

Franzese Son Is Indicted in Car-Coat Mess

Michael J. Franzese, 22, son of John (Sonny) Franzese, was indicted by the Nassau Grand Jury yesterday, on several charges stemming from a bizarre incident involving a car and a coat.

Also indicted along with Franzese, of 47 Shrub Hollow Road, Roslyn, were Anthony Morano, 32, of 700 Fulton St., Farmingdale, and Felice (Philly) Vizzari, 53, of 14 Cedar Point Drive, West Islip.

According to William Cahn, Nassau County district attorney, Vizzari is reputed to be a lieutenant in the Colombo crime family.

All Plead Innocent?

all three pleaded not guilty to the charges and posted bail for a hearing Jan. 11. Bond of \$5,000 was set for Franzese, and \$10,000 each for the other two.

Cahn said that the indictments were on a complaint of Otis Grier, 28, who was an employe of M.B.E. Leasing Corp., in West Hempstead, an auto rental and used car agency owned by Franzese (who is also a student at Hofstra University) before Franzese fired him in a dispute Nov. 23.

Grier told police that Franzese and the other two men had threatened him over a missing coat that Franzese claimed he had "paid \$1,000 for, and which was worth \$2,500."

"Gift for Mother"

It was learned from a source close to the investigation that Franzese said he had "bought the coat for his mother as a Christmas gift." Franzese's mother, Christine, has figured in recent news stories by claiming that testimony which sent her husband to jail for 50 years is perjured.

When Grier protested he knew nothing of a coat, Vizzari allegedly threatened him, saying his boys would "cut him up thin." Franzese then allegedly forced Grier to sign over the registration of his car, valued at \$1,400.

The racket bureau of the district attorney's office, headed by Joseph Spinnato, on a search warrant, found Grier's car at a garage owned by the M.B.E. Leasing Corp.

The three men were charged on several counts of conspiracy, extortion, grand larceny and theft.

Many Honor Robert Morse

A host of friends, associates and relatives packed Riverside Memorial Chapel in Brooklyn yesterday to pay final respects to U.S. Attorney Robert A. Morse who plunged to his death Tuesday from his fifth-floor Brooklyn Heights apartment.

"We are all here today not because of his death, but because of his life—an extraordinary life that touched us all," Edward Korman, a former assistant and close friend, told more than 500 persons gathered in the funeral home at Ocean Parkway and Coney Island Ave.

His simple maple casket was borne after the service to Mount Carmel Cemetery in Cypress Hills, Queens, for burial in a family plot.

He is survived by his mother, Mrs. Frank (Henrietta) Moskowitz; an uncle, Dr. Ira Mencher; his former wife, Mrs. Irene Spatt Morse; and his daughter, Deborah.

Curtain Going Up

The Babylon Recreation Department and the Mohawk Players theatrical group will present "And Miss Reardon Drinks a Little" tonight and tomorrow, and next Friday and Saturday nights at the Robert Moses Junior High School in North Babylon.

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