

St. Valentine's  
Day Massacre

JOHN

Division of Investigation

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

January 23, 1935.

DAT:CFK

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR.

Time 2:45 PM

Re St. Valentine's Day  
Massacre.

Mr. Ladd telephoned and advised that the Chicago American was carrying a story to the effect that Byron Bolton had given out information which cleared up the St. Valentine's Day massacre in Chicago. Mr. Ladd advised that Bolton had not given out any information concerning this while he was being questioned in Chicago and that as far as he, Mr. Ladd, knew, the story was false; further that he had refused to make any comment to other newspapers concerning this story.

I advised Mr. Ladd that I would submit this information to you.

Time 2:50 PM

I telephoned Mr. Ladd and advised him that upon receiving the above information, you desired to have Mr. Ladd first ascertain from Mr. Nathan at St. Paul that Bolton did not make such a statement there, and then he, Mr. Ladd, should issue a statement at Chicago denying the information published in the Chicago American, stating that no such statement had been secured from Bolton.

Respectfully,  
RECORDED & INDEXED

P. A. Tamm

62-34299-1

JAN 25 1935

JAN 25 1935

COPIES DESTROYED  
348 SEP 24 1964

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

January 23, 1935.

Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Baughman..
Chief Clerk.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Edwards.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Keith.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. Quinn.....
Mr. Schilder.....
Mr. Tamm.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Miss Gandy.....

EST:CMK

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR.

Time 4:15 PM

Re: St. Valentine's Day  
MURDER.

Mr. Ladd telephoned from Chicago and advised that he had issued the statement to the newspapers denying that Bolton had given any information to the Division regarding the St. Valentine's Day Massacre. Mr. Ladd advised that he had first ascertained definitely from Mr. Nathan at St. Paul that Bolton had made no such statement there.

*Vertical handwritten notes on the left margin.*

Time 1:30 PM

I telephoned Mr. Nathan at St. Paul and stated it was your wish that no one, other than Bolton's attorney, should be permitted to see Bolton; that it was probable that the various newspapers would be wanting to interview him as a result of the story appearing in the Chicago American, but that this should not be permitted. Mr. Nathan stated that instructions had already been issued to the effect that no one should be permitted to see Bolton without prior authority from the St. Paul Division office.

Respectfully,

*Handwritten signature of E. P. Tamm*  
E. P. Tamm

1 copy

RECORDED & INDEXED 62-34299-2

JAN 25 1935

JAN 23 1935

COPIES DESTROYED  
848 SEP 24 1964

*Handwritten initials and marks at the bottom right.*

JEM:CDW

January 23, 1935

Time - 6:26 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

Re: St. Valentine's Day case

Mr. Carusi telephoned and stated that the press, in quoting my denial of Byron Bolton's connection with the above matter, seems to differ somewhat as to my conception of the same.

I told him that while none of the press representatives had talked to me about it, Col. Gates had telephoned and I had absolutely denied that Byron Bolton made any statements or confessions relative to the above matter.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

1 copy

*Hers*

- Mr. Nathan.....
- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Baughman..
- Chief Clerk.....
- Mr. Coffey.....
- Mr. Edwards.....
- Mr. Egan.....
- Mr. Harbo.....
- Mr. Keith.....
- Mr. Lester.....
- Mr. Quinn.....
- Mr. Schilder.....
- Mr. Tamm.....
- Mr. Tracy.....

RECORDED & INDEXED

FILES SECTION  
MAILED

★ JAN 24 1935 ★

P. M.  
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION,  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

62-34299-3

JAN 25 1935

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

## Division of Investigation

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

TDQ:A

January 23, 1935

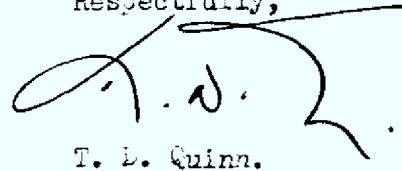
2:15 P.M.

### MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Kindly be informed that Mr. Carusi telephoned and stated that information had been received indicating the Chicago American was about to publish a story that Byron Bolton, a member of the Karpis-Barker gang, has allegedly made a confession to the St. Valentine's Day Massacre and has implicated a Fred Burke, Gus Winkler, Humphries, and several others and that the confession of Bolton was in the Department being carefully studied; that the other newspaper reporters are frantic and Mr. Carusi states that he would like to have some word on this matter either confirming or denying, stating that the other reporters have intimated that it seems very strange the Chicago American is able to get information in advance.

I informed him I had no knowledge of the matter mentioned above, but would gladly call it to your attention.

Respectfully,



T. L. Quinn.

RECORDED

INDEXED



JAN 23 1935

JAN 23 1935

COPIES DESTROYED  
838 SEP 24 1964



JEH:HW

January 24, 1935.

Time-10:42 A.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

Colonel Gates telephonically made inquiry concerning the truth of a statement carried by Universal Service to the effect that I said that I had not heard that Bolton confessed his part in the St. Valentine's Day Massacre. I stated that it was not correct; that the only comment I had made was that Bolton said that he did not know anything about the St. Valentine's Day Massacre; and that the story appearing in the Chicago American concerning the matter was one hundred percent incorrect.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

1 copy

- Law* →
- Mr. Nathan.....
  - Mr. Tolson.....
  - Mr. Clegg.....
  - Mr. Laughman.....
  - Miss Gandy.....
  - Mr. Coffey.....
  - Mr. Edwards.....
  - Mr. Egan.....
  - Mr. Harbo.....
  - Mr. Quinn.....
  - Mr. Nease.....
  - Mr. Tamm.....
  - Mr. Tracy.....
  - Miss Gandy.....

RECORDED

FILES SECTION  
MAILED  
★ JAN 24 1935 ★  
P. M.  
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION,  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

62-34299-5  
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION  
JAN 25 1935

JER:CDW

January 23, 1935

Time - 2:49 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

Re: Bremer case

Colonel Gates telephoned and stated that he had received several inquiries for verification of the story which appeared in the Chicago American to the effect that Byron Bolton, who is at the present time in the custody of the Division, had confessed to his part in the St. Valentine's Day massacre. The Colonel stated that this story is copyrighted by the Chicago American. I told Colonel Gates that this story is entirely without foundation; that there is no truth in it at all. I told the Colonel that while we have Bolton in custody charging him with participation in the Bremer kidnaping, which fact is not to be disclosed to the press, Bolton has not made any statements at all concerning the aforementioned case.

Time - 3:55 P.M.

I telephoned the Chicago Office and talked with Mr. Zimmer in regard to the above matter. Mr. Zimmer stated that Mr. Ladd was out of the office, and he, Mr. Zimmer, was not advised of Mr. Ladd's conversation with you and the instructions which had been issued relative to a denial of this story by Mr. Ladd. I requested him to have Mr. Ladd telephone me immediately.

Time - 4:10 P.M.

Mr. Ladd telephoned and I inquired if he had denied the story above mentioned. Mr. Ladd stated that immediately upon the receipt of the instructions from you, he called in all of the reporters in Chicago and gave them the formal denial of the Division of this story. He also confronted the Editor of the Chicago American with the denial, but the Editor had no statement to make whatsoever.

- Mr. Nathan.....
- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Baughman..
- Chief Clerk.....
- Mr. Coffey.....
- Mr. Edwards.....
- Mr. Egan.....
- Mr. Harbo.....
- Mr. Keith.....
- Mr. Lester.....
- Mr. Quinn.....
- Mr. Schilder.....
- Mr. Tamm.....
- Mr. Tracy.....
- Miss Gandy.....

1 copy

FILES SECTION  
MAILED  
★ JAN 24 1935 ★  
P. M.  
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION,  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

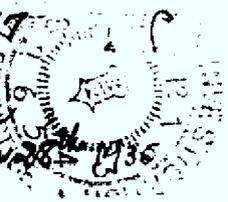
Very truly yours,

RECORDED  
INDEXED

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

62-34297-6  
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION  
JAN 25 1935

Phone Edward 2979  
708 W. 35th Street  
P.O. Armour Station  
Chicago, Illinois



Hon. J. Edgar Hoover,  
Chief U.S. Dept of Investigation  
Washington D.C.

Information submitted in confidence about St. Valentines Day Massacre

Dear Sir:-

In order to assist your Dept., in getting at the truth of reported confession of Byron Bolton may I relate information that I picked up while on "Undercover Investigation" work here

At present I am holding a patronage position as Junior Highway Engineer with the State of Illinois and therefore request that if you decide to make any part of this information public to press that my connection with giving it be concealed and treated as confidential

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-34299-97

There were five victims of the above massacre who took Wm Davern Jr., son of Lieut. Wm Davern of the Chicago Police Dept and of Mrs. Nellie (White) Davern of Juvenile Court for a "ride" and threw him wounded from a car (on either Nov or Nov 30th 1928) near Rush and State Sts. He died at Kennerly Hospital Dec 29th or 30th 1928. Davern parents were divorced and Lieut. Davern had married a newspaper Sunday feature section of Chicago Tribune either writer or other employee. My memory of dates should be checked as if shot on 29th of Nov. Wm Davern Jr. died on Nov 30th or if shot on Nov 30th he died on Dec 29th

Sometime prior to his death he told his first cousin Wm S. White who had shot him while White better known as "3 Fingered Jack White" was a prisoner convicted of manslaughter confined in our Cook County Jail.

White without revealing his knowledge that he knew they had shot Davern, planned a factory payroll holdup in which they (the 5 killers) were to be assisted by himself and a pal in police uniforms and on the fat day one of the Busenborg brothers decided he wanted a share also and he just horned in as White and another in Police Uniforms were lining them up for final "instructions" The garage mechanic also was unfortunate in scene as there were seven massed instead of only the 5 who killed Davern

When I furnished this information to the Coroner personally (Dr. Herman N. Bunderson) he was amazed to learn that such laxity existed at County Jail under the regime of a fellow Democrat, Sheriff John B. Traeger and the agreement we had was that Dr. Bunderson was to check the Jail Records and get as he found best; as no hint must reach Lieut. Davern at the Detective Bureau that it was known that White participated.

White and Moran were pals as my information established at the time I connected him with several Bank Robberies and furnished that information to all Bankers in 1925 and 1926 and if Byron Bolton had any connection I never heard of him till his recent arrest. However, I am at your service if you can furnish information.  
Frank J. Farrell

copy of information to all Bankers in 1925 and 1926 and if Byron Bolton had any connection I never heard of him till his recent arrest  
2/1/36

REN:CJ

62-34299-7

**RECORDED**

February 1, 1935.

Mr. Frank F. Farrell,  
708 West 35th Street,  
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Sir:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated January 28, 1935 wherein you furnish information relative to the St. Valentine's Day massacre at Chicago, Illinois.

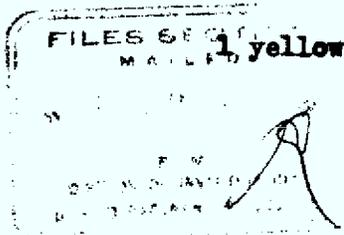
Please be advised that inasmuch as this Division does not have jurisdiction in this matter, it is suggested that you furnish your information to the Chicago, Illinois Police Department for appropriate action.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

CC - E. J. Connelley  
Chicago  
St. Paul

Encl. (copy of letter from Mr.  
Farrell, dated 1/28/35)  
to both offices)



A handwritten squiggle or mark, possibly a signature or initials, located in the bottom right corner of the page.

COPY

LEN:HW

January 24, 1935.

Time-10:44 A.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

I telephoned Mr. Ladd at the Chicago Office and told him that I was very much concerned over the complaints which had been coming in, even before yesterday, from the other Chicago newspapers relative to the Chicago American and the stories their reporters get the "scoops" on. I stated that the Chicago American had the wrong "scoop" yesterday; that the other Chicago papers quote me as saying that there wasn't any truth in the article in the Chicago American; and that these papers quote him, Mr. Ladd, as saying he had never heard anything about the matter, and that Bolton had not been questioned about the St. Valentine's Day Massacre.

Mr. Ladd advised me that the Chicago papers quoted him as saying that we had no statement, oral or written, from Bolton concerning the Massacre case, which was the statement he, Mr. Ladd, had made to the papers.

I inquired if Bolton had been questioned concerning the Massacre and Mr. Ladd said that he was not questioned directly because they were anxious to get other information from him; that he was only asked if he knew anything about it and he replied that he did not, that he had nothing to do with it.

I remarked that the thing which had been causing me concern for some time was the thought that there might be a "leak" somewhere in the Chicago Office; that I had this morning received some very reliable information, however, that the Chicago American has seven wire tappers who are tapping telephone wires; and that the Chicago American had had our wires tapped. I suggested to Mr. Ladd that he check on this angle immediately through some man in the Chicago Office who was efficient along that line. Mr. Ladd stated that Agent J. I. Madala was the only man they had who could handle the matter, but that he was out on an assignment with Mr. Connelley at the present time; that, however, he could get the Telephone Company to check on it for us. I stated that he could have the Telephone Company check on it first, then, and when Mr. Madala returned he was to re-check on it.

Mr. Ladd stated that he did not think that anyone in the Chicago Office was "talking" or giving out any information. I suggested that it might be a

RECORDED

ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

COPY

JKH:HW

Telephone Call  
Mr. Ladd at Chicago  
1/24/35

-2-

good idea to test the employees of the Chicago Office by "planting" them with a fake story. Mr. Ladd advised that he had done just that thing the other day, before the escape of Karpis and Campbell from Atlantic City, New Jersey; that he had one of the Agents circulate a story concerning Karpis, and this story received wide circulation in the office; but that when the real story about Karpis came out, his fake story was, of course, stopped. Mr. Ladd stated that he would give it another test along this same line.

I told Mr. Ladd to keep me informed as to the results, and I suggested that the story be started that we had "someone" in custody.

I stated that if we caught the Chicago American wire tappers tapping our wires, it was my intention to prosecute them.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

1 copy

EAT:CSH

January 25, 1935

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

11:50 A.M.

While talking with Mr. Ladd he advised that, in response to your call yesterday, he had the telephone company check the office lines, and had been advised that there were no taps on them and no sign of a tap, the dust being still on the wires and there being no signs that it has been disturbed.

EEB 1-10-35

Mr. Ladd stated he is going to start circulating a story there when the first opportunity arises.

Respectfully,

E. A. Tamm.

2 copies

ORIGINAL FILED IN 66-34299-9

RECORDED

FEB 1 - 1935

66-34299-9  
FILE

EAT:TAM

January 25, 1935

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

With reference to your memorandum of January 24, addressed to me concerning a telephonic conversation with Mr. Ladd, relating to the possibility that the Chicago American has tapped the telephone wires of the Chicago Division Office, I believe it would be advisable to avoid any reference to any contemplated action or suspicion of a telephone tap in talking with the Chicago Office, since this procedure will undoubtedly put the newspaper on notice if the telephones are tapped. It is probable that if they tap one of the telephones, they have tapped them all, since most of the information to which they have apparent access, if obtained as a result of a telephone tap, is discussed on the confidential telephones. I believe it might be advisable when discussing this situation with anyone in the Chicago Office to have them go outside of the Chicago Office and call the Division from a pay station.

In this regard, we might discuss with the Chicago Office for a period of several days by telephone the apprehension of Alvin Karpis, making it appear that he is actually in custody and of course if there is any leak then, the source of the information would be obvious.

Respectfully,

E. A. Tamm

RECORDED

FEB 1 - 1935

1 copy

62-3427-10

JAN 25 1935
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
CHICAGO OFFICE
ck [initials]

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

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

EAT:CSH

January 24, 1935

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

3:05 P.M.

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

I called Mr. Nathan in connection with the stories in the press concerning the St. Valentine's day massacre, in which statements are made to the effect that "Assistant Director Harold Nathan gave the massacre story a left-hand confirmation", and asked just what he had said to the newspapers about this. Mr. Nathan stated that the inquiries from the press came immediately after the break and that he, Nathan, had advised that "if he had ever made any such confession, I know nothing about it". I advised that the Director had issued a denial that any such statement was given and wants to emphasize that denial and the fact that absolutely nothing more should be said about the St. Valentine's day massacre. Mr. Nathan further advised that the above quoted remarks constituted his first statement, but that later on, after talking with Ladd, he subsequently denied it.

Respectfully,



E. A. Tamm.

6-34211-11

RECORDED

FEB 4 1935

JAN 31 1935

COPIES DESTROYED  
848 SEP 24 1964

SEARCHED  
INDEXED  
SERIALIZED  
FILED

EAT:CSH

January 26, 1935

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

10:40 A. M.

I called Mr. Connelley at Chicago in connection with the possibility that the Chicago-American has a tap on the Chicago Office telephone, and suggested that whenever anything of a confidential nature was to be furnished to Washington it would be well to go outside and call.

I suggested that it might be well to make some startling announcement over the telephone, such as stating that they have Karpis in custody, in order to see if the Chicago-American gets it; that, although the telephone company had informed that no taps were being maintained, information had also reached the Division to the effect that they have five or seven tapping telephones all the time. I requested advice as to the possibility of making it look, particularly in connection with the stenographers and clerks, as though Perkins was Karpis, advising that my only worry in this connection would be that if we did get Karpis we would not know how to say over the telephone that it was genuine. Mr. Connelley suggested that we could use the expression "Karpis K7" meaning that the conversation was "phoney" I advised that this would be fine, and suggested that we should talk about him over the telephone as though he were there, for the next day or so, and Connelley stated he would do this.

Connelley further advised that they also have Fish Johnson, Dillinger's contact, up there too.

I cautioned Connelley against letting the Agents on routine assignment, and the stenographers and clerical personnel, know just who they have in custody, advising that we would understand that when he says "Karpis K 7" it will be "phoney".

Respectfully,

(s) E. A. Tamm.

34299-12

FEB 7 - 1935

# CITY OF TUCSON, ARIZONA

DEPARTMENT OF POLICE

J. E. DYER, CHIEF

P. O. BOX 1247

Feb. 2nd 1935

J. Edgar Hoover,  
Director,  
Justice Department,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:-

Will you kindly forward to me as quickly as possible complete description of all known gangsters in the St. Valentine's Day Massacre in Chicago Ill. in 1929.

Thanking you for this service, I am

Yours Very Truly

*Jay Smith*  
Jay Smith  
Capt. of Traffic

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

69-34297  
FEB 12 1935  
ONE

FEB 14 1935

RECEIVED  
TUCSON ARIZONA

ack.  
2/11/35  
a 813



Mr. J. E. Hoover,  
Chief of Federal Agents,  
Washington, D. C.

-Personal-

EAT:IAM

EAT:IAM

February 11, 1935

RECORDED  
N  
K

62-34299-13

Mr. J. E. Dyer,  
Chief of Police,  
Tucson, Arizona.

Attention: Captain Jay Smith

My dear Chief:

I have received your letter of February 2, 1935, in which you request a complete description of all of the known gangsters involved in the St. Valentine's Day Massacre in Chicago, Illinois. You are advised that the files of this Division contain no information indicating the identity of the perpetrators of this offense. I know that newspaper dispatches have recently indicated that a subject of a Division investigation taken into custody at Chicago, Illinois had made a statement naming the perpetrators of this crime, but such dispatches were absolutely false and without foundation in fact.

I regret that I am unable to furnish you with any information of value in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

1 copy



CRIME - America's Danger and Disgrace @ END IT.



Chicago, Illinois,  
February 10, 1935

MONITORING INFORMATION  
KEEP INVESTIGATION

Mr. J. E. Hoover,  
Chief of Federal Agents,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Now that the Federal authorities have all the information leading up to the killers of the St. Valentine's Massacre, what action is going to be taken to mete out Justice?

Oh, I suppose there might be a technicality simply for the reason that what is left of the rats are now serving prison terms, and maybe poor John Law can't get in to prosecute until after their time has been served. But this is where the law should be revised - "An eye for an eye", and these hardened killers made to pay for their crimes strictly in accordance with the original interpretation of the law.

What is going to be done about it? If this case is no longer in your hands, please pass this request for justice along to the proper department, and oblige

"Slumbering Public Indignation"  
RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

copy to:

Copy to the President of the United States

Chicago Herald and Examiner

FEB 14 1935

FEB 10 1935

Handwritten signature or initials

COPY

EAT:TAM

Personal and Confidential

February 13, 1935

Mr. D. M. Ladd,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
Post Office Box 812,  
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Sir:

With further reference to my desire to ascertain the source of information obtained by Chicago papers, concerning official Bureau activities, prior to the time that any notice is given to the press, your attention is invited to the following facts which have been brought to my attention by Assistant Director Nathan.

Mr. Nathan recalls that on the morning following the apprehension of Doc Barker, a newspaper reporter appeared at the Chicago Bureau Office, and asked Mr. Nathan whether it was not a fact that Alvin Karpis was in custody. You will recall that it was the belief of the Bureau, following the apprehension of Doc Barker, that the person who had been apprehended was Alvin Karpis, and accordingly, several long distance telephone calls were made between the Bureau and the Chicago office, pertaining to the apprehension of Karpis. While it is possible that the newspaper reporter who contacted Mr. Nathan may have been merely guessing, these facts may have some significance in indicating that a telephone tap is or was being maintained upon telephones of the Chicago Bureau Office. Please give this matter appropriate consideration, in connection with your efforts to ascertain the source of the information reaching the newspapers.

A similar letter is being addressed to Mr. E. J. Connelley.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

1 copy

RECORDED 62-325-15

COPY

KAT:TAM

Personal and Confidential

Mr. E. J. Connelley,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
Post Office Box 829,  
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Sir:

With further reference to my desire to ascertain the source of information obtained by Chicago papers, concerning official Bureau activities, prior to the time that any notice is given to the press, your attention is invited to the following facts which have been brought to my attention by Assistant Director Nathan.

Mr. Nathan recalls that on the morning following the apprehension of Doc Barker, a newspaper reporter appeared at the Chicago Bureau Office, and asked Mr. Nathan whether it was not a fact that Alvin Karpis was in custody. You will recall that it was the belief of the Bureau, following the apprehension of Doc Barker, that the person who had been apprehended was Alvin Karpis, and accordingly, several long distance telephone calls were made between the Bureau and the Chicago Office, pertaining to the apprehension of Karpis. While it is possible that the newspaper reporter who contacted Mr. Nathan may have been merely guessing, these facts may have some significance in indicating that a telephone tap is or was being maintained upon telephones of the Chicago Bureau Office. Please give this matter appropriate consideration, in connection with your efforts to ascertain the source of the information reaching the newspapers

A similar letter is being addressed to Mr. D. M. Ladd.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

RECORDED

67-34-19-16
FEB 19 1935

1copy

POST OFFICE BOX 812  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

April 6, 1935.

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
U.S. Department of Justice,  
Pennsylvania Avenue at 9th St. N.W.,  
Washington, D.C.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letters of February 13 and March 30, 1935, referring to the source of the information upon which certain newspaper articles were based, and possibly indicating that this information as to Bureau activities had been furnished to the press by someone at Chicago.

I have given this matter considerable thought and attention as well as making certain discreet inquiry, and also by making what I believe were tests, inferences which might lead to someone giving out this information, provided it was anyone connected with the Chicago office, and in my opinion it is very doubtful that anybody at the Chicago office is intentionally furnishing any information which might reach the newspapers.

In most of the instances where stories have appeared, while we have no definite information indicating the source of these, it is apparent that the information indicated could very well have been obtained from other sources or circumstances than a contact with somebody associated with the office. The only matter which seems to be impossible of satisfactory explanation is the information which was given out as to the fact that Arthur Barker was held at the Chicago office, as to which it is noted several days after he was held, the newspapers made inquiry and obtained copies of his Identification Order, and it is possible that they may have exhibited his picture in the neighborhood in which the raids were conducted on the night of January 8, 1935, resulting in an identification to them by some person who knew of him having been apprehended on the night of January 8th, or at least knew of him having been a resident at 432 Surf Street, or a visitor at 3920 Pine Grove Avenue, Chicago.

APR 17 1935

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

62-34277-17

*[Handwritten initials]*

The references as to HELEN GILLIS having been held at the Chicago office, particularly when she was first apprehended and held here, it is believed are known to the Bureau, that is, as to the source from which the newspapers obtained the information indicated..

As to the articles which appeared the night before Helen Gillis appeared before the Grand Jury in January, 1935, no one was aware of the fact that she was held here at that time until late the day before she appeared before the Grand Jury, at which time this information was furnished to the United States Attorney at Chicago, Illinois, and it is possible that the U.S. Attorney made some reference to the fact that he intended to use her before the Grand Jury, and this may have been the source from which the newspapers inferred that she was being held by us at that time. It is known definitely that it was announced early the following morning that she would appear before the Grand Jury that morning to testify in that case, as this was announced to the newspapers by the U.S. Attorney.

The article which appeared as to the alleged confession of WILLIAM BRYAN BOLTON and his connection with the St. Valentine Day massacre February 14, 1929, was based entirely upon mis-information, inasmuch as he had made no such statement to anyone, and at the time these articles appeared Bolton had been taken to St. Paul and surrendered for official custody at that place, indicating of course definitely that we previously had had him in custody. The recent articles appearing in the papers referring to the alleged confession furnished by JESS DOYLE to Federal Agents at Kansas City I do not believe had any reference to any information obtained at Chicago, and judging from the report from the Kansas City office that the associated press dispatches there do not show a dispatch to St. Paul, and the explanation offered by the representative of the associated press at St. Paul that he had received this in an associated press dispatch from Kansas City, this would indicate that the source of this information was probably St. Paul, and while I have no information upon which to base same, it is my belief that possibly Attorney DeCoursey at that point may be responsible for this article which appeared.

Previously we have had a very careful check made of the telephones at the Chicago office, and the telephone company has indicated there is no possibility of a tap on any of our lines here, and also judging

27

by the conversations which have been had over these lines, and the information transmitted, it is my belief that the papers did not have this source of information, because of the fact that many more important things have been discussed, which could very easily have been the subject matter of press releases if they had been able to overhear such conversations.

Very truly yours,

E. J. CONNELLEY,

Special Agent in Charge.

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT

EJC:JMS

COPY

JEH:CEK

June 13, 1935.

Time 3:51 PM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. Tamm

Re: Byron Bolton.

Mr. <sup>Frank</sup> Waldrop telephoned and stated that a report was being carried in the Chicago Herald and Examiner to the effect that Byron Bolton had made a complete confession. I advised Mr. Waldrop that this report was not true; that Bolton was taken into custody by the Bureau and tried and convicted for his part in the Bremer case, but that the reports that he had made a confession clearing up the St. Valentine's Day massacre at Chicago were unfounded.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

RECORDED  
&  
~~INDEXED~~

62-34297-18

JUN 13 1935

*De Indged  
his serial only  
9-17-57  
#34*

ORIGINAL FILED IN  
7-576

EAT:TMF

*Solan*  
✓

August 27, 1936

*Emm*  
+

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JOSEPH B. KEERAN,  
ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL

h30  
With reference to your inquiry as to information furnished by Bryan Bolton concerning the identity of the persons perpetrating the St. Valentine's Day Massacre in Chicago, Illinois in 1929, you are advised that Bolton was questioned concerning this offense. Bolton stated that the persons who actually perpetrated this massacre were Fred Goetz, Gus Winkler, Fred Burke, Ray Nugent and Bob Carey. Bolton stated that he personally purchased the Cadillac touring car which was used in this massacre, having been furnished with the money to make this purchase by Louis Lipschultz. Bolton claims that he purchased this car from the Cadillac Company on Michigan Avenue in Chicago sometime before the massacre happened and assumed at the time that he purchased the car that it was to be used in hauling alcohol. Bolton believes that he used the name James Martin in purchasing the car. The object of this massacre, according to Bolton, which was planned by members of the Capone organization, was for the purpose of eliminating "Bugs" Moran from the bootlegging racket in Chicago. Bolton claims that the plot to perpetrate this killing was initially developed at a place on Cranberry Lake, six miles north of Couderay, Wisconsin, where one George operated a resort. Al Capone, Gus Winkler, George Zeigler, Louis Campagna, Fred Burke, Bill Pacelli (reported to be an Illinois State Senator) and Dan Baratella are reported to have been at the resort operated by George on Cranberry Lake at the time the killing was first planned, this being in October or November of 1928. Bolton states that Jimmy McCrussen and Jimmy "The Swede" Moran were selected to watch "Bugs" Moran's garage, since they both knew Moran by sight, in order to learn his movements. Bolton states that Al Capone went to Florida before the Massacre was perpetrated and left Frank Nitti in charge of the operations and that one Frankie Reo, now dead, was Nitti's assistant in the transaction. Bolton claims that none of the actual perpetrators of this offense wore police uniforms, although they did wear police badges and that when the killing took place the persons actually perpetrating therein did not know the identity of each of their victims but rather than risk the possibility of missing Moran, killed all of the persons found in the garage.

RECORDED & INDEXED

34517-19

As indicated above, Bolton states that Fred Goetz, Gus Winkler, Fred Burke, Ray Nugent and Bob Carey were the actual perpetrators of the

*Emm*

Mr. Keenan

- 2 -

8-27-36

Massacre. According to Bolton, Claude Maddox of St. Louis, Tony Capozia of Chicago and a man known as "Shocker" also of St. Louis, burned the Cadillac car after the Massacre.

Bolton has consistently denied that he personally participated in the Massacre and has expressed a willingness to confront anyone of the individuals named by him, accusing him of participation in this offense.

In discussing this matter, Bolton has informed Special Agents of this Bureau that at the time of the St. Valentine's Day Massacre, Chief of Detectives Stege of the Chicago Police Department was on the payroll of the Capone Syndicate, receiving \$5,000 per week, and kept the members of the syndicate informed as to the whereabouts of Bugs Moran.

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

26

JEH:HCB

September 15, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL,  
MR. JOSEPH B. KEENAN

With reference to the request made of you some weeks ago by State's Attorney Courtney of Chicago for information in the possession of the FBI concerning the persons responsible for the perpetration of the St. Valentine massacre in Chicago on February 14, 1929, you will recall that I informed you that Byron Bolton had furnished us certain information relative to this matter. In discussing this matter with you, it was my understanding that you felt that this investigation should be conducted by the Bureau; that is to say, that we should proceed with the location of the various subjects who were involved in this massacre and when located and evidence gathered, then it would be time to determine the procedure to be taken relative to presenting it to State's Attorney Courtney.

My purpose in bringing this again to your attention is due to the fact that the Federal Statute penalizing unlawful flight to avoid prosecution was dated May 14, 1934, whereas the crime was committed, of course, on February 14, 1929. In memorandum received from the Department under date of June 23, 1934, the FBI was instructed that the Departmental interpretation was that this statute did not apply to past transactions but covers only actions which have been in violation of this law after it became effective. Consequently, I would appreciate being advised as to whether, in view of this interpretation, it is still believed desirable for the Bureau to proceed with an investigation of this matter. The Bureau has no objection to conducting this investigation, but my only doubt is as to our jurisdiction.

Respectfully,  
J. Edgar Hoover

62-34299-20

RECORDED & INDEXED

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

- Mr. Nathan .....
- Mr. Tolson .....
- Mr. Paughman .....
- Mr. Clegg .....
- Mr. Coffey .....
- Mr. Dawsey .....
- Mr. Edwards .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Foxworth .....
- Mr. Glavin .....
- Mr. Harbo .....
- Mr. Joseph .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. Nichols .....
- Mr. Quinn .....
- Mr. Schilder .....
- Mr. Tamm .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Miss Gandy .....

*[Handwritten marks and signatures in the left margin, including a large 'W' and a signature over the routing list.]*

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

EAT:CDW

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

September 19, 1936.

Time - 9:21 A.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Baughman	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Dawsey	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Foxworth	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Joseph	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Schilder	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

*[Handwritten initials and signature over the routing slip]*

Mr. Holtzoff telephoned me and asked "just what was the  
○ St. Valentine's Day Massacre". I outlined to Mr. Holtzoff briefly  
what took place in this matter, and told him that it was just an  
outbreak of gang warfare in Chicago.

He then wanted to know if the Bureau thought there was  
any Federal violation involved in this matter. I told him that  
we can see absolutely no Federal violation in this situation; that  
while Mr. Keenan was in the Criminal Division, we received a  
memorandum from him stating that no offenses would come within  
the provisions of the unlawful flight statute which was committed  
prior to the time of its enactment for the reason that otherwise,  
you would have an ex post facto law.

Respectfully,



E. A. TAMM.

RECORDED

34279-21

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

EAT:TMF

September 21, 1936

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Nathan	
Mr. Tolson	
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	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

With reference to our conversation recently concerning the St. Valentine's Day Massacre, I desire to advise that the report of Agent Brennan dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, July 24, 1935 in the Bremer Kidnaping case was received in the Bureau on July 27. At that time, Mr. Newby was supervising this case and the fact that Bolton had furnished the details of the massacre was not brought to my attention. Although Mr. Newby addressed a memorandum to you on August 3, 1935, containing an excerpt upon another situation from this report of Agent Brennan's, no reference was made to Bolton's statement concerning the massacre. The weekly summary report of Agent Newby summarizing the developments in this case makes no reference to Bolton's statement in this regard.

Respectfully,

E. A. Tamm

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

62-34299-22

OCT 15 1936

POS

RECORDED COPY FILED IN

# Convict Bares Story of Valentine Massacre

A new and revised version of the Clark street carnage of St. Valentine's day seven years ago is in the hands of Chicago police officials. Police officials, however, maintained a close-mouthed silence and declined emphatically to discuss the report.

According to information supplied The Daily News, the new light on the massacre of seven of George ("Bugs") Moran mobsters in a garage at 2122 North Clark street, in the course of prohibition's eruptive era, came from Byron Bolton, now serving sentence in a federal penitentiary for confessed participation in the ransom abductions of Edward G. Bremer and William Hamm.

Bolton, it is reported, about four months ago, after his conviction and incarceration for the federal offense, made a statement which outlined the wholesale killing in detail. This information was recently turned over to Police Commissioner James P. Allman.

### Killers Reported Named.

In the statement, it was said, Bolton named the participants in the massacre. Some are known to be dead and one or two others are reported to be still alive. Whether he implicated himself in the statement could not be learned.

Police officials declared today "that they would like to talk to Bolton."

Canvassed for confirmation of the reported statement, Chicago police officials asserted they could not discuss it.

It was reported that the homicide squad, under the direction of Lieut. Otto Erlanson, is now checking the statements alleged to have been made by Bolton.

Chief of Detectives John L. Sullivan, in refusing to deny or verify the reported statement, said that "if it were a case of any other caliber I might be disposed to discuss it. I will not discuss this case under any consideration, however."

### Bolton Linked to Crime.

Bolton, 37 years old, a former sailor, has been identified at various times as a man sought by the Chicago police for participation in the St. Valentine's day massacre.

After the mass slaying, investigation revealed that two men had rented a room directly across the street from the grease-soaked death chamber a week before machine-gun executioners strode into the garage and mowed down its seven occupants. From this vantage point they mapped out the "lay of the land" for the murderers. In the abandoned room was found a letter addressed to "Byron Bolton" and it bore the postmark of Virden, Ill.

Investigators went to Virden and found Bolton's parents living on a farm between it and Thayer, both small towns in the central part of the state. A picture obtained from Bolton's father was identified as that of one of the men who had rented the "death watch" room.

Bolton's movements were then traced to St. Louis, where it was learned he had been a chauffeur for Fred ("Killer") Burke, also variously identified as a participant in the massacre. Burke is now serving a life sentence in the Michigan penitentiary for another murder.

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Baughman
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Dawsey
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Foxworth
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Joseph
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Schilder
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

*(written by Francis Conner)*

66-34299-22X

INDEXED

12-31-36

JOSEPH B. KEENAN  
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Department of Justice  
Washington

October 12  
1936

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. J. EDGAR HOOVER

DIRECTOR OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Re: St. Valentine Massacre  
in Chicago, February 14, 1929

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Boardman	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Gurnea	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Jones	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

This will acknowledge the receipt of your memorandum of September 15, 1936, with reference to the request of State's Attorney Courtney of Chicago for information in the possession of the Bureau concerning the persons responsible for the St. Valentine massacre in Chicago on February 14, 1929.

It is noted that you call attention to this matter because of the fact that the Federal statute penalizing unlawful flight to avoid prosecution was dated May 14, 1934, and was approved May 18, whereas the crime in question was committed on February 14, 1929.

In this connection you are advised that although as indicated in the memorandum under date of June 23, 1934 addressed to you, the Departmental interpretation was that this statute did not apply to past transactions, but covers only actions which have been in violation of this law after it became effective, it may well be that in the circumstances presented in this case, the individuals responsible for perpetration of this crime might well have been in the State of Illinois and within its criminal jurisdiction on the date this statute was passed and may have moved from there sometime thereafter.

As a consequence, therefore, if they were in the State of Illinois after that date, and as they are still fugitives from justice in that state, if they subsequently left it for the purpose of avoiding prosecution to enter another State, Territory, possession of the United States, the District of Columbia or any foreign country, they would be within the terms of the statute.

RECORDED

62-2499-23

If such is the case, then there is no question but that the Federal Bureau of Investigation would have investigative jurisdiction and you are so advised.

*Joseph B. Keenan*

Joseph B. Keenan,  
The Assistant to the Attorney General.

NOV 10 1936

*ps*  
*W*

EAT:TW

RECORDED

62-54899-23

November 16, 1936

Mr. E. J. Connelley,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
1448 Standard Building,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Connelley:

With reference to my communication of October 27, 1936,  
transmitting a memorandum pertaining to the perpetration of the  
St. Valentine's Day Massacre, I would appreciate being advised of  
the details of your conference with Commissioner Allman of the  
Chicago Police Department, as soon as you are able to arrange  
this conference.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

- Mr. Nathan .....
- Mr. Tolson .....
- Mr. Baughman .....
- Mr. Clegg .....
- Mr. Coffey .....
- Mr. Darnsey .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Foxworth .....
- Mr. Glavin .....
- Mr. Ladd .....
- Mr. Nichols .....
- Mr. Rosen .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Mr. Carson .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Gurnea .....
- Mr. Hendon .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. Quinn .....
- Mr. Tamm .....
- Mr. Telford .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Gurnea .....
- Mr. Hendon .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. Quinn .....
- Mr. Tamm .....
- Mr. Telford .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Gurnea .....
- Mr. Hendon .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. Quinn .....
- Mr. Tamm .....
- Mr. Telford .....
- Mr. Tracy .....

NOV 16 1936

SAT:TMP

October 27, 1936

RECORDED

62-34299-23

Mr. E. J. Connelley,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
1448 Standard Building,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Connelley:

I am attaching hereto a copy of a memorandum prepared in the Bureau under date of October 26, 1936 which summarizes the information contained in the Bureau files concerning the identity of the perpetrators of the St. Valentine's Day Massacre. I desire that at the earliest possible date you personally call upon Commissioner Allman of the Chicago Police Department and furnish a copy of this memorandum to him, explaining that this is all of the information developed during the Bureau's investigations into the facts surrounding the perpetration of the St. Valentine's Day Massacre.

Please advise me fully of the results of your interview with Commissioner Allman.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director

Enclosure #863379

RECEIVED
OCT 28 1936
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

TELETYPE



RCS'VTL  
62-34299

October 26, 1936.

MEMORANDUM

RE: ST. VALENTINE'S DAY  
MASSACRE.

During the course of the investigation in connection with the kidnaping of Edward George Bremer of St. Paul, Minnesota, the Federal Bureau of Investigation obtained certain information relative to those persons alleged to have been responsible for the perpetration of the St. Valentine massacre at Chicago, Illinois on February 14, 1929.

Bryan Bolton has furnished Special Agents with the information that the persons actually committing the murders in the garage on North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois were Fred Goetz, alias George Zeigler, Gus Winkeler, Fred Burke, Ray Nugent and Bob Carey, alias Courroy, and who also may have been known as Ted Newberry. Bolton has admitted that he purchased the Cadillac touring car used by the murderers in the perpetration of the massacre. He stated that the car was purchased by him from a Cadillac Company located on Michigan Avenue in Chicago, Illinois, and he believes that he used the name of James Martin in purchasing this car. He stated that Louis Lipschultz gave him the money to purchase this car, and was taken to the place of purchase by Lipschultz. Bolton stated that this was sometime before the St. Valentine's Day massacre, and at the time he purchased the car he assumed it was to be used in hauling alcohol.

Bolton stated that the purpose of the massacre was to eliminate "Bugs" Moran, who had a gang which was the rival of the so-called Al Capone syndicate. He advised that the plans for the massacre were formulated at a resort owned by Fred Goetz on Cranberry Lake, six miles south of Coudersville, Wisconsin during October or November, 1928. He stated that the following persons were present at this resort at the time the plans were made to kill "Bugs" Moran:

11-27

34

Al Capone  
Gas Winkler  
Fred Goetz  
Louis Campagna  
Fred Burke  
Bill Pacelli, who later became an  
Illinois State Senator.  
Dan Saratella.

Bolton stated that he knows these persons were at the resort because Goetz came to him and requested that he, Bolton, take a load of spaghetti and foodstuffs to the resort, and that these parties remained on the place at Cranberry Lake for two or three weeks, and this information can be verified by Frank Grandall and Eddy Anderson, guides who took the various individuals named hunting and fishing, and who lived in the vicinity of the resort. Charles Allison was a caretaker of the resort at that time and could also verify the presence of these various persons at that place.

Bolton furnished the further information that Claude Maddox, alias Johnny Moore, formerly of St. Louis, Missouri, Tony Caprio of Chicago, Illinois and a man known as "Shocker", who was also from St. Louis, Missouri, burned the Cadillac car after the massacre.

Bolton denied that he participated in the massacre in any way and stated that the persons who occupied the apartment across the street from the garage at 2127 North Clark Street, watching for the appearance of "Bugs" Moran, were James Morand, alias "Jimmy the Swede" and Jimmy McCrussen; that the operations on the day of the massacre were carried on from Claude Maddox's Circus Cafe on the north side of Chicago. Bolton advised that Al Capone was in Miami, Florida on February 14, 1929, but that Frank Nitti took charge of things in Capone's absence, and that he was assisted by Frankie Rao, now dead. Bolton stated that none of the participants in the massacre wore police uniforms at the time the murders were committed, but that they did wear police badges.

Mrs. Irene Stanley, nee Irene Dorsey, Wilmington, Illinois, who lived with Fred Goetz several years prior to his death, advised Special Agents that in 1925 and 1926 Fred Goetz, Bryan Bolton and Frankie Dias operated a still in Springfield, Illinois, and in 1927

they moved to Chicago, Illinois and joined the so-called Capone syndicate, being closely associated with Al Capone, Ralph Capone, Jack Gusik, Harry Gusik, Gus Winkeler, Ted Newberry, Jack McGurn and Fred "Killer" Burke.

Irene Stanley stated to Agents that it was her information that the actual killers in the St. Valentine's Day massacre were Ted Newberry, Gus Winkeler, Fred Burke and Fred Goets; that because the police learned that Bolton had rented the apartment which was used for lookout purposes across the street from the garage where the massacre took place, Bolton became a fugitive and began using the name O. B. Carter.

Mrs. Gus Winkeler, widow of Gus Winkeler, states that in the latter part of January, 1929, Gus Winkeler brought Fred Goets to her apartment in Chicago, Illinois, and a few days later Goets again appeared at the apartment wearing a police uniform.

After the massacre Gus Winkeler and Bob Carey were in the Winkeler apartment and spent most of the afternoon sitting in front of the windows. From the discussions Mrs. Winkeler overheard between Carey, Winkeler and Goets, she learned that Bolton and Jimmy Morand had been assigned to watch the garage on North Clark Street for the appearance of the mob, and gave the signal to the killers when the gang entered the garage. She states the murderers were staying in the home of Bocca de Croce, which was located nearby; that she later found bullet proof vests and a police uniform in the closet of her apartment.

Upon being advised by Louis Campagna that he was suspected by the police of being implicated in the massacre, Gus Winkeler fled from Chicago, Illinois, as did Fred Burke.

Seven members of "Bugs" Moran's mob were killed, but "Bugs" Moran did not put in his appearance at the garage on North Clark Street and, therefore, escaped assassination.

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

Chicago, Illinois

December 29, 1938

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir

As of possible information to the Bureau in connection with the St. Valentine Day Massacre in Chicago, I am forwarding herewith copy of a memorandum submitted by Special Agent J. R. GREEN relative to information received by him from SIMON RUSSEL of Gary, Indiana.

Very truly yours

DML:IJM  
Encl.

*D. M. Ladd*  
D. M. LADD  
Special Agent in Charge

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

62-34299-24  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
JAN 3 1939  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
INDEXED  
FILED

*See Chicago Guide*  
*to*  
*g*  
*HC*  
*SEARCHED*  
*INDEXED*  
*FILED*

Chicago, Illinois  
December 23, 1938

MEMORANDUM FOR SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE D. M. LADD

RE: ST. VALENTINE DAY MASSACHRE

On the late afternoon of December 20, 1938, SIMON RUSSEL, 830 West 11th Avenue, Gary, Indiana, furnished the following information to the Chicago Field Office:

He stated that he was employed at the Pyramid Engineering & Manufacturing Company, 1256 Wellington Avenue, which was under the management of MIKE M. KAUFMAN, as a tool maker; that he worked at this place for about a week in the month of February the year of the so called St. Valentine Day Massacre; then after being laid off about one week, he was called back to work the day of the massacre (St. Valentine's Day). About 9:30 or 10 A.M. on that day three men came in one automobile to the shop and talked with KAUFMAN at his desk in the office, this being a small shop, and later about thirty men came to the shop, coming in several automobiles; that some of these latter men opened up a wooden box, which they had brought with them, and took out an instrument, he seeing only a long tube, which he did not closely observe, and after taking it out covered it up with a black canvas so it looked like a camera when this machine was set up on the floor in the middle of the shop. The first three men, who had come in, had had revolvers when they came in, and after the others had set up the instant machine, which he believed to be a machine gun, KAUFMAN gave a revolver to a part of these men after they had taken drinks given to them by KAUFMAN. T. BANKE (phonetic), 8105 Vincennes Avenue, was the leader of one group of these men who had come in automobiles, and he also gave revolvers to his bunch, the two groups being divided about equally; that shortly thereafter four more men came in an automobile, one of whom wore a policeman's uniform. He later stated that this man, who wore the policeman's uniform, was later identified as DILLINGER. ALEXANDER LAURENITES, however, was the leader of this group of four, they also having revolvers. Thereupon one of the men from the KAUFMAN gang and another from LAURENITES gang took the machine gun, which had been disguised as a camera, and placed it in one of the automobiles, whereupon all of the men left the shop. However, just before they left KAUFMAN asked him what this machine was, evidently in an effort to see how much he knew, and when RUSSEL replied it looked

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

DEC 24 1938

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

FILE

62-34299-24

like a camera KAUFMAN stated they would take his picture when they came back.

He stated that he informed the other fellow employee, who had been left in the shop with him, by the name of FREDERICKSON, what KAUFMAN had said relative to the taking of their picture when they returned, FREDERICKSON suggested that RUSSEL and he leave as "there would be hell to pay" when the crowd came back. Whereupon he and FREDERICKSON left the shop and separated. RUSSEL stopped in several saloons, where he got drinks, and it was late when he went to his room at 1417 - 49th Avenue, Cicero. The next morning he read in the papers of the St. Valentine Day Massacre at twelve or more blocks away from the Pyramid Engineering & Manufacturing Company.

The second day after this KAUFMAN phoned to him to come back to work, whereupon he worked at this place about one week or so. However, KAUFMAN never mentioned this incident to him until a year or so later, when RUSSEL was looking for work, KAUFMAN asked him who did the massacre job, and he told KAUFMAN he did not know. However, he was sure that KAUFMAN suspicioned him, RUSSEL, with knowing KAUFMAN had participated in the same. RUSSEL further stated that when he came to work that instant St. Valentine's Day morning KAUFMAN had given him something to drink that had left him dopey, and he believed he had given him this so that he would not fully realize or remember what was to take place later.

RUSSEL stated that MR. and MRS. JOE PASCO, his sister and her husband, 553 Connecticut Street, Gary, Indiana, and their son, JOE, JR., who lives with them and is married, suspected him with knowledge as to KAUFMAN'S connection with the instant Valentine massacre. His brother-in-law, JOE PASCO, had been connected with KAUFMAN in various illegal activities before this, and at the present time, and that he was one of the gang, but was not present on instant occasion; that his sister and both the Sr. and Jr. PASCO have tried to get him so he could not tell this story or what he knew relative to instant massacre. He stated that on one occasion, when he had gone to a friend's house for the night, while he was asleep JOE PASCO JR., his nephew, tried to get his friends, with whom he was staying, to let him go up to RUSSEL'S room so he could shoot him while he was sleeping. He also stated that JOHN GRAKEY (phonetic), 841 Virginia Street, Gary, Indiana, STANLEY MESEVESCHS (phonetic), 425 Adams, Gary, Indiana, were,

with many others, members of this gang, but these are the only persons whose names he knew.

RUSSEL stated he had just recently tried to tell this to the Gary, Indiana Police Department, but as their administration was changing, the first of the year they were not interested. He insisted that the man appearing in the guise of a policeman on instant occasion, as heretofore described, was JOHN DILLINGER. He further stated that he understood this gang had been partly broken, but that MIKE, GEORGE and ALBERT KAUFMAN, who were sons of MIKE KAUFMAN, SR., are members of this gang, still running at large, and that they have also been making plates for the making of counterfeit money, which they had also made; that he had seen the plates. He stated that it was because of fear that members of this gang were trying to get him, and that this was the reason for making the complaint at the present time, which the writer remarked to him was rather a late time for him to furnish said information. He stated that for the past few years he has been engaged in the sharpening and taking care of dentists' tools, and that for the past five years or so he had ground the dental instruments for DR. GEORGE A. MATULA, who has an office on the 27th floor of the Bankers Bldg. The telephone directory shows a GEORGE MATULA at 105 West Adams Street, this building address, telephone State 3706.

While MR. RUSSEL was hard to understand, yet he appeared rational, and the writer was unable to state whether he was mentally off.

The writer submitted these facts to Acting Special Agent in Charge E. J. GEBBEN, who stated to place them in memorandum form, but that there was nothing in which this Office at present was concerned in connection therewith, after which the writer suggested that RUSSEL submit his information with reference to this gang making counterfeit plates to the Secret Service. He indicated that he would do so, and would probably also go to the Chicago Police Department.

Respectfully submitted.

JRG:LM

J. R. GREEN  
Special Agent

# VALENTINE DAY- AND CAPONE MOB PROSPERS AGAIN

## Veterans of Massacre In Right with Machine, So They Celebrate.

Ten years ago today Al Capone's executioners reached an all-time high for gangster butchery in the St. Valentine's Day massacre in which seven men were stood against a wall and shot down as fast as a machine gun could spray their backs.

Today the Capone veterans of the Moran gang slaughter are on top again. In right with the Kelly-Nash machine, reputedly through organization of gambling privileges in cahoots with William Robert ("Billy") Skidmore, the Capone old guard is celebrating Valentine's Day as the best of good times.

A careful check covering several weeks reveals that the period ending with the mayoral primaries, Feb. 28, is likely to be the most prosperous enjoyed by the mob, not excepting the fat years of beer running marked by the St. Valentine's Day massacre.

### Skidmore Afraid of Courtney.

Skidmore, agent for a long line of political pirates and described by State's Attorney Courtney as the "fixer" through whom Capone mobsters and other racketeers in many lines obtain protection, runs a scrap-iron business at 2840 South Kedzie avenue. Latest reports reaching underworld circles describe Skidmore as "alarmed over the prospect of Courtney becoming the next mayor of Chicago."

The Capone gang has reorganized and widened its field. Concessions granted by the Kelly-Nash machine in return for support of Mayor Kelly at the polls on primary day have skyrocketed receipts. "Billy" Skidmore, as go-between, conducted negotiations and brought them to a successful conclusion.

Capone "big shots," immune from interference under the present city administration, have taken over the clubhouse of a Chicago race track. Its elaborate offices are being used as their headquarters.

"Out there at this time of year," said a noted law enforcement official, "they are as well hidden as they would be if conducting their rackets from the superintendent's office of some graveyard."

### Mystery Figure Emerges.

A mysterious figure in the history of gangdom in Chicago has been brought to light by the survey. Paul Ricca, heretofore a handyman but recently promoted to "big shot" leadership, is now the acting top-notch boss of the mob Al Capone once led. Frank ("The Enforcer") Nitti, who took over after Cousin Al had been tossed into prison for income-tax frauds, is said to have sponsored Ricca's rise to power.

Nitti, whose real name is Francesco Raffele Nitti, spends his winters in Florida. He makes frequent trips here, however. At the time of his last visit, said to have taken place in December, he occupied his Chicago apartment in Gladys's avenue, near Lotus avenue. While in Chicago Nitti becomes "Frank Raddo."

Under the Ricca regime, Jack Guzik remains in charge of gambling operations. Rocca De Grazia has been assigned to supervision of numerous dens of vice located in Cook County but outside the city limits. The gang's Chicago brothels are to have a new operating head.

Comment around "22d and State" and "19th and Dearborn," where the gang operates two of the city's biggest vice dives, is that Ricca will fill the position this week.

### Vogel Heads Slot Machines.

Eddie ("Dutch") Vogel continues as head of the slot machine department—a racket viewed generally as "pushed around a lot of late," but actually flourishing since Skidmore waved his magic wand over the City Hall.

Ralph ("Bottles") Capone, brother of Al, stays on as assistant in

(Continued on Third Page.)

- Mr. Tolson .....
  - Mr. Nathan .....
  - Mr. E. A. Tamm .....
  - Mr. Clegg .....
  - Mr. Coffey .....
  - Mr. Crowl .....
  - Mr. Egan .....
  - Mr. Foxworth .....
  - Mr. Glavin .....
  - Mr. Harbo .....
  - Mr. Lester .....
  - Mr. McIntire .....
  - Mr. Nichols .....
  - Mr. Quinn Tamm .....
  - Mr. Tracy .....
  - Miss Gandy .....
- HAYDEN ✓

NOT RECORDED

CHICAGO BULL

2/14/39

# Old Capone Mobsters Get Back Into the Big Money

(Continued from First Page.)

charge of gambling spots and brothels in Cicero. One of the latter has 35 inmates.

Murray Humphries, alias John Humphreys, one of Ricca's chief aids under the new setup, takes over management of some of the mob's leading business enterprises, such as towel and linen supply service, sale of bottled waters to night clubs and saloons and numerous other lines. In addition, he will carry on the cleaning and dyeing racket the gang sponsors.

Louis ("Little New York") Campagna, for years Nitti's bodyguard, has a brand new assignment. He cracks down on bookie joints, forcing the proprietors to agree to a cut. As a result, one third of the profits are turned over to the gang's representative, installed on the spot.

## Mangano Preys on Night Clubs.

Lawrence ("Dago Lawrence") Mangano does to night clubs exactly what "Little New York" and his band of plug-uglies do to gambling establishments. Mangano, No. 8 on the Chicago Crime Commission's list of 28 public enemies, issued in May, 1930, has had great success in this field.

Rocco Fischetti, alias John Senna, alias Charles Miller, has been reassigned to guard his cousin, John ("Mimi") Capone, alias Arthur Colby, alias James Martin, brother of Al Capone.

Phil D'Andrea has been named chief "trouble shooter." He will make known to Skidmore names of policemen the gang wants shifted in order to suit gang needs.

Ralph Pierce will continue to serve as bodyguard for Humphries.

## Ricca Freed Often by Police.

Ricca has an apartment in the 5300 block of West Jackson boulevard. He is known in the neighborhood as Paul De Lucia. A check-up revealed that Ricca has been a resident of Chicago for 14 years. Although a member of the Capone gang ever since his arrival he has managed to get by without acquiring a criminal record. However, he has been seized by detectives on several occasions, only to regain his freedom promptly. His promotion to leadership created surprise in underworld circles.

Immigration records for this district reveal that Francesco Raffele Nitto, now Frank Nitti, was born at

Augori, Italy, Jan. 27, 1889, and entered the United States as an alien on or about July 1, 1891, arriving at New York City on the steamship Guerra. The records state: "He applied for declaration of intention, No. 129102 on March 9, 1921, and was naturalized a citizen of the United States on Feb. 25, 1925, being issued naturalization certificate No. 191944."

## Shooting of Nitti Recalled.

Nitti is a first cousin of Al Capone. He served 14 months of an 18 months' sentence at the federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, having pleaded guilty to defrauding the government of income taxes amounting to \$158,828, plus interest. On Dec. 19, 1932, Detectives Harry Lang and Harry Miller, together with other officers, burst in on Nitti and followers occupying room 554 in the La Salle-Wacker Building, 221 North La Salle street. During the raid Nitti was shot three times.

Lang suffered a bullet wound in the arm. Nitti charged Lang had wounded him, then wounded himself in an effort to make it appear Nitti had started to shoot it out with the officers. Following his recovery he disappeared and charges against Lang were dropped "for want of prosecution."

Humphries, Jack Guzik, DeGrazia and Ralph Capone also have served sentences in federal prisons for income-tax evasion.

## D'Andrea Armed in Court.

On Oct. 10, 1931, Phil D'Andrea was seized in Federal Court during the trial of the "big shot of big shots"—Al Capone. D'Andrea had a loaded revolver in his belt. A bailiff's star and penciled letter re-

questing transfer of a patrolman to the Detective Bureau were found in his possession. Judge James H. Wackeron thereupon found D'Andrea guilty of contempt of court and consigned him to jail, where he remained six months. The judge intimated that the next time he presided at the trial of a hoodlum he would ask that the United States army be called out.

Rocco DeGrazia once operated 18 handbooks in Melrose Park.

"Dago Lawrence" Mangano has moved from 5929 Flourney street to a Loop hotel. The police have nabbed him about 200 times. He has a summer cottage at Berrien Springs, Mich.

2/14/39

Capone Mobsters Are in Power, on 10th Anniversary of St.



Murray Humphries.



Frank Nitti.



Phil d'Andrea.



Eddie Vogel.



Rocco Fischetti.



Rocco de Grazia.

Ten years after they had massacred seven Moran gangsters on Valentine's Day, Capone mobsters are still riding high, wide and handsome. Al Capone is in a federal hospital after serving a stretch at Alcatraz, but his lieutenants are in right with the Kelly-Nash machine. Working with William R. ("Billy") Skidmore, the Capone mobsters have organized gambling to a degree of efficiency hitherto unknown in the city's history. Not satisfied with gambling, they dabble

2/14/39

## Valentine's Day Massacre of the Moran Gang



Louis Campagna.

Paul Ricca.

Lawrence Mangano.

Ralph Capone.

Jack Gusik.

in organized vice, in carbonated beverages, in breweries, slot machines, and cut themselves into night clubs and any other form of enterprise where a show of muscle, smiled upon by the police, will count them in. A new figure of importance, one Paul Ricca, just a hanger-on in the mob 10 years ago, has risen to share front rank with Frank ("The Enforcer") Nitti, "Little New York" Campagna, Jack Gusik and other leaders.

[By a staff photographer.]

2/14/37

Postmarked Miami Beach, Fla., February 16 (6:00 p. m.) 1938

"City Editor:

Nitti did not like that story you had in Tuesday's paper. He called a meeting last nite at his home on the Island. All the Capone boys that are here like Humphreys, Cahrlie Fischetti, by the way, they used his wife's car in the stickup here yesterday they got \$175,000. The coppers gave them a pass. Here they got the chief of police on the pay roll here cause they operate here also. Nitti ordered all the boys back home to go for Kelly 100 per cent to beat Courtney. They kicked in 50 G already for Kelly.

Why don't you print that story you got a copy was sent to Look Magazine its the truth.

An ex-waiter for Capone Killers".

Chicago, Illinois  
February 21, 1939

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir

In connection with the recent holdup of a hotel in Miami, wherein a large sum of money, jewels, etc., was obtained, I am forwarding herewith a copy of a letter which was received by the City Editor of the Chicago Daily News and which copy was turned over to the writer by Francis Connor, a reporter for that paper.

The article that it refers to which Frank Nitti did not like was an article pertaining to the St. Valentine's Day Massacre which appeared in the Chicago Daily News on February 14, 1939, and which article was written by Francis Connor.

Very truly yours

DML:IAJ  
Encl.

D. M. LADD  
Special Agent in Charge

cc Miami (Encl.)

SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
INDEXED  
FILED

66-34279

FEB 21 1939

FBI - MIAMI



- Mrs Bertha Raleighs  
 husband was working  
 for Nelson Smith  
 there. Nelson Smith  
 was painting cars there  
 at that time that was  
 in 1933. he told  
 Will Suppel that there  
 never caught the  
 man that done the  
 'killing'. I am shure  
 he was the man  
 that was the killer  
 for that gang. Mr  
 Smith has 12 bullet  
 holes in his body.  
 he has a silver plate  
 the size of a 50 cent  
 piece in the back of  
 his head. he had the  
 back of his head shot  
 out with a 45 caliber  
 revolver. he belonged to  
 a gang in East St Louis,  
 & Detroit Michigan.

RECEIVED  
 DIVISION ONE

APR 1 9 01 AM '34

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

- and Chicago Ill.  
 he puts Mexicans out  
 to sell Marijuana.  
 he gets his Marijuana  
 in Denver Colo. from  
 a Mexican name  
 Louie. & Louie's woman  
 name is Julia. Mr  
 Smith claims he has  
 a son named Steve  
 Smith and Steve's wife  
 name Marie. The  
 nick name is Peggy.  
 These names are in  
 the Bill board show  
 magazine. Some think  
 these names appear  
 in the Chicago edition  
 and New York. They  
 are supposed to be  
 stage dancers. Mr  
 Nelson Smith can talk  
 Spanish & Mexican  
 and French.

- he is known as two gun  
 frenchie, or Jimmy French.  
 His right name is  
 Kenneth Nelson Smith.

he is supposed to be  
 married to Ruby Bridgeford  
 at 231 player St.  
 Marshalltown Iowa.  
 Nelson Smith is  
 a spray painter he  
 paints cars and  
 farm bldgs.

F. L. Bridgeford is a  
 building contractor at  
 Marshalltown Iowa.  
 The Chief of Police  
 Herold Holbeck is crooked.  
 He protects Nelson  
 in all his crooked  
 because he pays him  
 protection, to keep  
 from being arrested.

5.

There's another police officer Glen Gooding that is on the Marshalltown police force that tips Nelson Smith off on raids.

and Sam Smith. he was run out of Kentucky so Nelson Smith told me and he is on the Marshalltown police force. I was married to Nelson Smith until July 20, 1939.

Nelson Smith told me that Glen Gooding was running with a woman by the name of Helen Holman in Marshalltown Iowa. Smith told me that Glen Gooding had paid

15 0 6. 2

two illegal operations  
for Helen Fishman  
in Des Moines Iowa.

I know Nelson Smith  
paid for an illegal  
operation for Ruby

Clar on the 2nd of  
July at the Peconess  
Hospital at  
Marshalltown Iowa  
in 1936. That's the

woman that busted  
Nelson Smith  
up. He claims he isn't  
married to her. But  
I see by the Marshall  
town paper that

L. Dennis issued a  
building permit to  
Smith on 800 6th Street

F. L. Bridgford is going  
to build the house  
for her.

Nelson Smith  
committed the crime  
at in Guymon Oklahoma  
in the fall 1930,  
he bought an old mobile  
1926 two door open  
coach from the Guymon  
Motor Co. and he  
paid for it and he  
traded it in Amarillo  
Texas Dec 28, 1930

for a model T coupe,  
he wrote the  
serial no. of the  
old mobile  
is traded off.

Earl Vandale in  
Amarillo Texas knows  
Nelson Smith.

but I don't know  
what name he knows  
him by.

( Nelson Smith & Foy  
Willcox and Will  
Dee at Marshalltown  
Iowa were mixed  
up in a hard stealing  
deal in 1938. Will  
Dee went to the pen  
for two years, and  
Smith & Foy Willcox  
got out of the deal  
with out taking a  
jail sentence.

( I tried down a hall  
of a box, and  
there it was stolen  
meat

9.

we were living at the  
 Fin ~~alm~~ log cabin  
 west of Marshall town  
 earnest Owens was the  
 owner of the cabin  
 then he tried to  
 want to get the chief  
 of police to have  
 men catch Nelson  
 Smith but he  
 would not attempt to do  
 so.

Well I've told you  
 about Nelson Smith  
 and Ruby Smith

hoping to hear from you  
 I remain respectful

Yours,  
 MARGUERITE C. E. SMITH

Stirling Cole & Smith

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

AUG 5 1948

WESTERN UNION

V  
BI.WU H10 PD

EB NEWYORK NY AUG 5 1948 1240P

✓ EDGAR HOOVER, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
DEPT OF JUSTICE

WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION BY YOU OF NAMES  
OF MEN KILLED IN VALENTINE DAY MASSACRE, CHICAGO:  
ADAM HEYER, PETER GUSENBERG, FRANK GUSENBERG, FRANK CLARK,  
JOHN MAY, ALBERT WEINSHANK, DR. REINHARDT M. SCHWIMMER.

WAS FRANK FOSTER AN ALIAS OF DR. SCHWIMMER? MAY  
THANKS FOR YOUR COOPERATION. PLEASE WIRE REPLY DIRECT

TILLIE W GREEN EDITORIAL PRODUCTION COSMOPOLITAN  
MAGAZINE EIGHTH AVE & 57 ST NEW YORK NY

65-34279

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Jones  
Mr. Mumford  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

RECORDED  
INDEXED  
EX-45

SE 13

65-34279-42  
AUG 10 1948

142P

57..

56

BI 76 DL COLL 8-6-48 7-39 PM

MISS TILLIE W. GREEN

EDITORIAL PRODUCTION

COSMOPOLITAN MAGAZINE

8TH AVENUE AND 57TH STREET

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

REFERENCE YOUR TELEGRAM AUGUST FIFTH. ST. VALENTINE'S DAY  
MASSACRE INVOLVED NO FEDERAL VIOLATION AND WAS NOT INVESTIGATED  
BY FBI. SINCE INFORMATION WE HAVE WAS NOT VERIFIED  
BY FBI IT IS SUGGESTED YOU COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY WITH CHICAGO  
POLICE AUTHORITIES.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER

DIRECTOR

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

RECORDED - 119

62-34297-27

EX-45

AUGUST 6, 1948

MISS TILLIE W. GREEN COLLECT  
EDITORIAL PRODUCTION  
COSMOPOLITAN MAGAZINE  
8TH AVENUE AND 57TH STREET  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

REFERENCE YOUR TELEGRAM AUGUST 6, 1948 RE: VALENTINE'S DAY  
FEDERAL VIOLATION AND WAS NOT INVESTIGATED  
BY FBI. SINCE INFORMATION WE HAVE WAS NOT VERIFIED BY FBI IT  
IS SUGGESTED YOU COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY WITH CHICAGO POLICE  
AUTHORITIES.

SINCERELY,

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FRY:MS

NOTE: File 62-34299 contains serials relative to the St. Valentine's  
Day Massacre which took place in Chicago on February 14, 1929. This  
file reflects that no Federal violation was involved and no  
investigation was conducted by the FBI. The names of the victims  
are not contained in this file. Library references, both authored  
by Herbert Asbury, gave the names of the victims and there is some  
variation from the spelling of the names in the incoming telegram.

DE-INDEXED  
DATE: 4-18-57  
13

Tolson  
A. A.  
Ladd  
Clegg  
Glavin  
Nichols  
Tracy

AUG 6 1948  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

INITIALES  
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nichols

DATE: November 28, 1956

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: St. Valentine's Day Massacre

There are attached excerpts concerning the above-captioned case taken from "The FBI Story, A Report to the People," by Don Whitehead published by Random House, 1956. These excerpts are from page(s) 145 of the book.

The full text of the book may be found in the FBI Library.

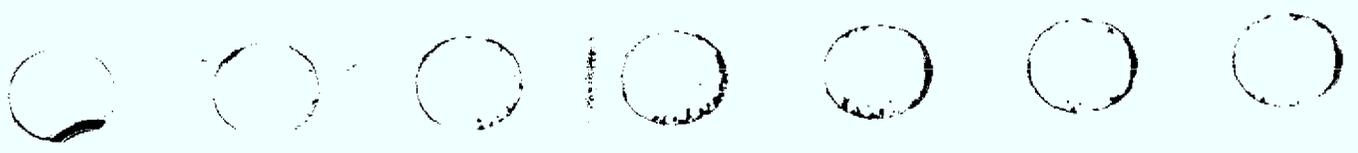
Enclosure

ENCLOSURE

62-4211-✓

NOT RECORDED  
18 MAR 19 1957

66.



Interest in relating science to crime investigations picked up momentum in 1929. In that year the FBI began assembling a library of scientific books and papers dealing with subjects related to crime investigations, such as the testing of drugs, blood and hair. And, oddly enough, a gangland massacre spurred the development in Chicago. It was the so-called St. Valentine's Day Massacre.

This slaughter occurred on February 14, 1929. Members of the Al Capone gang, disguised as police, cornered seven persons, one of whom was believed to be "Bugs" Moran, in a garage. They stood their victims against a wall and mowed them down with machine-gun fire. During the coroner's jury investigation, some of the jurors asked what purpose was served in keeping the bullets found at the garage. Chicago police explained that ballistics experts could determine whether the bullets had been fired from certain guns—but that the Chicago Police Department had no laboratory in which to do such work.

*Excerpt from page 145 of  
"The FBI Story, A Report  
to the People" by Don  
Whitehead*

62-24299- ✓  
ENCLOSURE

# Coincidence and the Valentine Massacre



...and now, how the St. Valentine's Day massacre...

Below appears excerpt from the ... massacre. Excerpts are quoted from the installment of "Hooch," written by Charles Francis Coe, and appearing in the Saturday Evening Post of Feb. 2, 1929, 12 days before ... The story deals with gangsters, booze-running activities and gang competition.

By JACK DOWLING

**T**HE old adage that truth is stranger than fiction was never more grimly brought out than in the cold-blooded, premeditated massacre of seven men eight years ago this St. Valentine's Day and the coincidental fiction story that preceded it by only 12 days.

The story, "Hooch," written by Charles Francis Coe, dealt with exactly the same situation that existed among the rival gangs and politicians of the time. The part referred to here appeared as the last installment in the Saturday Evening Post, of Feb. 2, 1929, a little more than a week before the fiction so coincidentally became fact.

The mind of the author conceived what he thought was sheer fiction but less than a week after his story was printed Gangland proved that they had minds with more imagination, capable of bigger and better things.

Where Coe, in fiction, had dared to murder four men, Gangland, in reality, went him three better, slicing down seven in their mad lust for power, two of whom were innocent.

**T**HE subject is that red stain on Chicago's map known to the world as the St. Valentine's Day massacre. The time was 10 o'clock on the cold morning of Feb. 14, 1929, in a grease-grimed garage at 2122 N. Clark st.

Seven men lounged about in the N. Clark st. garage, headquarters of the "Bugs" Moran gang's illicit beer running activities.

Five of them were hoodlums, yoemen of George "Bugs" Moran. They were Peter and Frank Gusenberg, Albert Weinsbank, Adam Heyer and James Clark. The sixth was the garage mechanic, John May. The seventh was Dr. Reinhardt H. Schwimmer, a dentist, who, for some strange reason enjoyed the company of these rum runners.

Suddenly a long car drove up, stopped at the curb outside the garage. It looked like a detective bureau squad car. Five men got out—one in a policeman's uniform. Leisurely they lifted two wicked looking machine guns from the car, and leisurely

they crossed the walk to the garage door. Inside, the seven loungers jumped to their feet, tense, frightened. Then a smile crossed their faces as they glimpsed the man in the uniform of a "copper." Evidently, they thought, the boys from the bureau were making another routine raid. The five men herded the seven toward the end of the room. They offered no resistance.

**L**INE up against that wall!" they were

were ordered.  
They lined up.  
"Put your hands up!" came a second order.

Fourteen hands reached for the ceiling. Probably a few of the hoodlums smiled. They apparently expected to be frisked for guns, as they had been so many times before.

The third order came, "Turn around and face the wall!"

Those were the last words those seven men ever heard. A second later a stinging hail of machine gun slugs cut them down. Blood splashed on the wall, gathered in pools on the floor, flowed in long thin streams from seven corpses toward the drain. The executioners strolled out nonchalantly, hopped into their car and sped away.

**P**OLICE and newspapermen were stunned at the sight that met their eyes in the dim light of the garage. The whole world was stunned later when news services flashed the story around the globe. Headlines screamed "GANGLAND GRADUATES FROM MURDER TO MASSACRE." The case climaxed Chicago's reputation as a hoodlum stamping ground.

Two blocks away "Bugs" Moran almost choked over his breakfast when he heard the news. "Only Capone would do a thing like that!" he muttered as he hastily packed his bag to blow town.

Capone was blamed. Capone was always blamed for everything. Many of his men were named, three, John Scalise, Albert Anselmi and "Machine Gun" Jack McGurn, were formally accused but were never brought to trial. The coroner's jury returned a verdict after long deliberation and investigation of "Murder by persons unknown."

Of all the strange angles and aspects of the Valentine massacre, perhaps the strangest is that the story, called "Hooch," appeared only 12 days before and described the massacre so accurately it might have been written after Feb. 14.

Poppolipis stated, "We might as well look facts in the face. There is no room for Mitchell, Baer or Flenger."

Zuroto laughed softly, "It is the truth. The funny thing about a murder charge," he went on, "is that it can't get any worse. You get just as much for bumping one man as you would an army."

\* \* \*

Slenk held the bottle before the headlight where all could see. "That's a good looking wrapper," he admitted—

He pulled the wrapper off the bottle and again held it up that the label might be inspected.

"The labels ain't so good," he complained, "There's something about them that looks too new. I was telling Paddy the other day we ought to make up a Canadian Liquor Commission Stamp."

Marty spoke up: "It'd add about three bucks a bottle to the price we could get."—

Someone tried the side door. All three men whirled sharply.

"Who is it?" Mart asked throatily.

Slenk said, "I'll find out."

"You better shut off them headlights," Baer suggested.

"Leave them on," Slenk said, "Wait a minute. This ain't nothin'." He walked across the garage and opened the spring lock. Flenger stepped into the place. Slenk kicked the door shut.

"Where are they," Flenger asked.

Before anyone could make answer the whole world seemed to explode about them. Dashes of flame cut through the gloom of the place. The terrific roar of shotguns and the mad scream of a machine gun ripped and shattered the silence.

Flenger fell in his tracks. Mitchell reeled back between the glowing headlights of the second truck, spread his arms over the radiator in an effort to keep himself on his feet, then groaned and sagged to the floor.

Baer whirled uncertainly, sank to his knees with a curse and hurled the remnant of the whiskey bottle in the general direction of the last flash he had seen.

It was Slenk who stood longest against the barrage of the rum killers.

A shadowy figure started around the end of the second truck. In his hands he carried a baby machine gun. A hoarse laugh crossed his lips. Calmly while Slenk watched him, terror in his eyes, the man lifted the gun, trained it upon him, and again the wild scream of 1,500 shots a minute tore at the walls of the garage.

It was over within a matter of seconds. After the deafening roar of the guns silence came suddenly. A whisper here, the scraping of a foot there, hoarse and labored breathing.

Then the side door of the building opened again. The calm night air swept in over four prone figures. Shadowy figures passed through the door, then along the alley beside the garage, finally to leap into a big motor car.

... appear ... the ... massacre. ... written by Charles ... of the Saturday Evening Post. ... The story deals with gangsters, ... reading activities and gang competition.

**BY JACK DOWLING**

THE old adage that truth is stranger than fiction was never more grimly brought out than in the cold-blooded, premeditated massacre of seven men eight years ago this St. Valentine's Day and the coincidental fiction story that predated it by only 12 days.

The story, "Hooch," written by Charles Francis Coe, dealt with exactly the same situation that existed among the rival gangs and politicians of the time. The part referred to here appeared as the last installment in the Saturday Evening Post of Feb. 5, 1929, a little more than a week before the fiction so coincidentally became fact.

The mind of the author conceived what he thought was sheer fiction but less than a week after his story was printed Gangland proved that they had minds with more imagination, capable of bigger and better things.

Where Coe, in fiction, had dared to murder four men, Gangland, in reality, went him three better, slicing down seven in their mad lust for power, two of whom were innocent.

THE subject is that red stain on Chicago's map known to the world as the St. Valentine's Day massacre. The time was 10 o'clock on the cold morning of Feb. 14, 1929, in a grease-grimed garage at 3123 N. Clark st.

Seven men lounged about in the N. Clark st. garage, headquarters of the "Bugs" Moran gang's illicit beer running activities.

Five of them were hoodlums, yomen of George "Bugs" Moran. They were Peter and Frank Gusenberg, Albert Weinshank, Adam Heyer and James Clark. The sixth was the garage mechanic, John May, the seventh was Dr. Reinhardt H. Schwimmer, a dentist, who, for some strange reason enjoyed the company of these rum runners.

Suddenly a long car drove up, stopped at the curb outside the garage. It looked like a detective bureau squad car. Five men got out—one in a policeman's uniform. Leisurely they lifted two wicked looking machine guns from the car, and leisurely

they crossed the walk to the garage door. Inside, the seven loungers jumped to their feet, tense, frightened. Then a smile crossed their faces as they glimpsed the man in the uniform of a "copper." Evidently they thought, the boys from the bureau were making another routine raid. The five men herded the seven toward the end of the room. They offered no resistance.

LINE up against that wall," they were ordered. They lined up. "Put your hands up," came a second order.

Fourteen hands reached for the ceiling. Probably a few of the hoodlums smiled. They apparently expected to be frisked for guns, as they had been so many times before.

The third order came, "Turn around and face the wall!"

Those were the last words those seven men ever heard. A second later a stinging hail of machine gun slugs cut them down. Blood splashed on the wall, gathered in pools on the floor, flowed in long thin streams from seven corpses toward the drain. The executioners strolled out nonchalantly, hopped into their car and sped away.

POLICE and newspapermen were stunned at the sight that met their eyes in the dim light of the garage. The whole world was stunned later when news services flashed the story around the globe. Headlines screamed "GANGLAND GRADUATES FROM MURDER TO MASSACRE." The case climaxed Chicago's reputation as a hoodlum stamping ground.

Two blocks away "Bugs" Moran almost choked over his breakfast when he heard the news. "Only Capone would do a thing like that!" he muttered as he hastily packed his bag to blow town.

Capone was blamed. Capone was always blamed for everything. Many of his men were named, three, John Scallise, Albert Anselmi and "Machine Gun" Jack McGurn, were formally accused but were never brought to trial. The coroner's jury returned a verdict after long deliberation and investigation of "Murder by persons unknown."

Of all the strange angles and aspects of the Valentine massacre, perhaps the strangest is that the story, called "Hooch," appeared only 12 days before and described the massacre so accurately it might have been written after Feb. 14.

Poppkins stated, "We might as well look facts in the face. There is no room for Mitchell, Baer or Flenger."

Zeroto laughed softly. "It is the truth. The funny thing about a murder charge," he went on, "is that it can't get any worse. You get just as much for bumping one man as you would an army."

Slenk held the bottle before the headlight where all could see. "That's a good looking wrapper," he admitted.

He pulled the wrapper off the bottle and again held it up that the label might be inspected.

"The labels ain't so good," he complained, "There's something about them that looks too new. I was telling Paddy the other day we ought to make up a Canadian Liquor Commission Stamp."

Marty spoke up: "It'd add about three bucks a bottle to the price we could get."

Someone tried the side door. All three men whirled sharply.

"Who is it?" Mart asked throatily.

Slenk said, "I'll find out."  
"You better shut off them headlights," Baer suggested.

"Leave them on," Slenk said, "Wait a minute. This ain't nothin'." He walked across the garage and opened the spring lock. Flenger stepped into the place. Slenk kicked the door shut.

"Where are they," Flenger asked.

Before anyone could make sense, the whole world seemed to explode about them. Dashes of flame cut through the gloom of the place. The terrific roar of shotguns and the mad scream of a machine gun ripped and shattered the silence.

Flenger fell in his tracks. Mitchell reeled back between the glowing headlights of the second truck, spread his arms over the radiator in an effort to keep himself on his feet, then groaned and sagged to the floor.

Baer whirled uncertainly, sank to his knees with a curse and hurled the remnant of the whiskey bottle in the general direction of the last flash he had seen.

It was Slenk who stood longest against the barrage of the rum killers.

A shadowy figure started around the end of the second truck. In his hands he carried a baby machine gun. A hoarse laugh crossed his lips. Calmly while Slenk watched him, terror in his eyes, the man lifted the gun, trained it upon him, and again the wild scream of 1,500 shots a minute tore at the walls of the garage.

It was over within a matter of seconds. After the deafening roar of the guns silence came suddenly. A whisper here, the scraping of a foot there, hoarse and labored breathing.

Then the side door of the building opened again. The calm night air swept in over four prone figures. Shadowy figures passed through the door, then along the alley beside the garage, finally to leap into a big motor car.



# OF THE ST. VALENTINE

Dread  
Chair,  
Which  
May  
Leading.

...to far-  
...Bayer do  
...its course up  
...world "grape-  
...star obligato,  
...on walls and  
...aturnine man  
...times—as he  
...head, off the

something to  
his dreams  
if the electric

Chicago police  
not him right  
t of court,  
ven years at  
ode of crime  
rder, pitiless  
me after all  
by the con-

world fears  
its ghastly,  
acre of the  
929.  
y of machine  
ert, lifeless;  
l facing the  
the slaughter  
ed," all but

en strangely  
fter "guns"  
he finger at  
undoubtedly  
en admitted  
nterers that  
ge at 2122

ged feature  
apone after  
town."   
desperadoes

g boss.  
the now-ex-  
graduate of  
gang war.  
o. Maddox

able, Burke  
murder of  
ing behind

Government  
Humphreys  
and, at the  
de Michigan

now exactly  
every day.  
en spent in

police of-  
their confe-  
sion are

William H.

th. I have  
the slaugh-  
act that his  
e get-away,  
days after



## ...Came Into the Situation, the Perpetrators of the St. Valentine's Day of Seven Men in 1929. Probably for Themselves. The Finger Now Points at the Master, Capone (Shown in as the Curtain of Mystery Hanging Over the Identity of the Actual Killers Is Torn Aside.

...of course. But, it is pointed out, denials of  
this sort are an established policy of the Department  
of Justice. For ten days, it professed to discredit  
stories that it was holding Mrs. Lester Gillis, wife  
of George "Baby Face" Nelson. At another time,  
it refused to admit that it had Arthur "Doc" Barker  
for complicity in the \$200,000 Bremer "snatch."  
And it is fact, not fancy, that Byron Bolton has  
done considerable talking since being collared Janu-  
ary 10 last in connection with this Bremer case.  
At first, the old Capone mob was skeptical about  
reports that...

the blow fell, he could  
showdown quite so dram-  
ranged.  
Whoever the watch-  
following list of selected  
Pete Gusenberg and  
Pete's brother, Frank;  
of Moran; John May,  
shank, speakeasy owner,  
who liked to play around  
for the thrill of it. He...

...ally have looked for a  
tic or so diabolically ar-  
trac, he waited until the  
n this were in the garage:  
d James Hayer, ex-convicts;  
es Clark, brother-in-law  
as re mechanic; Al Wein-  
and Dr. E. H. Schimmer,  
with the tough guys just  
his last great thrill thi-

# St. Valentine's Day Massacre, Gangdom's Worst, Unsolved

## Chicago Marks Sixth Anniversary of Crime That Climaxed Warfare Between Rival Whisky Barons.

By the Associated Press.

CHICAGO, February 14.—The rattle of machine guns dealing mass death echoed in the memories of Chicagoans today as they noted the sixth anniversary of the crime which left the blackest smudge on the city's crime-encrusted face—the still unsolved St. Valentine's day massacre of 1929.

It was this slaughter of seven men which, more than any other single crime, gave Chicago a reputation as a city of gangsters and sudden death. It climaxed the gang wars between underworld factions, then narrowed down to a battle between the forces of Al Capone and George (Bugs) Moran.

For the past six years law enforcing agencies have scrubbed diligently with considerable success to remove the gangland stigma from the city. Underworld assassinations, once almost as common as automobile accidents, have become few.

Gang violence, however, still flares sporadically. Only 10 days ago Thomas

E. Maloy, "czar" of the Motion Picture Operators' Union, was slain in gangland fashion as he drove along the outer drive.

Only one gang name of importance was erased through underworld rivalry in Chicago during the past year, that of Charles (Ice Wagon) Conners, Touhy mobster, whose body was found in a country ditch.

The mystery of the St. Valentine's day massacre appeared near a solution for a time last month, when it was reported that Byron Bolton, Bremer kidnaping suspect, had confessed and named five underworld characters as his associates in the killing.

The reported solution, however, was greatly discounted when Claude Maddox, named in the supposed confession, was arrested and promptly released, with the explanation that police had nothing on him.

Chicago was gay with hearts and flowers on February 14, 1929. All seemed quiet at 2122 North Clark street, the garage which was the

headquarters of the Moran gang. There booting whisky was brought in, "cut" and prepared for delivery.

### Moran Had Just Left

Moran and Terry Druggan, West Side public enemy, had just left the garage when two men in police uniforms drove up. The two men forced their way into the garage.

"Line up," they commanded curtly. The seven men inside, thinking it was a routine raid, lined up against the wall. A moment later several other men entered.

There was a roar of machine gun shots. Six riddled bodies fell to the ground. A seventh victim lived only a few hours. He died in a hospital without recovering sufficiently to name assailants.

That was the St. Valentine's day massacre which was the beginning of the end of gangdom in Chicago.

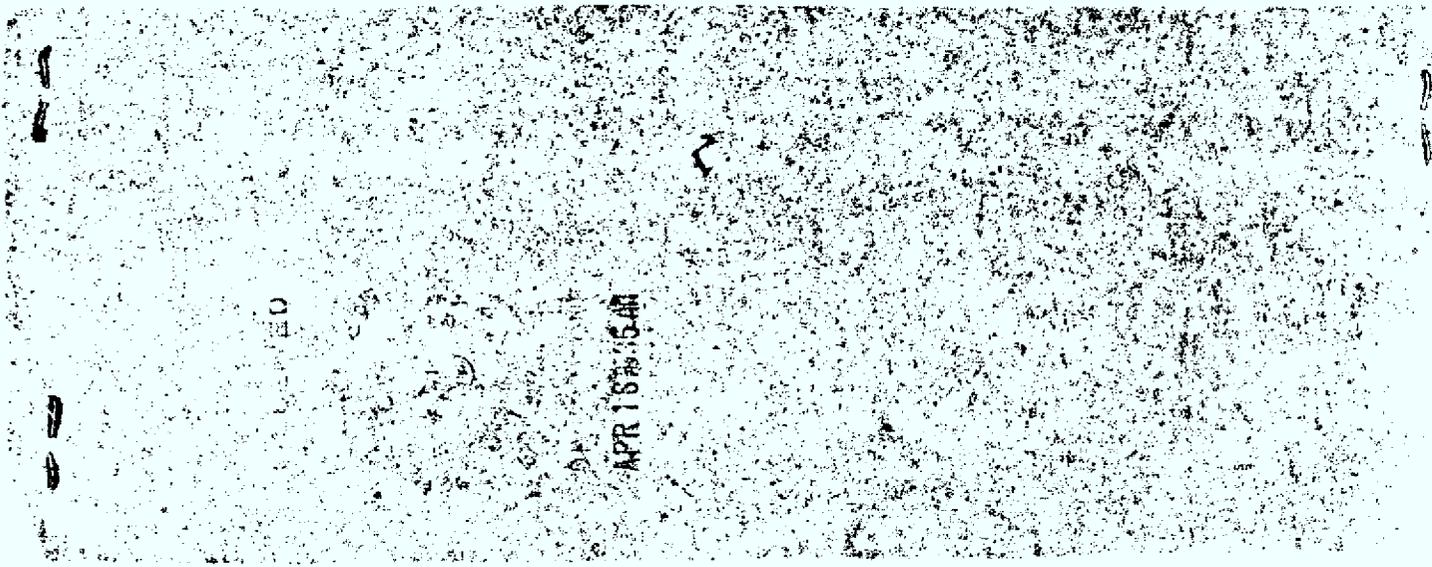
- Mr. Nathan.....
- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. Backus.....
- Mr. Baughman..
- Chief Clerk.....
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Coffey.....
- Mr. Edwards.....
- Mr. Egan.....
- Mr. Harbo.....
- Mr. Keith.....
- Mr. Lester.....
- Mr. Quinn.....
- Mr. Schilder.....
- Mr. Smith.....
- Mr. Tamm.....
- Mr. Tracy.....
- Miss Gandy.....

WASH. STAR

14-24-29

*W*

11  
C  
✓



ED

APR 18 1954



WESTERN