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SAC, NEW YORK (94-419)

SUBJECT: GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE INTELLIGENCE FILE
SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT
FOR PERIOD APRIL 15, 1956 THROUGH
OCTOBER 15, 1956

There is transmitted herewith two copies of the Semi-Annual General Investigative Intelligence Report for the New York Division of the period April 15, 1956, to October 15, 1956.

This is an administrative report and the following individual agents contributed to the various captioned sections of this report:

- A. ORGANIZED CRIME SA LEON C. KELMER
- B. INDIVIDUAL MOBSTERS AND RACKETEERS SA LEON C. KELMER
- C. POLITICAL TIES WITH ORGANIZED CRIME SA LEON C. KELMER
- D. POLICE EFFICIENCY SA AUGUST J. MICEK
- E. GAMBLING SA LEON C. KELMER
- F. CRIMINAL RACKETS ACTIVITIES
 - (a) Waterfront Activities-
ILA SA EDWARD T. KELLY
 - (b) Garment District
ILGWU SA LEON C. KELMER
 - (c) NYO Labor Racketeering Cases SA LEON C. KELMER
 - (d) VICTOR RIESEL SA LEON C. KELMER
 - (e) International Brotherhood of Teamsters SA LEON C. KELMER
 - (f) Inter-county Cartmen's Association SA LEON C. KELMER

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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- 3-Bureau (Encls. 2) ENCLOSURE
- 1-Miami (Encl. 1)
- 1-Newark (Encl. 1)
- 1-Philadelphia (Encl. 1)
- 2-New York (94-419)

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A. ORGANIZED GANGS

NY 169-C, NY 204-C, NY 842-C, NY 1449-C, as well as other reliable informants and reliable Police sources, state that the Syndicate still controls most of the organized gangs in the New York Metropolitan area. The Syndicate, as previously reported, controls major rackets in the United States, such as bookmaking, narcotics, numbers, gambling, garment trucking, vending machines, juke boxes and many other rackets.

Mr. EDWARD JONES, Investigator, New York City Anti-Crime Committee, advised that he had received information from a confidential source, who has furnished him reliable information in the past, that on the afternoon of May 18, 1956, there was a meeting of about 35 of the top racketeers who are members of the Eastern Syndicate of the United States in Suite 2003 in the St. Moritz Hotel, New York City.

Among those present at the meeting who could be identified by the informant were top hoodlums VINCENT ALO, "TRIGGER MIKE" SOPPOLA, JOEY RAO, BENNY LEVINE and MEYER LANSKY. Also present at the meeting was the notorious New York gambler, TOMMY MILO, gambler ARTHUR "LEPTY" CLARK, and Miami Beach Fontainebleau Hotel owner BEN NOVAK.

According to JONES, those present at the meeting decided that with FRANK COSTELLO's conviction, his usefulness as the head of the Eastern Syndicate was at an end and that an election should be held for a replacement for COSTELLO. New York top hoodlum VINCENT ALO was selected to replace COSTELLO as head of the Eastern Syndicate and Miami top hoodlum CHARLES TOURINE was selected as the "enforcer."

Also at the meeting was New York gambler, JERRY RYAN, who had recently lost \$35,000 in an open crap game at the Hotel Victoria, New York City. RYAN was warned that, in the future, he was not to flash that kind of money.

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Mr. JONES advised that Suite 2003 at the Hotel St. Moritz was rented on a long-term basis by a garment manufacturer, one LEO MORRIS, who is connected with the furrier firm of Morris, Suskind and Reich, 243 West 30th Street, New York City. Mr. JONES advised that top hoodlum BENNY LEVINE and Fontainebleau Hotel owner BEN NOVAK and NOVAK's sister, own Laurels City Club, Sackett Lake, New York, which is a well known New York summer resort.

In regard to VINCENT ALO, Mr. JONES advised that on September 12, 1956, VINCENT ALO, MEYER LANSKY and Mayor GROGAN, of Jersey City, New Jersey, met in a suite on the twelfth floor of the Hotel Lincoln, New York City. According to Mr. JONES, MARIA KRAMER, owner of the Hotel Lincoln, is a close friend of the well known hoodlum, OWNEY MADDEN. MADDEN stays at the Hotel Lincoln when in New York. JONES stated that the manager of the Hotel Lincoln is a mob contact, and that when VINCENT ALO visits the Hotel Lincoln, he shakes hands with the manager, giving him a \$100 bill. NY

NY 1449-C advised in regard to the racket set-up in the garment area that 2 gangs control all criminal activities in these areas. He stated that one of these gangs, which is headed by VITO GENOVESE, controls the Italian element in these areas. The other gang consists of the control of the Jewish element which is controlled by MEYER LANSKY. The informant stated VITO GENOVESE is the biggest hoodlum in the United States today, and that only one man is stronger than GENOVESE in the United States, and that man is FISCHETTI of Chicago, Illinois. He stated that because of the vast power that GENOVESE presently holds in the United States, he cannot adequately place too much control in one area. Hence, his control in the garment area of New York City is rather loose, and the Jewish Gangs apparently at the present time, have a stricter enforcement code to control this specific area.

The informant furnished the following information concerning the control in the garment area by the Jewish Gangs:

He stated that MEYER LANSKY is presently the top man in this area. He continued that LANSKY recently

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HYMIE SEIGEL eats each morning in the Stage Restaurant, located at 51st Street and Seventh Avenue, with the NEWMAN brothers. SEIGEL has purchased part of the Reed Courtney Combine and SEIGEL presently has offices at 140 West 37th Street, New York City. The informant described these offices as a Trucking Office in which SEIGEL operates from a rear room.

Concerning LEVINE, the informant reported that LEVINE has non-union shops which make coats and dresses in Farmingdale, Long Island, New Jersey and Baltimore, Maryland. The informant stated LEVINE can be located at the Fabric, LNU, located at 500 Seventh Avenue. LEVINE owns a part in this firm.

It is to be noted HYMIE SEIGEL was arrested on February 3, 1956, at an apartment located at Miami Beach, Florida, by Special Agents of the Internal Revenue Service, for failure to register for a \$50 gambling stamp. SEIGEL's Dade County Sheriff's Office Number 191298. This raid, according to the Miami Office, was conducted in an effort to ascertain more information concerning the Reed Courtney Combine.

Informants, NY 204-C, NY 169-C and NY 842-C, as well as Lieutenant WALTER CASEY, of the Bureau of Criminal Information, New York City Police Department, all advised that the top leaders of the Syndicate in the New York Metropolitan area are:

VINCENT "JIMMY BLUE EYES" ~~ABC~~ - Reported new "Prime Minister of the Syndicate." N Y

FRANK COSTELLO - Former "Prime Minister of the Syndicate"; its front man and political contact, who is now in jail.

THOMAS LUCHESE - Associated with "TRIGGER MIKE" COPPOLA, in the East Harlem mob and influential garment district racketeer with political connections.

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The Lower East Side Italian mob is headed by JOSEPH "SOCKS" LANZA, a top hoodlum, whose center of operations has been the Fulton Fish Market area. Other leaders of this mob are TOMMY PALMER, SALVATORE GRANELLO, ANIELLO del CROCE, PETE De FEO. Also appearing in the Lower East Side are the DIOGUARDIA brothers, JOHNNY and FRANK, whose principal area of operations is in the garment district. The DIOGUARDIA brothers' uncle is JIMMY PLUMERI, with alias: Jimmy Boyle, a garment area trucking racketeer and associate of FRANK CARBO, in the boxing racket. *NY*

3. New York Waterfront

The New York Waterfront, according to New York 163-C, and the New York-New Jersey Waterfront Commission, is under the control of EDDIE MC GRATH, a top hoodlum. They state that no murder decisions are made by hoodlums on the Waterfront without the knowledge or consent of MC GRATH. Associated with MC GRATH is MICKEY BOWERS, who is the Upper East Side hoodlum leader, and has control of the racketeering on the piers from 42nd Street north to 57th Street, on the North River of New York. Associated with BOWERS in this mob are SONNY CAMPBELL, ALBERT ACKALITIS, DANNY ST. JOHN, MICKEY KANE, JOHNNY KEEFFE, and EDWARD LEAHY.

4. East Harlem and Harlem

The East Harlem Italian mob, which is also known as the 116th Street mob, is probably the most powerful mob organization in New York. It is strictly an Italian mob headed by "TRIGGER" MIKE COPPOLA, and includes the following individuals who have tremendous power in the different areas of the city:

NY
TOMMY "THREE FINGERS BROWN" LUCHESE, whose interests are principally in politics and in garment area trucking.

JOE STRACCI, with alias Joe Stretch, whose criminal control is in the garment area in Midtown Manhattan.

"FAT TONY" SALERNO, powerful Harlem and East Harlem numbers racketeer.

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VINCENT ALO was

FBI #554810
NYCPD #B 58781

VINCENT ALO has been a big time gambling operator for many years. He spends most of his time in Florida where he has resided since about 1936. ALO has a home in Hollywood, Florida, and an apartment 17A at 315 Riverside Drive, New York City. It has been reported that ALO's brother-in-law, VINCENT "BANJO" CONTRALTA, resides at this address.

On March 28 and 30, 1956, Potential Criminal Informant FRANK GAGLIO was unable to identify a photograph of VINCENT ALO, with alias: Jimmy Blue Eyes. The informant stated he knew JIMMY BLUE EYES by reputation only, and that JIMMY BLUE EYES, JOE STUTZ (Phonetic), an Italian gambler from Harlem, TOMMY MILO, with alias: Marlowe, SAM SCHLITZ and CHARLIE BULLETS controlled the numbers rackets from Harlem to Yonkers. The informant advised that these individuals occasionally met at Barnita's Restaurant, Jerome Avenue and Mount Eden Avenue, Bronx, New York.

On May 29, 1956, NY 842-C advised that VINCENT ALO still controls a "Book" in the Bronx. He did not know whether or not ALO actually runs the "book" or if he has someone operating it for him.

On June 25, 1956, EDWARD JONES, Investigator, New York City Anti-Crime Committee, advised that he had received information from a reliable source, who has furnished reliable information in the past to the effect that on the afternoon of May 18, 1956, there was a meeting of about thirty-five of the top racketeers who are members of the Eastern Syndicate of the United States.

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A meeting was held in Suite 2003, St. Moritz Hotel, New York City. This suite at the Hotel St. Moritz, according to JONES, is rented on a long term basis by LEO MORRIS, a furrier of the firm of Morris, Suskind and Reich, 243 West 30th Street, New York City. NY

Among those present at the meeting who could be identified by the informant were VINCENT ALO, "TRIGGER MIKE" COPPOLA, JOEY RAO, BENNY LEVINE, MEYER LANSKY, TOMMY MILO, ARTHUR "LEFTY" CLARK and BEN NOVAK, owner of the Fontainebleau Hotel, Miami Beach, Florida.

According to JONES, those present at the meeting decided that with FRANK COSTELLO's conviction his usefulness as the head of the Eastern Syndicate was at an end, and that an election should be held for a replacement for COSTELLO. VINCENT ALO was selected to replace COSTELLO as head of the Eastern Syndicate. CHARLES TOURINE of Miami was selected as the "enforcer."

JERRY RYAN, a New York gambler, was at the meeting. He had recently lost \$35,000 in an open crap game at the Hotel Victoria, New York City. RYAN was allegedly warned at this meeting that in the future he was not to flash that kind of money.

On December 23, 1955, MM 322-C advised that JACK LANSKY, MEYER LANSKY, FBI Number 791783, VINCENT ALO and SAMUEL LAWRENCE BRATT, FBI Number 5036886, were in Hollywood, Florida.

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ANTHONY CARFANO, was:

FBI Number 652552

"Little Augie," ~~Carfano~~

NYCPD Number B113063

"Little Augie Pisanò"

NY N.Y. N.Y.

According to PCI NICHOLAS PETILLO, CARFANO continues to be an important member of the syndicate in New York, and closely associated with FRANK COSTELLO, MEYER LANSKY, LONGY ZWILLMAN, ALBERT ANASTASIA, and the recently deported JOE ADONIS. According to PETILLO, CARFANO is presently connected with labor rackets and the Italian lottery. He stated on February 15, 1956, that AUGIE's nephew, LOUIS DI SALVIO, is a Democratic District leader who runs the "Democratic Club" at Lafayette and Spring Streets, New York City. DI SALVIO reportedly is aware of CARFANO's operations. *NY*

According to the records of the New York City Police Department, ANTHONY CARFANO, with aliases; was born in New York City on November 11, 1895. However, the national list of the F.B.N. lists CARFANO as having been born in New York City in 1898.

New York Informant 169-C advised on July 20, 1956, that he heard that CARFANO is spending the summer in or near Long Beach, Long Island, New York, and is supposed to be behind a large crap game, either in session or proposed for that area.

"The New York Herald Tribuen" dated March 16, 1956, stated:

"LITTLE AUGIE PISANO insisted on a secret rendezvous yesterday, with New Jersey Police, before he would agree to questioning in the attempted assassination of LOUIS SAPERSTEIN, on Saturday, in Newark.

"PISANO and his lawyer, HAROLD CORBIN, met Newark Police Lieutenant JOSEPH KINNEY and four other officers somewhere in Manhattan, and told them he did not know anything about the attempted killing of SAPERSTEIN, former insurance man.

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"Identified by SAPERSTEIN as a man to whom he paid kickbacks in a union fund racket, PISANO said, that he had not been in Newark in three years. PISANO also had been indicted for bribery, in New York County Jail, on SAPERSTEIN's testimony, but the indictment was dismissed on a technicality.

Potential Criminal Informant JACK MARRAFFA, on August 24, 1956, identified bankrollers of Italian lottery in the United States as JOE ADONIS, VITO GENOVESE, and other big-shot syndicate members including "LITTLE AUGIE" CARFANO."

On March 3, 1956, Mr. EDWARD COFFEY, Vice-President of the Thoroughbred Racing Protective Bureau, 405 Lexington Avenue, yesterday advised that on January 11, 1956, while having lunch, he noticed the following individuals having a conference at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel:

FRANK COSTELLO
 FRANK ERICKSON
 "LITTLE AUGIE" CARFANO
 MYER LANSKY
 JOE ~~SCHOENBAUM~~ (Former Internal Revenue
 Commissioner)
 JIM ~~O~~'CONNELL (Bodyguard for COSTELLO)

FRANK LIVORSKI, was, Federal Bureau of Investigation Number 70-2029, carried as a top hoodlum in the New York Office, is reported to associate with CARFANO.

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this source. MISHEL advised that CHAIT had to acquire stops to operate the fleet of sixteen trucks and acquired the stops the same way he muscled into Stern's Express.

NY 842-C, who has furnished reliable information relative to garment district racketeers, advised on July 26, 1955, that CHAIT holds a dominant place in the garment center areas of New York. He advised that approximately two months previously, according to underworld talk, CHAIT allegedly bought out THOMAS LUCHESE, with alias "Three Fingers Brown." CHAIT is reported to have paid an even million dollars in cash to LUCHESE for his interest in the garment center area with the understanding that thereafter LUCHESE and his associates would leave this area to CHAIT. The source stated that there was considerable talk in the underworld as to whether this move would mean that the Jewish element was to become dominant in relations to the Italian element now reportedly in control of various activities in the garment center area.

IRVING MISHEL advised in 1953, that Zenith Associates, 570 Seventh Avenue, New York City, was a factoring firm which made loans to many of the top hoodlums in New York City, and cashed checks for the top bookmakers and racketeers. This firm had connections with the National Safety Bank, 38th Street and Broadway, New York, and the Pennsylvania Exchange Bank.

IRVING MISHEL advised that prior to 1953, racketeers, who were in control of the unions, associations and concerns in the garment area of New York City, were of Jewish decent. The principal racketeers were ABE CHAIT, MEYER and JACK LANSKY, DUTCH GOLDBERG, HYMAN STROMBERG, alias Nig Rosen, JOE MILLER, TOM CUTTY, MORRIS SHAPIRO, JOE BERGER, HYMIE SIEGAL, the NEWMAN brothers and others of less notoriety.

IRVING MISHEL claimed these individuals had union connections and were in a position to either operate non-union shops, furnish protection for non-union shops or operate under special contract with the International Ladies Garment Workers Union.

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According to JONES, those present at the meeting decided that with FRANK COSTELLO's conviction his usefulness as the head of the Eastern Syndicate was at an end and that an election should be held for a replacement for COSTELLO. New York top hoodlum VINCENT ALO was selected to replace COSTELLO as head of the Eastern Syndicate and the Miami top hoodlum, CHARLES TOURINE, was selected as the "enforcer."

JONES advised that Suite 2003 of the St. Moritz Hotel, New York City, was rented on a long term basis by a garment manufacturer, one LEON MORRIS, who is connected with the furrier firm of Morris, Suskind and Reich, 243 West 30th Street, New York City.

When the above information was furnished to the Bureau, they directed by letter dated July 10, 1956, that further developments concerning the reported appointment of VINCENT ALO to succeed FRANK COSTELLO in underworld affairs be followed.

On July 17, 1956, MM 509-C advised the Miami Office that he was in Miami from New York City and that he had heard nothing relative to a meeting in New York City whereby VINCENT ALO was allegedly appointed to succeed FRANK COSTELLO. He stated that while it was possible that CHARLES TOURINE, alias CHARLIE WHITE, could have been named the "enforcer," he did not think ALO had enough standing in the syndicate to succeed FRANK COSTELLO.

On August 21, 1956, NY 1314-C advised SA FREDERICK F. DALY that he was informed by "BOBO" GIORDANO, a collector for the FANELLI mob on the East Side, that a meeting was held in Hot Springs, Arkansas, by the gambling syndicate to discuss a replacement for FRANK COSTELLO and that a meeting was scheduled for the same place during September. According to GIORDANO, no specific decision was reached and CARMINE BOVE, ERED POGIARELLI, and a racketeer named MALINDRI, are all under consideration.

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MAX X CORALLO
 Secretary, Treasurer, Local 405, Retail Clerks International Association. The article also includes information to the effect that Assistant District Attorney, BIRNS stated that the DIO organization was in the business of "selling labor peace for a price." BIRNS stated that DIOGUARDI offered to post a \$50,000.00 bond to assure the fulfillment of his commitment to bar strikes in the two companies. The article reflects that GOLDSTEIN was referred to, as a "go between" in relations between DIOGUARDI and ANTHONY X CORALLO, by HOGAN.

NY
 JAMES J. DWYER, Area Director, New York State Parole Board, 320 Broadway, New York City, advised on August 16, 1956, that JOHN DIOGUARDI while incarcerated at Sing Sing Prison on August 3, 1937, listed the following individuals as friends:

CY X REEVE
 511 Mulrose Avenue
 Chicago, Illinois

ROBERT D. X GORDON
 511 Mulrose Avenue
 Chicago, Illinois

HARRY X WIEBERG
 Ludlow and Livingston Streets
 New York, New York

MURRAY X ROSE
 1400 Broadway
 New York, New York

DON X FITEO
 53 Watt Street
 New York, New York

On May 7, 13, and 29, 1956, Confidential Informant, NY 1733-C, advised that CHARLES X CARLINO was closely associated with JOHN DIO and his brother, THOMAS DIO. NY

Confidential Informant NY 842-C, advised between May 12 and 18, 1956, that JOHN DIOGUARDI was a former partner of CHARLIE X TUISO. NY

JOHN O'MARA, New York City Anti-Crime Committee, advised that committee records reflected the following associates of JOHN DIOGUARDI:

GEORGE X SEMELMA, Clerk, also known as George Siegal and as George X Baker-the organizer in the New York area in the UAW-AFL. NY

JOSEPH X COHEN, on the staff of the UAW-AFL, New York area-frequently seen on clandestine trips by NY

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The New York City Anti-Crime Committee files contain information to the effect that JOHN DIOGUARDI had the following girlfriends:

~~BABY LAKE~~, dancer and model; ~~ADELE ALPERT~~, secretary to Local 102, UAW-AFL. N Y

These records further reveal that DIOGUARDI was said to be contributing to the support of a blonde girl of Polish extraction for a number of years, however, her identity never was revealed.

In an article in the "New York Times" of March 10, 1956, New York County District Attorney is quoted as having stated that evidence in his possession shows that CORALLO-DIO group was attempting to influence the outcome of the Joint Teamsters Council Elections, (the CORALLO refers to ANTHONY CORALLO and the DIO refers to JOHN DIOGUARDI).

On August 11, 1956, Confidential Informant 842-C advised that he has a long time acquaintanceship with DIOGUARDI. He stated that CHARLES TUSO, (FBI # 382873), was in the early 1930's a partner of DIOGUARDI's and that together they committed an armed robbery for which TUSO was apprehended and convicted, but refused to implicate DIOGUARDI in the violation thus allowing DIOGUARDI to escape detection.

The informant stated that DIOGUARDI was subsequently arrested along with his uncle, JAMES PLUMERI, for extortion and was committed to Sing Sing Penitentiary and subsequently served time along with TUSO. While at Sing Sing, DIOGUARDI was very closely associated with JOE BERGER.

On July 11, 1956, DIO was interviewed in conjunction with the investigation of the case entitled "ABRAHAM TELVI, was (Deceased) et al; VICTOR RIESEL-VICTIM, OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE-CONSPIRACY" in which case DIOGUARDI is presently a subject. At the time of the interview, DIOGUARDI said that in the event that he had or developed any information concerning the Riesel attack, or concerning any other crime, he would not furnish it to the Federal Bureau of Investigation or any other law enforcement agency.

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There are two other gambling casinos operating in Cuba at the present time. One is located at the Varadero International Hotel at Varadero Beach, Cuba, which is located approximately 80 miles east of Havana. The other gambling casino is located in Santiago de Cuba at the Casa Grande Hotel. The city of Santiago de Cuba is located in the eastern part of the island of Cuba and is approximately 700 miles from Havana.

With reference to the possibility that gambling in Cuba is controlled by a syndicate headed by MEYER LANSKY or other individuals, it is noted that DINO CELLINI, who has operated the gambling casino at the Tropicana for many years, is also running the gambling casino at Oriental Park Race Track. His brother, EDDIE CELLINI, has been placed in the casino at the Hotel Nacional as a floor man in the gambling room. Also, information has been received from Lt. HERIBERTO HERNANDEZ of the Cuban National Police that the license for operating in the gambling casino at the Sans Souci had been issued by the Cuban Government to OSCAR H. ECHEMENDARIA, who is an associate and director of the Tropicana Night Club. It appears likely, therefore, that there is some sort of tie-in between at least four of Havana's gambling casinos. This matter is being followed, and the Bureau will be kept advised.

NY 1449C advised from March 15, 1956, to March 31, 1956, that at the present time, two gangs control all criminal activities in the Garment Area. He said one of these gangs which is headed by VITO GENOVESE controls the Italian element in this area. The other gang consists of the Jewish element which is controlled by MEYER LANSKY. The informant stated VITO GENOVESE is one of the biggest hoodlums in the United States, and that only one man is stronger than GENOVESE in the United States, and that man is FISCHETTI of Chicago, Illinois. He stated that because of the vast power that GENOVESE presently holds in the United States, he cannot adequately place too much control in one area. Hence, his control in the Garment Area of New York City is rather loose, and the Jewish Gangs apparently at the present time, have a stricter enforcement code to control this specific area.

