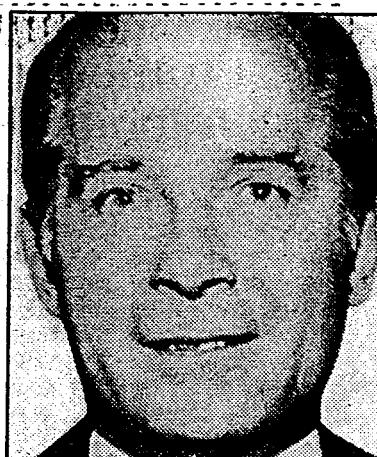


**FRANCIS P. SALEMME**  
*Indicted for racketeering*



**JAMES 'WHITEY' BULGER**  
*Allegedly threatened witness*

## Mob buddies ready to roll on Whitey & Salemme

By RALPH RANALLI

When reputed Mob bosses James "Whitey" Bulger and Francis P. "Cadillac Frank" Salemme were hit with racketeering indictments in January, it was hailed as the climax of a two-year investigation. Now it appears those charges may have only been the beginning.

The Herald has learned that several former crooks have "flipped" like so many burgers at Sullivan's on South Boston's Castle Island, the park that was one of Whitey's favorite preindictment meeting spots.

They include a former major drug trafficker who will testify that a gun was put to his head during a dispute with Bulger,

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# Two criminals agree to testify vs. alleged Mob major players

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and a low-level Mob associate from the North End, sources said.

Perhaps emboldened by the reputed bosses' fugitive status, the two criminals have been convinced by federal prosecutors, state police investigators, FBI and DEA agents to accept federal protection and testify at the major Mafia trial, according to official sources.

The true scope of the investigation's progress may not be known until the grand jury probing the case hands up a superceding indictment expected very soon. Assistant U.S. Attorneys Fred Wyshak and Brian Kelly also said in court last week they expect an indictment tomorrow that will name reputed Winter Hill Gang member John Martorano.

Official sources said investigators have scored a double coup by convincing convicted marijuana trafficker and Milton native David Lindholm to become a government witness in the case.

Lindholm is expected to testify that a gun was held to his head during an altercation with Bulger and his right-hand man, Stephen "The Rifleman" Flemmi, who was captured by federal agents and state police troopers in January when the indictment was unsealed.

Lindholm's testimony could be important for prosecutors to show not only that Bulger, 66, and Flemmi are violent criminals, but — as a presidential Commission on Organized Crime alleged in the 1980s — that Bulger exerted substantial control over the drug trade in South Boston.

As a bonus for the government, Lindholm's cooperation has also knocked formidable defense attorney Richard Egbert out of the case.

Because he had a potential conflict as the former lawyer for an-

other government witness, bookie Burton "Chico" Krantz, Egbert's participation already was hanging by a thread. It snapped when prosecutors told U.S. District Court Judge Mark L. Wolf that Lindholm, another one-time Egbert client, would testify.

Egbert withdrew from the case last month, but neither Egbert nor attorney Martin Weinberg, who has been advising him on the conflict of interest issue, would comment on why Lindholm, 45, is testifying.

Lindholm is no stranger to helping federal prosecutors.

In 1993, he helped convict Roslindale bomber Alfred Trenkler of killing Boston Police Bomb Squad Officer Jeremiah Hurley and wounding his partner, Francis Foley, in 1991.

Wyshak and Kelly are trying to prove that the paths of the Patriarca New England crime family and Boston's Winter Hill Gang have intersected on a regular basis — a fact with which one of

their other turncoat witnesses should be well-acquainted.

In fact, low-level wiseguy Jerry Matricia was caught in one of those intersections and nearly run over. Now, sources say, he is cooperating with the government.

In a 1981 exchange with reputed Patriarca consigliere Ilario "Larry" Zannino, immortalized on tape by an FBI bug, Matricia was told he was in big trouble for trying to cheat the Winter Hill Gang out of \$50,000.

Matricia is a North End native who sources say spent time as a drug dealer in Las Vegas and a bookmaker and con man in Boston. Sources said he has long been considered a possible liability by wiseguys from both Salemme's Patriarca La Cosa Nostra family and Bulger's Winter Hill Gang.

Which could be why Matricia was reportedly shot at this winter in East Boston, an incident which may have finally driven him into the arms of the law.