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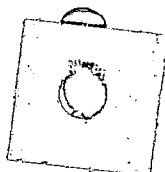
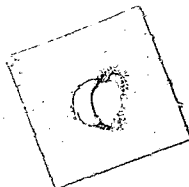
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THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The American Embassy
Rome, Italy

Date: December 27, 1963
To: Director, FBI (92-6054)
From: Legat, Rome (92-80) (P)
Subject: LA COSA NOSTRA
AR - CONSPIRACY

ReRomelet, 10-21-63, and Bulet, 12-5-63.

On December 16, 1963, Dr. ARISTIDE MANOPULO, Central Bureau, Criminal Division, Italian National Police, Rome, advised that he has determined that the articles referred to in relet of October 21, 1963, were articles which appeared in the Palermo, Italy, daily newspaper "L'Ora", rather than in a Rome daily newspaper. Dr. MANOPULO stated that the articles in "L'Ora" of Palermo were identical with those which had appeared in the Rome daily newspaper "Paese Sera" and which have already been furnished to the Bureau.

On December 23, 1963, Dr. MANOPULO stated that repeated efforts by the Italian National Police to date to locate NICOLO GENTILE have been fruitless. Dr. MANOPULO said that he feels it is very possible that GENTILE has left Italy.

Copies of the letterhead memoranda and the fingerprints, as well as the other pertinent data furnished to the Rome office by Bulet of December 5, 1963, were furnished to Dr. MANOPULO on December 17, 1963. Dr. MANOPULO stated that the material would be promptly translated and studied. Plans for effective use of the material will then be made. Dr. MANOPULO

3 - Bureau (1 - Liaison Section)
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was most grateful for the time and effort which were expended in the preparation of the material furnished to him. He stated he would keep this office advised of all pertinent information developed concerning the organization of "La Cosa Nostra" and any possible ties between the organization in Italy and in the United States.

In connection with this latter point, on December 5, 1963, Dr. MANOPULO stated that the Italian Police are somewhat gratified by the slight crack which appeared in the wall of silence which usually surrounds Mafia activities in Italy. The crack appeared during a trial of several accused murderers in Palermo, Italy, when one of the defendants furnished a statement confirming the existence of Mafia gangs and giving the names of those guilty in a number of murders which had taken place in the area. None of this information had any connection with possible international links of "La Cosa Nostra", but the situation has, perhaps, lessened the fears in the hearts of those who may have such pertinent information to furnish.

The Rome office is continuing to follow this matter closely and any pertinent information developed will be promptly furnished to the Bureau.