



The Commodity Futures Trading Commission accused Texas billionaires Nelson Baker Hunt, left, and his brother, William Herbert Hunt, as well as several other



individuals and companies Thursday of illegally manipulating the silver market during late 1979 and early 1980. (AP Laserphoto)

Health Problems Dog Reputed Mob Leaders

NEW YORK (AP) — Health problems continue to beset the men accused of being the Mafia's top leaders as prosecutors press their latest offensive against organized crime.

Eight of the nine men arrested in the latest and most important indictment to date entered innocent pleas Thursday, moments before one of the defendants was taken ill in U.S. District Judge Vincent Broderick's courtroom.

Philip Rastelli, 67, the reputed head of the Bonanno crime family, was helped into a chair by his lawyers when he appeared suddenly to grow pale and faint.

He was returned to jail after doctors at Beekman Downtown Hospital detected no evidence of a heart attack or other major problems. But three of Rastelli's co-defendants remained hospitalized, one in critical condition.

Rastelli and his eight co-defendants are accused of serving on or assisting in the work of "the Commission," the panel of five purported Mafia chieftains who allegedly served as a board of directors for all of organized crime.

The indictment charges each man with two counts of racketeering, each punishable by 20 years in prison, and all but Rastelli also face 13 counts of extorting and receiving payoffs.

Future action in the case was assigned to U.S. District Judge Pierre N. Leval, the judge who recently presided over retired Gen. William C. Westmoreland's lengthy libel suit trial against CBS.

Leval already is scheduled to handle the so-called "Pizza Connection" trial in June, in which prosecutors will maintain Sicilian and American mobsters conspired to import large quantities of heroin and sell it through a number of big-city pizza parlors.

Only six defendants, including Rastelli, appeared in person before Broderick. The other three remained in hospitals, with no date set for their first court appearances.

Besides Rastelli, who is in jail on an unrelated parole violation, the defendants include:

- Paul "Big Paul" Castellano, 69, the reputed head of the Gambino crime family. He has been free since Tuesday on \$4 million bail, \$2 million of which he had already posted in a previous indictment. Castellano, who lives on Staten Island, pleaded innocent.
- Aniello "O'Neill" Dellacroce, 70, of Staten Island, a reputed Gambino underboss. He has been hospitalized since his indictment but entered an innocent plea Thursday through his lawyer, Barry Slotnick.
- Ralph Scopo, 56, of Queens, the president of the District Council of Cement and Concrete Workers and described by authorities as a soldier in

the Colombo family. He has been hospitalized since his arrest Monday and entered an innocent plea through Slotnick. Despite Slotnick's appeal for a lenient bail, Broderick set bail for Scopo at \$1.75 million. A spokesman at Beekman Downtown Hospital said Scopo was in "critical but stable" condition, but declined to specify his ailment.

— Anthony "Fat Tony" Salerno, 73, of Rhinebeck, the reputed head of the Genovese family. He pleaded innocent and remained free on \$2 million bail.

— Anthony "Tony Ducks" Corallo, 72, of Oyster Bay Cove, the reputed head of the Lucchese family. He was listed in fair condition at Mt. Sinai Hospital, where he is being treated for heart problems. He has neither entered a plea nor requested bail.

— Salvatore "Tom Mix" Santoro, 69, of the Bronx, a reputed Lucchese underboss. He pleaded innocent Thursday and was held in lieu of \$1.75 million bail.

— Christopher "Christy Tick" Farnari, 60, of Staten Island, a reputed Lucchese "consigliere" or counselor. He pleaded innocent and is free on \$1.75 million bail.

— Genaro "Jerry Lang" Langella, 48, reputedly the acting boss of the Colombo family. He is currently in jail on a perjury conviction. He pleaded innocent.

Kidnaped Boy's Return Noted

MERCED, Calif. (AP) — Despite a seven-year kidnapping ordeal that ended five years ago today, Steven Stayner is described by his parents as a "fairly normal" and "just a typical" teenager.

Delbert and Kay Stayner admit that Steven, now 19, has his troubles. He ran up \$1,100 in traffic fines, lost his driver's license and now is working off his penalties raking leaves and splitting wood for Merced County.

Steven's kidnapper, Kenneth Parnell, 53, is scheduled to be paroled from state prison April 9 after serving five years and one month behind bars — less time than the boy was away from his family.

When Steven was whisked from a city street Dec. 4, 1972, while walking home from school, his abductor — a drifter and ex-convict — told the 7-year-old boy his parents didn't want him because they couldn't afford him, the Stayners learned later.

A social worker who is recognized as an authority on young victims compared the boy's relationship with Parnell to that of a prisoner of war, a dependent brainwashing victim who was forced by circumstance to live a new life.

"If you believe you have no alternative, you just learn to live with it," said Lucy Berliner of the sexual assault center at Harbor View Medical Center in Seattle. "Your sense of right and wrong, your sense of reality gets distorted, essentially for the purposes of survival."

Steven, the middle child of five, returned to his family at 14 and attended high school for four years. Now he takes two welding courses at Merced College and lives at home in a middle-class subdivision in this city 130 miles southeast of San Francisco.

Although he has refused interviews for the last year, his parents agreed to

talk to a reporter.

"He never got in one full semester that was uninterrupted," said Kay Stayner, recalling two trials, book offers and unrealized plans for a movie when Steven was in high school.

"I am not really surprised that he didn't make it through," Mrs. Stayner said of her son, who earned a graduation-equivalent diploma. Steven, she said, had to confront "some of the kids making comments about him" as a result of publicity about his kidnapping ordeal.

Steven, who was renamed Dennis Parnell during his odyssey, had "lofs of freedom" with his kidnapper as they roamed across Northern California — smoking cigarettes at 10, drinking whiskey in the sixth grade and discovering marijuana, his parents said.

Maintaining her characteristic calm, Mrs. Stayner admitted that she was "furious" about the sexual abuse inflicted on her son by Parnell, whose

first imprisonment at age 19 was for molesting a 16-year-old boy.

"You can't take it back," she said quietly. "Steve will just have to learn to live with it and build his own life without that getting in his way. He's making headway."

Merced County District Attorney Pat Hallford, who prosecuted the Stayner kidnapping, originally wanted Parnell charged with sex crimes, but eventually Parnell was tried only for the abductions of Stayner and Jimmy White, 5.

On March 1, 1981, Steven took Timmy, whom Parnell had kidnapped two weeks earlier, to the police station in Ukiah, 200 miles north of Merced, to save Timmy from his own fate. Parnell was preparing to move to Arkansas with both boys, the Stayners said.

Parnell, according to Hallford, is "still a danger." He said, "Sometimes you cure a thief by chopping off his hands, but people who have a sexual orientation usually don't switch around."

desk in the form passed by the Senate late Wednesday.

"We'll give him the opportunity" to do so, said House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill Jr., as Democrats appeared gleeful at the prospect of Reagan vetoing a humanitarian aid package.

O'Neill's decision means the House will simply accept the Senate bill instead of taking it to a House-Senate conference to negotiate differences between the two chambers' versions. A quick House vote would speed the bill to Reagan as early as next week.

Silver Manipulation Charged

DALLAS (AP) — The embattled Hunt brothers, reportedly faced by \$4 billion in paper losses from businesses gone sour, have been accused of illegally trying to drive up the price of silver when they bought 100 million ounces of bullion five years ago.

The federal Commodity Futures Trading Commission on Thursday accused Nelson Bunker Hunt, Herbert W. Hunt and several other individuals and companies of the illegal manipulations during late 1979 and early 1980. The Hunts have denied any wrongdoing.

The Hunts bought up silver through a variety of transactions in the futures markets, sending the price skyrocketing, then tried to evade regulatory actions when the price began to tumble, the commission said.

The Hunts ended up borrowing \$1.1 billion to cover their losses.

On Thursday a Hunt International Resources Corp. official confirmed that paychecks for some employees had bounced. That was only the latest in a series of financial embarrassments for the family, which has suffered massive oil and commodities losses.

Hunt International, one of three companies controlled by the two Hunt brothers, disclosed in a Securities and Exchange Commission filing last week that it is in default on \$295 million in loans, is unlikely to be able to repay it all and has a negative net worth of \$42 million.

And the Internal Revenue Service is seeking \$239 million in back taxes and interest in a dispute primarily over the silver trading, according to tax court documents filed by Nelson Hunt, his family and a family-controlled partnership.

Trunk Killer Given 25 Years To Life

NEW YORK (AP) — Charles Ransome, convicted of strangling the daughter of a University of Virginia professor and stuffing her body into a footlocker, has been sentenced to 25 years to life in prison with a recommendation of "no parole" ever.

The sentence was imposed Thursday by state Supreme Court Justice Eve Preminger on the 21-year-old defendant, who replied, "Can't you give me more, judge? Can't you give me 100 years to life?"

The judge had told Ransome, "No one has said anything to justify anything but the maximum for you."

The victim, Constance Crispell, was an aspiring actress and the daughter of Dr. Kenneth Crispell, professor of law and medicine at the university in Charlottesville, Va.

The judge said she agreed with the victim's sister, Kathleen Crispell Blackmer of Oakland, Calif., that Ransome was "a mean, ugly and scary individual who should never have the opportunity to do this again."

Ransome, of Mount Vernon, sat in the courtroom reading a book about karate during the sentencing proceedings.

When given an opportunity to speak, he said the news media had "blown this case way out of proportion." He also charged members of the jury lied when they said they had not read news reports of his trial.

The jury of nine women and three men convicted Ransome of second-degree murder on Feb. 3, apparently rejecting his story that he "freaked out" when Miss Crispell indicated to him after they had sex that she might have Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS).

He never denied killing Miss Crispell, but said he did not remember doing it.

The events leading to Ransome's arrest began the morning of May 11, 1984, when Nathan and Josephine Newman of York, Pa., entered the 16th-floor apartment at 58 W. 58th St. They had subset to Miss Crispell. Police said the couple found two prostitutes, one of them wearing the victim's clothes while watching television.

The Newmans called police, who found Miss Crispell's decomposed and nude body crammed into a small footlocker on the apartment balcony. A plastic bag was knotted around her head and face, and a torn nightgown was draped over her torso. An autopsy showed she had been strangled and her larynx broken.

Ransome was arrested on May 16 at the Kamikaze discotheque after an acquaintance tipped police he was there.

Ransome said the murder occurred on May 6. He said Miss Crispell told him she was "sick" with a sexually transmitted disease that did not appear to be gonorrhea or syphilis. He began shaking her roughly, but then he "blacked out," he testified.

In a videotaped interview played in court, Assistant District Attorney Barbara Gerzel asked Ransome what disease he thought Miss Crispell had meant.

"I pictured AIDS," he answered.

Ransome said he had sex with prostitutes and parted for days in the apartment while Miss Crispell's body lay in the trunk nearby.

Miss Crispell's mother, Margaret, attended almost every day of the trial but was not present for sentencing.

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Shultz And Ortega In Uruguay

MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay (AP) — Secretary of State George P. Shultz and Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega both say they are ready to meet and discuss Ortega's new peace proposals, but there was no indication they will get together, even though they are staying at the same hotel.

Ortega and Shultz were in Uruguay to attend today's inauguration of President-elect Julio Sanguinetti.

Before arriving Thursday, Shultz expressed interest in meeting with the Nicaraguan leader to discuss his offer to order the withdrawal of 100 Cuban military advisers and freeze the acquisition of weapons systems as a way of encouraging a resumed dialogue with Washington.

"We are certainly prepared to have a meeting," Shultz told a news conference during a stopover in Guayaquil, Ecuador.

Ortega also said he was interested in talking and called on Shultz to give a positive response.

"We are willing and we hope that a meeting can be arranged," the leader of Nicaragua's leftist Sandinista government said after arriving Thursday.

Both men were staying at the Victoria Plaza Hotel across the street from Uruguay's government house. Hotel officials said Shultz's quarters were on the fifth floor, and Ortega's on the third.

Spokesmen for Sanguinetti's Colorado Party said Shultz did not say anything about a meeting with Ortega upon arriving at Montevideo's airport, and headed immediately for his hotel.

While flying to Uruguay, Shultz said he had seen press reports of Ortega's earlier statements about his eagerness for direct talks with American representatives, but said no communication had been received through diplomatic channels.

Officials accompanying Shultz said that the State Department and the U.S. embassies in Nicaragua and Ecuador had been alerted to the possibility of a formal Nicaraguan request for a meeting.

One U.S. official said he believed the meeting would be held, but another said he doubted the diplomatic impasse could be overcome. Both officials insisted on anonymity.

Shultz was publically skeptical about whether Ortega's proposals represented a sincere effort to meet U.S. concerns but said he was prepared to "listen carefully" to Nicaragua's views.

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