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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office SAN DIEGO	Office of Origin NEW YORK CITY	Date 4/9/59	Investigative Period 2/28;4/4/59
TITLE OF CASE MAFIA		Report made by JOHN C. MOE	Typed By: mfc
		CHARACTER OF CASE INFORMATION CONCERNING	

Synopsis:

REFERENCES: Bureau letters to New York dated February 24 and March 18, 1959.
Bureau airtel to New York dated March 27, 1959.

- P -

LEADS

SAN DIEGO

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/12/94 BY SP8 mac/ke
(JK)

Will conduct all interviews in this matter under suitable pretext without disclosing that the Mafia is the subject of this investigation.

1. Contact SD 968-C, a Sicilian, associate of national top hoodlums and others, who is in a position to furnish information concerning any active Mafia activity.
2. Will maintain contact with SD 969-C who has furnished information concerning alleged Mafia activities in the past, who is an Italian in contact with Italian

Frank A. Poirie
Special Agent
In Charge

- made:
- 2 - Bureau (100-42303)
 - 2 - New York
 - 2 - San Diego (94-69)

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SD 94-69

leaders in the San Diego Division. Will specifically ascertain through SD 969-C whether FRANK BUONO, president of the San Diego Fisherman's Association and former Italian Vice-Consul, has any information pertinent to this matter.

3. Will contact Immigration and Naturalization Service Investigators TRUMAN LEFORS and BENJAMIN PEARSON concerning information that ANTONIO BUSTERNA and JASPERE (JOE) MATRANGA are being granted permits to re-enter the United States. Both have been deported from the United States to Italy and are currently residing in Tijuana, B. C., Mexico, where they allegedly maintain contact with the Sicilian leaders.

4. Will contact ARNE LOHMAN and CLARENCE SPOHR, United States Customs Agents who have numerous sources in Tijuana, B. C., Mexico, concerning any Mafia activity in Tijuana.

5. Will contact Sergeant GEORGE ORR, San Diego Police Department LEIU Officer, concerning any information he may have relative to Mafia activities in San Diego.

6. A news item appeared in "The San Diego Evening Tribune" concerning testimony of CHARLES SIGARUSA, U. S. Narcotics Bureau, before U. S. Senate Rackets Committee on April 8, 1959, relative to narcotics dealings of JOHN PRIZIOLA, Detroit Top Hoodlum, described as a "Mafia leader" therein and SALVATORE VITALE of San Diego. Will report material in San Diego files concerning this matter.

ADMINISTRATIVE

This is principally an administrative report. The category captioned Penetration is designated Administrative Page inasmuch as it discusses informant coverage and to comply with Bureau airtel to New York dated March 27, 1959, relative to the use of T-symbols.

As noted in this report, investigation under the Top Hoodlum Program and current and continuing liaison with informants and other sources within the San Diego Division

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COVER PAGE

SD 94-69

JOHN KEYES - Ambassador of
(JOHN ANDREW CANNONICO Goodwill
SD 92-78)

AUGUSTUS JOSEPH MUREO - Sergeant at Arms
(SD 66-1045,
former PCI)

TONY AGOSTA - Financial Secretary
(LEO ANTHONY
AGOSTA, SD 92-114)

~~CASPAR IMPASTATO~~ - Treasurer

CALIF.

SD T-1 related that JOSEPH LIMANDRI (SD 92-77) asked SD T-1 if he would be willing to run for Mayor of San Diego on a ticket sponsored by the Italian-American Civic Association. SD T-1 stated that LIMANDRI commented "Everyone else has a record". SD T-1 informed that he does not intend to run for any public office in San Diego inasmuch as his background might thereby be publicized.

On March 10, 1959, SD T-2 advised that FRANK BUONO, President of the San Diego Fisherman's Association, 401 Harbor Lane, San Diego, who resides at 1016 Hygeria, Encinitas, California, told him that he considered some of the San Diego tavern owners and bartenders to be members of the Mafia. BUONO did not further disclose what he meant by the Mafia or how he arrived at this conclusion.

According to SD T-2, BUONO commented that the Italian-American Civic Association was organized by FRANK BOMPENSIERO and ANTONINO MIRABILE.

BUONO related that he formerly belonged to this organization, but left it due to the characters of some of the Sicilian members involved. He related that other Italian members also left the organization for the same reason, these included Attorney DOM PROCCOPIO.

CALIF.

BUONO further told SD T-2 that prior to MIRABILE's death, a cousin, FILIPPO ACQUARO, who was a witness to the

CALIF.

H. PENETRATION OF MAFIA GROUPS

This section is designated Administrative Page inasmuch as it discusses informant coverage and to comply with Bureau letter to New York dated March 27, 1959, concerning the use of T-symbols in this report.

As noted in this report, investigation under the Top Hoodlum Program and current and continuing liaison with informants and other sources has developed no information indicating current Mafia activities in the San Diego Division.

The following listed sources with whom frequent contact is maintained are considered to be in a position to furnish information concerning any Mafia activities and/or individuals or groups with Mafia associations:

ILL. 1. SD 968-C who is designated SD T-1 throughout this report. This informant is of Sicilian extraction. He speaks Italian and Sicilian fluently. He was associated with LARRY MANGANO, who was shot by rival Chicago gangsters and with NICK CIRCELLA, another Chicago hoodlum. He was acquainted with RALPH CAPONE, Miami Top Hoodlum, and with GABRIEL and SAM MANNARINO, Pittsburgh Top Hoodlums. He was in business with PETER LICAVOLI, Detroit Top Hoodlum, in a bar in Tucson, Arizona. He is related to JOSEPH and FRANCISCO MATRANGA, San Diego Top Hoodlums. He is described in a report of Los Angeles Police Department Intelligence Unit as an associate of former members of the "old Detroit Purple Gang". He has furnished valuable information, including photographs of most of the San Diego Top Hoodlums and is in constant contact with them. Information furnished by him has resulted in the arrest by United States Customs Agents of one narcotics violator, directly in the arrest by Bureau Agents of MAURICE MICKY MANDEL, aka - FUGITIVE, CONDITIONAL RELEASE VIOLATOR; BANK ROBBERY, who planned bank robberies in San Diego and San Francisco, and he has furnished other information of value concerning local violations.

Gabriel Mannarino

ILL.
PA.

FLA.
FLA.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

SD 94-69

2. SD 969-C, citizen of Italy, resident of Tijuana, B. C., Mexico, who was utilized extensively under the Top Hoodlum Program by the San Diego Office. Under guidance of this Office, this informant obtained employment with San Diego Top Hoodlums FRANCISCO ERNESTO MATRANGA, JOSEPH MATRANGA, and ANTONINO MIRABILE. He has furnished valuable information concerning San Diego Top Hoodlums of Sicilian extraction, as well as Italians residing in Tijuana and Ensenada, B. C., Mexico, some of whom have been deported from the United States to Italy for criminal offenses. CALIF

3. SD 979-C, an accountant who handles accounting matters for several of the San Diego top Sicilian hoodlums.

4. PCI MICHAEL AMBROSIO, of Sicilian extraction who resided in apartment adjacent to ANTONINO MIRABILE, considered most important San Diego Top Hoodlum prior to his recent death and who was considered to be MIRABILE's bodyguard or lookout.

5. PCI JESSE CLIFFORD HILL, who was formerly employed in American Consulate, Tijuana, B. C., Mexico, and who associates socially with several San Diego Top Sicilian Hoodlums and is acquainted with Italians residing in Tijuana, B. C., Mexico.

6. United States Immigration and Naturalization Service Investigators TRUMAN LEFORS, BENJAMIN PEARSON, and other Immigration and Naturalization Service employees who have numerous contacts in Tijuana, B. C., Mexico.

7. Sergeant GEORGE ORR, LEIU Officer, San Diego Police Department, handling Intelligence investigations and other San Diego Police Department Officers.

8. United States Customs Agents CLARENCE SPOHR, ARNE LOHMAN, and others who have numerous sources in Tijuana, B. C., Mexico.

9. Investigator CHARLES WOODS (NA), San Diego County District Attorney's Office.

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Contact will be maintained with the above sources in order to be aware of any information concerning Mafia activities or associations of any individual or group in the San Diego Division.

Penetration of any of such groups may be accomplished by San Diego sources, principally SD 968-C or SD 969-C.

Relative thereto, on January 24, 1959, SD 968-C advised that JOSEPH LIMANDRI, one of San Diego's Top Sicilian Hoodlums, asked informant if he would be willing to run for Mayor of San Diego on a ticket sponsored by the Italian-American Civic Association. The latter association is described in this report. LIMANDRI, in making this request, commented "Everyone else has a record".

While Confidential Informant does not intend to run for any public office in San Diego inasmuch as his criminal background might thereby be publicized, he has been instructed to maintain close association with the principal San Diego Sicilians. He is furnishing information concerning them on a current and continuing basis.

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INFORMANT PAGE

SD T-1 is SD 968-C, contacted by SA JOHN C. MOE.

LA T-2 is Sergeant F. T. MC DONALD, Intelligence Division, Los Angeles Police Department -- Information furnished to Mr. VAN BRUNT, Chief Investigator, California Crime Commission. (Deemed advisable to conceal identity by Los Angeles Office.)

SD T-3 is SD 969-C, contacted by SA JOHN C. MOE..

SD T-4 is SD 923-C, contacted by SA JOHN C. MOE. This informant is currently in local custody charged with murder along with four other individuals of San Diego Top Hoodlum ANTONINO MIRABILE. This informant allegedly masterminded the attempted robbery of MIRABILE which resulted in MIRABILE's death. Contact is not being maintained with him in view of pending local prosecution.

SD T-5 is monograph "MAFIA" Section II, United States, July, 1958 (58J 153) issued by the Bureau.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Approved <i>[Signature]</i>	Special Agent In Charge	Do not write in spaces below		
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		SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED <i>[Signatures]</i>		

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DATE 7/12/94 BY SP5MAC/GCL
(JFK)

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