

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS SECTION
COVER SHEET

SUBJECT: ALBERT ANASTASIA

FILE: 62-98011

CC: Mr. Ladd
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Winterrowd
Mr. Price

September 26, 1952

MEMORANDUM

Re: ALBERT ANASTASIA, with aliases
Uberto Anastasia, (true name)
Uberto Anastasio
Albert ~~Barone~~
Albert ~~Bargnesi~~
Alberto ~~Anastasia~~
Albert Anastasio
Alfonse Joseph Anastasia

SUMMARY

Albert Anastasia was reportedly born September 26, 1902 in Italy and was naturalized in 1943 while in the U. S. Army. In 1951 he was said to reside at 75 Bluff Road, Ft. Lee, New Jersey.

Anastasia is alleged to be the leading figure controlling the rackets, strikebreaking and strong-arm activities on the New York City waterfront. He was also reportedly a leading figure in activities of the criminal group in Brooklyn, New York, commonly referred to as "Murder Incorporated."

An arrest and fingerprint record on Anastasia is attached.

Attachment

RECORDED - 9
INDEXED - 9

102-98011-1
OCT 2 1952

- Tolson _____
- Ladd _____
- Nichols _____
- Belmont _____
- Clegg _____
- Glavin _____
- Harbo _____
- Keen _____
- Tracy _____
- Harbo _____
- Tele. Rm. _____
- Nease _____
- My _____

67 OCT 9 1952

ENCLOSURE

Re: S.A.C. NEW YORK

10/15/52

RE: ALBERT ANASTASIO, was: Umberto
Anastasio, Al Anastasia

Information has been received that ALBERT ANASTASIO was born at Calabria, Italy, date unknown, and currently resides at 75 Pine Bluff Road, Fort Lee, New Jersey.

ANASTASIO is believed to be a naturalized citizen. He has been reported as a notorious racketeer in labor and waterfront activities in the New York City area and an associate of the most notorious element in New York City, and engaged in policy and gambling.

G. I. R. - 8

6- [redacted] b7c
RECORDED - 71

162 - 98011-0
DEC 2 1952
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

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

Section 552

Section 552a

(b)(1)

(b)(7)(A)

(d)(5)

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(b)(7)(B)

(j)(2)

(b)(3)

(b)(7)(C)

(k)(1)

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(b)(4)

(b)(8)

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(b)(9)

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(b)(6)

(k)(7)

- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

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

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

For your information: _____

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

62-98011- NR (12.9.52) after serial 2

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nichols *[initials]*
 FROM : M. A. Jones *[initials]*
 SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

DATE: December 11, 1952

- Ladd
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Nichols
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Harbo
- Alden
- Belmont
- Laughlin
- Mohr *[initials]*
- Tele. Room
- Nease
- Gandy

PURPOSE:

To record that [REDACTED] telephonically contacted the Bureau 12-11-52.

DETAILS:

Upon referral from the Director's Office, SA [REDACTED] Crime Records, received the local telephone call from individual who stated his name was [REDACTED]. He stated he would like to receive information from the Bureau concerning the participation of Albert Anastasia, who is presently facing deportation proceedings in New York City, in the Buchalter (Lepke) case. He was courteously advised that information in the Bureau files is confidential. The caller stated he appreciated the reasons for this and hung up.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information only.

RECORDED - 75

INDEXED - 75

62-98011-3

74 DEC 31 1952

C.I.R.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

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Section 552

Section 552a

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

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

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

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

For your information: _____

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

62-98011-4

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
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January 12, 1953

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
AIR MAIL

RECORDED-42

EX - 107

62-98011-4

DECLASSIFIED BY [REDACTED]
ON 3/14/90
#314284

[REDACTED]

b7c

Dear [REDACTED]

Reference is made to your letter dated December 13, 1952, your reference No. 10/16597, wherein you requested the criminal record and identification data concerning Albert Anastasia.

Transmitted herewith is the identification record of Albert Anastasio, FBI No. 171579, who appears to be identical with the individual about whom you inquired. Included in this identification record is a page setting forth identification data concerning this individual.

Please be assured of my desire to cooperate in all matters of mutual interest.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

[REDACTED]

b7c

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
F. B. I.
Enclosure

- Tolson _____
- Ladd _____
- Nichols _____
- Belmont _____
- Clegg _____
- Glavin _____
- Harbo _____
- Rosen _____
- Tracy _____
- Laughlin _____
- Nease _____
- Tele. Rm. _____
- Holloman _____
- Gandy _____

1 - Foreign Service Desk (detached)

JAN 15 1953
FBI
REC'D BETHROKI

[REDACTED]

JAN 13 1953

COMM - FBI
JAN 12 1953
MAILED 27

JAN 21 1953

A

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson

DATE: January 30, 1953

FROM : L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT: ALBERT ANASTASIA

Tolson	
Ladd	
Nichols	
Belmont	
Clegg	
Glavin	
Harbo	
Rosen	
Tamm	
Laughlin	
Mohr	
Winterrowd	
Tele. Rm.	
Holloman	
Gandy	

At 9:45 a.m. this morning, [redacted] of the Tax Division of the Department, Extension 461, called [redacted] in my absence. He stated that former Attorney General McGranery instructed the Tax Division to work up a possible tax violation case against Albert Anastasia of New York City, who was formerly connected with Murder, Incorporated. Mr. McGranery had suggested the Tax Division keep in close touch with the FBI as possibly the Bureau in its inquiries in the waterfront investigation in New York might turn up something of interest on Anastasia which the Tax Division should know about.

[redacted] stated he was ready to submit his recommendations on the tax case now and wanted to talk to whoever in the Bureau was handling the waterfront matter insofar as Anastasia was concerned. [redacted] was advised a check would be made and he would be called.

[redacted] of the Investigative Division has been advised and is checking both in the Investigative Division, as well as with the Domestic Intelligence Division as to the status of the waterfront investigation insofar as Anastasia is concerned in order that pertinent data, if any, can be correlated and [redacted] of the Department given whatever advice deemed desirable.

*see memo
to Belmont
2/10/53*

cc: Mr. Ladd
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Belmont

RECORDED - 2

62-98011-5
FEB 26 1953

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : A. H. BELMONT
FROM : F. J. BAUMGARDNER
SUBJECT: ALBERT ANASTASIA

DATE: February 10, 1953

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

On January 30, 1953, [redacted] of the Tax Division of the Department, called [redacted] and informed him that he had been instructed by former Attorney General McGranery to keep in touch with this Bureau concerning any information which might be developed as a result of the Bureau's New York water-front investigations which might be of assistance in the income tax case against the subject.

[redacted] of the Investigative Division advised that no investigation concerning Albert Anastasia was being conducted by his Division.

No Labor Management Relations Act, 1947 case involving the subject has developed up to the present time. [redacted] was called by Special Agent [redacted] Domestic Intelligence Division, at 4:00 P. M., January 30, 1953, and was informed that the Bureau did not have Albert Anastasia under investigation but in the event that any information was developed through the New York water-front investigations concerning Anastasia it would be directed to the attention of [redacted]

RECORDED - 2

162-98011-6

FEB 26 1953

b7c

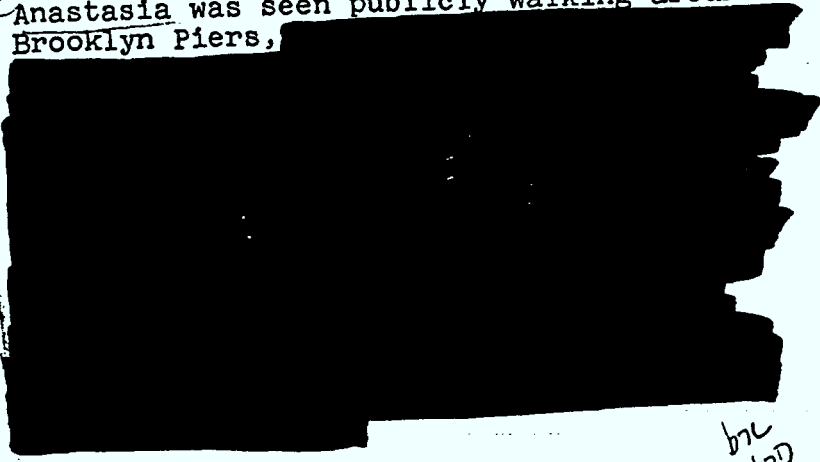
MAR 10 1953

New York, N. Y.
September 23, 1953

O

Mr. Hoover:

Concerning information previously
furnished to the effect that Albert
Anastasia was seen publicly walking around
Brooklyn Piers,



*b7c
b7D*

L. V. BOARDMAN

RECORDED - 72

EX. 103

162-98011-7

OCT 5 1953

52 OCT 8 1953

7

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: FEB 25 1954

Director, FBI

SAC, New York (94-419-Sub file 5)

SUBJECT: ALBERT ANASTASIA, was (TN)
TOP HOOLUM COVERAGE
NEW YORK AREA

see b7c

1-1, 2

Enclosed herewith are two copies of a summary memorandum concerning captioned subject which was prepared from a complete review of the references in this office.

As additional current information is obtained the Bureau will be advised.

Encl. (2)

*1 encl detached
room 5718
3-2-54*

EXP. PROC.

2 ENCL 4/2

RECORDED-45

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MAR 2 1954
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R110
63 MAR 10 1954

MAR 5 2 03 PM '54

FEB 25 1954

New York, New York,

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE INTELLIGENCE
FILE

ALBERT ANASTASIA
TOP HOODLUM COVERAGE

ALBERT ANASTASIA, true name
UMBERTO ANASTASIO, with aliases
ALBERT ANASTASIO, R. ALBERT
ANASTASIO, ALBERT ANASTASIO
FBI Number 171579

This summary memorandum has been prepared from a complete review of the files of this office and the information from all references as set forth as follows:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The above captioned subject, the eldest of the four infamous ANASTASIA brothers, claims to have been born in 1902 at Tropea, Calabria, Italy. He further claims to have attained United States citizenship in the year 1943 in the Eastern District of New York, Brooklyn, while in the service of the United States Army. The subject in testimony given before the New York State Crime Commission stated his residence address was 75 Bluff Road, Palisades, New Jersey, phone Cliffside 6-2345.

Further in testimony before the New York State Crime Commission the subject admitted to be a dress contractor and connected with the Madison Dress Company, Hazleton, Pennsylvania. [REDACTED] lists the following addresses for the subject:

387 Columbia Street,
Brooklyn, New York

636 Arthur Street,
Utica, New York

1146-73rd Street,
Brooklyn, New York

and

Cliffside, New Jersey

9
94-419-sub file 5

62-98011-8
ENCLOSURE

[REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] b7D

On January 26, 1954 the New York Office verified that ANASTASIA was presently residing at 75 Bluff Road, Palisades, New Jersey. According to the Newark Office the telephone listed for the subject is Cliffside 6-2345. This telephone is listed under the subject's wife's maiden name BARNASI. [REDACTED] b7D

The New York Office is presently attempting to verify the date and place of birth as well as a record of service in the armed forces by the subject.

The "New York Times" for December 24, 1952 in an article on ALBERT ANASTASIA advised that the biography of the Brothers ANASTASIA began in Tropea, a fishing village in Calabria, Italy. The family name was ANASTASIO. The father of the ANASTASIA brothers was a railroad worker who died before World War I. By that time the family consisted of nine sons and three daughters. One son and two daughters died young. Another son emigrated to Australia. All the remaining boys had to go to work at an early age, on fishing boats, on freighters, on farms; one succeeded his father on the railroad.

~~ANASTASIA~~ ITALY
UMBERTO, later called ALBERT, now ~~fifty~~ years old, ~~GUISEPPI~~ (JOSEPH), now forty-seven, and TONY, now forty-five, shipped as deckhands on tramp steamers as children of eleven and twelve and knocked about the toughest ports in the world. At various times during the Twenties they jumped ship in the United States and merged into the gangs of longshoremen. ~~ANASTASIA~~ ITALY NY

ALBERT, the oldest and most sinister of the ANASTASIA brothers got involved as far back as 1921 with the

criminal element as he was among several men convicted of killing a fellow countryman in a quarrel. After months in the death house at Sing Sing Prison ANASTASIA won a retrial on a technical plea.

Meanwhile the State's best witness in this case was frightened back to Italy. On the retrial, ALBERT was acquitted. He was arrested for assault in 1923 but won a discharge by the same technique of intimidating witnesses. The same year he was convicted of possessing a gun. He served two years in the penitentiary.

In 1928 the subject was charged with another murder and in 1932 with stabbing a man to death with an ice-pick, but was dismissed for lack of evidence both times. In 1933 he was tried for the killing of a Brooklyn laundryman but the State's witnesses somehow changed their story and he got off again.

By this time the subject was rising to power on a Brooklyn waterfront. He became a pier superintendent and organized six locals of the International Longshoremen's Association, A.F.L. In addition, ALBERT had become a friend, as he admitted in 1951 to the Kefauver Committee, of JOE ADONIS, WILLIE MORETTI, VITO GENOVESE and AUGI PISANO, important thugs ~~at NY~~

With ADONIS and ABE RELES, ALBERT formed Murder, Inc., the famous racket syndicate that slew sixty-three men in the New York area between 1931 and 1940. RELES later testified that ALBERT was the fingerman and ordered all of the killings.

In 1939 PETER PANTO, the longshoreman who organized a rank-and-file revolt to rid the union of racketeers was strangled and his body was buried in a lime pit. RELES, accused of several other murders, told all to save his life. He implicated the subject in this and thirty more murders. Then RELES plunged to his death from his room in the Half Moon Hotel in Coney Island in 1941 and WILLIAM O'DWYER, then Brooklyn District Attorney, said his "perfect case" against ANASTASIA had collapsed.

Taking refuge in the Army in 1942 the subject hid out as technical sergeant training Army longshoremen at

Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania for the next two years.

Before he was discharged as over age in 1944 he took advantage of a law granting quick citizenship to servicemen. After he quit the waterfront and the rough stuff he began operating a dress factory in Hazleton, Pennsylvania. The subject bought a \$75,000.00 yellow stucco house of phony Spanish style overlooking the Hudson at Fort Lee, New Jersey around the corner from the home of his old friend ADONIS.

There he lives behind a steel fence guarded by two dogs, and spurns subpoenas of the State Crime Commission. He has two Lincolns, his son goes to college, and he and his brothers have bought Mama ANASTASIA, now age 76, a home in Parghelia, Italy where the Federal Government has begun proceedings to denaturalize and deport him.

CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES

In the book entitled, "Murder, Inc." by SID FEDER and BURTON E. TORRES concerning the subject the following is reflected:

ALBERT ANASTASIA has been getting away with murder for thirty years now, and a lot of people have been helping him. Since 1920, three years after he jumped ship and smuggled his way into the United States, ANASTASIA has been close to some thirty assassinations with gun, icepick and strangling rope either in person or by direction.

The New York City Police Department has linked ANASTASIA to twenty different slayings. ALBERT ANASTASIA's only jail penalty was for carrying a gun in 1923. For five murders he was arrested, for two he was tried in a court of law, for one he even went to the death house, for the remainder he was discharged. His activity in Murder, Inc. left bodies all over America and after the formation of the syndicate underworld law decreed they could not murder without his approval.

According to police reports in connection with the kidnapping of ISIDOR JUFFE in 1932 for which JOE ADONIS was indicted the subject was recognized by JUFFE as being among his assailants in this kidnapping. The subject was never indicted or convicted for this crime.

[REDACTED] b7D

The underlying reason behind the dismissal of this indictment in this case was, the three State witnesses in this case were found slain. Many newspaper articles refer to this crime; one in particular dated December 10, 1952 appeared in the "New York World Telegram-Sun."

[REDACTED] b2
b7D

On November 21, 1950 United States Attorney FRANKLIN J. PARKER, Eastern District of New York, issued a press release announcement that he was opening an all out inquiry into the activity of the subject with a ship repair concern. Reference was made to the Sancer Corporation which filed bankruptcy papers in Brooklyn Federal Court in 1937. The article emphasized the fact that ALBERT ANASTASIA resided in a \$100,000.00 Spanish type mansion surrounded by a high wire fence fitted with spotlights.

The article recalled that ANASTASIA was a key witness in the Murder, Inc. investigation and that a murder charge naming him as the murderer of MORRIS DIAMOND, union official, was dismissed when the racketeering ABE RELES plunged to his death on November 12, 1941 from the fifth floor window of a Coney Island hotel. RELES, a member of Murder, Inc., had informed on the subject and others in the murder of some fifty-six persons in New York City and Sullivan County.

Considerable political capitol was made in the 1950 New York City election campaign of former Mayor WILLIAM

O'DWYER's failure to prosecute ANASTASIA while O'DWYER was Brooklyn District Attorney. Allegations were made by Republican mayor candidate EDWARD CORSI that O'DWYER and the Brooklyn Prosecutor's Office were guilty of gross laxity, inefficiency and mal-administration in a failure to prosecute the subject.

Further allegations were made whereby ANASTASIA's police wanted card was removed from police files on May 4, 1942. It is to be further noted that BENEDICT MARCURI, a long time associate of the subject and former official of the Sancor Corporation, is currently confined in New York City Jail awaiting trial for the garment district murder of union organizer WILLIAM LURGE in May 1949.

Former Mayor WILLIAM O'DWYER gave testimony in the 6th hearing of the Senate Crime Investigating Committee at United States Courthouse, Foley Square, concerning his reasons for not prosecuting ALBERT ANASTASIA. These reasons all center about the fact that RELES was the main State witness against ANASTASIA and as a result of his, RELES', death the indictment was dismissed.

According to B.B. TURKOS, RELES, Murder, Inc. informant, stated prior to his death at the Half Moon Hotel, that ALBERT ANASTASIA was the boss of Murder, Inc. and that no murder could be committed without ALBERT ANASTASIA's permission.

EDWARD A. HEFFERMAN, former Assistant District Attorney under WILLIAM O'DWYER, testified before the New York City Crime Commission racket investigation on December 17, 1952 that in the gang murder of longshoreman PETER PANTO, he had received information from ALBERT ANNENBAUN, one of the informants of Murder, Inc. that MENDY WEISS admitted mugging PANTO in the home of JAMES "Dirty Face" FERRACO in New Jersey in 1949 in the company of the subject.

ALBERT ANASTASIA has appeared before several Crime Commissions of the Federal Government and the State

and a review of testimony reflects that the subject furnished only negative information. An example of the fact of negative information may be seen in the subject's testimony before the New York State Crime Commission where he was accompanied by Counsel JAMES A. MAJOR, 241 Main Street, Hackensack, New Jersey.

MAJOR immediately requested that he make a short statement for record with the permission of the Commission. The following is an exact quote from Mr. MAJOR's statement:

"Mr. ANASTASIA at present is named defendant in suit instituted by the United States Attorney for the District of New Jersey for the purpose of denaturalizing him and deporting him from the United States to Italy. He has been called as a witness before the Bergen Grand Jury which was investigating the death of WILLIAM MORETTI which took place in Bergen County. He is also under investigation by the United States Treasury Department, we believe in connection with the Internal Revenue Act.

"This morning's "Times" indicates there has been some suggestion that Mr. ANASTASIA might be involved in a killing which took place in 1940. For that reason we have advised Mr. ANASTASIA that it is within his right to decline to answer any questions which might tend to incriminate him."

From this point on the subject refused to answer many questions concerning his associates, income, background, etc. Concerning ANASTASIA's connection with WILLIAM MORETTI the following is reported:

According to an article appearing in the "Brooklyn Eagle" on October 5, 1951, MORETTI met his death typical gangster style at a restaurant, Cliffside Park, New Jersey. The article indicated that four men had been waiting in the restaurant and one had gone outside to look around just before MORETTI appeared. A moment later shots rang out and MORETTI was found dead on the floor. There were no witnesses to this murder.

An article in the "Herald Tribune" dated October 9, 1951, reflects that on October 8, 1951 WILLIAM MORETTI was buried in St. Michael's Cemetery at Lodi, New Jersey. The article described the funeral as a typical gangster type in that floral tributes had come from FRANK COSTELLO, JOE ADONIS, ALBERT ANASTASIA and VITO GENOVESE; however, none of the individuals attended the funeral itself.

On October 10, 1951 former SA [REDACTED] who at that time was Chief Investigator for the New York State Anti-Crime Commission, advised that a contract was made with convicted bookmaker HARRY GROSS involving eighteen policemen in the recent trial in Brooklyn, New York. b7c

The above contract involved an agreement whereby for the price of \$200,000.00 GROSS agreed to arrange his testimony so as to force Judge SAMUEL LIEBOWITZ to dismiss the indictment against the eighteen police defendants.

GROSS had insisted that third parties be brought into the contract in order to assure him that the police would carry out part of the agreement, namely the payment of money to one BENNY BROWITZ, proprietor of the 71 Club, 53 Henry Street, Brooklyn, New York. As a result of the GROSS contract JAMES MACRI, the right-hand-man of the subject, was brought into the agreement. MACRI had an unidentified lawyer who was supposed to have met GROSS shortly after the latter's escape from police custody while at his home in Atlantic Beach.

The service charge for this contract was \$10,000.00 paid to MACRI and the subject. On October 5 and 6, 1951 [REDACTED] advised that he was extremely concerned that wholesale shooting might soon occur as a result of MORETTI's death. He stated that he had information that MORETTI was going to be killed and he knew ANASTASIA was supposed to be killed. b7c

He explained that after MORETTI and ANASTASIA had arranged and completed a contract between the indicted policemen and HARRY GROSS and after GROSS had carried through

his part of the contract MORETTI, apparently with ANASTASIA's backing, had indicated a "shake down" of the indicted policemen and their co-conspirators to the tune of \$100,000.00. As a result of the "shake down" a certain group of plainclothesmen made an agreement to talk the matter over with MORETTI and ANASTASIA. Two representatives of that group were supposed to meet MORETTI and ANASTASIA at the restaurant the morning MORETTI was shot.

[REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] continued that although no one felt sorry for MORETTI and ANASTASIA since they had broken their agreement, nevertheless they feared the outcome of recent evidence. According to [REDACTED] he felt sure that ANASTASIA was next on the list. b2

[REDACTED] b2 b7D

[REDACTED] b2 b7D

[REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] b2
b7D

[REDACTED] b7D

In a clipping from the newspaper, "Brooklyn Eagle" dated November 21, 1951 in an article entitled, "Hot Springs Says No to ANASTASIA Sojourner" the following is reflected:

"Gangster ALBERT ANASTASIA reported marked for death by the underworld was barricaded today behind the high wire fence surrounding his Italian style villa at Fort Lee, New Jersey with no place to go.

"The former lord high executioner of Murder, Inc. was told by the underworld to get out and face the same fate as gangster WILLIE MORETTI who was shot down in a Cliffside Park, New Jersey restaurant on October 4th, the New York Anti-Crime Commission reported yesterday."

"MORETTI and ANASTASIA were accused of double-crossing underworld pals, the Committee said, but it was reported that the Mafia-led mobsters had told ANASTASIA they would spare him if he retired to Hot Springs, Arkansas. It is to be noted that the murder of WILLIE MORETTI to this day