SHERIF SALEM

THE BIGGEST HEIST IN U.S.
LUFTANSA HEIST AT JOHN F. KENNEDY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

▸ When?
  ▸ December 11, 1978

▸ What was stolen?
  ▸ 5 million dollars in cash along with other currencies + Jewels & Gems (~$875,000)

▸ Time Executed?
  ▸ Less than an hour
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- Who?
  - Thomas “Tommy” DeSimone—Helped
  - Angelo Sepe—Helped
  - Frank James Burke—Helped
  - Joe “Buddha” Manri—Tie up the workers
  - Henry Hill—Helped
  - Parnell "Stacks" Edwards—Get rid of the Car
  - Jimmy Burke—Associate of the Lucchese Crime Family
  - Paul Vario—Boss that they the confirmation from
  - Louis Werner—worker at airport, debt in gambling
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- How?—Execution

Inside information from Louis Werner that the money was going to be kept over the weekend because of a delay in the transportation. The money was coming from Germany. Werner called them right away.

- Drove up on December 11 at 3am. Ten employees were tied up in the lunch room.

- Open the a couple of doors and safes. No fingerprints and drove away clean.
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- Getting Caught?
- “Stacks” who was supposed to get rid of the van by crushing it at a junkyard instead went out and got drunk and left the car in the city. His fingerprints were on it. (Killed the next day)
- Raised suspicion by spending a lot of money, and gambling and buying cars.
- Every time someone got caught they would get killed. 6 months after the robbery 8 were dead
- The rest ended up in prison because of previous murders or dugs (narcotics), and died in prison.
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- Anything change?/ Could it happen again?
  - More security at the airport along with secured information from the inside.
  - Probably not.
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- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=da00_857UHk (2:00-2:41)
- Goodfellas https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Maerq338BXNI