



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ALPHONSE CAPONE

PART 1 OF 11

BUFILE NUMBERS:

62-20034, 62-24153, AND 62-27268

SUBJECT Capone, Alphonse

FILE NUMBER 62-20034

SECTION NUMBER _____

SERIALS 1-2

TOTAL PAGES 6

PAGES RELEASED 6

PAGES WITHHELD 0

EXEMPTION(S) USED -

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JAMES H. DAVIS, CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE

2

June 20, 1928.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director,
 Bureau of Investigation,
 Department of Justice.

My dear Mr. Hoover:

If in order for you to furnish, I would be glad to have resume of any record on file concerning Al Capone - recently known as the Chicago Gangster.

Capone is now residing at Miami or Miami Beach, Florida.

Very truly yours,

Amear H.atcher

62. *www*

RECORDED & INDEXED

JUN 22 1928

62-20034-1	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
JUN 21 1928 A. M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
Div. Two	FIB

6-21-28

62-6310-303-307-316-374-421-509

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FPB:FMS
62-20084-1

RECORDED

JUN 22 1928

Hon. Dunbar W. Fletcher,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Senator:

I am in receipt of your letter of June 20, in which you request that there be furnished to you a review of any record on file concerning one Al Capone, reportedly known as the Chicago "Gangster."

A search has been made of the Bureau's files and the only information found therein concerning Al Capone is, that in December, 1925, some inquiry was made by the Bureau with a view to locating the whereabouts of Al Capone, inasmuch as it had been reported that a relative of Capone, who was acting as chauffeur for him, might be able to furnish some information concerning Martin J. Durkin, who was wanted for the murder of Special Agent E. C. Shanahan of this Bureau. It was subsequently ascertained that Capone's chauffeur had no information concerning him.

There is also found in the files a report to the effect that one Alfred Capone, of Chicago, was a defendant in a civil suit instituted by the Government for damage to a mail truck.

No references to the name of Al Capone other than the above are found in the Bureau's files.

With best wishes, I am

Very truly yours,

Director.



[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten initials]

62-20034-2

RECORDED & INDEXED

MAR 2 - 1930

February 21, 1930

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
GENERAL DAVIS

I am attaching hereto a letter directed to the President by Mrs. M. V. Wilman of Buffalo, New York, in which the writer complains of the incarceration of her son, Donald, by "Al Capone" at Miami, Florida.

This does not appear to be a matter falling within the investigative jurisdiction of the Bureau and I am therefore forwarding Mrs. Wilman's letter to you for such action or reply as you may deem appropriate.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Enc. 459908

*Donald Wilman
Kathleen
Buffalo, N.Y.*

015-2-2-3190

BUREAU FILES DIVISION
MAILED
FEB 23 1931
A.M.
DEPT. OF JUSTICE

From
 ASSISTANT CHIEF CLERK
 to

OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK-MARK **FILED**

Attorney General _____	Mr. Gardner _____
Solicitor General _____	Mr. Caldwell _____
Asst. to the Attorney General _____	Mr. Allison _____
Asst. Attorney General Zisson _____	Mr. Sornborger _____
Asst. Attorney General Richardson _____	Mr. Robb _____
Asst. Attorney General Youngquist _____	Mr. Bodholdt _____
Asst. Attorney General Rugg _____	Mr. Goetz _____
Asst. Attorney General _____	Mr. Kearney _____
Asst. Attorney General _____	Miss Fitzgerald _____
Mr. Hoover _____	Miss Waddle _____
Mr. Bates _____	

INVESTIGATION
 FEB 24 1931 AM
 DIV. 2

*Mrs. M. V. Malman
 memo. Waddle
 2/26/31*

MEMORANDUM **62-20034-2**

RECORDED

MAR 2 - 1930

FEB 27 1931

THB
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m

President Hoover

Dear Sir:

OFFICE G. BE
RECEIVED
FEB 27 1931
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Al Capone has my son

imprisoned in his place at
Miami Florida will you

please send some of our
soldiers to please bring

Donald home, Donald is an

American citizen was in

here in Chicago and was

kidnapped by Communists

not only Donald but also

his sister, William, etc.

please help them.

of the ... exchange
for them.

By the way ...
don't know ... help me. I
know ... has done
nothing ... has
... but he is
... please

A heart ... Mother

John ... Williams

... Hampshire

... my

SUBJECT Capone, Alphonse
FILE NUMBER 62-24153
SECTION NUMBER _____
SERIALS 1-57
TOTAL PAGES 215
PAGES RELEASED 212
PAGES WITHHELD 3
EXEMPTION(S) USED b7D

September 15, 1930.

21/7

Memorandum of telephone call from Mr. Richey, White House.

Mr. Richey said that Mr. Ralph Merritt, of California, was on his way over to the Department from the White House, to see Mr. Hoover, and suggested that it would be worth while for Mr. Hoover to talk to him.

Mr. Hoover said he would be glad to see Mr. Merritt.

Did.

HWG

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-24153-1

SEP 17 1930 A. M.	
SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED

SEP 17 1930

*Memo for
the Files
9/16/30
JWH*

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

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

September 16, 1930.

62-MS

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES.

Mr. Richey, Secretary to the President, called by telephone on the 15th. and said that Mr. Ralph Merritt, of California, would call to see me about a matter which he was desirous of submitting for the Bureau's consideration. Mr. Merritt called and stated that he was actively connected with the Grape Growers Association of California. He stated that the Farm Board had made extensive loans to this industry and that a Mr. Cann was the head of the industry, administering the funds advanced by the Farm Board. He said that Mr. Cann had been in receipt of several anonymous communications, as well as numerous 'phone calls, from alleged racketeer interests threatening his life if he continued to carry out his program. He stated that Mr. Cann had been informed that he should not come to New York or Chicago and if he did so he would be killed. Mr. Merritt wanted to know whether there was some protection the Department of Justice could furnish Mr. Cann in view of his semi-official status in administering the funds advanced as a loan by the Farm Board. I informed Mr. Merritt that off-hand I did not know of any law warranting any action being taken but suggested that he submit the entire matter to the representatives of the Farm Loan Board and if they thought it was possible to do so they might submit the matter to the Department of Justice, inquiring whether it was a matter falling within the jurisdiction of the Department and whether protection could be furnished Mr. Cann in the capacity he was serving.

Mr. Merritt left saying he would submit the matter to the Farm Loan Bureau.

Very truly yours,
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62-24153-1

SEP 17 1930

Director

Director
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120 JUL 27 1964

Miller
SEP 18 1930

September 17, 1930.

62-24153

Memorandum of telephone call to Mr. Ralph Merritt.

Mr. Merritt said a mistake had been made in addressing the letter to Mr. Dodge instead of Mr. Dodds. That the Farm Board had written it and it is now on the desk of Mr. Dodds, Assistant Attorney General.

Mr. Hoover said he had made inquiry late yesterday but had been advised that the letter was not yet in. Mr. Merritt said it was not sent over until late yesterday. Mr. Merritt said that when a conclusion is reached he will be very glad to come over and see Mr. Hoover. Mr. Hoover said Mr. Dodds would not be in town until tomorrow but that he will talk to him tomorrow morning, and will more than likely give Mr. Merritt a ring.

HWC

Enc. 1

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SEP 19 1930

62-24153-2
SEP 18
RECORDED

3

September 18, 1930.

SEP 22 1930
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3-1114

Memorandum of telephone call from Mrs. Willebrandt.

Mrs. Willebrandt said that Mr. Teague of the Federal Farm Board has been talking to her and has given her information concerning the holding up of cars in the Chicago yards by racketeers. Mrs. Willebrandt asked if it appears from the facts that the Board has disclosed - if the racketeers are holding up cars, and going thru the yards at Chicago - can the Bureau post men there to check up on it. Mr. Hoover said he thought it outrageous * * - Mrs. Willebrandt interrupted to say that she is not interested at all in the protection of the man (the man who disburses the Loan) personally.

DEPT. OF INVESTIGATION
SEP 22 1930

Mrs. Willebrandt says that Mr. Teague has the Chief Auctioneer of the Railroad yards here. She asked if the Bureau could not act if Mr. Hoover is given the story. She asked if it does not fall within the Bureau's work. Mrs. Willebrandt said that of course if the Federal Government steps in and makes the racketeers lose that much more money they will be all the more dangerous to the man.

Mr. Hoover suggested that Mrs. Willebrandt have Mr. Teague come over this morning and see Mr. Dodds. Mrs. Willebrandt said that while Mr. Teague was talking to her Mr. Dodds and Mr. Merritt were in conference. Mr. Dodds was very much interested but did not have the later information which is more complete. Mr. Dodds suggested that men be assigned to the Farm Board and paid by them, but it is thought that this will not be as practical. The racketeers keep the cars in a tie up so long that the ice melts and the contents of the cars are spoiled.

Mrs. Willebrandt said she has the name of the Capone Racketeer who is in charge of the yards. They insist on being paid from \$5 to \$100 per car before they will release them. Mrs. Willebrandt says there will be such a long delay if they do as Mr. Dodds suggests. Mrs. Willebrandt said she would give Mr. Hoover the details which Mr. Teague had given her. She said she wished to have the man see Mr. Hoover. Mr. Hoover said Mr. Dodds was the one he should see and talk to and that he would arrange while Mrs. Willebrandt holds the phone for a conference. (Called Mr. Dodds)

Mr. Dodds said he would see the men right away and Mr. Hoover said he would go in with them. Mrs. Willebrandt said all the assurance she desired was that Mr. Hoover would take care of the matter.

Mr. Hoover said he would be so glad to be able to get Capone in some way. ~~Johnson~~ has not yet tried the case he has. Mrs. Willebrandt said she thought all ~~Johnson~~ needs is for someone to back him up. He would do much more than he has.

memo to
Willebrandt
9-23-30
MH

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62-24153-3

Mrs. Willebrandt gave the names of the men from Chicago as Manny Schreiber; Uhrgang, and Mills. Mills is head of the Auctioneer

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Nathan
Three

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SEP 24 1930

Mrs. Willebrandt said that these men are very shy of talking to anyone but Mr. Teague. Mrs. Willebrandt said she would try to have the men "rounded up". That they were with Mr. Teague fifteen minutes ago. Mr. Hoover said he would talk to Mr. Dodds before they arrive.

Memorandum of telephone call from Mr. Teague.

Mr. Teague said he had talked with Mrs. Willebrandt and that the men are to return to his office at 12:30. He cannot get in touch with them until then. They will come in to see Mr. Hoover then. Mr. Teague will call Mr. Hoover and let him know. Mr. Hoover suggested that Mr. Teague call Mr. Dodds and let him know when they are coming over.

Mrs. Willebrandt telephoned to ask if Mr. Teague had gotten in touch with Mr. Hoover.

END

Abner A Conn

My Director California Textile Institute
Chair Ex. Comm. Fruit Industries Inc
85 Second Street
San Francisco

Home address

525 Hillborough Blvd.
Hillborough Calif.

Mr. Mark Anderson - ~~Mr. Lohm~~ will see him Thursday
morning.

Joe Ferraro - shot six weeks ago

Call Mr. Deane -

Mr. Lohm will get list of names of buyers - see lead

[Handwritten signature]

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

September 23, 1930.

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

SEP 24 1930

62-24153-4	
SEP 23 1930 INVESTIGATION	
SEP 24 30 A M	
Nathan	
FILE	

At 2 o'clock on the afternoon of the 20th instant I attended a conference in the office of Mr. Nugent Dodds, when there were present Mr. Dodds, Mr. Oseas of Mr. O'Brian's Division, Mr. Donald D. Conn, Managing Director of the California Vineyardists Association, Chairman, Ex-Commissioner of the Fruit Industries, Inc., 85 Second Street, San Francisco, and Mr. Merritt, formerly Managing Director of the Sunkist Orange Co. and now associated with Mr. Conn. The discussion first revolved about the question as to the power of this Department under the statutes to assign an Agent of the Bureau to the Farm Loan Board for such work as the Farm Loan Board might direct, presumably in connection with the protection of the person of Mr. Conn, whose life has been threatened by the gangsters of Chicago. Not having any very definite idea as to what the matter was all about, I requested Mr. Conn to relate the story which he did and which was in substance about as follows:

For several years back it seems that the gangsters of Chicago and New York particularly have levied tribute against the grape growers and shippers of juice grapes in the form of an assessment against each carload of grapes coming into Chicago and also in the form of an assessment of 3¢ against each lug or crate of grapes sold at the Chicago Freight Yards from the cars. Mr. Conn stated that they had endeavored to combat this practice which led to a depression of the grape market and in his efforts to ascertain exactly what was going on, he placed a gangster by the name of Joe Ferrera, one of the Capone group, on his payroll and ascertained the facts with regard to this racket which is designed to permit the gangsters to buy in the grapes arriving at Chicago at practically their own price because of the fact that they destroy the market for the grapes. He stated that the Chicago Police were absolutely under the domination of the gangs; that during the grape shipping season while the carloads of grapes were on the tracks at Chicago, the police invariably conducted numerous raids particularly in the foreign section of Chicago seizing and destroying small lots of home made wine and intimidating the foreign populace so that they would not go to the freight yards to purchase grapes and manufacture wine for their own consumption. He stated further that the gangsters employed several men to warn the foreign element at the freight yards to be careful as the police and Prohibition Department were active in searching out those who purchased grapes to manufacture wine. He stated further that Ferrera had given him the information relative to the persons behind this racket. Ferrera's employment with Conn, of course, was supposed to be unknown to Capone but apparently they learned something of his double dealing because a few months back Ferrera and his companion were shot and

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62-24153

killed at Chicago, and since that time Conn himself has received several communications warning him to discontinue his activities for the grape growers. On one occasion 2 gangsters made a personal call on him in his hotel room at Chicago and again warned him not to return to Chicago. Mr. Conn stated that there is no doubt but what the Capone crowd know of his connection with Ferrera and therefore are out to "get" him.

When Mr. Dodds observed that Mr. Irrgang had called on him the day before, Mr. Conn immediately stated that Irrgang was tied up hand and fist with the Airello-Moran gang and that Irrgang has not only been fully informed of all the circumstances with regard to this racket but has himself been a party to it; that now apparently the only reason he is complaining is because in addition to the \$20 assessment against each car, which Irrgang himself has participated in, the Moran gang is adding a \$30 assessment, making \$50 in all and, of course, Irrgang is now squealing because the shoe is on the other foot. He stated that Messrs. Mills and Godding, who accompanied Mr. Irrgang to the office of Mr. Dodds, the day before, and had previously been in conference with Mr. Teague of the Farm Board, were henchmen of Irrgang, fully acquainted with all of the facts and parties to them. Mr. Conn did, however, state that Irrgang's facts were correct and that the Department might look with profit to Irrgang for his side of the story. Mr. Conn was particularly anxious to have the Department and Bureau place Agents in the freight yards at Chicago for the purpose of observing the actual payment of the 3¢ lug assessment on all persons buying grapes. There is no doubt in my mind but what his real purpose was, and in fact he admitted the same, to make a display of force on the part of the Federal Government in order to enhance the price of his grapes and obtain a better net therefor. In fact, he stated, that on the thousands of carloads of grapes which had recently been shipped to the East from California, no shipper had yet made any profit in fact practically all of them had lost money on grapes shipped to the East; and that they would continue to lose money unless something were done to break up the activities of the gangsters particularly in Chicago. Mr. Merritt endeavored to argue that the Department had a right under the law to assign a man or men to the Farm Board for any use that they might desire to make of them. Mr. Dodds, Mr. Oseas and the writer combatted that contention and it was therefore dismissed. Mr. Merritt, however, argued that the government and particularly the Farm Board had a property interest in the life and person of Mr. Conn inasmuch as he, Mr. Conn, had been designated after careful selection to disburse a million dollars for the Farm Board in alleviating the conditions in the grape industry. He related the fact that although the Farm Board had seen fit to take over four hundred thousand tons of grapes out of the market in order to take up the surplus by diverting these grapes to the making of medicinal wine for which Mr. Doran of the Treasury Department had issued a special permit, nevertheless, the retail price of grapes in the East this year is lower than ever before, and the Farm Board's plan, of course, will prove an absolute failure unless drastic action is taken.

Mr. Dodds asked Mr. Conn for names of persons who would be in a position to supply the Bureau and Department with facts relative to the assessment against the carloads of grapes and also relative to the tribute exacted against each lug at the freight yards. Mr. Conn stated that he would be glad to place the Agents of the Bureau in touch with a Mr. Mark Adamson, one of the receivers of carload lots of grapes at Chicago, in open competition with Charles Irrgang, the complainant, who had been to the Department the day before. Mr. Conn stated, however, that he was satisfied that Mr. Adamson would not give the Bureau Agents any information in the absence of his, Mr. Conn's, help and insistence and he suggested that if the Agents might meet him at Chicago on Thursday morning of this week, he would put them in touch with Mr. Adamson and would urge Mr. Adamson to disclose such facts as were in his possession. Mr. Dodds and Mr. Oseas agreed that this action at least might be taken and consequently it was arranged that Mr. Conn would advise Mr. Dodds or the writer on Wednesday morning, the 24th instant, of his reservation to Chicago, he expecting to arrive in that city on Thursday morning, the 25th instant. It was further agreed that the Bureau would arrange to assign 2 Agents to meet Mr. Conn on the train a short distance out of Chicago and proceed with him to a point where they might interview Mr. Adamson. Mr. Conn is to be in Chicago between trains only $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours, consequently, it will be only possible for him to see Adamson for a short time, introduce the Agents to Adamson and do what he can to urge Adamson to disclose the facts.

It was also agreed that the Chicago office of the Bureau would immediately assign Agents to interview Mr. Charles W. Irrgang who had previously called at the Department, for the purpose of obtaining a complete statement from him and also interview Mr. Godding and Mr. Mills who accompanied Mr. Irrgang to the Department. The Chicago office was advised by telephone to have Irrgang interviewed on Monday morning and was also advised generally of the desire of the Bureau to have 2 Agents meet Mr. Conn on Thursday morning. Further telephonic instructions will be issued to the Chicago office when Mr. Conn had advised of his train reservation.

With regard to the situation at New York, it appears that the price on grapes is more or less controlled by an alleged conspiracy on the part of the Truckers Union, it appearing that the Union has increased its price for trucking grapes from 3¢ to 10¢ per lug during the past year. The 10¢ lug charge is a prohibitive charge, apparently out of all reason, and is really an assessment in another form. It was agreed that the New York situation might wait until we ascertain just what the facts are at Chicago. It was pointed out by Mr. Conn and Mr. Merritt that there are only three big markets for grapes in the East, the same being Chicago, New York and Pittsburgh, and that practically 90% of all grapes shipped from California went into these markets and by far the larger percentage to Chicago. The question of jurisdiction of the Department in entering into the investigation at all was discussed at some length between Mr. Dodds and Mr. Oseas and Mr. Oseas was of the opinion that the jurisdiction even at best is doubtful, however, he agreed that a preliminary investigation should be made in an effort to determine the jurisdiction. The writer vigorously objected to any plan which might place Agents of the Bureau as ob-

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servers in the freight yards at Chicago and stated that the Bureau was not accustomed to assigning its Agents to police work of this type. Mr. Oseas and Mr. Dodds supported the writer in that contention and it was agreed that that plan would not be adopted. Mr. Conn promised to obtain a list of the buyers of carload lots of grapes in order that the Bureau may interview said buyers for the purpose of ascertaining the facts with regard to the payment of a levy on one occasion of \$20 and on another occasion of \$30.

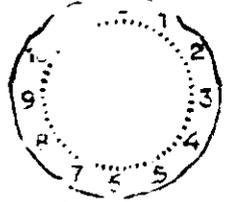
Respectfully,



V. W. Hughes.

U. S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Investigation

P. O. Box 1405
Chicago, Illinois



SEP 24 1930

62-24153-11	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
September 22, 1930	
SEP 26 1930 A	
Mr. Tolson	FILE

RECORDED & INDEXED
SEP 26 1930

Director
Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

RE: Complaint Concerning Alleged Payment
of Tribute to Racketeers by Buyers of
Juice Grapes in Chicago, Illinois.
Anti-Trust Matter.

Dear Sir:

Confirming telephone conversation of this date made by Special Agent R. N. Butterworth of the Chicago Bureau office to the Anti Trust Division of the Bureau of Investigation at Washington, D. C., in which the substance of this letter was telephoned, the following data is submitted:

Special Agents R. N. Butterworth and Albert Miller interviewed Charles W. Irrgang and C. R. Godding who supplied the following information concerning tribute paid to racketeers and gangsters by buyers of juice grapes in Chicago, Illinois: Charles W. Irrgang, 169 South Water Market, Chicago, Illinois, stated that in 1929 Joe Ferrera, a notorious gangster of Chicago, Illinois, representing the Diello-Moran Gang, conducted a "racket" in which tribute was collected on all juice grapes sold on the Chicago and Northwestern "juice grape track" at Clinton Street, Chicago, Illinois. The tribute varied and was paid by the buyers to the racketeers. The first week of October 1929, Joe Ferrera stopped the auctioning of cars at the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad track and insisted that all juice grapes auctioned be sold at the Chicago Produce Terminal track, 27th & Ashland Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. The United States Fruit Auction Company agreed with Ferrera to pay \$20.00 a car from the auction's funds on all cars auctioned at the Chicago and Northwestern "juice grape track" and the racketeers agreed not to interfere with the auctioning of juice grapes at the other three distributing points in Chicago, Illinois, where grapes are unloaded on the railroads. The United States Fruit Auction Company paid \$1300 to Joe Ferrera by check at the end of the season of 1929 for the cars of juice grapes auctioned at the Chicago and Northwestern track at \$20 a car.

On the other one thousand cars sold at the Chicago and Northwestern track at Clinton Street, Chicago, Illinois, Ferrera obtained from 5¢ to 30¢ a lug as tribute from the buyers before he allowed the cars to be opened. Most of the juice grape buyers in Chicago are composed of

comes to
Mr. B. Brown
Mr. W. W. ...
5-25-30

Rowland
1207
see 26-11670
see 26-11670

barbers, boot-blacks and peddlers, who purchase a car of juice grapes and resell it in small lots. Tony Butch was bodyguard of Joe Ferrara in 1929 and both of these men were shot in the Spring of 1930, Ferrara being killed and Butch seriously wounded. Butch subsequently fled to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he has been in hiding up until a short time ago when he returned to Chicago, Illinois.

Mr. Irrgang stated that the line-up for 1930 of the racketeers for the sale of juice grapes at the Chicago and Northwestern track is in charge of Ted Newberry who is aligned with the Al Capone gang and furnishes the money to buy the grapes. Manny Schrieber, of the Fruit and Produce Company, Chicago, Illinois, has been put in charge of this "racket," and Tony Butch has been brought from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to work with Schrieber. Schrieber's "muscle man" is Tony Romano, a racketeer who represents Newberry and Schrieber in the intimidation of juice grape buyers and has charge of the gun men.

On September 12, 1930, three gun men in a Buick Sedan visited the Produce Terminal track at 27th & Ashland Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, for the purpose of intimidating the buyers, and on September 16, 1930, two other gun men came to this track in a Lincoln Sedan, showing their guns, and told Sam Grey and his partner Dave (last name unknown) that the gun men represented Manny Schrieber and that these buyers would hear more about this matter later. On September 19, 1930, Mr. Irrgang returned from the auction at 27th & Ashland Avenue, Chicago, with Manny Schrieber and Tony Romano, and on this trip Schrieber told Irrgang that Schrieber had taken Ferrara's place in the juice grape racket and that Schrieber would later see Irrgang to make a deal on the cars of juice grapes auctioned at the railroad tracks in Chicago, Illinois.

On September 21, 1930, Mark T. Adamson, a Chicago fruit broker, who handled the Ferrara juice grape purchases in 1929 on a joint account of Adamson and Ferrara, and Manny Schrieber talked to Perry Stern, assistant to Irrgang and an auctioneer in the United States Fruit Auction Company at the Atcheson, Topeka and Santa Fe track on 21st and Archer Streets, Chicago, Illinois. Mr. Schrieber stated to Mr. Stern that the representatives of the juice grape growers from California were coming into Chicago and selling juice grapes at lower prices than the market price and that these representatives would be prevented from doing this after Schrieber had organized the juice grape market. On the same afternoon at the Chicago and Northwestern juice grape track, Tony Romano told Perry Stern substantially the statement as given by Schrieber to Perry Stern.

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It was known in Chicago, Illinois, on September 19, 1930, that Mr. Irrgang, Mr. Mills and Mr. Godding were in Washington for the purpose of discussing the juice grape matter because Mark T. Adamson on September 19, asked Joseph P. Scanlan, the representative of the California Fruit Growers Exchange in Chicago, while they were standing in the lobby of the Produce Exchange Building, whether Irrgang, Godding and Mills had accomplished anything by their visit to Washington, D. C. On September 20, 1930, Mr. Irrgang stated he was informed by Mr. Hal Pitt, the assistant to Mr. Scanlan, that Mark T. Adamson knew that Messrs. Irrgang, Mills and Godding had been in Washington, D. C., and further stated that the appointment of these gentlemen with Mr. Teague of the U. S. Farm Loan Board at Washington, D. C. was made by Mr. Joseph P. Scanlan of Chicago, Illinois.

Mr. Irrgang stated that on September 21, 1930, Tony Romano talked with Perry Stern, the assistant of Mr. Irrgang, at the Clinton Street yard of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad, and that Mr. Romano made the following remark: "Give my regards to Irrgang. He should have seen us before going to Washington and will regret it."

Mr. Irrgang stated that Mr. Larry Archer of the American Fruit Growers, Inc., located in the Produce Exchange Building, Chicago, Illinois, had informed him that Newberry of the Al Capone gang had appointed Manny Schrieber to collect tribute in connection with the juice grape racket this year as was conducted last year by Joe Ferrara on behalf of the Aello-Moran gang.

Mr. Irrgang stated that the juice grape cars are received in Chicago on the following tracks:

- First, Atcheson, Topeka & Santa Fe, Chicago, Illinois, 21st Street and Archer Avenue.
- Second, Chicago and Northwestern, Clinton Street near Kinzie Street, Chicago, Ill.
- Third, Chicago Produce Terminal, 27th & Ashland Ave., Chicago, Ill.
- Fourth, Rock Island, Taylor Street to 16th, South Chicago, Illinois.

During 1929 five thousand cars of juice grapes were unloaded in Chicago, Illinois, and of this number eleven hundred cars were unloaded at the Chicago and Northwestern track, thirteen hundred and sixty cars at the Chicago Produce Terminal track and the remaining cars were split between the Rock Island Railroad and the Atcheson, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad juice grape tracks.

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Mr. Irrgang stated that there is a surplus of grapes this year and that 400,000 tons have been left on the vines, having been purchased by the Farm Loan Board, to be used as by products.

Mr. Irrgang also stated that Mark T. Adamson, of the Produce Exchange Building, Chicago, Illinois, was a very close friend of Joe Ferrara and was lined up with him and will probably be connected with Mamy Schrieber in the buying of grapes this year.

Mr. E. E. Mills, 1425 South Racine Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, treasurer of the U. S. Fruit Auction Company, Chicago, Illinois, is out of Chicago at the present time and will not be back until Wednesday, September 24, 1930, when he will be interviewed by Agents of the Chicago Bureau office.

Mr. C. R. Godding, 66 South Water Market, Chicago, Illinois, secretary of the U. S. Fruit Auction Company, which is the auction in which the juice grape cars are sold, stated that he accompanied Mr. E. E. Mills and Mr. Charles Irrgang to Washington, D. C., on September 17, 1930, and that on September 18, 1930, these gentlemen had a conference with Mr. Teague of the Farm Loan Board in the morning, and in the afternoon had a conference with Mr. Dodd of the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice. Mr. Godding stated that Mr. Irrgang at these conferences did most of the talking as Mr. Irrgang was more familiar with the matter of the racket in the juice grape business in Chicago, Illinois.

Mr. Godding verified the data furnished by Mr. Irrgang, as reflected in this letter, concerning the payment by the U. S. Fruit Auction Company of \$20 a car to Joe Ferrara on the juice grapes sold by this auction at the Chicago and Northwestern juice grape track during 1929 and added that he and Mr. Mills do not know the details of the other facts set forth in this letter as shown by Mr. Irrgang, except as they have been informed of them by Mr. Irrgang. Mr. Godding stated that the U. S. Fruit Auction Company was incorporated in 1926 in Chicago under the laws of the State of Illinois, with a capital stock of \$250,000, \$190,000 of which has been paid in. 51% of the issued stock of the U. S. Fruit Auction Company is owned by the Chicago Auction Company and the Independent Fruit Auction Company, of which the Independent Fruit Auction Company owns 60% of the 51%, and the Chicago Auction Company owns 40% of the 51%, the remaining 49% of the U. S. Fruit Auction Company being owned by individuals interested in the fruit and produce business.

18

The officers of the U. S. Fruit Auction Company are as follows:

F. E. ~~Mellis~~, President.
C. W. ~~Irrgang~~, Vice-President.
E. E. ~~Mills~~, Treasurer.
C. R. ~~Godding~~, Secretary.

These officers compose the Board of Directors with Victor Elting, a Chicago attorney.

The Fruit Auction Sales Company is engaged in the business of auctioning of table grapes and other fruit in broken car lots. The company was incorporated in 1927 under the laws of the State of Illinois, with an authorized capital stock of \$300,000, of which 60% is owned by the Chicago Auction Company and 40% by the Independent Fruit Auction Company.

The officers of the Fruit Auction Sales Company are as follows:

C. R. Godding, President.
C. W. Irrgang, Vice-President and General Manager.
E. E. Mills, Treasurer.
W. B. ~~Clore~~, Secretary.

These officers compose the Board of Directors with Frank Cuneo of Chicago, Illinois, added.

Mr. Godding stated that the Chicago Auction Company and the Independent Fruit Auction Company were formerly in business in Chicago, Illinois, and incorporated the Fruit Auction Sales Company and the U. S. Fruit Auction Company to handle all sales of fruit on the auctions in Chicago, Illinois.

Very truly yours,

F. X. Fay
F. X. FAY

Acting Special Agent in Charge

The following information was received telephonically from Agent Battenworth at Chicago, Ill.

Re: Interference with Interstate Transportation of Juice Grapes

Charles V. Whirgang, stated that in 1929 Joe Ferrara, representing the Airollo-Moran gang, obtained a racket on all juice grapes sold at the Northwestern Track on Clinton Street, Chicago. The first week of October, 1929, Ferrara stopped the auctioning of cars at this track, and insisted that all juice grapes mentioned be sold at the Chicago Terminal Track, 27th and Ashland Avenue. The United States Fruit Auction Company agreed to pay \$30.00 from the auction fund on all cars auctioned at the Northwestern Track if the racketeers did not interfere with the sales as to the auction on the other three tracks in Chicago. The Auction Company paid \$1300 to Joe Ferrara at the end of the season in 1929 on the cars auctioned at the Northwestern Track at \$30.00 a car. On the other 1,000 cars sold at the Northwestern Track, Ferrara obtained five cents a lug and up from the buyers of the grapes before the cars were opened at the track. The juice grapes buyers are barbers, bootblacks and peddlers who buy a car and resell it in small lots. Tony Bucca was body guard for Ferrara and both were shot this Spring, Ferrara being killed and Bucca wounded. Bucca subsequently returned to Milwaukee where he has been in hiding up until recently.

Line Up The line up for 1930 on the sale of juice grapes at the Northwestern Track is in charge of Mr. Newberry, who represents the Al Capone gang and furnishes the money to pay the juice grapes to the buyers. Manny Schrieber, of the Schrieber Produce Exchange has been put in charge of this racket and Tony Bucca has been brought from Milwaukee to work with Schrieber. Schrieber is muscle man for Tony Romano, who represents Mr. Newberry and Schrieber in intimidating the buyers and also has charge of the gunmen. On September 12, 1930, three gunmen, in a Buick Sedan, visited the Terminal Track at 27th and Ashland Avenue to intimidate the buyers, and on September 15, 1930, two other gunmen came to the Tracks in a Lincoln Sedan, and told Sam Grey and his partner, Dave, last name unknown, that the gunmen represented Manny Schrieber, and that the buyers would hear from them later. Recently, Whirgang returned from the Auction at 27th and Ashland Avenue with Schrieber and Tony Romano in Schrieber's car, and Schrieber told Whirgang that he, Schrieber, was taking Ferrara's place and would see Bucca later to make a deal on the cars auctioned at the Railroad Tracks. On September 21, 1930, Mark T. Adamson, a Chicago broker, who handled Ferrara's purchases of grapes in 1929, on a joint account of Adamson with Manny Schrieber, saw Mr. Perry Stern at the S. F. & S. F. Track, 21st Street, Chicago, and Schrieber said that the representative

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of the juice grapes growers in California was coming to Chicago and selling juice grapes at lower prices and that these representatives would be prevented from doing this after Schrieber has monopolized the market. On the same afternoon, Tony Romagnolo, Bill Perry, Mr. Bucca's Assistant, the same thing at the Northwestern track. It was known in Chicago that Stern, Mills and Goding were in Washington on the grapes matter on September 19th, because Mark P. Adamson, Joseph P. Scanlon, representative of the California Fruit Growers Exchange at Chicago on September 19th, in the lobby of the Produce Exchange Building, if Stern, Mills and Goding had accomplished anything in Washington. On September 20, Schrieber was informed that Mark Adamson knew they had been in Washington, D. C. The appointment with Mr. Teague of the U. S. Farm Board to see the Chicago men was made by Mr. Scanlon. On September 21, 1930, Tony Romagnolo talked with Stern, Assistant to Mr. Uhrang, of the Northwestern Railroad, saying, "Give my regards to Uhrang. He should have been up before going to Washington, and will regret it."

VWH:KPS:AM

September 23, 1930.

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL O'BRIEN

62-24153

With reference to the complaints of Charles W. Irrgang and Donald D. Conn in connection with interference with interstate transportation and sale of juice grapes by Chicago racketeers, there is transmitted herewith for your information, a copy of a memorandum of a telephone call received from Special Agent Butterworth of the Chicago office on the 22nd instant. Mr. Godding and Mr. Mills are also to be interviewed by Agents of the Chicago office.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Inc. 129557.

Chicago 211

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-24153-5	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
SEP 24 930 A. M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	FILE

BUREAU FILES DIVISION
MAILED
SEP 23 1930
P. M.
DEPT. OF JUSTICE

EPC:
VWE:AM

September 23, 1930.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. NUGENT DODDS, ACTING HEAD, ORIGINAL DIVISION

With reference to the complaints of Charles W. Irrgang and Donald D. Conn in connection with interference with interstate transportation and sale of juice grapes by Chicago racketeers, there is transmitted herewith for your information, a copy of a memorandum of a telephone call received from Special Agent Butterworth of the Chicago office on the 22nd instant. Mr. Godding and Mr. Mills are also to be interviewed by Agents of the Chicago office.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Inc. 159731.

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BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
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TELEGRAM RECEIVED

CHICAGO ILL.
SEPTEMBER 25, 1930

DIRECTOR
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON D.C.

JUICES GRAPE INVESTIGATION ANTI TRUST E E MILLS INTERVIEWED TODAY
STATED BELIEVES DONALD CONN REPRESENTATIVE CALIFORNIA VINEYARDISTS
ASSOCIATION NOTIFIED MARK ADAMSON WORKING WITH MANNY SCHRIEBER
ON GRAPE RACKET OF AUCTION DELEGATION WASHINGTON VISIT SEPTEMBER
EIGHTEENTH STOP CONN WAS FRIENDLY WITH FERREIRA LAST YEAR WHEN
FERREIRA EXACTED TRIBUTE FROM CHICAGO JUICES GRAPE BUYERS MILLS DOUBTS
CONN TRUSTWORTHY MILLS SAID AUCTION INTENDS CONFINING ACTIVITIES
THIS YEAR AUCTIONING JUICES GRAPE AT OWN TRACK IRRIGANE TRACING
CHECK PAID FERREIRA LAST YEAR BY AUCTION

FAY ACTING.

Rec'd and Decoded
9-25-30
4:55 pm. WFG.

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SEP 26 1930

62-24153-7	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
SEP 25 1930 A.M.	FILE
FILE	FILE



Mr. Hughes:

Please watch this carefully. I suspect we may be drawn into an unworthy cause. We surely don't want to lend our resources to one group of racketeers against another.

7/25/30 J. E. D.

W
YERKOWIAN

September 24, 1930.

62-24153-7

RECORDED & INDEXED

SEP 26 1930

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. NUGENT DODDS, ACTING HEAD, ORIGINAL DIVISION

In connection with an investigation being conducted by the Chicago office of this Bureau with regard to interference with interstate transportation and sale of juice grapes by Chicago racketeers, there is transmitted herewith a copy of a telegram received from the Chicago office under date of September 23, 1930.

Very truly yours,

Inc. 159863.

Director.

62-24153

BUREAU FILES DIVISION
MAILED
SEP 24 1930
P. M.
DIV. OF SERVICE

FBI:EPG:AM

September 24, 1930.

62-24153-7

RECORDED & INDEXED

SEP 26 1930

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL O'BRIEN

In connection with an investigation being conducted by the Chicago office of this Bureau with regard to the interference with interstate transportation and sale of juice grapes by Chicago racketeers, there is transmitted herewith a copy of a telegram received from the Chicago office under date of September 23, 1930.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Inc. 139584.

62-24153

BUREAU FILES DIVISION
MAILED
SEP 24 1930

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VNH:AM

September 25, 1930.

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL O'NEILL

For your further information in connection with the complaint of interference with the interstate shipment of juice grapes from California by gangsters of Chicago, there is inclosed herewith a copy of a letter addressed to this office by the Acting Agent in Charge of the Chicago office of the Bureau under date of September 22nd, relating in detail the results of interviews with Messrs. Charles W. Irrgang and C. R. Godding.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Inc. 189570.

62-24153

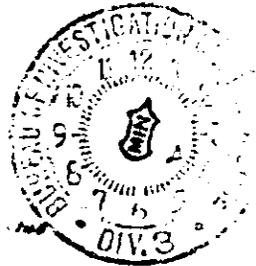
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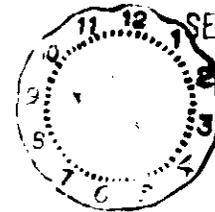
JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

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

RECEIVED



September 25, 1930.



SEP 26 1930 PM

SEP 25 1930

Handwritten initials and scribbles.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Supplementing my memorandum of the 23rd instant in connection with the investigation of the activities of persons interested in the marketing of juice grapes, I desire to advise that Mr. Donald Conn's secretary called this office yesterday and gave Mr. Conn's reservation on the Liberty Limited train to Chicago, leaving Washington yesterday afternoon, as previously arranged. When the reservation was checked with the railroad, it was found that both the car number and time of departure were wrong, consequently, Mr. Conn was again called at the Carlton Hotel and his secretary when advised of the erroneous information, corrected the same and stated that Mr. Conn was leaving Washington yesterday at 3:25 on Train #59, Pennsylvania Railroad, known as the Liberty Limited, occupying drawing room "A" in Car #16.

On receipt of this information the Chicago office was advised by telephone to have Special Agents Butterworth and Miller board this train at Gary, Ind. this morning, it being due to arrive there at 8:16, to contact Mr. Conn and proceed with him to Chicago and to meet Mr. Mark Adamson who Mr. Conn states can give details with regard to the general allegations previously made by him, Mr. Conn.

In talking with Chicago, Acting Agent in Charge Fay advised that Mr. Irrgang had called his office yesterday and had suggested that Mr. Charles Smith of the DeJuria Fruit Dealers at Chicago ~~who~~ could give additional information. Incidentally, Irrgang also stated that he understood that Mark Adamson was organizing a grape juice association which would have for its object preventing independent dealers from buying grapes at the freight yards at Chicago. Agents Butterworth and Miller are, of course, in possession of all the information supplied by Mr. Irrgang, Mr. Mills and Mr. Godding and they are under instructions not to divulge that information to Mr. Conn or to Mr. Adamson and to collect such facts from these two men as they may desire to volunteer. Upon receipt of the reports covering interviews with Mark Adamson and the further interview with Charles Smith, which was authorized by me, the Department should be able to definitely determine whether there is a violation of the Federal laws involved and whether the investigation should proceed.

62-24153-9

RECORDED & INDEXED
Respectfully,
SEP 26 1930

Handwritten signature of V. W. Hughes.

V. W. Hughes.

SEP 25 1930 P. M.
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Handwritten initials and numbers.

Bureau
copy to Mr. Johnson

RECEIVED
September 24, 1934

AM
11/27

Mr. Johnson from Chicago

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. WING

62-24153

U. S. Attorney Johnson reported by telephone this morning that the President of some Chamber of Commerce had called his attention to the violation of the Sherman Act by the racketeers operating on grape shipments. Johnson undertook an investigation, had not gotten far, and wished directions given to the local Special Agents to assist him.

Mr. O'Brien told him that this matter had already been reported here by a member of the Farm Board, that the Department was not yet clear whether the facts justified its intervention, and that a confidential investigation had already been ordered and was now in progress. The Department desired to avoid all publicity. On the surface it appeared as if this racket was a local matter.

Mr. Johnson replied that racketeering of interstate trade was involved and that the State officials had no adequate force to make an investigation. He will await further word from Chicago. If he is called upon to act he will undertake to get the cooperation of the local officials.

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J. L. O'B.

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SEP 25 1934
Div. Three
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September 25, 1930.

62-24153-11

RECORDED & INDEXED
SEP 26 1930

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. SUGENT DODDS, ACTING HEAD, CRIMINAL DIVISION

For your further information in connection with the complaint of interference with the interstate shipment of juice grapes from California by gangsters of Chicago, there is inclosed herewith a copy of a letter addressed to this office by the Acting Agent in Charge of the Chicago office of this Bureau under date of September 22nd, relating in detail the results of interviews with Messrs. Charles W. Irrgang and C. H. Godding.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Inc. 189570.

62-24153

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RECORD FILE DIVISION
MAILED
SEP 25 1930

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

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

September 25, 1930.

N
62-24153

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

A further conference was had with Mr. Oseas of Mr. O'Brian's Division this afternoon relative to the 'grape growers' association case. Mr. Oseas stated that from the information received to date, he was unable to determine whether the Federal Government would have jurisdiction and whether there had actually been any restraint of interstate commerce.

Inasmuch as I was awaiting word from the Chicago office of the Bureau relative to the interview with Mr. Conn this morning, I called Chicago by telephone and Agent Butterworth advised that he had met Mr. Conn at Ft. Wayne, Ind. and had ample opportunity to talk with him and get his point of view; that upon arriving at Chicago they had met Mr. Mark Adamson but had not gone into any detail on the case at that time, Adamson requesting that the interview be deferred until this afternoon at 2 o'clock, and Agent Butterworth was then awaiting a call from Adamson.

Agent Butterworth was instructed to immediately endeavor to obtain detailed facts with regard to the shipment, movement and sale of the juice grapes in question, that is, to determine whether said carload lots of grapes were shipped on consignment or whether they were shipped on a straight order bill of lading, whether the cars subsequently sold by the brokers and auctioneers at Chicago had been purchased outright by said brokers and auctioneers or whether the brokers and auctioneers were acting for the shippers. Agent Butterworth was also told to immediately ascertain just how the restraints were enforced, how the money was paid, the percentage of carload lots sold by auction as opposed to those received by the broker and sold privately; also, to endeavor to ascertain the reason for the imposition of an assessment of \$20 against carload lots at certain freight yards and the imposition of a 5¢ to 30¢ lug charge against the grapes at other freight yards.

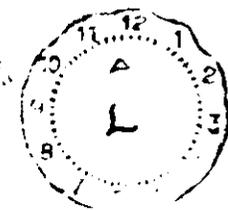
Mr. Oseas feels that if this information can be definitely obtained and forwarded, he will then be in a position to determine whether there have been any restraints on interstate commerce.

Respectfully,

V. W. Hughes
V. W. Hughes.

62-24153-12
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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SEP 29 1930

FEDERAL FARM BOARD
WASHINGTON

C. C. TEAGUE
MEMBER

September 30, 1930.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
Director, Bureau of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

In reference to the investigation which you are carrying on of the situation that is prevailing in Chicago, pertaining to the distribution of grapes in that market, Mr. H. J. Bustace, Chief, Bureau of Markets for the State of California, was in Chicago recently and sent me two letters from there which I am enclosing herewith.

I thought perhaps you might care to have your men see the parties mentioned in these letters.

Very truly yours,

C. C. Teague,
Member, Federal Farm Board.

RECEIVED

Enclosures
OCT 1 1930 AM

62-24153

Handwritten notes:
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W. J. ...
K. J. ...
H. J. ...

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Handwritten notes:
Letter written
11/1/30
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62-24153-13
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
OCT 1 1930 A.M.
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
ADJ. TRES. [initials]

COPIES DESTROYED
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PALMER HOUSE

CHICAGO

My dear Mr Teague,

Since reading the enclosed letter I have seen more people and I believe that if you could make a quick quiet-trip out here - alone and call on a few people - Mr V. C. Tugyaast (whose card I enclose -) and he would get a few men in his office and talk things over, it would be a splendid thing to do.

Get a first-hand picture for yourself and get some of the important men to support the grape plan as they will do when they understand it - directly from

O

PALMER HOUSE

CHICAGO

you. If you ^v can come
may I suggest - you call on
Mr L. C. Archer of American Fruit -
Groves. - in addition to Metzger.

Emphasize the desirability
of your coming alone and
quietly and get a direct
impression for your self.

Cordially yours

Eustace

P.S. I am taking the liberty to
send this to your hotel - as
it will be just as well not to
go to your office

PALMER HOUSE

CHICAGO

September 25, 1930.

Hon. C. C. Teague,
Mayflower Hotel,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Teague:

I have been spending some time in the South Water Market here in Chicago, and have talked with a number of people, some of whom I know personally, and have for many years, and this gangster business is particularly bad on the Northwestern tracks. It seems the gangsters price is \$50.00 per car, which means that the growers are losing just this amount. The whole racket seems to be confined particularly to this one yard, and people who are in a position to know say that it may extend to other yards. They have attempted to get the buyers in line on the other yards already, but so far have failed.

If you could possibly take the time to come to Chicago and look it over at first hand, it would be worth your time. It is quite essential, however, that you come out here unannounced and do not appear at first in any of the places where you would be recognized. I would suggest that you see the young man whose card I enclose, a member of a well known brokerage house, and I can guarantee in absolutely every way that he would have some of the juice grape buyers come into his office and give you the facts, with their ideas as to how the matter could be handled.

They tell me this morning that the demand for juice grapes is better, but prices are unchanged and net around \$30.00 to \$40.00 per ton.

Yours very truly,

EE:L

H. Justice

over 35

October 4, 1930.

~~SECRET~~

~~62-24153-15~~

62-24153-13 ✓

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, MR. O'BRIEN.

RECORDED

There is enclosed herewith photostatic copy of a letter addressed to your office by Mr. C. C. Teague, Member of the Federal Farm Board, under date of September 20, 1930, together with photostatic copies of its two enclosures addressed to Mr. Teague by Mr. H. J. Eustace, the latter communications suggesting certain interviews at Chicago with further reference to the complaint received by this Department of a possible violation of the Antitrust Laws on the part of certain gangsters in the city of Chicago alleged to have interfered with the interstate shipment and subsequent distribution of juice grapes.

I am replying to Mr. Teague's letter, advising him that his communication, with its enclosures, has been transmitted to you, and that I shall be guided by your advice as to what, if any, further investigation should be made. I shall appreciate, therefore, receiving your views regarding the wisdom of conducting these additional interviews.

There is also enclosed herewith, a copy of the report of Special Agent R. W. Butterworth, of the Chicago Office of the Bureau of Investigation, dated October 2, 1930, and entitled: MANNY SCHRAIBERG; TONY ROMANO (Juice Grape Investigation) Antitrust Matter, which has attached an original cancelled check made payable to Joe Farrar in the sum of \$1500.00 and signed by Charles W. Irygang and C. R. Coddling. There is further enclosed, a catalogue of "California Grapes To Be Sold At Auction By United States Fruit Auction Company of Chicago". No doubt, you will want to consider the facts disclosed by the report of Agent Butterworth before advising with regard to the further investigation of this case in line with the letters received from Mr. Teague. You will note in the report of Agent Butterworth that the investigation has been suspended, pending further instructions. At your convenience, please advise what, if any, further investigation you desire, and whether the persons mentioned by Mr. Eustace in his letter to Mr. Teague should be interviewed.

Very truly yours,

BUREAU FILES DIVISION
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OCT 4 1930

P. M.

W.A.

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62-24153-13

October 5, 1930.

RECORDED

OCT 6 1930

Honorable C. G. Teague,
Member, Federal Farm Board,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Teague:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your communication of the 30th ultimo, enclosing two letters sent to you by Mr. H. J. Eustace, Chief, Bureau of Markets for the State of California, with reference to the distribution of juice grapes in the Chicago market.

I am referring the letters to Mr. O'Brien, the Assistant to the Attorney General, who has this matter in hand, and shall be very glad to conduct additional interviews as suggested by Mr. Eustace, if Mr. O'Brien so desired.

Very truly yours,

Director.

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VH:AM

OCTOBER 3, 1930.

H. H. GLEGG
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUILDING
CHICAGO ILL.

ADVISE WHEN REPORT GRAPE GROWERS CASE MAY BE REPORTED EXPEDITE

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

62-24153

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BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
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PATRONAGE AND SERVICE

WESTERN UNION

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DL	Day Letter
NM	Night Message
ML	Night Letter
LCO	Deferred Cable
WLT	Week-End Letter

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 CC673 9 COLLECT=CHICAGO ILL & 352P
 DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION=
 DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE WASHINGTON DC=
 RETEL REPORT GRAPE GROWERS CASE IN MAIL TONIGHT=
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THE QUICKEST, PUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

39

No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

REPORT MADE AT: Chicago, Illinois	DATE WHEN MADE: Oct. 2nd, 1930	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 9/23 to 25/1930	REPORT MADE BY: R. N. BUTTERWORTH - mk
--------------------------------------	-----------------------------------	---	---

Changed to:
MANNY SCRAIHERO
TONY ROMANO
JUICE GRAPE INVESTIGATION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Investigation discloses that title on all lots of juice grapes sold by private sale or auction in Chicago remains in the shipper until purchase price is paid. Cancelled check for \$1360.00, dated Dec. 10, 1929, drawn on U. S. Fruit Auction Company and payable to Tony Ferrara was obtained from Auction Company. E. H. Bergang alleges that attempt by Subjects to exact a tribute of \$20.00 a car from buyers has been made recently. U. S. Fruit Auction Company collects 1% commission on gross sales of juice grapes from shippers and also collects three cents a package additional from buyers as a terminal charge. Descriptions of Subjects submitted. W. W. McFarland, President, Brokers' Division of the American Fruit and Vegetable Shippers Association sent a telegram to the Farm Loan Board protesting against terminal charge by Auction Company. Mark T. Johnson alleges that attempt to collect tribute has been stopped. Chicago office of Bureau requests instructions as to whether further information is desired.

REFERENCE: Letter to the Bureau dated September 22, 1930 and telegram to the Bureau date September 25, 1930.

DETAILS: AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: S. X. Fay SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	62-24153-16	RECORDED AND INDEXED: OCT 4 1930
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: 3- Bureau 3- Chicago	OCT 4 1930 A.M. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	CHECKED OFF: OCT 9 1930 JACKETED:
	ROUTED TO: Div. Three	

Agent interviewed Charles W. Irrgang, 1230
 Market, Chicago, Illinois, on September 22, 1930, who stated that
 the efforts of Mark T. Adenson, a Chicago fruit broker, had been
 being made to form a juice grape sellers' association composed of
 grape buyers and Chicago brokers handling juice grapes in Chicago,
 that the object of this association will be to save the independent
 fruit growers from selling juice grapes on track in Chicago, Illinois.
 Mr. Irrgang stated that the brokers in Chicago handling juice grapes are
 as follows:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Mark T. Adenson & Company, | 1425 S. Racine Ave. | Chicago, Ill. |
| Fry Brokerage Company, | 1440 S. Racine Ave. | Chicago, Ill. |
| J. H. Twitchell, | 1425 S. Racine Ave. | Chicago, Ill. |
| Riley & McFarland Company, | 1425 S. Racine Ave. | Chicago, Ill. |

He stated that these brokers controlled about 90% of the juice grapes
 sold privately in the Chicago market.

Mr. Irrgang further stated that Mr. Perry Stern, one of
 his assistants in the U. S. Fruit Auction Company, on September 22, 1930,
 had talked with a salesman of the Fry Brokerage Company and this salesman
 stated to Mr. Stern, as follows: "I don't know how far the forming of
 the association has gone, but the scheme is slowly going forward. The
 association will stop the grape growers in California from sending
 representatives to Chicago, Illinois and selling their grapes on track."

Mr. Irrgang stated that a brother-in-law of Joe Ferrara,
 who was killed in a "gang" war in Chicago, Illinois in the Spring of 1930,
 and who was in charge of the exacting of tribute at the Chicago and North
 Western Railway tracks from buyers of juice grapes during 1929, had applied
 for a position at the Chicago Produce Terminal freight track which is con-
 trolled by the Chicago auction companies, and that he, Mr. Irrgang, who
 is general manager of the Chicago Auction Company, had employed this man
 to work on the juice grape track of the Chicago Produce Terminal. Mr.
 Irrgang stated that he did not know the name of Ferrara's brother-in-law,
 but would obtain it and notify Agent of this man's correct name and address.
 Mr. Irrgang stated that this man told him that the Aiello-Morasi Gang
 have all been driven out of Chicago, Illinois or killed; that the Capone
 Gang now controls the "juice grape racket" in Chicago, Illinois and that
 at the Chicago and North Western Railway's "juice grape" track the racketeers
 have established a price of \$50.00 a car which is to be exacted from all
 buyers on that track by Subject MANNY SCHRAIBER before the car will be
 allowed to be opened. Mr. Irrgang advised Agent that Mr. Charles. W. Smith

who is manager of the DiGiorgio Fruit Corporation, 1425 N. Racine Avenue, should be interviewed by Agent to obtain information from Mr. Smith regarding the juice grape racket in Chicago, Illinois.

Agent interviewed Mr. W. W. Mills of Mills Bros., 1425 N. Racine Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, who stated that he is treasurer and director of the U. S. Fruit Auction Company, and that all questions presented to him regarding this Auction Company are referred by him to Mr. Charles W. Irrgang, vice-president and general manager of the Auction Company.

Mr. Mills stated that he accompanied by Charles W. Irrgang and C. H. Godding, secretary of the U. S. Fruit Auction Company, proceeded to Washington, D. C. on September 17, 1930 via Pennsylvania Railroad arriving in Washington on the morning of September 18, 1930, that while in Washington they had a conference with Mr. C. C. Teague of the Farm Loan Board about 10 A. M. September 18, 1930, and in the afternoon of the same date they conferred with Mr. Dodd, Assistant to the Attorney General in charge of criminal cases; that this delegation from the Fruit Auction Company returned to Chicago, Illinois on the afternoon of September 18, 1930 via Pennsylvania Railroad; that Mr. Irrgang attended an auction at noon on September 19, 1930, and returned from this auction at 27th and Ashland Avenue to the South Water Market with Subjects MARY SCHRAIBERG and TONY ROMANO in Schraiberg's automobile.

Mr. Mills stated that Donald D. Conn, representative of the Chicago Vineyardists' Association, San Francisco, California was in Washington, D. C. during the visit of the Chicago delegation from the Auction Company and Mr. Mills believes that Mr. S. G. Teague of the Farm Loan Board may have informed Mr. Conn of the Chicago delegation of the Auction Company's visit to Washington, D. C., and that Mr. Conn notified Mark T. Adamson that the Auction Company representatives were in Washington to confer with Mr. Teague. Mr. Mills stated that he believes that Mr. Conn is not to be trusted in the juice grape investigation because when Mr. Conn visits Chicago he always contacts with Mark T. Adamson, a Chicago broker, who has been linked up in 1929 with Joe Ferrara who conducted the juice grape racket at the Chicago and North Western Railway tracks and who is now believed by Mr. Mills and the other officers of the Auction Company to have the same connection with Subjects in this case. Mr. Mills stated that he believes that Adamson is in close touch with Mr. Conn and that Adamson has notified the Subjects in this case regarding the Auction Company's delegation's visit to Washington, because Joseph P. Scanlon, the representative of the Southern California Fruit Exchange, informed Mr. Mills upon his (Mills')

return from Washington that Mack T. Johnson had told Mr. Scanlon that he knew Mills had been in Washington to consult with Farm Loan Administration.

Mr. Mills stated that early in 1930 the U. S. Fruit Auction Company agreed to pay Joe Ferrara \$20.00 per car for all cars of juice grapes that had been sold at the auction on the Chicago and North Western Railway "juice grape" track and that the Auction Company had agreed not to sell any more grapes on that track during 1930 in consideration of this agreement; not to sell any more juice grapes at the North Western Railway track, Mr. Mills stated that Ferrara had promised not to interfere with buyers at the other three tracks in Chicago, Ill. where juice grape cars were opened and sold to buyers at retail. Mr. Mills stated that no juice grape cars were sold by the Auction Company at the Chicago and North Western tracks after this agreement was made with Joe Ferrara, and that at the end of the season the Auction Company paid a check of \$3500.00 on 65 cars at a rate of \$20.00 per car for all cars which had been auctioned by the Auction Company at the Chicago and North Western tracks, prior to the making of this arrangement by the Auction Company with Joe Ferrara. Mr. Mills stated that the U. S. Fruit Auction Company have arrangements with the Chicago and North Western Railway, the Rock Island Railroad and the Santa Fe Railway whereby juice grape cars can be transferred from the yards of these various railroads to the Chicago Produce Terminal in Chicago, which is operated by the Auction Company to be sold at auction and afterwards returned to the railroad yard of the company for unloading; that the Santa Fe Railway also has an arrangement by which juice grapes may be auctioned at the Santa Fe yard instead of sending it to the Chicago Produce Terminal to be sold by the Auction Company.

Mr. Mills stated that this year during the juice grape season, that the Auction Company intends to conduct auctions of juice grapes in carload lots only at the Chicago Produce Terminal, at 27th and Ashland Ave. Chicago, Illinois.

Mr. Mills stated that a car of juice grapes contains some 1040 to 1200 lugs or packages.

Mr. Mills gave Agent the following info on the sales grape situation which he had received from the Pioneer Fruit Company, Los Angeles, Cal. which company Mr. Mills represents in Chicago, Ill.

It would not appear that the California Grape Control Board has a set-up representing either 50% of the total production in California. All growers are to pay a 10% fee on the value of grapes to the Control Board as stabilizing the market for both table and raisin grapes. With this 10% plus the 10% from the Government, the Control Board is now buying out the surplus of seedless Seedless and Sultanas. This is what is supposed to be the surplus for the season of 1930. Net prices being set by the Control Board are as follows:

Sultanas	\$5.00 per ton for substandard quality
	6.00 " " 50% substandard quality
	7.00 " " standard quality
100% substandard Muscats and Thompsons	\$2.00 per ton
75%	4.00 "
50%	7.00 "
25%	8.00 "
Standard and better	9.00 "

The above prices are net to the grower on the vine as he does not have to pay picking charges or other assessments made by California Vineyardists Association. Might add for your information that there is considerable difference between a net price on the vine and a U. S. No. 1 grade as the grower who picks his grapes takes all changes on rain, weather conditions, etc.

The Control Board is now buying from 30,000 to 40,000 tons of Black Juice Grapes at \$17.50 per ton f.o.b. different points in California. This price includes the stabilization dues and C. V. A. assessments. Thus the net to the growers is practically \$15.00 per ton.

The surplus bought by the Control Board will be mainly used by the Associated Fruit Industries for Grape Concentrates, Jellies, etc., and is not supposed to compete in any way with the fresh grapes shipped to eastern markets. It is figured that you take into consideration the amount of grapes being bought by the Grape Control Board, that eastern shipments this year will not exceed the light shipments of 1929, and is estimated by varieties as follows:

Thompson Seedless	- Not to exceed	5,000 cars
Muscats	- " " "	8,000 "
Tokays	- " " "	7,000 "
Emperors	- " " "	5,000 "
Black Juice	- " " "	25,000 "
Malagas	- " " "	5,000 "
TOTAL		55,000 cars

at this particular time, the whole plan is to function fairly well. However, it is being feared that they will have to wait about another week to find out the exact control this organization will have over the handling of eastern shipment.

In view of the fact that there is a total shortage of fruit in California will probably be about 14,000 tons less than the year 1935, and 1,000 or 2,000 tons less than last year.

During the balance of the investigation contained in this report Agent was accompanied by Special Agent Albert Miller of the Chicago office of the Bureau.

Agents re-interviewed Mr. E. E. Mills of Mills Bros. at his office at 1440 South Racine Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, for the purpose of ascertaining who owned title to juice grape cars sold in the Chicago market, either by public sale or auction. Mr. Mills stated that in all cases of private sale or by auction, that the title remains in the hands of the shipper until the car is sold; that when the shipper in California delivers the car to the railroad he retains the bill of lading and that this bill of lading is not delivered to the buyer of the juice grapes unless there is a question of recovery from the railroad for damages to the contents of the car. Mr. Mills further stated that the following is an example of how a shipment is handled on a freight car of juice grapes:

Frank H. Buck Company, San Francisco, Cal., a shipper of juice grapes, ships a car in the name of Frank H. Buck Company care of Mills Bros. Chicago, Illinois, representative for Frank H. Buck Company. Frank H. Buck Company has on file with all railroads shipping fruit from California, a blanket order for the said railroad to deliver cars routed over its line to the representative of Frank H. Buck Company in the various cities. The juice grape car shipped by Frank H. Buck Company on arrival at Chicago, Illinois is handled by Mills Bros. in accordance with instructions received by telegram from Frank H. Buck Company. According to these orders Mills Bros. either sells the car in the Chicago market or diverts it to another city. When the car is sold by Mills Bros. in Chicago, Illinois, Mills Bros. deducts the freight, lading and other charges from the purchase price and deposits Mills Bros. check for the balance in the checking account, in a Chicago bank, of Frank H. Buck Company. The cars sold by Mills Bros. are not opened except for inspection until the purchase price has been paid to Mills Bros.

Mr. Mills stated that the U. S. Fruit Auction Company charges 1 1/2% on the gross purchase price received on each car of juice grapes

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and this percentage is deducted from the purchase price paid by the buyer; that the Auction Company also charges the shipper a percentage on all juice grapes sold by the Auction Company and that this charge is a Terminal Charge for handling the goods.

Agents again interviewed Mr. Charles J. Irrgang to ascertain from him the title of juice grape cars sold in California. Mr. Irrgang stated that in private sales of juice grape cars in California bills the car to his representative in Chicago in the name of the shipper; that the bill of lading issues in the name of the shipper; that the shipper gives the railroads a blanket order to deliver all cars sent by the shipper to the shipper's representative in Chicago, who has the right to sell it or divert it according to orders received from the shipper; that after the car is sold by the representative he pays the freight and other charges, deducts his brokerage fee and remits the balance of the purchase price to the shipper in California, either by wire or by draft to the shipper's credit in a Chicago bank.

When a juice grape car is placed for sale at the U. S. Fruit Auction Company for auction, the car is consigned to the U. S. Fruit Auction Company by the representative of the shipper the day before the car is to be auctioned, and immediately after the sale is consummated on the auction, a delivery order is given by the Auction Company to the buyer. After the purchase price has been paid by the buyer to the Auction Company, the Auction Company on receipt of the purchase price from the buyer, deducts the freight and other charges, such as icing, demurrage, etc. and deducts the auction charge of 1% for selling the car, and then draws up a check for the remainder of the purchase price, either in the name of the shipper's representative or to the shipper, according to the instructions received when the car was placed on sale at the auction. Mr. Irrgang stated that while the cars are consigned to the Auction Company for sale, yet the title to the contents in the car remains at all times in the shipper and that the Auction Company is governed in remitting the proceeds from the sale by the order received from the shipper on each car. Mr. Irrgang gave the following as an example of selling a car of juice grapes at the U. S. Fruit Auction Company:

Frank H. Buck Company, Mills Bros. representative, consigns a car to the Auction Company for account of the shipper. When the car is sold at the auction the Auction officials make out a check to Frank H. Buck Company, Mills Bros. representative. The check is delivered to Mills Bros. by the Auction Company and Mills Bros. deposits it to the account of Frank H. Buck Company in a Chicago bank.

Mr. Irrgang stated that 60 cars of juice grapes have already been sold by the U. S. Fruit Auction Company up to Sept. 25, 1930 and that all of these sales have been made at the Chicago Produce Terminal track, 27th and Ashland Ave. Chicago, Illinois. Mr. Irrgang

Further stated that no-juice grapes are produced by shipping to California direct to the Pacific coast, and that the grapes are sold on auction at the San Francisco market, and that the shipper on the Pacific coast is the grower and that he is the one who actually sells the grapes. His representative may withdraw the grapes from the market at selling it at private sale or by selling it to a local market.

Mr. Irving gave a check for \$100,000.00 payable to the order of Joe Ferrara, dated the 1st day of August, 1930, signed by the U. S. Fruit Marketing Company by Charles W. Irving, Vice President and by G. E. Godding, Treasurer-Secretary, and stated that this check was paid to Joe Ferrara as tribute for 20 cars of juice grapes at \$20 a car which were sold by the U. S. Fruit Marketing Company at the Chicago and North Western Railway tracks in 1930. This check has been photostated at the Chicago office of the Bureau and the original and three photostatic copies are submitted with Bureau copies of this report, entitled EXHIBIT "A".

Agents according to instructions from the Bureau, met Mr. Donald D. Conn on September 26, 1930 at Fort Wayne, Indiana, on the Liberty Limited of the Pennsylvania Railroad and accompanied Mr. Conn and his assistant, A. J. Day, from Fort Wayne, Indiana to Chicago, Illinois, interviewing Mr. Conn enroute.

Mr. Conn stated that he is the representative of the California Vineyardists' Association and the Fruit Industries, Ltd., with offices at San Francisco, California. Mr. Conn stated that the juice grape crop is raised by the following growers:

California Vineyardists' Association, consisting of about 12700 grower members and 250 shipper members, who together control about 70% of the juice grape crop in the United States.

San Joaquin Growers-Shippers Association, consisting of about 1,000 grower members, who control about 10% of the crop.

California Fruit Exchange, consisting of about 1,000 grower members, who control approximately 5% of the crop.

The remaining 15% of the juice grape crop is raised by various independent juice grape growers in California. The principal ones consisting of the following growers:

A. J. Lucas, Cucamongo, Cal.	700 Acres
Ben Arkalian, Fresno, Cal. and Lerdo, Cal.	3000 "
K. Arkalian, Fresno, Cal.	3000 "
Tracy Waldron, Fresno, Cal.	1000 "

Mr. Conn stated that he had advised a private party
 sold a lot of juice grapes on the Chicago market by private sale
 in 1929 and that Adams, if he will talk, can give a true picture of
 the "juice grape racket" in Chicago at the present time. Mr. Conn
 upon his arrival in Chicago, telephoned to Mr. Adams to meet him (Conn)
 at the Chicago and North Western Railway station prior to 10:30 A.M.
 at which time Mr. Conn's train left for California. Agents accompanied
 Mr. Conn to the Chicago and North Western Railway station and were
 introduced by Mr. Conn to Mark T. Adamson, who was advised by Mr. Conn
 to allow Agents to interview him (Adamson) concerning the "juice grape
 racket" in Chicago, Illinois at the present time. Mr. Conn before
 leaving Chicago, stated to Agents that he does not know what connection
 Adamson has with the racketeers on juice grapes in Chicago, or who the
 racketeers are who are trying to gain control of the "juice grapes"
 on track, but said that as far as he is of the racket that the proposed racket is
 controlled by the Al Capone Gang.

Agents made an appointment with Mr. Mark T. Adamson
 to have a conference with Mr. Adamson in the Produce Exchange Building,
 1425 S. Racine Avenue, Chicago, on September 26, 1930.

Agents interviewed Mr. Adamson at his office in the
 above mentioned building on September 26, 1930 and asked Mr. Adamson
 whether there was an association in Chicago, Illinois of the buyers
 and brokers of juice grapes. Mr. Adamson stated that there is a
 Brokers' Division of the American Fruit and Vegetable Shippers Association,
 of which W. W. McFarland of Riley-McFarland Company, is the president
 and J. H. Twitchell is the secretary and treasurer. He stated that
 the brokers composing this Division are as follows:

- J. W. Cain Company, Chicago, Ill.
- Fry Brokerage Company,
- E. S. Rittenhouse,
- H. H. Robinson,
- McCarthy Bros.,
- Riley-McFarland Company,
- Mark T. Adamson Company,
- Carroll Bragg Brokerage Co.,
- Frank Cleary,
- H. D. Boehmer,
- C. F. Olson,

Mr. Adamson stated that this Association sent a telegram to the Farm
 Loan Board under McFarland's signature, complaining about the Terminal
 charge made by the U. S. Fruit Auction Company on juice grapes sold by
 the Chicago auction.

to unloaded cars at the Chicago Produce Terminal tracks; that in 1926 the U. S. Fruit Auction Company was organized in Illinois for the purpose of making sales by auction in Chicago, Illinois, and all other places where such sales were handled at the Chicago Produce Terminal tracks; that in September 1926, and the other three tracks in Chicago, Illinois, in 1928 for the opening of juice grape cars were closed; after the formation of the U. S. Fruit Auction Company, a charge of 1% of the gross sales to be paid by the shipper was made on all cars of juice grapes sold by the Auction Company, and in addition to this charge a Terminal charge of 3¢ a package was levied by the Auction Company, which was paid by the buyer. Mr. Adamson stated that every car sold on auction that the Auction Company gives the buyer an invoice showing the price of the car, with a Terminal charge of 3¢ a package added, and that the Auction Company performs as duty in payment of this terminal charge. Mr. Adamson stated that if the Auction Company was prevented from charging a Terminal charge of 3¢ a package on grapes sold on auction that this amount would go for the benefit of the shipper.

Mr. Adamson stated that he believes that Subject TONY ROMANO represents the Al Capone Gang in the attempt to close the Chicago and North Western Railway track to buyers of juice grapes unless they pay a tribute to the racketeer; that Subject MANNY SCHALBERG, who has an office on the 10th floor of the Produce Exchange Building, 1425 S. Racine Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, has been placed in charge of the juice grape racket in Chicago and that he is assisted by Subject ROMANO. Mr. Adamson stated he had been informed that ROMANO had been interrogated at the Chicago and North Western Railway juice grape track on Sept. 25, 1930 by investigators from the State Attorney's Office in Chicago, Illinois, who were accompanied by police detectives of the Chicago Police Department, and an investigator of the Chicago and North Western Railway, regarding the alleged juice grape racket operating on the Chicago and North Western Railway track. Mr. Adamson stated that in 1929 Joe Farrara was the largest juice grape buyer in Chicago, Illinois, but Mr. Adamson emphatically denied that Joe Farrara had intimidated any juice grape buyers at the Chicago and North Western Railway track in 1929 or had received any tribute through the juice grape racket. Mr. Adamson stated that he and Joe Farrara operated a joint account in 1929 for the buying of juice grape cars which were opened at the Chicago and North Western Railway track and peddled out to buyers. Mr. Adamson stated that in 1929 he also sold cars for the Chicago shippers at private sales and that the peddling of grapes from these cars had never been interfered with by Joe Farrara and that buyers had not been intimidated in any way in purchasing grapes from cars not owned by Farrara. Mr. Adamson stated that Joe Farrara had a brother-in-law named Dominick DeMore who was married to Farrara's sister and that Dominick DeMore supplied the money for Farrara to purchase the juice grapes in 1929; that Vincent DeMore, brother of Dominick DeMore, was also interested in the sale of juice grapes at the Chicago and North Western track, but

and no money involved in the deal; that Tony Ferrara was also partner of Ferrara's in his grape deals and was in company with Ferrara when he was killed in June 1930 in Chicago, Illinois. Mr. Adamson stated that in 1930 Joe Ferrara or his associates did not start any tribute from any buyers at the Chicago and North Western Railway track or on any other of the three tracks on which juice grapes were sold in Chicago, Illinois and that the juice grape market was open to all buyers.

Mr. Adamson stated that Subject ROMANO has never attempted, as far as he, Adamson, knows to intimidate buyers at the Chicago and North Western Railway track in 1930. He stated that Subject SCHREIBERG had visited him and had suggested that a juice grape racket be established at the tracks in Chicago where juice grapes were unloaded. Mr. Adamson stated that he was much opposed to this proposition and prepared a "fake" telegram dated Sept. 10, 1930, supposed to have been sent from Washington, D. C. by Mr. Donald D. Conn to Mark T. Adamson at Chicago, Illinois, and another telegram (fake), dated Sept. 10, 1930, supposed to have been sent from Los Angeles, Cal. by T. H. Pepper of the Pepper Fruit Company to Mark T. Adamson at Chicago, which telegrams are as follows:

COPY

129 MI

Washington, D. C.
Sept. 10 11 1930

Mark T. Adamson, Personal
Adamson Co.
Chicago, Ills.

Clearing House Control Board wire they are advised there is organization started in Chicago to control purchase and sale of all juice grapes. Do you know anything about this deal or people connected with it. You are aware Federal Government through Farm Board has already put approximately eighteen million dollars into grape relief program through Federal Control Board and are working on plan to put in additional eight to ten million. We cannot tolerate any organization interfering with free sale and movement of grapes in Chicago or any other markets and if necessary the entire power of United States Government will be used to combat any such organization. If you know people connected with this organization, you will do them favor by conveying this information to them.

(sgd) Donald D. Conn.

714 A

52

Mark T. Adamson
c/o Mark T. Adamson Co.
Chicago, Ill.

An informed you are connected with some organization for the control of purchase and sale of grapes in Chicago STOP I cannot and will not have any representatives who has any business that takes preference over mine STOP Must insist that you as well as all other representatives give me one hundred percent loyalty in time and service STOP Don't want dictate to you how to run your business, but certainly can dictate how you shall handle my business, Cannot see how you can give me honest representation if you are connected with organization which is buying my shipments as well as shipments of other shippers STOP Must have immediate answer advising whether my information is correct, also whether you prefer continue your connection with this new organization or handle my business, because frankly, Mark, you cannot do both, whatever your decision is, will be satisfactory to me, but want definite answer immediately

(sig) W. E. Ferguson 825

Mr. Adamson stated that he exhibited these two fake telegraphs to Subjects SCHRAIBERG and ROMANO and told them that if they persisted in their efforts to establish a juice grape racket in Chicago, Illinois they would get into serious trouble with the United States Government, Subjects in this case asked him for copies of these telegrams so that they might take this matter up with their headquarters and Mr. Adamson stated that he made copies of both telegrams which were given to Subjects and that since that time Subjects have not made any effort to establish a juice grape racket at the Chicago and North Western Railway Yards at Clinton Street, Chicago, Illinois.

In regard to the title of juice grape cars, Mr. Adamson stated that the cars from the Pepper Fruit Company for which Mark T. Adamson Company is the broker and representative in Chicago, are billed by the Pepper Fruit Company to the Pepper Fruit Company, Chicago, Ill, Mark T. Adamson Company, representative; that when the juice grape cars are sold that Adamson pays the freight and other charges, deducting his \$25.00 brokerage commission and makes out Mark T. Adamson Company's check to the Pepper Fruit Company, which is deposited in a Chicago bank.

to Pepper's Agency that the Mark T. ... deposits to this account but cannot withdraw by checks therefrom. Mr. Adams stated that about 86% of all the ... juice ... was sold at private sale in Chicago, Illinois ...

DESCRIPTIONS:

The following descriptions of subjects and Tony Tornatore were furnished by Mr. Adams:

Name:	Tony Romano.	Manay Behrberg
Age:	35 years.	40 years.
Height:	5'7"	5'8"
Weight:	190 lbs.	150 lbs.
Build:	heavy.	medium
Eyes:	black - squinted.	dark
Hair:	black	black
Complexion:	dark	very dark
Marital status:	married	married, two children
Occupation:	operates soft drink parlor, at corner of Wells and Erie Sts. Chicago, Ill.	fruit and vegetable broker lives in vicinity of Logan Square, Chicago.
Nationality:	American citizen, speaks good English.	American citizen, speaks good English, was born in Chicago, Ill.
Relatives:	brother, Frank Romano, formerly employe in Internal Revenue Bureau, Chicago, Illinois, has two brothers operating drug stores in Chicago; father operated a saloon in Chicago before prohibition.	Drives big Cadillac car, with wire wheels painted white.
Criminal record:	arrested when a woman was shot in a restaurant at the corner of Wells and North Ave. Chicago, identified the killer, and Tony Romano released.	
Name:	Tony Tornatore, alias Tony Bush.	
Age:	29 years.	
Height:	6'	
Weight:	200 lbs.	
Build:	heavy.	
Eyes:	dark, squinted	
Mustache:	smooth face.	
Hair:	dark brown	
Marital status:	single.	

on the U. S. Fruit Auction Company is the same as that used in selling
peaches. The U. S. Fruit Auction Company is the same as that used in selling
the U. S. Fruit Auction Company is the same as that used in selling
grapes. Reference to this report is made in the report on the
method of operation of the U. S. Fruit Auction Company.

It is requested that the U. S. Fruit Auction Company
be requested to advise whether the U. S. Fruit Auction Company
is the same as that used in selling grapes.

END

U. S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation

P. O. Box No. 1405,
CHICAGO, ILL.

RECEIVED



62
OCT 6 1930 AM

October 3, 1930.

Director,
Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

RE: MANNY SCHRAIBER;
TONY ROMANO;
JUICE GRAPE INVESTIGATION
ANTI-TRUST MATTER

Dear Sir:

With reference to the above entitled case,
it is respectfully requested that this office be advised if
it is the Bureau's desire to have further investigations
conducted in this district.

Very truly yours,

F. X. Fay
F. X. FAY,

Acting Special Agent in Charge.

RNB-mk

60-166.

*For Tony Romano
C. 3-1002*

*Write the
10/8/30
MHA*

RECORDED

OCT 10 1930

62-24153-17		
OCT 6 1930		
Div. Three		

*ack
10-8-30*

57

United States Fruit Auction Company
27TH AND ASHLAND AVE.

Number
628

CHICAGO, DEC 10 1932

\$1360⁰⁰

Paid to the order of

Joe Smith

FOUR THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS



Dollars

TO THE
Continental and Commercial National Bank
OF CHICAGO
Chicago, Illinois. (2-3)

Charles J. ...
United States Fruit Auction Company
BY *M. ...*

VICE PRES.

TREASURER
SECRETARY

United States Fruit Auction Company
27TH AND ASHLAND AVE.

Number
628

CHICAGO, DEC 10 1932

\$1360⁰⁰

Paid to the order of

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TO THE
Continental and Commercial National Bank
OF CHICAGO
Chicago, Illinois. (2-3)

Charles J. ...
United States Fruit Auction Company
BY *M. ...*

VICE PRES.

TREASURER
SECRETARY

ENCLOSURE

October 2, 1930.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HUGHET BOEDS,
Acting Chief, Criminal Division.

62-24153

For your information, in connection with the complaint received in the Department concerning possible violation of the Antitrust Law on the part of gangsters at Chicago in interfering with the interstate shipment of juice grapes, there is enclosed herewith, copy of a report of Special Agent R. M. Batterworth of the Chicago Office, under date of October 2, 1930, to which there is attached a photostatic copy of a check in the sum of \$1560.00, made payable to Joe Farrar, and assigned by Charles W. Irrgang and C. R. Godding. A copy of this report and enclosures have been transmitted to Mr. O'Brien, the Assistant to the Attorney General, and no further investigation will be made pending his instructions.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Encl. #643361.

RECORDED
ms

BUREAU FILES DIVISION
MAILED
OCT. 4 1930
P. M.
RECEIVED

62-24153-18
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
OCT 6 1930 A. M.
D. M.
F.

October 8, 1930.

RECORDED

OCT 10 1930

WVH:AMW

88-24183-17

Agent in Charge,
P. O. Box 1405,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir:

Confirming telephonic instructions of the 6th instant, it is desired that further efforts be made to obtain from Mr. Charles W. Irrgang, the reason for the complaint made by him to the Department and later to Agents Butterworth and Miller of your office, with regard to the interstate shipment and sale of juice grapes.

A review of the report of Agent Butterworth, dated October 2, 1930, reveals only that an assessment of \$50.00 will be placed on each carload of grapes coming to the North Western Railway Trunk. It does not appear that any actual assessment has yet taken place. It also seems that Mr. Irrgang is apprehensive as to the duties of the association which, he claims, are now being performed by Mark T. Adamson, but on the other hand, it does not appear that this organization has been consummated. It is, of course, entirely possible that some action has taken place since the original interview with Mr. Irrgang, in view of the fact that this is a great shipping season and no doubt a large number of carloads have been received since the original interview.

The Department is curious to know why the North Western Railway Terminal should be discriminated against in the matter of the shipping and sale of juice grapes. From the report of Agent Butterworth, it appears that that terminal is the only one where assessments have been made against carloads and where the assessment of \$50.00 appears to be made. The Department would like to have sufficient facts at hand to be able to determine why this particular terminal is used for the purpose of these assessments, rather than the several other terminals used by the grape shippers and brokers. It is desired that these matters be given your immediate attention and that a report be submitted at the earliest practicable date.

Very truly yours,
Director.

BUREAU FILES DIVISION
MAILED

OCT 8 1930

P. M.

RECORDED

61

No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

REPORT MADE AT: Chicago, Illinois	DATE WHEN MADE: Oct. 7, 1930	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: Oct. 8, 1930	REPORT MADE BY: ALBERT MILLER
TITLE: MANNY SCHRAIBERG TONY ROMANO GRAPES GRAPE INVESTIGATION			

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Charles W. Irrgang has not failed into the deal on behalf of his company with Washington in Chicago this year to pay them any tribute on juice grapes sold at auction; claims that Subjects Schraiberg and Romano or their agents are collecting \$50 and upward per car from juice grape peddlers at Chicago & North Western Railway terminal, but cannot submit names of anyone paying said tribute; claims reason similar activity has not spread to other juice grape tracks is because news of recent trip to Washington, D. C. by himself and others and news of possible investigation by the Government has become known to gangsters. Chicago office requests instructions as to further investigation.

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent R. W. Butterworth, dated at Chicago, Illinois, October 8, 1930.

DETAILS:

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

The following investigation was conducted in pursuance to a telephone conversation on October 8, 1930, between Vincent Hughes of Division #3 of this Bureau and Frank X. Fay, Acting Special Agent in Charge of this Bureau office.

Agent interviewed Charles W. Irrgang at 169 South Water Market, Chicago, Illinois. Mr. Irrgang stated the only definite data he could submit relative to the activities of the racketeers and gangsters

Div. 3

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:

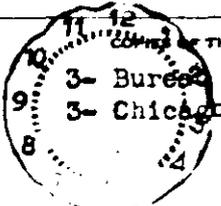
F. X. Fay

act.
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

62-24153-19

RECORDED AND INDEXED:

OCT 9 1930



*Copies to Bureau
Ladd*
10-11-30

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

OCT 9 1930 A.M.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CHECKED OFF:

OCT 15 1930

JACKETED:

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Div. Three

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OCT 8

in Chicago, Illinois, in connection with the sale of juice grapes which directly affected the business of the companies in which he is interested. The same information is submitted herewith to you and Special Agent Buttenworth hereoffice, and at this point Mr. Irrgang reported substantially the same data which is reflected in paragraphs 2 and 3 on page 2 of letter dated at Chicago, Illinois, dated 22, 1930 from the Chicago Bureau Office to the Director, and also the data which is reflected in the last paragraph on page 2 of the report of Special Agent E. W. Buttenworth, dated at Chicago, Illinois, dated 22, 1930.

Mr. Irrgang further stated that as a result of not having made any deal with Subject Schraiberg and Romano (who told Mr. Irrgang that they have taken the place of Joe Ferrara in the juice grape racket, as representatives of the Al Capone Gang) and that because of intimidation by Subjects Schraiberg and Romano or their agents of small dealers who are peddlers of juice grapes, they are not selling as many cars of juice grapes at the auction at the Produce Terminal track, located at 27th and Ashland Avenue as they would sell under normal conditions.

Mr. Irrgang stated that Subjects Schraiberg and Romano are seen daily at the Chicago & North Western Railway juice grape track and their latest activity is that it is reported that they have made a deal with some of the more influential juice grape peddlers to permit these peddlers to open the juice grape cars on track and peddle juice grapes out of the cars only upon the payment to them of a \$500 tribute for the entire season. This arrangement applies to peddlers who handle from 25 to 100 cars in the juice grape season. Smaller peddlers are obliged to pay Subjects Schraiberg and Romano or their agents the sum of \$50 per car as tribute. Mr. Irrgang stated that the foregoing information comes to him second and third handed and he is not in a position at this time to submit any names or addresses of juice grape peddlers who have actually paid the above named tribute, nor the names and addresses of any persons who have submitted this information.

Mr. Irrgang stated that on Friday, October 3, 1930, an Italian peddler of juice grapes by the name of Frank Zambardi (whose home address may be 945 W. Leanington Ave. Chicago, Illinois) called at his office and wanted to arrange to purchase juice grapes from the Produce Terminal juice grape track (27th and Ashland Ave.) and submitted as his reasons that these men (meaning Subjects Schraiberg and Romano or their agents) were demanding \$50 per car from everyone opening cars

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at the Chicago & North Western Railway juice grape track, and he was more than the profit he would make on a car of juice grapes. He did not want to open any cars on the Chicago & North Western juice grape track this year under these conditions.

Mr. Irrgang reiterated that he knows the \$50 and upward per car is being paid as tribute to Subjects Schraiberg and Romano or their agents; that he has obtained this information only from indirect reports and that he cannot submit the names of any car peddlers who have actually paid such tribute.

Mr. Irrgang stated that the reason the racketeers and gangsters appear to confine their activities to the Chicago and North Western Railway juice grape track is because in the past years the Riello-Moran Gang concentrated all of their efforts at this particular juice grape track; that it was Joe Ferrara's idea last year to organize the buyers at the other juice grape terminals in Chicago this year, but that he was killed before he could carry this plan into execution. In view of this situation, late in August or early in September of this year the Al Capone Gang placed Ted Newberry in direct charge of the juice grape racket under whom Subjects Schraiberg and Romano formulated plans to organize all of the juice grape tracks by "strong arm and muscling methods". However, due to the fact that information regarding the recent trip to Washington, D. C. by the officials of the U. S. Fruit Auction Company of Chicago (Messrs. Irrgang, Mills and Godding) had leaked out and had reached the Al Capone interests, and that information of a possible Government investigation had reached them, they have temporarily abandoned the plans to expand their activities to the juice grape tracks other than the Chicago and North Western Terminal and are concentrating all of their activities to the latter terminal for the time being.

Mr. Irrgang stated that if a proper interview could be had with a Mr. Butell, who is an employee of the Chicago and North Western Railway in charge of the grapes at the Chicago and North Western Terminal and if he would talk, he could give valuable information, as Mr. Irrgang feels that he (Butell) must be in full possession of all the facts relative to the activities of the racketeers in collecting tribute at the Chicago and North Western Terminal in the past years and knows what has occurred at this terminal this year. Mr. Irrgang is of the opinion that Mr. Butell could submit the names of peddlers who have been obliged to pay the \$50 and upward as tribute. Mr. Irrgang stated he knows Mr. Fred Sargent, President of the Chicago and North Western Railway Company and that Mr. H. Beyers, Vice President of the Chicago and North Western Railway Company (in charge of traffic) are anxious and desirous to clean up this situation on the Chicago and North Western Railway Terminal, and that if they were interviewed they would instruct their employee, Mr. Butell who is cognizant of all that is transpiring at the Chicago

and North Western juice grape tracks, to ...
Mr. Irrgang stated that on Friday, ...
the officials of the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific Railroad
road sent their representative, Mr. Casey, to the City ...
of traffic, to see him. Mr. Casey informed Mr. Irrgang that
Thomas Proctor, Vice President of the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul
& Pacific Railroad desired to make an appointment with Mr. Irrgang
with a view to discussing the situation regarding the giving of
assistance to them to permit the opening and peddling of juice grapes
out of cars on their rails, which are adjacent to the Chicago and
North Western juice grape tracks. Mr. Irrgang stated that Mr. Casey
had informed him that the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific
Railroad had expended over \$100,000.00 to construct a set of fine
concrete tracks to be used for the peddling of grapes, but that the
Gang (meaning the racketeers and gunmen) at the Chicago and North
Western juice grape tracks had prohibited this from being accomplished.
Mr. Irrgang stated that he had requested Mr. Casey to furnish him
with the names and addresses, and instances of alleged interferences,
on the part of the racketeers and gunmen, but that Mr. Casey stated
that this was impossible because of the fear of the Italians who
have been intimidated to give any information.

It is requested that the Bureau issue instructions
as to further investigation desired in this case.

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RECORDED ~~62-2453-19~~
62-2453-19

October 11, 1930.

OCT 15 1930

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HUGERT DOUGLASS, ACTING H.E.D.,
CRIMINAL DIVISION

In connection with the so-called Juice Grape Investigation at Chicago, there is inclosed herewith a copy of the report of Special Agent Albert Miller dated October 7, 1930, at Chicago, entitled MANNY SCHRAIBERG, TONY ROMANO, JUICE GRAPE INVESTIGATION.

A copy of this report has been forwarded to Mr. O'Brian, the Assistant to the Attorney General, and further investigation will be dependent upon his advice.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Incl. #139905

MA

BUREAU FILES DIVISION
MAILED
OCT 11 1930
P. M.
SECT. OF JUSTICE

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DEPT. OF INVESTIGATION
OCT 13 1930 P. M.
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October 11, 1930.

RECORDED
OCT 15 1930

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, MR. CAGAN

Attention: Mr. Cagan

With further reference to the JUICE GRAPE INVESTIGATION at Chicago, there is inclosed herewith, for your information, a copy of the report of Special Agent Albert Miller, dated October 7, 1930, entitled MANNY SCHRAIBER, TONY ROMANO, JUICE GRAPE INVESTIGATION.

The data included in this report was collected as a result of telephone conversation with the Chicago office on October 6, following advise received from Mr. Cagan. It will be noted that apparently the Chicago & North Western Railway terminal was selected by the so-called racketeers as a place of operation. The racketeers were intending, no doubt, to later extend their operations to the other terminals.

It will be appreciated if you will advise whether you desire any further inquiry made, either in connection with the letter received from Mr. Teague, member of the Farm Board, which was sent to you recently, or in connection with the matter as disclosed in the reports of Agent Butterworth and Albert Miller.

Very truly yours,

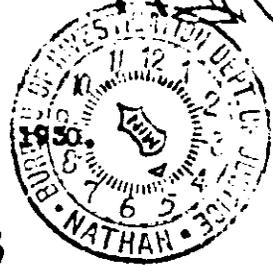
Director.

Incl. # 159902

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BUREAU FILES DIVISION
MAILED
OCT 11 1930
F. B.
DEPT. OF JUSTICE

6



October 11, 1930

62 24153

OCT 13 1930 PM

Memorandum re telephone call from Mr. Richey.

Mr. Richey said this man Smith I gave you; we got information from Chicago that he is more or less responsible for the raising; just got a call from Chicago and you might want to let your people know to put a spot on it; thought maybe your people might be able to get a line on it; they are going to break it on Tuesday; tell your boys to be careful the President is going to make a statement to the press.

Mr. Hoover said he has already taken care of the matter.

MO'B.

62-24153-20

INVESTIGATION

OCT 15 1930

OCT 14 1930

Nathan

65

PATRONS ARE REQUESTED TO FAVOR THE COMPANY BY CRITICISM AND SUGGESTION CONCERNING ITS SERVICE 1901-2

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

A. C. WELLES, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SIGNS

- DL = Day Letter
- NM = Night Message
- NL = Night Letter
- LCO = Deferred Cable
- NLT = Cable Night Letter
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The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

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VINCENT HUGHES=

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE=

PLEASE OBTAIN FROM TEAGUE AND WIRE CORRECT NAME AND

ADDRESS OF TAGGART REFERRED TO IN EUSTACE LETTER RE JUICE

GRAPES=

OSEAS.

RECORDED & INDEXED

Repey OCT 18 1930
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WHA

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BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
OCT 16 330 A.M.
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Mr. Thro

WESTERN UNION MESSENGERS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THE DELIVERY OF NOTES AND PACKAGES

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62-24153-21

RECORDED & INDEXED

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OCTOBER 16 1930

OCT 16 1930

H H CLEGG
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUILDING
CHICAGO ILLINOIS

ADVISE SPECIAL ASSISTANT ORIAS TRACER NOT IN TOWN HIS OFFICE
HAS WIRE MUSTACHE IN CALIFORNIA FOR CORRECT ADDRESS WAGNER
STOP MUSTACHE LETTER GIVES INITIALS V S TRACER WILL WIRE
TOMORROW MORNING UPON RECEIPT WORD FROM TRACER OFFICE

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER DIRECTOR

62-24153

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FBI:MEP

October 16 1930

H H CLEGG
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUILDING
CHICAGO ILL

ADVISE OSKAS V G TAGGART EMPLOYED WITH FRY BROKERAGE COMPANY RACINE WISCONSIN
FOURTEENTH PLACE CHICAGO IN SOUTH WATER MARKET NEIGHBORHOOD

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER DIRECTOR

62-2453

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BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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