
Agency Information

AGENCY : FBI
RECORD NUMBER : 124-10200-10126
RECORD SERIES : HQ
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : 62-9-9-1432

Document Information

ORIGINATOR : FBI
FROM : EVANS, C. A.
TO : BELMONT
TITLE :
DATE : 11/22/1963
PAGES : 3
SUBJECTS :
THP, ACT, INVEST
DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : Unclassified
RESTRICTIONS : 4
CURRENT STATUS : Redact
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 10/05/1998
OPENING CRITERIA : INDEFINITE
COMMENTS :

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

- Toison _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Evans _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

TO : Mr. Belmont *MB*

DATE: November 22, 1963

FROM : C. A. Evans *CE*

SUBJECT: ACTIVITIES OF TOP HOODLUMS
CHICAGO AREA

Decensed 1963

9- [Signature]

File
This is to inform you of developments arising from the murder of Leo Foreman, an alleged enforcer for loan shark operator Sam DeStefano of Chicago. Foreman, an ex-convict, former wrestler and onetime bondsman, had been missing since November 14, 1963, when his body was discovered November 18, 1963, in the trunk of his leased automobile. He had been stabbed in the back and in the chest and had been shot twice.

Chicago Police confirmed that he had visited at DeStefano's home on the day he disappeared. DeStefano told police that Foreman had talked and played cards with him for about two hours on the day he was reported missing. Chicago Police advised that Foreman was DeStefano's front man and in their opinion DeStefano was responsible for his death. Foreman had been used as an informant by the Chicago Police Department for the past year.

Att. [Signature]
TRNN LA
Approximately a month ago a "little black book" belonging to Foreman fell into the hands of the Chicago Police. This book has entries showing Foreman met Chicago Municipal Judge Cecil Corbett Smith at least a half dozen times in the last six months and that he had contacted various other individuals, including Lieutenant Harry Smith and Detectives Joseph Tye and George O'Brien of the Chicago Police Department; Ben Stein, labor racketeer; Kay Jarrett, prostitution madam; and Morris Klein of the Cook County, Illinois, Sheriff's Office. Chicago Police made the black book available to Reporter Sandy Smith of "The Chicago Sun," and he wrote a front page story November 20, 1963, concerning the contacts listed therein.

REC-16 62-9-9-1432
CG 6560-PCI on November 21, 1963, advised the Chicago Office he had a call from DeStefano November 15, 1963, at 7:30 p.m., and was told that his "fat friend," Leo Foreman, was dead. The informant stated that Foreman was killed because he owed DeStefano \$7,000 on "juice" loans (usurious interest loan), which he refused to pay, and also that he was an informant for the FBI in Chicago. Chicago advises Foreman was not its informant and that he was contacted August 22, 1963, for information as to the whereabouts of Carol Jean Smith, also known as Denise Nelson, who had failed to appear in court last August following her earlier arrest on a charge of Interstate Transportation of Stolen Property. Smith was arrested at Seaside, California, on the basis of Foreman's information and was sentenced November 8, 1963.

Top Hoodlum Corcange

1 - Mr. Wick *53 DEC 18 1963*

11 DEC 13 1963

COPY SENT TO MR. TOLSON

JGL:rap (7)

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
Re: Activities of Top Hoodlums
Chicago Area

Foreman telephonically contacted a Chicago Agent November 13, 1963, stating he had heard of an FBI inquiry as to whether Smith was involved with counterfeit checks and that he desired that he be contacted if any further information was desired. No arrangements were made to interview Foreman as a result of this call.

Chicago advised that Municipal Judge Cecil Corbett Smith was removed from his bench November 21, 1963, by Chief Justice Bowe. Bowe took this action following a telephone call from DeStefano, who, according to Judge Bowe, furnished derogatory information about Judge Smith.

Donald Sullivan, a representative of "The Chicago American" newspaper, telephonically contacted the Special Agent in Charge (SAC) at Memphis late in the evening of November 20, 1963, and requested the identify of a polygraph operator in the Memphis area, indicating that he was in the company of a judge in Chicago who was not identified. The SAC advised Sullivan that he could make no recommendation and knew of no polygraph operator in Memphis. Reporter Sullivan also inquired about a detective agency in Memphis and was advised that the FBI was not familiar with any such agencies and could make no comment. Memphis advises that Chief of Police J. C. MacDonald received similar requests from Sullivan and had refused to make a recommendation. Memphis received information subsequently that the judge involved was named Smith and that he was currently mentioned in the murder matter in Chicago.

Following the contact with our Memphis SAC, "The Chicago American" newspaper indicated that Chief of Police MacDonald and the SAC recommended a polygraph operator. As a result of this, Chief MacDonald said he was conferring with the City Attorney as to possible action against "The Chicago American" for false reporting. On November 22, 1963, reporter Sullivan telephonically contacted the Memphis Office and denied having indicated that the SAC or the Chief of Police had recommended a polygraph operator or a detective agency.

Chicago received information November 21, 1963, from [] OTHER 4
[] who has furnished reliable information in the past, to the effect that [] had been talking to an individual known as "Pix," an associate of DeStefano and Foreman. "Pix" reportedly indicated he was aware prior to Foreman's death that he was to be killed and heard about his death about two hours after the killing and before the body was found. "Pix" allegedly said that DeStefano had asked him for Carol