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ADMINISTRATIVE

This case has been maintained in a pending status in the Miami Division by various communications to the Bureau and interoffice communications, and all pertinent information regarding the activities of the subject has been disseminated in that manner.

On March 26, 1975, MM 2729-PC advised that JERRY PALACINO with his father, had allegedly invested with SANTO TRAFFICANTE, JR. in the proposed Stork Club on Biscayne Boulevard in Miami and that this investment has been a financial loss to date.

On April 9, 1975, MM 1387-PC advised that SANTO TRAFFICANTE, JR. had been out of the Miami area for several weeks, but returned to his Miami residence on April 9, 1975.

By communication dated April 3, 1975, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Miami, furnished the following information:

On March 14, 1975, a confidential source from Miami, Florida telephonically advised SAIC BRUCE D. VAN MATRE that SANTO TRAFFICANTE had supplied the money with which EVARISTO GARCIA VIDAL had purchased the Bellevue Night Club and Restaurant located at Avenida Central and Calle 1 in San Jose, Costa Rica. The source further stated that EVARISTO GARCIA VIDAL, his son-in-law, LAZARO MILIAN, who manages the Bellevue Night Club, and a person from Panama identified only as ROBRENO, had recently purchased 40 machine guns, 40 pistols, and 40 gas masks in the Miami, Florida area. The source was reluctant to discuss or relay any more detailed information by telephone and was instructed to contact Group Supervisor JOHN MC CUTCHEON of the Miami R.O.

Investigation by the San Jose D.O. has disclosed that SANTO TRAFFICANTE was hospitalized at the Clinica Biblica in San Jose, Costa Rica from August 2, 1974 to August 8, 1974. During this hospitalization, he was under the care of Dr. MOISES ZOMER SZYFER. Dr. ZOMER was telephonically interviewed by SAIC VAN MATRE and advised that TRAFFICANTE had been hospitalized as a result of an

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DEA  
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acute pulmonary congestion (heart attack). Dr. ZOMER further advised that TRAFFICANTE had planned to travel from San Jose, Costa Rica to Bogota, Colombia where he intended to undergo eye treatment at the Clinica Barraquere, which Dr. ZOMER states is internationally known as an eye treatment center. Dr. ZOMER states he knows TRAFFICANTE quite well and has seen him several times in San Jose since his hospitalization in August 1974, and said that he had heard that TRAFFICANTE will be returning to Costa Rica in the near future. In Costa Rica, SANTO TRAFFICANTE maintained an apartment located 250 meters north of the Mexico Lindo Restaurant (at that time the Restaurant Cohen) in Sabana Norte, San Jose, telephone 22-87-30, which is an unlisted number. TRAFFICANTE had with him a female identified as JOSEFINA MARCHESSI. Telephone tolls for telephone 22-87-30 have been requested and investigation will continue to determine if TRAFFICANTE still maintains the apartment in Sabana Norte.

On April 8, 1975, MM 1323-PC advised that SANTO TRAFFICANTE, JR. had been out of the Miami area for several weeks. He had suffered a detached retina and because of that, is almost blind in one eye. EVARISTO GARCIA VIDAL remains in Costa Rica and is doing financially well with his cloth factory and has several retail outlets. SANTO TRAFFICANTE, JR. has visited with EVARISTO GARCIA VIDAL in Costa Rica on several occasions, but does not plan to make a permanent home there.

On April 21, 1975, MM 1387-PC advised that SANTO TRAFFICANTE had returned to his Miami residence during the weekend of April 19 - 20, 1975.

On May 14, 1975, MM 1387-PC advised that SANTO TRAFFICANTE, JR. had returned to his Miami residence on May 14, 1975.

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By communication dated May 14, 1975, the Tampa Division advised:

For information of Miami, on January 5, 1975, TP 1960-PC advised that SANTO TRAFFICANTE left the Tampa area at the end of April 1975 and his destination was to be the Miami, Florida area. The source advised that it was his understanding that after a couple of weeks in Miami, TRAFFICANTE will return to Costa Rica for unknown reasons.

On May 7, 1975, TP 2579-PC advised that TRAFFICANTE departed the Tampa, Florida, area in April 1975, and that he is now in Costa Rica, Central America. According to the source, TRAFFICANTE will be in Costa Rica for about three months on this visit. Source could not furnish the nature of TRAFFICANTE's visit to Costa Rica.

On May 15, 1975, MM 1387-PC advised:

EVARISTO GARCIA VIDAL, his son, EVARISTO GARCIA SARMIENTO and son-in-law, LAZARO MILIAN DID, are very successful financially in their business in Costa Rica. They have a clothing business, retail in San Jose which is managed by EVARISTO and a wholesale sales business managed by MILIAN who has a force of salesmen who travel the country. MILIAN also recently purchased a restaurant in San Jose. EVARISTO is still active in right-wing politics and is involved with the Chileans. He is close to someone in the Chilean consulate in San Jose and has made a trip to Chile at the expense of the Chilean government. SANTO TRAFFICANTE keeps in touch with GARCIA VIDAL and calls him regularly from Miami. TRAFFICANTE maintains an apartment in San Jose and plans to visit there on a regular basis.

TRAFFICANTE returned to his Miami residence from Tampa on May 14, 1975. TRAFFICANTE's health is unstable. He has recently been worried about his health condition and is using nitroglycerin pills. He has gained a lot of weight since returning to Miami and his heart beats have been irregular. He worries about his condition because a brother 61, and father 67, both died of heart attacks. He has almost no sight in his left eye as a result of a detached retina. He also has cataracts in both eyes.

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By communication dated May 15, 1975, Legat, Mexico City advised:

MANUEL HERNANDEZ (protect), a part-time employee of the U.S. Embassy in Costa Rica, advised on May 7, 1975 that captioned subject, SANTO TRAFFICANTE, JR., had been hospitalized at San Jose, Costa Rica, at the Clinica Biblica from August 2, 1975 to August 10, 1975. Subject reportedly had a light heart attack and upon release from the hospital was en route to Bogota, Colombia, where he had appointments with an internationally known eye surgeon at the Clinica Barraquere.

Source stated that subject has visited San Jose a number of times since August 1974. He further stated that there were reports that subject is currently in Costa Rica, but he had been unable to confirm this.

A check was made of the files of the Costa Rican Immigration Service and it was determined that the files are incomplete since the date of July 1974. Records of entries and exits into the country are not on file since that date.

Source advised that subject left his personally owned automobile in Costa Rica and it was determined that the car is registered to one JOSEPHONE MARCHESSI. Source indicated that he was told that this individual is the subject's wife.

By communication dated May 15, 1975, captioned EVARISTO GARCIA VIDAL, also known as - Fugitive; ET AL, Legat, Mexico City advised:

MIGUEL HERNANDEZ (protect), a part-time employee of the U.S. Embassy in San Jose, Costa Rica, on May 7, 1975 advised that EVARISTO GARCIA VIDAL, subject, continues to live in San Jose, Costa Rica, where he owns and operates an extremely profitable series of department stores. Subject currently has five stores in San Jose, Costa Rica, one in Cartago and reportedly one in Managua, Nicaragua.

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Subject LAZARO MILIAN DID currently owns and operates the Bellevue Restaurant and Nightclub located on Central Avenue in San Jose. Source stated that SANTO TRAFFICANTE (a U.S. top hoodlum) frequently visits San Jose and provided the financial backing for the opening of the Bellevue Restaurant and Nightclub.

Source advised that one ESTEBAN MARTIN MIGUEL, also a Cuban refugee residing in San Jose, Costa Rica, had formerly been a partner of EVARISTO GARCIA VIDAL. He stated that GARCIA and MARTIN had a falling-out and they were no longer associated in business. Source described MARTIN as 38-40 years of age, tall, heavy build, wearing a beard and moustache. Source stated that there is a good possibility that MARTIN is also wanted in the USA although he had no details in this regard.

On June 3, 1975, MM 2729-PC advised that:

RAFAEL GARCIA BANGO, former Havana and Miami associate of SANTO TRAFFICANTE, JR., and who was sentenced to a long term in Spain for counterfeiting and possession of U.S. counterfeit currency, is out of jail and back in Cuba. GARCIA BANGO was arrested with his mistress, ELSITA ARIAS. She later testified against him and recently gained fame in Miami as the source in the current Operation Leprechan investigation of the IRS. GARCIA BANGO has a brother, JORGE GARCIA BANGO, who is a minister of the Cuban government, who went to Spain and negotiated for the release of his brother.

On June 18, 1975, Lieutenant PIERRE PELLETIER, Oakland Park Police Department, Organized Crime Bureau, Oakland Park, Florida, advised that SANTO TRAFFICANTE is presently residing in San Jose, Costa Rica, and has telephone number 228-730. TRAFFICANTE is associated with ED CROCKETT of Valdosta, Georgia. CROCKETT is purchasing a hotel or motel on behalf of TRAFFICANTE in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

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On July 27, 1975, former PCI [redacted] advised that on the evening of July 26, 1975, the home of SANTO TRAFFICANTE, JR. was broken into by unknown persons. Entry was made by a front window. Source advised that TRAFFICANTE had left Miami for Costa Rica some weeks ago.

By communication dated July 3, 1975, Legat, Mexico City advised:

MANUEL HERNANDEZ (protect), a part-time employee of the U.S. Embassy in Costa Rica, advised on June 25, 1975 that he had received no further information concerning visits to Costa Rica by SANTO TRAFFICANTE, JR. He stated that EVARISTO GARCIA VIDAL and LAZARO MILIAN DID continue to reside in San Jose and continue to maintain a prosperous retail clothing business. The source indicated that LAZARO MILIAN also operates the "Bellevue" night club on Central Avenue in San Jose. The money for setting up the Bellevue was reportedly furnished by TRAFFICANTE.

On July 31, 1975, MM 1323-PC advised that SANTO TRAFFICANTE had left the U.S. some time ago, possibly some time in June, and source also advised TRAFFICANTE had returned to Costa Rica.

On August 11, 1975, MM 1387-PC advised that SANTO TRAFFICANTE had returned to his Miami residence on August 11, 1975.

On September 4, 1975, former PCI [redacted] advised that TRAFFICANTE had left his Miami residence several weeks previously, probably during the week of August 18, 1975.

By communication dated September 9, 1975, Legat, Buenos Aires, furnished the Bureau the following information:

SANTO TRAFFICANTE arrived in Costa Rica August 18, 1975 from Miami. He was met at the airport by EVARISTO GARCIA VIDAL and attorney, JOSE MARIA PLA HORRIT. TRAFFICANTE departed Costa Rica August 31, 1975 en route Panama and had

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a ticket for continued travel to Santiago, Chile, Lima, Peru and Buenos Aires, Argentina.

On October 21, 1975, MM 1387-PC advised that SANTO TRAFFICANTE had returned to his Miami residence on October 21, 1975.

By communication dated October 20, 1975, the Tampa Division advised:

For information of Bureau and Miami, TP 2568-TE advised that during the week of October 5 - 11, 1975, SANTO TRAFFICANTE, JR. returned to the Tampa, Florida area. According to the source, TRAFFICANTE is staying at the residence of his daughter, 2505 Bristol, Tampa, Florida. According to the source, one of the reasons TRAFFICANTE is in Tampa is to bring pressure on certain influential people on behalf of his brother, HENRY, who was recently sentenced to eight years for an IGB violation. According to source, TRAFFICANTE seems to think that if enough influential people are brought into the picture, he will somehow be able to get HENRY out of his jail term.

By communication dated October 17, 1975, Legat, Mexico City advised:

MIGUEL HERNANDEZ (protect), a part-time employee of the U.S. Embassy in Costa Rica, advised on October 8, 1975 that he had been told by an employee of EVARISTO GARCIA VIDAL that subject had traveled to Santiago, Chile, Lima, Peru, and Buenos Aires, Argentina, in order to close out his business interests in those areas. Subject reportedly is in extremely poor health and does not contemplate further travel to South America.

Source indicated that subject has a house in San Jose, Costa Rica, located 250 yards north of the Mexico Linda Restaurant in Sabana Norte (a suburb of San Jose).

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Subject has unlisted phone 22-87-30.

Source indicated that subject is expected to return to Costa Rica and possibly to Panama where he does continue to have business interests.

On November 14, 1975; MM 1323-PC advised:

SANTO TRAFFICANTE has given up his apartment in Costa Rica and has returned to Florida permanently because of harassment in Costa Rica and other Latin countries. He has been arrested and spent eight days in jail in one of the other Latin countries. TRAFFICANTE is still in poor health and looks bad. His brother recently was sentenced to eight years for bookmaking in Tampa. FRANK RAGANO, Tampa attorney for TRAFFICANTE, just lost his appeal and has been suspended for at least one year from law practice starting January 1, 1976. EVARISTO GARCIA VIDAL and his son-in-law LAZARO MILIAN DID, associates of TRAFFICANTE in Costa Rica, are both doing well in Costa Rica and are not being harassed by the locals because they have both become citizens of Costa Rica.

Telephone toll records are set forth in complete form to reflect exact dates subject was in Miami and also to reflect his travel outside the United States and contacts outside of the United States.

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