

Editor's Notes

UNDERCOVER OFFICER OF THE FORCE

James Dubro and Robin F. Rowland are writing the biography of the late Assistant Commissioner Frank W. Zaneth. The book, tentatively entitled *Mr. Conspiracy: The Story of the RCMP's Most Secret Agent*, will be published by Harper & Collins, in the fall of 1990.

Assistant Commissioner Zaneth joined the Royal North-West Mounted Police in December, 1917, and retired in 1951. He was one of the best undercover officers in the history of the Force. During the 30s and 40s, he was the RCMP's expert on major conspiracy cases, and is best remembered for being one of the undercover officers who testified at the Winnipeg General Strike cases.

In their last book, *King of The Mob*, Dubro and Rowland mentioned one of these undercover cases, where Zaneth went to Chicago and the Internal Revenue Service team that was after Al Capone gave him a cover as a member of the Bugs Moran Gang. Zaneth also broke one of the biggest narcotics cases in North American history: the 1930-1934 Pincus Brecher case, where the gang was importing steamer trunks full of heroin. Zaneth also infiltrated a Mafia-run immigration racket in the 1920s, and was the one who arrested both Tim Buck, the U.S. Communist Party leader in 1930, and the Bronfman brothers in 1934.

The authors of *Mr. Conspiracy: The Story of the RCMP's Most Secret Agent* have a large number of case files, and they

now want to know more about Zaneth as a police officer, Commanding Officer, and human being. They have interviewed some RCMP veterans across the country, and are asking anyone else who may have known Assistant Commissioner Zaneth to contact James Dubro at the following address:

Suite 402,
86 Gloucester Street,
Toronto, Ontario
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Tel.: (416) 922-8706

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WELCOME BACK TO SHERWOOD PARK DETACHMENT! The 23rd Anniversary Regimental Ball will be held on June 2, 1990, at H.G. Caterers, 3840-76th Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta. Cocktails will be served at 18:00, dinner at 19:00, and the cost is \$32.50 per person. For more information, contact Cst. Mike Kindratsky at the following address:

Sherwood Park Detachment
913 Ash Street
Sherwood Park, Alberta
T8A 2G3
Tel.: (403) 467-7741

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