

Chapter 2

THE FOSCO'S

THE FOSCO FAMILY NAME has been associated with organized labor for more than 80 years. It started with Peter Fosco, who made his way from the Tunnel Workers union in 1915 to the general president of the Laborers International Union of North America in the 1960s. Fosco used his connections in organized crime, to climb the ladder. He went from being a poor Italian immigrant to having dinner at the White House with the presidents of the United States.

FBI files list two birthplaces for Peter Fosco. The first listing has him being born in Poland in 1894 to Italian parents. The second has him being born in Dombrovia, Russia in 1892 to Italian parents. The file reveals Peter Fosco entered the United States on April 14, 1913 and settled in



Chicago where he married his wife Carmella and had two sons James and Angelo. Within a year and a half he gained employment as a business agent with the Chicago Laborers Union local 2, represented the tunnel workers. At the time, the tunnel workers were digging the city's sewer system. While being employed he began to take an interest in Chicago politics, it was here that he would meet the people that would pave the path for his future. He