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# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 2/4/63

FROM: *WMA* SAC, PITTSBURGH (92-599) (P)

SUBJECT: <sup>①</sup> THE CRIMINAL "COMMISSION," ET AL.  
ANTI - RACKETEERING - CONSPIRACY

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ReBulet to New York, 1/28/63.

A review of Pittsburgh files, under captioned matter, as well as report supplied by the New York Office, reflect the following information:

Membership in the Pittsburgh criminal organization (family) is based primarily upon information furnished by former PCI JOSEPH MEROLA (recently released from the Federal Correctional Institution, Jacksonville, Fla., and presently located Miami, Florida), also PG 640-CTE. Although these sources have been closely associated with SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA and SAMUEL and GABRIEL MANNARINO, alleged heads of the criminal organization in the Pittsburgh area, they are not member-sources of "Causa Nostra" or even the Pittsburgh criminal organization; therefore, they are not in a position to identify members of this organization. Both, in fact, cannot positively identify the head of the Pittsburgh criminal organization, but believe that leadership is vested in SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA although they indicate that leadership could possibly be vested in SAMUEL MANNARINO, GABRIEL MANNARINO with FRANK AMATO and MICHAEL GENOVESE being given certain considerations. These sources have stated that members of the Pittsburgh criminal organization are believed to include JOHN CHRISTOPHER FONTANA, ANTONIO RIPEPI, JO JO PECORA, ANTHONY "TONY" GROSSO, LOUIS VOLPE, FRANK VALENTI, JOSEPH SICA and THOMAS ANTHONY CIANCUTTI in addition to the above-mentioned leadership including SEBASTIAN JOHN LA ROCCA, SAMUEL MANNARINO, GABRIEL MANNARINO, FRANK AMATO and MICHAEL GENOVESE.

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Additional Pittsburgh informants have supplemented the above information, but are likewise not

2 - Bureau  
1 - New York (92-2341) (Info)  
1 - Pittsburgh  
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*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*

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member-sources of the Pittsburgh criminal organization. These sources, however, consider ANTHONY "TONY" GROSSO as strictly a large independent numbers man who has been able to maintain independence from the LA ROCCA - MANNARINO group.

NY T-1 (identified in New York report dated 12/19/62) states there are approximately 10 "families" in "Causa Nostra" outside the New York area. NY T-1 named specific cities which did not include Pittsburgh.

Pittsburgh has previously prepared Anti-Racketeering reports on all individuals mentioned above as possible members of the Pittsburgh criminal organization except for JOHN CHRISTOPHER FONTANA, JO JO PECORA and THOMAS ANTHONY CIANCUTTI.

In view of the fact that JOHN CHRISTOPHER FONTANA, JO JO PECORA and THOMAS ANTHONY CIANCUTTI have been identified as members only by former PCI JOSEPH MEROLA, a non-member - source, reports are not being submitted on the latter three individuals. It is to be noted, however, that information has been developed and reported in reference to FONTANA, PECORA and CIANCUTTI in connection with Pittsburgh cases entitled, "SAMUEL MANNARINO, AR"; "GABRIEL MANNARINO, AR," with whom they are associated.

Investigation is continuing to develop a member-source that can definitely identify members of the Pittsburgh criminal organization.