

Senate Panel Prods FBI Into Roselli Case

By THOMAS B. ROSS

WASHINGTON (CS-T) — At the request of a Senate committee that may soon reopen an inquiry into the assassination of President Kennedy, the FBI has stepped into the investigation of the murder of mobster John Roselli.

The Roselli investigation could lead to a new look at the slaying of Chicago gang boss Sam Giancana and the possible connections between their deaths and a CIA plot to kill Cuban Premier Fidel Castro.

[There has been speculation that Castro may have ordered Kennedy's murder in retaliation for the CIA plot. The Washington Post reported in August that Roselli himself was convinced of Castro's involvement and had vowed in the November 22, 1963, assassination in Dallas.]

Senate sources, who made those disclosures yesterday, said the Roselli investigation was ordered by Attorney General Levi despite the FBI's reluctance to get involved.

The sources said the FBI wanted to leave the investigation to local law enforcement officials but Levi agreed to comply with a formal request from the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence.

[Lt. Gary Minium, who was supervising a Dade County, Fla., police investigation into the Roselli slaying, told the Associated Press last month that his team was leaning toward the theory that Roselli was killed because of his gambling interests rather than any motive connected with the CIA.]

The committee, successor to the panel that conducted the major investigation of



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the FBI and CIA last year, is considering whether to open a new inquiry into the Kennedy assassination.

[The House Select Committee on Assassinations began preliminary discussions yes-

terday for its own investigation of the Kennedy slaying.]

Roselli's body was found three months ago in an oil drum floating in the ocean near Miami. Giancana was shot to death in his Oak Park, Ill., home in 1975.

This original Senate intelligence committee disclosed that the CIA had recruited Roselli and Giancana to assassinate Castro.

The committee asked the Justice Dept. to look into the possibility that Giancana might have been killed to prevent him from testifying. The department reported that it could find no evidence to that effect and the committee dropped the line of inquiry.

Now, however, the Senate sources said the Giancana angle might be reconsidered if the FBI develops any intriguing leads in the Roselli investigation.

In a new book, "The American Police State," David Wise reports that an investigator for the Senate committee may have placed a telephone call to Giancana's home about the time of his death.

Michael J. Madigan, the investigator, is quoted as saying he made several calls to Giancana's home, including one on the day of the murder.

Madigan said he had been tracking Giancana's movements and, shortly before the murder, had traced him to a hospital in Houston, where he had his gall bladder removed, and later to a hotel there.

Madigan confirmed that he had been planning to question Giancana and his lawyer.