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Las Vegas arrested in boxman murder

By Ron Vacchina
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A Las Vegas man accused of defrauding a Teamster Union pension fund of more than \$1.4 million has been charged with the June murder of a Caesars Palace casino boxman.

Anthony Spilotro, 35, of 2612 E. Siesta Ave. was arrested Friday night at the Coachman Inn at 3240 Eastern Ave., Las Vegas Metropolitan Police reported.

Spilotro, a former gift shop owner at Circus Circus, was arrested by members of Sheriff Ralph Lamb's special police Task Force.

He is charged with the shooting death of William "Red" Klim, 50, of died June 23, 1973 behind the Churchill Downs Race and Sports Book on the Strip.

The murder had long puzzled local authorities but a spokesman for the Intelligence Bureau of the police department said Spilotro had been under investigation for some time.

A special bail hearing was held for Spilotro by Judge Robert Legakes on Sunday afternoon at the request of Oscar Goodman, Spilotro's attorney.

Judge Legakes released the accused killer on his own recognizance. Spilotro was set to appear in Justice Court March 18 for a preliminary hearing.

William Klim was shot three times as he walked through the parking lot behind the racebook in June. He was shot twice in the head and once in the chest.

Investigators failed to discover a motive for the murder and robbery was ruled out as a possibility. Klim, who worked at Caesars Palace since August 1972, had been associated with the Strip gambling industry for about 11 years. Witnesses told police Klim entered the racebook briefly and seemed to be looking for someone. Moments later he was shot to death less

than 100 feet from the betting shop.

Spilotro entered a plea of innocent Monday in Chicago to the charges of defrauding a Teamsters Fund of more than \$1.4 million.

He was indicted along with seven others on Feb. 14 by a federal grand jury which charged the men used loans from the Teamster pension fund for their personal use after they obtained the money for use in a plastic manufacturing plant in Deming, N.M.

The defendants had established three companies which pension fund trustees were told would operate on an industrial tract in Deming which was owned by the pension fund.

The defendants all appeared in U.S. District Court. They are Irwin Weiner of Niles; Ronald De Angeles of Port Rickeney, Fla.; Allen Dorfman of Deerfield; Jack Sheetz of Dallas, Tex.; Albert Matheson

of Detroit; and Joseph Lombardo of Chicago.

Sheetz and Matheson are pension fund trustees.

Spilotro's brother and a friend were also arrested by the Task Force during the week end. Victor Spilotro, 40, of Deerfield, Ill., was charged with being an ex-felon failing to register. He was arrested Saturday night.

Ralph Tardi, 59, of Talos Park, Ill., was arrested twice on the same charge as Spilotro. He was arrested both Friday and Saturday nights.

Victor Spilotro and Tardi are in Las Vegas on a gambling junket from Chicago, police said.

According to Chicago authorities, Spilotro has been a crime syndicate hoodlum and longtime lieutenant to the late Felix Alderisio, a gang boss.

Spilotro was charged in September 1972 with a Chicago gangland killing which occurred in 1965. He was acquitted of the charge during a trial.