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AIR MAIL - REGISTERED

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (92-3434)(92-6054)
Att: Assistant Director JAMES H. GALE
FROM: SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (92-124)(92-593)(P)

JOSEPH CERRITO, aka.

AR

OO: San Francisco

LA COSA NOSTRA

AR - CONSPIRACY

OO: New York

Re San Francisco airtel, 3/11/68, and San Francisco telephone calls to Assistant Director JAMES H. GALE, 3/20 & 21/68.

Per our conversation, following are the results of contact with San Francisco informants and sources reflecting the repercussions from the article entitled "The Mob" appearing in the March 15th issue of "Life" magazine.

Appropriate dissemination of this data will be made to pertinent offices by separate communication.

- ⑥ - Bureau (AM-RM)
 - (3 - 92-3434)
 - (3 - 92-6054)
- 3 - San Francisco
 - (1 - 92-124)
 - (1 - 92-593)
 - (1 - 92-635)

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On 3/14/68 SF-2583-C advised that a copy of the "Life" magazine containing the current article concerning JOE CERRITO was brought to the office of the California Cheese Company during the afternoon of 3/14/68 and that SAL MARINO discussed the article with JAKE MACEK, Production Manager, and EARL McMURTY, the new office manager. According to informant, SAL MARINO expressed the opinion that the article was very unfair in its attack on CERRITO and made the comment that he (MARINO) had been in the rackets for twenty years, had never been arrested and had never shot anyone. Informant stated that MARINO did not elaborate on this comment, but the inference was that CERRITO had never been so involved and was a victim of an unjust attack.

Informant stated that there was some comment concerning the articles alluding to a member of the LCN connected with a cheese company in San Jose and that McMURTY made the comment that they were probably referring to the Priola Cheese Company. Informant stated that there was no reaction shown by others present when McMURTY made this comment.

Investigation of JAMES JOSEPH LANZA has revealed that he and his brother, ANTHONY N. LANZA, retired from business on 2/29/68 and left their former office at 559 Washington Street, San Francisco. ANTHONY N. LANZA, who is a licensed insurance broker, turned over his insurance accounts to Strong and Co., Inc., 58 Sutter Street, San Francisco, for handling. According to a PCI, ANTHONY told him he would have a small office at the new location and he planned on going to the office about one or two days a week, unless he had to handle a special claim. All of the other matters would be handled by employees of Strong and Co. No mention was made that JAMES LANZA would have anything to do with the new set-up.

On 3/15/68 Mr. FRANK KILMARTIN, Attorney, 465 California Street, Merchants Exchange Building, Room 415, telephone number DO. 2-0684, advised that he had received a call from his client, DWIGHT V. STRONG, President of Strong and Co., Inc., who became greatly upset after reading the article in the March 15th issue of "Life" magazine concerning "The Mob", in which the name and photograph of JAMES LANZA, San Francisco, appear.

He said that STRONG advised him that since 2/29/68, both ANTHONY and JAMES LANZA have been at the office most every day and they are in and out. When ANTHONY is out, JAMES is in and they both use the phone freely. STRONG stated that JAMES makes himself at home, putting his feet on the desk, smoking his cigar and has the

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and requested that the district attorney initiate a civil libel action against "Life" magazine in connection with the article concerning CERRITO appearing in the March 15th issue of that magazine.

Sheriff PRELSNIK advised that Mr. BERGNA questioned the source of some of the allegations set forth in the article and wondered how a magazine would obtain such information when it is not generally available to all law enforcement agencies, including his own office.

Sheriff PRELSNIK stated that he commented to the district attorney that the article itself set forth that the information, at least in part, had been obtained by "Life" from some undisclosed source connected with President JOHNSON's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice and suggested that perhaps the district attorney could get such information from the same source.

Sheriff PRELSNIK stated that Mr. BERGNA did not indicate any contemplated action in connection with the matter at this time.

No effort is being made to contact BERGNA concerning this matter. In the event the district attorney contacts the San Jose Resident Agency concerning the article, the information will be immediately furnished.

On 3/20/68 SF-2745-C-TE was contacted at his home in Richmond, California, by SA's RUDOLPH H. MANCINI and RICHARD VITAMANTI, at which time he related that he had read the article and said, "It puts me right in the middle." Informant advised that since the article names him prominently as the one who allegedly "bungled" the matter with HAROLD SMITH, SR., JOE CERRITO and his "flunkies" will be looking for a "patsy" and the sole blame for bringing the bad publicity to the San Jose family will be placed on his shoulders. Informant said that CERRITO will not take into account that he "started the whole mess" with his libel suit against "Life" magazine. Informant advised that, in addition, he did not tell CERRITO to go to Italy and get "fouled up" as he did. Informant advised that the facts pertaining to the "Smith matter" as set forth in the magazine article regarding him were "inaccurate." Informant advised that he never threatened to kill HAROLD SMITH, SR. or his brother, RAYMOND SMITH, as a result of his failure to collect the \$100,000.00 or any part of it. Informant advised, however, that HAROLD SMITH, SR. did threaten to kill him if he decided to "back out" of the

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