

North Jersey rackets

7 named in Gotti death plot



Alleged mob leader Louis Anthony "Bobby" Manna of Jersey City appears downcast yesterday as he leaves the West Orange Armory. A federal indictment unsealed yesterday accuses Manna of several others of conspiring to murder John and Gene Gotti, described by the U.S. attorney as rival mobsters.

JOE SHINE THE HUDSON DISPATCH

Feds deal big blow to Genovese family

By MATTHEW DIETRICH

Staff Writer

WEST ORANGE—Federal and state officials yesterday dealt a crushing blow to the powerful New Jersey faction of the Genovese crime family, arresting its alleged third most powerful boss and 21 of its reputed members on charges of running North Jersey rackets and, for seven of them, scheming to rub out Gambino kingpin John Gotti.

Louis Anthony "Bobby" Manna, 59, of Jersey City, the Number 3 man in the Genovese family, was indicted, along with Hoboken restaurant owner Martin "Motts" Casella of Secaucus and Genovese associate Richard "Bocci" DeSciscio of Bayonne for allegedly plotting in October to kill

John Gotti, the reputed leader, and his brother Gene, an alleged member of the rival Gambino organization, according to the announcement by U.S. Attorney Samuel A. Alito Jr. and FBI Special Agent-in-Charge John C. McGinley.

The three were also charged with planning and carrying out the murder of millionaire businessman Irwin Schiff, who was gunned down in August in a Manhattan restaurant.

Reputed Genovese associates Frank "Dipsy" Daniello, a former Hoboken policeman; James "Jimmy Nap" Napoli of Brooklyn; Rocco J. "Rocky" Napoli of Secaucus; and John Derrico of Hoboken also were charged in the Gotti knockoff

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Mob expert: Manna followed in dad's footsteps

By MATTHEW DIETRICH

Staff Writer

JERSEY CITY—Louis Anthony "Bobby" Manna had the mob in his blood and was well on his way up the Genovese crime family's power ladder until his indictment yesterday on murder, extortion

and racketeering charges, according to the state's top expert on the mob.

The son of mobster Maurio Manna, he followed in his father's Mafia footsteps, working his way up from Genovese loan collector and "enforcer" to the prestigious post of "consigliere" (adviser) two

years ago, according to Justin Dintino, the chief of intelligence for the State Commission of Investigation.

"That's usually how they earn their spurs," Dintino said of Manna's early days as a strongarm for the Genovese family's street operations.

The slim, well-dressed Manna, who is also known by the nicknames "Joe Lupo," "Doc" and "The Thin Man," replaced James "Jimmy Nap" Napoli as the number three man in the Genovese organization two years ago, gaining con-

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INDICT

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scheme, which authorities believe was part of an escalating turf war between the two powerful Cosa Nostra families.

More than 200 state and federal law enforcement agents swept through North Jersey before dawn yesterday, arresting 20 of the 22 defendants named in the 42-count indictment. The arrests culminated a yearlong covert operation by the IRS, the FBI, state police and Manhattan District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau that officials said they believe will cripple Genovese operations here.

"We brought down the Genovese crime family in New Jersey today," said state Attorney General W. Cary Edwards after a press conference at the National Guard Armory here, where the suspects were arraigned.

Although the morning raid may have damaged the Genovese stronghold on the lucrative waterfront gambling and labor extortion rackets, officials said, they warned that yesterday's arrests could signal the start of a bloody mob turf war that will use Hudson County and other areas of North Jersey as its battlefield.

"We anticipate a struggle, certainly. There is a vacuum to be filled, and there are people that will scramble to fill the vacuum that comes from this," said FBI Special Agent John C. McGinley.

Alito and McGinley said FBI wiretaps and hidden microphones showed that Casella's Restaurant at 615 First St. in Hoboken was the headquarters for Manna's operations. The seven charged with conspiring to kill the Gotti brothers met there three times in October to discuss the assassination plans, McGinley said.

Authorities would not elaborate on when or how the killings were to have been carried out, nor would they say who shot Schiff dead.

The indictment says the Village Coffee Shop at 359 Second St. in Jersey City was also used by Manna and his subordinates as a headquarters. Telephones at that establishment, which reportedly is owned by defendant Thomas "Trolley Car" Fallacara of Jersey City, also were tapped.

Fifteen of the 22 defendants ran rackets involving "murder, conspiracy, labor bribery, gambling and extortion" throughout New Jersey, according to Alito.

Included in the indictments are: Rocco J. "Rocky" Napoli, 42, of Secaucus, business manager of Laborers Local 21 in Jersey City; and Orlando "Richie" Cusimano, 60, of Secaucus, chief officer of Bricklayers Local 10 in Union City. Also named were: Dorothy Horan, 56, of Upper Saddle River; and her daughter, Patricia Horan, 29, owner and vice president, respectively, of James P. Horan Inc., an Elmwood Park construction company that allegedly acted as a conduit for labor extortion.

Manna, Casella and DeSciscio were ordered held without bail by U.S. Magistrate Ronald J. Hedges until a detention hearing

List of those indicted

The 15 defendants charged with racketeering violations involving murder, conspiracy, labor bribery, gambling and extortion were described this way by two federal officials and the indictment:

■ Louis Anthony "Bobby" Manna, a.k.a. "Thin Man," 59, of Liberty Avenue in Jersey City. Reputed "consigliere" or adviser of the Genovese family. The alleged leader of Genovese operations in New Jersey, he is accused of plotting to kill John and Gene Gotti and accused in the indictment of plotting and carrying out the slaying of Irwin Schiff.

■ Martin "Motts" Casella, 71, of Sparman Place in Secaucus, owner of Casella's Restaurant in Hoboken, allegedly Manna's headquarters. A principal assistant to Manna, he "conducted and conspired in acts of murder, extortion, loansharking (and) trafficking in stolen property," according to the indictment. He reportedly helped plan the Schiff murder and is accused of plotting to kill the Gottis.

■ Richard "Bocci" DeSciscio, 42, of West 23rd Street, Bayonne. Was "specially entrusted with carrying out violent assignments for the (Manna) enterprise," according to the indictment, which says he also assisted in murder, extortion, loansharking and selling stolen property. He was involved in both the Gotti and Schiff murder plots, according to the indictment.

■ Rocco J. "Rocky" Napoli, 42, of Topsail Lane, Secaucus. As business manager for Laborers International Union Local 21 in Jersey City, he conducted and conspired in the above acts, using the Village Coffee Shop in Jersey City as a front. He helped plan to kill the Gottis — a crime that never took place — according to the indictment.

■ James "Jimmy Nap" Napoli, 72, of Brooklyn. Involved in the plot to murder the Gottis. Currently hospitalized in Manhattan.

■ John Derrico, 27, of Jefferson Street in Hoboken. An employee of Casella's, the indictment says he helped plan how to kill the Gottis.

■ Frank "Dipsy" Daniello, 67, of Grand St. in Hoboken. A former Hoboken police lieutenant, the indictment charges that he "conducted and conspired in acts of murder," including helping to plan to kill the Gottis.

■ Patsy "Fingers" Riccio, 60, of First Street in Jersey City. Acted as liaison in the Genovese organization. He is charged with extortion and gambling.

■ Orlando "Richie" Cusimano, 60, of Ninth Street in Secaucus. Conducted and conspired in labor payoffs.

■ Thomas "Trolley Car" Fallacara, 50, of Second Street in Jersey City. Conducted and conspired in labor payoffs and gambling as he operated the Village Coffee Shop in Jersey City, according to the indictment.

■ Edward J. "Moe" Molta Sr., 52, of Main Street in Little Ferry. Was a reputed no-show employee of the Horan Construction Co. who, the indictment charges, was involved in racketeering.

■ Dorothy "Mickey" Horan, 56, of Upper Saddle River. Owner of the construction company, she is charged with conducting and conspiring in labor payoffs.

■ Patricia Horan, 29, no address given. Daughter of "Mickey" Horan, she is charged with racketeering.

■ Joseph Speranza, 59, of Willowbrook, Pa., president of a Whitehouse Station brick company, conducted and conspired in labor payoffs, according to the indictment.

■ David Renninger, 41, of Westtown, Pa. Charged with causing his contracting company to make illegal payments.

Also charged in the indictment with counts relating to an illegal gambling operation are: Frank Viggiani, Maurice DeStefano, Dominick Guerra, Janet Mastrogiovanni, Joseph Albanese, Anthony Sita and Francis Scerbo.

set for Friday morning in Newark.

The others were assigned bail, although it was not known which defendants had posted bond following the two-hour mass arraignment.

Manna and Casella, 71, face life sentences plus prison terms of 110 years and fines of more than \$2 million. DeSciscio, 42, faces a maximum term of life plus 85 years.

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trol of 350 subordinates, Dintino said.

Napoli was among the score of people described as Genovese associates named in an indictment unsealed yesterday by U.S. Attorney Samuel A. Alito Jr. that charges Manna with plotting to kill Gambino boss John Gotti and his brother, Gene.

In the late 1970s, Manna served three years in Yardville State Prison after refusing to testify before the SCI on organized crime activities, Dintino said. Manna would not testify despite being granted immunity from prosecution, according to Dintino.

Manna is believed by many law enforcement officials to have sanctioned the murder last month of Genovese soldier John DiGilio of Bayonne, whose bullet-riddled body was pulled from the Hackensack River on May 26.

According to Dintino, Manna traveled daily to Manhattan to consult with Vincent "The Chin" Gigante, believed to be the Number 2 figure in the organization and a likely successor to Anthony "Fat Tony" Salerno. Salerno is serving a 100-year sentence after being found guilty in New York's 1985 "commission trial."

Unlike other high-ranking organized crime bosses, Manna regularly made checks in person on street gambling and loansharking operations, Dintino said.

Manna, dressed in a tan suit, showed no emotion as he was marched in and out of his arraignment yesterday. He was ordered held without bond until a detention hearing Friday. He could face a maximum prison sentence of life plus 110 years and more than \$2 million in fines.

FBI warning

Mob war brewing

Indicted trio's rivals may seize vice empire

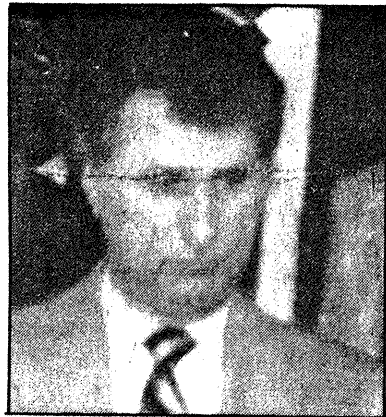
By **MATTHEW DIETRICH**

Staff Writer

The mob war for control of Hudson County's gambling and labor rackets could begin as soon as tomorrow, depending on whether three reputed crime bosses indicted Tuesday are held in federal custody until their trials, a federal official said yesterday.

FBI Special Agent John C. McGinley said yesterday that if three alleged Genovese family kingpins — Anthony Louis "Bobby" Manna, Martin "Motts" Casella and Richard "Bocci" DeSciscio — are denied bail at a detention hearing tomorrow, rival families could move quickly to assume control of waterfront vice.

He said that if Manna was not allowed to stay out and in control of his street operations,



ANTHONY L. MANNA

Bail hearing is key

competing families could move quickly to put their people in place.

McGinley said, however, that he expects the rival gangs will restrain themselves until the dust settles from Tuesday's in-

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dictments of 22 reputed Genovese associates.

"They're going to be tempted to do a lot of things, but they will be very concerned about the reaction of law enforcement," he said. "It would be reasonable to assume that they're going to sort out what this does to the (Genovese) power structure before they act."

At a mass arraignment in West Orange on Tuesday, state and federal officials said they expected a violent turf war to erupt because of the indictments, which state Attorney General W. Cary Edwards said "brought down the Genovese family in New Jersey."

Manna's attorney, Joseph Castiglia of Hackensack, said yesterday that he was confident that his client would get bail, and that the amount set would be "reasonable."

"According to FBI records, my client has no prior criminal record," Castiglia said. "In most cases involving defendants with no record, a reasonable bail is set."

Castiglia said he had seen excerpts of wiretap transcripts between Manna and other defen-

dants but that they were "so incomplete" that he could not understand them. He said Manna "categorically denies the charges."

Manna has been fingered as the number three man in the Genovese crime family by federal and state law enforcement agencies, with control over an estimated 350 subordinates.

He faces a life sentence plus \$2 million in fines if convicted of murder, conspiracy, extortion and racketeering charges.

The indictment charged that Manna, Casella and DeSciscio had plotted and carried out the killing last year of millionaire businessman Irwin Schiff, who was shot outside a Manhattan restaurant.

The three and four other defendants also schemed to murder John Gotti, the reputed leader of the Gambino family, and his brother Gene, according to the indictment. The plot was planned at Casella's Restaurant in Hoboken, officials said.

Manna, Casella and DeSciscio are being held at the Metropolitan Correctional Center in Manhattan pending a detention hearing tomorrow.

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