

Anthony Colombo Bars Queries On Guns Found in Brother's Car

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The eldest son of Joseph A. Colombo Sr. declined to answer 20 questions before a Federal grand jury in Brooklyn yesterday and eventually was upheld in his refusal to respond to those related to the discovery last July 28 of three loaded guns in his brother's rented car.

Invoking his Fifth Amendment privilege, 26-year-old Anthony Colombo refused to answer any questions. Federal Judge Orrin G. Judd ruled that Mr. Colombo was within his rights in refusing to discuss the guns. But the judge directed that he answer other queries concerning his presence outside Roosevelt Hospital and his reported taking of pictures.

Both Anthony and his 24-year-old brother, Joseph A. Colombo Jr., submitted to questioning that apparently was aimed at tracing the theft of a shipment of 75 semi-automatic pistols, all 9-millimeter Llamas manufactured in Spain. The shipment was stolen from Kennedy International Airport on April 8, 1969.

Car Was Leased

One of the three guns found in the trunk of a car towed from the Roosevelt Hospital area because of illegal parking was a 9-mm. Llama. The two others were .38-caliber Smith & Wesson revolvers. The car, a 1971 black Buick with New Jersey license plates, had been leased to Joseph Colombo Jr., according to Federal authorities.

Liam Coonan, an attorney with the Brooklyn Strike Force Against Organized Crime, informed the court that both brothers had refused to answer questions. He made it clear, however, that Joseph, not Anthony, was the target of the investigation.

Judge Judd directed that Anthony return to the grand jury and answer questions about whether he took pictures in the vicinity of the hospital and whether he was driving a 1970 maroon Cadillac.

Joseph was not ordered to reappear, but the judge reserved decision on Mr. Coonan's request that Mr. Colombo be directed to submit to fingerprinting.

Anthony's reappearance before the grand jury was deferred until next Wednesday. The judge commented that

Joseph Colombo Jr. had been the subject of prosecution and that his fingerprints, therefore, must be on file. He was acquitted by a Federal jury last spring on a charge of conspiring to melt silver coins into more valuable ingots.

Recheck Is Planned

Mr. Coonan said he would look again.

Among the questions Anthony refused to answer were the following:

"Did you see this pistol in the trunk of any automobile?"

"Did you ever see it in the control or possession of any person?"

"Did you have an occasion to observe a car bearing the license plate UGA 382 New Jersey?"

Joseph Colombo Sr., the 48-year-old reputed Mafia chief who was shot before the start of a Columbus Circle rally of the Italian-American Civil Rights League on June 28, was moved from the hospital to Anthony's home last weekend.

He was reported still in a semi-comatose condition with head wounds.