

I actually do have some information on the Omega Man. Some is direct knowledge and some indirect from my father and his client. My father was an attorney in Tucson, Az and his client of more than 30 years was none other than Mr. Joseph Bonanno, il capo dei capo dei tutti,. (the true godfather). I am a 62 year old physician in Tucson. I am of Italian descent and as a child we were forbidden from ever talking about anything related to Mr. B. Everyone has passed away now and many people come to me to inquire about what really transpired back in my youth. I had a serious health issue that almost polished me off so I have decided to share much of what I know. For those of you who claim hogwash, I will provide some facts which are verifiable. Most of you know, Bonanno was retired to Tucson in exchange for staying alive by the Commission. In return, he was out of the mafia, but he was still a highly valued individual due to his connections, intelligence and influence.

The Italian mafia had been severely dismantled in the 60's, but they did not go away. They got away from the vice crimes they were famous for and moved into fraudulent schemes. Fraud is a white collar crime and not investigated or prosecuted as much for various reasons. One major reason is "buyer beware". Attorneys are taught in law school that it is the buyers responsibility to verify their purchases and if something goes wrong, the authorities (prosecuting attorneys) do not like to get involved. Please note, the omega coins defrauded buyers to the tune of hundreds of millions, so where was the big investigation and how come it isn't one of Americas greatest unsolved mysteries. Should have gotten a movie. The mob knew this and they shifted their assets and criminal behavior to fraud. Fact #1 which is verifiable.

For those of you who have doubts, this can be verified. Many proof coins were struck by a 16 ton coin press instead of the standard 12 ton press. The omega fraud was investigated by the Secret Service, but not for counterfeiting. According to the legal definition of counterfeiting, the coins must be legal tender. The omega coins are not! The only law broken over the production and sale of these coins was FRAUD. It is fraud to represent something of which it is not. The coins were sold under the claim that they were genuine U.S. mint coins. They are not counterfeits, they are very, very good fakes. The secret service normally would not investigate, but the fear that a coin of this quality could be produced created enough concern that genuine counterfeiting of currency would be coming and therefore the case was investigated. It was concluded that the coins were most likely struck by a 16 ton press which was much less common than the 12 ton presses. The 16 ton presses were therefore easier to track back from production to buyer. They were also sold to foreign countries. These presses were considered restricted to a degree because they could be used to counterfeit and therefore were typically secured and accounted for even after retired. The S.S. determined that a 16 ton press owned by the Argentine government disappeared from a storage warehouse after it was retired in the very late 60's. They were able to determine from records of transportation companies that it was shipped from Buenos Aires via truck and train all the way to Papadious Junk Yard on Stone ave. in Tucson, Az. The trail from there is cold and the press was never accounted for. Aproximately 60 yards north of the junk yard is a small building complex that was usually a body shop or a car mechanics business which was owned by Mr. Bonnano.

I would like someone of expertise or knowledge to verify this accounting before I go on as there are always name callers and hecklers. Hope I have begun to shed some light on an old, old mystery. Food for thought.....a coin of this value sold at an auction was surely verified by authentic experts and were paid a professional fee and were insured. That means most buyers were reimbursed for neglect. Many professionals don't want their reputation damaged by a mistake of this magnitude and therefore swept the losses under the rugs. Other buyers who did not have their coin evaluated simply hid the fact that it is an Omega to avoid embarrassment and just tell friends and family that it is the real deal. Our government did not investigate to help citizens wronged by this fraud, only to help forge strategy to prevent actual future counterfeiting.

Did not read all the posts. Remember these are my memories from the 1960's and 70's. It may have been 16 or 160 tons. Don't write me off over a zero. My fathers job was to legally advise Bonanno regarding all criminality he may be getting into. According to the law at that time. The crime was fraud as they were no longer legal tender. In addition, technically they could not be seized by the Feds as they were not produced or issued by the US MINT. If you were going to stamp out nearly 20 thousand of these coins made of gold which cost a small fortune, then what could you do to prove they were fake, but still pass off to sale as genuine. You sign it, but you sure make your mark awfully small! The only crime that occurred was the actual sale of an individual coin, not the 19,999 waiting to be sold. If this enterprise was raided, the seizure would be negated as they were legal to possess and if there was no tie to the sale, Bonanno could not be prosecuted.

People of all walks of life would come to Bonanno with ideas or inside information to profit financially. They were ordinary citizens that had info that could be profited from. Since Bonanno was retired, he could dabble in frauds that did not upset the Commission. These people were referred to as idea men.

If their idea was feasible and affordable, it might materialize. Bonanno came to Tucson in 1946 with approx. 43 million in cash. My father was well known as his attorney and some people would approach him first. Many of these projects came to fruition and the were then sold by Bonanno to the Commission for a nice sum of money.

Most master engravers are artists and it is natural to sign their work. The signature ie the Omega sign proved the work was not genuine and no seizure laws applied. There is no law that owning something that is fake is illegal. It is only when it is sold as genuine that there is a crime. There was no fear of arrest, only exposure and a large loss of investment money. The logistics to produce a gold coin were enormous and it was those discussions and headaches that I was present and have first hand knowledge.

A glaring mistake has been posted and any experts out there can verify. Obtaining the gold for blanks is not as easy as you think. Please correct me if my numbers are off. The 1904 was 22karet because of a copper alloy. It is typically described as 90% true gold and 10%copper, but something is wrong. If it were 22 k, then it would be 91. something gold and 8.something % copper. Ordering a roll of gold with this specificity would surely raise eyebrows and would be very hard to conceal the paperwork in the event of an investigation. Also, a lot of work and equipment is needed to produce the properly sized and weighted blanks. There was a much easier way to obtain the blanks. Being that Tucson is only 60 miles from Mexico, and in the 60's many stores took dollars and pesos...there was a solution. It was called the 50 dollar Mexican Peso. It was also 22k, a bit bigger than the 1904, and was readily available and cheap. It would need to be rolled by a roller to flatten it and squish it down and it would need to be milled to the right diameter, but you then had the proper gold and size. The only downside was this coin would go thru a lot of annelling before it was finished that presented a slight problem. Experts, please state your opinions here as I am a physician and am pulling this from my memeories as a teen.

Logistical problem #1...the equipment. Hydraulic coin press, the pizza oven (annealing furnace), the coin mill, the roller, the engraving transfer and reducer machine, all solved with money. No problem there. #2 the gold coin blanks...the Mexican 50 dollar peso. #3 the master die to make the production dies. This came from the idea man. #4 the master engraver, #5 the press operator #6 the sellers with no ties. These I know about and will share. By the way, please remember that the experts originally ruled these were authentic before the Omega sign was found so we call it the Omega 1904. What if there are Omega 1904s without the Omega sign? Are they fake or real. Now what and what is the authenticator going to say to keep from getting sued.? The coin with the omega sign was not the original Omega coin.

Logistical problem #3 was clearly the most difficult problem To make a coin you need a master die to make production dies. This is a nightmare and is hugely time consuming. I do distinctly remember the discussion that it is made of steel and requires a fifty ton press to produce the hub which is then pressed into the die. The hub is carved by the reducer transfer mill which copies a brass enlay from the sculptors plaster molding which was the size of a small pizza. All of this process could potentially take up to a year. So how did they do it? Initially they didn't. See the idea man was a relative of a prominent Philadelphia mint worker. He brought his own authentic us mint 1904 production die., How else could they be so good other than the Omega sign. As far as I know, they are perfect other than the omega, a few small intertwined tool marks and on some , the tone was off. The experts need to come forward and tell all the facts. For example, the die needs to be periodically polished which removes minute layers of metal. The intertwined tool marks are very shallow gouges in the metal. The depth would be measurable with today's science, ie laser measurement. I can assure you that the tool marks dissipate with polishing. I can also assure you that some 1904 omegas do not have the intertwined tool marks. The experts know this, but there is huge liability, so they have not revealed this information. So two big questions. If the idea man brought the dies....where did he get them and there should be no omega sign or tool marks right? Does that mean if you have an authenticated 1904, it real or fake? yikes.

This is important and the way it was explained to me. My dad worked his way thru Brooklyn Law school as a butcher so he taught us about meat. My favorite steak is the T-bone, more specifically the Porterhouse T-bone. So what is the difference between the two. It is only the opinion of the butcher. On a side rack of beef, the butcher may be able to get lets say 30 T-bone steaks. The first cuts are very definitely Porterhouse, but then there is a grey zone on the next 3 cuts and then the rest are all T-bones. Its is the butchers call on those three in the grey zone. It is purely his opinion based on his expertise . What does this matter. Well when the mint stamps out proof coins, they can only get so many hits before the die wears out. It is the opinion of the master engraver that the die is done and it will be replaced. There is still a grey zone where quality proofs could be punched out. If the engraver is a little premature in his decision making, that die could still knock out 30 to fifty more excellent quality coins. When a production die is worn out, it is canceled by the Mint. By law, an X was to be chiseled thru the die and then it was discarded secretly in the Philadelphia town dump. This was a secured procedure, but the law was not always followed. This mint worker wanted a die with life still available and the die was not chiseled but marked as though it was chiseled. The key was the dump workers. It was 1904 and most of the work was manual labor. Even though the dies were discarded in private by security, at least one worker was aware who they were and what they were discarding. His job was to memorize the general area of disposal. Then the looking for the needle in a haystack began. Now if you are a prominent US Mint worker with a genuine, undamaged 1904 20 dollar proof production die, what do you do with it? Now do understand why they were indistinguishable other than the Omega?

Last post for the night. The master carver was from Italy and worked for the Italian mint. He was an expert with all aspects of the coin. Even though he noted the tone was off, I don't believe anyone else could even detect a hint of difference. He told us the reason for the tone difference was probably due to two reasons. One, the Mexican gold peso had a slight higher percentage content of copper and two, the annealing process was more than double the normal amount to soften the Peso for flattening. This process was not quite the most precise and would result in growth of the molecular structure of the metal. This left the surface of the coin lumpy at a micron level, but not to touch. Since the growth was spaced around and erratic, it reflected light in multiple directions. This resulted in a darker coin. Is anyone aware of the exact percentages of the 1904 and Mexican gold peso true gold to copper?. 22k does not equal 90% to 10%. I also recall that a certification of authenticity was required to go thru investment houses to sell the coins. I know these were certified, insured professionals, not collectors or dealers who guaranteed the authenticity. What their certifying bodies initials are, I do not know.

capt henway....bad news for you. A contractor in Nevada was commissioned to dig up the parking lot of the old Carson City Mint to turn it into a park. At shovel dept, dies were discovered just dumped into holes behind the mint. The policy of chiseling an x which was federal law was not always followed as about half the dies were only struck once with a chisel. There were so many dies, the contractor stopped and covered up the load and called an archeologist and historian. His cache alone was over 100 dies, some in excellent condition and dated 1890, just 17 years before the 1907's were made. The archeologists dug up over a hundred more. The workers just walked out the back door of the mint, dug a small hole and discarded the dies. A woman brought in a die from the 1920's that had been in her family for years. Another man found a canvas bag metal detecting in a Carson City park full of dies from the mint. You can read all about it. Things were done very differently back then. I apologize for my typing error on the date of the gaudin

I called my brother to see if he remembered anything about why the color was a little off. He told me that it was definitely because of the Mexican peso. The majority of them had been restruck which meant they had been repeatedly heated to soften them.. He thought heating and annealing was very similar. Apparently copper oxidizes easily if the heating is not done in a vacuum or inert gas. The copper then darkens. It can be bathed in a chemical if it is isolated but not once it is an alloy mixed with gold.

Someones question. Bonanno taught me many things. One is I never ever gamble. Friendships end when money is on the table and if you are not playing with your friends, the game is rigged. Two...never collect anything that can be reproduced. Three the true human being comes out when he is drunk. Get drunk first with those you are going to do business with or be friends with.

Good morning, FBI chief J. Edgar Hoover gave a speech to Congress denying that there was no such organization in the United States known as the Mafia, the Cosa Nostra, the Mob. How could he say such a thing? Because he was bought and paid for by the Mob. Hoover had an extracurricular habit of sleeping with his young G-men and was a horrid horse track gambler. Throw in the hotel at the Del Mar racetrack in San Diego and you have an 8mm film to prove it. If a fellow poster on this sight was well aware of dies laying around in the dirt in Carson City, I find it incredulous that he would have doubts about a die being retrieved from the Philadelphia dump. Please do not insult me by trying to pass this off as they were sloppy. Philadelphia is a mob controlled city. It is well known by Federal authorities that a primary business of interest to the mob is sanitation (trash) pick up and

ownership of city dumps. Control of municipal monopolies is a gold mine in its own right. The Lufthansa heist which was the basis for the movie "Goodfellas" was an inside job. A non mob idea man brought it to the mob. That is what happened here.

As a Senior Authenticator for ANA, you just confirmed much of my details. You were not concerned by the off color as it was acceptable. The master sculptor was also satisfied as they felt the tone was within acceptable parameters. I challenge any certified expert who authenticates coins to claim that an Omega would be declared fake on its color tone alone. You also noted that you are aware of die characteristics that have not been published. I also published that experts have not revealed things about the coin that they should. I am guessing that you are aware that the wormy tool marks were polished away or removed on many of the Omegas. So here is my question to you since you seem to have trouble with my story. If I claim that 1907 Omegas were made without an Omega symbol, and the tool marks are not present.....is that coin fake or real?. Could you authenticate it as genuine or not and please tell the folks in the seats WHY!

Now for the rest of you. The Omega gold coin has been described as perfect, undistinguishable, exact copy by many, many experts prior to the discovery of the Omega sign and then subsequently the wormy tool marks. Now we know that there are die characteristics and the off tone color was a red herring. We also know the Omega sign was added deliberately to the coin. How could a coin like this be possibly made and produce a mass amount of fakes. It is because an original authentic US Mint die was not properly cancelled, but was properly discarded according to regulation. A city dump back then employed hundreds of minimum wage employees with rakes and shovels. If you worked there and saw armed guards accompanying mint works bury a canvas bag in the north forty,,,what would you think or do? REMEMBER, the disposal team thought the dies were properly canceled...that means ruined. Being seen by dump workers was not a big deal. They were disposing something that had been destroyed. There was no sloppiness or mistakes made. One individual broke the law by disguising a die as cancelled when it was not. Retrieving an item from the dump was not a crime. Our expert is aware that mint workers did not follow the law for proper cancellation of dies almost routinely.

Please remember this. The primary agenda of a business is to stay in business. I am a professional and I render an expert opinion many times daily. If I err, I have committed professional malpractice which is a tort and I will be held liable. Compensation to the individual who suffered a loss is almost always the end result. Unfortunately, too many lawsuits and I become uninsurable and I GO OUT OF BUSINESS! Now lets look at professional authenticators and the businesses they work for. They render a professional opinion and it has liability, If they are shown to be wrong, it is professional malpractice and it happens, but luckily they have been insured. So now why do you think that the Omega has been studied over and over again and the experts are not publishing their findings? In fact, we know that one expert relies on die characteristics but only the experts know what they are and of course me. The Omega is still the most dangerous coin out there to be authenticated. If it were not for the Omega sign, it is a perfect copy. The die characteristics alone could not render the coin fake. It needs all the flaws to determine it as fake. Take away the Omega, take away the worm marks , you have to call it

real. As I stated before, there are 1907's out there with no worm marks as confirmed by others on this forum. The off tone color is within parameters. The die characteristics are insignificant by themselves. If there is no Omega sign, what is it? Do you realize a lot of authenticators are puckering right now. I HAVE MORE TO FEAR FROM THEM THAN A GUY NAMED GUIDO ! If the truth about this coin comes out from honest men, every authenticated genuine 1907 high relief is now questionable....Oppppps

Bonanno quote: "I sure had fun making those fakes, but it was more fun to expose the fakes".

Please reread my threads carefully. I stated a relative of a prominent mint worker came forward with the die. Not the man who obtained it from the dump. Yes, it was sat on by the original man who obtained it and was passed on to a relative (like a son). That's why it did not appear for a long, long time.

I also clearly stated that an original die was used, but I have not commented on any subsequent dies. I stated that the original die was canceled due to excessive wear, but I also stated that it still had life to produce approximately 40 perfect Omegas, without an Omega mark, because that could only be put on a subsequent die. So how do we have approximately 20,000 coins. Figure it out! I also stated that a master engraver from Italy was brought to Tucson. What do think he was doing here, working on his suntan?

If you want to hear the rest of the story i am aware of, then please ask the bonafide experts who have commented on the knowledge that they will not publish. More information about the Omega coins has been released in the last 14 hours than in the last 49 years on this thread.

The coin collectors world was told that the tone of the color was off and an expert said he could identify a fake 3 feet away. That's odd as a bonafide expert here said the color was not a factor as it was within parameters. That same person acknowledged that there were die characteristics that indicates a fake. I have claimed that the Omega symbol was added and the reason was that the coin is no longer an exact reproduction of the original and that was done to avoid counterfeiting laws. Precision here is crucial. We all thought that silences are illegal. Not quite, the definition of a silence is a noise suppressor that falls within a few millimeters of the caliber of the weapon. An instrument that is just slightly larger than the definition is not a silencer by definition of the law. You can legally purchase a noise suppressor that is outside of the definition of the law and it is as effective silencing a weapon as a silencer. As previously stated, legally a counterfeit is an exact replication or copy of legal currency with intent to sell. The Omega symbol effectively cancelled the definition of counterfeit. That is why it is on the coin. Omega symbol essentially means The End. Well, that was the end of that problem. Someone posted that printing 20 dollar bills would cause the S.S. to come arrest you. If you Put Obamas face on it, it is no longer an exact copy and it is not legally a counterfeit. Facts are funny things.

I asked a question of a true authenticator on this site and there is no answer. Why? What is there to hide? I will tell you. There are an awful lot of proofs out there that people paid hundreds of thousands for that are only worth the price of spot plus 10 dollars. Lets get honest. I had the guts to share my knowledge, why not you?

I enjoy a good fight, but lets not substitute or change my words. Where did I ever state that the mint die was smuggled out of the dump. I clearly stated that the die was disguised as cancelled. That was a crime, but after that, the die was removed from the mint according to legal policy at the time. A supervisors failure to inspect the die after it was allegedly destroyed is negligence. That was his/her job and they didn't do it. Removal was legally performed by men who followed correct procedure and never smuggled anything. I f you want to banter with me, please stop twisting my words to further your point, it is dishonest.

The film posted of Bonanno has nothing to do with my writings. The quote of Bonanno was he himself stating this to confidential individuals. I will not address other coins as that is a distraction from what I am talking about currently.

My fathers job was to give legal advice. If an individual told him what he was doing was a crime, he did his job. He would quote the exact letter of the law and explain it carefully to his client. If the client made a change in what he was doing and asked my father if it was still illegal, he would advise. Adding the Omega symbol to a coin that was no longer legal tender ended all criminal risk of counterfeit laws and seizure laws. These coins are sold and traded all the time, but it is not unwise to use precautions I am not aware of one Omega being seized as a counterfeit or violation of possession laws that was not returned due to error. Knowledge of how the mafia works is pretty common. The top guy never does anything illegal. Subordinates are recruited with incomplete knowledge to get those above them arrested. Many have posted here that they have had or had omegas and apparently the biggest deal was everyone wanted cash. Has a dealer ever been prosecuted for selling an Omega?

I clearly stated that individuals would approach my father to gain access to Bonanno. If an individual came with a story like this he was simply made an official client, But not charged a penny, to comply with lawyer-client privileges. My father was no longer guilty of anything illegal or unethical. If a man produces an apparent genuine coin die and claims it was real....the first question is where did you get that? If the item was passed down thru a family, the next question is how did he get it?. I am aware of the exact story. As previously stated, a prominent US Mint worker wanted the die. He was aware of the canceling and disposable procedures that were law. He was aware the die was buried in the dump. He was also aware that the inspecting supervisor had become quite lazy in their job and inspection was becoming negligible. If anyone has trouble believing that a mint worker was not doing their job properly, I have some Pacific beach front property in Yuma for sale. Marking the die to pass a faulty inspection was illegal. His intentions may have been just to be a collector of the die. We don't know. It was stored away as a treasured item. He dies. His relative wants to see if money can be profited from this relic. He is invited to meet Bonanno. If this is so hard to believe, then I guess are government really did bring down the Twin Towers.

There are some excellent experts on this thread with top notch credentials. I have two very simple questions that only require a yes or no answer.

1 I want to but a 1907 high relief double eagle for \$250,000. I want it to be authenticated so I don't get ripped off. It has no omega symbol, no intertwined worm marks and no unusual die characteristics. It does have an off tone color like Omegas and I am nervous. Will you professionally authenticate it as genuine or not...yes or no?

#2 i have another 1907 high relief and the color is good. There is no omega sign or worm marks, but it does have some unusual die characteristics. I want to sell it. I don't want to rip anyone off or lose my investment. Is it genuine or not...yes or no?

Chris h821 You are correct that I blew the date. It is the St. Gaudin 1907. I have kept my mouth shut about this topic for over 40 years. Not to long ago I went into a top notch coin dealers shop to purchase a bullion coin for my retirement account. Other than my brothers and a friend or two, I have almost never talked about this subject. I decided to bring up the Omega with a stranger. I asked the top guy if he happened to have a 1928 St. Gaudin Omega by any chance, he immediately corrected me about the date. I don't collect coins and this is a major taboo, but I have opened my mouth. The 1929 and 1904 dates was pure detail memory and I apologize. By the way, he told me no, but they

do roll in periodically. I happened to mention that I had a little information about the history of the coin which caught his attention. I mentioned that Mr. Bonanno was involved. He wanted to talk more but I decided this was a bad move. Ironically, he has posted on this thread.

Insider 2, there is no disappointment. I admire people who speak up to a question. I also stated somewhere about the introduction of the electron microscope I believe. This device has allowed molecular mapping as you noted. Here is my problem with your answer to #1. I am a person that believes approx. 40 1907 St. Gaudins were produced by the Omega man with genuine dies. If so, the maps of the die strikes would be on my coin as that die has been mapped. The color is disturbing though. Is it possible the Bonanno story is true and I got one of the 40. If so, then it is not real...correct?

What this post comes down to is do you believe or not. I deal with patients with stories all the time. I ask myself is it possible, yes or no, and just about anything is possible. I then ask is it probable, low-medium or high. I base my probability rating on consistent detail and credibility. The more detail, the more the probability goes up. I also judge the voracity of the person telling me the story. A person with needle tracks just doesn't rate as high as a person with a badge. Am I fooled? Yes, sometimes. So far I have released a very large amount of detail and I have not even gotten to subsequent dies and how they were made. Other than my consistent screw up on the date of the coin and the tonnage of the presses, I have not read anything that indicates hogwash. By the way, I know the master die press to create transfer presses was a 590 tonner. I was to help find one.

I am extremely well versed in the electron microscope and what it can do with metal patterns. I have been credited by the FBI with, to the highest degree of probability, of inventing a previously unknown technique in the forensics science of document examination. They believe the technique is a variant of hyperspectral digital imaging. Hyperspectral imaging finds data by employing an electron microscope and centrifugal fluoroscopy. I have been allowed to see how that science works and I feel the comparison is close. A model T is a variant of a Corvette.

Here is the headache for some. If indeed a genuine die was used to press out 40 coins by Mr Omega.....there would be no Omega sign, there would be no tool marks, the electron mapping of the tool die patterns would match one of the real dies. The color though would be an issue as the coin would actually be a Mexican peso. So is real or a fake? According to Insider2, color is not an issue. If I bought this coin because it was authenticated, I just got screwed. My next question would be what is the name of your insurance company as this coin was negligently authenticated. I am stating that there are approximately 40 1907 high relief St Gaudin Mexican pesos out there floating around. AH Carumba!

Another number mistake...a 50 ton press to transfer the steel master to a steel production die.

Dear insider2, If I had a 1907 high relief Gaudin, wouldn't I know who gave it to me? If I knew who gave it to me, wouldn't I know if it was from south of the border or not?

I'm going to stick to my guns until this issue is settled. This is a multimillion dollar question. Once again, if indeed a genuine mint die was obtained that made many 1907 Gaudins high relief for the mint and was then used by Mr. Omega to punch out forty more coins from Mexican Peso blanks. Are

they authentic or not? The coin would not have an Omega sign, or the wormy tool marks and the grain pattern of the metal as determined by electron microscope would match known grade patterns of the genuine die. It is identical to authentic Gaudins other than the color is a little off. The experts have clearly stated, color is a non issue. So please tell the folks why it would not be rated as an authentic 1907 Gaudin when in reality it is not. This is why Bonanno made his statement about making the fakes and exposing the fakes. If I am telling the truth, this is the most dangerous fake out there.

I received a private message about buying an Omega. It is not a crime to buy, sell or possess an Omega. Tell the dealer you want a fake 1907 omega gaudin. Put the words in writing. Tell the dealer to write the word fake coin on the receipt. The U.S. government does not give a poo about these coins other than it was a mastermind crime. It is only a crime if the seller knows it is an Omega fake and represents it as authentic. That is a fraud.

Capt....I do not quite understand your question. I was present when a man produced to my father two chunks of metal each about the size of the head of a small sledge hammer. He called them transfer or production die. He pointed out the sculpted relief portions and referred to it as the hub which was pressed into the large chunk of steel. All I saw was two pieces. Never saw any production. Saw different die after production ceased.

yos.. I am not real computer literate and I am trying to do several other things while posting. My girlfriend calls me a dog and I'm old, new tricks are challenging for me.

Eagleeyes....that was your shop I was in and purchased from you. Do u remember my conversation from Bonnano?

Capt...I was present during the initial presentation to my father. The decision to undertake a crime of this magnitude did not allow others to see. I was invited to contribute to the logistical meetings for a project of this magnitude. I had been studying Italian since high school thru college and Bonnano was my tutor. Every Thursday for just under 4 years, I was at his house. His tutoring was not from the book it was conversational Italian. He had problems he was dealing with like most people and he would ask for my input or opinion. I soon became a trusted individual and analyzer for him. I saw and know about many things and people. This enterprise was approached like a start up business. It needed a lot of capital and there was no assurance of a return. I estimate half a million was on the line. There were all kinds of difficulties that were thought true so carefully. There could be no trace to a man that had 43 million in cash and didn't need to go down over this. The dies presented to my father had the ability to produce roughly 40 coins. At the going price of the day, this represented millions in profit on a half million dollar investment. At the beginning, I believe that was the plan and nothing more. Like anyone who makes and tries to sell something, the producer wants to hear from the critics. The coins were authenticated and sold. There were no critics. The experts deemed them authentic. Naturally there was amazement and laughter. With such easy success, why not expand the operation? The original dies were only used for one other process that did not involve stamping. What was once small and exciting became big and unbelievable. It was during this second phase that the omega and tool marks appeared. Food for thought....if you were willing to put a goddam flag on your coin as Bonanno called it....who cares about a few scratches? He was right approximately 2-3 million times. The tool marks meant nothing. Since u r an expert, I will tell you that the reduction transfer mill was used in a very unique way other than the way it was intended.

Bryce, best post yet. Don't know about the third die and was never allowed to see production. I suggest anyone with an authenticated 1907 high relief Gaudin immediately melt it down for assay analysis. Only way to be sure

Bryce, there were two phases...the first 40 or so and then a downtime for preparations for the big blast. The master coin engraver came well after the first phase. The need for him was the construction of the new replacement die. The originals were done. They had to have something to make the first 40. Thats all I know.

good money. You last sentence nailed the million dollar question. The risk of being charged with counterfeiting was to great so he put a flag on it that the experts of the time missed. He did not think much of coin experts.

Capt...don't know...to help you with that question, the discard procedure for a spent die at the mint would help. This die was declared exhausted and cancelled. It was supposed to be chiseled, but was not. It was placed in a canvas bag (I believe ) and then transferred to the dump under security. What do they do with the three piece collar. I would assume it was as worn out as the rest of the die and would have been discarded. What was shown to my father before I went into his office, I don't know. The focus of what was shown to me was the engraved hub pressed into the die. I was told this is how they make a coin and that was it. The gentleman in possession of this die wasn't real thrilled about advertising or displaying it to a 16-17 y/o kid.

Insider 2, thank you for your kind words. I am actually quite nervous and intimidated by the forum members. I only have my memories from a very exciting period in my life. I know nothing about coin collecting or minting. I learned all this stuff from listening or researching a specific item for Mr. B. . The pressure to never ever talk about this subject affected me my whole life. My story and the details will never change as it is ingrained in my head like a movie. Law enforcement was after Mr B. his whole life. He was under constant surveillance. Every person going in and out of his house was photographed every time. He loved the challenge. He lived for it. It was exciting and fun. I am puzzled about the presses. I seem to remember that the he was going to obtain a 12 ton press initially that was common and easily available. During the logistic phase he learned , like me that this coin is a proof and required a bigger 16 ton press which presented a headache. This press was harder to find and acquire. Then a new hub had to be carved and pressed onto a transfer die. This required a 50 ton press as the metal was all steel where as the coins were soft gold. I was assigned to find a 50 ton press and it was a lot of work. I also recall that the pressure in a press can be turned down or less than its rating, but not up. A 16 ton press cannot do the work of a 50 ton press. If a press of say 160 tons was needed to strike a proof coin, then why would we have needed a 50 ton press to strike the steel die. We could have just adjusted the 160 tonner down to 50. We couldn't do that and so he had to get a 50 ton press for one job.

Insider2 Your post was lengthy but I will try to address your points. Remember that you are learning or learned about this coin after the fact. We lived from the beginning going forward. Our perceptions our and conclusions are different. Kind of like watching a football game after it was played and

pointing out all the wrong decisions and plays.

Put yourself in our shoes at the time. People identified and called themselves coin experts and provided a service of authentication back in the 60's and 70's. Not only did we not know their level of expertise, nor did the public and their poor insurance companies. None the less they were professional coin experts and the pros of their day. You nailed it when you said 98% of coin dealers were not qualified is correct, but I can assure you people with qualifications as coin authenticators were fooled. What qualification boards that were around in the 1960's and 70's, I do not know. Now put yourself in our shoes in the late 60's. Bonanno has put together the equipment and the manpower. He has a pressman from a mint and mill man and a few others, but no master engraver. The expertise of the people he has is questionable when it comes to determining the quality of the first batch of around 40. He needs to sell these to recoup his money. This has been nearly a year in the making. Off they go and the tension level is beyond belief. Can you imagine what it was like waiting for news to trickle back? The deception process to protect his identity as the producer was difficult enough, but they had to be certified or authenticated at the price they went for. The consensus was they would fail immediately. The sale was dependent on certification. Bonanno described the sensation he experienced with the news of the sale as the same as when his first son was born. We were stunned. I watched the tension and anxiety of these men with my own eyes. My father paced for days. It may be true that in retrospect no member of the Board of ANACS authenticated these coins, but someone identified as an expert did and they sold like hotcakes. What you know about the coin has developed over time. What did Walter Breen know about the coin on the day the first batch went to market. I don't know if he was alive, if he was an authenticator or his credentials, but I can assure you he would have approved the authentication. There was no intention to ever go beyond that first batch as the die was exhausted. Can you imagine the cost in manpower to produce a master hub to produce transfer die to produce 19,900 plus more coins. The cost of the pesos alone was enormous. Why not just take the few millions in profit, shut everything down and run? There was one very simple reason. My father and Bonanno believed the coin experts of the day were FAKES. You keep defending the experts despite the fact that over 19,000 coins were sold to the public at a cost of 200-300 million. It took a rookie who came late in the game with something called insight and a light bulb flashing in his head. His light bulb told him something was wrong and he paid attention to it. He took the time which was probably his own free time to investigate. He used the latest equipment of the day. He diligently worked and worked and found the flag Bonanno planted on his coin.

I am an homeschooled amateur documents examiner. You asked my expertise. I am also a physician, but I was contracted by the FBI as a medical fraud consultant which I did for years. I deliberately declined to be paid because I knew I would most likely be called to testify in court. If you don't know, you should. Expert witnesses almost always slant their expert advice to the ones who pay their bills. This is human nature. To deny this is foolish. One psychiatrist expert for the defense says the client is insane, the psychiatrist for the prosecution says they are competent. This is everyday knowledge. The prosecutors HIRE the same psychiatrists who say they are competent. The defense lawyers HIRE the same psychiatrists that say they are insane. These experts have enormous bills to pay and want to make a good living for the hard work they put in to become the professionals they are. It is human nature. When I declined to be paid, I could deny any financial influence. I helped put a lot of really bad people in jail who had defrauded the US government out of billions.

Experts who render decisions that involve a sale of significant money are under enormous pressure to say what is necessary to have the sale go through, They want the repeat business. They have bills to pay. Take a real estate appraiser. He is a certified expert on the value of a home or building. If his valuation comes in too low, the bank won't do the loan. The realtor or bank who picks him wants the sale to go thru as it brings them money. They are supposed to be unbiased, but 99% of them will

ask What Is The Sales Price? They know they have to hit that number or the deal fails and no one calls him again. There is always a grey area where an expert can massage. Remember, it is the butcher who calls the 3 questionable T-bones a T-bone or a porterhouse. He sales the porterhouse for more money, but you just got a T-bone. You fiercely defend the Experts in this field. I don't . You seem to ignore that nearly 20,000 fake coins were sold for hundreds of millions of dollars. Do really expect us to believe that not one Omega was authenticated by a genuine expert. If that is your opinion, this is why organizations like the mafia exist .They prey upon people like you. In Bonanno's own word...TRUST NO ONE

I would like to address the dies I personally saw in my fathers office. They were in a briefcase and covered in creosote (gun grease), except the hub with the engraving. The hub had a mixture of Vaseline and wax. No one said those words, that was my impression of the substances. Absolutely no rust was seen. When wiped, the die metal was black, but not from paint. They were described to be in excellent condition and appeared that way to me. Mr. B had the die examined by a metallurgist. They were determined to be in excellent condition and stored appropriately. Rust was not an issue. Unfortunately a test of some sort that he performed created a concern of metal fatigue. Between the previous beating they had taken and then time, there was a serious concern about failure/fracture. At this time, I was not aware of any intention to actually use them as I thought they were purchased for collector reasons. Months later, during a discussion between my father and Mr B. was the first mention of a hydraulic coin press. I was never aware of the actual operation or saw it, but I was well aware of the results and saw them with my own eyes. The die was predicted to produce between 30 to 50 coins based on wear alone. Fatigue was another issue. Those first 40 (an approximation) were excellent minus a few misstrikes. After that the quality of the coins deteriorated so quickly that it was clear the metal was internally collapsing. The press man was a retired mint man and had never seen anything like it.

Geez, you guys sure have a lot of questions and I don't have this kind of time. Capt, you pretty much nailed it. Let me tell you what I know and you will be able to figure out the rest. I told you about the dies now the man who brought them.

A man in his late 30s or 40's made an apt with my dad under an alias name. He was coming from the east coast (don't know the city). He had his cargo with him. He was a relative of the man who I stated was a highly ranking Phili mint worker. He was made aware of the dies while the worker was alive. He was told they were quite valuable but if he ever needed to sell them for profit, it would be difficult. He was advised of only two potential groups to approach. Known collectors and organized crime. He was aware that dealing with the mob was dangerous but he would get more money. The mint worker was close friends to a man involved in criminal organizations, not necessarily the Mob. Now go forward several decades and the relative wants to sell the die. Everyone is dead from the past, but the friend has had a son also who is now in organized crime. He got some good advice to contact a retired Mobster and thru his attorney, my dad. Bonanno did not have a billboard out saying "I buy old US Mint dies". This man wants a lot of money and cash. My father and Bonanno know nothing about the authenticity of the die. Fortunately the Mob has all kinds of legitimate business men who do and Bonanno has those connections and the blessing of the mob to dabble in adventures. A metallurgist, jewelers, and retired Mint men authenticated the die. The seller was thoroughly vetted thru mob inquiries. There was great concern this was a sting operation of some sort. Note the die were not damaged. Paint was used to give an appearance of a strike. Remember, I told you that most successful enterprises were sold off to the actual syndicate and that

happened here. Can't tell you when, new men came into the picture. The original mint dies were polished by a metallurgist initially due to fine rust. Everyone new the dies had a very limited life so sophisticated moldings were done as well as other technical procedures I was not made aware. A master engraver was brought in from Italy after the first batch. He was kept completely isolated from the production facility. He claimed he was a quality coin designer and had designed coins in Italy.

Eventually, a new master hub was created. It was my understanding this hub had to be polished after about 500 coins were stamped. In the meantime he did exactly what I told you...he worked on his suntan and he was collecting his payroll. Lets just say the new owners felt this was a waste of time and money so new projects were instituted to keep him busy. The new owners operation and STANDARDS were not to the same level as Mr. B's. Hence, new coins with different quality standards with the same flag on them. Hope you figured it out. i am sure, at a certain point in time, the 1907 high relief Gaudin was no longer a concern of Mr. B's. He was done but kept abreast of operations. The experts here are aware of the progression of changes over time to the coins. Food for thought for those of you with light bulbs in your head. Find out who makes the determination that a die is exhausted in a mint. Who worked at those positions in 1907 in Phila?

I'm beat, so this is it for the day. The Omega coin was not his most successful adventure. His most successful was estimated to have defrauded the US government to the tune of 1.6 billion dollars. It was also unraveled by a "rookie" chemical analyst. When it was discovered, the operation had been already been sold to the Italian syndicate and then they sold it to the Armenian mob. Once again corners were cut, standards were reduced all to squeeze more money out of a very profitable venture.

The rookie who cracked the Omega and the rookie who cracked the other venture both noticed the same thing. It was the volume of product that made their light bulb go off. As I already posted....this took insight and a diligence to pay attention to that flashing bulb in their head. Very, very few people do this and wonderful discoveries are frequently achieved by these types of individuals. What comes next is their finest quality. They are diligent in their pursuit to figure out why their light bulb is flashing. They dig their heels in and work and work and work. They don't give up. They know something is wrong and they are determined to expose the problem. They work after hours and at home. They grab this monster by the tail and won't let go. Most importantly, they know something is wrong and they know they will find it. It is their work ethic we should all try to emulate. As far as the Omega, the volume was the downfall and everyone knew it. Not much could be done as it was no longer under Mr B's control.

I mentioned that I am a physician, but also a home schooled amateur documents examiner...ie ..a rookie. I also noticed something in my hobby that made my light bulb go off and I pursued it like the men above. As a result my work went to the FBI and I have been credited with inventing a previously unknown technique in the forensic science of documents examination. The technique is not my achievement, it is what it produced. I admire these people as I know what they went thru as I have traveled the same path.

I know I said goodnight, but this was a hugh operation and one phone call shut it down. A trove of coins had never left the building. Big question for the experts so I can sleep at night. Is there any modern day counterfeiting that appears to have it's roots in the Omega saga?

If anyone sent me a private message, i answered thru my Hotmail account and some got it and some didn't . Please let me know.

OK...lets clear this up now! I have received a lot of inquiries as if I have a gold coin from Mr. Bonanno and can it be examined? This is quite personal and potentially dangerous. Understand that Mr. B was under surveillance at all times. Not because of the coins but because he was The Godfather and the authorities did not believe he was retired. Note...he was not a suspect regarding the 1907's. Those closest to him were subject to harassment and interrogation often. I was not and am not a criminal. I was a close personal friend and the son of his best friend my father. Telling me things is not a crime and nothing I did was conspiratorial. If for some unusual circumstance I was found to have a 1907 HR Gaudin that would have implicated me as a co-conspirator. Come on guys, my dad was a lawyer and that would have been suicide to possess that coin. Be that may it be, I must confess, indeed, Mr. Bonanno did gift me a gold coin despite the terrible risk. It is treasured and I display it proudly. I like it so much that I took it to a jeweler to see about turning it into a belt buckle. He wouldn't do it as it is so beautiful and it would get scratched and dinged. I had dropped it and the dent would be worse than the ding. It represents one of the most exciting times of my life and I want to show it off. The jeweler is currently soldering metal clasps to it so I can turn it into a bolo tie and wear it proudly. I will ask him to cut a chunk out of it so it can be submitted to assay analysis. Shortly, I will send you a picture of me wearing my MEXICAN 50 PESO GOLD COIN. I told you guys.....if JB gave me a gold coin, wouldn't I know if it was from south of the border?

Stop. I don't think you guys understand. Bonanno amassed a huge amount of 50 peso Mexican gold coins to be used as blanks for restrrike. He used to buy them like people buy taco chips, in big bags. He gave me one of THOSE coins before it was rolled into a pancake. I have a highly circulated 50 peso Mexican gold coin worth spot. It was the thought that counted. He passed them out like candy. I never ever said or indicated anywhere that I have a "Tucson restrrike" or whatever you want to call it. I am trying to get the experts to explain the dilemma they would have if one of the original forty was found and examined. Here the problem lies. Somebody would have paid a small fortune for it as they passed as real way back then. Now knowing that it was an original Mint die (just because I never saw the crown or ring die does not mean it was not there). The coin would have the die "grain growth" pattern. It would not have an Omega symbol or wormy tool marks and its color was acceptable. The gold content is correct. The only difference between a Tucson restrrike and an original mint 1906 HR Gaudin gold coin was the ownership of the press. One was owned by JB and the other by Uncle Sam. The die used to belong to Uncle Sam and then became the property of JB. Why would the coin be different in any way? Please don't be concerned about my 50 pesos.

Sorry, screwed the date up again...1907 hr

Food for thought. I believe the route of sale of these coins was thru investment brokers or houses and not individual coin shops. It is possible that the coins were sold to shops eventually. It is also possible that the Tucson 40 are sitting in one persons safety deposit box in a bank vault. Gold coins are being found in the walls of homes being torn down and remodeled all across the United States. People today still believe the government will seize your gold coins and they tuck them away.

WoodenJefferson...your thread has been a problem that has plagued me my whole life. When I discuss anything about Bonanno or other hard to believe stories my dad was involved in, people say the same thing you just posted. I was already sworn to silence and it was enforced fiercely. Then if I broke that code, the people I shared a story with would doubt it because of my age at the time and it made no sense that content of this magnitude would be shared with me by a man like Bonanno. Normally you would be spot on and I never dreamed I would have to explain this, but I opened the door to shine some light on a mystery and this is the price I have to pay to explain very good questions.

I am the son of a civil attorney who represented a prominent retired gangster, Mr. Joseph Bonanno. Make no doubt, he ran a criminal empire and either did very, very bad things or ordered it. He is the Godfather. Gay Talese who wrote The Godfather spent months in Tucson with Mr. B before he wrote the book. I can assure you the Marlon Brando character was so dead on it was scary. I couldn't tell the difference between the two. If you recall he was portrayed as a sympathetic character and the aim of the movie was to evoke an endurance or hope for a mastermind criminal. You liked him. That is because those that knew him all felt that way. I am not going to deny what he did, but it brings tears to my eyes to know his life and how it got there and how so much he dreamed it would go the way it should have gone in his youth. He was never a criminal until he came to America as an immigrant. All the other gangster were born and bred criminals that worked their way to the top as cruel psychopath thugs. Bonanno was a very highly educated man who spoke French, English Italian, Sicilian and Latin. He was going into professional school in Italy to become a Sea Captain. This training was not for small boats, it was for Luxury Liners. He was highly cultured, highly intelligent, highly religious and incredibly warm and charming. Even the agents liked him. He could not drive a car worth a crap and weaved between lanes horribly, so when they tailed him they blocked the road behind him so you wouldn't get crunched. If he got a flat, the FBI changed the tire .I know, I was there. Most people think of the gangster image, but in reality he was the nicest guy with compassion, empathy, sympathy, love and cried over tv shows. He was not a psychopath and I never saw anything cruel or mean. Sure, but who am I? I am his godson.

My father was a rookie attorney in Tucson in 1946 or 47 (can't remember). He brought with him something new that other attorneys were not versed in. He specialized in setting up Blind Trusts. These trusts were a legally recognized entity (like a corporate shell) that could do anything a citizen could do. It could have a bank account, own property, own businesses, own another trust that owned another trust that owned a business. The ownership of the trust was hidden and never recorded anywhere but in two peoples heads. The trust had a unrelated name. Trusts generate an awful lot of paperwork that requires signatures and filing. The small boxes of notebooks were kept in a steel reinforced bank vault in my fathers office. Only two people who were allowed in the trust room. Myself and my father and occasionally very trusted high profile clients who came to sign papers or review documents. I started work in my fathers office at age 11. I worked on a weekend day or on late Thursdays as I got older. Myself and my father were the only people who knew who owned what trust from memory only. You never said the clients name in any way. Bonanno permanently moved to his ranch in 46 with 43 million in cash. He bought the ranch in 41. Of all people, he needed a trust.

Were clients shocked or stunned that an 11 yr old boy was in control of the contents of their trusts?. You betcha! Prominent people were laundering money. Concealing their assets from lawsuits or the IRS

You name it. What was in those trusts was utterly amazing. The clients knew an 11 year old also knew everything in one of their most personal matters. What they came to realize was that I was the perfect individual for the safety of their trust. I was taught to never judge, be professional, polite and keep my mouth shut and I was family, not an employee. I grew up fast. I saw criminal enterprises in those trusts owned by people you perceive as the good guys. Bad people had nothing but plans to

set aside their assets for friends families and charities. Don't judge a book by its cover. Many of these clients became very close to me. I knew their dark secrets and i was liked. Next to my father, I knew more about Mr. Bonanno than anyone else. I will pay a high price either emotionally, spiritually or physically for divulging this info but I opened the door at Eagle Eye Coins and decided to keep it open. When I left Eagle Eye, all that was going thru my head was what have I done. Many, many people were defrauded and lost a lot of money. Some info or closure may bring them some relief. Believe what you want, but how could I know so much?

I'm guessing Drei3ee bought an expert approved 1907 hr Gaudin for an awful lot of money just to find out it is worth spot plus10 dollars. I've had to deal with haters like him my whole life. See why it took so long to come forward!

I told you that my father had trusts with all kinds of clients. There were regular folks, celebrities, politicians, bad guys, rich people beyond belief and FBI agents, Whoa....did I say FBI agents? Well yes I did and they were the same FBI agents assigned to investigate Mr. Bonanno. How could that be? Are you telling me that your father represented Mr. Bonanno at the very same time he represented FBI agents that were investigating JB?.....yup. And I will send a picture to prove it. Like I posted, you could tell the rookie FBI agents by their utter unprofessional behavior. Some were name callers, others just gave the macho stand down. For all I know Drei3ee was one of them. It didn't take long that watching an old man trimming his rose bushes in 110 degree heat wasn't much of an assignment. This terrible old sociopath as has described felt bad for them and would invite them in for air conditioning and ice tea. Even the nasty ones! A specialty agent from the Los Angeles bureau who was a top agent in Organized Crime was assigned to head up the investigation of Bonanno in Tucson. He was incredibly foul. He cared a gun in one hand and a bible in the other. He hated Bonanno much like Drei3ee. Well that was in the beginning, in the end, he became a client of my father and he used to pick JB up to go to the office since JB was a horrific driver. His name was Special Agent David Olin Hale. Now somebody else tell the story.

I can only repeat to the greatest degree of accuracy what i heard or saw more than 40nyears ago. I did not expect this forum to explode and I don't have all the answers. I need to get to the disposal of the equipment and the transfer engraving machine story.

David Olin Hale went to work everyday like nothing ever happened while the newspapers ran all the stories. It was bizarre and hysterical. The police did not know what to do. Keep in mind that the bombings happened right around the same time of the coins being made. Can you imagine all the reporters, the police etc...what a mess! The two young men who threw the bombs from the backseat of Hale's car were charged with a slew of felonies and stuck to their story. They were deputy FBI agents. One day David Olin Hale came to work and was fired on the spot for no reason given. He was unemployed with no income and facing indictment. What's a good man gone bad gonna do? Hint...S.A David Olin Hale was way up in the investigative branch of Organized crime, Los Angeles division. He has bombed a whole bunch of mafia heads and killed their pets. He has disgraced the FBI. He is gonna get indicted as the mastermind. Hes gonna get killed in prison. His wife and daughter are going into the sex trade. And you thought you had problems. So if you have problems like this, I'll tell you what you do....get a damn good attorney!

Will I be in it? [Editor's Note: Reference to someone suggesting a movie.]

Pete no, no. I like your posts. Insider2 is tough cause is smart. Remember he beat me up alittle too and I love reading every word of his posts very carefully. He is good!

Not Brad Pitt???????????? [Editor's Note: Reference to casting for a movie.]

Big clue about David Olin Hale.....Mr. Bonanno's life was spared by the commission because of all his connections, ideas, knowledge. He just too valuable to kill. His life was spared under certain terms. He would continue to work with the commission, sell them information, create new ideas or enterprises with their blessings of course. He was well compensated for these things. Now his backyard is blown to smithereens in the middle of this hugely expensive venture and his beloved guard dog Greasy was pulverized. He has cops more interested on what's in his house than outside where the bomb went off. He is as pissed as I have ever seen him and the news trickles out in the paper. The same jerk FBI agent who would stand in front of his house and call him derogatory names is the ring leader. Oh boy.

David Olin Hale on the other hand is chronically stuck to the toilet with unending diarrhea cuz the future don't look to good. Somewhere in between flushes he has an epiphany. Hey I know every informant, FBI infiltrator and turncoat in Italian Organized Crime from my job, I wonder if that might help me?

Hey M, you were a lady killer when you were young

maybe I should change my name to Antonio D'Antonio

\_Hi everyone, you guys are clearly experts and i wish I knew more. The die stunk up my dads office if that helps. The metallurgists opinion was the they collapsed. It began on one strike and progressed. You could not see it on the die that well, but the coins went from great to bad immediately. He predicted this would happen. Multiple impressions of the engravings were made of different substances and resins before they were used at his suggestion.

I would think this way. It is 1907, and you a master engraver, maybe not the top but still a master engraver and you want these die as part of your collection at home. Once you had them, what would you use back then to preserve the metal. I think what we saw was the way they had been stored fifty years prior, the body of the die were black, but not from paint, just black metal. It did not wipe off. The engraving portion was not black and had a Vaseline/wax like substance. He cleaned the engraving with a chemical, not the whole die. He held them with rags in his hands. He did not show up randomly. He knew who he wanted to show these too. I am of the opinion that we were the first people to see these die since they were prepared for storage 50 years prior. I don't think they had been shown to anyone else. It took days to get the smell out of the office. I am not a collector, but I have had a few very, very old guns in my life. I have a friend who is a gunsmith. He reblues a gun before oiling it for storage purpose. I think this black was from a rebluing process back them, but the metal dye was black. Think 1907 and what they had and did back then

Wow, please slow down. I want to answer all questions but time to me is precious. I am a doctor and I have to make an appointment to go to the bathroom. I also have something else in my life that is big and taking off. First..common man..it will have to be in a small closet then. Second..I brought up the subject with Rick at Eagle Eye while buying bullion for my retirement account. The look on his face was enough to tell me I did something wrong and I split. I have not talked about any of the things I am sharing here for over fifty years. I do not have time to go to the movies or watch TV. I do like to watch old documentaries and a special was on about the true story of Spartacus, the Roman slave/gladiator that led the slave rebellion. There are a handful of people on this thread that the mention of the word Omega deeply affects them. Just hearing that word and that's all that you think about for days if it had as significant impact in your life as it did mine. Unfortunately for me, the word Omega was used in this film about the Roman days repeatedly I hate that when it happens. So I look up Omega Man on the internet and am saddened how little there was to read. This was a huge event in American history, the coin collecting industry, crime and my life. I see a few forums and take a peek. This one had a thread about the Omega....this thread. On that night, there had not been a post since 2006. I'm telling you this broke my heart that this event has faded away into history. So I figured i would post something and absolutely no one would ever read it. Another whoops in my life. i am glad that it has brought to so much excitement to so many. even the doubters. I don't know how to prove what I say nor does anyone. Remember this though. The rookie coin authenticator that cracked this case did it for the same reason those who made the coins worried would expose them. It was not the quality of the coin, it was the quantity. I can only bring you what i know, but how could I know so much?

I have not gotten to the reduction engraver machine yet. It may answer some questions for you. It was something counterfeiters abroad have done with success. I will tease you, it is my way of getting back at you for robbing me of my time. Think in reverse. My appointment to use the bathroom is here now, gotta go.

The alchemist's dream. Can i turn lead into gold? Everyone thinks no, but yes you can inside a nuclear reactor. Problem is an ounce of reactor gold costs about a million bucks. At what point does the cost of testing become unreasonable? I say, limit it to just the microscope and call it a day. (I'm working on a new coin)

I am here, I try to pop in read and then gone. XXX, if you pick your most important question from the buffet, I will try to address it now. Got to bed at 5am. New job, moving, other project , and the forum. Just met with Rick Snow. It was a pleasure and direct communication is so much easier. He was a great help.

Pretty easy. Mr B was kidnapped by the syndicate at on point because he became so big and unwilling to cooperate with the other Mob families primarily over the new source of money, narcotics. He was doing very well with traditional vices and was running legitimate business and wanted nothing to do with narcotics. The Commission represented all the families and they out ruled him. When he thumbed his nose, he was kidnapped and was forced into retirement. Normally you were just killed in the first place. Bonanno as I posted was different. He was so highly educated and cultured, that he mixed in well with politicians , judges etc. He had connections only dreamed of and these connections would have never dealt with others. In sparing his life, he still had a relation ship with the syndicate. He sold them information or he was paid if a connection was used. It was pretty much a business relationship. All the mob bosses here were forbidden to set up there old operations

such as loan sharking, gambling, racketeering etc. Tucson had the mafia, but no mafia crime. Undisputable. Only exception was Charles "Batts" Bataglia, a Bonanno captain who just couldn't get it. He was eventually assassinated. Other ideas such as fraud was not new but not of tremendous interest to the Mob at that time.. Bonanno was allowed to dabble in adventures such as this. He would use the resources of the mob, but eventually if they wanted it, they got it. You don't say no to the mob. Bonanno never ever claimed he was cheated or short changed in any way. At this point these are my opinion. The first batch of Tucson restrikes was all I believe was intended. It was a major financial success and why do more? The logistics of ramping this up was enormous as was the money. I believe at this point in time, the Syndicate became involved with their money. How much did they buy in? I don't know I believe Mr B's responsibility load was lightened because men showed up. Not soldiers. Polite, clean cut, friendly men. The were syndicate. Note, never, ever was the Armenian mob involved in any way in this venture, nor did I ever say that. After the first batch, the master engraver showed up and Bonanno was still in charge of the 1907 hr st Gaudin because putting an Omega symbol on that coin was my fathers demand to HELP protect Bonanno from counterfeiting charges. His job was legal interpretation of the law. The symbol is an addition to the coin. It is not close in resemblance in any way to anything on the coin. Counterfeiting can use a judgement call of it was close enough. It involve the term exact copy and who defines exact. Now not legal tender and not an exact copy was his protection. The problem was it created tension. The master engraver was a prima donna who put up a fit. He convinced Bonanno it would be discovered. My dad stood his ground. I do not think the syndicate people knew. As I posted previously the tension was off the wall. Why did Bonanno call it the flag? The master engraver stayed at Bonannos house. He sculpted the clay model that was about the size of a pizza. On a large scale model like this, it stood out easily since we knew what to look for. The master engraver put on his pout and Bonanno said it stood out like the American flag the Marine Corp raised on Iwo Jima. It became the flag ever since.

The phone call which resulted in the shutdown and what was still present I will address latter. Picture in you mind a functioning enterprise, in this case a coin production facility. You have bags of pesos, you have pesos pancaked, you have mistrikes or defects waiting to be pancaked and you have finished product and it has to be shut down, vacated and cleaned up now. Bonnano was out, this was not his or our problem but he certainly was concerned. I just do not remember any discussions or involvement in any coin other than the 1907 Hr Gaudin.

ps.....someone has not watched enough Godfather movies. Keeping records was a death sentence.

Now you guys are thinking like counterfeiters! I have been enjoying this thread as much as you have because it is making your light bulbs start to flash. There is more than one way to skin a cat. Everyone thought the Omega was the makers signature. Not at all, it was to defeat the letter of the law. Remember, before the die were used, various substances and resins were used to make impressions. Did you need a soft coin?

I hope I'm bringing information to everyone to make you think and not follow. I told you I am not a collector. Being half Italian, I was raised on olive oil. Bonanno himself had a legitimate olive oil import company. You can research yourself this fact. There are not enough olives in Italy to produce all the olive oil stamped made or grown in Italy The entire olive oil industry is under the control of the mafia. I told you they have moved into fraud. Most Olive oil is a blend of other oils. The definition of the word Virgin is all in the head of the person uttering the word. My ex wife who has been married twice will tell you she' a virgin. By the way, many of the farmers of olive trees in Italy sell genuine olive oil online. It is authentic olive oil. If you are a fan and wonder what real olive oil tastes like, the Arizona climate is similar to southern Italy. A town called Queen Creek, Az is becoming famous for its olive oil. It is as fresh as you will ever taste and pure. The only difference is you will taste the soil

of Az in the product. It is great. If you say WOW, I tried Queen Creek now I want real Italian olive oil ...then go to the the farmers in Italy's online olive oil.

Why is a Taurus Judge 410 that shoots a 410 shotgun shell not a sawed off shotgun? If I cut the barrel of my 410 shotgun down, I go to jail. The barrel of my Taurus Judge 410 is only a couple of inches long.

Why is a silencer for my gun legal to buy and use from licensed businesses in the US? If I get a silencer from Guido, I go to jail just for possessing it.

Why is there an Omega sign on the Omega fake?

BECAUSE OF THE LETTER OF THE LAW

The last few posts in a row here say it all. Insider2 said it all...GREED. How does the mafia get men and women to work under the umbrella of a criminal enterprise? Think about that. I told you about the horrible logistical problems to run an operation like this. You have a facility with a lot of electrical equipment. Any one who sees this equipment will know what is going on. Somebody is making FAKE coins. The electrical demands of the equipment exceeds the capability of the electrical box and it blows and turns to molten metal. Thank god you were smart enough to have enough fire extinguishers to not call the fire department. Now who do you call? Bonanno has to call a man in the organization who will find an electrician under the umbrella or with in the sphere of the Mob. This electrician is not a mobster or in the syndicate, he is an electrician who knows the code and abides by the code and knows if he doesn't he is dead. Now where do men like this come from? How is the Mob able to get a master coin engraver. This is an honorable profession that had respect and pays well. Why would he do it?

Greed is one of the 7 deadlies and is in a category all by itself. The largest % is greed. The work is off the books, all cash. No warranty. No taxes. etc. Just gotta keep the mouth shut and blinders on the eyes.

The next most common category is the nightmare category. Humans have afflictions. Alcoholism, drug abuse, mental illness, gambling, sexual perversion and the list goes on and on. You can have the most intelligent or the most skilled individual in the world working for you that produces the greatest work for you right up till their affliction ruins everything. People have problems and they don't stop when they go to work. They get fired. They have money problems. They have trouble finding jobs because of poor references. Right when they were needed the most, they fail due to their affliction, Guess where they end up? They end up working under the umbrella or within the sphere of a criminal organization.

Here's an example, you have one of the most talented master engravers in the world whose work is incredible. You give him a big project but he doesn't like part of it and argues. He loses the argument with the boss and does his incredibly stressful job by himself to not be distracted. The work is tedious and takes a lot of time. It can not be done in one day, not even one week. He is so annoyed by the thing that he lost over the argument about that he becomes angry. People are worried, but his work progresses and is incredible. The smiles are starting to break out and hopes are high. People are celebrating the near completion of a phase of a project and then it happens. Your employee has had more cognac than you knew. He shifts his weight, loses his balance for just a second while striking his tiny little die with his tiny little hammer and oh no. What happened? What do we do now? Oh well, the two little wormy intertwined marks can't be any worse than that "god damn flag waving in the wind".

I just got some bad news today that took the wind out of my sails. My story is winding down. Most of the experts here can now explain how the engraver/ reducer was used to make a new master hub (i think that is what it is called) The machine can be reversed with the aid of a master watch and clock technician. I am referring to a grandfather clock guy and the experts can explain. Has to do with gears. A skilled instrument technician could reverse the mill and feeler probe.

I will be talking about the end shortly. Will anybody with any knowledge about any investigation print what they know. It will not affect what I am going to post.

My profession is medicine and it doesn't leave me much of a life after hours and I don't collect or play golf. I do still dabble in a hobby that I was taught at age 12. I already told you I am a home schooled amateur (rookie) documents examiner. When my nights wind down, I sit down and work on my hobby. In return, it has brought me much joy and professional satisfaction. It is my baby! It is not an obsession as it satisfies my desire to know what is going on so much that I love it. I dedicate long, hard hours to it for no compensation. In a similar way, I know what Mr. Fazzari the rookie went thru. I have been releasing my work to the public over the last few months slowly for free and I always dedicate my work to 3 men. One was the greatest criminal detectives that ever served the public died on Jan 6th of this year and I just found out. He is my hero and my inspiration for all those hours I spent.

Inspector David Toschi, may you finally rest in peace and may God hold you and your family in the palm of his hand forever.

Triple X, you just won't let me fade away. Mr. Bonanno was so far removed from anything he was involved in. This man did not oversee operations like you think. He had others do everything. Seeing a coin was an enormously big deal that was never pre announced, it was always a surprise for us. I would say, the only thing that could have ever been linked to Bonanno either prior or after the event was his gifting \$50 dollar pesos that were so common in Tucson. Many people carried both peso's and dollars in the 50's and 60's. As stated, every single person that went in and out of that house was photographed. The master engraver stayed at his house and had to be photographed thousands of times like myself. Regardless, none of this ever stopped Mr. Bonanno in his past or in his current day. When he ran his family in New York, he was under constant observation and so does that mean there was no criminal activity as a result? Come on yourself. As he sold off his ventures, so goes his responsibilities and liabilities. The engraver was long gone...years ...before the final call came. I think you have seen enough movies, what does it mean when the Mafia cleans things up after its done? One phrase is always used. They're gone, that's all, they're gone. You decide what that means. I stated previously, it would have been suicide to have one of those coins. I would bet that JB himself visited the facility that had the engraver/reducer and the facility where the fakes were produced less than 4 or 5 times over years. The head always isolates themselves and that is how he was never convicted while he was a crime boss. How much crime happened across the US that he directed? So you think he just changed the way he had done things for decades because it was just a coin? Please

I asked people to post what they knew of any investigation, ...so far nothing. For now, all I will say is a phone call occurred. Mr. B was out for a very, very long time. He was never a suspect that we know of. I personally don't think any significant investigation occurred because of a massive defrauding of citizens occurred as stated. I believe the big concern was if a coin of this quality at the time could be produced and fool so many people that it should be investigated due to fear of an actual legal tender currency could be introduced into the U.S. currency system and that defrauds the federal government.

Criticize or doubt all you want, but please none of this you don't expect us to believe stuff. find a real

flaw in my story. Here Ill even help you since you want it so bad.....THE METALLURGIST SAID THE DIE HAD A HIGH CARBON CONTENT. Now go off and figure it out.

Triple X. Not mad, not going anywhere till I'm banned or just to tired to post from new job and move. A highly charged tussle is good for the ratings. Lots of butts in the seats for an old dead show. Now we just need a good romantic interlude with a babe and it's a blockbuster. I can only repeat this episode in my life as to how I heard it and what I saw and how I remember it. For your info ex presidents came and visited JB. Senators, judges, Billy Graham movie stars. Tucson Police Chief Garmire and his wife had dinner with JB in his home at least twice a month for years. It was a revolving door and yet he continued to do what he did....then throw in a bombing...Oh Boy. Think outside the box. A man came to Tucson with a rare car. He says it was just driven by Mother Thersa and Jesus himself blessed the car. He wants cash and no paperwork. There are no numbers on the car and you don't know how to trace it or verify his claim. You want the car. Now what? I know that I would take him at face value cause no one lies about used cars. Always remember, one of the greatest frauds in American history took place involving 1907 Gaudin gold coins. There is virtually nothing known about the investigation by any agency. There is nothing known about the Omega man. Only the coin has been thouroughly investigated. Fact, it did happen and I bring an extensive story that is possible and probable. The more you guys want to debunk it, the more it stands up. I expect doubt. Use all you know about coins, coin making, dies, presses and blow me out of the water. Won't happen because I know what happened and I just gave you a big clue. Still won't sink the ship. Now how about that BABE.

Please remember, Bonanno gets a sales price from the mob once he proves his venture is sound. The copper content of the coins has been discussed on the forum way back and the color, although the tone was a bit off, the color was within acceptable parameters. Lastly, ordering gold rolls of the correct copper/gold percentages is too dangerous and leaves a paper trail. Lastly, we were 60 miles from the Mexican border with a population that was 50% Hispanic. Please go back and read this stuff as it was already dealt with. The taco chips were cheap and plentiful.

The Mexican 50 peso gold coin is a monster coin. you thickness is incorrect.

I have been asking a question about how do u know if a coin with everything right is real. This a question to set up the thinkers. Technology advances in an amazing way. As long as the experts keep up with the technology, that is good for new buyers and bad for old buyers. What is real today will be completely destroyed tomorrow. New technology will reveal dimensions and evidence that is unavailable today. It presents a terrible problem for all. My coin maybe absolutely real today and fake in 6 months due to science. A rookie with an advanced microscope absolutely proved that. Knowing this, the Mob has incredibly smart people who look at a situation in it's entirety. They do not look at one aspect or statically, they look at the entire situation dynamically. Here is an example. When I drive my car and go around a corner at high speed the engine shuts off. As soon as I straighten out it starts running again. What's wrong? A mechanic looks at the car problem dynamically. He already knows what is happening. A dynamic entity called centrifugal force is moving a wire in a direction where it is reaching a metal surface and is shorting out only during turns. Now he looks for wires that are able to move quite a bit instead of wires that are firmly secured. He finds the wire that has been shorting out 5 inches from where it lies statically. Apply this thinking to your problems you encounter with fake coins. The Mob wants to keep selling

fake coins. The public wants real coins. Authentication groups step in and devise ways to protect the coin collector. Mob think tank people figure out how to undermine the procedures that the authenticators put in place. Sometimes they fix the problem of the coin, but sometimes there is an easier fix.

I don't collect coins from my life experience, but a dear friend of mine does. She frequently shows me her new purchases with pride and comfort that it is the real deal. I always ask her...How do you know it is not fake? She tells me that her coin was authenticated by John Albanees (sorry for spelling) and it is slabbed and with information on the slab that indicates a quality value. We can't touch the coin, or smell the coin or feel the coin. She also has paperwork to go along with it. Once again I ask her ' How do you know it is not fake?'

Does anyone know where I am going with this? Think dynamically. the mob wants to keep selling fake coins.

I am not trying to put the fear of counterfeits into anyone. I have decided to ignore you because you post incorrect information. Sorry.

No, and I have no information of any sort like that. Picture in your mind, the coin that my lady friend gave to me to look at. What do see in totality? Then ask yourself, what could I recommend to Mr. Bonanno to consider?

TT if you are an engineer, please tell me you do not work on passenger planes. i particularly love your thought that i got my facts from other posteror website.

Alright, alright ...I admit it. The math wizard here exposed me for what I am. A total fake. I'm so bad, I don't have the brains to make all this up. I stole it all from alittle old lady on another thread. Its true and a master detective saw thru me with no fear. Please forgive me. i am a loser, a fraud and I am sexually inadequate. Not only is it short, its skinny. No don't go away. Your math is so far advanced that we should all be schooled by you. I will go away since you figured out I stole everything. you probably know the thread I got it from, so you can tell the rest of the story.

xxx, Mr. B would pour you a cognac!

No TT, don't bow out as I am still here. I have very thick skin. You missed the width of a coin by a mile. Your whole post was it would be too thin, then when corrected you shifted to weight. I have already posted that I expect doubters and arrows slung my way. You have a pattern though. Make a mistake and attack my integrity, make another mistake and divert to a a different subject, Then allege inconsistencies, in my story based on your mistakes. Bring it on,. but you better be a man to get it thrown right back in your face. I expect to see more posts from you, but please don't make assumptions of things like they "probably" measured here. The width of the coin is the width as is the circumference, the diameter and the weight. Lets not start using new parameters to support your position.

I knew all that....lol [Editor's Note: In reference to the calculations on the size/weight of the 50 Pesos.]

TT, may I ask your age? Everyone here knows i'm 62.

No need, you have two very outstanding qualities about you. You still have youthful exuberance or zeal that has long left me, and you are a real man as you admitted your error and apologized. Sometimes zeal will bite you. Bonanno would have poured you a cognac!

I just wanted to finish up tonite on the discussion I was having about the lady friend who would show me her coins. If a metal, artistic coin could be manufactured, then just about any thing can be manufactured. The fraudster changes direction to undermine or defeat what is defeating him. When I look at my lady friends coin that she is so confident is real, she is misunderstanding my question when I say "how do you know it is real?". It is not the coin I am talking about, it is the Slab that makes everyone so confident that it is real. They are con men. They can fabricate the slabs far easier than a coin. That doesn't mean don't collect coins. It means be very aggressive and pay the price to make sure that the coin in the slab that makes you think it is real is actually real by having it re-authenticated and then hope that it is still real 5 years later when new technology comes into place.

Diamonds are a woman's best friend. No woman ever drives past a sale. Put them together and you have a stampede.

Bribery costs cash. The mob wants cash and doesn't want to part with it. Now a favor is a different animal. It was the favor that greased the mobs wheels.

When this man came to Tucson to sell the dies, he had no idea that he would be a guest for awhile. You just don't get an audience with Joseph Bonanno to sell him something that might be stolen. The last thing Bonanno needs is to be in possession of US Mint die set that is stolen. He is under 24 hour surveillance. They couldn't get him when he was active. The federal government is going to try and get him even in his old age. He was the Godfather. My father graciously extended to this man a very high end Tucson hotel with all food and drink on the house. If he needed clothes, the hotel would take care of it for him at no charge. This is the art of the favor. The hotel owner is more than happy to accommodate a guest of JB in return for favors in the past. What does it cost the hotel, they just have to clean the room. The food is a joke. Bonanno brings ex-presidents movie stars to their dining room for extravagant dinners and JB pays the bills and tips 100%. While our guest is being vetted to eliminate the possibility of a sting, Bonanno meets with his advisors about the situation. His mind is a logistics mind. First you steal a car, then a chop shop body shop changes the parts with serial numbers and maybe the paint, then you find the used car dealer to sell the car, then you find the lending institution to fund the loan of the car. This is a network and all aspects are under the sphere. Most people don't think about the car dealer and the bank loan officer when they think about this criminal enterprise. Now to make the money grow to offset the expenses of the body shop, they powerbook the loan. What does that mean. They counterfeit the car. What does that mean?

This is the old days as technology and the computer has changed things. The Mob knows the system as to how a car is sold. I told you they look at the whole picture and think dynamically. They want the money for the car. Where does the money come from? The bank loan. Who approves the bank loan? The loan officer. Pretty simple. Now if the used car dealer and the bank loan officer works together you can get up to 33% more money on the same car. That is called powerbooking. Here's what they do. The Mob targets Plain Jane cars. They want a car that is a basic model. No moonroof, no fancy wheel

s, no four wheel drive, no leather seats, and the smallest motor as long as bigger motors were available. Preferably, a stick shift. These are the lowest price version of a model and sale easily when brand new. The value of that car as it ages is established by value books like a blue book. Lets use a used Plain Jane car that has a value of \$8000. The used car dealer evaluates his customers and picks one that he tells he can get them into this car for nothing down and a low monthly nut. If they hesitate he can drop the price so we now are at \$7,500. The customer says wow, but I have bad credit. The car dealer says no problem. The car dealer fills out the loan papers to go to the bank. The Plain Jane turns into Marilyn Monroe on paper. She has a/c, auto tranny, v-8, leather interior, custom wheels, you name it she has it on paper. Powerbooking is bank fraud, but once again it is rarely prosecuted as the bank was negligent. No one looks at the car. The papers are not only approved, but the loan is for \$10,000.

The loan office gets his commission, the car dealer gets his commission, the customer got a great deal and will go back to that car dealer to buy another stolen car in 5 years and on and on and on. The car was a stolen car and the Mob walks away with \$7,500.

If you are going to be in the theft business, you go where the money is. Where is the money? Banks, Cars, Fine Art and JEWELRY STORES. Have not beautiful coins been more than once referred to as precious forms of fine art or jewelry? Now if the Mob has the NETWORK firmly established to sell stolen counterfeited cars (remember the loan was counterfeited), then don't you think their networks were in place for Fine Art and Jewelry? More to come, but remember these coins sold like hotcakes.

I have no idea why the printed writing you are reading is coming on the screen the way it is. I also have no idea why three major posts that I wrote just mysteriously disappeared, but I am not stupid. Funny how a post that was not published, was referenced by another poster. Must be a damn virus!

Food for thought since the color problem has resurfaced. The Mexican 50 gold peso's were restruck by the Mexican government. I do not know what years they did this or maybe they did them for all. What I remember is the annealing process affects the color of the coin, If I recall, copper oxidizes from many factors including annealing. To restrike, the coins were annealed far more than normal. They could be chemically dipped, but this was an imperfect science. the outcome was hard to predict. I believe the formula they came up with was not perfect, but within the parameters of acceptable. The color supports the probability of restamped Mexican Pesos. If there was a year that the Mexicans did not use restruck coins, than the gold would be more yellow and less red. We had lots of \$50 dollar Pesos to see and handle. I distinctly remember holding a handful of coins and seeing a rainbow of shades. I am red/green colorblind, but these coins were not homogeneous in my eyes.

As previously posted, a successful Bonanno enterprise was always sold off to the mob. Once FULLY in their hands, they made changes, cut corners, etc. It is important to remember that Bonanno was thrown out because he operated very differently. He was the most successful of the syndicate because he did things right. GREED has been mentioned by others and myself. GREED destroyed all the ventures in the end after Bonanno was out. I do not think Bonanno had anything to do with the \$3 dollar coin. I never even knew about it till I began posting on this thread. I have learned this from you and have said "wow". That is one of the reasons I took offense to an allegation of getting my info off a website. Time is more precious to me than gold. I don't have any. Posting is very time consuming and I get grouchy going over old news. If I was told at one time that 20,000 coins had been produced, than that would be near the end and Bonanno would have been out other than info

as it was his brainchild. Knowing that, how would I know if it were all 1907 Gaudins or both Gaudins and \$3 dollar coins. Bonanno is the enforcer of the code of secrecy. I can not imagine him ever telling anyone, including my father, a syndicate secret. If the syndicate was making \$3 dollars on top of Gaudins, that is a syndicate secret. It is nobodies business. If the syndicate did not appreciate an employee drinking to much cognac and ended up pressing him into a pancake, I would never learn that. We knew, understood, and practiced the code of silence. Bonanno was my teacher of that code. That is why when I learn things, I am as interested as you. I am the messenger, my knowledge was from think tank sessions and what I saw. I saw the original man with the die. I saw lots of Pesos and Gaudins, I saw the two critical employees, I saw the equipment. I saw it's destruction. The changes that were made by the new owners always caused the failure. They want to recoup their investment and get into profits asap. This would explain to me the discussion that the \$3 dollar was quite poor in quality. How would I know if they mixed their own gold, bought rolls of gold/copper or pancaked a different, more available coin. I can't. The production of these coins took place over time, I was only privy to large quantities of information in the beginning and very little in the end. Doe anybody know how many Mexican 50 peso coins were produced in totality? Maybe they only made 15,000, that would be interesting, but doesn't affect my recounting of this event.

To finish up the Networking of the mob. Now that you know that the mob has extensive networks in place. Most people don't think about this including myself. I would ask a question and learn these things. Jewelry stores primarily sell jewelry, but sometimes they have coins. They don't do much trading at the large retail stores but many private jewelers do. Coin stores sell coins, but lots of them also sell jewelry. They do a lot of trading. Pawn shops sell both and they trade, but at one time you could have called them Mob outlet centers. Lots of laws now as so much was illegal or stolen property being sold. Didn't any one ever notice that the old man on Pawn Stars dresses like a mobster?

Another arena is investment houses etc. All of this is in place. Remember I told you the man who came to Tucson was directed or told to seek out Bonanno. Somebody knew that the dies would fetch more money but why Bonanno instead of someone else? Please note, the Omegas after the first batch were selling like hotcakes. They had the Omega symbol. A rookie authenticator noticed the unusual high volume of sales. He paid attention to his light bulb saying something is wrong. He found the Omega symbol. The Omegas were selling like hotcakes!. They were discounted. It was a sale and they moved. The reason I point this out is when Bonanno first considered buying these die, his mind was considering all the logistics and he was talking out loud and asking for "thoughts". One thought was "how are you going to sell them?' He laughed and told us....they are already sold.

interesting. I am red/green colorblind, but I can see yellow and gold real well. Red and green shades come off as grey. When I look at my Mexican peso, it is gold/grey. My friends tell me it is closer to orange or light red rust. My eagles and krugs are gold yellow. NO, i don't collect coins they are bullion for my retirement account. Does anyone know if enchroma glasses actually work for colorblindness or are a rip off as they are not cheap. 10% of all males are red/green color blind.

I have never gotten any of my information from anyone. I have been telling the same story for 50 years to those who want to listen. I was going to tell you guys about the Farouk coin but "forgettaboutit". I told you all kinds of dignitaries from around the world visited. Bonanno. When he died in 2002, his funeral procession was the longest in Az. history. His last adventure in life, his death was nothing short of amazing. He was friends with Farouk, President Sadat and President

Hussein of Jordan. Hussein was a pilot, and if you talk to the Lockheed engineers....they will tell you he was the best wide-body jumbo aircraft pilot in the world. What he did in his Air Force One Lockheed L-1011 is legendary. No one thought a plane like that, even with extensive modifications, could fly like a fighter jet. He proved it. He flew his L-1011 to Tucson at least annually, sometimes two or three times a year. While it was being refitted by the Lear Jet boys he always visited Bonanno and I was invited. One of the most amazing men I have ever met. I told you guys repeatedly, the man who came to Tucson was directed there. It was not chance.

Anybody notice that my tale has a very similar ring to the Farouk coin. A crooked Mint employee stole mint property. NO HOW COULD THAT BE? A man ends up with part of it. The stolen property ends up to a distant relative. NO HOW COULD THAT BE? The distant relative want to sell the stolen property. NO HOW COULD THAT BE? Funny how the missing 1933's happened the same way Bonanno got his die. By the way, in Bonanno's family room, there are pictures of him with many very famous politicians and they are signed by those people. I saw JB with the Kennedy boys on his lap minus Teddy who was still in his mothers arms. Many of you don't know that the boys were sent to a ranch right outside Tucson to toughen up. He was Uncle Joe to them. Woodrow Wilsons photo said, "I owe everything to you". FDR's photo reads "Forever in your debt". Why was the man who came to Tucson told to go there...and it wasn't for good mexican food and margaritas. Well the Farouk coin and the 1933's are off subject so will just skip it.

Mark, time is my enemy here, but Bonanno was already a crime boss on his own in his teens. He did not work up thru an organization. His first major enterprise was converting an old beat up ocean going tug boat into a replica US Coast Guard Ship. He and his crew wore Coast Guard uniforms etc. He then took his old tug out to sea and intercepted Kennedy's boats smuggling scotch. So successful, eventually Bonanno and Kennedy united. By then Bonanno had the trucks and means to deliever Kennedy's scotch. Bonanno knew the art of bribes and political donations. I noted earlier that Bonanno's dream in life was to become a luxury liner sea captain. Money of this magnitude poured into a political party not only benefits the top guy, but also the next generation of politicians that follow. What does a young Bonanno get? Favors for a long, long time and a signed autograph with a note of thanks.

I have to move next week and I want to wrap up the end of the story soon. I have gone back and read the entire post. I made a few mistakes that I know are mistakes. O ther that are suspected mistakes are not. I called cosmoline..creosote. I gave the wrong year of the coins numerous times, corrected my mistake and the called a wrong year again. I have the tonnage of the press off and am still scratching my head on that one. The 50 ton number is correct for a press that was needed to press the new master engravement hubs onto production dies. i was asked to find one, but never did. Why the press they had didn't work, don't know.

I have read the posts of everyone, some have answered my questions and have created new questions for me. I have always wondered as did my father and JB if the story from a man in the first place was real or not. It is very possible that the original die were fakes made by a master engraver and not recovered from a dump. Who knows? What I know was the clue I gave out. The die had a high carbon content. In the late 1960's our expert expected far less carbon as steel is tempered (pounded) to remove carbon. This improves its tensile strength. It is heated and pounded. Maybe this was true in 1907 or not, we just never knew and no one addressed it here.

Another great concern back then was use of the Pesos. Everyone focused on color and weight, etc. All of that was addressed by an engineer or expert before they were used. The concern was that the Mob has long been associated with car theft. Cars have identification numbers pounded into the

steel of certain parts of the automobile including a hidden number. The mob knows the numbers. The amateur car thief grinds the numbers out. The mob does not. The mob cuts the entire piece of steel out of the car and welds in new steel. That is because the FBI knew how to apply an acid to bring back the numbers from the ground metal. Grinding away numbers does not destroy the deeper microscopic indentations that can be brought to the surface from this acid test. Bonanno knew that. This was the greatest flaw of the coin in his mind. DCARR talked of something like this. Lastly, The greatest source of tension was the authentication of the coins. This was everything. You now know about the vast network an organized crime employs. The vast majority of the coins went thru investment bankers or houses. ROGERB noted that Walter Breen represented a house or houses. We know he was the best guy out there at the time and we know he authenticated these coins. We also know, he did every thing in his power right up to the very end to defend the coin as authentic. I am not insinuating anything, but I do have a question. Was Walter Breen actually convinced these coins were real or did he find himself in a terrible position and his reputation was on the line or did he know all along that it was a fake? Food for Thought!

hmmmm, let me get this straight. Woodrow Wilson veto's the Volstead act, prohibition, and declares to the American people it is unenforceable. Congress overrides him and Prohibition becomes law. The mob creates a place to go called the Speak Easy and the American people flock to them with no fear of being arrested. The mob makes how much? Billions maybe? Wouldn't Woodrow Wilson be their hero.?

Wow, I am utterly stunned. When congress passes a law, they absolutely inform the president that his/her veto will be overturned if they have the votes. If they want a law, and they pass that law, they want it to go into effect.

This is American politics 101. No president in the history of the United States has ever told the American people that I vetoed this law because IT CANNOT BE ENFORCED. That was a message that it was ok to go out and drink. He might have well have said this buds for you! He vetoed that law knowing his veto was going to be over turned and the law would go into effect. He could have said anything, but no he told the people of the United States it wont be enforced. Law enforcement must have been furious that a sitting president just undermined their job to enforce the law. Everybody knew that Prohibition would be the end of legal establishments know as bars, saloon and restaurants. Now the president makes that declaration. What organization was waiting in the wings drooling? Follow the money. I thought money played NO role in electing officials , but i could be alittle naïve here.

Wow...somebody call the police! Mark, I am trying to ignore you, but I was laughing so hard. What was the part about Guadins being legal tender again in the 1970's?

I have a bank, please come bring me all the Gaudins you have for 20 bucks a pop.

Drei3...very good. Davideo...very bad. I hope all is enjoying the thread and I just can not keep up. I am packing for a move and leaving my home of 62 years. It is chaos. I will try to read the posts but answering is so difficult, particularly when the topic has been addressed and the person posting

never went back and read. The good news is telling this episode in my life is blowing some dust off some very old neurons and some memories do come back. I need to post them while fresh in my mind.

All the debate about the Peso reminded me about the engineer who established the parameters of the coin was correct. In fact the coin was quite large at 1.2 plus ounces. The Gaudin is a 1 ounce coin which meant for every Peso, you had leftover material (gold). After 1000 coins, that was a large amount of material in the form of millings etc. The experts here can explain what Bonanno had to do to ultimately use that gold.

A little about me. You know my name and profession. I do not hide behind my identity, I lived this story. I was contracted by the FBI in 2003 (I think) and performed my duties for about 3 years. I had to pass an FBI background check and was required to tell the special agent everything in my life. I told him it would take awhile and he said "I know". The Bonanno stories were included as was another big thing in my life. It took over a month when I got the call. When I asked him how I did, I will never forget his answer. In the eyes of the FBI...dude, you are a star. My new job is a federal position and starts next week. There will be a huge learning curve for me over three weeks, and shortly I will report to a Federal Law Enforcement Training Academy in Georgia. Upon completion approx. a month later, I will be an accredited Federal Law Enforcement Officer. A G man. Once again the stories I tell are hard to believe, but this stuff happens. To all you former law enforcement people reading, you have my ultimate respect. I have just happened to see both sides of the coin and am now living the third side. I am not hiding and will try to restart posting when I again.

Unfortunately, in an attempt to poke holes in the story, enormous time is lost for me. The definition of legal tender is not the ability of depositing an HR or any gold coin. I am not a lawyer and I get all my information from the Millennials Guide To Survival In the Real World. Legal tender is a "medium of payment" that is recognized by a government, in this case...the US gov't. The legal system of that gov't. determines what is valid to be used to meet a financial obligation. The gov't. will designate a form of currency that fulfills the definition of the medium. The government can validate or DE validate the currency thru law. Coinage and currency have both been recognized as currency. Thru the Federal Reserve system, banks are the main source of distribution of currency. In addition banks collect currency thru a process known as backflow. If a currency (gold coins) are demonetized by law, the banks had the legal authority to accept for deposit or exchange your \$20 dollar gold coin for \$20.67. Demonetized currency is no longer legal tender. Roosevelt's act of 1933 demonetized all gold coins and they lost their status as legal tender. This remained in affect from 1933 to 1974. There were provisions that confuse people, because the law generally applies to US citizens, but licensed coin dealers and collectors had different rules. The coin act of 1965 reversed many of the laws of 1933, but there were provisions that also kept portions in affect. Section 210 repealed the 1933 provision of legal tender status of the coin. Private ownership of gold certificates was allowed in 1964, but not gold. Here is where it becomes a legal nightmare. It took a law signed by Ford in 1974 to allow American citizens to hold, sell, trade gold coins. The legality now becomes even more clouded. Counterfeiting laws are based on legal tender. The government has to know WHEN the coins were produced to classify them as legal tender to be counterfeit. The WHEN is the key. Finding the coins in say 1968, 69, 70 or so presented a problem for seizure but not counterfeiting. The seizure issue was resolved by having the possession of the coins by a licensed coin dealer. For comparison's purpose, certain special models of a 1967 Mustang quite possibly were built in 1965. The coin was dated 1907. Agents would have had to have broken in during the production to determine when they were made. This is why lawyers have two different opinions about one law. I will offer anyone \$20.67 for the gold Gaudin.

For the people who want to see. Look up the "The Bum Steer" in Tucson. It was located on north stone ave. Once you have the address an aerial view from say Zillow will get you there. Stone runs north and south. A massively large apartment complex just south of the Bum Steer is the old junkyard. Due north is a maze of buildings that bend into an elbow. A large tin building that ends the elbow is the production room. Can't remember when the Bum Steer opened or closed but was operational at the time.

No matter what, I stand by the Wilson photo. Review your history of Wilson as he spent in total six months out of the country while President. He frequently spent time with the King of Italy. As far as I know, Wilson is the only sitting American president to ever met with the Pope . The King (Emmanuel?) and Wilson were tight. The kings arch rival was a up and coming party headed up by Mussolini. He eventually took power. He was the absolute enemy of the Mafia and his Black Knights were his army to combat the MOB. History is a funny thing. And as far as your poo-poo, WW2 and Roosevelt. The Sicilian Syndicate was our own version of the French Underground. There was a reason Patton wanted Sicily. I suppose you don't believe in a debt of gratitude. Maybe the Roosevelt photo was a forgery also. This Buds for you!

This is getting out of control 😏

XXX, your post deserves a cognac. Thank you.

DerryB sorry you just can't believe. Let me make it worse, I will be reporting to a facility at Glyco, Georgia for four weeks of training. My start date is 1-22, my deployment date will follow shortly. Not only am I 62, I have had my right knee replaced twice as both have failed. None of this has been concealed on my part. My training will require running (which I cant do), climbing stairs (which I cant do) and Aikido ( which I cant do). Despite my open concerns, I have been repeatedly told an old Mob saying. Don't worry aboutit, forgetaboutit.

hchcoin, I actually feel quite guilty revealing a secret of a man who helped educate me and make me the man I am today. I am thrilled when people post how much they have enjoyed this story. I have laughed so hard at times that I have had to run to the bathroom. I have always wanted to tell others because of how interesting his life was. Then I have to listen to a nitwit debating Woodrow Wilsons picture in JB.s house. Posting here was almost an accident. I did not expect this and I am truly shocked. I have strayed in my stories, but so did Bonanno. You guys are lucky, I had to listen to him and drink cognac at the same time and I hated it and he knew it as he said drink up. I will post the disposal tomorrow and that's it for now. Thanks again all

Once again, I hope everyone is ENJOYING this thread. Bonanno taught me many things. He was a psychological genius. He could read a man and figure out his true agenda better than any man I have ever known. He taught me all about haters and how to deal with them. The art of vengeance does not have to involve violence or criminality in any way. I have a very distinct advantage over those that just don't believe or are driven to disprove to win. As doctors, we have studied PTSD as it has affected so many of our service men. What we know is that memories from an event do not properly implant in the memory cells of our brain. They sort of put down roots, but don't get buried. Much of the memories are sort of blowing in the wind like a tree. All it takes is a loud boom and they are back in Viet Nam or Iraq. What we have learned since this revelation is that it does not have to be a traumatic event, it can be a wonderful event. It can be a great mystery. If I say the word Kennedy, there is no trauma to most. People who watched the event on TV or the news were never

in danger. Unfortunately for many, many people, if they hear the word Kennedy they picture the assassination of JFK in their minds eye. Insp. David Toschi was never in any danger in is pursuit of the Zodiac Killer, but his investigative mind was plagued the rest of his life whenever the word Zodiac was mentioned. One man appeared in his minds eye over and over and over. His top suspect. He had to be isolated by his family from others to keep him from hearing the word Zodiac. I was asked why I came on this website and I told you I was watching an old movie about the gladiators in Rome and the word Omega or the symbol came up many times. I have loved being here. That period of my life is like a movie going thru my mind again. I can see my brother in his youth. I can see my father at the prime of his life and JB as an old wise man as sharp as a tack. It was so exciting. What you hater don't understand is that whenever you think of the Omega from here on out, you will also think of me. I will forever be in your mind for telling this story. For those that believe or want to believe, it will bring a smile. For the others, you will just stew. How's that for an arrogant statement? I got cha!

Bad news for me. US 101 in California is washed out adding 7 hours to my trip. This is it.

I want to thank the forum moderator for allowing me to come here and tell mu story. I never read the rules and know I broke a few. I am happy for 13,000 views on a ZOMBIE thread for you.

I was taught if I got in a tussle and won, be humble. My opponent may have lost, but it took courage to put up his dukes in the first place. I was taught to help him up, brush off his clothes, shake hands and go have a Bud together. I was also taught it is far better to not get in that fight in the first place as I might win, but get a black eye or split lip in the process. I was told over and over to ignore the individual.

I have had some squabbles and tried to follow that advice, and have never meant to humiliate anyone. Unfortunately jmahgkxzfndyebj, you sir have taken the cake. I know exactly what Bonanno did for Woodrow Wilson as I asked him. Please tell the forum when JB went thru Ellis Island. Tell us what they found. Tell us what WOP and DAEGO means. If your reading his book, bad mistake. He violated the code of silence with that book and much of it is deliberately inaccurate. When I cannot ignore someone and I have to converse with someone of your character and intelligence, I am usually ordering large fries. I truly did try to help you. You obviously like to post behind an anonymous name, but you will forever be known on this forum as the NITWIT. My advice is only worth a plugged nickel, but I would suggest you change your call name to The Nitwit. Self degradation is an enduring quality liked by Americans. Look at Rodney Dangerfield. Its a way of saying I'm an idiot and I know it. The forum will have plenty of time to rip me to shreds andthey know my real name and it does not matter to me.

At the end, my father received an urgent call from Mr Bonanno. He immediately rounded up myself and my brother. We had to meet Bonanno who had to go thru his routine to avoid the surveillance men. During the drive and the wait for Bonanno. My father told us a Bonanno associate in Nogales Sonora had called Bonanno and told him Mexican Federales were on their way to a warehouse that he owned in Mexico. The man was a Greek Immigrant who was unable to migrate to the U.S. because of a criminal past. He ended up owning multiple businesses in Nogales including his baby, La Caverna Restaurant. His name was Kieriakis (spelling?). He had been smuggling items desired by Americans most of his life. Not humans or narcotics. He could smuggle the USS Iowa across the border and back. His restaurant was legendary. I knew this man. Apparently the Secret Service was interested in a bill of laden regarding a marine (ship) diesel engine that was delivered to his warehouse address. The Secret Service can not just walk across the border and conduct an investigation. Kieriakis was connected to the Federales well and he was tipped off. Before he could

get to his warehouse, Federales were already interviewing employees about the diesel engine which nobody knew anything about.

Unfortunately, an elderly janitor said he remembered a parcel of the dimensions and weight they were looking for. He had cleaned up a section of broken packing wood and looked inside the parcel while doing his job. He told the Mexican investigator that there was never any diesel engine in a parcel that they had described, but there was a giant hydraulic press inside in a parcel at one time. This was enough to cause alarm bells and Bonanno relayed this information to the new owners. They had decided that this was enough to cause the Secret Service to pry farther and they would undoubtedly trace the press to Tucson. The production shop was being shut down immediately. Bonanno is out, but this is the end of something he created and we all wanted to see what was going to happen. We arrived at a business across and up the street that was secluded and had a birds eye view of the junk yard. We also could see the old body shop. They were two sets of binoculars. Initially it was actually very silent and no activity anywhere. As it started to get dark, we could hear diesel engines begin to roar and outdoor lights lit up the junk yard in a small area. Soon the first of two normal size forklifts began to work their way across the parking lot between the body shop and the junk yard. This was not unusual as the body shop had been transporting wrecked cars to the junk yard for years. It was too difficult to actually identify what they were moving, but we guessed it was the pizza oven (annealer) and the mill ,roller press and other equipment. There were several trips and as they dropped off their packages a group of blow torches lit up and sparks were flying everywhere. The a monster fork lift that was actually a tractor with the forks attached began to leave the body shop. Its lights were on and it moved left and right from its enormous load. We all could identify Big Bertha (the coin press) as it looked like an oversized huge house refrigerator. The tractor strained to move it. It was placed on the ground and the blow torches moved to it. The large forklift then lifted a very large car and moved it to a machine that looked like a giant dump truck lying on its side. The large fork lift drove up to this machine and placed the car in it. You could see the entire side of the car. Then a smaller front loader was scooping piles from where the earlier smaller machines were dumped and pouring the contents into the interior of the car as the large forklift had ripped open the top. After that, the top of the machine came down and began to crush the car in a down ward motion. When it elevated we were all bothered that the car was quite identifiable and only the top was crushed down. It appeared that the crushing was insufficient. Then another car was placed on top of the first car and it was filed with parts and crushed. The second crush dramatically crushed down the first car. This procedure went on and on for about 8 cars. Then the large fork lift lifted the entire 8 cars out and placed them on a flat bed truck. The men working the blow torches were now chaining down the flat load of cars on the truck and the procedure started all over again. This time the front loader was gathering parts from where the coin press had been torched. Very little was said other than identifying piles and what was being crushed. After another 8 or so cars were crushed, they also were put on the flat bed truck. After chaining, the semi pulling the flat bed portion pulled out and drove away. To our surprise, a semi was hooked up to the crusher and it also pulled away. Then the lights went out.

When it was over, there was only a sensation of wow. It was over and the tools of production would not be traced back to Tucson and Bonanno. It felt like our team had won a football game. The press came into our world at Pappadeus junk yard and left the same way, only in pieces squished in cars. As we sat in the car and talked my brother and I wondered why there was no activity at the body shop. This surprised Bonanno as we thought there would be a lot to clean up. There was nothing. We drove off and over dinner and Cognac, we learned that the operation was sophisticated. As a coin was produced , it moved immediately from one room to another out of the sight of the press men. Here they were properly placed in protective trays and were transported out of the building almost hourly. The number of coins did not matter. As the transport people delivered the coins, they went to another location and picked up a small amount of pesos and delivered them to the body shop and the cycle went on and on. At the end of a day, only the machines were present in the body shop. The coins eventually left a storage house and went to Phoenix because it was an air transportation hub. Even though, the machines were gone and the body shop was cleaned out, an enormous amount of coins were still on shelves and in this pipeline that had been established. I

would estimate, that this event had to be after the Omega sign was discovered and the feds were notified...73?

After the excitement died down, there was very little conversation about the coins amongst us. That's the code. There was a small blip at the end of a tv news broadcast about federal agents roaming around Pappadeus junk yard about two weeks later. I did not see it, but it was big news amongst us. The news did not define the agency the agents worked for or what they were doing or looking for. An agent was silhouetted by a giant mountain of junk. Life was changing very dramatically as I was starting or was in college. I was still going to Bonanno's house to be tutored every Thursday.

A year or so went by when an idea man posed a question to Bonanno. He was asked if he knew the difference between diesel fuel and home heating oil #2. Bonanno didn't have a clue. The idea man explained that the chemical structure of the two were almost identical except for a small chemical chain connected to the home heating oil molecule. This chain represented red dye. In addition, the only other differences were the names of the products and diesel fuel costs anywhere from 50 cents to over a dollar more due to fuel tax depending on the state. Bonanno's mind began to ask more questions as the idea man explained. He told Bonanno the home heating oil for home furnaces would work in a diesel engine as well as diesel fuel. A chemical additive would eliminate the dye and the home oil could be re-named as diesel. If someone owned a gas station with a diesel pump, and a small home heating oil company, the oil could be put in the diesel tanks and the fuel could be sold for a nickel or so less than the competition and it would sell like hotcakes. The fuel tax was pure profit in the gas stations owners pockets. Once again JB's logistic mind began to fire off questions. Before long, JB was in the gas station business, more specifically, the Truck Stop business. Like always, a successful enterprise was sold off and in this case, eventually to the Armenians. The government eventually broke up the enterprise after a "rookie" chemical analyst noticed an abnormal amount of fuel vials being examined were off in their color. The Armainein mob was prosecuted. The estimate for the total amount of defrauding the US government was 1.6 billion dollars.

As for me, life was great. the plain Jane girls I knew had grown up and were now Marilyn Monroe's. My mind was captured by their essence right up until the roar of a v-8 and squealing tires from muscle cars tore me away from them. It was a grand time in America's history. I was in college and loving life. If you went to a movie , you said "wow" instead of "I want my money back" today. Rock and roll was king. Neon lights lit up the sky at night. Everything was great except...well... I sure did hate Organic Chemistry. 😎

lurking is a somewhat diabolical term. I prefer selectively hiding. Will post when caught up on sleeping.

Hi everyone, it's your 62 y/o, broken body, forked tongue devil posting.

There has been an awful lot to read since i posted the end of the story on the 15th. In fact, there are approx. 100 posts since then. Fortunately for me, since I don't read the nitwit's posts, that meant I got to skip 25 posts. That's one quarter of all those posts that I view as a waste of time. Sorry Nit, you need medication. This is serious OCD and is spiraling out of control. Shall I point out how many times you mentioned Wilson. You sir have serious problems.

Forum Moderator, time to intercede before the Nitwit self destructs. I for one will reduce my antagonism 50% and therefore will refer to him as The Nit from this point out.

I was able to meet with my brother before leaving Tucson and he loved reading about this event in our lives. He has some info that may help.

First, I did not dream this story up by myself. As posted earlier, I stole it from a little old lady on another forum. I believe her call sign "Lady Gaudiss".

For the doubters, I was going to retire at the end of 2017. Since, I was medically consulted by Donald Trump while he lived in Tucson in 1990 and dated Marla's best friend Kimme, I decided to write our President a letter and volunteered myself to help make our country great again. I will officially start my job on Monday with the Dept of Justice and will be going to Glynco to become a Federal Law Enforcement Officer soon thereafter. My position is not symbolic or voluntary, I will be paid,

After reading the posts, it has become obvious to myself and my brother that Walter Breen was most likely under the influence of the organized crime umbrella. Remember, I posted about FBI chief Hoover was blackmailed by the Mob and denied the existence of the MOB. MAFIA. etc., I also noted that Bonanno was the brains of logistics and authenticating the coins stood in the way of everything. I also posted his response that the "coins were already sold". This comment was made in the planning stage. This has always meant to us that someone was bought and paid for. This could be in the form of bribery, or favoritism, or blackmail. We know the coins came thru investment firms or houses where Breen was the authenticator. We know that despite undeniable proof that the coins were FAKE as established by a rookie authenticator, Breen upped his support of the coins being genuine. he fought for the coins being authentic all the way to the end. Now all the posts that his work was sloppy or questionable led us to view him as corrupted. This is the way the mob operates.

Please remember, we had no knowledge of a second coin...the \$3. Everyone doing math seems to forget the profits of that coin and that Bonanno was well paid for this venture.

My brother IS a lawyer, and the Omega sign absolutely was added to the coin to defeat counterfeiting laws. He also noted that the Federal Govt did virtually nothing in the way of an investigation as the crime was Fraud and not counterfeiting. He informed me that the tonnage of the hydraulic presses was 120 tons initially, then a 180 tonner, than a 50 ton press. He pointed out that my father and Bonanno referred to items in the operation with code names. The coin press was called Big Bertha, the annealing machine was called the Pizza Oven and another machine was called the donut maker. The presses were called the 12 ton, the 16 ton and the 50 ton. The 12 ton was too small and would have required way to many strikes to work when they learned it was high relief. No 12 ton was ever purchased. The 180 ton press was an out of service coin press from Argentina. It was in need of repair and leaked hydraulic fluid badly. There were large patches of paint missing. The 180 tonner could not maintain proper hydraulic pressure due to the leaks. The repair of hoses was possible, but leaking gauges and valves was far more difficult. A pressure gauge leaked the very least at 160 tons and that was the pressure it remained at. We believe that is why it was referred to it as a 16 ton press. He believes it took 4 to five strikes to produce the coins. A fifty ton press was found in Sierra Vista Az, another community with strong mob affiliations. The press man could not maintain proper hydraulic pressure when he tried to lower the 180 tonner down to 40-50 tons of pressure. They did not want to risk damaging the master hub. My brother believes the tonnage to use the master hub to produce a production die was closer to 40 tons of pressure and was done on the 50 ton press. He does not how many times it was used besides once.

We both believe the entire episode began in 64/65 and ended in 67/68. Brand new coins were coming on to the market in 1973/74. We base this on how old we thought we were and that when Bonannos house was bombed, he was in the thick of production. We both believe many thousands of coins were still in existence after the shutdown.

Hope this helps. We both hope that everyone has enjoyed this episode of our lives. Wish we could tell you about JFK.

Dr. broken body here. just got internet up. I do not work for the FBI, but the DOJ. There is no mandatory retirement for physicians. Goal is to help an old friend (Trump) make America great Again. I am not connected to the mob in any way, but the FBI knows that I have EXTRAORDINARY information that not only will I share, they greatly enjoy. I am officially a Federal Law Enforcement Officer as of 1-23-18 and have my leather wallet and credentials to prove it. My earliest memories of Mr. B was about age 5. I began working in my fathers office at about 9. Strike out xxx has done great work. He has definitely shown you about the body shop, the junkyard and the relationship between Kiriakis and Papadeuas and Bonanno. The more people research, the more my story stands up. Once again, despite the Nit, it appears most of you have not only enjoyed this story, but there is a belief that it is the end of a long mystery. I don't have much more to add , but I do thank all of you for allowing me to tell this story.