

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

NORFOLK, ss.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT .

Nos. 5545 and 5546.

Criminal Session

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

v.

NICOLA SACCO And BARTOLOMEO VANZETTI

AFFIDAVIT OF BARNEY B. MONTERIO.

My name is Barney B. Monterio. I live at 1 Milton Street, Seekonk, Mass. I am the proprietor of the so-called Bluebird Inn. The original Bluebird Inn was an old building. I moved into it sometime in 1922. I began to build the addition to the Inn in March, 1924. I know Celestino F. Medeiros. I remember distinctly the first time I met him. It was on the so-called Washington Bridge between Providence and East Providence, in March, 1924. I remember it because it was the day when I gave my first order for lumber to the O'Driscoll Lumber Company of Providence. My uncle introduced me to Medeiros, and I learned that he wanted a job as carpenter. I engaged him at that time and he went with me at once to live in the Bluebird Inn, and continued living there with me until about October, 1924. The work he did was at first carpentering until the addition was finished, and then he acted as chauffeur and also in other capacities.

During the first part of the time that he lived with me Medeiros owned a 38 calibre revolver and used to shoot it for practice at trees and other objects. During the latter part of the time he also owned a 45 calibre revolver, which I believe was the gun with which he committed the Wrentham Bank murder.

When I first met him I asked him where he hailed from, and he said he had recently returned from Texas and the South. I think he also mentioned Mexico. He also said that he had been

as far north as Tacoma in the state of Washington. He never told me that he had served six months in the House of Correction in New Bedford in 1920; but I recollect that he did say that he had been in the South about two years. He never told me where he got the money to pay his expenses during this trip.

Shortly after Medeiros came to work for me he went over to New Bedford and brought back some letters, which he gave to my wife for safe keeping. He had cut off the heading and the dates of these letters. I annex to this affidavit and mark Exhibit A five pages of these letters which I have found. He also left in my house certain cancelled checks drawn by him on the Merchants National Bank of New Bedford and certain pages torn out of his stub-books. The only checks and stub-book pages that I have thus far been able to find are in the year 1923. I annex these to this affidavit and mark them Exhibit B. I also annex as part of Exhibit B a promissory note signed by Medeiros dated September 27, 1923, payable to Borden & Remington Company, Fall River, Mass., and a notice from the Merchants National Bank of a draft drawn on him.

I also know that Medeiros had a deposit in the New Bedford Institution for Savings because I went with him one day and saw him draw out \$300. That was soon after I employed him. He never told me where he got the money that he had on deposit in either of these banks. His sister-in-law went with ~~xxxx~~ him that day, and he told me that the money was his but that his sister^{-in-law} had to go with him to get it. I understood him to mean that it was either in her name or in some name that she had given for hers. On the day before he drew out this money he had gone to New Bedford and brought back \$500 in bills, all but \$50 of which he had lost in some gambling game. When he brought back the \$300 my wife took him out and bought him some clothes. I know that he had money in some place other than in the bank because on the occasion when he got the \$500 that I have refer-

red to above he left the Bluebird Inn at three o'clock in the morning and came back at eight o'clock that same morning with \$500.

He frequently during the time he was with me associated with one James F. Weeks or Croft.

I knew that Medeiros built several concrete garages in New Bedford. He told me that he had lost money on these garages. He also told me that when he went South he took with him \$2800. Whether he said he drew it out of a bank or had it somewhere else I do not remember.

One day while he was working for me he told me he was interested in the South Braintree affair. At another time when he was reading in the paper something about the Sacco-Vanzetti case -- I do not think it was the trial, but something that happened after the trial -- he said "I know more about that than Sacco and Vanzetti do". On another occasion when he was driving me in a motor car to New Bedford he asked me what I would do if a bunch double-crossed me, and said that a bunch double-crossed him in the South Braintree job, and he also said that Sacco and Vanzetti knew nothing about that job. He never told me whether he had succeeded in getting any money out of the gang that had double-crossed him. He did not tell me whether he meant by that that they had not paid him anything, or meant that they had not paid him enough. He then told me in so many words that he was in the gang that committed the South Braintree crime, but he never told me who the other members of the gang were.

If he was double-crossed by the gang that he referred to, whoever that gang was, I do not believe that it was on the South Braintree job. I think it was on some other job because he could never explain where he got the money to go South with. I know that he has often driven me in an automobile through the city of Providence and was perfectly able to find his way about

that city and could find any place that I wanted him to find. He is better acquainted with the city of Providence than I am.

I remember an occasion that some Italians came down in a motor car to the Bluebird Inn and one of them wanted to get a girl named Tessie who was living with my family at that time, and Medeiros stood out in front of the house and I was standing near him, and I heard him say to this gang that they had double-crossed him once on a job, and he might forget that, but if they tried to get the girl he would get even with them.

Medeiros had a habit of talking sometimes in a low tone of voice and saying things about his past experiences which I could not clearly understand, and when I would ask him what he meant he would shut up. On one occasion when I was having a dispute with him I told him that if he ever drew on me it would be one or the other of us, and he said "You must think I have never shot anybody". That was on one occasion when he was driving me to New Bedford in my automobile.

After he left my employ at the Bluebird Inn he came down with Weeks and a few other men and picked a quarrel with me and drew a gun and fired it into the house. I returned the fire and shot out the tail light of their car, and they went off.

Barney B. Monterio

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Suffolk, ss.

Boston, June 8, 1926

Then personally appeared the above named Barney B. Monterio and made oath that the foregoing statement subscribed by him is true. Before me,

W. G. Thompson

Justice of the Peace.

*My Commission
Expires March 3/27*

EXHIBIT A.

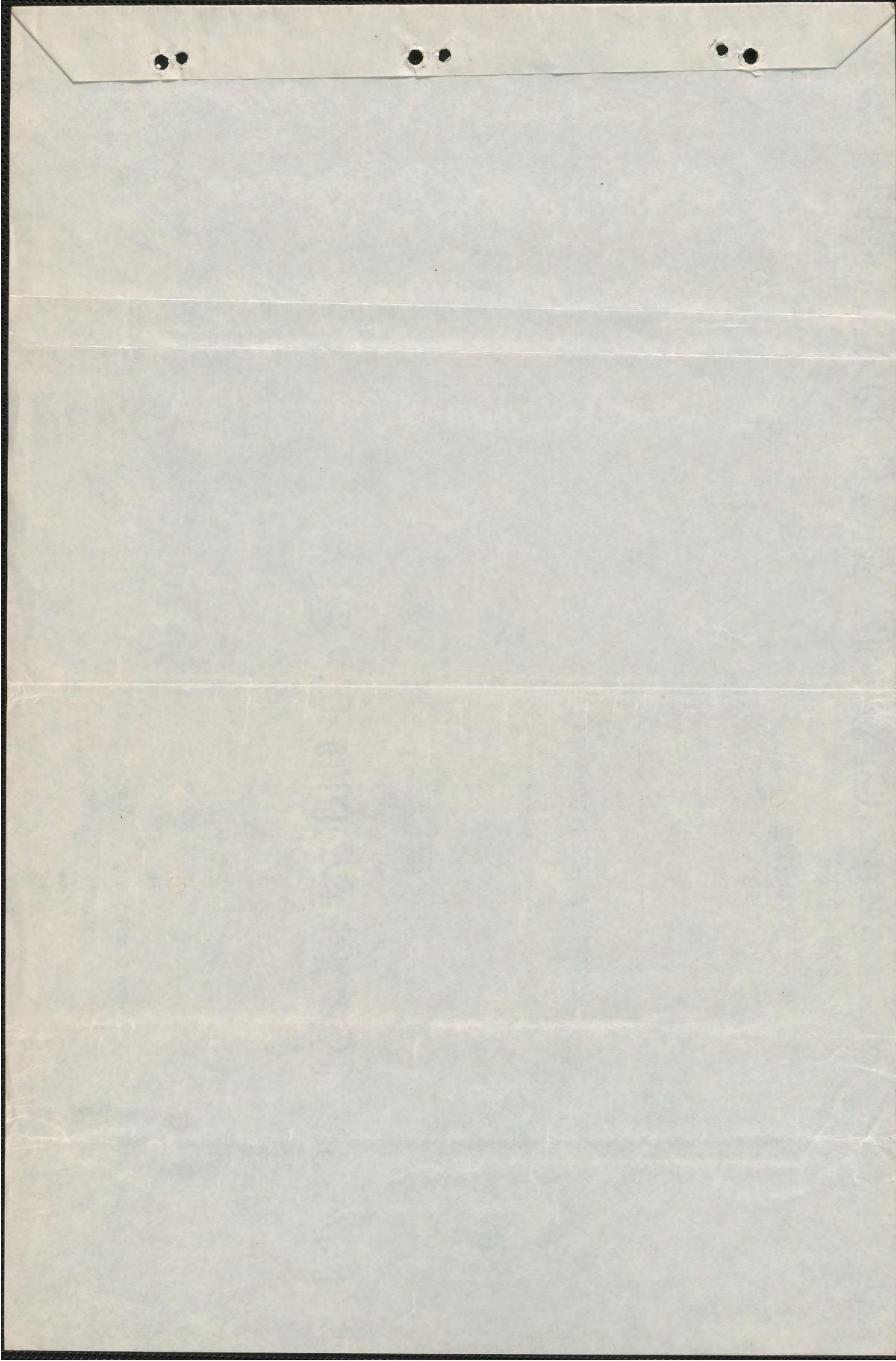
*Found empty
July 27, 1983
KMS*

EXHIBIT B.

*Found empty
July 27, 1983
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THOMPSON & SPRING
1133-1139 TREMONT BUILDING
BOSTON

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224

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BOSTON, MASS.

RECEIVED & FILED

JUL 1 - 1926

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