

COPY

Form No. 104

MEMORANDUM REPORT
BUREAU OF NARCOTICS
DISTRICT NO.

CASE FILE NO. _____ RE NO. _____ GEN. FILE TITLE: **Taylor Crossland, Maurice O. Melton, Paul Roland Jones**

REPORT MADE BY: **Chicago, Illinois** DATE: **October 31, 1947**

RELATED FILES: **SS-202, Mafia, F 234 and 240**

OTHER OFFICERS: **Arthur R. Adams, Customs Agent Chicago, Illinois**

BY: **A. W. Aman**

SUBJECT OF THIS MEMORANDUM

Investigation re: **Taylor Crossland, Maurice O. Melton, Paul Roland Jones**

RECOMMENDATION

PENDING: *see 11-4-55*

CLOSE:

FURTHER INVESTIGATION: *11-4-55*

DETAILS OF REPORT IN OTHER TWO PAGES IN THIS MEMORANDUM (SEE PARAGRAPHS)

On October 29, 1947, we interviewed Jack Ruby, a permanent guest, Room 6-142, of the Congress Hotel, Chicago. He identified the photograph of Paul Roland Jones, and has known him for the past four or five months inasmuch as Paul Jones is a friend of his sister, Eva Grant, proprietress of the Singapore Supper Club, 1717 S. Ervay Street, Dallas, Texas. He was introduced to Paul Roland Jones by Eva Grant.

Jack Ruby has talked to Paul Jones on numerous occasions while visiting his sister in Dallas, Texas, but has never had any conversations with his relative to narcotic drugs nor has he ever talked to Paul Jones in the city of Chicago, either personally or via telephone. According to Jack Ruby he was visiting in Dallas, Texas, on August 2nd and 3rd, 1947, which are the dates that Paul Jones, Taylor Crossland and Maurice Melton were in Chicago.

Jack Ruby is a sales promoter, and calls himself a merchandise distributor. He is 36 years of age, 5' 9" tall, weighs about 160, wavy hair, with a high receding hair line, a large, sharp, pointed nose, a fashionable dresser, is of Jewish extraction, and was born at Chicago, Illinois. He is also a brother of Hyman Rubenstein.

Hyman Rubenstein was interviewed, and the attached statement is herewith enclosed; also two business letters, which, seemingly, substantiate his sworn statement.

The registration records of the Sherman Hotel, Chicago, indicates that Paul Jones occupied Rooms 1024 and 674 from October 10, 1947, to October 21, 1947, and the telephone calls made by him have been checked and were made to all legitimate organizations.

The files of this office and the files of the Bureau of Identification, Chicago Police Department, have been examined and there are no records involving Hyman Rubenstein, 3650 W. Lexington St., Chicago, Illinois, or Jack Ruby, his brother, who resides as a permanent guest at the Congress Hotel, Chicago.

COPY OF THIS MEMO FURNISHED TO

SIGNATURES

BUREAU: (2) 11-5-1947

DISTRICT NO. **SCA- Laredo, Texas (Ben White) (1)**
SCA- Chicago, Ill. (2)

APPROVED:

A. W. Aman

(District Supervisor)

/s/ Murray Garrison

(District Supervisor)

FILES:

CA MEMORANDUM FORM NO. 104-2148-3

R-2343 cc: *Mr. Patrick Belmont, FBI*

COPY

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ()
DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS) SS

STATEMENT

I, Hyman Rubenstein, having been informed by Albert E. Aman, known to me to be an agent of the Bureau of Narcotics of the Treasury Department of the United States, and Arthur R. Adams, known to me to be an agent of the Bureau of Customs of the Treasury Department, that I may decline to answer any questions propounded to me by him on the ground that the answers thereto may tend to incriminate me; and having also been informed that this statement may be used in evidence against me in criminal or other proceedings; and no threats of any character having been made against me and no physical violence having been used against my person, and no reward nor immunity having been promised to me in consideration for my making said statement by said Aman or any other person acting for or on behalf of the United States; I do freely and voluntarily make the following statement:

My name is Hyman Rubenstein. I am 46 years of age, born in Warsaw, Poland, and I was naturalized about 1922 in the Federal Building, Chicago, Illinois. My occupation is the candy and novelty business, and I am the proprietor of the Victory Products Company, 3650 Lexington Street, Chicago, Illinois.

I reside with my father, my brother, Sammy, my sister, Marian, and a nephew named Bonnie at 3650 Lexington Street. I have lived in Chicago since I have been 24 years of age, at which time my people migrated from Poland.

Q. I hand you three (3) photographs. Will you examine them and inform Mr. Aman as whether or not you know these people.

A. I met Taylor Crossland and Maurice Costello Melton only once. Paul Roland Jones I have known for about a year or less.

Q. When was the first time you met Paul Jones?

A. About ten months ago. He called me at my home and said he was a friend of my sister, Eva Grant, and that he would like to see me if I wasn't too busy. We met at the Sherman Hotel in the Celtic Room, and our conversation was merely general subjects of the day. The next time I met him was on a Sunday morning after he called me at my home, and this meeting was held at the Sherman Hotel in the Celtic Room. He introduced me to Taylor Crossland and Maurice Costello Melton, and we all had breakfast together. The latter meeting held at Hotel Sherman, Celtic Room, took place during the first week of August, 1947.

During this period of time the conversation was about general subjects. We walked around the Loop for about one hour and I pointed out places of interest to the men. Later, I suggested driving them to the Airport because I wasn't busy and inasmuch as they said they were going to Wichita, Kansas. While in my automobile, Melton and Crossland asked

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COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 1708—Continued

me if I could get him a connection on steel pipe, and I said I would let them know tomorrow, which I did, and mailed the sample (3/4 inch pipe) to Paul Jones at 3904 Justice Street, Dallas, Texas. I also wrote him a letter with specifications and prices. I never heard a word from him since.

During the period of time spent with Jones, Melton and Crossland, a discussion came up about lumber, inasmuch as Melton asked me. Melton suggested that he could get me carloads of lumber at a very good price. I believe a brother of his had a connection in a lumber mill. I suggested if he would cut off a one foot sample slab so that I could show it to some people here in Chicago, we might be able to do some business. He promised me he would, but I never got a sample.

While we were waiting for the plane, Taylor suggested something about a gold mine that he had with an engineer partner on the Pacific Coast of Mexico. I told him that it took too much money for a guy like me. He said, "Do you think you can find somebody?" I told him there was only one party that I knew who was a prospector and a lumber man, more about that business than I do, and I gave him the name of Joseph Cunningham, located at room 423, Howan Bldg., 458 Spring, Los Angeles, Off. Tel. Van Dyke 4344.

Crossland said he would have his engineer write to Cunningham as he knows more about the details of gold mining. No more was ever heard further on this subject. (Residence Tel. Chapman 52801)

During this conversation Paul Jones said that he would like to pick up some new cars if any contacts could be made, but I never tried to do so, and that ended that.

The next time I met Paul Jones was on or about the 15th of October, and he remained in Chicago approximately a week. He called me upon his arrival, at my home, and asked me to meet him in room 574 at the Commodore Hotel, which I did. He introduced me to a Mr. Wagner, and the importance of my meetings with him each day that he was here was that Mr. Wagner was the inventor of a new type of rubber fabric to be used for re-capping tires. Paul Jones said that he met and talked with Jack Meschin of the Keesler Motor Express Corporation, and that Jack Meschin was going to give it a trial. Paul Jones also said that he made a trip to Canada and attempted to interest either the Goodrich Rubber and the U. S. Rubber Company in this product, but was informed that he would have to take this matter up with the U. S. office in Chic.

During this week Paul Jones asked me if I could get him 700 gallons of bulk-four-year-old whiskey. I wrote him special delivery air mail letter after he left Chicago, and told him I could get him the whiskey - to find out from his people what they would pay, and to let me know immediately. I have never heard from him on this matter, either.

During these several meetings that I had with Paul Jones, he never mentioned opium, nor any other narcotic drug to me, nor did Crossland or Maurice Melton.

For the Government's information, I want it to be known very clearly that I am a businessman; that I have never been arrested on any charge, and that I absolutely know nothing about opium, or narcotics in any shape, manner or form, nor the illicit traffic of narcotic drugs.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

SS

HYMAN HUBENSTEIN, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that he has read the foregoing statement in question and answer form by him subscribed and knows the contents thereof, and that the same is true in substance and in fact, except as to those matters stated therein to be upon information and belief, and that as to those matters he believes it to be true.

/s/ Hyman Hubenstein

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 30th day of October, A. D. 1947.

Witnessed by:

/s/ Albert E. Ann, Narcotic Agent