

-2-

REEL ONE

-101-

LIANA No. No. No. No. No. No. Ahh.
AMBIANCE (Women) Ah. Ah.

-101- OUT

-102-

BOBO (Laughs)
NICK PRODO Ah.

-103-

BOBO (laughs) Be careful where you walk when you
come back stage.
NICK Your advice comes a little late.
BOBO What are you doing here in the first place?
NICK Silly question. I come to see the program
tonight.
BOBO Yeah, I'll bet.
NICK I love operetta.
BOBO You do? Why? Who are you working for and how
much do you know?
NICK About what?
BOBO I'm talking about operation X.
NICK I never heard of it.

-104-

BOBO Why did you want to get into the dressing
room of Liana Martin?
NICK I'm an autograph hunter.
BOBO A sense of humour, eh? I just fail to appre-
ciate it, see? Just what do you know about
operation X?
NICK I haven't the faintest idea what you are talking
about.

-3-

BOBO

I will refresh your memory. Max, I have a job for you.

-105-

NICK

Hhh.

BOBO

This guy won't co-operate. Doesn't want to talk. See if you can persuade him, Max.

NICK

Hhh.

BOBO

I hope that you are persuaded. It's easier if you talk, not so painful.

NICK

Ahh! Ahh!

MABUSE

Be more careful, Max. Torture is a delicate art. You must learn when to stop. You can't learn anything from a corpse. Now I'll ask you a question: Just what you know about operation X. Get him on his feet! Look at me. You went too far Max. He can't even see me.

NICK

Hh. But I can hear you. I know who you are. Hh.
(Outside theatre)

AMBIANCE

-106-

HATCHECK No. 1

Another customer who forgot his coat. From New York, an American.

HATCHECK No. 2

Same thing every night.

HATCHECK No. 1

Well, I'll leave it out, someone may come by to pick it up.

-107-

AMBIANCE

(Theatre crowd)

MAN No. 1

Goodnight Rudy.

DOORMAN

Goodnight!

WOMAN

G'night, Rudy.

-107- OUT

-108-

DOORMAN

What are you moving the trunk for? What is it
htis time?

MAX Why do you want to know anyway. That's our business.

DOORMAN I simply wanted to find out.

-108- OUT

-109-

LONGSHOREMAN Go away. Go on, beat it.

-110-

MABUSE Mistakes like that shouldn't happen. Nick Prado should have been food for the shaks long ago. Number 17 come over here. How did it happen that the wardrobe trunk was left on the pier so long that the dogs got at it?

MAX The longshoreman called a surprise strike and we couldn't help it. For twenty-four hours we were faced with a comple work stoppage.

BOBO Something nobody could foresee.

MABUSE You must foresee everything. And when your adversary is F.B.I. nothing can be left to chance. Who saw the wardrobe truck being loaded on the truck?

MAX Only our own guys and the driver and the stage-door attendant, he just happened to see us...

DOORMAN No, no, I saw absolutely nothing. I swear. You must believe me. I have a wife and kids.

MABUSE Stop your snivelling. This is just a warning. You have a chance, keep your mouth shut or be liquidated! Take him away!

DOORMAN You can trust me. I won't say a word I promise. Not even a syllable, I swear I won't.

REEL TWO

-201-

DOORMAN Not a word I won't breathe a word, I swear Hh.
MABUSE Number 12 and 13, keep an eye on him.
TALLMAN Very well, Sir.
OTHER MAN Yes Sir.
MABUSE That's one more F.B.I. man eliminated. The next one will get the same treatment. We will soon achieve our objectives but must be more vigilant than before, more thoroughly prepared and ready to carry out my orders without question. When does our man arrive?
BOBO The plane is expected to land within twenty minutes, Sir.

-201- OUT

-202-

CUSTOMS MAN Have you anything to declare?
COMO No, just my personal belongings and an old Indian blanket from Oklahoma.
CUSTOMS MAN There's no duty on Indian blankets.

-202- OUT

-203-

OPTICIAN What can I do for you?
COMO I'd like some glasses. Preferably with tortoise-shell frames.
OPTICIAN Near or far sighted?
COMO Bifocals, as prescribed by an eye clinic in Washington.
OPTICIAN You have an astigmatism in the left eye.
COMO And a weakness of the inner eye muscle.
OPTICIAN Yes that's right. This way if you don't mind. In here. Now would you please read off five letters from the third line from the bottom.
COMO E. D. G. A. R.

BRAHM Joe Como.
COMO Inspector Brahm?
BRAHM You've been expected. Come in.
COMO Thank you.
BRAHM Sit down, won't your please. Coffee?
COMO Please.
BRAHM Perhaps you're surprised at our rather complicated security precautions. However the situation is such that every security division finds them imperative right now...

COMO Yeah! I can see that. How's the optometry business?
BRAHM Excellent. With so many short sighted people in the world. However our real business is terrible. Only yesterday the police discovered the body of a man in a wardrobe trunk. I have a strange feeling that the body is that of your colleague...Nick Prado of F.B.I.
COMO Nick?
BRAHM You'll have to identify him.
COMO You brought me all the way from Washington for this?
BRAHM You were recommended by a colleague. He claims at the time Dr. Mabuse disappeared you gathered valuable informations.
COMO Who is our opponent?
BRAHM I don't know.

BRAHM He must be the head of a very highly active organization. An enormous racket, unimaginable, ~~reminds me of Mabuse~~ *A demon* in power trying to get its hand on operation X and it will stop at nothing.
COMO I see. Just what is operation X?