

Bureau of Prisons (BOP) Alcatraz Disciplinary Hearing, January 27, 1947
Inmate File 417, Salvatore Mancuso
Alcatraz Comprehensive Inmate Files, 1934-1967;
Records of the Bureau of Prisons, Record Group 129
National Archives at San Francisco, San Bruno, California

September 2010 National Archives transcript of audio extracted from original SoundScriber disc recording.

The audio recovered from the 1947 disc, even after some noise cleaning was applied, contains a varying but often high ratio of noise to signal and many sections of the interview were inaudible or not discernable. When [...] appears there was significant voice content but not enough clarity for transcription.

Total time: 12 minutes 29 seconds.

0:06 [inaudible] Mancuso, 0922, hello...

1:30

BOP 1: Outside of that, I'll take care of that...

4:15

BOP 1: Send Mancuso [...]

[Heavy-duty door opening and closing noises. Mancuso enters.]

4:31

BOP 1: Mancuso, you are charged with the possession of contraband. The accompanying food and pepper was found in the locker of the above-named subject that goes by ... Mr. Allen. But, ah [...]

4:58

BOP 1: ...What is that...what is that, Mancuso? ...You making soup up there--huh? Croutons are for soup are they not? ...

5:12

BOP 1: Let's just see it [...] You running a restaurant up there?

5:32

BOP 1: [...] Where you get that pepper... huh?

Mancuso: [...] don't eh...don't ask eh eh ...somewhere [...]

5:44

BOP 1: Well, I'm...I'm asking you where you got it. You make a connection to get it?

Mancuso: Of course not.

5:50

BOP 1: How'd you get it?

Mancuso: In the mess hall.

BOP 1: You don't work in the mess hall do you?

5:57

Mancuso: No, they had it in the mess hall.

BOP 1: They don't have it in the mess hall, they put the pepper [...] in the...in the food over there, they don't have any pepper on the tables over there...but you have.

Mancuso: [...]

BOP 1: [...] pepper over there?

6:15

BOP 1: About a week ago? ... What'd you have this for, to flavor your food with? Apparently we didn't get the meat and potatoes, did we? And the onions and everything else to go with it. [...] Mancuso ... don't have much time for playing around now, now eh?

Mancuso: [...]

6:40-6:58

[faint talking]

6:59-7:20

[Door closes loudly, faint talking.]

7:24

BOP 1: Mancuso, you know, it's pretty serious--there's pepper too. You know that don't you? You been through the ropes, you have, with pepper [...] use it for something ... you got enough pepper there... to cut through a thousand sandwiches. ... You must have a long range program in mind, uh, bringing a lot of food in your cell?

Where's the salt. Is there any salt?

Mancuso: [...]

7:55

BOP 1: Is there salt there too? You got a little restaurant of your own up there? What are you doing with the croutons!

Mancuso: Uh I ah--I like--

BOP 1: Yeah. Always food, huh? (pause) Alright, step out.

8:18

[Background noise, coughing or laughing.]

BOP 1: [...] Put him in solitary.

[Sound of door shutting.]

8:42-43

[Sound of door opening and closing.]

8:44

BOP 1: Sit down uh, Mancuso. We let you off in January with ...with a light penalty. We're going to give you solitary this time. Modified restriction of privileges--30 days. We got to... kind of jolt you up!

9:04

Mancuso: You're going to... you gonna put me in the hole? Can't you do it...without the hole this time?

BOP 1: We'd like to if we could, but we let you off the last time and it didn't do any good you know.

9:17

Mancuso: Don't put ... in the hole, please.

BOP 1: Why? How can we cure you!?

Mancuso: I promise I will stop.

BOP 1: But you told us the same thing in January.

9:26

Mancuso: I will do now.

BOP 1: No?

Mancuso: I will do now.

9:30

BOP 1: Yeah, but then you tell us the same thing last January, its only two months ago, or three months ago.

Mancuso: I will do now [...] I will do now.

9:48

BOP 1: Alright but ...You afraid of the hole? You ever been out here? Huh?

Mancuso: I will do now...

BOP 1: We're spending so much a lot of time here. I don't want to put you into solitary but we've got to do something about you Mancuso. You won't do it about yourself.

Mancuso: ...Will do now.

BOP 1: Huh?

10:17

Mancuso: ... I, I will do, I will do my best.

BOP 1: Your best ...is not enough around here. You got to stop this here!

10:25

Mancuso: I'll stop, I'll stop--

10:29

BOP 2: What was that report you wrote on him only in February?

Mancuso: I had that ex ...

BOP 2: Like what?

Mancuso: I had that [...] and the ex--

10:40

BOP 2: He had the same thing, with food.

Mancuso: [...] but, uh...

10:43

BOP: [...]

[Background noise, coughing.]

Mancuso: I, I promise...you...

10:52

BOP 1: Alright, step out.

[Door opens.]

10:58

BOP1: What do you think?

[Door closes.]

BOP 2: Uh...

11:01

BOP 1: We have uh, we got a lot of time to play around with this guy.

BOP 2: ...We need to, you ever ... you ever...tell them right there that they must go, stay overnight ... let them out in the morning?

[BOP 1 and BOP 2 talking faintly.]

11:22

BOP 1: Yeah, that, that place don't do them any good unless they stay in there for 3 days, you know—

11:30

BOP 2: [...] you can give them modified privileges [...]

11:34

BOP 1: The modified privileges takes them to 45 days [...].

BOP 2: Alright—

11:42

BOP 1: But with the understanding that the next time, they're going to go and eat donuts all day!

BOP 2: Umhm.

11:50

[door opening and closing]

11:53

BOP 1: Alright Mancuso, we're going to see whether or not...you can live up to a promise. You're going on grade for 45 days. Take that slip. Do you read English? No, the other one. OK, you lose certain privileges.

And now, I'm going to tell you this now, you do this again now, you're going out there. Is that clear?

Mancuso: Yeah.

BOP 1: OK, we're going to give you a chance now to show that you can keep your word.

[Door opens. Mancuso leaves]

BOP 1: Alright [...]