

POLICE REVIEWING COLOMBO ATTACK

But Cling to Theory Shooting
Involved Underworld Plot

By FRANCIS X. CLINES

Detectives investigating the shooting of Joseph A. Colombo Sr., the reputed Mfia leader, are "reinvestigating the entire occurrence from the start," the chief of detectives said yesterday.

A police spokesman elaborated later that the reference by Chief Albert A. Seedman did not indicate any basic change in the police theory, announced a week before, that the assault on Colombo was part of a detailed underworld plot. Rather, he said, it referred to a methodical review of the case and its leads.

In brief comments to newsmen, Chief Seedman said the police had learned "one or two things" that might be crucial about Jerome A. Johnson, the 24-year-old black man identified by the police as Colombo's alleged assailant.

Mr. Johnson was shot to death seconds after Colombo was critically wounded in the head on June 28 shortly before the Unity Day rally of the Italian-American Civil Rights League.

Colombo has been in a coma and on the critical list at Roosevelt Hospital since undergoing brain surgery following the shooting.

'Can't Talk Yet'

Chief Seedman said he could not "talk yet" about whether there were films of the shootings that had been of use in the investigation. And as to the question of who shot Mr. Johnson, the chief indicated he did not want to go into that at present.

The police have released a cropped photograph that they said showed Mr. Johnson filming Colombo seconds before the assault. They have offered no details thus far on their theory that Mr. Johnson was hired as a gunman by Colombo's underworld rivals.

Detectives said they were investigating two separate shooting incidents Thursday night for possible connections with the Colombo incident.

In one, Joseph Gicalona, 25, was shot three times in the chest by two men who pulled him from his car in Howard Beach, Queens, according to the police.

The police said that the victim, who was in critical con-

dition, was not robbed and that he had declined to discuss the shooting.

In the second incident, the police said, Gregario Barreto, 29, was found near 636 13th Street, shot in the chest. Here, too, according to the police, the critically wounded victim declined to discuss the matter.