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Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (92-3434)
(92-6054)
(92-3776)

FROM: SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (92-124)
(92-593)
(166-714)

SUBJECT: JOSEPH CERRITO, aka
AR
OO: San Francisco

LA COSA NOSTRA
AR - CONSPIRACY
OO: New York

Re San Francisco airtel to Bureau, 3/14/69.

On 3/13/69 SF 2550-C-TE furnished the following information to SA RUDOLPH H. MANCINI:

On 3/12/69 Informant contacted MANNY FIGLIA, Under Boss, San Jose LCN Family, during which time they discussed the recent libel suit filed 3/5/69, U. S. District Court, San Francisco, by JOE CERRITO, LCN Boss of the San Jose Family, against Life Magazine for an additional \$7,000,000. Informant commented to FIGLIA that PETE MISURACA was probably "fuming" because the newspapers in referring to the suit, again made reference to the HAROLD SMITH matter to which MANNY replied "If you think PETE is unhappy, you should see JOE (CERRITO), he's really sick."

- 9 Bureau (92-3434) (RM)
 - (3 - 92-6054)
 - (3 - 92-3776)
- 1 - Las Vegas (166-1217) (info) (RM)
- 2 - New York (92-2300) (RM)
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RHM/lcm
(16)

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Special Agent in Charge

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Informant said to MANNY "What do you mean, didn't he file the new suit?" and MANNY replied "Yeah, but he didn't want to. He's sick of the whole thing. He wanted to leave sleeping dogs lie. He doesn't want the money, all he wanted was a retraction."

FIGLIA then related that CERRITO and his wife, during the past week, were guests at his home for a birthday party. MANNY said "You should see that guy, he's so depressed and sick that he couldn't even eat a piece of cake." FIGLIA commented that CERRITO's "wife and kid" are "mad at JOE" for all of the trouble, particularly the adverse publicity and the loss of his dealership. The Informant told FIGLIA that he could not understand why CERRITO filed a new libel suit if he wanted to forget the matter. MANNY concluded the discussion by saying "You don't understand, you don't understand". Informant added that he did not press FIGLIA further for discussion on the matter, however, it was his impression that someone convinced CERRITO to file the most recent libel action against Life Magazine against his wishes.