

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
NORFOLK, ss.
Nos. 5545 and 5546

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
Criminal Session

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
v.
NICOLA SACCO and BARTOLOMEO VANZETTI

AFFIDAVIT OF CELESTINO F. MEDEIROS

On April 15, 1920, I was picked up at about 4 A.M. at my boarding house, 181 North Main Street, Providence, by four Italians who came in a Hudson 5 passenger open touring car. The landlord of my boarding house was a Jew whose name I do not remember. One of my sisters lived at the same place. She was then a widow and her name was Mary Bover. She has since been married, and now lives at 735 Bellville Avenue, New Bedford. There was also living there at the same time a man named Arthur Tatro, who afterwards committed suicide in the New Bedford House of Correction. He was Captain and I was a Lieutenant in the American Rescue League at that time. Two or three privates in the League also lived there, whose names I do not remember.

We went from Providence to Randolph, where we changed to a Buick car brought there by another Italian. We left the Hudson car in the woods and took it again after we did the job, leaving the Buick in the woods in charge of one man, who drove it off to another part of the woods, as I understood.

After we did the job at South Braintree and changed back into the Hudson car at Randolph, we drove very fast through Randolph, and were seen by a boy named Thomas and his sister. His father lives on a street that I think is called ~~Prang~~ ^{Oak} Street, and is in the window metal business or something of that kind. I became acquainted with him four years later when I went to live in Randolph with weeks on the same street. Thomas told me one day in conversation that he saw the car that did the South Braintree job going through Randolph very fast.

When we started we went from Providence first to Boston and then back to Providence, and then back to South Braintree, getting there about noon. We spent some time in a "speak easy" in South Braintree two or three miles from the place of the

W F B

crime, leaving the car in the yard of the house. When we went to Boston we went to South Boston and stopped in Andrews Square. I stayed in the car. The others went into a saloon to get information, as they told me, about the money that was to be sent to South Braintree.

I had never been to South Braintree before. These four men persuaded me to go with them two or three nights before when I was talking with them in a saloon in Providence. The saloon was also a pool-room near my boarding house. They talked like professionals. They said they had done lots of jobs of this kind. They had been engaged in robbing freight cars in Providence. Two were young men from 20 to 25 years old, one was about 40, the other about 35. All wore caps. I was then 18 years old. I do not remember whether they were shaved or not. Two of them did the shooting -- the oldest one and another. They were left on the street. The arrangement was that they should meet me in a Providence saloon the next night to divide the money. I went there but they did not come.

I sat on the back seat of the automobile. I had a Colt 38 calibre automatic but did not use it. I was told that I was there to help hold back the crowd in case they made a rush. The curtains on the car were flapping. I do not remember whether there was any shotgun or rifle in the car or not.

These men talked a lot about New York. As soon as I got enough money I went to New York and also to Chicago hoping to find them in cabarets spending the money, but I never found them.

They had been stealing silk, shoes, cotton, etc., from freight cars and sending it to New York. Two of them lived on South Main Street and two on North Main Street, in lodging houses. I had known them three or four months. The old man was called Mike. Another one was called Williams or Bill. I

W. L. G.

don't remember what the others were called.

The money that they took from the men in South Braintree was in a black bag, I think.

I was scared to death when I heard the shooting begin.

Both cars had Massachusetts numbers.

The names of these men don't amount to anything. They change them whenever they want to. When they are driven out of New York they come to Providence. I haven't any idea where they are now. I have never seen any of them since.

Sacco and Vanzetti had nothing to do with this job, and neither did Gerald Chapman. It was entirely put up by the oldest of the Italians in Providence.

I read the this statement and
it is true

Celestino F. Medeiros

I know the last names
of the gang but I refuse to
tell who they are

Celestino F. Medeiros

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Norfolk ss doctham. May 29, 1926.

Then personally appeared the above named
Celestino F. Medeiros and made oath that
the above statement subscribed by him
is true.

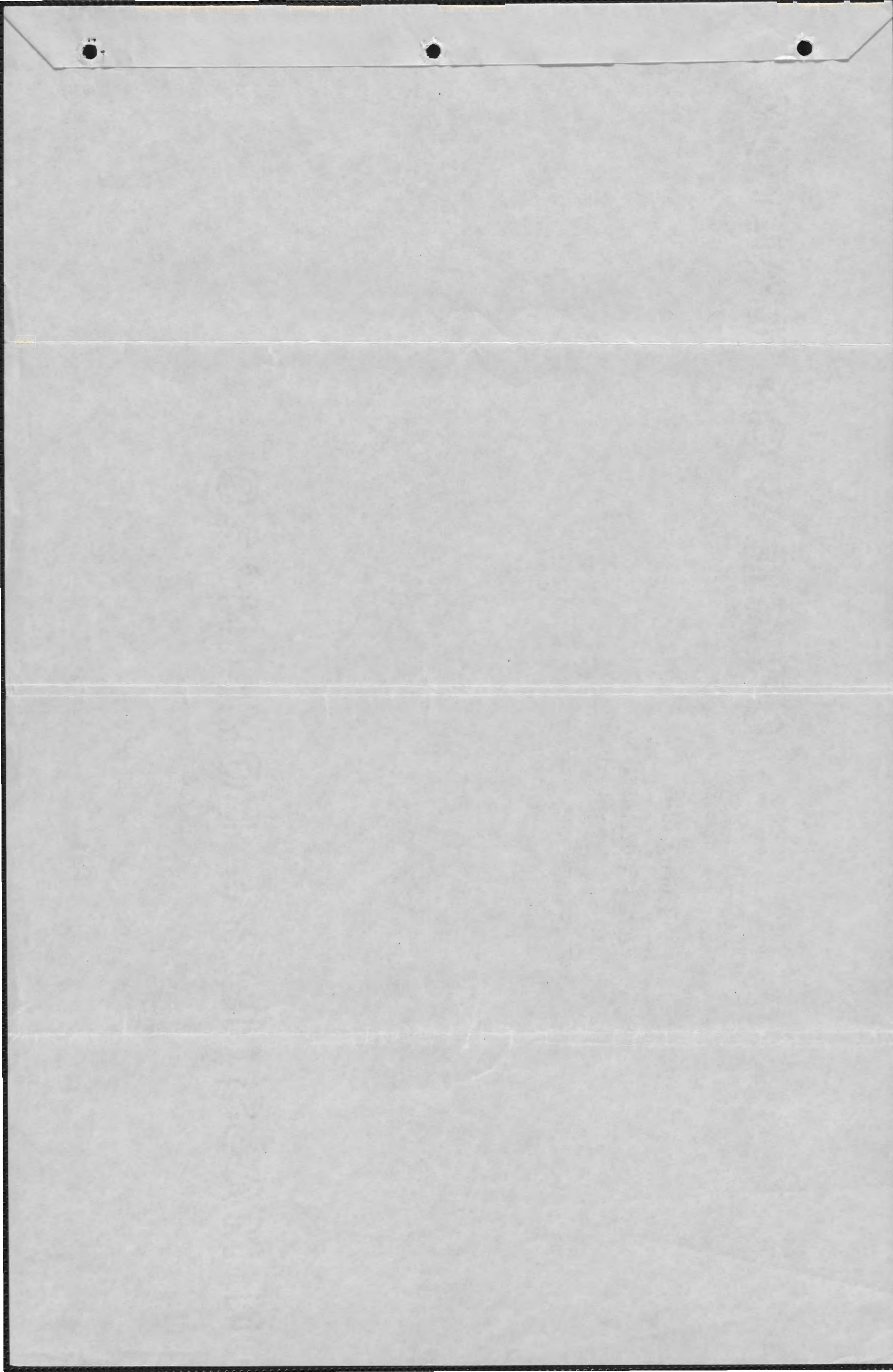
Before me

A. G. Thompson

Justice of the Peace

My com. expires 8th. 3. 1927

W L B



181

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
NORFOLK, ss. SUPERIOR COURT
Nos. 5545 and 5546
Criminal Session

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
v.
NICOLA SACCO and BARTOLOMEO
VANZETTI

AFFIDAVIT OF CELESTINO F.
MEDEIROS.

RECEIVED & FILED

JUN 10 1926

OFFICE OF CLERK OF COURTS
NORFOLK COUNTY.
THOMPSON, SPRING & MEARS
1133-1139 TREMONT BUILDING
BOSTON, MASS.