

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: February 26, 1960

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: "THE UNTOUCHABLES"
DESILU PRODUCTIONS
CHANNEL 7 - TV
9:30 P.M., 2/25/60

Tolson	_____
Mohr	_____
Parsons	_____
Belmont	_____
Callahan	_____
DeLoach	_____
Malone	_____
McGuire	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Trotter	_____
W.C. Sullivan	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Ingram	_____
Gandy	_____

Handwritten initials and scribbles
86-833-1

Captioned program was monitored last night by SA [redacted]

This was Part 1 of a two-part story entitled "The Unhired Assassin." Basically, the plot deals with the unsuccessful efforts of the last of Al Capone's gang to "take care" of Chicago Mayor Anton Cermak, a feat which was subsequently accomplished for them by Joe Zangara, deranged assassin, who accidentally shot and killed Mayor Cermak at Miami, Florida, in 1933, while attempting to kill President-elect Roosevelt. There was no reference to the FBI in Part 1 of the story, and nothing which was suggestive of the FBI or the work of the Bureau.

Briefly, the plot of Part 1 was this: Following the election of Roosevelt as President in November, 1932, prohibition was destined to end. Chicago Mayor Cermak, concerned over the "puppet rats" remaining in Capone's gang and the probability they would extort tourist money at Chicago's forthcoming "Century of Progress" World's Fair, called in Elliott Ness and his "Untouchables." Meanwhile, with Capone in Atlanta Penitentiary, his old gang, consisting of Louis "Little New York" Campana, Frank Diamond, Jake "Dodo" Ryan, Bill Skidmore, and Frank Nitty, imported Boston lawyer Ira Peterson who attempted to bribe, blackmail and ultimately threatened Mayor Cermak. Cermak threatened Peterson with a summons and Capone's gang killed Peterson to keep him from talking. Capone's gang then imported two Detroit gunmen, "Milwaukee" Manelli and Rollie Sutton, to take care of Cermak. "Dodo" Ryan was beaten up by the owner of a dry-cleaning concern for molesting his wife and vowed revenge. Ness assigned two of his men as bodyguards to Cermak. The Detroit gunmen elected to kill Cermak at a place where he had coffee every morning. Ryan, through the use of a clever explosive contained in a suit that needed pressing blew up and killed the owner of the dry-cleaning establishment but was caught at the scene by Ness and his men. After violating Ryan's civil rights by hitting him out of anger when he was under arrest, Ness agreed to a deal to save Ryan from a charge of first-degree murder in exchange for information that Cermak was to be assassinated that morning. Ness then double-crossed Ryan insisting he be booked for first-degree murder and stated, "See how you like it." Ness and his men sped to the coffee shop and

1 - Mr. DeLoach

BS:rwz

(5) rwz

EX 100

REC-42

94-52549-58

MAR 8 1960

(Continued on next page.)

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CRIME REC.

M. A. Jones to Mr. DeLoach memorandum

saved the mayor's life after one of the Detroit gunmen shot up a 50-round clip with his submachine gun. Ness and his men killed the Detroit gunmen. They picked up Nitty and other members of Capone's gang and learned that the mayor was to be killed in Miami in front of 10,000 witnesses.

A sub plot in the story concerned Joe Zangara's deranged mind and his preparations for assassinating President-elect Roosevelt, including the purchase of a pistol in Miami.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

HN
7/26

J
evh
1/26

Gene

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson	_____
Mohr	_____
Parsons	✓
Belmont	_____
Callahan	_____
DeLoach	_____
Malone	_____
McGuire	✓
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Trotter	_____
W.C. Sullivan	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Ingram	_____
Gandy	_____

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: March 4, 1960

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: "THE UNTOUCHABLES"
 DESILU PRODUCTIONS
 CHANNEL 7
 9:30 P. M., MARCH 3, 1960

Talbott

BU

Part 2 of the 2-part story entitled "The Unhired Assassin" was monitored last night by SA [redacted] Crime Research Section. Briefly, the plot shows how Elliot Ness and "The Untouchables" developed information that Mayor Anton Cermak of Chicago, Illinois, is to be murdered when he appears with President-elect Franklin D. Roosevelt at the Bay Front Park in Miami, Florida, in 1933. What is obviously lacking is the cooperation that should have existed between any bona fide law enforcement organization and the Secret Service whose duty it is to protect the President-elect.

Briefly, the plot of part 2 is as follows: The show opens with the usual burst of machine gun fire when Chicago hoodlums of Al Capone's gang attempt to assassinate Mayor Cermak in a coffee shop. Ness and his crew save Cermak and kill both of the assassins. Pressure is then brought to bear by Ness on the members of the Capone gang who are trying to eliminate Cermak. In a raid on a hangout of these men who are under the leadership of Frank Nitty, Ness strikes Nitty as he attempts to swallow a letter to Al Capone which shows that an out-of-town gunman from New York has been hired to eliminate Cermak. Thereafter, Ness attempts to locate and identify this unknown assassin. Investigation by the New York Police Department develops a logical suspect who is known as "Caddy" Cronin who derived his name as he always carries his assassination weapon, a telescopic rifle, in a golf bag.

Woven in the background of the plot in a parallel vein are the actions of a mentally deranged brick layer, Guiseppa "Joe" Zangara, who intends to assassinate President-elect Roosevelt. The story reaches a climax when Ness, with the information that Cronin is an expert rifle shot realizes that the assassination of Cermak will be done from a distance and locates Cronin, Nitty and other of Capone's followers just before they attempt to kill Cermak. The usual gun battle ensues with several hoodlums being shot.

1 Mr. DeLoach

JMR:ijj
(4)

64 MAR 14 1960

(Continued next page)

REC-57

5 MAR 9 1960

CRIM REC

94-52549-59

3/14/60

M. A. Jones to Mr. DeLoach memorandum

Zangara in the meantime is able to work his way to a position of advantage as the President-elect makes his speech, and as Roosevelt begins to leave the area, Zangara attempts to kill him but shoots Cermak. Ness watches all this and is shown as being dumbstruck at what took place in front of him. He rushes to Cermak's side as he is placed in Roosevelt's car and overhears Cermak tell Roosevelt, "I'm glad it was me - not you."

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

*W
ell*

AM

3/4

gan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

- Tolson _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Belmont _____
- Callahan _____
- DeLoach _____
- Malone _____
- McGuire
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Trotter _____
- W.C. Sullivan _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Ingram _____
- Gandy _____

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: March 11, 1960

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: "THE UNTOUCHABLES"
DESILU PRODUCTIONS
MARCH 10, 1960

T.V. PROGRAM

Captioned program last night was entitled "The ~~White~~ Slaver." It opened with a brief preview showing a blazing gun battle between gangsters and Eliot Ness and his men. Although the program concerned an investigation by Federal authorities of white slavery, there was no mention of the FBI. Eliot Ness and his "Untouchables" were only described as "Federal" agents. The program was again narrated by Walter Winchell.

Briefly, the plot of the program concerned the white slave activities of a top aide of Al Capone, Mig Torrence. In 1934, Al Capone was in Alcatraz, but his men continued his underworld activities. Ness leads a raid on a house of prostitution. Through a tip-off from the police department, the girls and the men escape through a trap door leaving one girl, Mary Sage. She had died from an overdose of narcotics. This was the girlfriend of Ernie Torrence, brother of Mig Torrence.

Ness launches a campaign to stamp out white slavery and requests the press to expose this underworld activity. Because of alleged pressure by Ness Capone's men instruct Mig Torrence to bring in a former madame named "Mrs. B" (Buchanan). She is approached but refuses to come out of retirement. Mig sends his brother Ernie to rough up Mrs. B. When Ernie arrives he makes a deal with Mrs. B not to rough her up if she will claim the body of Mary Sage from the city morgue and give Mary Sage a decent burial. With the cooperation of Ness, Mrs. B arranges and attends the burial of Mary Sage. Ness learns that Ernie Torrence is not able to attend the funeral since he was sent to Tijuana, Mexico, by his brother. Ness sends his men to check on Torrence in Mexico. Ernie learns of the possible arrest when he brings a truckload of Mexican girls across the border and has his hoodlum associate get in touch with his brother, Mig, for instructions. Upon orders of Mig Torrence the ~~truckload of~~ girls are taken to a woods and killed. This brutal slaughter causes the press to accelerate its coverage of the white-slave trade. Also, the prostitutes organize to protect themselves.

1 - Mr. DeLoach

GEM:1j

(4)

52 MAR 16 1960

REC-44

94-5254

19 MAR 14 1960

CRIME REC. 60

M. A. Jones to Mr. DeLoach memorandum

Capone's men again contact Torrence and tell him in view of his incompetence he would have to work for them entirely. Mig encourages his brother to entice Ness out to Mig's headquarters so that Mig can see Ness die. By killing Ness he hopes to get back in the good graces of Capone. Ness meets Ernie at Mrs B's apartment and agrees to go with Ernie to locate Mig Torrence. Ness has a man outside watching, and as soon as he leaves with Ernie, his man arrives just in time to kill the gangster assigned by Mig Torrence to kill Mrs. B. Mrs. B then tells Ness' man the location of Mig Torrence's headquarters. When Ness arrives, a blazing gun battle ensues, Ernie Torrence is killed and about a half dozen gangsters are killed. Mig Torrence flees to the basement of his establishment where he had previously ordered all the prostitutes held. The prostitutes converge on him. After a brief scuffle, a shot is heard, and Torrence lies dead. Walter Winchell commented that the girls Torrence had lived by, he died by.

BP

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

JH
3/11

D 3/11

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Handwritten initials

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 3/14/60

FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES (94-589)

SUBJECT: "CRIME COMMISSION"
PROPOSED DESILU TV PRODUCTIONS
RESEARCH (CRIME RECORDS)

B6

SA [redacted] advised on 3/11/60 that the proposed TV series "Ten Most Wanted Men" will be called "Crime Commission".

[redacted] stated that "Crime Commission" will be a fictitious agency and all stories portrayed are to be fictitious.

[redacted] on 3/11/60, while in conversation with [redacted] and SA [redacted] expressed disappointment that the original title could not be used. He indicated that the show "Crime Commission" is intended for 1961 consumption. He stated that because of the writers' strike and because of the research necessary, he doubted that the series would begin production before the Fall of 1960.

When [redacted] expressed the desire to produce an FBI TV show [redacted] if he can get Bureau sanction, he was told that any arrangements for such a production would have to be handled through the Bureau, and he indicated that he might write a letter to the Director in this regard.

EXP. PROC.

- 1cc removed crime records*
- ② - Bureau
- 1 - Los Angeles
- WLB/fer
- (3)

REC-3 94-52549-61

No action
file

James to [redacted]
memo
3/24/60
APR 10 11 53 AM '60
EX-137
WB TOMEZ

53 MAR 20 1960
544

CRIME REC
[Signature]

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

3

3

- Tolson _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Belmont _____
- Callahan _____
- DeLoach _____
- Malone _____
- McGuire
- Rosen
- Tamm _____
- Trotter _____
- W.C. Sullivan _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Ingram _____
- Gandy _____

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: March 25, 1960

FROM : M. Jones

SUBJECT: "THE UNTOUCHABLES" - TELEVISION PROGRAM
DESILU PRODUCTIONS
MARCH 24, 1960

Staff

Wh 3-1

Last night's program entitled "Three-Thousand Suspects" had as the main theme, the much publicized prison "grapevine." No mention is made of the FBI; however, there is a murder of a convict at Leavenworth Prison and Eliot Ness and his group of "Untouchables" conduct an investigation to determine who the murderer is.

Briefly this show concerns an individual by the name of Siegel who is in Leavenworth Prison on a violation of Prohibition Laws. His partner in Chicago, Nat Baldwin, is shown attempting to block Siegel's parole so that he will not have to split the "take" in his illegal operations in the Chicago area. When Siegel's parole is denied, he suspects that he has been double crossed and calls for Ness. This story shows how Baldwin, worried about Siegel's request to talk to Ness, contacts Frank Nity who is one of the main enforcers in the Al Capone gang. Nity warns Baldwin that he will take care of Siegel this time but no more. Before Ness has a chance to talk to Siegel, the latter is assassinated in the prison library. When the warden learns this, he comments to Ness that they have "Three-Thousand Suspects."

Ness, in attempting to ascertain who the murderer is, contacts the wife of another convict in another prison and indicates to her that if her husband will cooperate, he, Ness, will arrange for parole of her husband. Ness then, by the use of this intimidation forces this convict, Sebring, to obtain information about the murder of Siegel. Sebring is transferred to Leavenworth and works his way into the confidence of other "old timers." He furnishes information to Ness that enables Ness to trace down sources of the prison "grapevine" and at the same time learns that the murderer of Siegel is one of the prison guards.

When he discusses this with the warden, unbeknownst to either of them, a prison break is in the process involving Sebring and three others. This is actually a plot to get rid of Sebring who is to be the third man over the wall. The prison guard who murdered Siegel has been instructed to shoot the third man over the wall. Sebring suspects something is amiss and balks at the escape and the entire escape is thwarted. During this action, the prison guard attempts to shoot the

EX-130 REC-31 94-52549-62

FBI

1 - Mr. DeLoach

MR:bla (4)

53 APR 4 1960

REC'D DE LOACH

CREW

Jones to DeLoach memorandum
Re: "The Untouchables"

warden; however, he just wounds him but Ness shoots and kills the guard. The closing scene shows how the Chicago criminal element disposes with someone who causes them trouble within their own group. Nat Baldwin's body is shown being dumped in front of the Police Department in Chicago.

BE
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RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

DM

AM
3/28

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI Att'n: Assistant
Director C. D. De Loach

DATE: 3/25/60

FROM : SAC, Los Angeles (94-589)

SUBJECT: "CRIME COMMISSION"
PROPOSED DESILU PRODUCTIONS
RESEARCH (CRIME RECORDS)

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Parsons	✓
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Malone	✓
Mr. McGuire	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Tamm	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Mr. W.C. Sullivan	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Mr. Ingram	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

Re Los Angeles let 3/14/60.

B6

[redacted] telephonically contacted ASAC WILLIAM M. ALEXANDER today and stated that he had been in touch with [redacted] of the American Broadcasting Company and had been advised that they were planning not to do the proposed TV Series, "Ten Most Wanted Men", or "Crime Commission".

[redacted] indicated to [redacted] that they had a great deal of investment in the Series, but they were willing to forego it and not make the Series.

This is submitted for the Bureau's information.

1 cc detached Crime Record.
2 - Bureau
1 - Los Angeles

WMA:gmw
(3)

pa

REC-13

94-52549-63

4-4
MAR 20 1960

EX-133

file

no action

MAR 30 11 45 AM '60
50 APR 6 1960
REC'D DE LOACH

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

Memorandum

Belmont
 Callahan
 DeLoach
 Malone
 McGuire
 Rosen
 Tamm
 Trotter
 W.C. Sullivan
 Tele. Room
 Ingram
 Gandy

TO: Mr. Callahan

DATE: 3-22-60

FROM: C. R. Davidson

SUBJECT: ELIOT NESS
"THE UNTOUCHABLES"
TELEVISION PROGRAM

Resilva Productions

On 3-21-60

who was temporarily residing at the YWCA in Washington, telephonically requested information concerning the above individual. stated she is a member of the American Historical Society and does considerable research in connection with the organization.

after noting the publicity given Eliot Ness in connection with the television program wondered whether he might be related to individuals in the group. Accordingly, the group asked her to do some research concerning Ness. It was her understanding that Ness had been an employee of the Bureau and accordingly she called for information concerning him.

Ness was employed as a Prohibition Agent, Internal Revenue Service, from 8-26-26 to 6-5-29 when he was transferred to the Bureau of Prohibition, Department of Justice. He worked in the Department of Justice from 7-1-30 to 8-10-33 at which time he became a Senior Prohibition Investigator in the Internal Revenue Service. (Note: During a brief portion of the time Ness was employed in the Bureau of Prohibition, Department of Justice, that unit was under the immediate jurisdiction of the Bureau.)

We have previously furnished the above information (with the exception of the parenthetical remarks) concerning Ness's employment as a Prohibition Agent to other inquirers. Accordingly, the above information was furnished to

was appreciative of the information furnished.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

94-52549-
NOT RECORDED
167 MAR 20 1960

24 MAR 25 1960

CRIME REC

To PFO:ksa
(2)

Handwritten signatures and dates: 3/22, 3/22

Handwritten notes: 1 attached, Sp. Ind. Unit, 3/24/60

67 APR 13 1960

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: April 1, 1960

FROM : M. A. Jones

Tolson _____
 Mohr _____
 Parsons _____
 Belmont _____
 Callahan _____
 DeLoach _____
 Malone _____
 McGuire _____
 Rosen _____
 Tamm _____
 Trotter _____
 W.C. Sullivan _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Ingram _____
 Gandy _____

SUBJECT: "THE UNTOUCHABLES"--TELEVISION PRODUCTION
 DESILU PRODUCTIONS
 MARCH 31, 1960

This series apparently sank to a new low with its showing of "The Doreen Maney Story" which concerned several armored car robberies along the East Coast. No mention was made of the FBI and no Federal violation was apparent at the time indicated. (1933)

Briefly the show opened with the usual murders of several law enforcement officers who are guarding armored trucks which were carrying the gate receipts from a famous world championship fight. From the method of operation, the police theorized that the perpetrators of the crime were a man and woman whom they had nicknamed the "love birds." Ness and "The Untouchables" are requested by the New York authorities to assist in the investigation. Their first break comes when one of the robbers who assist the "love birds" and who was wounded in the ensuing fight is "dumped" by Joe "Sheik" Humphrey, the male part of the "love birds." Humphrey tries to kill this individual; however, he lives and tells the police and Ness the other members of the gang.

Doreen Maney, the female part of the "love birds," takes Humphrey and the surviving member of the gang, Len Carson, and attempts to hide at her father's farm in Tennessee. With the information received from the disposed gang member, Ness visits Doreen's father in Tennessee; however, he is spotted and Carson, Humphrey and Doreen hide. At this point in the play, Humphrey is shown "making time" with Doreen's sister, Maybelle. As soon as Ness leaves, Carson, Humphrey and Doreen decide to also abandon her father's home as a hideout. Ness, who was suspicious of Maybelle's nervousness, spots their car and a chase follows. Carson and Humphrey escape and Doreen is picked up.

REC-30 94-52549-64

The remainder of the production shows how Humphrey attempts to effect the escape of Doreen because she is the only one who knows where the loot from the armored car robbery is hidden. Doreen becomes jealous of Humphrey's attention towards her sister and vows to get even with him. Ness takes a calculated risk in allowing Doreen to escape and then follows her to a bus depot where Doreen had placed the money in a locked box. Humphrey shows up and Doreen "cons" him out of his gun while he goes to get the money. Just before she attempts to shoot him in the back, Ness and "The Untouchables" make the arrest with the usual gun fire.

1 - Mr. DeLoach

JMR:spaw (8)

50 APR 8 1960

CRIME REC

Jones to DeLoach memorandum
RE: "The Untouchables"

Bb

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

Done

JM
H4

Gen

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

- Tolson _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Belmont _____
- Callahan _____
- DeLoach _____
- Malone _____
- McGuire
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Trotter _____
- W.C. Sullivan _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Ingram _____
- Gandy _____

TO : Mr. DeLoach *DL*

DATE: April 8, 1960

FROM : M. J. *MJ*

SUBJECT: "THE UNTOUCHABLES" - TELEVISION SHOW
DESILU PRODUCTIONS
APRIL 7, 1960

3- JPM
am
Staff

~~X~~Portrait of a Thief' was the title of this week's show which was carried locally on Channel 7, WMAL-TV (ABC). The show described the activities of Ness and "The Untouchables" who break up an illegal whiskey ring which was centered in Chicago, Illinois, but had its main source of supply in New York. There is no evidence of FBI jurisdiction displayed in the show.

Briefly, "Portrait of a Thief" tells the following story: Ness is contacted by Beecher Asbury, Federal District Attorney in Chicago, Illinois, in 1931 and is requested to track down the continued supply of illegal whiskey which is coming into the Chicago area. They suspect the source of this whiskey is the Brawley Mills Alcohol Company of Brawley, New York, which is legally authorized to manufacture alcohol. Ness, by checking the books of this firm, determines that some of this alcohol is shipped to a "front" operated by the Capone Syndicate known as the Lorelei Perfume Company.

Ness and "The Untouchables" raid this "front" after they observe a shipment arrive from Brawley Mills, and there is the usual voluminous amount of gunfire with three bootleggers being killed. One of them, Guilerno Torrie, is a nephew of a New York big time hoodlum named Johnny Torrie. At this point, Ness's suspicions that the management of Brawley Mills is in league with the hoodlum element are borne out. The Brawley Company, operated by E. Carlton Duncan, President, and Brooks Wells, Sales Manager, are pressured into turning over more "tribute" to the local hoods. Wells become drunk and is murdered by them in a gory scene which shows him machine-gunned body lying in a shower.

Ness, with the information obtained from a fingerprint check of Wells, learns that both Wells and Duncan are brothers and ex-convicts.

1 - Mr. DeLoach

REC-42

94-52549-65

MMR:eah

63 APR 20 1960

APR 14 1960

EX-107

R

Jones to DeLoach Memorandum
Re: "The Untouchables" Television Show

When confronted with this information, Duncan, who is in the process of giving more money to the local hoodlums, breaks down and confesses to Ness. Just before the show ends Duncan attempts to escape but is killed by some of the New York hoodlums, who are in turn killed by Ness and "The Untouchables." The show ends on a somewhat macabre note with Duncan's body lying on the ground with thousands of dollars being blown away by the winds while Ness stands idly by, philosophizing with one of his cohorts.

B6
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RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

DeLoach
4/17
JPH
4/17

UNITED STATES

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: April 15, 1960

FROM : M. R. Jones

SUBJECT: "THE UNTOUCHABLES"
TELEVISION PROGRAM
DESILU PRODUCTIONS
APRIL 14, 1960

- Tolson
- Mohr
- Parsons
- Belmont
- Callahan
- DeLoach
- Malone
- McGuire
- Rosen
- Tamm
- Trotter
- W.C. Sullivan
- Tele. Room
- Ingram
- Gandy

Staffel

The "Underworld Bank" was the title of last night's program which appeared locally on Channel 7. This story depicted the organizational setup of an "underworld bank" which financed criminals in their activities. No mention of the FBI was made; however, it could logically be assumed that an individual not familiar with Bureau activities would gain the impression that Ness and "The Untouchables" were FBI Agents. The program was narrated as usual by Walter Winchell.

Briefly the story was as follows: In September, 1933, there was a meeting of various leaders of the underworld from different localities throughout the United States, in a hotel in New York City. At this meeting, dominated by one, Milo Sullivan, it was agreed that in view of the almost certain death of the prohibition era the hoodlums would have to turn to a legitimate means of obtaining income and Sullivan's suggestion was that they open a bank for hoodlums charging 100% interest. After several big crimes are committed, Ness is called in from Chicago to talk to the Federal District Attorney in New York, John Carvell. With the cooperation of local police, several likely suspects include Tony Segano and Duke Mullen, are put in a line-up at police headquarters. Afterwards, Ness talks to them trying to obtain information about a one million dollar fur theft. During the interview Ness tries to intimidate Mullen and grabs him by the coat lapels; however, Ness does not strike him.

Ness and "The Untouchables" closely follow Segano in an effort to worry him and also succeed in worrying members of the bank. Sullivan calls Segano in to make his payment on his "loan," and when Segano is unable to make the payment gives him three days to obtain the money. Segano is turned down by all of his friends for an advance of funds and turns to Ness in desperation; however, before he is able to meet Ness, he is killed by the bank's chief exterminator, Johnny, "The Enforcer."

Segano's widow is contacted by Johnny to pay up the balance due on her husband's loan, and she too turns to Ness. He agrees to help her and furnishes her with some money to make the payment to the bank but their scheme is learned of by the hoodlums and Mrs. Segano is killed by strangulation. Duke Mullen who is going with Sullivan's niece, Louise O'Hara, supposedly is going to go straight after he receives

1 - Mr. DeLoach

REC-17

18 APR 20 1960

7 APR 20 1960

94-52549-10
James

Jones to DeLoach memorandum
RE: "The Untouchables"

his share of the million dollar fur robbery; however, he only gets \$5,000 of the loot. He decides to rob the bank with the cooperation of Louise. This plot backfires too when Johnny, "The Enforcer," over hears a call made by Louise to Duke. One of "The Untouchables," who had been surveilling Louise, alerts Ness and the rest of "The Untouchables" and they raid the bank while its members are in the process of beating up Duke Mullen. The story ends with the usual burst of gun fire with slain bodies strewn about.

86
1

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

AM
4/16
W. J. Jones
gun

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) B6 with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
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For your information: _____

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94-58549-67

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XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 4-22-60

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: THE UNTOUCHABLES
DESILU PRODUCTIONS
9:30 P. M., 4-21-60

Tolson	_____
Mohr	_____
Parsons	_____
Belmont	_____
Callahan	_____
DeLoach	_____
Malone	_____
McGuire	✓
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Trotter	_____
W.C. Sullivan	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Ingram	_____
Gandy	_____

The program last night was entitled ~~Head of Fire - Feet of Clay~~. It concerned the life of Frankie Barber, Barber's friendship with Ness and his activities in blackmailing a gangster overlord by the name of Fortunato.

There was no mention of the FBI. Eliot Ness was portrayed as a prohibition Agent who had known Barber in high school. It develops that Barber had threatened Fortunato with exposure to Federal authorities if Fortunato did not pay off to Barber. By thus using Ness for his personal gain, Barber extorts a large sum of cash from Fortunato.

The usual amount of gun play takes place during the program, Fortunato attempts to get rid of Barber, the latter's car is found riddled with shotgun fire and Barber's girl friend is critically wounded and unable to talk. Ness is unable to learn whether Barber is dead or alive.

The program ends with Ness locating Barber at the fight arena where Barber has come to get more blackmail money from Fortunato. Ness confronts Barber with the truth about his nefarious activities and is knocked out by Barber. Ness awakens to find Barber dying from gun wounds in the fight ring, Fortunato is shown in the aisle bleeding badly from gun wounds, Frankie Barber dies and Ness tells Fortunato he will live long enough to stand trial for murder.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

EX 109

REC-46

94-52549-68

6 APR 27 1960

1 - Mr. DeLoach

GEM:cbc

(4) 59 MAY 3 1960

Crime Files

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum *mlw*

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 4-29-60

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: "THE UNTOUCHABLES" - TELEVISION SHOW
DESILU PRODUCTIONS
APRIL 28, 1960

- Tolson _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Belmont _____
- Callahan _____
- DeLoach _____
- Malone _____
- McGuire
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Trotter _____
- W.C. Sullivan _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Ingram _____
- Gandy _____

4/30

W.D.S.G.

R.S.G.

S.M.S.

SYNOPSIS:

"The Frank Nitti Story" concerned activities of Nitti who attempted to take over the Al Capone gang after Capone was sentenced to prison. Prohibition era is over and Nitti decides to blackmail theater owners in a "protection racket." By use of force and violence, he is able to obtain tribute from both independent and chain theater managers. Eliot Ness obtains information on one of Nitti's gang which shows there is a warrant for him on a Mann Act charge and thereafter arrests him. An audit of theater company books develops additional facts re extortion violation. Ness "blackmails" a prospective Federal Grand Jury witness into testifying for prosecution against Nitti. Gang is broken up with the death of Nitti and some of his henchmen and conviction of the remainder.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

1 - Mr. DeLoach

JMR:eah

4/30

JMR

4/30

DeLoach

JMR

REC-13

94-52549-70

MAY 8 1960

EX-107

Crime Report

JMR

63 MAY 9 1960

DETAILS

Last night's program, entitled "The Frank Nitti Story," was narrated by Walter Winchell. No mention of the FBI is made; however, the violation of extortion is clear-cut. Ness is also shown making an arrest on a Mann Act warrant which is clearly FBI jurisdiction.

Briefly, the program is as follows: The story is localized in Chicago, Illinois, in 1934 and it is noted that prohibition has been repealed. Frank Nitti, described as Al Capone's successor, decides to concentrate on the motion picture world as a means of replacing the money he lost with the end of the prohibition era. He begins intimidating some of the theater owners and in one attack, Nitti's chief enforcer, Louis Companian, throws acid in the theater owner's face, which blinds him.

After "signing up" some of the independent theater managers in his protection plan, Nitti starts "working on" the Star Theater chain which has approximately 1,000 theaters under its management. Jerry Dockstone, the Chicago manager of the Star chain, is approached by the two front men of the Nitti gang, Sidney Rogers and Ramsey Lennox, a former attorney. Dockstone refuses to pay tribute to them and immediately the Star Theaters become the focal point of beatings, destruction of property and mysterious explosions. Dockstone agrees to cooperate with Ness; however, before he can do so, he is killed when his car is wired with dynamite and he dies in the explosion.

The owner of the Star chains, J. M. Miller, comes to Chicago from Florida with \$100,000 to pay off the extortion demand of Nitti. Nitti is not satisfied with this money and also demands that Miller sign up local managers under his control for protection in the amount of 5 per cent of their gross. The Star chain has an annual gross of approximately \$100,000,000 and Nitti demands \$5,000,000 of this figure. Miller agrees to do this.

Jones to DeLoach Memorandum
Re: "The Untouchables" - Television Show

With the assistance of a reporter for "The Daily Variety," a movieland newspaper, Eliot Ness learns that Nitti's contact man Rogers is actually Zoran Bresnavitch and exploring background information on Bresnavitch he learns that there is an outstanding indictment against him on the Mann Act (White Slave Traffic Act). About the same time the United States Attorney in Chicago agrees to let Ness do an audit of the Star chain's books. Miller becomes worried and contacts the Nitti gang. Ness locates Bresnavitch (Rogers) and arrests him.

Ness then goes to Miami with a subpoena for Miller to appear before the Federal Grand Jury. He offers not to serve the subpoena on Miller if he will testify for the prosecution on the extortion charge against Nitti. Miller tells Ness this is "plain blackmail" and Ness does not deny it and tells him that he "leaves him no choice."

Miller returns to Chicago with Ness as a body guard; however, the Nitti gang tries to assassinate him on the trip from the airport to the courthouse. A battle royal ensues between "The Untouchables" and the Nitti gang. One of the gangsters who is wounded attempts to shoot Ness; however, one of the treasury agents, Cam Allison, shields Ness from the bullets with his own body but is killed by his act. The story draws to a rapid close at this point with Lennox contacting Bresnavitch in jail and arranging for his release. He tells him that Nitti plans to kill him upon his release and suggests that he get out of town as fast as he can. Bresnavitch calls his girl friend, Ellie Morley, so that they can run off together; however, before she can leave the apartment Nitti and his chief enforcer, Companian, arrive to wait for Bresnavitch. On a pretext, Ellie leaves the apartment to warn Bresnavitch but is unsuccessful in reaching him before he leaves the jail. She calls Ness who arrives at the scene just after Ellie is stabbed to death by Companian who sees her making this call. As Bresnavitch and Ness arrive simultaneously, Nitti and Companian are seen by Ness and "The Untouchables" as they run from Ellie's apartment and a gunfight follows which eventually leads to a subway. Companian is killed by gunfire and Nitti is killed beneath the wheels of a train. The commentator adds that with the death of Nitti and the successful conviction of the remainder of the gang, this broke up the extortion racket of the theater chains.

BC

May 9, 1960

Mr. Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Mohr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Parsons	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Belmont	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Callahan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. DeLoach	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Malone	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. McGuire	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Rosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tamm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Trotter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. W. C. Sullivan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Ingram	<input type="checkbox"/>
Miss Gandy	<input type="checkbox"/>

MR. MOHR:

Call

[REDACTED] Desilu Productions, called by my office May 6, 1960. We discussed at great length the Desilu TV show entitled "The Untouchables." **[REDACTED]** firmly believes that our telephonic conversations with Desi Arnaz have put a stop to plagiarizing of FBI material and our name.

ohio *ms*

[REDACTED] was somewhat concerned over the institution of a lawsuit by Grace Connelley, wife of former Asst. Director Earl J. Connelley (deceased). He stated she had acquired the services of Robert Taft, Jr., in Cincinnati and Taft is known to his company as a "go getter." **[REDACTED]** specifically mentioned that although there is little opportunity of further "Untouchables" programs being produced, there will be a retecast of the shows that already have been run, starting in the Fall. He specifically mentioned the "Ma Barker Case" and made reference to the fact that we forced Desi Arnaz to put a disclaimer at the end of this program certifying that Eliot Ness had nothing whatsoever to do with this case. I told him we recalled the incident very well and still resented the fact that Ness was portrayed as having handled this case. **[REDACTED]** wanted to know what he might do to pacify Mrs. Connelley in the event this program is retecast in the Fall. I told him we very definitely would be against a retecast of this program. He quickly added that the same disclaimer would be used. I mentioned that the disclaimer usually made no impression; that the television audience still believed that Eliot Ness might have had something to do with the "Ma Barker Case." **[REDACTED]** wondered if specifically mentioning the name of former Asst. Director E. J. Connelley in the disclaimer might salve his widow. I told him he should consider discussing this matter with Mrs. Connelley; that we, of course, had no control over the usage of this late official's name. **[REDACTED]** stated he wished to assure us that in the event this program is retecast it would have a strong disclaimer at the end. I repeated the fact that this was all well and good, but somehow the disclaimer was not sufficient to disallow the fact that Eliot Ness had nothing whatsoever to do with the "Ma Barker Case."

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FBI
MAY 10 2 13 PM '60

REC-7
RESPECTFULLY
MAY 13 1960

50 MAY 18 1960
1 - Mr. Jones
CDD/emb
(3)
emb

59.4

C. D. DeLoach

CRIME RESEARCH
PERS. FILE

The DeLoach papers are entitled to all the headlines possible for as cheaply buying FBI into the program.

May 12, 1960

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Malone	_____
Mr. McGuire	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Mr. W. C. Sullivan	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Ingram	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

MR. MOHR:

██████████ Desilu Productions, called May 10, 1960. He stated that Desilu Productions, in the event the "Ma Barker Case" is retelecast with Eliot Ness playing the leading role, will use the following disclaimer at the end of the show:

"The 'Ma Barker Case' was actually handled and solved by the FBI lead by Inspector Earl J. Connelley who was assigned to this case by Director J. Edgar Hoover."

██████████ wanted to know if this would be satisfactory. I told him we appreciated his courtesy but that I must once again reiterate that we definitely prefer that this program not be retelecast. ██████████ stated that he had checked this matter and he was afraid it would be impossible to cancel out the retelecast because of the initial contract provisions and the financial position of Desilu Productions. ██████████ stated he would advise Desi Arnaz of our wishes in the matter but he was afraid very little could be done.

██████████ asked me if I personally felt if the above "disclaimer" would satisfy Mrs. Grace (Earl J.) Connelley. I told him this was not for us to decide, that it was a matter he would have to take up with Mrs. Connelley on a personal basis inasmuch as she had a law suit pending against Desilu Productions. ██████████ stated he would refer the matter to their insurance company.

Respectfully,

C. D. DeLoach

194-52549
NOT RECORDED
149 MAY 13 1960

18 MAY 13 1960

CRIME RESEARCH

1 - Mr. Jones

CDD:ejp
(3)

52 MAY 20 1960

3
JWP

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : *WLB* SAC, LOS ANGELES (94-589)

SUBJECT: "THE UNTOUCHABLES"
RESEARCH (CRIME RECORDS)

DATE: May 10, 1960

[Handwritten signature]

Callif.

PHILIP K. SCHEUER in his column in the May 3, 1960, issue of "Los Angeles Times," comments "ROBERT STACK and his ABC-TV associates on the hit TV series, "The Untouchables," have decided in favor of making a feature-length movie of their property sometime this summer."

Callif. Productions
~~_____~~

Desilu advised on 5/9/60, that Desilu owns "The Untouchables." He stated he was inclined to believe that the item in SCHEUER's column was a publicity plant. He stated he would make inquiry into the matter. The Bureau will be kept advised of any developments.

- ② - Bureau
 - 1 - Los Angeles (94-589)
- WLB:HMS
(3)

re detailed in Crime Research Bureau

EX-108

REC-69

94-52549-72

23 MAY 18 1960

EX-108

file of
CRIME RESEARCH

51 MAY 23 1960

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

W.D.

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 5-27-60

FROM : M. A. Jones *[Signature]*

SUBJECT: "THE UNTOUCHABLES"
DESILU PRODUCTIONS
MAY 26, 1960

Tolson	_____
Mohr	_____
Parsons	_____
Belmont	_____
Callahan	_____
DeLoach	<i>[Signature]</i>
Malone	_____
McGuire	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Trotter	_____
W.C. Sullivan	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Ingram	_____
Gandy	_____

The program last night of "The Untouchables" was entitled the "One-Armed Bandit." This program, like the two previous programs, has previously been shown. The Bureau is not aware of any new programs being made and as a result "The Untouchables" will no longer be monitored.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

1 - Mr. DeLoach

[Signature]
GEM:eahl
(4)

[Handwritten initials]
[Handwritten initials]

[Handwritten initials]
[Handwritten initials]

REC-21

94-52549-73

MAY 31 1960

EX-108

CRIME RESEARCH

64 JUN 6 1960

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES (94-589)

DATE: May 26 1960

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. Parsons	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Malone	✓
Mr. McGuire	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Tamm	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Mr. W.C. Sullivan	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Mr. Ingram	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

SUBJECT: "THE UNTOUCHABLES"
RESEARCH (CRIME RECORDS)
Desilu PRODUCTION
Re Los Angeles letter to the Bureau, 5/10/60.

B6

Desilu, advised on 5/25/60, that Desilu and ABC-TV share ownership in the above-captioned TV series. The original TV production which dealt with the AL CAPONE story and which was presented in two one-hour programs has been sold as a motion picture in Europe and England.

According to [redacted] Desilu has no intention of making another motion picture entitled "The Untouchables." He stated further that ROBERT STACK is under exclusive contract to Desilu, so could not make it himself.

[redacted] stated he will be alert to any developments and will keep this office advised.

See index

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

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2 - Bureau
1 - Los Angeles (94-589)
WLB:HMS

MAY 26 1960

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FBI RECEIVED - LOS ANGELES

MAY 31 2 00 PM '60

REC-69

94-52549-74

MAY 31 1960

MAY 31 1960

CRIME RESEARCH

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : A. H. Belmont

DATE: July 8, 1960

FROM : G. H. Scatterday *GH*

SUBJECT: **[REDACTED]**
INFORMATION CONCERNING

- Tolson _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Belmont _____
- Callahan _____
- DeLoach _____
- Malone _____
- McGuire _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Trotter _____
- W.C. Sullivan _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Ingram _____
- Gandy _____

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The December 5-11, 1959, issue of "T.V. Guide" contains remarks attributed to Stack which stated, "I underestimated the appeal of the period, too. Ness is a hero with freedom. It's all in the past, like a western, so anything goes. It's not like this sophisticated day and age when you get arrested for jaywalking if you cross the street. A friend of mine is an FBI Agent and he is no more like Ness than I am. They have got so many rules and regulations in his outfit it is all he can do to blow his nose."

By letter dated December 11, 1959, to Mr. Desi Arnaz, president of Desilu Productions, Incorporated, the Director expressed his concern over the comments attributed to Stack. The Director said, "Such remarks as attributed to Mr. Stack would seem to indicate that the FBI, and law enforcement as a whole, is today incapable of handling its responsibilities. You, of course, as a personal friend and one interested in the FBI, understand the fact that the

WFW:mls
(7)

REC-31

94-52549-76

- 1 - Mr. Parsons
- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Name Check
- 1 - Mr. Woods

JUL 12 1960

EX-108

59 JUL 12 1960

Scatterday

check

Mr. Scatterday to Mr. Belmont

FBI's accomplishments over the years have become even greater." The Director continued, "Mr. Stack's sarcasm hardly rings true in the face of such facts."

Mr. Tolson, also by letter dated December 15, 1959, to Mr. Arnaz, advised of his writing a letter to Stack on the same day wherein he expressed his feelings regarding Stack's snide remarks which reflected unfavorably on the FBI. Mr. Tolson in his letter to Mr. Stack pointed out that it takes years of hard, tedious work to develop the respect and merit the confidence of the public; yet, in a few rather flippant remarks in a publication circulated throughout the nation he, Stack, managed to hold up, to scorn, and to ridicule the valiant past and present efforts of thousands of FBI employees. Mr. Tolson told Stack that all of us in the FBI are very proud of the many accomplishments we have made while operating within the framework of laws passed by Congress.

B6



"The Untouchables" has been monitored by the Bureau and it has been noted that the script has frequently depicted incidents which involve matters within the Bureau's jurisdiction. Frequently these shows have left the impression that "The Untouchables" were FBI Agents. On October 22, 1959, the show dealt entirely with "Ma" Barker and her sons.

The July 9, 1960, issue of the "Saturday Evening Post" published an article captioned, "I Call on Mr. Untouchable" which concerns Robert Stack's participation in this T.V. program and his activities as an actor. (94-52549)

Action:

None, For the Director's information.

ERC
7/8

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Pa

✓

ERS

FBI, Los Angeles

Date: 7/5/60

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIR TEL

AIR MAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Parsons
- Mr. Belmont
- Mr. Callahan
- Mr. DeLoach
- Mr. Malone
- Mr. McGuire
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Trotter
- Mr. W.C. Sullivan
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Ingram
- Miss Gandy

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI Attention: Ass't Director C. D. DE LOACH

FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES

RE: "THE UNTOUCHABLES", *DESIL Production*
MISC., INFORMATION CONCERNING

There is enclosed herewith a copy of an advertisement appearing in the "Los Angeles Examiner" on 7/5/60, which indicates that "The Saturday Evening Post" of July 9, 1960, will carry an article concerning ROBERT STACK, the man behind "The Untouchables".

It is noted that the advertisement indicates that in this issue of the Post the reader will learn "how his own cultural background compares with his role of FBI Agent Eliot Ness".

An identical advertisement to this one also appeared in the "Los Angeles Times" on instant date.

3 Bureau (AIR MAIL) (Enc.)
1 Los Angeles

WMA:gs
(4)

ENCLOSURE

REC-39

94-52509-17

JUL 18 1960

Approved: *[Signature]*
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

62 JUL 20 1960

In this week's Saturday Evening Post

Robert Stack- the man behind 'The Untouchables'



"Los Angeles Examiner"
7/5/60
Los Angeles, Calif.

Editor: WARDEN
WOOLARD

94-52579-77
ENCLOSURE

In just one year *The Untouchables* has become the No. 2 weekly TV show in the country. What's the reason for its phenomenal success? How much credit belongs to its leading man - Robert Stack - winner of this year's best-actor Emmy Award? In this week's Post you'll learn:

- how Stack defends the occasional "sex-murder" theme of *The Untouchables*.
- what he thinks of Walter Winchell's narration of the show.
- whether or not Stack resents the program's "no-star" system.
- how his own cultured background compares with his role of FBI agent Eliot Ness.
- why so many Italians object to the show.

Read Pete Martin's exciting interview "I Call on 'Mr. Untouchable'" - in this week's Post.

See "The Untouchables" on ABC-TV,
Channel 7, Thursdays, 9:30 P.M.

How Willkie stampeded the 1940 Republican Convention! In this week's Post, Joe Martin, former Speaker of the House and distinguished political leader, discusses the 1940 Republican Convention - the "wildest" he's ever seen. Why does he consider Willkie's nomination for President "a miracle"? Can the Republican Convention be stampeded again this year? Read "The Greatest Convention Ever: I Remember Willkie."

The Saturday Evening

POST

July 9, 1960

A CURTIS MAGAZINE

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

- Tolson _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Belmont _____
- Callahan _____
- DeLoach _____
- Malone _____
- McGuire _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Trotter _____
- W.C. Sullivan _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Ingram _____
- Gandy _____

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: August 4, 1960

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: "THE UNTOUCHABLES" T.V. Program

Attached is a clipping from the TV-Radio Section of the August 8, 1960, issue of "Newsweek" which appears on the newsstands today. This clipping indicates that Desilu Productions is continuing its past activities of portraying Robert Stack in the role of a former FBI man in its forthcoming series of 30 television shows. While the article does not indicate that Stack will be actually identified as a former FBI man in the television series, it does identify Eliot Ness as a former FBI man.

The article indicates that the forthcoming season will see "TV Ness (the real one disbanded his 'Untouchables' in 1932) grapple with such recent antagonists as the Nazis and the social circle of the late Benjamin (Bugsy) Siegel." It is apparent from this article that Desilu Productions has every intention of continuing its past activities of misrepresenting FBI investigations through inaccurate portrayals, spiced-up stories and outright fabrications.

The article makes much of the fact that with Walter Winchell narrating the show, the viewing public is convinced of the authenticity of the program. This fact certainly results in an undesirable situation, particularly since this noted columnist sees fit to lend his cooperation to the distortion and inaccurate dramatization of the good work performed by loyal and dedicated FBI men.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that consideration be given to contacting appropriate "Newsweek" officials for the purpose of setting the record straight regarding the description of Eliot Ness as a former FBI man.

Enclosure

1 - Mr. DeLoach

ENCLOSURE

GEM:paw
(4)

SENT DIRECTOR
8-5-60

62 AUG 25 1960

AUG 23 1960

CRIME RESEARCH

EX-107

REC-31

94-52549-78

I Agree -
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James
8/5
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8/5

Politics or Private Eyes?

"There are portions that are a terrible waste of prime evening time," said weary-eyed NBC board chairman Robert Sarnoff after watching the Republican National Convention on three sets simultaneously last week. Pausing for a breather in his suite at Chicago's posh Ambassador East Hotel, he declared: "There has been a certain amount of streamlining ... But none of this goes far enough."

The big question was whether many TV viewers weren't just as jelly-orbed as Sarnoff. And if so, would TV convention coverage in 1964 continue to tie itself to such gavel-to-gavel tedium as 1960's sprawling, staged demonstrations and stupefying minor speeches? All told, the three major networks diligently shoveled out more than 200 hours of convention and feature coverage during the GOP and Democratic shindigs.

"I would like to see some discussion between the political parties and broadcasters on the most effective way to use the medium," Sarnoff added. "I'm not suggesting that broadcasting take over the controls, but I do feel the TV viewer should be taken more into account."

Satiny: Curiously enough, ABC—which received some 1,000 protests when its "77 Sunset Strip" was cut into by the Democrats—dissented. "I don't think the networks should use their strength to tell the parties what to do," snapped ABC's vice president John Daly. "I'm more impressed by what the parties have done in recent years than by what they've left undone."

CBS news president Sig Mickelson also disagreed with Sarnoff. "If TV made requirements on the parties," he said, "it would no longer be a news story—then we would be creating a TV program." Would there, then, be no changes in the offing for '64? Well, suggested Mickelson, there was one real need: "I'd like to have a crossbreed of a reporter with a camel. Then they could go for days without water or rest."

The New 'Untouchables'

Cloche-hatted flappers, swaddled in furs and pink ostrich feathers, swiveled along a 1931 Chicago street, set up within the cavernous yellow-stuccoed walls of Desilu Studio 3 in Culver City, site of ABC's whoppingly successful cops-and-mobsters series, "The Untouchables." Nearby, a dirty-faced newsboy hawked his wares from a magazine stand which displayed vintage copies of Collier's.

"Who's going to do the firing?" shouted someone as the cameras prepared to grind. "I'm going to do the firing," yelled back pint-size director Walter Grauman, as he ecstatically grabbed a blank-filled submachine gun.

The scene began and down the street walked a burly actor in a square-shouldered brown suit. "Brrrrrrrrp," coughed the chopper from offstage, and pre-planted explosives burst around the magazine stand. The actor fell and quivered in the last throes of TV-style death. "Cut," ordered the satisfied Grauman. The dead man picked himself up and looked at his wrist. It was seared and bleeding—he had come too close to the exploding powder. "Just imagine if they were real bullets," joked a crewman as the actor had his wrist bandaged.

So went the first take last week of "The Rusty Heller Story," a fictional "Untouchables" episode about the attempts of a mythical hoodlum to muscle in on the inelegant Al Capone. It will be one of about 30 new epics ground out for the Top Ten show which started life one year ago as a reasonably true depiction of the breakup of the Capone mob by former FBI man Eliot Ness, but has increasingly swung toward period fable.

Last season, for example, Ness—played by tousle-haired Robert Stack, former movie pretty boy—tangled on TV with such formidable fusiliers as George (Bugs) Moran, Vincent (Mad Dog) Coll, and Kate (Ma) Barker, none of whom were among Ness's victims. Next season will see the TV Ness (the real one disbanded his "Untouchables" in 1932) grapple with such recent antagonists as the Nazis and the social circle of the late Benjamin (Bugsy) Siegel.

Libel: "You don't realize how lousy strict documentaries are—plus the fact you're libeling someone every 37 seconds," said the lanky, 41-year-old Stack of the trend toward dramatic license. "If we limit it to actuality, we might as well go to newsreels."

While Stack talked, the crew shifted to a new set, the office of a composite gangster named "Pops" Felcher, who was taking a vapor bath inside a steam cabinet. Pert Elizabeth Montgomery, playing a shakedown artist, sat cross-legged on a desk. "Pull up your skirt a little more," shouted Grauman. Miss Montgomery complied. "Now get into the steam cabinet with him," bellowed Stack. There was laughter.

"The show," said director Grauman as he drifted over, "is dramatic fiction with documentary authenticity."

To stamp some imprint of truth on each show, two full-time researchers are employed to check guns, clothing, furniture. Newspapers of the period are specially printed in a local shop. The grounds outside Studio 3 itself looks like a parking lot for antique autos—berthing more than a score of such ancient jitneys as a wine-colored Rolls, Pierce-Arrows

a Ford jalopy, and Graham-Paige. Despite all the research, "The Untouchables" does run into snags. "We've argued with law suits after certain shows," reported producer Josef Shafte noting that the show is heavily insured against libel. (The show is currently being sued for \$1.5 million by Al Capone's irate widow.)

Generally, however, the show has been well-received by the underworld. From time to time, the producer gets calls from minor-league hoods offering story ideas. Cast members of the show also have been approached by self-styled mobsters suggesting themselves as dandy subjects, including one who tried to authenticate his credentials by showing a snapshot of himself nuzzling up to badman Charles (Lucky) Luciano.

One thing is sure: Whatever its authenticity, each show gets an extra lift of reality from the high-calorie narration of Walter Winchell. "Winchell is marvelous," beams Shafte. "All he has to do is say: 'On the night of Oct. 5, 1931, Eliot Ness went down to the delicatessen' and people are sure he did."

*James to Robert
Memo
8-4-60
BEM*

NEWSWEEK
NEW YORK, NEW YORK
AUGUST 8, 1960

94-52549-78
ENCLOSURE

*file
8/8/60*



Stack: 'You don't realize how lousy strict documentaries are'

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson	_____
Mohr	_____
Parsons	_____
Belmont	_____
Callahan	_____
DeLoach	_____
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McGuire	_____
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Ingram	_____
Gandy	_____

TO : Mr. Mohr

DATE: October 11, 1960

FROM : C. D. DeLoach

DESILU PRODUCTIONS

SUBJECT: "THE UNTOUCHABLES"
ALLEGED SCRIPTS FROM EX-FBI AGENTS

Hollywood Calif.
The Hollywood Reporter for Wednesday, October 5, 1960, carried the following item: "The Untouchables' won't be at a loss for true story suggestions, as feared last year--exec producer Jerry Thorpe has received 35 storyliners in the past two weeks--from ex-FBI agents, no less!" and SAC Simon in Los Angeles was told to contact his sources to see if he could come up with any verification regarding this matter. *Calif*

Simon called Saturday and said they had made a number of contacts but found nothing to substantiate this allegation. [redacted] of the Desilu Studios knew nothing about this and said it was "highly improbable."

[redacted] said he definitely feels there is no truth that ex-FBI Agents have furnished scripts for "The Untouchables." He said he knew from his own knowledge that "The Untouchables" staff put out a yarn to the effect that they were getting information from the Los Angeles Police Department files.

[redacted] said that the Los Angeles Police Department was definitely not cooperating with "The Untouchables" in any fashion.

[redacted] said this item was nonsense and merely an attempt to keep up interest with the sponsors. [redacted]

[redacted] might have planted such a yarn.

Based on the above, it appears very definitely that the Hollywood Reporter item is entirely without foundation and under the circumstances and considering the source, it is not felt necessary to have SAC Simon challenge anyone at Desilu regarding this statement. Simon was told to take no further action in this matter at this time.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

1 - Mr. Jones

HPL:jo

63 OCT 20 1960

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

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copy of Hollywood Reporter

REC-46

EX-108

OCT 14 1960

CRIME RESEARCH

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TV-Radio Briefs

Wolper-Sterling Productions has obtained official sanction from Washington to use heretofore top-secret Atomic Energy Commission films involving the "Manhattan Project" in its documentary TV special, "The Race For Survival."

KTLA will carry a live telecast of tomorrow night's charity premiere of the Annual Decorators Show at Pan Pacific Auditorium. Raymond Burr will be among the celebrities attending.

Jack Kelly, Nick Adams, Don Knotts and Louis Charles are among latest additions to the big star cast of the March of Dimes telefilm "What About Linda" being shot at 20th-Fox's Western Ave. studio.

John Carroll has taped a show for airing Monday over Channel 7 to promote the Little Saints Ranch, new project of the L.A. Saints & Sinners spearheaded by Sam Mannis. Wade Preston will tape a show for Oct. 19 to publicize the Oct. 21-23 charity auction Shrine Auditorium.

Producer Albert J. Cohen has set Ralph Black as production manager and Stanford Jolley as art director on "The Racer" series, rolling at Republic Studios late this month.

Roy Rowan, veteran announcer for the "I Love Lucy" series, has again been signed by producer Jess Oppenheimer to announce his new "Angel" series starring Marshall Thompson and Annie Farge.

Britt Lomond is transcribing radio spots to plug American Humane Society.

J. Walter Thompson Co. has been assigned as the agency for a new Lever Bros. product, now in test markets, which has special interest for the industry. It's Starlight Shampoo, for better hair grooming.

Singer Bob Grabeau previews songs from John Wayne's "The Alamo" this Friday on Larry Finley's "Music Is My Life" over Channel 7.

Singer Jaye P. Morgan, Mala Powers, John Raitt, John Carroll and Ann Latherford are guests this week on Ben Alexander's "About Faces."

Gordon MacRae guests tomorrow on Bob Barker's "Truth Or Consequences" now on NBC-TV.

Gene Barry records "March of Dimes" radio promotion spots at Radio Recorders.

Roger Moore of Warners' "Maverick" series is taking a week's vacation in Las Vegas.

Tom Tryon of the "Texas Johnlaughter" series will co-star in the Catalina Festival's concert reading of A Midsummer Night's Dream" this Saturday.

Maxwell Henry has been named by Helen H. Miner as assistant director on Jack Chertok's "Lawless Years."

Donna Reed has been named chairman of the TV Committee for American Education Week, Nov. 6-12. Committee will consist of 22 TV performers and executives.

ON THE AIR

With HANK GRANT

RUSH PUSH LEADS TO CALAMITY... Currently in NY, essaying Andy Jackson's wife in an "American Heritage" pre-taping, Barbara Rush has so captivated producer-director Fielder Cook that he's inked her for another "Heritage," this time in the title role of "Calamity Jane," which'll spec-beam in February... Columbia's European production chief Mike Frankovich is paging Bob Horton to star a London-born theatrical feature, to roll during a "Wagon Train" stop next spring... Script's already on a jet to Bob... "Aquanuts" is paging James Mason to drown in one—all the way to Gotham where Mason's grown his own beard for starring the Purex spec, "John Brown's Raid"... James Clavell's whipped up a TV version of "The Rat Farm," his novelized adventures in a Japanese POW camp... DuPont wants it... Bill Dana's current trip to Mexico ain't for fun—he'll sign local talent for a Mexican package to go the Las Vegas niter to network spec route—with himself starring as Jose Jimenez, of course... Producer Eugene Frenke and novelist Alan Caillou have reached an agreement whereby the screenplay writers of "Walls of Jolo" will also whip it as a TV pilot—the pilot to roll on location in the Philippines directly after January starts there of the picture for UA release... Hanna-Barbera inaugurates hiring of guest star "voices" for their "The Flintstones" animated series with John Raitt bellowing off-camera within the fortnight.

MAKE THAT BET SHOW, PLACE AND WIN!... Arbitron, which had Sunday's Roy Rogers Chevy on the bottom in its seven-city overnight ratings, now comes out with its 100-city ratings of the same night and Rogers is on top of both half-hours!... Like we've been saying all along, ratings make a dubious "yardstick" for audience strength when only a few cities are polled, and only a handful of citizens in each city, at that!... "Twilight Zone" really went out of this world with its second season debut, scoring 25.8 and the highest audience share of any show that night... On its debut last season, "Zone" ozoned a freezing 11, lowest score of the night!... Better'n a rating system is 88er Roger Williams' hard-sell approach to audience gains... On his upcoming 17-city concert tour, Williams is already slated for a total of 204 local radio & TV appearances, not to mention an additional 41 p.a.'s in record shops!... In Houston on the first leg of a p.a. tour, Bob Hope assures he'll be in Yankee Stadium Saturday with Bing, rooting for the Pirates, and Bing's buying!... Also on a free World Series ride is Scott Brady, courtesy of his "Shotgun Slade" Ballantine beer sponsors, who also sponsor the Yankees games... MGM & BBC plans to London-film a "Bonnie Prince Charlie" series figure Dan O'Herlihy as first choice for the title role... Jimmy Shigeta's been screaming at his agents these past few months for not coming up with some TV guestings... Now his agents can scream 'cause they've come up with bids from Perry Como, Ed Sullivan and the Chevy Show and Jimmy's gotta turn 'em down because of back-to-back feature pic leads in "Bridge to the Sun" and "Flower Drum Song."

LETTING THE CHAT OUTTA THE BAG... Gardner McKay balked at doing Chesterfield ciggie blurbs for "Adventures in Paradise" this season, even with extra moola from the sponsor... Balked, that is, till he was told the blurbs would have him blowing smoke rings at a doll—and the ad agency agreed to fly his lady-love, model Dolores Hawkins, from NY to make him inhale with real gusto!... Inger Stevens has been on the 20th lot, not for the trespasing, but to pick up megging experience... We hear she'll debut as a director on either "Hong Kong" or "Paradise"... Hear Lisa Lu also want to pitch instead of catch, and the studio's got her tagging along with Inger... Paramount is asking Stella Stevens to soft-pedal TV appearances. Stella, whose pact doesn't exclude outside TV, has in turn asked the studio to watch her Oct. 30 G.E. Theatre-starring and THEN put on the pressure!... Why producers grow gray: Chuck Connors is all set to buy a two-motor Cessna for solo-piloting to all his p.a. stands... Mort Sahl says the sponsors and CBS have guaranteed he'll be absolutely uncensored on his Oct. 16 Ed Sullivan guesting... You mean you can say ANYTHING, Mort?

DASHES TO DEADLINE... "The Untouchables" won't be at a loss for true story suggestions, as feared last year—exec producer Jerry Thorpe has received 35 storyliners in the past two weeks—from ex-FBI agents, no less!... Jack Brooks has written the title "Emmy Lou" song for Frankie Avalon's Nov. 6 Shirley Temple caper... Coincidentally with his first singing of a song in last week's "Rawhide" rolling, Clint Eastwood gets pushed through a plate glass window in this week's episode... That'll learn him!... Producer Cy Howard sneaked himself in for an acting bit in this week's "Harrigan and Son" rolling... Sheb Wooley finally unleashed some of his "Purple People Eater" royalties for a buy of 200 acres in Soledad Canyon... George Burns still owns a piece of Alan Young's starring "Wilbur and Mr. Ed," which is now helmed by Filmways' Al Simon and, as snooped yesterday here, will be sponsored by Studebaker Lark for a mid-season web start... KMLA claims to be the first FMer to go the foreign language route—every morning till noon, starting Oct. 17, with programs only to Yiddish, French, Spanish, German, Italian and Hungarian audiences... Happy 24th wedding anni to deejay Dick Haynes and his living doll Bobbie!... Via the grapevine, another Kookie Korporation suggestion: Ella Logan, Gene Barry and David Wine, forming a Logan-Barry-Wine company!

TV Castings

Cesar Romero, "Hasta Luego," "Ann Sothern Show."
David Renard, "Mad Stone," "Death Valley Days."
Patrick Waltz, "Twilight Zone Reg Parton, "Rawhide"; Frank Kingdom, "Thriller"; in deals set by George Ingersoll Agency.
Don Megowan, "Trail to Indian Wells," for "Two Faces West."
Alex Montoya, Gregory Walco Stephen Chase, Linda Lawson, Dominguez, Ralph Smiley, Carlos Fvero, "Escort to Santa Fe," for "We Fargo."
Lyn Guild, "The Firebug," "Manhunt."
Cecil Kellaway, "You CAN Big City Hall," for "Harrigan & Son."
Adrienne Marden, "Man With Two Faces," for "Alfred Hitchcock Presents."
Andrea King, Fay McKenzie, Adrienne Ellis, Patti Chapman, Jack McCall, "The Handwriting On the Wall for "Tom Ewell Show."
Corey Allen, "Case of the Red Riding Boots," for "Perry Mason."
John Litel, Jocelyn Brando, Stan Clements, Will Wright, "The Moon Driver," for G.E. Theatre.
Richard LePore, "Dark Shadow," "Checkmate."
Charlotte Lavande, Richard Hal Johnny Kaaihue, "One Little Pearl," "Adventures In Paradise."
Jimmy Boyd, "Emmie Lou," for "T Shirley Temple Show."
WB-TV castings: Jean Willes, "Roaring 20's"; Stella Stevens, "Hawaiian Eye"; Jack Evers, "The Cheenne Show"; Richard Reeves, "Merrick"; Molly Magruder, Richard Gering, "Surfside 6"; Karen Steele, Per Santon, Roger Till, "77 Sunset Strip."
Narda Onyx, femme lead in "Bulgarian Barbarian" segment of "Dante James Stapleton, "Blue Leaders," "Blue Angel."
John Pickard, "Two Faces West Stan Clements, "Johnny Midnight" "G. E. Theatre"; Ron Hagerthy, "Untouchables"; Rusty Williams, "Laramie"; set by Ray Cooper Agency.

Susskind Sets Petrie

Dan Petrie, who directed the Dan Susskind-Philip Rose production "Raisin in the Sun" for Columbia release, has been set by Susskind to direct a minimum of four of his two hour long "Family Classics" series CBS.

Salkin 'Shrimp' Story Ec

Leo Salkin has been set by Form Films as story editor for "The Shrimp" Cy Comberg animated TV film set for Four Star release. Jules Engel will be associate producer. Casting voices starts today.

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Memorandum

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- Tamm
- Trotter
- W.C. Sullivan
- Tele. Room
- Ingram
- Gandy

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 10-14-60

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: "THE UNTOUCHABLES"
10-13-60

Desilu Production

Stephens

McGuire

Ed

h. A. Jones

10/13/60

This program which was monitored by an Agent in the Crime Research Section was the first in the new series. The story went back to the time of Al Capone's trial and the attempts of a hoodlum named Felcher to take over the Capone empire. The story centered around a girl called Rusty Heller, a night club entertainer, whose ambitions extended to becoming Felcher's mistress. She first made a play for Felcher's attorney who had Felcher under his control since the attorney had documents from the Immigration Service showing Felcher was an illegal immigrant.

Having gained access to Felcher through the attorney, Heller deserted the attorney and became Felcher's mistress. The attorney then notified Felcher's wife who returned and demanded that Felcher take from Heller a full-length sable coat he had just presented to her. He did this, and Heller swore revenge on them all.

Through Capone's bookkeeper, she obtained information concerning Capone's records which she furnished to Eliot Ness, at the same time "making a play" for Ness. She also tries to "buy off" Ness to get him to stop his investigation of Felcher.

In a wild climax to the program, Heller and the attorney have an engagement party, and she gets Felcher's immigration papers from the attorney which she turns over to Felcher in return for his "working over" the attorney on her behalf. She has also tipped off Capone's gunmen who arrive to assassinate Felcher. Felcher survives the ambush (incidentally, by outgunning with pistols a carload of machinegun-wielding Capone hoods) and then turns on Heller whom he knows has betrayed him. He is about to mutilate her with a knife when Ness arrives in the nick of time. Heller dies at the hands of the attorney who has revived, and Ness kills the attorney. Felcher is deported as an illegal immigrant.

(Continued next page)

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REC-51

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EX-108

CRIME RESEARCH

Jones to DeLoach memorandum

OBSERVATIONS:

This was the bloodiest and wildest program yet. An early scene shows Ness beating a minor hoodlum who refuses to answer his questions, and the "working over" of the attorney includes Felcher's cutting out his tongue (not shown directly on camera but obvious from before and after shots). The scene in which Felcher starts to mutilate the girl is also one of the most violent by implication yet shown on this program. The sex angle is played to the hilt, and Heller obviously has become the mistress of both the attorney and Felcher and continually "makes a play" for Ness with extremely suggestive dialogue. At one point she invited him to spend 48 hours with her at a mountain retreat as a payoff to stop his investigation of Felcher. There were no references to the FBI in the program.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

Jhu
10715
DeLoach

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

- Tolson
- Mohr
- Parsons
- Belmont
- Callahan
- DeLoach
- Malone
- McGuire
- Rosen
- Tamm
- Trotter
- W.C. Sullivan
- Tele. Room
- Ingram
- Gandy

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 10-21-60

FROM : M. A. Jones

Desilu Productions

SUBJECT: "THE UNTOUCHABLES"
10-20-60

Stafford

This television program which is presented from 9:30 to 10:30 p. m. was monitored by a Special Agent of the Crime Research Section. The story line involved "Legs" Diamond and his involvement with a narcotics ring which included "Dutch" Schlutz, "Lucky" Luciano, "Big Bill" Sweeney and Oscar Benjamin.

OBSERVATIONS:

The story dealt exclusively with narcotics, involving jurisdiction of the Treasury Department and Customs Bureau. No mention was made of the FBI and there was nothing in the story to give the impression that the FBI was involved. The tactics of Ness followed the usual pattern in the program of disregard for proper legal procedures and protection of the rights of the accused. The most lasting impression of the program was one of violence with brutal murders and "slapping around" of women. In one scene "Legs" Diamond murdered a minor hoodlum by placing a double barreled sawed-off shotgun against his chest and pulling the triggers. The climax was an almost "nick of time" arrival of Ness and his associates who administered "justice" in a blazing gun battle.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

See
10/21
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OCT 24 1960

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CRIME RESEARCH