

Producer Plans an LI 'Hollywood'

By Mike McGrady

Roosevelt Field — A Broadway producer announced plans yesterday for a multimillion-dollar film-studio complex at Roosevelt Field that he claimed could make Long Island the nation's second largest center for the production of motion pictures.

Backed by a mysterious financier whose initial investment will be \$2,500,000 this year, the producer said, he hopes to produce low-budget quality films at an output rate second only to that of Hollywood. He hopes to cut costs primarily through a unique arrangement with unions by which they will keep operating costs at a minimum in return for profit-sharing of the completed films. As for his initial investment, the producer said it came from a "nationally known financial source," but would



Michael Myerberg

not name the source.

Stage and film producer Michael Myerberg, at a noon press conference, said the motion picture center is to be on a 10-acre parcel of land on Old Country Road, just east of the Meadowbrook Parkway interchange. He said he plans 12 studios for the site. Three concrete



Architectural Drawing Depicts \$2,500,000 Complex of Movie Studios Planned for Roosevelt Field

hangers there now would be converted and two more similar structures built up to house five studios at a cost of \$2,500,000. Myerberg's engineers will seek Nassau County approval of their designs next week and begin work immediately afterward. The remaining seven studios would be built next year, Myerberg said, if the center appeared to be succeeding.

Pointing out that the studio could handle more than 15 major productions a year, Myerberg said that other film producers would be invited to rent studio space from his firm. He added that some top movie-makers have already expressed interest in the program. The names he listed included Elia Kazan ("Streetcar

Named Desire"), Robert Rossen ("The Hustler"), Arthur Penn ("The Miracle Worker") and Sidney Lumet ("Long Day's Journey Into Night").

Myerberg, owner and manager of Broadway's Brooks Atkinson Theater, simultaneously announced the formation of a Long Island-based production company with plans to film three feature-length movies on the site within the next year. The first film, an adaptation of Joyce Maclver's novel, "The Frog Pond," is slated to go before the cameras in May or June, he said.

The new studios would be leased by Long Island Studios Inc., a new firm headed by Myerberg. The

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(Newsday Photo by Maguire)

SEEKING ANONYMITY. Joe Vito pulls hat down over his face as detective leads him up stairs into County Court in Mineola yesterday to be arraigned on indictment in barber-shop dynamite plot. Salvatore Giglio follows him up the stairs between two detectives. Eight others also were indicted.

10 Are Indicted in Plot To Dynamite Barbers

By Bob Greene

Mineola—A Nassau County rackets grand jury climaxed a five-and-a-half-month investigation yesterday with the indictment of 10 men—including two Long Island underworld figures — on extortion charges in connection with a plot to dynamite barber shops which balked at protection-racket pay-offs.

Most of the defendants, under police surveillance for several days, were arrested at their homes or places of business within a half-hour after the indictments were returned at 11 AM. District Attorney Cahn, who announced the arrests, characterized the extortion plot as "something out of the roaring '20s."

All of the defendants were charged with conspiring to force Long Island's 7,000 barbers into the Long Island Barber's Guild, an organization that planned to charge \$10-a-month dues and to force every barber shop to charge \$1.75 for a haircut. Three of the defendants were arrested Dec. 4 on charges of plotting to dynamite two barber shops which were charging cut-rate prices for haircuts.

Two other persons, identified only as John Doe and Richard Roe, were indicted along with the 10. This is a device used frequently by law enforcement authorities when they intend to make additional arrests. Cahn refused to comment on the

identity of the two, who reportedly are underworld figures.

Two of the major figures indicted yesterday were Joseph (Joe Bella Nap) Vito, 53, whose address was given as 633 Conklin Ave., Farmingdale, a Long Island restaurateur, and Salvatore (Sammy Jiggs) Giglio, 44, whose address was given as 77-60 74th St., Glendale, described as an associate of mobster John (Sonny) Franzese of Herricks. Vito, described by Cahn as a "behind-the-scenes figure in this plot," is the former owner of the Bella Napoli Restaurant, Mineola, and the Gam Pan Restaurant, Brightwaters. He has been convicted twice in Boston for violation of federal alcohol tax laws. Vito was charged yesterday with two counts of extortion conspiracy, possession of dynamite and violation of the Oyster Bay Town ordinance regarding possession of explosives.

Giglio, who has a criminal record, was charged with two counts of extortion conspiracy. Another defendant indicted yesterday, Michael (Mickey) Grosso, 37, a mechanic and former boxer whose address was given as 42 Wyandanch Blvd., Commack, was charged with two counts of conspiracy, four counts of extortion, four counts of coercion, and third-degree assault.

Cahn said that Grosso, a guild organizer, visited

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Hijack Ship Is Spotted By Navy Plane

Caracas, Venezuela (AP)—A U.S. Navy search plane found the hijacked Venezuelan freighter Anzoategui steering a course down the coast of South America today, possibly headed for a haven in Brazil.

A Navy P-2V reported to Washington it had sighted the ship at daybreak about 180 miles north of Surinam, Dutch Guiana, and headed south-southeasterly at a speed of 12 knots. A source at Brazilian navy headquarters in Rio de Janeiro said the ship's present position and course indicate it might be headed for the northern Brazilian port of Belem at the mouth of the Amazon river. Another possibility was the northern Brazilian port of Belem.

In Brasilia, Foreign Minister Hermes Lima and Brazilian President Joao Goulart conferred on the possibility of the Anzoategui, commanded by hijackers identifying themselves as Venezuelan terrorists, would put into northern Brazil. A high Brazilian government source indicated the hijackers would be granted asylum. He said the right of political asylum is a Brazilian tradition "which I do not believe will now be changed."

The terrorists who seized the ship Tuesday apparently gave up any chance of trying to sail through a U.S. and Venezuelan picket of ships and planes guarding the approach to Cuba. Fidel Castro's government had offered the nine Communist gunmen asylum if the ship could reach Cuba.

A Venezuelan navy spokesman said orders had gone out to three destroyers in the northeastern Caribbean to turn around and chase the pirate ship at full speed. Other navy sources said the destroyers could catch up with the fleeing freighter "before noon tomorrow."

Just about two years ago, Portuguese Capt. Henrique Galvao was granted haven in Brazil after seizing the Portuguese luxury liner Santa Maria with about 950 passengers and crew. Galvao hoped his act would dramatize his opposition to Portugal's strongman premier, Antonio de Oliveira Salazar. The Venezuelan Communists, members of the Armed Forces for National Liberation (FALN), announced their purpose in seizing the Anzoategui on its trip to the United States was to bring their cause against President Romulo Betancourt to the attention of the world.

In Washington, the Defense Department said the Anzoategui's course was 150 degrees and its location at the time of the sighting

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Oscar Pereira
Freighter Captain