

**Bullets for Dead Hoods**

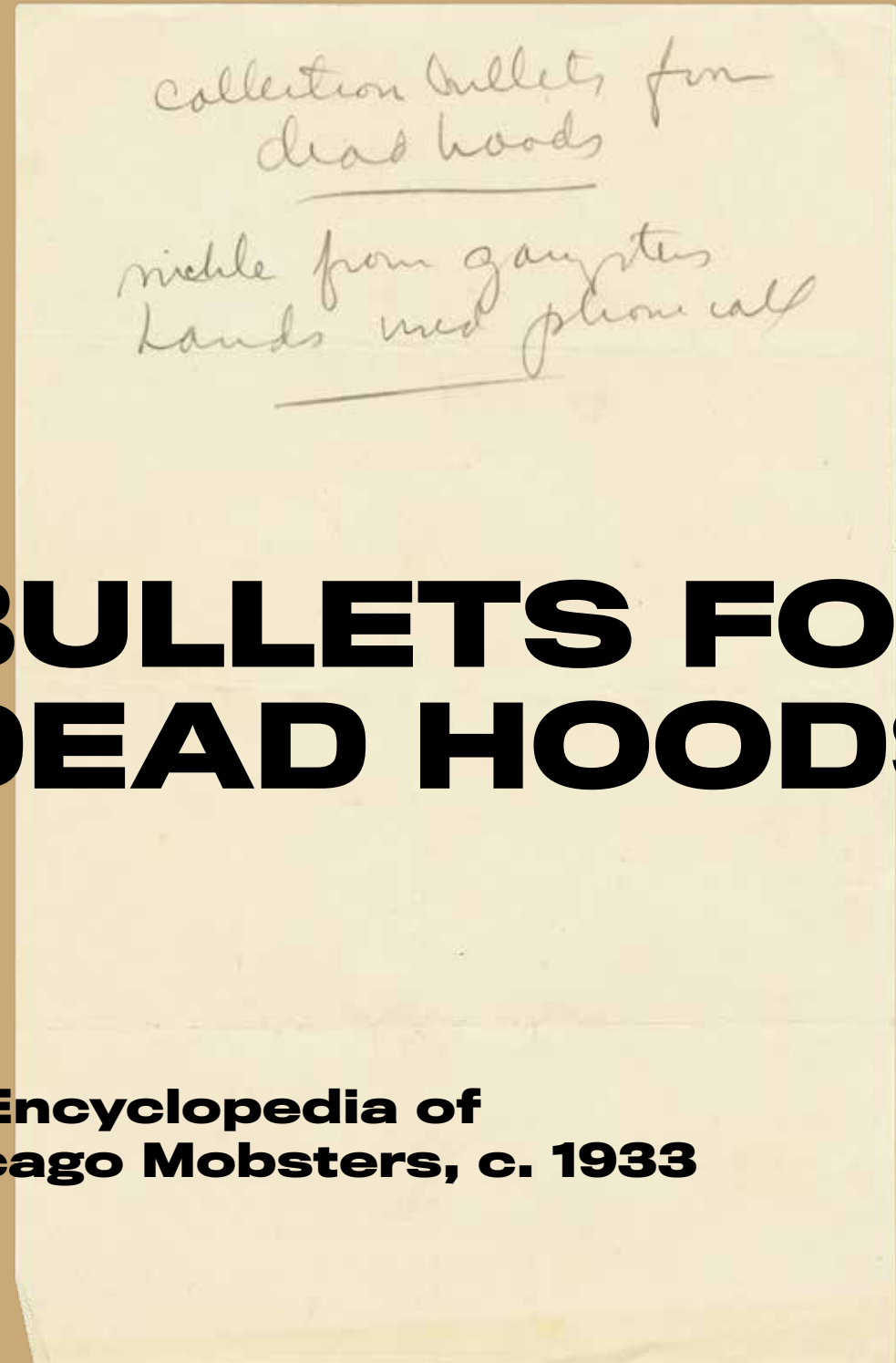
In the early 2000s, writer, curator, and gallerist John Corbett struck thrift gold at a going-out-of-business Chicago junk shop when he stumbled onto a browned and brittle manuscript intimately documenting the Chicago mob of the early 1930s. The tone of its typewritten and hand-annotated pages immediately grabbed him—sensationalistic and funny, they read like an embellished police blotter, naming names, listing addresses, and recounting crimes.

Presented here in facsimile in order to capture the dossier's distinctive materiality, *Bullets for Dead Hoods: An Encyclopedia of Chicago Mobsters, c. 1933* offers a detailed rundown on the Chicago Outfit through 140 noir character sketches, which range from the infamous—Al Capone, George “Bugs” Moran, the Everleigh Sisters—to their lesser known aiders and abettors. Whoever dared to put this testament together was clearly someone with access to information—a cop? a reporter? a bitter mafioso?—but who would’ve risked sharing these particulars, and why, is a mystery that will likely never be solved.

In addition to the full-color manuscript, *Bullets for Dead Hoods* includes related documentary material, an introduction by John Corbett, a compilation of more than 400 locations referenced in the manuscript, and a pull-out map of Chicago that pinpoints over 300 street addresses.



**Sobercove Press**



# **BULLETS FOR DEAD HOODS**

**An Encyclopedia of Chicago Mobsters, c. 1933**

**Salvaged by John Corbett**

SYLVESTER AGOGLIA

With a name like that, this 37 year old imported New York killer, could be anything. He is. For a clean swift shooting, you won't find a handier man with a 'rod' west of the Alleghanies.

Of late his interests have turned to the lucrative kidnap racket. A 'snatch' every month or so, and Sylvester is in pocket money. When arrested recently by the late Mayor Cermak's hoodlum squad in room 608 of the Great Northern building, 20 West Jackson boulevard, he was soon released from police custody. He and Michael Costello, who made his fortune selling sugar to the Capone distillers, were using the rooms as their loop headquarters.

For 'snatching'. Sylvester, whose last given address was 1128 Newberry avenue, seeks the companionship of the Dago, Frank Chiaravalletti, 1880 Elmwood avenue, Oak Park, Paul Palmer of 'Niagra Falls', Ameg Angelo Garuso of New York, Louis Spinelli, 100 West Fifty-fifth street, and Joseph Costello.

xxx

~~The~~  
THE AIELLO BROTHERS

There were Dominick, Joseph, Carl, Andrew, and Theodore. The first two are dead--the last three are heard of no more on the north side where their name once was used ~~in~~ by mothers to frighten their babies. Bugs Moran used them as his agents. Not only were they capable of shooting straight and often, but Joseph had a head on him.

From a small beginning of selling sugar to the alky cookers, as respectable commission merchants, they were soon on the way to power. Their interests became connected with the late west side vice lord ~~in~~ Jack Zuta. Unfortunately they ~~in~~, along with the entire Moran outfit, incurred the enmity of Capone. Joe's strong Italian <sup>Sicilian</sup> body was filled with 100 machine gun slugs as he left the home of Katsy Presto, 205 North Kolmar avenue, wealthy Italian importer, early in the evening of October 23, 1930. The windows of two nearby apartments and the doorways of two automobiles blazed with a withering cross-fire. Joe had had to kill seven rivals in his day before heading the powerful Unione Siciliana, an association of his countrymen, <sup>and</sup> ~~one~~ composed of honest workmen, until Joe gave it to the alky cookers after Mike Merlon's death, 1924.

These seven deaths laid to Joe's door were: Pasqualino Lolordo, Tony Lombardo, Henry Spingola, Samoets Amatuna, John Scalise, Albert Anselmi, and Joseph Guinta.

Joe and his brother Dominick lived at 2533 Lunt avenue, in respectable Rogers <sup>ark</sup>, just around the corner from the home of the murdered Big Tim Murphy, labor slugger and murderer. Dominick joined his peasant ancestors July 19, 1928.

###

GIUSEPPE ("DIAMOND JOE") ESPOSITO

The name of Diamond Joe still brings a reverent prayer to the lips of old Italian women, for like most of his race, he is kind and charitable to his people when he has the money.

In 1908 the big Italian was business agent of the International Hod Carriers Union, Building, and Construction Laborers Union. In that same year he was indicted for a killing, ~~sk~~ and was freed, thereby gaining a certain amount of ~~prestige~~ prestige among his kind. ~~Gi~~ Giuseppe opened up a saloon at 1048 West Taylor street, and it was a good saloon. Lots of important people went there. So Esposito opened up a larger place, the Bella Napoli cafe, 850 South Halsted street. It became even more popular as a rendezvous for fat politicians. Giuseppe became a power in the Italian community. He went into politics.

Former United States Senator Charles S. Deneen put up Diamond Joe to run against Joseph P. Savage, a Crowe-Thompson candidate for Republican Committeeman of the 25 ward. That was 1928, the "Pineapples and Plunder" campaign. While talking with a friend about his young ~~son~~ 13 year old son's future the night of March 21 a few doors from his home, 800 South Oakley boulevard, a couple of guys pumped fifty-eight lead slugs into his body. A couple went wide. It was a good clean up job. Strangely enough his death occurred just too late for the filing of an opposition candidate to the Thompson machine. However this killing touched off the spark of public indignation. With ~~sk~~ the flimsiest of political machines, Deneen and his chief candidate Judge Johan A. Swanson rolled into power. The fact that their two homes were bombed shortly before the election gave them several hundred thousand votes. Politics is that way. (MORE)

Add 1  
ESPOSITO

Diamond Joe was a strange person. He was a political boss, vice resort owner, beloved community leader, charitable compatriot, protector of gamblers and alky cooks, and a friend of a United States Senator.

His close friend was Tony (Mops) Volpe, public enemy, recently ordered deported to Italy.

And there you are. It's Chicago folks.

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(NORTH SIDE) FRANKIE POPE

The Millionaire Newsboy. At 43, with a home at 532 Belmont avenue, Frankie has some of the most profitable gambling houses in the city near his territory of Clark and Diversey. Brother Willie has Frankie's old news stand at Randolph and Clark. There has never been a gambling charge against him although between 1919 and 1921 there were a few robbery indictments which never came to bat.

Comic opera entered his life in 1922, when he and his partner, Bill Riley, a north side bookie, were trapped by their wives in an office, room 206, at 184 West Washington. Two young ladies, Miss Marie Davie, and Miss Irene Fredell were with them, and it was not for business. Frankie then lived at 1352 North Clark avenue.

Woman trouble again, January 27, 1932. Frankie was shot in the back in front of an apartment hotel at 420 Surf street, where Miss Marie Redman, named in his wife's divorce bill, lived. Miss Redman was formerly cashier at Pope's Beau Monde Club, 511 Diversey parkway. Frankie said the shooting was a stick-up. The police wondered, and presently arrested Edward J. Hand, who said he was a broker, and who also said he was forced to shoot Mr. Pope when the latter assaulted him as he escorted Miss Redman home. The case of course was dismissed for want of prosecution, as those things are. Pope's other places, for your information, have been 2622 North Clark street, 2711 North Clark street, 648 Diversey boulevard, and 2422 North Halsted street.

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(WEST SIDE) FRANKIE POPE

If anything rotten goes on in the west side, this Pope (and don't let the North Side one ever hear you confuse the two) either has his fingers in it, or knows all about it. Mike De Pike Heitler gave him his tutelage. Jack Zuta and Jack Gusick polished it off. Now at 36, there isn't a ~~xx~~ lousier whore monger or cheap chiseler in the city ~~x~~ limits.

His police record began in 1917, when he should have been getting ready for the army. His two most important raps were 1929, four months for selling dope, and 1931, eighteen months ~~xxx~~ after a liquor raid on a Melrose Park still. In Jack Gusick's income tax trial, he came to the support of the old maestro, by declaring Jack financed him in a gambling "coupe" and lost \$110,000. Then his talents have included blackmail and kidnaping. Of course knowing Dago Lawrence Mangano and Heitler, they naturally would.

Capt. Stege made a raid April 1932 on 777 West Adams street, and discovered a "Pope for Pope" benefit in progress. After clearing all the customers out, the captain found two dead fighting cock, two live ones, and five naked 'dancing' girls.

Following are a few of his vice and gambling houses: Tampa hotel, 1224 West Madison street, 1653 ~~xxxxx~~ West Madison, 431 South Halsted, 4835 West 22nd street, Cicero, 811 West Monroe street, 11 South Peoria street, 1063 West Madison street, 16 and 18 North Curtis street, 24 North Carpenter street, and 1121 West Madison. His home addresses have been given as 602 Taylor, 602 Forquer, 6828 Sheridan road, and 6832 Sheridan road.

#####

EDWARD ("BIG BILL") VOGEL

Although once an associate of Hymie Weiss Moran, and O'Banion, Vogel has since their fall, been a gambling man with the Capone syndicate. He is reported to have an interest in Al's Cicero "Ship". In 1927, the police also claimed he owned the Club Biarritz, 2509 North Madzie, which a couple of tough robbers stuck up and took for \$8,000.

Vogel was a killer. In 1926 he put a gun on Edward B. Salughter, after kidnaping him from in front of the Surfridge hotel. It wasn't long before this that, Vogel and Weiss had run a deputy United States marshal out of their hotel room there, ~~when~~ he attempted to serve Vogel with a Mann act warrant. So the "G" came back again. This time they found a lot of knock-out drops, handcuffs, shot-guns, beer and liquor. Johnny Citro's brother "Frankie Foster" was there, so the government indicted him on a liquor conspiracy. It was believed they were operating a kidnap racket from the room.

Vogel was fined \$200 in 1927. The government made a raid on his room in the notorious Rienz hotel June 24, 1926, and confiscated several cases of wine, which were being used for Big Bill's wedding.

###

ANTHONY (MOPS) VOLPE

By the time this is published, Mops may be on his way out of the country permanently. In May of 1933 he lost his last effort to escape deportation when the United States Supreme Court ordered his deportation upheld. Mops is 43 years old and lives at 1500 North Menard avenue, or did live there. He also used to run a florist shop on South Halsted street as a front, much the same as O'Banion did.

When word of the highest court's ruling reached him, Volpe scratched his head and sniveled, "How can they do this to me? I can't understand it. I can't understand it".

Volpe's deportation resulted from a three day trip to Cuba in 1929 in company with state senator Daniel A Serritella, Capone lieutenant, and former Republican City Sealer, and Jack Gusick, notorious Capone vice lord. Volpe reentered ~~from~~ the country through Key West with the false statement that he had been naturalized. In doing this, Mops concealed the fact that in 1925 there was a conviction for selling counterfeit war saving stamps, ~~the~~ the crime of moral turpitude, which is a deportable offense. Mops' attorneys brought up the statute of limitations, claiming the conviction occurred five years after his original entry at the age of 15 ~~years~~. The supreme court held such a reentry constituted in fact a new entry.

Until Mops actually leaves the city, he will stand high on the list of Public Enemies. His west side connections consist mainly of vice resorts. It might be of interest to note that Volpe was ~~once~~ once a deputy sheriff. Of such is the Kingdom of Heaven.

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HYMIE WEISS

One of the ~~xx~~ smartest Jewish gangsters, but not quite enough to compete on an equal basis with dat ol' debil Capone.

"Little Hymie" (with a face like his name), was as flighty as a school girl. It was his side-kick ~~x~~ in the north side mob, Schemer Drucci, who tamed the fiery gunman down within reason. But the Schemer liked a fight too. They engaged in a duel with Frank Rio and Mops Volpe of the Capone mob on Michigan ~~xxxx~~ boulevard in front of the Standard Oil building one fine summers day of 1926. The result of this fray--no casualties-- was a peace conference called at the request of Capone, who always wanted a compromise rather than self-extermination. It was held at the Morrison hotel, with Antonia Lombardo representing the syndicate, and the others: Joe Saltis, Frank McErlane, Ralph Sheldon, Weiss, Brucci, Klondike, Miles, and Spike O'Donnell. Everyone had a fine time, but Little Hymie whispered in the Big Fellow's hear that Rio and Volpe would go on a spot or the truce was off. That was Mr Weiss' most unfortunate move. It resulted in his complete obliteration and that of his pal Paddy Murray, at the south-west corner of the Holy Name Cathedral, across from O'Banion's old headquarters, above which Weiss lived. Two cars and a 'nest' from across the way up stairs, covered the corner, and made escape from death miraculous for W. W. O'Brien, Weiss' attorney, Benny Jacobs, and Sam Pellar. O'Brien was then representing Joe Saltis in his trial for the murder of Mitters Foley. In Weiss' pocket was found a complete list of the jury, which had just been selected. Pallbearers at Hymie's funeral were his x school friends from St. Malachy's School. On the mourner's cars were signs: "John Sbarbaro for Municipal Judge", "Joe Pavage for County Judge", etc. (MORE)

Add 1  
WEISS

Ten days after the killing, the gangs made ~~xxxx~~ another attempt at a truce which lasted for a while. At the Morrison Hotel there were Drucci and Moran from the north side supported by Vogel, Kaufman, Frankie Foster, and Pete Gusenberg. The West side O'Donnells checked their rods outside with the rest. Lombardo again represented Capone. Ralph Sheldon was there, and Saltis and McErlane sent their approval of any peace making from their respective jail cells. With Max Eisen acting as referee, it was decided that each mob would stay in its own territory, Moran got the lake on the east, the river on the south and west, extending north to Wisconsin. Capone took the loop and the far western suburbs, with the Klondike O'Donnells on ~~the~~ Chicago's 'great west side' as the politicians love to call it. Spike O'Donnell, Saltis, and Sheldon agreed to divide the south side in a three way ~~x x~~ split. This lasted until the latter part of 1927, when the individual sniping which had broken out sporadically suddenly ~~x~~ flared up again.

There is a curious ~~xxxxxxx~~ inscription in the corner stone of the ~~xxxxxx~~ Holy Name Cathedral. When Weiss was alive, he often passed that way, and no doubt read the phrase:

"At the name of Jesus every knee should Bend in heaven and on earth."

When the Capone machine-gunners finished with Little Hymie, their bullets had cut into the words:

"..... every knee should  
..... heaven and on earth."

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