



Appearing in court, from left, Salvatore Mazurco, Joseph Lamberti and Salvatore Lamberti

Italy Asks Extradition Of Heroin Case Suspects

By Robert E. Kessler

Eleven persons indicted earlier this year in the "pizza connection" heroin-smuggling case were back in court in Brooklyn yesterday, facing demands that they be extradited to Italy to face charges of being involved with heroin smuggling from there and of being connected with Sicilian organized-crime

circles. Three of the 11 are from Long Island.

U.S. Magistrate Shira Scheindlin ordered all 11 notified on bail and set a Nov. 16 hearing for more arguments on the Italian government's request. Four suspects were arraigned on similar demands in U.S. District Court in Newark.

The 15 were among almost 20 persons indicted ear-

—Continued on Page 13

Heroin Case Suspects' Extradition Asked

—Continued from Page 4
lier this year in U.S. District Court, Manhattan, on charges of being involved in smuggling \$1.65 billion worth of heroin into this country. Prosecutors have said the defendants used pizza parlors in New York and the Midwest as a cover for smuggling "billions and billions of dollars" worth of heroin into the United States over a five-year period.

Italy is seeking the extradition from the United States of 23 of the 266 persons named in Italian arrest warrants last weekend in a massive offensive against Sicilian organized-crime figures involved with heroin trafficking

and other racketeering operations. The Italian crackdown was based on information from Tommaso Buscetta, described as a leading figure in Italian organized-crime circles.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Charles Rota, who has worked with Italian authorities in the case, said it is "significant and important that a member of Sicilian organized crime is finally talking and providing a clear picture of the link between the heroin traffic in Italy and the United States."

Under a new U.S.-Italian extradition treaty, all the defendants facing U.S. charges will be held for trial here before they can be sent overseas. If

they are convicted, they can be sent to Italy for trial before being returned to serve the rest of their sentences.

Attorneys for the defendants in Brooklyn insisted they are innocent of all charges. The 11 include Salvatore Mazurco, 46, of 792 Madison Ave., Baldwin, who is free on \$3-million bail, his brother-in-law, Joseph Lamberti, 52, of 3279 Bertha Dr., Baldwin, free on \$1.5-million bail, and Lamberti's cousin, Salvatore Lamberti, 55, of 270 Kew-Forest Rd., Woodmere, free on \$3.5-million bail.

Mazurco and Joseph Lamberti are partners in three businesses: The Pronto Interior Demolition, 73 Provoet

St., Brooklyn; Roma American Imports, 31 Cobble Ct., Brooklyn; and Pina Europa Boutique of New Windsor, N.Y. Salvatore Lamberti's occupation has not been established.

The two Lambertis and Mazurco were described as associates of the Colombo Crew of the Colombo family, federal sources said, and were distributing heroin in the metropolitan area.

Joseph Lamberti's lawyer, Anthony Lombardino, said the initial charges do not appear at this point to be anything beyond what the federal indictment stated earlier. Joseph Lamberti's attorney, Joseph J. ... of the Long Islanders has an ...