

Hit Man Charges Doublecross *Part 9/13/78*

MIAMI—Gary Bowdach, a self-proclaimed hit man who testified before a Senate subcommittee about organized crime in Florida, says the federal government has doublecrossed him and is doing a poor job of shielding him from vengeful underworld figures.

"I'm a sitting duck for every nickel-and-dime gangster who wants to knock me off while I'm in prison," Bowdach told a Miami News reporter. He telephoned the reporter from his cell in an undisclosed prison.

Federal authorities confirmed that Bowdach was transferred from a Safford, Ariz., prison camp after he was seen by Joseph Bonanno Jr., son of reputed New York Mafia chief Joe Bonanno.

"They can't protect me. I was not in prison for more than a few minutes when my cover was blown," Bowdach said.