

MEMORANDUM

Re: King of Prussia Prosecution Memorandum
ROCCO URELLA - Former Commissioner of Penna. State Police

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Wednesday, November 22, 1972

Packet memo - Page 4

Colonel Rocco Urella got on the Turnpike at 3:34 pm at Exit 20 and exited at 4:10 at Downingtown Exit 23 (Turnpike records).

Monday, November 27, 1972

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Packet memo - Page 12

The Crime Commission is in the process of verifying information that on this day a telephone call was made from one Nicholas Pratko to Commissioner Rocco Urella. Pratko is an assumed name used by Cpl. Metro Kardash, according to a typed, seven-part "answer" to a letter dated December 1, 1972 from the Attorney General to the Commissioner. The "answer" was given personally by Urella to Executive Deputy General Walter L. Foulke that same day. The writing in the "answer" is that of Mr. Foulke.

Tuesday, November 28, 1972

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Packet memo - Page 15

According to a sworn statement from Kathy Crankfield, receptionist in the Commissioner's complex at the Transportation Building, * * * at 11:57 am, she received a telephone call from, in her opinion, an unidentified female who first asked for Mary (Colonel Urella's sister) and then Eleanor Kelly (Urella's secretary). Miss Crankfield told the caller that both ladies and the Commissioner were at lunch. They had departed at 11:45 am. Miss Crankfield said the caller told her to find the Commissioner and tell him to "Call out the line. It was an emergency." The receptionist asked her supervisor where the Commissioner was. The supervisor saw Lt. Herman Faiola, a member of the Internal Security Unit, and told him about the message. Faiola said he would attempt to locate the Commissioner.

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At approximately 12:10 to 12:15 pm, Urella returned to his office, running ***
(According to the Commissioner, the emergency call concerned a fire bomb threat
at the Sentinel Motel in Downingtown, of which the Commissioner is part-owner.
Lt. McCann had been at lunch with Colonel Urella.

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Pachel memo - Page 19

At 1:11 pm, Lt. McCann * * * and Commissioner Urella entered the Turnpike at
Harrisburg (interview with McCann and Turnpike records). At 1:57 pm, they got
off the Turnpike at Downingtown. At 2:08 pm, McCann got on at Downingtown and
at 2:20 got off at Valley Forge.

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McCann said that when they exited at Downingtown, they met Lt. Richard Weimer
at an "ash pile" near the interchange on Rte. 100.

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The Hand-Written Statement

On the early morning of December 6, 1972, Commissioner Urella came to the Depart-
ment of Justice accompanied by Lt. Luchansky and Cpl. Kardash. * * * The Com-
missioner came in and delivered a three-page hand written statement to the Attorney
General asking whether if the two men testified along the lines of the statement, would
the Attorney General agree not to prosecute. The Attorney General perused the state-
ment and explained to the Commissioner that even if he did make such an agreement
it would not be binding on federal and local authorities. The statement had been pre-
pared by Luchansky and Kardash, according to the Commissioner. Before it was returned
to Urella, it was copied. * * * The statement indicates that the facts outlined in the
above chronoly insofar as they concern Guyette, Kardash and Luchansky are true. It
denies any involvement on the part of the Commissioner, stating that the wiretapping had
been instituted on a "whim."

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Pachel memo - Page 29

The whereabouts of Lt. Luchansky

Commissioner Urella stated that Lt. Luchansky got a collect call at 12:30 pm on November 28, 1972, but that he is not aware of the particulars of the conversation.

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Pachel memo - Pages 29-30

The Bomb Threat at the Sentinel Motel

As indicated above, according to Lt. McCann and Commissioner Urella, the emergency call around noon on November 28, 1972 to the Commissioner concerned a bomb threat at the Sentinel in Downingtown. Ostensibly, the Commissioner instructed Marion Gobrecht, proprietress at the motel, to notify the Media Barracks and that he would be down right away.

According to a subsequent interview with Ms. Gobrecht, she stated that she received a note in her mailbox between 9:00 am and noon which said, "Tell Hero Urella we are going to firebomb his joint." She called him and left a message. He returned the call and told her not to worry. She stated she did not call the Media Barracks.

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Pachel memo - Pages 30 & 31

Administrative Structure of the Internal Security Unit

The Internal Security Unit was created by the present Commissioner as a part of the Bureau of Inspections and Special Investigations. The Commissioner had stated that all five members of the unit, Faiola, Luchansky, Kardash, Guyette and Crews, received their assignments and operations orders directly from him. The assignments were verbal and most of the investigative reports are verbal as well. Urella indicated to Walter Foulke there are very few written reports concerning activities of the Internal Security Unit - no vehicle logs, daily activity reports, or investigative documents.

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Pardue memo - Page 32

Lt. Col. Joseph Dussia stated that the Internal Security Squad works directly under Commissioner Urella and reports directly to him. The men report to Dussia only in the extended absence of Urella which has yet to occur. * * *

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According to turnpike records, on November 20, 1972, Corporal Flanagan left Harrisburg and arrived at Valley Forge at 1:21 p. m. A State Policeman named Faiola entered the turnpike at Exit 21 at 10:04 p. m. and exited at 10:34 at Valley Forge. The signature on the card appears to be that of "A. Faiola," which would be Albert Faiola, brother of Lieutenant Herman Faiola of the Internal Security Unit. Trooper Albert Faiola is presently assigned to District Attorney Arlen Specter. On November 21, 1972, Corporal Guyette got on the turnpike at Exit 35 at 5:30 a. m. and exited at Valley Forge at 6:10 a. m.

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Colonel Rocco Urella got on the turnpike at 3:34 p. m. at Exit 20 and exited at 4:10 at Downingtown (Exit 23) (turnpike records).

Thursday, November 23, 1972

According to sworn testimony taken at a private hearing of the Pennsylvania Crime Commission on November 29, 1972, from Jill Kauler, desk clerk at the George Washington Motor Lodge, on Thanksgiving Day, a man checked into the Lodge and specifically asked for room 175. Miss Kauler

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search was continued on the other side of a fire wall by entering the crawl space above room 181. The search revealed that on both sides of the fire wall, red and green wires had been spliced into the gray Bell Telephone lines entering into room 208 (occupied by Trooper Anthony Caldonetti and also used as a command post), room 123 (occupied by Corporal Charles J. Todd, second in command at that time), and room 214 (occupied by Sergeant Matthew E. Hunt, leader of the detail).

Arrangements were made to keep the room under surveillance the following day.

The Crime Commission is in the process of verifying information that on this day a telephone call was made from one Nicholas Pratkanis to Commissioner Rocco Urella. Pratkanis is an assumed name used by Corporal Metro Kardash, according to a typed, seven part "answer" to a letter dated December 1, 1972, from the Attorney General to the Commissioner. (The "answer" was given personally by Commissioner Urella to Executive Deputy Attorney General Walter L. Foulke that same day. The writing in the "answer" is that of Mr. Foulke (see exhibits). (Note: it is possible that the undercover name could have been used by the entire detail.)

room. Mr. Greth gave Corporal Todd a key to that room. During the conversation, a white male, 5'10", thin, 40 years of age, dressed in a brown plaid suit, entered the office and stood within three feet of Mr. Greth and the State Trooper. According to Mr. Greth, he was in a position to overhear the conversation. After the discussion, the man left the office and went over to the corner of the office buildings where the pay telephones are located.

Urella

According to a sworn statement taken from Kathy Crankfield, receptionist in the Commissioner's complex in the Transportation Building, at a private hearing of the Pennsylvania Crime Commission on December 14, 1972, at 11:57 a. m. she received a telephone call from, in her opinion, an unidentified female who first asked for "Mary" (Colonel Urella's sister) and then Eleanor Kelly (his private secretary). Miss Crankfield told the caller that both ladies and the Commissioner were at lunch. They had departed at 11:45 a. m. The woman told Miss Crankfield to find the Commissioner and tell him to "call out the line"; it was an emergency. The receptionist asked her supervisor where the Commissioner was. The supervisor saw Lieutenant Herman Faiola, a member of the Internal Security Unit, and told him about the message. Faiola said he would attempt to locate the Commissioner.

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At approximately 12:10 to 12:15 p. m., Urella returned to his office, running, which was something the receptionist had never seen. She had also never seen him take only a twenty-five minute lunch break. When he is in, incoming and outgoing calls do not come through her call master. (According to the Commissioner, the emergency call concerned a fire bomb threat at the Sentinel Motel in Downingtown, of which the Commissioner is part owner. Lieutenant McCann had been at lunch with Colonel Urella.)

At approximately 12:19 p. m., a telephone call was received at the George Washington Motor Lodge for room 175. A second call from the outside for room 175 came in at approximately 12:21 p. m. While that call was on the line, a third call came in from the outside at 12:23 p. m. for the same room. Only the first two phone calls were answered by anyone in room 175. Julia Waller, operator at the George Washington Motor Lodge, stated that all the calls were from outside the motel and sounded as if they had been placed by middle-aged men. She took the first two calls, and stated that the man on the second call was not the same person who made the first telephone call. Jill Kauler, the desk clerk, handled the third call. No other phone calls came in for room 175 except those three.

At 12:46 p. m. on November 28, 1972, according to telephone company records, a collect, person-to-person call was placed to Commissioner Urella from one Nicholas Pratkano. The call, made from the King of Prussia area, was accepted and lasted for six minutes. (See exhibits.)

At 1:11 p. m., Lieutenant McCann (who at one time had been Commissioner Urella's personal driver) and Commissioner Urella entered the turnpike at Harrisburg (interview with McCann and turnpike records). At 1:57 p. m., they got off the turnpike at Downingtown. At 2:08, McCann got on at Downingtown, and at 2:20 got off at Valley Forge. At 2:37, McCann got on at Valley Forge, and at 2:47 exited at Downingtown.

McCann's explanation for these movements, in an interview, was that on November 27, 1972, he had called Corporal Robert Flanagan about an antique mirror McCann wanted to buy. McCann arranged to meet Flanagan in the King of Prussia shopping center between 3:00 and 4:00 p. m., the following day, as Flanagan was shopping there.

McCann said that when they exited at Downingtown they met Lieutenant Richard Weimer at an "ash pile" near the interchange on Route 100. He took Weimer's car, a light colored Plymouth, and went to King of Prussia.

The Handwritten Statement

On the early morning of December 6, 1972, Commissioner Urella came to the Department of Justice, accompanied by Lieutenant Luchansky and Corporal Kardash. Initially, the latter two remained outside. The Commissioner came in and delivered a three-page handwritten statement to the Attorney General asking whether if the two men testified along the lines of the statement, would the Attorney General agree not to prosecute. The Attorney General perused the statement and explained to the Commissioner that even if he did make such an agreement it would not be binding on federal and local authorities. The statement had been prepared by Luchansky and Kardash, according to the Commissioner. Before it was returned to Urella, it was copied. Luchansky was prepared to testify from the statement, but after he was given his Miranda warnings, he decided to seek the advice of counsel.

The statement indicates that the facts outlined in the above chronology insofar as they concern Guyette, Kardash, and Luchansky are true. It denies any involvement on the part of the Commissioner, stating that the wiretapping had been instituted on a "whim."

Miscellaneous

A. The Whereabouts of Lieutenant Luchansky

Commissioner Urella stated that Lieutenant Luchansky got a collect phone call at 12:30 p. m. on November 28, 1972, but that he is not aware of the particulars of the conversation. This seems to imply that Luchansky was in Harrisburg in the Commissioner's complex. However, the following witnesses seem to contradict that story. Major Cimokowski does not recall if he saw Luchansky that day; Lieutenant Colonel Dussia stated that he did not see Luchansky at headquarters that day; Jane First does not recall seeing Luchansky that day; and Kathy Crankfield did not see him that day. Lieutenant McCann stated that he saw Luchansky at the State Police Academy in Hershey at 6:30 a. m. on the 28th. However, that was the only time he saw him that day. The telephone records do not show any collect calls for Luchansky in the Commissioner's complex. The only collect call during this period was for the Commissioner from Pratkanis.

B. The Bomb Threat at the Sentinel Motel:

As indicated above, according to Lieutenant McCann and Commissioner Urella, the emergency call around noon on November 23, 1972, to the Commissioner

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concerned a bomb threat at the Sentinel in Downingtown. Ostensibly, the Commissioner instructed Marion Gobrecht, the proprietress of the motel, to notify the Media Barracks, and that he would be down right away.

According to a subsequent interview with Ms. Gobrecht, she stated that she received a note in her mailbox between 9:00 a. m. and noon which said, "Tell hero Urella we are going to firebomb his joint." She called him and left a message. He returned the call and told her not to worry. She stated she did not call the Media barracks.

On December 4, 1972, Sergeant M. Hunt checked the incident memos for November 27, 1972 - December 2, 1972, at Media. There were no bomb threats at the motel reported on those forms. Yet, according to an interview with Lieutenant McKenna, officer in command at Media, Ms. Gobrecht called the barracks on December 2 or 3 and informed him of the incident. He said she gave a statement as a matter of information and requested no investigation.

C. Administrative Structure of the Internal Security Unit

The Internal Security Unit was created by the present Commissioner as part of the Bureau of Inspections and Special Investigations. The Commissioner

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(6) An investigative report on November 14, 1972, by Herman Faiola on reports that the Pennsylvania State Police are attending lewd shows at the Gaslight. One wonders what kind of cases do not have reports submitted for them. The reports submitted certainly touch sensitive subject areas.

Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Dussia stated that the Internal Security Squad works directly under Commissioner Urella and reports directly to him. The men report to Dussia only in the extended absence of the Commissioner, which has yet to occur.

Major Stanley S. Cimokowski, Director of the Bureau of Inspection and Special Investigations, stated that the Internal Security Unit is a part of his bureau, but that he exercises no command control. The instructions for the men usually are verbal and come from the Commissioner. Cimokowski allows the two lieutenants, Faiola and Luchansky, to run the unit, although he does sign travel vouchers. He stated that the unit submits no daily reports, nor does it have to make periodic call-ins for instruction.

Lieutenant Herman Joseph Faiola, Senior Lieutenant on the Internal Security Unit, stated that he and Lieutenant Luchansky have joint responsibility for the operation of the Internal Security Unit. Their superior in the chain of