

Dateline: November 4, 1909

Source: New-York Daily Tribune

BLACK HAND BANDITS

Hold-Up of Fifty Men Traced to Their Operations

(By Telegraph to The Tribune)

Paterson, N. J., Nov. 2.- That the hold-up on Tuesday night of fifty Italian laborers in a shanty at Glen Rock was the work of the Black Hand is the statement made to-day by Police Chief Pulis of Ridgewood on information furnished by the victims.

The Italians came to this country recently, and the \$1,500 taken from them after they had been gagged and bound, one at a time, by the four bandits, represented their entire savings since they had been at work on the construction of the Paterson-Suffern rapid transit road. Four weeks ago they were told that agents of the Black Hand would be along to collect money.

When the four men appeared on Tuesday night they at first represented themselves as government detectives, but later announced that they were agents of the Black Hand. It is said that the society makes a practice of collecting money from Italian laborers in all parts of the country.

The fifty victims of the Glen Rock hold-up have quit work and gone back to New York, fearing the vengeance of the Black Hand because of the exposure. Chief Pulis has in custody two men believed to be members of the Black Hand gang, but he has not disclosed their identity. They have been recognized by some of the victims.