

Police Arrest 9 in Hub As Bank Robbery Gang

By **ROBERT B. KENNEY**

Staff Writer

Law enforcement officials in Greater Boston yesterday arrested nine men alleged to be part of a nationwide bank robbery ring. More arrests are anticipated.

FBI agents arrested seven of the men—six in the Boston area and one in Miami. The other two were picked up by detectives from the office of Suffolk County Dist. Atty. Garrett H. Byrne.

The FBI also filed detainers against four other men, currently in jail on other charges. As many as 20 men are expected to be in custody before the investigation ends.

The 11 men arrested or detained by the FBI were indicted on bank robbery charges by a Federal grand jury in Boston.

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FBI Says 11 Stole \$227,000 in Hub

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The two arrested by Byrne's men were named in warrants issued by Brighton District Court. A "John Doe" warrant has been issued for a third.

Officials estimate the gang stole \$500,000 to \$1 million in Massachusetts alone. The robbers allegedly operated in three other states.

Indictments also are expected to be sought from grand juries in four other Massachusetts counties, — Essex, Hampden, Middlesex and Norfolk.

The 11 men indicted by the Federal grand jury in Boston were charged with netting \$227,000 in eight Greater Boston bank holdups between November 1967 and July 1968.

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, who, with Attorney

General John N. Mitchell, announced the arrests, identified those taken into custody as:

Anthony Chiodi, 38, of Trenton street, East Boston, operator of an East Boston lunch room.

James R. Kearns, 31, of Cortez street, South End.

Hobart T. Willis Jr., 32, Wildwood street, Braintree, owner of a Boston lounge.

Joseph F. Curnane, 28, Lothrop street, Beverly, listed as a barber in Lynn.

Paul E. Durant 32, Cortez street, South End.

Joseph Marino (alias Salvatore J. Ruma), 39, of Norfolk street, Cambridge, operator of a Cambridge variety store.

Chris M. Calabrese Jr. 37, of Erie, Pa., arrested in Miami.

Nabbed by Byrne's men were Robert Dall, 38, of

Archer av., Revere, and Vincent J. Bowen, 55, of Chester st., Everett.

Officials said Bowen was wearing his security guard's uniform when arrested at work in Andover.

Detainers were placed against the following:

Caesar D. Monteverchio, 34, of Erie, Pa., now in Michigan State Prison.

Robert F. Guarante, 38, of East Boston, owner of a pizza shop in Boston, now in Hampden County Jail.

John N. Michaelson, 31, of Revere, listed as a cab driver, presently jailed in Boston.

And, Daniel M. Pagliarulo, 44, of Boston, a welder now in Norfolk County Jail.

Det. John F. Doyle, chief of Byrne's detectives, was credited with providing information leading to a break in the case.

Police said three weeks ago, Doyle spoke with one of

four men jailed last September after an aborted bank holdup in Natick. Doyle knew the man and the suspect allegedly agreed to turn informer.

Police said a gang member gave corroborating evidence to FBI agents after the initial disclosure.

The 11 are charged with the following robberies:

State Street Bank and Trust Co., East Boston, Nov. 6, 1967; Milton Bank and Trust Co., Quincy, Jan. 23, 1968; Essex County Bank and Trust Co., Saugus, June 17, 1968.

Coolidge Bank and Trust Co., Cambridge, May 14, 1968 and July 2, 1968; First National Bank of Boston, North Gate Shopping Plaza, Revere, July 22, 1968.

The six grabbed by the FBI appeared in Boston Federal District Court yesterday. Each pleaded innocent.