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ABOVE: The house belonged to Frank "Lefty" Rosenthal, who was portrayed by Robert De Niro

23rd May 2010

By Mike Parker

Your Shout (0)

AN "assassin-proof" Las Vegas mansion once owned by a mafia kingpin is up for sale.

The house belonged to Frank "Lefty" Rosenthal, who was portrayed by Robert De Niro in the 1995 mob movie Casino.

And as if to underline its dodgy credentials, a hole left by a bullet that failed to penetrate the armoured glass around the steel staircase is still visible in the entrance hall.

Casino owner Lefty installed armoured doors, bullet-proof windows and a secret gun closet after buying it in 1971.

The master bedroom even has nine video screens on which the entire property can be monitored.

But the external security was useless when the danger to Lefty's life came from inside.

In one of many domestic rows at the mansion, Rosenthal claimed his wife Geri, a former vice girl, tried to shoot him. And it was only the fact she missed that saved his life.

Geri later plundered her husband's safety deposit boxes of \$1million in jewellery and \$150,000 in cash before fleeing town.

Estate agent Aaron Auxier said: "Lefty was fuming because the cops actually escorted her to the bank after being called to yet another domestic disturbance at their home."

"Law enforcement officers have probably been to that address more than any other in Las Vegas."

Lefty, who ran the Stardust, Fremont, Marina and Hacienda casinos in Vegas, lived in dread of being "whacked". He beefed up security even further after surviving a 1982 car bomb attack, which featured in Martin Scorsese's movie.

"The property is a reflection of what an incredibly meticulous man he was," said Mr Auxier.

"He watched everyone around him like a hawk and the incredible security he installed reflects that."

But Lefty's mansion left him with few happy memories.

Geri was addicted to booze and drugs and cheated on him with his bodyguard and enforcer Tony "The Ant" Spilotro. Spilotro, who was played by Joe Pesci in Casino, is believed to have met the same fate as his screen character and been bludgeoned to death.



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