

MEMORANDUM

December 23, 1959

To: Mr. Stone  
From: E.H. Hammer  
Re: Elio Bosco

Mel Leeds, 37 Riverside Drive (Ly 5-2838), program manager of WINS, whose office is located at 7 Central Park West (Ju 2-7000), received a phone call on Friday afternoon, December 18, 1959 from a Mr. Jordan. Mr. Jordan stated that although he did not know Mr. Leeds, he wanted to do him a favor. He further stated that Mr. Leeds home phone was being tapped while the payola investigation was continuing.

Mr. Jordan asked Mr. Leeds to meet him at 3:30 that afternoon. On inquiry, Jordan stated that he was "leg-man" for Confidential and other similar expose magazines; and that he was registered at the Alvin Hotel.

Mr. Leeds called the Alvin Hotel and was informed that no Mr. Jordan was registered there.. Mr. Leeds called the 18th precinct and told them what had occurred. William Graff, a detective of the 18th squad advised Leeds to keep the appointment, in order to find out what the alleged Mr. Jordan wanted. Leeds and Richard Sklar, 636 Bklyn. Ave., Bklyn., N.Y. (Pr 4-8996), the assistant program manager of WINS met Mr. Jordan in the lobby of the WINS building.

The Three of them went to Bob Olins Restaurant, 25 C.P.W., to discuss the purpose of the earlier telephone call. During the conversation Jordan revealed himself to be a Mr. Elio Bosco and exhibited a Boston press card and other papers indicating a relationship with Confidential magazine. Mr. Bosco stated that he had done work in New York on different articles and now was connected with a payola story to be printed by Confidential; that he had a wire tap on Alan Freed's phone, William B. Williams phone among others; that WINS was to play a prominent role in the story to be published.

Leeds stated that he would have to consult with his superiors in respect to entering into such an agreement; that upon doing that Leeds would call Bosco at his hotel.

Subsequently, Leeds contacted Detective Graff and informed him of what had taken place. Monday morning, December 21, Graff, Leeds, and Sklar came to the District Attorney's Office and discussed the above happenings with Joseph Stone and Detective Nick Barrett. It was determined that the District Attorney's Office should enter into the investigation and bring it to a successful conclusion in an expedient manner.

A phone call was made by Mr. Leeds at this office to Elio Bosco at the Alvin Hotel, which call was recorded by Investigator Boylan of the Investigations Bureau. A meeting between Mr. Leeds and Mr. Bosco was arranged to be held at 6 o'clock at the Bob Olins Restaurant. It was further agreed that a receipt stating the items and information to be given by Bosco should be turned over by Mr. Leeds to Bosco along with \$250. Bosco would then return this receipt to Leeds to be held until final payment was made and then given over to Bosco again.

At 4 p.m., Monday afternoon, Leeds returned to the District Attorney's Office to be equipped with a miniphone, which was to be used to record his conversation with Bosco. The meeting took place at which time a conversation was recorded, the money delivered and the receipt executed. At the given signal Det. Nick Barrett of the DACS placed Bosco under arrest.

Subsequently, Elio Bosco, Nick Barrett, Mel Leeds, Richard Sklar, Det. Graff and other detectives of the 18th sqd. returned to this office. Upon interrogation Bosco stated he was merely selling information and doing anything improper. He stated that he was induced to call Mr. Leeds by a Stephen Wainrt, about whom he gave no further information. He reiterated that he was able to deliver or would be able to deliver those items listed on the receipt at some time in the future. He is quoted as saying: "If Leeds would not go along with the deal I was going to get the information for Wainrt showing that Leeds and WINS was involved in payola and write an article based upon it for his magazine."