

Organized Crime Assassin Linked to Slaying of San Diego Businesswoman

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SAN DIEGO—Mystery businesswoman Tamara Rand was murdered by a professional assassin apparently because she posed a threat to someone with crime syndicate connections, San Diego police said Friday.

Moreover, they said, her slaying bears a striking resemblance to the murder of Chicago Mafia chieftain Sam Giancana and three other mob-suspected murders in the last year.

"We think it was a professional hit by an agent of organized crime," acting Police Chief William Kolender told a news conference here.

It was the first public acknowledgment by the police of a possible link between her murder and organized crime.

Mrs. Rand, 54, was shot to death last Nov. 9 while alone in the fashionable Mission Hills home she shared with her husband, Dr. Phillip Rand, a prominent obstetrician-gynecologist.

Regarded by many who knew her as a closed-mouthed enigmatic figure, she had been involved in an array of complicated financial deals that extended to Switzerland, Italy, Mexico, the Bahamas and Las Vegas.

Earlier this month, authorities opened a safety deposit box registered to her and discovered a cache of more than \$400,000 in crisp new bills. The source of the funds is under investigation.

Three weeks before her murder,

she reportedly cut short a business trip in Las Vegas and returned home distraught, telling relatives her life had been threatened.

Kolender and Lt. Ed Stevens, head of the San Diego police department's homicide squad, declined to say Friday whether she was involved in any dealings with organized crime figures.

"But," the police chief added, "there is no logical motive for her slaying other than someone wanting her out of the way because of some kind of a problem with her many business dealings."

He said his investigators reached that conclusion after an exhaustive inquiry into her affairs.

Six detectives working fulltime on the case have interviewed dozens of her acquaintances and business associates, he said, but so far there is no evidence pointing to any suspect.

Kolender expressed frustration over what he said was the refusal of one of her former business associates to cooperate in the investigation.

He is Allen R. Glick, a 34-year-old La Jolla attorney who has emerged in the last 18 months as one of the biggest gambling casino operators in Las Vegas.

Glick's holdings, most of which were acquired with more than \$100 million in loans from the Teamsters' Central States Pension Fund, include the Stardust, Fremont and Hacienda hotel-casinos and the Marina Hotel's casino.

Authorities want to question Glick about reports that Mrs. Rand had de-

manded a 5% interest in his gambling empire which he assertedly promised her in return for a \$500,000 loan she made to him in 1974 under her maiden name.

Police say they have reasonably good evidence of such an agreement, but Glick has publicly denied it.

Kolender said his investigators twice had tried to interview Glick, once in Las Vegas and later in La Jolla, but "he chose not to cooperate and we can't force him."

He said there still was not enough evidence to warrant taking the case to the grand jury which would have the power to subpoena testimony.

Mrs. Rand was shot five times—three times under the chin, once through the ear and once in the back—at close range with a .22-caliber automatic, apparently fitted with a silencer.

Lt. Stevens said Giancana, murdered in his Chicago home last June, was killed in the same manner and with a similar weapon.

He emphasized, however, that the gun used to kill Giancana was not the one used on Mrs. Rand.

Stevens also likened the Rand murder to the slaying last February of Edward Lazar, a Phoenix accountant who had been scheduled to testify before a grand jury about a reputed Mafia figure; the murder last May of Edward (Marty) Buccieri, a pit boss at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, and the killing of Augie Moniaci of Milwaukee in another mob-suspected murder.