

Mob Betting Ring Raided on LI

Riverhead—Suffolk police raided homes, a store and a tavern yesterday, arresting eight persons described as members of a Cosa Nostra-controlled ring which was booking more than \$2,300,000 in bets a year.

The raid, which ended a three-month investigation, also yielded large quantities of policy and bookmaking records. Police said that the records showed weekly betting action of about \$46,000, or \$2,300,000 a year. They said that the ring was netting 65 per cent of the profits or more than \$1,500,000 annually.

In Manhattan, meanwhile, the fifth member of a loan shark ring—controlled by the same Cosa Nostra family involved in the Suffolk raid—surrendered to authorities who have sought him on loan sharking and **extortion** charges. The arrest of Dominick (Donnie Shacks) Montemarano ended a two-day roundup of suspects.

Among those arrested in Suffolk and described as boss of the policy ring was Vincent Rosco Prisco, 44, a Joseph Colombo crime family associate identified in a Newsday series yesterday. Also arrested were Prisco's wife, Rose, 41, four East End men and two from Wyandanch. Prisco has a long record of gambling arrests and convictions.

Capt. Donald Schmidt, commander of the Suffolk Police Seventh Squad, said that the ring ran "one of the most complete gambling operations we've hit in years. They handled all types of bets, from policy to basketball games."

The investigation, police said, showed that the key centers of activity were a Riverhead tavern and a fish store in Wyandanch. Police said that Prisco was in the tavern when they entered and starting shoving bits of

paper, believed to be policy bets, into his mouth and swallowing them as he was arrested. Quantities of betting records also were found in his Dix Hills home at 6 Jordan Ct., police said.

Charged with first-degree felony possession of gambling records were Prisco, Robert J. Tricoma, 28, of Maspeth and William Walker, 41, of 714 Flying Point Rd., Southampton. Two other men were booked on a misdemeanor charge of promoting gambling, second degree. They were Alfred B. Coone, 46, of 28 Old Quogue Rd., Riverhead, and Richard C. Creighton, 25, of 155 Flanders Rd., Riverside.

Prisco was held in the county jail last night in \$5,000 bail, and Tricoma and Walker were held in \$2,500 bail each. Coone was released on his own recognizance and Creighton posted \$250 bail.

Arrested in the West End were Mrs. Prisco, who was freed without bail on felony charges of promoting gambling and possessing policy slips, and Isaac D. Grimsley Jr., 43, of 139 Booker Ave. and Weldon Watkins, 40, of 100 S. 26th St., both of Wyandanch. Both men admitted possessing gambling records, police said. Grimsley was fined \$250 and Watkins, \$500.

In New York, Montemarano, 30, of Brooklyn, surrendered to Manhattan District Attorney Frank Hogan. Hogan said that the arrest ended a roundup of five persons accused of operating a loan shark ring that charged interest rates of up to 260 per cent and used threats and physical force to amortize its investments.

Arrested late Thursday were Carmine (The Snake) Persico, 35, of 144 Sunset Dr., Hempstead, a lieutenant in



Newsday Photo by Ike Elchorn



Newsday Photo by Jim Cavanagh

ROUNDUP. Vincent Prisco of Dix Hills, at left, is taken into Suffolk police headquarters yesterday in Riverhead after his arrest on gambling charges. At right, Weldon Watkins, left, and Isaac Grimsley Jr., both of Wyandanch, await arraignment in First District Court, Commack.

the Colombo crime family; Joseph Winograd, 53, and his wife, Sylvia, 41, of Queens, and Samuel Lessner, 51, of Manhattan. All were indicted on charges of conspiracy to commit usury and **extortion**, plus coercion, criminal usury, **extortion** and attempted **extortion**. All have posted bail for a trial date still to be set.

Police said Persico, who is awaiting sentencing on a hijacking conviction, dominated the ring and that Montemarano was his bodyguard. According to police, the two had moved in on a loan-shark operation begun by the Winograds. In return for a cut of the profits, police said, Persico was to

supply the muscle needed to wring collections from delinquent borrowers.

The indictment charged that on at least one occasion, Winograd threatened to kill a delinquent borrower and added, "Persico would use threats and physical force to compel borrowers to make the required purchases."

Persico, the Winograds and Lessner were arrested by detectives from Hogan's office.

Persico has a record of 22 arrests on charges ranging from murder to hijacking. He was allegedly the executioner assigned to kill all Gallo gang members during a gangland war in the early 1960s. —Renner

GROWTH INDUSTRY: MOBS ON LI

Genovese Clan Extends Activity

Here is the fourth of five stories on members of Cosa Nostra families who live and pursue their criminal activities on Long Island:

By Tom Renner

The principal sphere of influence of the Vito Genovese crime family lies in Manhattan and New Jersey, but with 23 members and associates now living on Long Island both its influence and its criminal activity are spreading to here.

Policy rings dominated by former Genovese soldier Vincent (Jimmy Nap) Napoli are found throughout Long Island communities, factories and labor unions. Businessmen and labor officials are threatened. Hijacked goods, stolen in New Jersey or New York by hoodlums controlled by Genovese family figures, are stored in and disposed of from Long Island hiding places.

Behind this activity was Genovese, the former "capo di tutti capi" (boss of all bosses), who ruled his empire like a medieval Italian duke even from the cell of a federal prison in Leavenworth, Kan. The empire, considered the most extensive in the U.S., was consolidated through violence and murder by Genovese and his predecessors, former family bosses Charles (Lucky) Luciano, the narcotics king, and Francesco (Frank Costello) Saveria Castiglia, one-time "prime minister" of crime.

With Genovese's recent death, the triumvirate that ruled the family under his guidance while he was in jail is now believed to be competing for his post as family leader. The leading candidate, according to criminal intelligence experts, is acting boss Thomas (Tommy Ryan) Eboli of Englewood Cliffs, N.J. Eboli has convictions for assault and contempt of a grand jury (a conviction he is now appealing) but has never been jailed. His chief rivals include: Gerardo (Jerry) Catena, family underboss who is a major influence in waterfront rackets and business infiltration in New Jersey, and Michele (Mike) Miranda, the aging consigliere (adviser) who has the most influence in the family but, because of his age (72) and illness, is considered the least likely to assume the Genovese mantle.

Police expect a bloodless succession in the crime family, but they are not overlooking the violent history of the family, the frequent murders in struggles for the leadership. They note that the crime family plays a major role in importing heroin and engages in waterfront and labor **racketeering**, loansharking and business infiltration, rackets that enabled Genovese to amass a personal fortune estimated to exceed \$30,000,000. The family's operations and influence recently drew the attention of New Jersey legislators and forced the formation of a special federal task force designed to halt the family's growth and cut its power there; it has been a major problem in New Jersey since the days of deported crime lieutenant Joseph (Joe Adonis) Doto and murdered policy banker Willie Moretti.

On Long Island, the Suffolk gambling squad, headed by Capt. David Prince, Nassau police and Nassau District Attorney Cahn have found evidence of Genovese family expansion into the island's gambling rackets. Control of a major policy operation is vested in Napoli, a former soldier who lost his status in the family and dropped to family associate when he violated a Cosa Nostra rule never to infringe on territories of fellow soldiers. He was recently subpoenaed before a Nassau grand jury investigating policy racket operations.

Napoli's influence was exposed with the arrest of such subordinates as master controller Clarence Carter of Freeport and master controller Andrew Biondo of Melville. Carter's policy operations have been frequently raided by both Nassau and Suffolk police and Biondo's arrest in 1966 disclosed the existence of a \$30,000,000-a-year policy bank in Melville for the Queens-Brooklyn area.

Still other Genovese criminal operations have been detected with the arrest last year of Carmine (Charlie Wagons) Fatico of West Islip, who was accused by Cahn of plotting with Colombo crime family figures to murder an East Rockaway businessman. Police are now convinced that the Genovese crime family, lured

by the growing resources of Long Island, will make new attempts at criminal activity here. The family's members and associates now on Long Island include:

Ignazio (Joe Curly) Agone—Family soldier, 52; 178 Ohls St., Canaan Lake, (summer) and 475 FDR Drive, New York City. Activities: labor **racketeering**, shylocking. He is the assistant to the president and special coordinator for the 12,000-member Local 11 of the Hotel Restaurant and Bartenders Union (AFL-CIO). He has arrests for grand larceny (six times), assault and robbery (six times), possession of a gun, malicious mischief, disorderly conduct (thrice), vagrancy, and parole violation; convicted of grand larceny, and assault and robbery (9-18 years).

Philip (Phil Katz) Albanese—Family soldier, 61; 1108 Philip Court, Valley Stream. Activities: waterfront rackets, shylocking. He is Agone's brother-in-law. He ran dice games on the piers of North River where he was "boss." He was found guilty of evading taxes by hiding his true ownership of a dock-loading business at Piers 27 and 28. He has arrests for robbery, conspiracy to sell heroin, forgery, tax evasion and disorderly conduct; convicted of robbery (15 years), conspiracy to sell heroin (nine months) and tax evasion (five years).

Salvatore Aparo (also uses name, Dinielli)—Family associate believed to be elevated to soldier, 49; 4 Sheridan Rd., West Babylon. Activities: dice, bookmaking, policy, counterfeiting, heroin, stock thefts. In 1965 he was arrested and charged with being part of a ring that imported more than \$90,000,000 in heroin with 13 top hoods, three of whom were murdered in the past year. The case is still pending. He was arrested in 1968 with 29 others as part of a ring that forged more than \$750,000 in U.S. Savings Bonds. The case is still pending. He has arrests for policy, dice, criminally receiving, sale of heroin (twice), counterfeiting; convicted of policy, sale of narcotics (five years).

James (Jimmy Bates) Battaglia—Family soldier, —Continued on Page 11

Genovese Clan Extends Activity

—Continued from Page 7

54; 239 Flora Ave., Plainview. Activities: bookmaking. Described by federal authorities as the boss of a comparatively small \$2,000,000-a-year bookmaking ring that gives him and his bosses a net of approximately \$400,000. He is listed as the president of the Big City Shipping Co. of New York, a trucking firm, and was accused in 1960 of setting up dummy corporations to swindle \$150,000 in merchandise out of manufacturers. The charges were later dismissed. He has arrests for bookmaking (five times), criminally receiving stolen property and violating the federal wagering tax law; convicted of bookmaking (thrice), never jailed.

Andrew Biondo—Family associate, 50; 7 Grossman St., Melville. Activities: policy and bookmaking. Master controller for a Melville policy bank that handled \$30,000,000 a year in policy bets for Vincent Napoli. He currently operates a laundry on West Hill Road, Huntington Station. He has arrests for policy (four times) and bookmaking (twice); convicted of policy (four times, jailed for nine months on one conviction) and bookmaking (twice).

Vincent (Jimmy Blink) Bivona—Family soldier, 60; 18 Sheridan Place, Babylon, (summer), and 216 Elizabeth St., New York. Activity: gambling. He has arrests for grand larceny, possession of a gun, burglary, parole violation and conspiracy to sell heroin; convicted of burglary (jailed for undetermined period) and grand larceny (confined to reform school for undetermined period).

Lorenzo (Chappie) Brescia—Family soldier, 64; 91 Bay St., East Atlantic Beach. Activities: labor racketeering, shylocking, extortion. He is a "meat salesman" and power in meat industry. His brother, Frank, is business agent of Local 174 of the Butchers Union of Greater New York and New Jersey (AFL-CIO) which is currently under investigation by Manhattan District Attorney Frank Hogan. Former bodyguard of Charles (Lucky) Luciano, Brescia was questioned about the murder of Albert Anastasia. He was convicted of extorting \$60,000 from taxi owners in a labor case. He has arrests for homicide, extortion, perjury and contempt; convicted of contempt (30 days) and extortion (jailed for undetermined period).

Clarence H. Carter—Family associate, 41; 72 Lillian Ave., Freeport. Activity: policy rackets. Master controller of policy rackets controlled by Vincent Napoli on Long Island. He has arrests for mail theft, mugging, possession of a gun and policy; convicted of mail theft, mugging, possession of a gun and policy (one year).

Robert J. Cervone—Family associate, 55; 141 Bay Blvd., Atlantic Beach. Activities: labor racketeering, shylocking. He was business agent of the Mason Tenders Union Local 13 (Independent) which was identified as a mob-dominated local by the State Investigation Commission. He was questioned about the murder of his brother, George, murder attempts on the life of former associate Vincent Siciliano and about shylocking, bookmaking and his association with Michele Miranda and other hoodlums. He has arrests for assault, securities act violations and tax evasion; no convictions, never jailed.

Michael J. Clemente—Family soldier, 60; 36 Beech St., Point Lookout (summer), and 75-20 Colonial Rd., Brooklyn. Activities: waterfront rackets, shylocking, extortion, bookmaking and dice. He works as a travel consultant for a firm that specializes in plane and boat reservations to the Mediterranean. He was a salesman and business promoter on the docks for a Detroit equipment company that supplied machinery to stevedores. He served as business agent for Local 856, International Longshoremen's Union, and was ordered off the docks by the State Waterfront Commission. He has arrests for rape, assault, conspiracy to violate tax laws (operating a 28,000 gallon still), disorderly conduct, making a false statement, extortion, perjury and violating state tax laws; convicted of assault (60-days, reduced from rape), assault, conspiracy (3 years and a day), extortion, perjury (2½-5 years), state tax law violation.

Francesco (Frank Costello) Saveria Castiglia—Retired family boss, 77; 5 Barkers Point Rd., Sands Point. Activity: adviser on crime policy. When Genovese ordered Costello's murder, Costello escaped with only a scalp injury but quickly went into retirement. He was once one of the most powerful crime figures in the nation and was known as the prime minister because of his ability to infiltrate government, particularly political parties in New York City. He now has major land holdings and still exerts influence in family criminal affairs. He has arrests for assault and robbery, possession of a gun, conspiracy, tax evasion (twice), contempt of Congress and contempt of court; convictions for possessing a gun, tax evasion (five years and \$30,000 fine on one charge), contempt of Congress (18 months) and contempt of court (30 days).



Philip Albanese



Vincent Napoli



Robert J. Cervone



Salvatore Aparo

Dominick DiMare—Family associate, 34; 244 Tinton Place, East Northport. Activity: policy. He was arrested and charged with controlling a major policy business with 151 members, including 30 known gamblers, in the Bronx-Westchester area. The case is still pending. He operates a barbershop in the Bronx.

John Eboli—Family associate, 40; 63 Elder Dr., Commack. Family associate. Activities: bookmaking, wire room rigger, policy. The brother of acting boss Tommy Eboli, he has been active in bookmaking and setting up wire rooms for bookmakers (telephone centers where race track information is relayed to bookies) in Queens and Long Island. He has arrests for forgery, assault and robbery, falsely marking merchandise, bookmaking (seven times), and policy; convicted of forgery (three months), policy.

Alfred (Butch) Faicco—Family soldier, 67; 10 Latimer Ct., Rockville Centre. Activities: currently ill and inactive. Owns meat market in Manhattan. He has arrests for petty larceny (twice), sale of heroin, homicide (twice), extortion, attempted rape, vagrancy and disorderly conduct (twice); convicted of petty larceny (twice), manslaughter (2-5 years).

Carmine (Charlie Wagons) Fatico—Family associate believed to have been elevated to soldier, 48; 810 Higbe Lane, West Islip. Activities: labor racketeering, policy, bookmaking, extortion. He controls a Brooklyn restaurant and was recently accused of plotting to murder an East Rockaway businessman. The case is pending in Nassau. He was a suspect, but never arrested, in an attempt to take over a Suffolk painters union. He has arrests for assault (five times), grand larceny, burglary, possession of burglars tools, making a false statement, dice, robbery (twice), policy, bookmaking (twice), disorderly conduct (twice), conspiracy to commit murder and vagrancy; convicted of grand larceny (3-5 years), making a false statement, policy, bookmaking (twice), and assault (twice).

James Linwood Francis—Family associate, 51; 354 Hilltop Ave., North Babylon. Activity: policy controller. A key figure in a policy ring directed by Vincent Napoli. Now employed in nonclassified template assembly post (since 1961) with Grumman Aircraft Engineering Corp., Bethpage. A Grumman spokesman said Francis does not have security clearance and nothing appears on his record which would have prevented Grumman from hiring him. He has arrests for possession of heroin and policy (thrice); convicted of possession of heroin and policy (twice).

Gaetano (Tommy Palmer) Greco—Family lieutenant, 73; 51 Trenton Ave., Atlantic Beach. Activities: labor racketeering, policy, shylocking. He was a major figure in building trades extortions and was identified last year by the State Investigations Commission as a central figure in Mason Tenders



Frank Costello



Carmine Fatico

Union (Independent) corruption and loan shark rackets. He is hidden owner of a Manhattan restaurant. He has arrests for robbery, homicide, possession of a gun (twice); never convicted.

Matthew (Matty the Horse) Ianiello—Family soldier, 57; 10 Tredwell Dr., Old Westbury. Activity: bar infiltration. He was identified by a former FBI agent, who was also an investigator for the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee, as being closely allied with a State Liquor Authority investigator and being a member of the Genovese family. He is a partner in a factoring firm that holds mortgages on bars and is now under investigation by federal authorities in Florida in a Miami bank kickback scheme. He has a prior arrest for sale of heroin but was never convicted. He has paid fines for city administrative code and alcohol beverage law violations.

Biagio J. Lanza—Family soldier, 60; 8 Terrace Park, Garden City. Activities: bookmaking, policy, labor official. He is business agent for Local 60, Plasterers Union (AFL-CIO). He has been under investigation for using pressure to have contracting companies buy their supplies from a firm run by his brother. He has arrests for bookmaking and policy (twice); convicted of bookmaking and policy (twice), never jailed.

Charles (John Bruno) Lanza—Family soldier, 62; 51 Ackley Ave., Malverne. Activity: bookmaking. He is the brother of Biagio Lanza and the president of the Lanco Building Supplies Co. of the Bronx which is a major supplier of materials to contractors working with his brother's plasterers local. He has arrests for grand larceny (twice), robbery, vagrancy, bookmaking (twice); convicted of grand larceny and bookmaking, never jailed.

Louis Pascocello—Family associate, 47; 2489 Lawn Dr., East Meadow. Activity: policy. The cousin of Vincent Napoli, he was identified as a central figure in an interstate policy racket operating in New Jersey and Manhattan. He has arrests for policy (thrice), transporting gambling equipment and absent without leave from the U.S. Army; convicted of policy (twice), transporting gambling equipment (nine months), and AWOL (three years).

Frank Tortorici—Family associate, 43; 53 King Ave., Long Beach. The brother of family soldier Joseph (Joe Stutz) Tortorici and a close associate of labor racketeer Irving Horowitz and Luchese lieutenant Carmine Tramunti. He is the treasurer of the International Production Services and Sales Employees Union (independent) Locals 422, 222, 517, 719 and 815, previously identified as mobster dominated. Secretary of the union was Frank Fiorello who served time for robbery. Robert Rao, son of the late mobster Joseph (Joey) Rao, heads the welfare fund which has more than \$5,000,000 in assets. In 1965, 17 employees of a Long Island candy factory won a National Labor Relations Board battle to rid themselves of the union because of a sweetheart contract with the factory. The union represents workers in major electronics and jewelry manufacturing firms. Tortorici has no criminal record.

Anthony Velluci—Family soldier, 43; Lincoln Drive, Rocky Point (summer), 310 E. 112th St., Manhattan. Currently serving a 15-year jail term for the sale of heroin. Eligible for parole next year. He has arrests for burglary, sale of heroin (four times), policy, grand larceny; convicted of burglary (undetermined jail sentence), grand larceny (six months), policy, sale of heroin (twice, 18 months and 15-year terms).

In a story on the growth of organized crime on Long Island in Wednesday's editions of Newsday, the address of Samuel Goldstein was given as 57 Merry Lane, Jericho. Goldstein moved recently from that address to Manhattan. The Jericho home is occupied by a new owner who is not in any way connected with the crime series.