terms of a bill now on his desk, he is empowered to appoint special crime commissions to investigate such conditions in California.

He indicated he will sign the bill and make the appointments without delay.

Said the Governor:

"Now is the time for us to take a complete inventory of our crime situation in California."

Through the study of the crime commission, Warren said, he hopes "to get the law enforcement agencies together to stop the spread of organized crime."

Warren added that any study made by the commission would include the possibility of a breakdown of law enforcement at any level or location. Regarding the existence of such a breakdown now, he declared:

"The presence and activities of organized gangsters in various parts of the state accompanied by gangster killings does not represent a healthy condition. If it continues, it will be a very, very bad thing for the people of our state."

"One lone gangster coming into the state doesn't mean much. But the minute he becomes solidly connected with underworld activities, whether it be narcotics, gambling, jewel theft, bookmaking or bookmaking, he becomes dangerous."

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# U. S. Calls Siegel Big Dope Man Joins Quiz

Branding Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel, slain racket boss as one of the biggest dope-peddling operators in the country, federal narcotics inspectors today joined with the district attorney's office and police in investigation of the gangster's rubout.

On the basis of a disclosure that district attorney's investigators were seeking to question indicted members of a broken-up international \$1,000,000 opium smuggling ring in regard to a clue to the slaying, William S. Craig, head of the local federal narcotics bureau, revealed that the government men have stepped into the case.

"Siegel was undoubtedly one of the biggest dope peddlers in the United States, and was financing international gangs in illicit drugs," Craig said.

Siegel was known to have trafficked with at least one member of the gang, and authorities theorized that his attempts to "muscle in" on the narcotic gang's territory and "short-changing" them in dope deals may have led to his murder.

Thirty-two men and two women were nabbed by narcotics agents and all were indicted by the Federal Grand Jury last March, 1945, and are now on bond awaiting trial.

Charles H. Orr, then U. S. attorney, said the ring—one of the largest ever uncovered—had its roots in Mexico and spread from there through Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco, New York City, Norfolk, Baltimore and other cities.

One of the dope smuggling ring members was Francisco Orbe, now awaiting trial in Mexico for murder.

Federal authorities said they were on the verge of arresting Siegel on a drug charge, adding no information volunteered by

Orbe. He said Siegel had pocketed him of \$3000 as a fee by which Orbe furnished "Bugsy" with a large quantity of Mexican heroin.

Narcotic agents started on the trail of the ring last year when an opium cache was found in a yard of a swanky "House of Dreams" in the San Fernando Valley. The syndicate's "warehouse" was a secret cache in the Santa Monica Mountains where thousands of dollars' worth of opium was buried.

As the investigation continued, Siegel's attorney said that as far as he knew "Bugsy" had left no will. He added that a search was being conducted here and in Las Vegas to determine definitely whether Siegel had ever made a will.

Meanwhile, a woman presumed to be Siegel's divorced wife, Estelle, called Groman's Mortuary and asked for an appointment to make funeral arrangements for the murdered gangster.

## REVENGE SLAYING

Colonel WHITE named two of the murders as those of Nick and John, a former minor Chicago hoodlum, who was strangled in this bar in San Francisco on May 9, and Tom Buffa, who was slain in 1941, Cal.

Like John, Buffa and the other two gangsters were slain when Siegel complained they tried to "muscle in" on his West Coast drug racket, Colonel White said, and "Bugsy" in turn was bumped off by associates of the murdered men.

Another report connected Siegel's death with a challenge in his nationwide ring controlling narcotic smuggling, bookmaking

and shipping of stolen jewelry. It linked the slaying with that of James M. Ragen, racing news czar in Chicago, last year.

The beautiful Virginia Hill, now in Paris, supplied another theory when she revealed that she and Siegel had quarreled and broken up and that a "No. 1 boy friend" had entered her life, leading to the belief that a "love triangle" may have led to the slaying.

At the same time, it was learned that Hollywood film stars and well-known figures in the sporting world may be called in for questioning during the investigation of Siegel's activities in film-land.

## RAFT FACES QUIZ

Actor George Raft sleek-haired, portrayer of mobster roles on the screen, has been marked high on the list of film-land lumb-aries known to have associated with the racket chieftain who posed as a wealthy playboy in the upper strata of Hollywood society, Police Chief C. H. Anderson of Beverly Hills disclosed.

The movie "tough guy" appeared as a character witness at Siegel's trial on a bookmaking charge in 1944, and a check for \$3000 written by "Bugsy" and endorsed by Raft was uncovered in 1940 when Siegel was indicted for the gangster-style rubout of Harry "Big Greeny" Schachter during a local booze war.

Murder detectives will be film-land hunting to fill in on Siegel's background associates in Hollywood, and activities in connection with a fabulous \$5,000,000 Miami gambling casino in Las Vegas. While the bullet-riddled boss of the gambling overlord lay in a county morgue slab, tortured and examined by Hollywood crowd that fawned on him in life, detectives paired off in threesomes quietly checking pinup, sock, bars and supper clubs in Hollywood and San Fernando.

"When was 'Bugsy' born? Who was he with? What did he talk to?" were questions asked of bartenders and proprietors.

His "friends" gave gold blank checks. They said they hadn't heard he was in a

LOS ANGELES HERALD & EXPRESS  
DATED 6/26/47

# Secret Rites for Siegel in \$5000 Coffin



## BUGSY'S \$5000 CASKET

Funeral directors carry Bugsy Siegel's \$5000 casket from the mortuary to the secret funeral service today. The film hotel fire situation, said only the insurance men present.

Only Six Present at 5-Minute  
Service as Gaiety Reigns  
At Flamingo Club

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11-2-83 BY SP-1 [signature]

The funeral services for Alvin Karpis, one of the nation's most notorious gang leaders, were held in a private home in Los Angeles today.

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At the same time, Attorney General Howser, in announcing that his office would enter the case, declared that he and Governor Warren were not only concerned with "who killed Siegel" but more particularly with the causes for his killing.

Howser said it was "common knowledge" that "Bugsy" was involved in black market liquor operations during the war.

#### CITES LOBBYISTS

He charged that the gang chieftain numbered among his associates and friends "prominent lobbyists in California who have through the years represented those interests in the state legislature."

Walter H. Lentz, chief special agent of the district attorney's office, has been ordered to check particularly into that phase of Siegel's operations, he said.

He declared that Governor Warren did not order the office of attorney general and the State Department of Justice to assume command of the investigation.

"However, I have been vitally concerned as to the statement concerning slot machines, bookmaking, bookie wire services, narcotic violations, prostitution and other phases, and its reaction in law enforcement in Southern California," Howser said.

He added that he has instructed Lentz to call meetings with law enforcement officers to discuss the investigation and that he has placed the resources of the State Department of Justice at his command.

Meanwhile, Leo Stanley, chief investigator for the district attorney's office, said he learned that Siegel refused to have his hair cut in Nevada, and had flown here Thursday from Las Vegas, only to visit a barber shop in Beverly Hills—and to meet death the next night.

Stanley also said they were checking the story of a Hawaiian-born Japanese, Kojiro Uyechi, 21 of the Miyako Hotel here, who said he had come to Las Vegas "to kill Bugsy."

It was also disclosed that two women and two men, one of them packing a .38 automatic, were picked up by Santa Monica police today and were being questioned about the Siegel slaying.

Meanwhile, the investigation of Siegel's gangland slaying at

The Beverly Hills mansion of Virginia Hill, wealthy heiress, settled down to an anticipated long grind of clue-sifting.

It was a case of too many clues. There were too many persons interested in the sudden demise of the West Coast czar of organized gangsterism, police said.

Beverly Hills Police Chief C. H. Anderson admitted that the investigation probably would be "long and drawn out."

It was pointed out that Siegel was mixed up in nearly every phase of underworld activity and had made many enemies in his efforts to corner Pacific Coast bookmaking activities and his dope smuggling business.

California State Narcotics Chief P. J. O'Ferrall in San Francisco said he believed that Siegel's strong arm tactics in attempting to take over an interna-

tional dope ring touched off a series of murders—including Siegel's own.

Ferrall maintained that a super-gang war developed when Siegel tried to oust Charles "Lucky" Luciano from his leadership of a world-wide dope ring operated by the notorious Mafia organization.

"Luciano, who had been deported to Italy, tried to make a comeback," he said. "Earlier this year, he got as far as Cuba but was forced to return to Italy."

"Siegel, who was affiliated with Luciano's Mafia narcotics setup, figured this was his chance."

"But he apparently forgot one thing—that the Mafia's headquarters are in Italy. The Mafia would not stand by, while Siegel took over."

"Siegel apparently sought to brush aside any opposition in the entrenched Mafia setup—and this could have been why he and several others died."

#### BODY NOT VIEWED

Members of the family said they did not want to view the body, or permit anyone else to, because they wanted to have Siegel "remembered as he was."

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DATE 4-7-83 BY SP7 mac/loa



They thought gambling away

Dick Powell, Gary Cooper, Franchot Tone, Sonny Tufts and George Raft also have sat on tomato red stools at the Flamingo's green leather bar. They could peer through the curved glass out to terraced gardens, a mammoth swimming pool, and the adjoining hotel which jumps like stairs from four stories to one.

224

## ★ 'Bugsy' Siegel—a social symbol

Benjamin (Bugsy) Siegel's career is appropriately ended but his story is still unfolding. It's a familiar, ugly story—the story of organized crime and of a mobster who was another symbol of how modern, high-speed criminality has its roots in the more vicious money-grabbing tendencies of contemporary life.

What conditioned "Bugsy's" behavior was the need for money. His criminal career had a solid pecuniary basis. His association with Marster, Inc., with the immense, far-flung underworld of the narcotics racket, with jewel hauls and gambling set-ups—these criminal connections grew out of, a demand for commercialized vice and pleasure.

"Bugsy," in his felonious way, was an over-extended operator working in those dark areas where crime always has a ready market. Moreover, he was a big operator. He mirrored the more unpleasant aspects of an age of monopolies, combines, holding companies and cartels.

The Siegel saga wasn't made out of the sick, the poor, the blind; nor out of poverty and twisted psychological backgrounds. "Bugsy" thrived on the economic surplus, on those who could afford to pay. The millions invested in his Flamingo club are testament to how much unhealthy fat an economic system can store up.

"Bugsy," as a personality, was, therefore, more than just a hot-shot brigand. He was the American personality chan-

nelled in the ugliest direction: toward blood and mastery and action in lawlessness.

A nation smolderingly opposed to despots, willing to stand up and fight tyrants and dictators who practice vengeance and repression, is nevertheless inclined to create folk legends around its Al Capones and Lepkes and "Bugsy" Siegels. Why? Why is the gangster still a favorite portrait we frame with our movies, our fiction and our newspaper headlines? Is it because we like movement and color and the gangster provides these in abundance? Or is it because we hold life in the abstract cheap, after all, or tend to admire success and efficiency and willingness to risk all even when displayed by a low character of the underworld?

The fact is our American moral judgments are weakened to a great extent by our American pioneer tradition and temper. "Bugsy," we decide, is a good thing; so long as he and his fellow-mobsters wipe out one another all is well. In the twilight zone of the underworld violence doesn't bother us much, that is so long as some peace-loving citizen isn't knocked off by a stray bullet. We got this outlook as the result of pushing through an unfriendly wilderness and tying a continent together.

American society prepares the way for its mobsters. But fortunately, and unlike many other nations, America holds its gangsters to be outside the law and doesn't enthrone them as leaders of public opinion.—E. H. H.

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DATE 11-7-85 BY SP-7 mac/las

LOS ANGELES DAILY NEWS  
DATED 6/26/47

## Heiress shies from Bugsy death picture

PARIS, June 26 (AP)—Virginia, heiress of the late John D. Rockefeller, shied away from a picture of her slain husband, Bugsy Siegel, in a Paris newspaper.

"No, I don't want to see the picture," she said. "I've shed and everything. I don't want to see it." She was dressed in a green suit and her eyes were turned away from the picture.

The son of the late John D. Rockefeller, she was seen in Paris.

Virginia said she was in Paris for the first time since the death of her husband.

"I understand people in Paris are saying all sorts of things about me," she said. "I don't want to hear anything about me."

even spent much time with him. "He never gave me money. I don't need any. He was nice to me. Always, took me places and put me up at his Las Vegas gambling casino. I have enough money of my own to live on and I don't need it. My money came from Alimony."

Virginia's green eyes looked sad. It wasn't a "go ahead" signal. "I'll leave my family out of this," she said.

People here in Paris have been pretty nice. Just like nothing had happened. "Why last night I had dinner in one of the best clubs in Paris. It sure was fun."

Virginia, who is known on Broadway and in Hollywood as a big spender in night clubs, has shied from them in Paris, she said.

"I've only been to one. Monte Carlo. There were lots of girls playing and if there's anything I love it's playing."

Monte Carlo is an expensive club in Montmartre, overlooking downtown Paris.

Virginia has a fourth floor suite at the exclusive Hotel Westminster. White awnings over her balcony kept out today's burning sun. Several evening dresses hung simply over the backs of Louis XV arm chairs. A white negligee was crushed in the corner of a green plush sofa. A maid in the bedroom was ironing dresses.

"I spoke with my lawyer in Los Angeles by trans-Atlantic phone and he said I had nothing to worry about," she said, dabbing her face with a chiffon handkerchief. "Now I'll go ahead with my plan and stay two or three months."

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DATE 11-7-86 BY SP-7 mac/bs



## The band plays on, gayety rules at Buggy's Flamingo

By ALVIN KAPLAN

When Vincent Price and the customers pouring into Buggy's (Buggy) Buggy's Flamingo Club last night this fun went on busy today to worry about who killed Buggy.

Games were still, silver balls clacked, the music was fast and loud and the customers were as last night in Buggy's club.

The late gang had left in the Los Angeles morgue, forgotten by the fun-seekers he tried to attract for six months in vain to pull the Flamingo out of the mud.

It wasn't like that Friday night when Buggy was killed. When the place was like a mortuary, roulette wheels ticked to a stop, the dice lay still, the cards lay unnoticed on the green tables and the help huddled in a tight group.

Buggy would be alive. They said, if he had stayed at the Flamingo.

The gambling-read guests said Buggy was probably killed by one of his business pals because the Flamingo was losing money, shrugged their shoulders and went back to their fun.

They poured in past the red and blue lighted bushes and green pond through the massive glass front door.

They thought gambling even \$2000 to take home a fine 10 million was fun.

This \$4,000,000 casino on the desert was built on 24-hour shifts with imported soil, imported trees, imported materials and the grating consent of the Civilian Production Administration.

But after it opened in January, Buggy had trouble making it pay.

Ten days ago he decided to jack up his languishing business—too late for his life, some said—by chopping room prices and giving away free cars, free radios and \$750 in bingo every night. Buggy on Sunday.

The movie colony liked the place. Martha O'Driscoll had drunk and ate the trimmings for \$450 last night in the Supper Club, which has a glass wall covered with green fish net of one end and the other entertaining at the other.

Jimmy Durante, the Andrews Sisters, Lane Horne and Kaye Dugan have performed, too.

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# DRUG KING MURDERED

Charles "Lucky" Luciano, the famous racketeer and drug king, was shot dead in a Beverly Hills mansion last night, according to police officials.

The 42-year-old man was shot in the back by a single bullet which penetrated his chest and lodged in his lungs.

He was found by a maid who called the police. The body was taken to the Beverly Hills police station and later to the Los Angeles coroner's office.

Police officials said that Luciano was a well-known figure in the Los Angeles underworld and was involved in various criminal activities, including racketeering and drug trafficking.

He was married to a woman named Mrs. Elizabeth Luciano, who was also a well-known figure in the underworld.

The murder of Luciano is being treated as a major case by the Los Angeles police department.

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DATE 12-7-85 BY SP-7 mly/07



## Love Tangle Suspected as Siegel Murder Cause

Chicago Racketeer Believed to Have Hired  
Killers Because of Jealousy Over Miss Hill

Jealousy over the love of Miss Hill was blamed yesterday for the murder of Benjamin (Bugie) Siegel.

District Attorney's and Sheriff's officers suspect that a Chicago racketeer, whom they named, probably engineered the killing.

They believe he paid two gangsters to come to Beverly Hills and kill Siegel last Friday night.

They lack evidence to prove this but are hoping to collect broken links in the chain.

Police Chief C. H. Anderson yesterday called Paris police. He asked them to get an official statement from the thrice-married, red-haired divorcee.

Anderson wants to know when she first met Siegel, what their relations were, why she gave him a gold key to her home at 40 N. Linden Drive and why she went to Paris.

These rapid developments capped a day which began with a hushed, secret funeral service for Siegel, attended by only six persons in the Groman Mortuary Chapel.

Every clue was being followed on dope smuggling, stolen jewelry shipments and bookmaking.

A Hawaiian-Japanese was arrested in Las Vegas, Nev. He said he came there to collect \$35,000 assertedly due from Siegel on a horse race bet "to kill him." Dist. Atty. William E. Simpson acquired complete files on "Murder, Inc." for study.

But the Chicago racketeer, described as a bookmaking czar, remained the main suspect.

### Insulted by Siegel

Simpson, Chief Dep. Dist. Atty. Ernest Roll, Chief Investigator H. Leo Stanley and Lt. Joe Vigneau, head of the Sheriff's gangster squad, said this:

1—Miss Hill was an extremely close friend of the Chicago bookmaker.

2—She met Siegel and became interested in him.

3—Eight weeks ago Siegel insulted her. There was a fight row at the Flamingo Club in Las Vegas.

4—The Chicago civil war for her affections was increased.

5—On May 5 the 30-year-old divorcee took an overdose of sleeping tablets. Stanley commented tersely: "A suicide attempt. She was mad at Siegel."

6—The Chicago man sent two hoodlums to kill the dapper sportsman. Last Friday night they did.

### Notables Dot Case

Big names continued to dot the case.

Marie McDonald, film actress, told Stanley and Roll that she had dinner three or four times with Siegel in Las Vegas but someone else always was with them.

She hired Jerri Mason, beauty parlor operator, as a secretary but fired her because "I wanted to relax but Jerri always was organizing dinners and big parties."

Miss Mason later became Miss Hill's secretary. She now is engaged to marry Miss Hill's brother Charles.

Left Cancels Paris Trip  
Hill, after Siegel's death, canceled her trip to Paris. Herbert Silverberg, attorney for Siegel's studio, is expected to leave, however.

In Chicago, Narcotics Bureau Chief Joseph Bell said Siegel's murder resulted from a struggle between the secret Italian society of Mafia and Siegel for control of the dope ring in California.

He said he believed Siegel had ordered the killing of two narcotics ring figures in San Francisco on suspicion that they "talked" to government investigators. Siegel's murder, Bell said, paved the way to control of illegal narcotics distribution here by the Mafia.

Bell said that Mafia has taken over 99 per cent of the narcotics peddling in the nation and from its Brooklyn headquarters directs the sales of dope running into millions of dollars annually.

Dope Smuggling Involved

Bell explained that California has an important position because most dope now is smuggled into the United States over the border between this State and Mexico.

Siegel had a grip on things in Los Angeles, Bell said, "which makes Al Capone's hold on Chicago look sick."

Public interest in the crime is reflected in signs posted by Sunset Blvd. hucksters who sell snaps of film stars' homes to tourists. One sign reads: "Where 'Bugie' Siegel Met His End." Another says: "See the House Where 'Bugie' Siegel Was Shot."

No sightseers attended his funeral.

The entire service at the Groman Chapel lasted less than five minutes.

A limousine arrived at 8:30 a.m. Allen Smiley, who narrowly escaped being killed by the gangland bullets last Friday, alighted.

Next came Siegel's divorced

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...his daughters, 10 and 11, and his brother, Dr. Maurice Siegel, accompanied them from the airport, where he was met by a car.

Only other mourner was the sister, Mrs. Doris Siegel, who carried a pall on which was a picture and gambling cards were scattered.

Funeral home opened. The family said: "We want to hold the funeral now."

Morticians, surprised, nodded. They said later that Siegel was dressed in a blue suit, white shirt and tie with a white handkerchief tucked in his breast pocket. He wore no jewelry.

The coffin was sealed; two candles were placed on it.

Rabbi Kert chanted the 23rd psalm.

He bowed his head and spoke a few words of prayer for the soul of the deceased.

Two other spectators turned on the lights.

There were no flowers, no splendor.

There was no eulogy.

The family whisked out of a rear door of the chapel, ducked through a box-cluttered alley and hurried away in a waiting automobile.

Plain clothes detectives outside the mortuary made a few notes. They had hoped to see crowds in the Chicago fashion. They had no clues.

Later Siegel's body was taken to Beth Olam Cemetery for burial in a plot of ground purchased by Siegel's brother. Private graveside services were conducted by Rabbi Kert with Dr. Siegel the only other person in attendance.

View to Favorite Barber

At Los Vegas it was learned that Siegel was in Beverly Hills every two weeks to have his hair cut at his favorite barber's. Barber's name was Donald Henry. He was a Jew, 32, an investigator after he said he came to the city to look for "hill

men. He admitted he had sent a telegram to the coroner in Las Vegas saying: "Important not take body away. I'm looking for identity."

Dyckin was referring to Siegel, thinking he was killed in Las Vegas.

Part in Killing Suspect

Investigator Stanley showed a search of Dyckin's check as the Miyako Hotel at First and Main Pedro St. in Los Angeles. It was learned the Hawaiian Japanese was here the night Siegel was slain. His U.S. Army discharge papers were found. Officers doubt that he had any part in the killing.

Atty. Gen. Fred N. Howser instructed his chief special agent, Walter H. Lantz, to conduct meetings in various parts of the state to study slot machine, bookmaking, wire service, narcotics, prostitution and other problems.

He said Lantz will look particularly into Siegel's known connections with hard liquor, black market activities. Howser said the slain sportsman was friendly with some of the veteran liquor lobbyists at Sacramento.

LOS ANGELES EXAMINER  
DATED 6/27/47

### Jap With Gun Demands \$55,000 Siegel Debt

LAS VEGAS, June 26.—Henry Kojiro Uyechi, 29, Hawaiian-born Japanese, was arrested when he appeared at the Flamingo Club today with a gun and tried to collect a \$55,000 debt he claimed was owed him by the late Ben (Bugsy) Siegel.

Uyechi said Siegel cheated him out of the money two years ago in Chicago. He said he bet on a horse which won, but when he went to Siegel's place to collect the office had been moved.

When he learned Siegel was again, he came to the Flamingo, controlled by Siegel, to collect, Uyechi said. He was booked for carrying a concealed weapon.

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LOS ANGELES EXAMINER  
DATED 6/27/47



**SILVER-PLATED** — Attendants carry casket containing body of slain Bugsy Siegel from mortuary. Unlike most funerals for gang leaders, this was small and hurried. The mourners quickly slipped away. This silver-plated casket cost \$5000. — Los Angeles Examiner photo.

## Bugsy's Funeral Hasty, Despite \$5000 Coffin

They put Bugsy Siegel away hermetically sealed on Wednesday yesterday in a five-minute, rush-order funeral from which the mourners fled down a back alley to a waiting car.

The big-shot gangster went first class with a \$5000 silver-plated coffin, but the funeral was more like a bank stickup than a rite of sorrow. There were no flowers, no eulogy, only a hurried psalm and a prayer spoken to 400 empty seats in Groman Brothers' Chapel at 830 West Washington boulevard.

Dr. Kert spoke to an empty chapel, lit only by seven small electric candles in a candelabra.

### CURT PRAYER—

Before the mortuary had even properly opened for the day, Dr. Max Kert of Olympic Jewish Center had recited the 23rd Psalm and a Hebrew funeral prayer in English and Bugsy was ready for the grave.

Only six persons sat in the family alcove near the 900-pound casket, in which Siegel lay on white silk, dressed in a blue business suit, blue tie and white shirt.

They didn't want to see his face, ripped open by bullets last Friday night. The casket was

Mourners were Mrs. Esta Siegel, ex-wife; his daughters, Millicent, 16, and Barbara, 14; his sister, Mrs. Bessie Soloway; his brother, Dr. Maurice Siegel, and Allen Smiley, business associate who was sitting beside Siegel in a Beverly Hills mansion when he was killed.

Dr. Kert spoke to an empty chapel, lit only by seven small electric candles in a candelabra.

### OVER QUICKLY—

It was all over at 8:55 a. m. Smiley and the four women slipped out through a casket room, went through a little-used door and down a rubbish-littered alley to a gate which was unlocked for them. They hurried to a waiting car half a block away and were gone.

Dr. Siegel, hatless, walked quietly out the front door, unrecognized by photographers.

Siegel's body was buried without further ceremony at Bet Olam Cemetery in Hollywood, a lot hurriedly purchased by Dr. Siegel. No other members of the family are buried there.

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DATED 6/27/47

# State Enters Inquiry Into Siegel's Slaying

Attorney General Fred N. Howser stepped into the Bugsy Siegel murder case yesterday and ordered a state-wide investigation.

His action came two days after Governor Earl Warren expressed alarm at the big-time gangsterism in California revealed by investigation of Siegel's killing in Beverly Hills last Friday.

"It has been common knowledge that during the war Siegel was involved in black marketing of hard liquor throughout the nation and particularly in California," Howser said.

"He numbered among his friends and associates prominent lobbyists in California who have for years represented those interests in the State Legislature.

## ORDER—

"I have instructed my chief special agent, Walter H. Lentz, to look particularly into that phase of Siegel's activities, which has not been thoroughly investigated to date.

"As the Governor said, we are not only concerned with who killed Siegel, but are more interested in the cause for his killing.

"We believe it may have resulted from an old grudge arising out of his past activities.

"While I have heretofore expressed, and still am confident of the integrity and ability of the law enforcement officers of California, I have instructed Lentz to call meetings in various parts of the state.

## FULL SCOPE—

"The first will be in Southern California. I have placed the entire resources of my department at his command."

District Attorney's investigation showed increasing interest in the affairs of Virginia Hill, Siegel's girl friend who is now in Paris, and another famous name on her list of acquaintances.

It was that of Dr. Marie Curie, San Francisco Chinese friend of Hollywood.

Passport records show Miss Hill and Dr. Chung applied for visas at the same time. Miss Hill said they were business associates.

In San Francisco, Dr. Chung said she planned the trip but did not go. She said Miss Hill was a patient of hers.

The Chinese woman doctor is famous as "Mam" Chung, who "adopted" about 1000 American and Chinese servicemen during the war years, including Rickson, backer, Halsey and Nimitz.

Movie Actor George Raft, lifelong friend of Siegel, cancelled the plane reservations he had for Paris tomorrow. Also in Paris is William R. Wilkerson, former business associate of Siegel.

Another Parisian is Nicholas Peullatte, 31, who knew Miss Hill in Hollywood and may have accompanied her to France. He is described as scion of a wealthy French business family.

Passport records turned up other clues about the mysterious Miss Hill, said to have been the girl friend of both Brooklyn Gangster Joe Adonis and Siegel.

## ALABAMAN—

She said she was born in Lipscomb, Ala., August 26, 1916, and her full name is Onie Virginia Hill, daughter of Mack Hill of Bessemer, Ala. She gave her home address at 820 Linden drive, Beverly Hills.

She was married to Leon Griffin in January, 1939, but the marriage was annulled seven months later in Birmingham.

Her second husband was Carlos Valadez Gonzales, whom she married in Mexico City, January 15, 1940, and divorced December 11, 1940.

Virginia said she was going to Paris to obtain the West Coast agency for wines and liquors of Compagnie Commerciale de Vins et Spiritueux, 4 Rue de Castiglione, Paris.

Two Los Angeles detectives are sent to New York to cooperate in the search for Siegel's killers.

New York detectives released several of the notes found in the gangster's private papers and memo books among which were those of Vincent, Hollywood actors' agent, and his brother, Frank, also an agent, who died last month.

Shortly before his death, it was learned, Vincent was questioned by agents of the U. S. Bureau of Narcotics.

## POPE CLEW—

California State Narcotics Chief P. J. Ferrall said Siegel's killing was part of an international gang war caused when Siegel tried to break the notorious Mafia (Black Hand) narcotics ring.

Ferrall said Siegel had tried to seize control when Charles (Lucky) Luciano, Mafia leader, was deported to Italy.

Another phase of Siegel's past turned up in Washington, where the Examiner learned exclusively he once received \$100,000 in Liberty Bonds from Frank Ward, Minneapolis Democratic party leader.

The transfer was found in the investigation of "Murder, Inc." and turned over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, but no action was ever taken.

Joseph Bell, Chicago narcotics division chief in Chicago, said Siegel "had complete overlordship of Southern California racketeers."

Movie Actress Marie (The Body) McDonald, whose name was mentioned in the Siegel case by her former secretary, Jerri Mason, said:

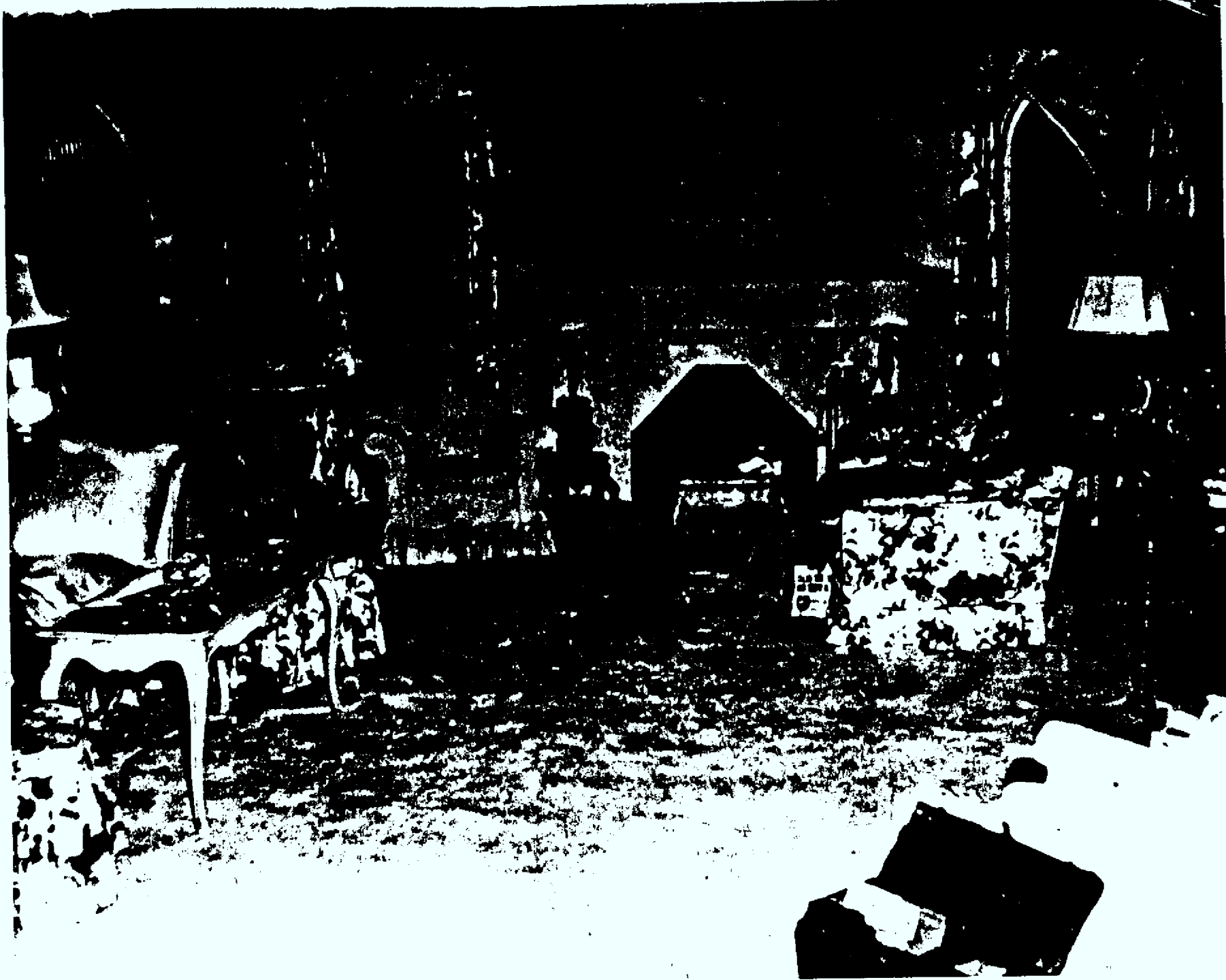
"My only connection with the case is that I once employed Miss Mason."

Miss Mason was in the Beverly Hills house the night Siegel was killed. She is Miss Hill's secretary.

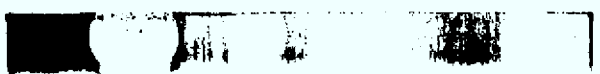
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11-2-85 BY SP-7mar/69



234



785



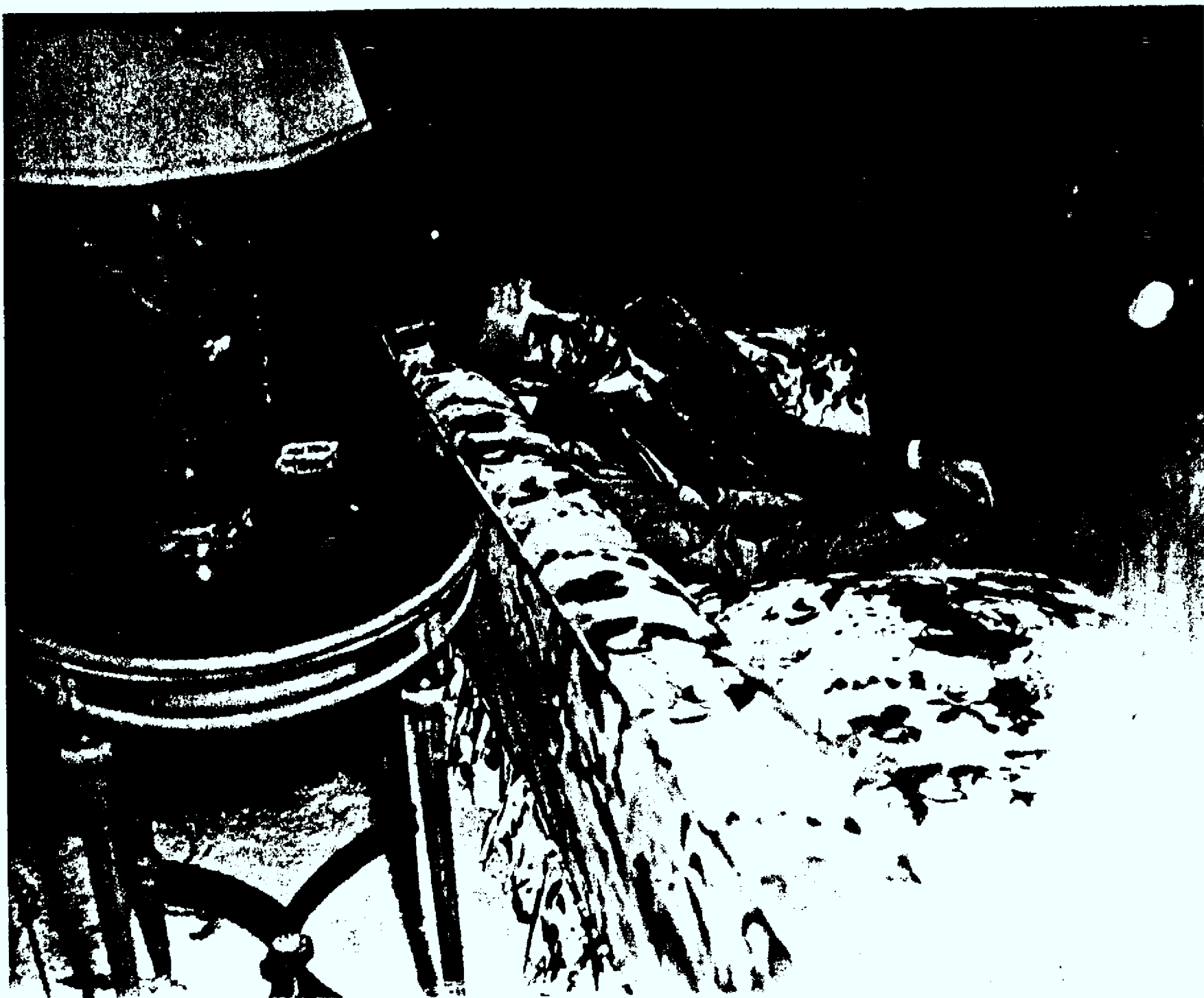




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237







239



240

JUL 7 1947

**TELETYPE**

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11-9-83 BY SP-21MCT/102

7-7-47

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MDC

URGENT

### ONLINE SURVEY.

RECORDING

81318-459

30 JUL 18 1947

ee

241



PAGE TWO

[REDACTED]

NEWMAN

END

ACK OK CENTER

LA 1-45 PM OK FBI WASH DC L

WFO OK FBI WFO DC

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

301 Continental Bank Building  
Salt Lake City, 1, Utah

June 26, 1947

Tolson.....  
E. A. Tamm.....  
Clegg.....  
Glavin.....  
Mr. Ladd.....  
Mr. Nichols.....  
Mr. Rosen.....  
Mr. Tracy.....  
Mr. Egan.....  
Mr. Gurnea.....  
Mr. Harbo.....  
Mr. Mohr.....  
Mr. Pennington.....  
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....  
Mr. Nease.....

AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

Director, FBI

RE: BENJAMIN "BUGS" SIEGEL;  
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION  
CONCERNING - CRIME SURVEY

Dear Sir:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Serial 460  
45, 44-17-6

G.I.R.-5

RECORDED  
INDEXED

EX-34

62-81518

243

62-81518-461

- 3 -

b2d

b7D

bx  
b7D



To: Director, FBI  
Re: SIEGEL

[REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED]

b7D

Informant stated that SIEGEL'S death came as a complete shock to all of SIEGEL'S associates in Las Vegas, including

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] would hardly believe that SIEGEL was actually dead. They immediately attempted to telephone MEYER LANSKY and associates in the East but could reach no one but one

b7C

[REDACTED] in New York City. [REDACTED] stated that the news of SIEGEL'S death came as a shock to him also. Informant said that COSTELLO, ADONIS, MEYER LANSKY and other leaders in the East are "too smart" to talk on the telephone about the SIEGEL killing because they believe the F.B.I. probably tapped their telephone wires immediately after SIEGEL was killed.

[REDACTED]

b7C

To: Director, FBI  
Re: SIEGEL

- 4 -

[REDACTED] advised on June 21, 1947, that he had learned that HILL took an overdose of sleeping tablets and was rushed to the Clark County General Hospital. She remained there one day and one night and was released. b7c b7D

[REDACTED] HILL then packed her clothes and stated that she was going to Paris, France, to marry a wealthy Frenchman who is one of the heirs of [REDACTED] b7c

She went to Los Angeles, [REDACTED] and later left for New York City [REDACTED] to arrange passage to Paris, France. At the time of SIEGEL'S death, HILL was in Paris.

Informant stated that there is a possibility that when HILL got to New York, she was so angry with SIEGEL that she may have contacted JOE ADONIS and other Syndicate associates in New York City and really "spilled" information on SIEGEL. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] but that HILL knows FRANK COSTELLO and other Syndicate leaders as a result of her association with ADONIS and SIEGEL. He stated that HILL would be in a better position to know intimately SIEGEL'S plans and activities at the Flamingo Hotel in possibly defrauding the Syndicate and that if she was angry with SIEGEL she could "really put him on the spot" with both factual information and fabricated information. b7D

According to Informant, HILL telephonically contacted SIEGEL from New York or Chicago prior to her departure for Paris, France, and was told by SIEGEL that she could come back to him only if she apologized [REDACTED] HILL refused to make this apology. b2

[REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] b7D

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET2

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

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b2D with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ 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):

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- ☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- ☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
62-81518-461 pgs 5 & 6

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 X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
 X FOR THIS PAGE X  
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

247



To: Director, FBI

Re: SIEGEL

[REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] b7D

Informant further advised that SIEGEL's widow, ESTHER SIEGEL, [REDACTED] were enroute to Los Angeles for the summer when they learned that SIEGEL had been killed. When they arrived at Los Angeles no one met them or contacted them.

[REDACTED] b7D

ESTHER SIEGEL telephoned MEYER LANSKY from Los Angeles on June 21, 1947, and was very bitter. She reminded LANSKY that SIEGEL had always boasted of the large number of friends he had on the West Coast. She informed LANSKY that SIEGEL did not have a single friend but had only enemies.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b7C

The Bureau and interested offices will be kept advised of developments in this matter.

The foregoing information should, of course, be carefully guarded, due to the precarious position of the Informant.

Very truly yours,

*Jay C. Fleury*  
JAY C. FLEURY  
Special Agent in Charge

[REDACTED] b7c  
62-1130  
cc 94-142

cc - Chicago - AMSD  
cc - Los Angeles - AMSD

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson ✓

DATE: June 23, 1947

FROM : L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-8-83 BY SP-7 msp/bs

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. Harbo  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn Tamm  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

58 AUG 1 1947

COPIES DESTROYED  
44 NOV 17 1964

bx

250

62-81518-462

MR. TOLSON

-2-

June 23, 1947

[REDACTED]

b7c

I furnished the substances of the above [REDACTED]  
on a confidential basis late last night, with the understanding  
that it was to be used purely for the purposes of checking. I  
pointed out that of course the possibility did exist that [REDACTED]  
although normally we are notified of these transfers and we had no  
notification.

b:

V. [signature]

LBR [REDACTED] b7c  
CC: Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Rosen



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Rosen

DATE: June 24, 1947

FROM : [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

b7c ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11-7-85 BY 44-7 [REDACTED]

MISCELLANEOUS, INFORMATION CONCERNING  
CRIME SURVEY

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. Harbo  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn Tamm  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

PURPOSE

To summarize information available in Bureau files [REDACTED] also to advise that no information is available on [REDACTED] This is in connection with conversation of [REDACTED] with Assistant Director L. B. Nichols, who was advised that information had been received [REDACTED] were implicated in the Siegel killing.

DETAILS

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Bureau files also reflect that there is no reference or information available on [REDACTED]

ACTION TO BE TAKEN

This is being submitted for your information.

[REDACTED] b7c 1st 22-68/47

252

1510R

FROM: Director, FBI  
EX-40

INTERNAL SECURITY

62-81518-463

SUBJECT: WILLIAM S. SMITH, was  
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING  
GUIDE SUNKY

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11-7-85 BY 58-7000-106

A representative of [redacted] advised  
the Bureau that an individual using the name [redacted]  
[redacted] furnished information  
on the kidnapping of [redacted].

b7c  
b7D

[redacted]

b7c  
b7D

G.I.R. 5

[redacted]

b7c

[redacted]

b7c

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. Harbo  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn Tamm  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED  
JUN 28 1947  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

58 AUG 1 1947

b7c

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Handwritten signature and initials

SAC, Los Angeles

[REDACTED]

b7c

[REDACTED]

b7c

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7c

This is being furnished you for your information and you can use your discretion in furnishing it to local authorities who are investigating the Siegel slaying. However, the source of the information should be kept confidential should you choose to make the information available to outside agencies.

- 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. Harbo
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

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81518-464

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6



June 25th 1947

Dear Mr. Hoover:

The enclosed diagram shows the location of the apartment used as a hideout by the Bugsy Siegel murderers.

The address is 136-05 Sanford Ave., Flushing, N. Y. The corner apartment is on the fifth floor, with one of the windows, on Main Street, facing the West and the other four windows, on Sanford Avenue, facing the South.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11-7-85 BY SP-7 mac/bs

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11-7-85 BY SP-7 mac/bs

EX-39

Re L.A. 2 NY  
6/8/47  
encl [redacted] to L.A.

RECORDED

6-815/1  
FBI - 465  
32 JUL 8 1947

EX-39

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256

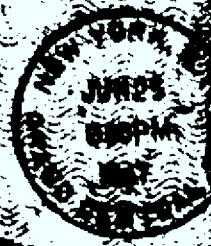
LSL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11-7-10 BY SP-11142-12

Mr. Edgar J. Hoover, Director

Federal Bureau of Investigation

WASHINGTON, D. C.



VIA AIR MAIL

APR 11, 1967

**DOE**

1. The above information was obtained from a confidential source who has provided reliable information in the past.

It is requested that you not desire to refer this letter and diagram to local police investigating the recent explosion.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-25 BY 5-7mc/etb

b7C

G. I. R. 7

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 10  
JUN 23 1947 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
JUN 21 1947

58 1 39

258

0

For your information the Chairman of Internal Security in Washington, D. C. has been furnished the data concerning Slone's alleged violation of the Espionage Laws.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11-9-85 BY SP-7 mac/200

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
RECORD  
MAILED  
★ JUN 27 1947 EX-5  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

62-81518  
F B I  
JUL 7 1947

83 JUL 23 1947

259

Re  
a/b



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

JUL 1 1947

TELETYPE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11-7-85 BY SP-7 mac/ab

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn Tamm  
Mr. Nease

FBI SALT LAKE CITY 5-17 PM

DIRECTOR AND SACS SAN FRANCISCO, LOS ANGELES, PHOENIX ROUTINE

VICE CONDITIONS, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA, RESEARCH MATTER.

[REDACTED] HAS FURNISHED INFORMATION RECENTLY THAT BENJAMIN "BUGS" SIEGEL  
HAD MADE DEFINITE PLANS TO KILL [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO SIEGELS OWN DEATH AND HAD ISSUED  
ORDERS TO JACK DRAGNA AT LOS ANGELES TO HAVE THE PLANS EXECUTED [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] HAD BEEN DELEGATED BY SIEGEL AND JACK DRAGNA TO DO THE KILLING  
AND THAT SIEGELS ORDERS HAVE NOT BEEN COUNTERMANDED. [REDACTED]

260

12-81518-467

PAGE TWO

[REDACTED]

b7c  
b7d

[REDACTED] POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT  
[REDACTED] MAY HAVE BEEN GUNMEN WHO KILLED SIETEL.

EXPEDITE. SUTEL.

NEWMAN

END

ACK IN ORDER

LA 3-25 PM OK FBI WASH DC ML

ST 448<sup>3</sup> OK FBI SF RM

LA OK FBI LA PMF

PM OK FBI PM FC

TESSC

cc. Mr Rosen

261

C

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

Benny B.

POSSIBLE ALIASES USED  
 12-25-47  
 KIMBALL  
 12-25-47

66-479

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

CLASSIFIED BY: *SP-7 mcl/ps*  
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR  
11-7-85

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

G. I. R. - 8  
b7c

[REDACTED] (C) b1

BENJAMIN QUOTE BUGS UNQUOTE SIEGEL, CRIME SURVEY. ASSOCIATED PRESS HERE HAS ASKED ME FOR ANY INFORMATION IN CONNECTION WITH UNITED PRESS ARTICLE IN LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, PAPER [REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] CONCERNING ALLEGED NARCOTICS TRAFFIC BETWEEN MEXICO AND UNITED STATES. I ADVISED ASSOCIATED PRESS THIS OFFICE HAS NO INFORMATION. MEXICO CITY BACKGROUND TO UNITED PRESS STORY IS THAT [REDACTED] UNITED PRESS HERE ASKED ME TO COMMENT ON STATEMENT BY CHICAGO OFFICE HEAD OF UNITED STATES TREASURY NARCOTICS UNIT CONCERNING MAFIA ORGANIZATION AND MEXICO NARCOTICS TRAFFIC. I REFERRED UNITED PRESS TO LOCAL UNITED STATES TREASURY REPRESENTATIVE INASMUCH AS ALLEGED CHICAGO STATEMENT MADE ONLY BY OFFICER OF TREASURY.

[REDACTED] b1

NO INFORMATION HAS BEEN GIVEN PRESS BY LEGAL ATTACHE. FOR MOST CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION OF THE BUREAU.

[REDACTED]

RECEIVED: [REDACTED] (C)

6:37 PM

RECORDED & INDEXED 36 62-84518-49

COPIES DESTROYED [REDACTED] (C)

EX-57

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

263



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

DATE: June 30, 1947

FROM : SAC, San Diego

SUBJECT: BENJAMIN "BUGS" SIEGEL  
INFORMATION CONCERNING  
CRIME SURVEY  
Bureau File 62-81518

Mexico - Narcotics - X

CLASSIFIED BY: SP-74-105  
DECLASSIFY ON: OADRBy the Bureau's memorandum of August 26, 1946 to the Los Angeles  
Division entitled as above, the Bureau forwarded therewith a report dated  
August 7, 1946 entitled "ACTIVATION CAPONE GANG - MISCELLANEOUS",  
[REDACTED] (c)

Enclosure

cc - Los Angeles (62-2837) (Encl.)  
cc - Salt Lake City (Encl.)

RECORDED

INDEXED

98

29 JUL 8 1947

63 JUL 16 1947

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

264

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET2

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

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7c b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ 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):

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☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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165

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-1-85 BY SP-7 msc/ab

62-71518-471

CHANGED TO

62-72067-8

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ny

266

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

S.I.R.-8

b1  
FBI

MEXICO-NARCOTICS-

BENJAMIN QUOTE BUES UNQUOTE SIEGEL, CRIME SURVEY.

b7c  
b7d  
DEA

RECEIVED

1:29 AM EDST

MG

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

CLASSIFIED BY: ~~SP7 mas/bs~~  
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR  
11-7-85

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no action  
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RECORDED  
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INDEXED

62-81518-472  
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31 [REDACTED] b1  
C FBI

#56 117

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b1  
C FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b1  
FBI

267

b7c  
FBI

cc Mr. Hall  
my



768

FBI WASHINGTON, DC

8-13-47

REURTEL LAKE CITY MEXICO AUGUST 12

RE LAKE CITY, MICHIGAN, TRINITY BURNING

AND FLAME, VICTIM OF UNLAWFUL BURNING

REURTEL PORTSEVEN, NEW ALBANY, IN

REURTEL PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY

REURTEL 1. 3. ONE SIX SEVEN ONE

MAKE SECRET CONTACTS WITH INFORMATION

CONNECTION TURKIN WITH ELIOT DE WASH DC

HOOVER

CORRECTION - LAST WORD SECOND LINE FROM 600

A AND IN PLS

LOS ANGELES ADVISED

57 JUL 18 1947



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

**JUL 9 1947**

*[Handwritten initials and marks]*

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director	Records	Mr. Tolson
Mr. Tolson	Stamp	Mr. Ladd
Mr. Ladd	Prepare	Mr. Rosen
Mr. Rosen	Call	Mr. Clegg
Mr. Clegg		Mr. Glavin
Mr. Glavin	See	Mr. Nichols
Mr. Nichols	Call	Mr. Tracy
Mr. Tracy	Note	Mr. Harbo
Mr. Harbo		
Mr. Carroll		
Mr. Coyne	Mr.	
Mr. Fletcher	Room	
Mr. Laughlin		
Mr. McCabe		
Mr. Mohr	Miss	
Mr. Nease	Miss	
Mr. Pennington	Miss	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	Miss	
Mr. Tyler	Miss	

*WE ARE CHECKING  
OUR FILES ON  
THIS*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE *1-1-85* BY *SP-9 mcl/...*

*no record*

Edward A. Tamm  
5734

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION.

1947

☒ The Director  
☒ Mr. Tolson  
☒ Mr. Ladd  
☒ Mr. Rosen  
☒ Mr. Clegg  
☒ Mr. Glavin  
☐ Mr. Nichols  
☐ Mr. Tracy  
☐ Mr. Harbo

☐ Records Section  
☐ Stamp and mail  
☐ Prepare tickler  
☐ Call file

☐ See Me  
☐ Call me re this  
☐ Note and return

☐ Mr. Carroll  
☐ Mr. Coyne  
☐ Mr. Fletcher  
☐ Mr. Laughlin  
☐ Mr. McCabe  
☐ Mr. Mohr  
☐ Mr. Nease  
☐ Mr. Pennington  
☐ Mr. Quinn Tamm  
☐ Mr. Tyler

Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
Room \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Miss Gandy  
☐ Miss Gray  
☐ Miss Lyon  
☐ Miss Artley

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11-2-85 BY SP-7M/PLS

Edward A. Tamm  
5734

271



**Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
**United States Department of Justice**  
510 South Spring Street Room 900  
Los Angeles 13, California  
July 2, 1947

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

DIRECTOR, FBI

DECLASSIFIED BY *11-22-83*  
OF *11-7-83*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: **BENJAMIN "BUGSY" SIEGEL**  
**MISCELLANEOUS- INFORMATION**  
**CONCERNING CRIME SURVEY**

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Salt Lake City letter to Bureau, dated June 26, 1947, in above captioned case, page number two, wherein is set out that immediately after the killing of SIEGEL, SIEGEL's associates, [redacted] telephoned for MEYER LANSKY but could only reach one [redacted] in New York City.

In this connection it is significant to note that confidential sources in Los Angeles advised on June 26, 1947, [redacted]

[redacted]

On this date at 10:40 p.m., during a later discussion of various national personalities, [redacted]

[redacted]

On June 27, 1947 other confidential sources advised that [redacted] had received a telephone call from an individual, [redacted] with whom he had a lengthy conversation, [redacted]

[redacted]



*EW*  
*34*

*1cc detailed*  
*571*

RECORDED  
& INDEXED

*62-96518-4-5*  
JUL 15 1947

*272*

DIRECTOR, -FBI

July 2, 1947

Re: BENJAMIN "BOUSY" SIEGEL  
MISCELLANEOUS-INFORMATION  
CONCERNING CRIME SURVEY

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The identities [REDACTED] are unknown to this office and such information is being forwarded Salt Lake Office [REDACTED]

Reference is also made to Salt Lake teletype dated June 30, 1947 covering [REDACTED] presence in Las Vegas. It is requested that the Salt Lake Office advise Los Angeles in the event [REDACTED] departs from Las Vegas in order that Los Angeles may properly cover his activities.

Very truly yours,

*R. B. Hood*  
R. B. HOOD  
Special Agent in Charge

[REDACTED]  
62-2837

2 cc - Salt Lake City

273



[The body of the document is almost entirely obscured by heavy black redaction marks. Only faint horizontal lines of text are visible through the redaction.]

**Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice**

Los Angeles, California

July 3, 1947

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-11/BJ  
ON 1-7-83

Director, FBI

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: BENJAMIN "BUGSY" SIEGEL  
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING  
CRIME SURVEY

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Los Angeles letter dated July 1, 1947, and Salt Lake City teletype dated July 2, 1947 in the above-captioned case.

on July 2, 1947 telephonically requested to know the whereabouts of JACK DRAGNA in Santa Barbara, California, stating that he knew DRAGNA was in a hospital there, however, he did not know the name of the hospital. [redacted] was apprised of the name, which is the Cottage Clinic.

INDEXED

62-81518-477

-477

cc - Rosen

275

Wrote Mr. [unclear]  
7-16-47  
[unclear]



XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXXFEDERAL 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.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7c b7d with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ 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).

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62-81518-477 pg 2

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276

Director, FBI

July 3, 1947

Re: BENJAMIN "BUGSY" SIEGEL  
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING  
CRIME SURVEY

[REDACTED] b7c

[REDACTED] b2  
[REDACTED] b2

[REDACTED] completely suspect the activi- b2  
ties [REDACTED] and conclusively stated that he no doubt "is a listening b2  
post" and a representative for the New York syndicate headed by FRANK COSTELLO b2  
and JOE ADONIS.

Very truly yours,

  
R. B. HOOD  
SAC

[REDACTED] b7c

62-2837

cc - Salt Lake

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JUL 16 1947 1947

✓ The Director \_\_\_\_\_ Records Section  
 Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_ Stamp and mail  
 Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_ Prepare tickler  
 Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_ Call file  
 Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_ See Mr.  
 Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_ Call me re this  
 Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_ Write and return  
 Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_ Mr.  
 Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_ Room  
 Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_ Miss Gandy  
 Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_ Miss Gray  
 Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_ Miss Lyon  
 Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_ Miss Artley  
 Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tyler \_\_\_\_\_

SEVERAL MAILED  
 REFERENCE TO  
 WINSTON CHURCHILL  
 ATTACHED LETTER

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 11-85 BY SP-7 Muz/B

Edward A. Tamm  
 5734

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. E. A. Tamm *EW*  
FROM : A. Rosen  
SUBJECT: BENJAMIN "BUGSY" SIEGEL  
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING  
CRIME SURVEY

DATE: July 16, 1947

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. Harbo  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn Tamm  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

The attached letter from the Los Angeles Division dated July 3, 1947, discloses recent activities [REDACTED] in connection with events following the Siegel murder.

According to the Bureau's files, [REDACTED]

(66-2542-10340).

In connection with the Furdress investigation in New York City in 1939, information was received [REDACTED]

(62-29734-370).

An examination of the Identification Division Records fails to reflect that [REDACTED]

Attachment  
[REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-1-85 BY SP-7 MAC/ROE

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

109

3 17

62 JUL 22 1947 15

279

SAC, Salt Lake City

July 7, 1947

Reference is made to your letter dated June 24, 1947 in the above matter.  
Authority is granted for the destruction of all such documents.

DECLASSIFIED

CLR-5

62-81518-479

RECORDED

EX-64

62-815  
FBI  
JUL 15 1947

RECEIVED  
JUL 8 11 33 AM '47

Tolson  
E. A. Tamm  
Clegg  
Glavin  
Ladd  
Nichols  
Rosen  
Tracy  
Carson  
Egan  
Gurnea  
Harbo  
Mohr  
Pennington  
Quinn Tamm  
Nease  
Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 4  
JUL 8 - 1947 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

1216

280

6/26



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

70882

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn

CONFIDENTIAL

Re: BENJAMIN "BUGS" SIEGEL;  
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION  
CONCERNING - CRIME SURVEY

Dear Sir:

[REDACTED]

b7D

were "among the first persons at the scene" of the SIEGEL killing at 810 North Linden Drive on June 20, 1947, and that

[REDACTED]

b7D

probably meant that they conferred with SAM ASTELLO, JOE DONIS, and MEYER LANSKY. [REDACTED] the big shots were "shocked" at the news of SIEGEL's death, and that they believe the Syndicate had nothing to do with the killing. They said that "the big shots" believe that [REDACTED] may have killed SIEGEL.

[REDACTED]

This information was furnished to the Bureau and the Los Angeles Division by Salt Lake City, Utah, dated July 2, 1947.

[REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED]

b7D

100-444444  
105-444444

RECEIVED

RECORDED

INDEXED

62-81518-480

F B I

34 JUL 18 1947

EX-72

281

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET2

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- \_\_\_\_\_
- ☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
62-81518-490 pgs 273

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 X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
 X FOR THIS PAGE X  
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282

Director, FBI

Re: WILLIAM "BUCK" SINGEL

INFO. CONCERNING CRIME RECORD

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

70885

Very truly yours,

*Jay D. Newman*  
JAY D. NEWMAN  
SAC

b7c

65-1130

cc: SLC 94-142

cc: Los Angeles AIR MAIL  
New York City AIR MAIL

AMSD

283