FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET FOI/PA# 1213359-1

Total Deleted Page(s) = 3
Page 1 ~ b1;
Page 2 ~ b1;
Page 3 ~ b1;

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b70

1056

MESSAGE RELAY VIA TELETYPE (RESTRICTED USE)

A-1.	(NEO INIO LED OGE)
Date: PRECEDENCE: FM: DIRECTOR, FBI	□ IMMEDIATE PRIORITY □ ROUTINE
TO: SAC, WFO	
,	
√□ White House/WH/	□ Director National Security Agency/NSA/
Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco Firearms/BATF/	Director Naval Investigative Service/DIRNAVINSERV
Central Intelligence Agency/CIA/	☐ Drug Enforcement Admin./DEA/
☐ CIA DCD/DCD/	☐ FAA Washington HQ/FAA/
Dept. of Energy HQS/DOEHQ/	☐ HQ AFOSI Bolling AFBDC/AFOSI/
☐ Dept. of Energy Germantown DIV/DOE/	□ INSCOM Ft. Meade/INSCOM/
☐ Dept. of Justice/DOJ/	□ Nuclear Regulatory Commission/NRC/
☐ Dept. of State/DOS/	□ U.S. Customs Service/UCS/
☐ Dept. of the Army/DA/	☐ U.S. Immigration & Naturalization Service/INS/
☐ Dept. of Treasury/DOT/	☐ U.S. Secret Service/USSS/
☐ Defense Intelligence Agency/DIA/	□ Other:
вт	
Classification: UNCLUS	
Addressee Internal Distribution	
For:	
Subject:	DE-158 / 163-5004 /-/
120	
See Attached	
Approved By:	Tele Ext. Room/Div.:
May/	EDEDA BURFALL OF INVESTIGATION DOON 6
	FHERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION 670
and the second second	JAN 2 2 1986

USE AND PREPARATION OF FORM 0-73

Restrictions on Use

1. Only incoming teletype messages within the categories listed in MIOG Section 16-1.7 pages 1251 & 1252 may be prepared using form 0-73.

- 2. Use of Form 0-73 is restricted to incoming teletype messages received at FBIHQ Communications Center within the last 72 hours
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- 4. Editing of message text is restricted to typed or printed changes of a word or two. Changes to the existing text involving more than a word or two will require the originator to initiate a new message using Form 0-93. Administrative data may be added immediately following the text and must be identical for all addressees.
- 5. Teletype meesages received by the Communications Center that do not meet the above criteria shall be returned to the originator for preparation using Form 0-93.

Preparation of 0-73 Form (Yellow)

- 1. Date & Precedence Type or print date and indicate precedence by checking the appropriate box.
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- 7. Approved By Box Indicate approval for transmission by initialing the approved by box. Note: The person approving the message is solely responsible for assuring all necessary editing changes are accurate and are legible.

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- 3. Editing Changes to the Text (See Restrictions on Use, item 4)
- 4. Administrative Data Type or print administrative data immediately following the text.

REC TEL

VZCZCROM113 0211340

21 JAN BS 14 042

P 2188072 JAN 86 2 | JAN 86 | 4 04

FM ROME (163A-3844) (P)

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BT

UNCLAS

BANCO AMBROSIANO; FPC-GENERAL CRIMINAL MATTERS; 00: FBIHQ

FOR INFORMATION OF BUREAU AND WFO, INSTANT MATTER INVOLVES

THE ITALIAN INVESTIGATION OF THE FAILURE OF ITALY'S

LARGEST BANK, "BANCO AMBROSIANO" OF MILAN. ITALY. THIS IS A

MOST IMPORTANT CASE IN ITALY AND OF INTEREST TO THE BUREAU AS

IT INVOLVES SEVERAL BUREAU SUBJECTS (MICHELE SINDONA AND

IN A MOST COMPLEX CASE INVOLVING FOREIGN

INTRIGUE, MURDER AND THE HIGHEST ECHELONS OF THE VATICAN. THE CASE BROKE WIDE OPEN IN 1983 WHEN THE THEN PRESIDENT OF BANCO AMBROSIANO, ROBERTO CALVI, WAS FOUND HANGING BY THE NECK BENEATH BLACK FRIERS BRIDGE IN LONDON.

ON JANUARY 16, 1986,

LA GUARDIA DI FINANZA (ITALIAN FINANCE POLICE) (GDF),
MILAN, ITALY, REQUESTED FBI ASSISTANCE IN LOCATING TWO IMPORTANT
WITNESSES IN THE UPCOMING TRIAL OF CAPTIONED MATTER AT MILAN.

b6 b7C

PAGE TWO ROM 163A-3844 UNCLAS	
ITALY. ACCORDING TO THE WITNESSES ARE REPORTEDLY	
RESIDING IN THE WASHINGTON, D.C. AREA. IF LOCATED IN THE U.S.,	9
ITALIAN AUTHORITIES WOULD THEN REQUEST JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE PER	
EXISTING TREATY BETWEEN U.S. AND ITALY TO ENSURE THAT WITNESSES	;
WOULD APPEAR TO TESTIFY.	
IDENTIFIED THE WITNESSES AS FOLLOWS:	
REPORTEDLY EMPLOYED AT THE INTERNATIONA	\L
RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT BANK, 1818 H STREET N.W.,	12
WASHINGTON, D.C.	,
2.	
AT BUENOS AIRES, BRAZIL. ACCORDING TO WAS	
TRANSFERRED TO WASHINGTON IN 1983 BY THE INTERAMERICAN	
DEVELOPMENT BANK. HAD NO FURTHER TRACES FOR	
LEAD. WFO IS REQUESTED TO CHECK INDICES AND LOGICAL	
SOURCES TO ESTABLISH SUBJECTS' PRESENCE IN WASHINGTON. AMONG	
SOURCES TO BE CHECKED FOR SHOULD BE STATE DEPARTMENT	
VISA UNIT.	
ADMINISTRATIVE	
RETRANSMIT TO WFO.	

b7C



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	FBI		
TRANSMIT VIA: Teletype Facsimile AIRTEL	PRECEDENCE: Immediate Priority Routine	CLASSIFICATION: TOP SECRET SECRET CONFIDENTIAL UNCLAS E F T O UNCLAS	
		Date 2/19/93	
	RECTOR, FBI (163A-HQ-5 ttn: Foreign Liaison C		
FROM : SA	AC, WMFO (163A-HQ-56047) (RUC)	
FI	DBERTO CALVI; EQUEST FROM ITALY FOR A PC - GCM; DO: FBIHQ)	SSISTANCE;	
	nclosed for the Bureau Letterhead memorandum s		
copies er a			
			j
	,	163-56047-	
		163-56047-	
		163-56047-	2
		163-56097-	
		163-56047-	7 C43
~ 3 - Bureau (B	Enc. 6)	163-56047	
3 - Bureau (F 1 - WMFO DSK:es		163-56047-	
I - WMFO	Enc. 6) 1/2 (2) (1/2) (1	163-56047	

(Number)

(Time)

b6

b7C



U.S. Department of Justice



Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

Washington D. C.

February 19, 1993

ROBERTO CALVI, DECEMBER 18, 1993

In reference to your request for assistance in the matter of ROBERTO CALVI, a subscriber check of telephone number reveals that number is listed to

March 11, 1993

Mr. George W. Proctor, Director Office of International Affairs United States Department of Justice Washington, D.C.

RE: ROBERTO CALVI

REQUEST FROM ITALY FOR ASSISTANCE

Dear Mr. Proctor:

Reference is made to your letter dated December 1, 1992, concerning captioned matter.

Enclosed is one copy of a letterhead memorandum, setting forth results of investigation requested.

SA	of our Brooklyn-Queens Office
advised that a check with the	Hotel Regency Manager, 9-4100, revealed that they do not
New York, (212) /5	9-4100, 10 vou 200 0000 1
keep hotel records after 5 yea	LS.

b6 b7C

Sincerely yours,

Inspector in Charge

By: Unit Chief
Foreign Liaison 1
Office of Liaison and
International Affairs

Hourd Delivered to ON 3/2/43 cey

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1213359-0

Total Deleted Page(s) = 6
Page 6 ~ Referral/Direct;
Page 7 ~ Referral/Direct;
Page 8 ~ Referral/Direct;
Page 16 ~ Duplicate;
Page 20 ~ Duplicate;
Page 21 ~ Duplicate;

 5/3/82

UNCLAS E F T O

ROUTINE

FM DIRECTOR FBI

TO LEGAL ATTACHE ROME {92-80} ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

ROBERTO CALVI; REI

RE ROME AIRTEL OF 6/17/81 CAPTIONED, "LA COSA NOSTRA, REI."

FBIHQ HAS REVIEWED REFERENCED AIRTEL AS IT PERTAINS TO ROBERTO CALVI. IT APPEARS HE MIGHT BE A KEY TO THE GROWING INTEREST IN INTERNATIONAL MONEY LAUNDERING. LEGAT SHOULD RECONTACT ITALIAN AUTHORITIES AND DETERMINE WHAT, IF ANY, CURRENT INFORMATION EXIST. IF INFORMATION EXISTS, TASK CONTINENTAL OFFICES APPROPRIATELY WITH LEADS.

BT

1

1 - AGR: KAK {2} 5/3/82 3028/6 5716 1 - DE-89 / 92 - M284 1

68 MAY 2 1982

1 MAY 6 1982

b6 b7С

R 271646Z MAY 82	Exsc. AD-Adm.
FM ROME (92-80) (P)	Exec. AD-Inv.
TO DIRECTOR POUTINE 341-27	SEXEC. AD-LES
BT/ 19 59:	Adm. Serve.
THE ACT TO SEE THE CONTRACT OF	Ident
OF TRAESTICATION	Inteli.
ROBERTO CALVI, REI.	Legal Soun.
RE BUREAU TELETYPE DATED MAY 4, 1982.	Gir. of Cong. & Public ATS.
ON MAY 13, 1982, ASSISTANT LEGAL ATTACHE	Rec. Mo. b
MET WITH MILAN, ITALY, INVESTIGATING MAGISTRATES,	Total b
AND OFFICIALS OF THE	
WHO ARE KNOWLEDGEABLE CONCERNING ONGOING	
INVESTIGATION OF ROBERTO CALVI AND THE AMBROSIANO BANK WHICH	
HE CONTROLS.	
FOR INFORMATION OF BUREAU, CALVI WAS TRIED IN ITALY FOR	
ILLEGAL EXPORTATION OF FUNDS AND WAS CONVICTED AND SENTENCED	
TO FOUR YEARS IN PRISON. HE IS CURRENTLY APPEALING THE	
	· Go
CONVICTION.	
	b7D
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PAGE	TWO	ROM	02-80	a¥ n nc	CLAS	E F	T ()	1		
	1 50			D 0			MAT		 00 4 444	 ADME I	. ~

LEGAL ATTACHE ROME WILL REMAIN ALERT FOR ANY DEVELOPMENTS
IN THE CALVI INVESTIGATION IN ITALY WHICH LINK HIM TO
ORGANIZED ORIME INTEREST.

BT

b7D

THIS IS THE BEST COPY OR COPIES AVAILABLE

0-73 (F	Rev. 3-3	1-82)	NOVEE !	14	
) (A		200	5	Vol.	/

Approved By:



MESSAGE RELAY VIA TELETYPE (RESTRICTED USE)

	7/19/09		(RESTR	CTED USE)		•	•
Date:	7/13/82	PRECEDENCE:	□ IMMEDIAT	☐ PRIORITY	X □ ROUTINE	•	
FM:	DIRECTOR, FBI						
TO:	WASHINGTON	GJETA I					
□ v	Vhite House/WH/			Director National Secu	urity Agency/NSA/	· ·	
□в	Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco	Firearms/BATF/		Director Naval Investig	gative Service/DIRNA	\VINSERV/	
□ c	Central Intelligence Agency	//CIA/		Drug Enforcement Ad	min./DEA/		
□ c	CIA DCD/DCD/			FAA Washington HQ/I	FAA/		
□ D	ept. of Energy HQS/DOE	HQ/		HQ AFOSI Bolling AFI	BDC/AFOSI/		
□ D	ept. of Energy Germanto	wn DIV/DOE/		INSCOM Ft. Meade/IN	ISCOM/		
□ D	ept. of Justice/DOJ/			Nuclear Regulatory Co	ommission/NRC/		
□ D	ept. of State/DOS/			U.S. Customs Service	/UCS/		
□ D	ept. of the Army/DA/			U.S. Immigration & Na	turalization Service/II	NS/	
□ D	ept. of Treasury/DOT/			U.S. Secret Service/L	ISSS/		
□ D	efense Intelligence Agend	cy/DIA/		Other:			
В	т						
Class	sification:	<i>y y</i>	z ^{zi} s				
Addr	essee Internal Distributi	on			,	*	
For:					<u>/ </u>		
					3.52	. s a	
Subje	ect: <u>SEE ATTACH</u>	ED					
		-			gram (hapriga)		
⊐ s	ee Attached						

16 4 66 AU. 66 A

RGP:ka^k

Originator:

Tele Ext. 5716

Room/Div.: 3028/6

b6 b7С

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THIS IS THE BEST COPY OR COPIES AVAILABLE

RECE	IVED PE UNIT	
TO DIRECTOR ROUTINE 433-12 FEDERAL OF INVES	BURGAU TIGATION	TOTAL THE TAX PERSONAL PORT OF THE PROPERTY OF
ROBERTO CALVI, PEI.		Tangun chan changa di mulan dilandi. Pi distribut di mada da mangan di mangan da mangan da mangan da mangan da
ON 7/12/82, LEGAL ATTACHE ROME AS REPORT TELETYPE DATED JULY 6, 1982,	ADVISED THE FOLLOWI	NG:
IN VIEW OF ABOVE, WFO IS REQUESTED		
CETTA NOMIT TO UFO		

ь6 ь7с 5-961245Z JUL 82

FM ROME (92A-80) (P)

TO DIRECTOR PRIORITY 422-06

BT

UNCLASE FIT O

ROBERTO CALVI, REI.

RECEIVED TELETYPE UNIT E JUL 82

FEDERAL BURGATION
OF INVESTIGATION

RE ROME TELETYPE DATED JUNE 22. 1982 (NOT RECEIVED BY WFO).

FOR INFORMATION OF WFO, ROBERTO CALVI WAS FOUND DEAD IN THE THAMES RIVER, LONDON, ENGLAND, ON FRIDAY JUNE 18, 1982. CALVI HAD DISAPPEARED FRIDAY, JUNE 11, 1982, FROM HIS ROME, ITALY, RESIDENCE. NO FINAL DETERMINATION HAS BEEN MADE AS TO CAUSE OF DEATH. AT PRESENT TWO THEORIES ABOUND; ONE SUICIDE AND THE OTHER MURDER. AUTOPSY REPORTS HAVE NOT AS YET BEEN RECVIVED BY ITALIAN AUTHORITIES.

ON THUR SDAY . JUNE 17 . 1982 . CALVI'S PERSONAL . PRIVATE SE CRETARY TERESA GRAZIELLA CORROCHER WAS KILLED WHEN SHE FELL OUT HER WINDOW. SPECULATION IS THAT SHE COMMITTED SUICIDE.

CALVI'S DISAPPEARANCE AND DEATH TOGETHER WITH THE SUICIDE OF HIS PERSONAL PRIVATE SECRETARY HAS PESULTED. OF MEDIA INTEREST. IN VIEW OF ALLEGATIONS THAT CALVI MAY HAVE

12 JUL 14 1982

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Exec. AND AND

EXEC. ADNIME Exec. AD-LES

Asst. Dir.:

Ideat.

Intell. Lahoratory .

Adm. Serve Crim. Inv.

Inspection

Logel Coun.

Off. of Conn. & Public Affa. Rec. West.

Tech. Servs. Trafraino ...

Telephone Rm. __b7C Director's Sec'y

b6

PAGE TWO POM (92A-8Ø) UNCLASE FT O

BÉEN INVOLVED IN THE MOVEMENT OF MONIES FOR ORGANIZED CPIME,

THE INVESTIGATION INTO HIS DEATH WILL BE FOLLOWED WITH INTEREST

FOR ANY INFORMATION LINKING CALVI OR HIS AMBROSIANO BANK TO

LCN OP MAFIA INTEREST.

b6 b7С b7D

PEQUEST OF THE BIREAU:

b7D

AT THE PEQUEST OF BUREAU IS REQUESTED TO CHECK NCIC FOR PECORD OF STOLEN OR LOST REPORT ON ABOVE WEAPON. SUTEL.

LEAD:

WFO IS PEQUESTED TO CONTACT ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND FIREARMS BUREAU (ATFB) IN EFFORTS TO TRACE OWNERSHIP OF ABOVE WEAPON. SUTEL.

LEGAT ROME ATTEMPTING TO ASCERTAIN FURTHER AVAILABLE PARTICULARS ON WEAPON.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

RETRANSMIT TO WFO.

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

ROUTINE

FM DIRECTOR FBI

TO LEGAL ATTACHE ROME (92A-80) ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

ROBERTO CALVI, REI.

~ J

RE LEGAL ATTACHE ROME TELETYPE TO THE BUREAU, 7/6/82.

BT 1

1- RGP: KAK £23 7/13/82 3028/6

92-192846

571b

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

5 9 AUG 5 1982

1001 14 168 2 34

3 JUL 20 1982 /6

b7D

ь6 ь7с Date: __

7/8/82

MESSAGE RELAY VIA TELETYPE (RESTRICTED USE)

☐ IMMEDIATE

☐ PRIORITY

M ROUTINE

PRECEDENCE:

FM: DIRECTOR, FBI	
TO: FBI WASHINGTON FIELD	
•	
	□ Director National Security Agency/NSA/
☐ White House/WH/	□ Director National Security Agency/NSA/
☐ Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco Firearms/BATF/	☐ Director Naval Investigative Service/DIRNAVINSERV/
☐ Central Intelligence Agency/CIA/	□ Drug Enforcement Admin./DEA/
☐ CIA DCD/DCD/	☐ FAA Washington HQ/FAA/
☐ Dept. of Energy HQS/DOEHQ/	☐ HQ AFOSI Bolling AFBDC/AFOSI/
☐ Dept. of Energy Germantown DIV/DOE/	□ INSCOM Ft. Meade/INSCOM/
☐ Dept. of Justice/DOJ/	□ Nuclear Regulatory Commission/NRC/
☐ Dept. of State/DOS/	☐ U.S. Customs Service/UCS/
☐ Dept. of the Army/DA/	☐ U.S. Immigration & Naturalization Service/INS/
☐ Dept. of Treasury/DOT/	□ U.S. Secret Service/USSS/
☐ Defense Intelligence Agency/DIA/	☐ Other:
ВТ	
Classification:	
Addressee Internal Distribution	92-19284-8
For:	
	The state of the s
Subject: SEE ATTACHED.	5 301 19 302
	At the state and we have a second and the state and the st
☐ See Attached	
Approved By: Originator:	Tele Ext. Room/Div.:
JWN: KAK.	571? 3036/6
,	
	713zw

Ro. 420 - 16.

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8/20/82

JUDGE:

RE: MYSTERIOUS DEATH OF BANCO AMBROSIANO PRESIDENT ROBERTO CALVI

On 8/16/82, passed along the question you have regarding any information we might have in our files relating to Roberto Calvi, former president (deceased) of the Banco Ambrosiar Your question was in response to an article appearing in "The New York Times" (attached), discussing Calvi's death, a possible \$1.4 billion loss to Banco Ambrosiano, and associated potential liabilities of the Vatican Bank.

Our files show that our Legat in Rome was advised by the Italian authorities that Roberto Calvi was one of several bankers arrested on 5/20/82, on charges brought by the Italian Finance Police of illegally transferring funds abroad. Calvi, a member of the Christian Democratic Party, has been linked by Italian Investigators to the Italian P-2 scandal (referring to the latest failure of the Italian Government attributed to a secret Masonic Lodge, the Propaganda-2). Well founded speculation had Calvi using his control of Banco Ambrosiano and numerous holding companies and financial institutions throughout the world for concealment and laundering

of organized crime drug related monies.

Michele Sindona was convicted on 6/17/80, on 65 counts of fraud stemming from his operation and ownership of the Franklin National Bank, Huntington, New York, which collapsed in 1974. Sindona misapplied and lost approximately \$45 million of the bank's funds in foreign exchange trading. Newspapers, at the time of the trial, reported that the Vatican lost equivalent funds in similar trading but Marcinkus and two other clerics wanted to provide character witness testimony for Sindona's trial. The Vatican did not permit the proposed testimony. The source of the newspaper material appears to be Sindona's attorney.

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www

Exec AD Adm. Exec AD Inv. Exec AD LES. Asst. Dir.: Adm. Servs Crim. Inv. 100 Ident. Intell. Laboratory Legal Coun. Plan. & Insp. Rec. Mgnt. : Tech. Servs. Training _ Off. of Cong. & Public Affs. Telephone Rm. .. Director's Sec'y . FBI/DOJ

b6 b7C

b7D

My

Note to Judge Webster

RE: MYSTERIOUS DEATH OF BANCO AMBROSIANO PRESIDENT ROBERTO CALVI

Archbishop Marcinkus was interviewed at Vatican City on 4/28/73, by the FBI and New York Organized Crime Strike Force and DOJ attorneys regarding fraudulent financial deals. was one of several interviews concerning Mario Foligni who was under investigation in a \$950 million counterfeit bond deal out of New York. The Archbishop professed no knowledge of the counterfeit bonds, which were allegedly destined for the Vatican Bank, but described two unsuccessful attempts by Foligni to engage the Vatican Bank in other transactions totalling 100 and 300 million dollars. Both of these proposed transactions had been brought to Archbishop Marcinkus through other clerics in the Vatican rather than directly from Foligni. The Archbishop thought Foligni had implicated him in the counterfeit bonds movement, because he refused to enter the previous agreements. This information was corroborated in subsequent interviews at the Vatican and of Foligni. When asked about Michele Sindona, the Archbishop referred to Sindona as a good friend with whom he had had few financial dealings and described him as one of the wealthiest industrialists in Italy.

A confidential police repor	t marcates 1
Ho	wever, we have received no
information from any of our sources we reports that the Vatican Bank shares the Banco Ambrosiano's losses.	
	O. B. Revell

Enclosure

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A Spreading Mystery in Italian Bank Scandal



By PAUL LEWIS

Special to The New York Times

ROME, July 27 - The apparent suicide of an Italian financier, known as "God's banker," who was found hanged beneath London's Blackfriars Bridge last month, has made more mysterious a major Italian financial scandal in which the Vatican appears heavily in-

The cost to the Roman Catholic Church could amount to several hundred million dollars.

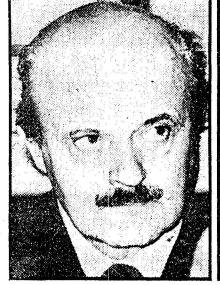
The scandal, centering on some \$1.4 billion in dubious loans by Banco Ambrosiano, Italy's largest privately owned banking group, is sending shock waves through the world of international finance and raising questions about current efforts to regulate the foreign operations of multinational banks.

Unusual Outside Inquiry

It has also strained Italy's relations with the Vatican, an autonomous governing unit in Rome. Under pressure from the Italian Government and concerned church leaders, Pope John Paul II has ordered an unusual outside investigation into the Vatican's finances by three Roman Catholic lay bankers. But the Italian Government wants the Vatican to accept a measure of financial responsibility for expected losses.

As usual in such scandals in-Italy, there are also unverifiable reports that organized-crime figures and a recently discovered, anti-Government secret Masonic lodge are somehow involved.

There are also reports that Banco Ambrosiano may have been a target of





Associated Press: Camera Press

The apparent suicide of Roberto Calvi, left, president of Italy's Banco Ambrosiano, has made more mysterious a scandal involving that bank. Archbishop Paul C. Marcinkus, right, is the head of the Vatican's bank.

the British secret service, which is said to suspect it of financing Argentine arms purchases during the war over the Falkland Islands,

The Bank of Italy first became suspicious about Banco Ambrosiano in 1978 during a general crackdown on bank fraud, but immediately ran into a heavy political opposition.

Paulo Baffi, then the governor of the central bank, was arrested and eased out of his job. Mario Sarcinelli, the central bank's chief bank regulator, was imprisoned for a while, but now has re-

claimed a place in the Government as the chief civil servant in the Finance Ministry, helping to coordinate Treasury and central bank policies.

It was Mr. Baffi's successor, Carlo Ciampi, who finally succeeded in bringing the Ambrosiano scandal out into the open in what is widely perceived in Rome as a triumph for the Bank of Italy's political independence.

The hanged banker was Roberto Calvi, 61 years old. He had joined

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Put More Wiek and In Your Life! Monadnock, Guttyhunk Edund, and I'l more Northerstern destinations in The Great RACHILEEN PHILLIPS (MS. PAJ MAPPY B.D. HAPPY 40TH, HENRY, FROM CHICCH AND Weekend Escape Book Hottm: 25 bookstorss.—AUVT. SOMEONER IV TORRESONE FOR THE STATE OF THE SOME CHICAGO.

Mystery and Questions Grow On Italian and Vatican Banks

Continued From Page 1, Section 1

Milan's Banco Ambrosiano as a clerk, worked his way up to become its president and, along the way, through a series of spectacular deals, transformed what had been a modest regional bank into a major financial power, with assets of \$18.7 billion in 1931.

Mr. Calvi, who was appealing a four-year jail sentence for illegal currency dealings, disappeared from his Rome apartment on June 10, after failing to block an inquiry by the Italian central bank into some \$1.4 billion of loans that banks he controlled had made to obscure, largely Panamanian, companies.

Five days after he vanished, his secretary jumped to her death from a window of the Milan bank. Mr. Calvi's

body was found on June 18.

Collapse of an Empire

The financial panic caused by news of Mr. Calvi's death and the Bank of Italy's investigation provoked the collapse of his financial empire. Shares of companies his group had interests in fell 30 and 40 percent on the Milan stock exchange. After depositors rushed to withdraw their funds, Banco Ambrosiano itself had to be balled out by a consourtium of six major Italian banks hurriedly put together by the Bank of Italy.

Earlier this month, Banco Ambrosiano Holdings S.A., a Luxembourg subsidiary two-thirds of which is owned by Banco Ambrosiano, defaulted on some \$400 million of foreign loans and is now in receivership. The Bank of Italy has scheduled a London meeting. Thursday of Ambrosiano

creditors.

Last week, banking authorities in the Bahamas suspended for 30 days the license of Ambrosiano's Bahamas operation, Banco Ambrosiano Overseas Ltd., in order to "restore satisfactury liquidity to its operations," the Bahamian central bank said.

"The Ambrosiano affair makes everyone wonder about the Vatican's finances, but it really illustrates the fragility of the international banking system that we are all trying to preserve," said Guido Carli, a former governor of the Bank of Italy and now a prominent industrialist.

"It's partly the normal pathology of finance—a failure of controls," said Luigi Sparventa, an independent Italian parliamentarian and economics professor. "But Calvi's death—that suggests more sinister forces," he added.

Farlier this year, Carlo de Beneditti, head of Olivetti, the big Italian office machinery manufacturer and one of the country's leading businessmen, bought a significant stake in Banco Ambrosiano but sold it again within a few months saying that he was "appalled" by what he had found.

Close Vatican Ties

According to senior officials investigating the scandal who do not wish to be identified, the Banco Ambrosiano affair centers on the close but ambiguious relationship between Mr. Čalvi and Archibishop Paul C. Marchikus, a 60-year old native of Cleero, Ill., who for the last 10 years has run the Vatican's free-wheeling but extremely secretive bank. The bank's formal name is Instituto per le Opere de Religione, the Institute for Religious Works, and is commonly referred to as I.O.R., its Italian initials.

Archbishop Marcinkus, a former chief of papal security, has been a controversial figure in financial circles because, as head of the Vatican bank, he was responsible for the Vatican's losing a reported \$30 million in the collapse in 1974 of the business empire of Michele Sindona, the Sicilian finan-

cier

Mr. Sindona, 62, is now serving a 25year jail sentence in New York in connection with the failure of the Franklin National Bank. Last week, an Italian magistrate ordered that Luigi Mennini, a layman who was second in command to Archbishop Marcinkus at the Vatican bank, should stand trial for his role in the Sindona scandal.

Extensive Lending

During 1980 and 1981, investigating officials say, the late Mr. Calvimounted an extensive lending program to the Peruvian, Nicaraguan and Nassau subsidiaries of the Banco Ambrosiano group, using funds borrowed in the Eurodollar market that eventually totaled some \$1.2 billion to \$1.4 billion.

Most of this money was then lent to a series of Panamanian companies with names such as Bellatrix Inc., Manic Inc. and Astrolfine Inc., most of which are thought to have no more than mail-addresses. The loans were granted roughly evenly by Banco Ambrosiano in Milan and by its Luxembourg subsidiery, Banco Ambrosiano Holdings.

Holdings,
But Mr. Caivl only lent these funds,
investigators say, after receving what
bankers call "letters of comfort"
from the Vatican bank. These letters,
though variety worded, implied that

the Vatican had an interest in the companies and was aware of their borrowing plans. Although such letters do not constitute a legal-guarantee that the signatory will repay the loans, they are often issued to reassure lenders that a borrowing company has reputable backing.

However the Vatican bank also demanded and received last August what investigators call a "counter letter" signed by Mr. Calvi and absolving it from all legal and financial responsibility for the loans to the Panamanian companies.

Investigating officials believe that the Vatican did have an interest in the Panamanian companies and probably controlled a number of them. But they are convinced that Mr. Calvi was also part owner and effective manager of most of the companies and used the money they borrowed to buy shares in Banco Ambrosiano and probably in other companies as well. By now, one senior official involved in the investigation estimates, the Panamanian companies own around 20 percent of Banco Ambrosiano.

'A House of Cards'

As interest rates soared last year and the dollar strengthened, the investigators surmise that Mr. Calvi found it increasingly difficult to service his dollar-denominated borrowings with the dividends from his shares, often paid in weak Italian lire. To remain solvent he was forced to borrow more. "It was a house of cards that was bound to fall down," one official said.

As his financial difficulties mounted, the investigators assume Mr. Calvi needed the Vatican letters of comfort to reassure skeptical directors of his own bank that the lending program was sound and also to satisfy

foreign lenders.

The real mystery, these sources say, is why Archbishop Marcinkus agreed to provide the letters of comfort that he knew could be used to make lenders think the Panamanian companies enjoyed Vatican backing, while at the same time demanding a secret letter from Mr. Calvi absolving the Vatican of any financial responsibility for what must have been looking by then like an increasingly risky operation. "The Vatican must have known that the two letters could not be genuine at the same time; the deal was intended to defrand and to lead people astray," argued one senior Italian financial official.

There is speculation that the Archbishop may have agreed to the deal to help out an old colleague and in adviser since Panco Ambrosiano is regarded as one of Italy's "Catholic" banks with longstanding links to the Vatican. He may also have wished to protect the Vatican's own stake in Banco Ambrosiano, which is assumed to be far more than the 1.8 percent shown by the latest official figures.

There is also evidence, officials say, that Archbishop Marcinkus became alarmed by the arrangements he had made and refused to extend the letters of comfort, which expired in June. Mr. Calvi is believed to have asked him to do so at a meeting on June 8 or 9, just after the Banco Ambrosiano directors yoted down their president by 11 to 3 ,, and agreed to cooperate with the Bank of Italy's investigation.

On this occasion, officials say, the Vatican bank also turned down a Calvi plan to ease the Banco Ambrosiano group's mounting liquidity problems by huying a package of bank shares

well above the market price. The Archbishop, according to the Vatican press office, is not available for interviews or comment.

Moral Responsibility

In the view of the Italian Treasury Minister, Nino Andreatta, and of Mr. Campi, the central bank's governor, the Vatican acted improperly in issuing letters of comfort to Banco Ambrosiano at the same time as it asked the bank to absolve it from any responsibility for the Panamian companies. They believe it must therefore bear at least a moral responsibility for any losses incurred, according to senior officials.

Addressing Parliament earlier this month, Mr. Andreatta said that "the Government is expecting a clear acceptance of responsibility on the part of" the Vatican bank, "which in some operations with Banco Ambrosiano appears in the role of an effective

In fact, the threefold aim of the Italin tan authorities, senior officials say, is to use the Banco Ambrosiano scandal to force Pope John Paul II to tighten financial controls in the Vatican, which is now experiencing its second imajor money scandal in eight years, "to end the Vatican bank's ambiguous role under Italian law, and to make the Vatican pay part of any losses incurred by Banco Ambrosiano's Luxombourg holding company.

The six-bank rescue consortium is expected to cover foreign losses by the Milan-based parent bank. Representatives of the banks involved - Banca Nazionale del Lavoro, Banca Popolare di Milano, Instituto Bancario San Paolo di Torino, Instituto Mobiliare Italiano, Banca San Paolo-Brescia and Banca Agricola Commerciale di Reggic Emilia - met today in Rome, but issued no statement.

Commission Named

The Pope has already appointed a three-member lay commission to investigate the Vatican bank. It is made up of an American Roman Catholic, Joseph Brennan, a former chairman of the Emigrant Saving and of New York; Phillipe de War a former president of Switzens Union Bank, and Carlo Circa an Italian civil servant with street des to the

Since the commission members will be reporting directly to Agustino Cardinal Casaroli, the Vatican Secretary of State who is often referred to as the Pope's Prime Minister, the Pope's move has been widely seen as a sign that Archbishop Marchikus may lose his post. However, some Italian bankers and officials feel that, with the exception of Mr. de Wech, the commission is an ineffective group that may not make much of an impact on the Vatican's ponderous administrative machinery.

Many qualified observers feel that the basic reason the Vatican bank became involved in the Ambrosiano scandal is that the Vatican, which has admitted running budget deficits of \$20 million to \$30 million a year in recent years, came to rely on its bank's profits to fill the gap. "I.O.R. was under pressure to perform and that can lead to mistakes," said Mr. Carli, the former Bank of Italy governor.

In recent years the cloak of secrecy that traditionally surrounds Vatican finances has been lifted a bit with the admission that the Holy See faces regular deficits, largely as a result of the falloff in the annual "Peter's pence" collections made in all churches for the personal use of the Pone.

However, little is known about the Vatican bank, except that in the 1970's it began to diversify its investment portfolio outside Italy, selling off major shareholdings in many Italian companies. It was this policy that brought it into contact with Mr. Sindona, who handled the tricky problem of selling large shareholdings profitably on Italy's thinly capitalized stock exchange.

\$20 Million in Profits

The bank is thought to make most of its profits from managing the funds of religious orders and churches around the world. A senior Italian official estimated that, with between \$1 billion and \$2 billion in deposits, the Vatican bank probably turns in profits of about \$20 million, or enough to make up for the Vatican's lauget deficit. "Being essential has allowed I.O.R. to keep too much freedom," he said.

The bank, which is not subject to

Italy's exchange controls and banking regulations, is also thought to have been used by Italian financiers as a conduit for smuggling money out of the country, officials said.

And the Italian Finance Ministry and central bank, besides wanting tighter discipling over Vatican finances, words also like to see the Vatican bank's legal position changed, as a further way of keeping it under control. "The aim is one bank under Italian regulation for the Vatican's live assets, and another offshere bank to handle foreign corrency balances, with no leakage," a senior official explained.

high calimates by the Italian contral bank suggest that losses by Banco Ambrosianc's Luxembourg holding company might run as high as \$400 million to \$500 million. So far, officials say, the Vatican has declined to accent any responsibility. But they hope that the lay commission may recommend that it do so in order to safeguard the Vaticau bank's thuncial reputation.

And the Chase Manhattan Bank, while denying in New York that any agreement has been reached, has expressed interest, officials here said, in arranging a \$500 million credit for the Vatican bank, once its finances are overhauled. In case the Vatican does provide some assistance, Italian officials hint that the Italian central bank

may also offer help.

However, the Bank of Italy has already come under attack from private bankers in Britain and the United States for what they see as a wanten endangering of the international banking system by the central bank's refusal to bail out Banco Ambrosiano's Luxembourg holding company under the central bankers' concordat of 1974. This agreement was reached by major central banks, after the failure of West Germany's Herstatt Bank, at a meeting in Basel, Switzerland, and basically commits them to meet any liquidity shortage in national banks as well as in their overseas branches.

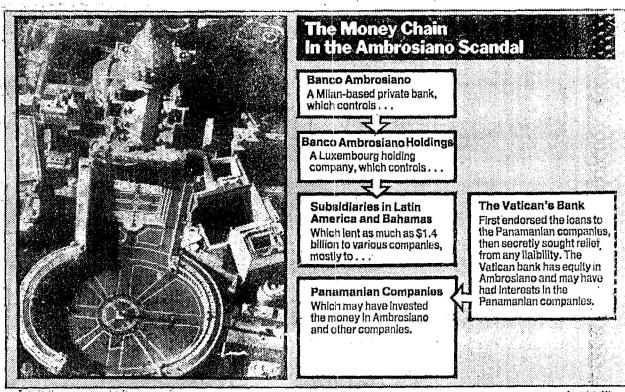
But the Italian central bank argues that Banco Ambrosiano Holdings is not a bank and is not even supervised by Luxembourg's banking authority. It also maintains that the holding company is not facing a temporary liquidity shortage that can be cleared up with a little help, but is fundamentally insolvent. "We are not bound to bail out insolvent banks," an official

Abundance of Rumors

On the darker side of the Banco Ambroslano scandal, rumors abound but / facts are scarce. Mr. Calvi was named last May as a member of the P-2 Masonie lodge, which was accused of trying to undermine Italy's parliamentary system. He denied belonging to the group, but it was inevitable that, when his body was found beneath the Blackfriars Bridge in London, the connection to the Masons - whose members were black robes - set off further speculation.

Toward the end of his life, Mr. Calvi is said to have become increasingly involved with suspected underworld figures as his needs for ready cash increased. There are also rumors that he lent Peru \$200 million to buy Exccet missiles for the Argentine forces during the Falkland war and thus became a target for the British secret

In light of the rumors, officials at the normally staid Bank of Italy and Finance Ministry expressed conve-ment at last week's finding by a Landon coroner that Mr. Calvi did indeed commit soleide by hanging biuself under the bridge. The common recetion was: "Why bother to go to Landon to do that?"



Associated Press

Aerial view of part of Vatican City. Square building at right center is Apostolic Palace which houses Vatican's bank.