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ITALIAN PICKETS AT F.B.I. ARE SUED

East Side Tenants Protest
'Unbearable' Nightly Noise

By ROBERT D. McFADDEN

Complaining of "unbearable noise" the tenants and managements of three East Side apartment buildings filed a suit here yesterday demanding relief from nightly picketing by Italian-Americans and their supporters outside the offices of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Since April 30, the picketing — to protest alleged anti-Italian discrimination by the F.B.I. has created a cacophony of shouts and slogans for several hours each night outside the bureau's offices at 201 East 69th Street, at Third Avenue.

The demonstrators have regularly numbered several hundred, and on occasion several thousand have participated. Some alleged Mafia leaders, including Joseph Colombo, the reputed head of one of the six Mafia "families" in the New York area, have taken part.

The suit, filed in State Supreme Court, asked for a permanent injunction, contending that the pickets have caused "unbearable noise" and "constitute a nuisance injurious to health, comfort and enjoyment" of tenants.

Individuals Named

The action was filed by the 169 East 69th Street Corporation, the 179 East 70th Street Corporation and the Townsend House Corporation, managers of a building at 176 East 71st Street, all on behalf of about 200 tenants.

Among the defendants named were Joseph Colombo Jr., Joe De Sico, Nat Carcone, the Italian-American Civil Rights League and the Verrazano Political Social Club.

The defendants were ordered to appear in court on Monday to show why they should not be prevented from excessive picketing, and using sound amplification equipment and boisterous noises.

Donald G. Goodwin, a management representative for the agent of 179 East 70th Street, a modern, 16-story building, filed a supporting affidavit contending that the police were unable to control the pickets. As a result, he said, noise of "intensity and force can be heard several blocks away."

Pickets Bused In

Mr. Goodwin said the pickets numbered 800 nightly during the week, and sometimes ran as high as 4,500. They are brought to the scene by up to 50 buses, he said.

The nightly picketing takes place behind police barricades on Third Avenue between 69th and 70th Streets, usually from 8 to 10:30 P.M.

The first of the demonstrations, on April 30, was led by Colombo, his wife and a son. Its purpose, in part, was to protest the arrest of Joseph Colombo Jr., 23 years old, a few hours earlier that day.

The younger Colombo and two other men were charged with conspiring to melt \$500,000 in silver coins with the intention of selling the resulting silver ingots, which have more value than the face value on the coins.

The demonstrators usually use a bullhorn to shout slogans, and carry signs with such messages as: "President Nixon—Why only Italian-Americans involved in organized crime?"

About a dozen pickets have been arrested, including a 16-year-old youth who was alleged to have struck a policeman over the head with the staff of an American flag.

A spokesman for the F.B.I. said last night that his agency would have no comment on the suit or the pickets.