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TO: SAC, DETROIT (137-2879) Date: 3/13/63

FROM: SA ROBERT N. FITZPATRICK /x/ CI // SI

SUBJECT: DE 878-C-TE // PCI // PSI

Dates of Contact

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Titles and File #s on which contacted

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| EUGENE ELLSWORTH AYOTTE, aka, et al | 49-1253 (Keehan) |
| NBA, MAIL FRAUD - CONSPIRACY | |
| JOSEPH "SCARFACE JOE" BOMMARITO, aka, AR | 92-215 (Fitzpatrick) |
| PETER LICAVOLI, aka, AR | 92-217 (Montefiore) |
| ANTHONY "TONY" GIACALONE, aka, AR | 92-228 (Lunt) |
| MATHEW "MIKE" RUBINO, aka, AR | 92-229 (Montefiore) |
| CHARLES "CHICKIE" SHERMAN, aka, AR | 92-557 (Iseman) |
| JOHN SERRA, aka, AR | 92-562 (Arnett) |
| SAMUEL JOSEPH GIORDANO, aka, AR | 92-660 (Fitzpatrick) |
| JOSEPH "WHIP" TRIGLIA, aka, AR | 92-664 (Montefiore) |
| LOUIS LA HOOD SARKIS, aka, AR | 92-672 (Fitzpatrick) |
| MICHAEL THOMAS, aka, AR | 92-680 (Pryor) |
| HANK THOMAS, aka, AR | 92-706 (Moore) |
| PETER DE ANGELO, aka, AR | 92-754 (Pryor) |
| SAMUEL RUFFINO, Jr., aka, AR | 92-782 (Phillips) |
| NICK DITTA, aka, AR | 92-833 (Churchill) |
| SAMUEL LENTINE, aka, AR | 92-847 (Moore) |
| STANLEY "LEFTY" HOJNACKI, aka, AR | 92-852 (Pryor) |
| PETER CILLUFFO, aka, AR | 92-858 (Fitzpatrick) |
| JOHN KOERNER, aka, AR | 92-859 (Lunt) |
| JOSEPH VALENTI, aka, AR | 92-861 (Montefiore) |
| CRIME CONDITIONS IN MICHIGAN | 92-876 (Montefiore) |
| ALFRED VARGA, aka, AR | 92-1004 (Fitzpatrick) |
| ANDREW E. STEFANI, AR; MAIL FRAUD - CONSPIRACY | 92-1048 (Bickford) |
| NUMBERS CONTROL FILE | 162-19 (Cammarota) |
| LESOD CLUB | 162-68 (Pryor) |

Purpose and results of contact

// Negative
/x/ Positive

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Informant advised that he was in company with JOE VALENTI the previous weekend. He said that VALENTI was real upset and was telling him that somebody "high up" in the syndicate was "doing a lot of talking" to the FBI. Informant said that VALENTI told him of his interview the previous Friday, 3/1/63, by the FBI. He said that VALENTI told him that the FBI had his car "bugged," apparently because "they knew all about him." Informant stated that VALENTI told him that the FBI knew about his going to the Palm Furniture Co. and of his contacts with SAMMY GIORDANO. Informant said that actually VALENTI was never "tight" with SAMMY G. and, in fact, VALENTI hates GIORDANO. He added that VALENTI has been close to him for years, however, he cannot be sure if VALENTI knows JOHNNY AYOTTE or not.

Informant advised that VALENTI told him that the FBI showed him a \$50.00 check from Palm Furniture Co. which was endorsed by "JOE VARGA" but which had VALENTI's true address and telephone number of 12779 Evanston, LA 7-6173 and also VALENTI's previous Michigan auto license number GG 4261. Informant stated that VALENTI admitted to him that he had actually endorsed this check as "JOE VARGA" and that "JOE VARGA" was the alias given to him by SAMMY G. during the two week period during June, 1960, in which he (VALENTI) had worked as a salesman at Palm Furniture. Informant said that VALENTI told him that the check wasn't phony but that he had certainly made a mistake in putting down his own address, phone number and car license number. Informant added that VALENTI also told him SAMMY G. had used him as a "front" for two weeks and had paid him a salary of \$100.00 a week. He stated that VALENTI seemed very relieved that he only worked at Palm Furniture two weeks and VALENTI commented that he was thankful that the one order he signed for at Palm Furniture under the name "JOE VARGA" was actually one of the orders which was paid for.

Informant advised that VALENTI commented that the Palm Furniture check he signed, using the name "JOE VARGA", was a check proffered to him by SAMMY GIORDANO one day while working in the store. VALENTI told him that it wasn't a salary check and he cashed it only because GIORDANO needed some cash. Informant said that VALENTI told him that he knew the check was good so he gave GIORDANO the \$50.00 cash. He advised that VALENTI complained to him that when he went to cash the Palm Furniture check at the Clark Gas Station the guy asked him for all kinds of identification and he confusedly gave the name "JOE VARGA" even though the check was made out to "cash" plus all his own identifying data. Informant said that VALENTI told

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him that he only went to work at Palm as he thought he could make some money but, as it turned out, he "didn't eat or drink", ie, make any money from the deal.

Informant advised that VALENTI told him that following his interview the previous Friday by the FBI he had contacted JOE "WHIP" TRIGLIA and gave "JOE WHIP" all the details of the interview. VALENTI told Informant that he asked TRIGLIA to get in touch with RUBINO right away and find out what RUBINO wants him (VALENTI) to do or say in the whole matter.

On 3/11/63, Informant advised that VALENTI told him that TRIGLIA had contacted him and gave him a message from MIKE RUBINO to the effect "Don't bother me. I've got troubles of my own". Informant commented that VALENTI is now real hot at RUBINO. He said that really RUBINO made a big mistake in answering VALENTI's request like this as VALENTI's testimony could help "bury RUBINO". Informant commented that he does not believe that VALENTI actually knows RUBINO. He said that certainly VALENTI has seen RUBINO a few times around town but that VALENTI, when he was associated with "the people" was employed in the numbers in the old Murphy House, which is now run by "FAT DOMINIC" CORRADO and TONY GIACALONE, and VALENTI wouldn't have come in contact with RUBINO, who represented another faction in the syndicate. He said that he knows that VALENTI knows SAMMY G. but that VALENTI displays nothing but contempt now for GIORDANO.

Informant advised that VALENTI has been ranting and raving about "the people" having no sense of loyalty or morals. Informant added that not only does VALENTI realize this now but he is still afraid of them. He offered that VALENTI is not afraid of, say, MIKE RUBINO or TONY GIACALONE, as a person but because they represent a strong organization - the syndicate. Informant remarked that VALENTI had been employed as a "pick-up man" and an office worker in the numbers for TONY GIACALONE but that VALENTI and GIACALONE got in "a big beef" one day and GIACALONE fired VALENTI. Informant said that VALENTI missed a "pick-up" one day at a particularly large "drop" and it caused a lot of confusion and the loss of "a day's business". Informant stated that VALENTI complained that he "made a tail" and thus wasn't able to make the "stop". He added that the two of them apparently got in a big hassle over it and the upshot was that VALENTI lost his job. Informant advised that VALENTI is still "pretty hot" at GIACALONE over this whole incident.

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Informant advised that he was at NICK DITTA's car lot when the U.S. Marshal came to serve DITTA a subpoena on the Palm Furniture case. Informant said that DITTA hasn't been around since the previous Saturday, 3/2/63, and he believes that DITTA is "ducking" this subpoena. He stated that DITTA may not have left town but was just "laying low" at home.

Informant advised that recently the Golden Griddle Pancake House on Gratiot Avenue and Frazho Road burned to the ground in a reported \$200,000.00 fire. Informant stated that the fire occurred early Monday morning after closing hours on 3/4/63, and that he (Informant) JIMMY CORRADO, and SHARKY GOODRICH had just had breakfast at the Golden Griddle the Saturday before. Informant related that in conversations he has had in the past with SAM LENTINE, the owner of the Golden Griddle Pancake House, he has been told by LENTINE that business has been real bad. Informant revealed that LENTINE commented to him recently that he intended "to use fire" on his place and when Informant asked LENTINE if LENTINE would let him call NICK DITTA in on the "score" LENTINE replied to the effect that he doesn't need "The Old Man" (DITTA) as he can "blow it" himself.

Informant revealed on 3/11/63, that he had been in company with NICK DITTA the previous day and Informant mentioned to DITTA about LENTINE's fire and commented that he (Informant) had heard that they found gas cans out behind the Golden Griddle Restaurant after the fire. Informant advised that DITTA's comment to this was to the effect "that's good for SAM. He should have called me." Informant added that he himself does not think that DITTA had anything to do with LENTINE's restaurant fire as it appeared to be a very "sloppy" job. He said that he wouldn't be surprised to see LENTINE go to jail as an arsonist on this fire. Informant advised that DITTA was real upset about a recent incident involving one of the cars off his used car lot. Informant stated that JOE VALENTI had sent a friend of his, DOMINIC VICARI, to borrow one of DITTA's cars and VICARI had wrecked the car in an accident with a truck. Informant said that VICARI, who is VALENTI's "compare", had gotten in a big hassle with DITTA as the truck driver was contemplating a law suit in the matter. Informant claimed that DITTA was so angry he was even talking about having the truck driver receive a severe beating or else have his home be the recipient of a bomb. He stated that he thought that DITTA was only "flying off the handle" in these threats but that it is an indication to him of how DITTA "reverts to type."

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Informant advised that he was recently talking to PETE DILORENZO at his market at 13227 Mack Avenue and DI LORENZO was complaining that he wasn't making any money in the store and DI LORENZO spoke of "burning" his place. Informant said that he offered to get "just the man" (DITTA) for the job but DI LORENZO declined by stating that he "doesn't need help" and "would do it" himself. Informant commented that he wouldn't be surprised to see DI LORENZO's Market destroyed in a "mysterious" fire sometime in the near future.

Informant stated that while in conversation with NICK DITTA recently DITTA again spoke of the "good job" he did on the Rainbow Recreation "fire". Informant said that DITTA bragged that he took only eleven minutes to set up the "torch job" at Rainbow Recreation and that he and PETE DE ANGELO, who went with DITTA on this "score", were at least a mile away when the joint "blew". Informant said that DITTA is sometimes referred to as "The master" when arson jobs are discussed. He revealed further that DITTA, in referring to the Rainbow Recreation "fire", commented that "the more water they (the Detroit Fire Department) put on it the more it'll burn."

Informant advised that he was in company with PETE CILLUFFO recently and CILLUFFO admitted that he had sold his Home Juice Co. franchise in Macomb County back to BILLY GIACALONE. Informant said that CILLUFFO apparently was making money with the Home Juice franchise but that BILLY GIACALONE was giving CILLUFFO so much grief that it was obvious that GIACALONE wanted him out of the Home Juice organization for some reason. He added that CILLUFFO, in commenting about MIKE RUBINO, revealed that RUBINO had "beat" him out of \$2500.00. Informant said that CILLUFFO "has no love for outfit guys."

Informant advised that ANGELO LOCICCHIO, who is the brother of PETE and NICK LOCICCHIO, is presently living in the Los Angeles, California area and is employed there in the produce business.

Informant advised that PETE LICAVOLI still is in control of the "green sheets" in Detroit. He stated that LICAVOLI presently has DOMINIC "CRIPPLED DOMINIC" BUFFA handling the on-the streets operation of the green sheets. Informant said that he saw DOMINIC BUFFA earlier that day driving a red Mercury bearing Michigan license FL 3502. Informant described "CRIPPLED DOMINIC" as being about 5'8", 165 lbs., wearing a mustache and

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and that he walks with a cane because of a crippled leg. Informant said that for many years BUFFA told the story that he was crippled as a result of a fight when a guy broke a chair over his back. Actually, according to Informant, "CRIPPLED DOMINIC" received his defect because of syphilis. Informant remarked that AUGIE RUFFINO, who is a TV repairman and an uncle of SAM RUFFINO, really hates "CRIPPLED DOMINIC" and has for many years as "CRIPPLED DOMINIC" "stole" AUGIE's wife. FL 3502 listed to DELORES WHITEHEAD, 5745 Barham on a 62 Mercury.

Informant disclosed that he was recently in company with STANLEY "LEFTY" HOJNACKI. He said that "LEFTY" was relating to him that he had been operating up in Flint, Michigan, and actually "stole a few pieces" but that he could not break in and returned to Detroit. Informant advised that HOJNACKI's partner BRUNO "BROWNIE" TRANSKI was recently sentenced to the Detroit House of Correction allegedly for trying to steal a carton of cigarettes out of a store. Informant added that JACK KOERNER has an office in the Civic Center, telephone number WO 2-5780, extension 462. Informant also revealed that BEN C. ROBINS, whom Informant refers to as "BENNY BOOM BOOM", was arrested recently for narcotics in a raid on Robins Drug Store at 31st and W. Warren Avenue, Detroit. Informant said that ROBINS has been a heavy gambler for years around town and that he has "gone the whole shot" at baccarat, barbute, craps, and cards.

Informant advised that he was recently with SAMMY "MOUSTACHE" NORBER at the Imperial Hotel, 26 Peterboro. Informant commented that the Imperial Hotel is a joint where the "who's who" in the Detroit underworld congregates, particularly at night. He said that "CHICKIE" SHERMAN operates his "open handbook" daily at the Imperial Hotel. Informant disclosed that he talked to MIKEY THOMAS and GEORGIE MONAZYM that night at the Imperial and SAMMY NORBER revealed to him that he and MIKE THOMAS were "in partners" in a salvage business at John R and Montana Avenues, Detroit.

Informant advised that he also spent time with LOUIE LA HOOD at the bar at the Imperial Hotel and in fact he drove LA HOOD to his home at 121 Avalon St., Highland Park, Mich. Informant said that LA HOOD has been drinking too much, against his doctor's orders, and that LA HOOD is real worried about his pending trial in Federal Court in Detroit where he is charged

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in a conspiracy with harboring Top Ten Fugitive TOMMY VIOLA. Informant said that LA HOOD was telling him that he doesn't like "BIFFO" MACCAGNONE though he still respects him. Informant stated that LA HOOD tried to impress on Informant that the FBI had a "bum beef" on him as he doesn't even know TOMMY VIOLA. He stated that LA HOOD is working daily in his parent's store, the Family Market at St. Antoine and Theodore Streets, Detroit, and that LaHOOD's wife, JANET, is expecting their second child any day.

Informant advised that he was also with "CANDY" DAVIDSON at the Imperial Hotel. He said that "CANDY" recently made parole out of Jackson Prison where he had served time for his complicity in the shooting of State Senator WARREN HOOPER. Informant stated that "CANDY" has got to do four years parole and he kidded "CANDY" about his breaking his parole, particularly with living among all the hoodlums who hung around the Imperial Hotel. Informant advised that "CANDY" told him that it wasn't his idea to live at the Imperial but that his parole officer put him in here. He revealed that "CANDY" DAVIDSON is working for a guy named (FNU) FRIEDMAN at the Bird Trucking Co., 7447 Dix, and that "CHICKIE" SHERMAN is squiring "CANDY" around town from time to time. Informant advised that "CANDY" DAVIDSON mentioned MIKE RUBINO and commented "You know, that 'little man' was real good to me for years. I'd do anything for him". Informant added that he has personal knowledge that MIKE RUBINO furnished money to "CANDY" during the years "CANDY" was at Jackson and had many favors done for "CANDY" such as getting him special privileges, a soft job, and special visitors, at the prison. Informant revealed that "CANDY" DAVIDSON was a houseboy for Warden BANNON in BANNON's private home off the Jackson Prison grounds prior to "CANDY's" release. He said that JOSEPH "HONEST JOE" MAZZEO was also a houseboy in the Warden's home prior to his recent release. Informant commented that MAZZEO made parole and now is "in tight" with "BIFFO" MACCAGNONE.

Informant advised that MIKEY THOMAS' barbute game is back operating in "their old stand" in Ecorse, Michigan, at 3706 W. Jefferson. He said that the barbute game moved into River Rouge, Mich. recently at 13232 W. Jefferson but the River Rouge PD ran the game out of the town as soon as they opened.

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Informant advised that an associate of his, "SHARKY" GOODRICH needed money recently and he went to JOHNNY SERRA at the Fort Wayne Hotel to borrow \$500.00. Informant said that SERRA turned "SHARKY" down by saying "My books are full up". Informant said that when SHARKY came to him and told him this story he (Informant) went to see SERRA but SERRA was out and Informant talked to SAMMY FINE. Informant stated that SAMMY FINE told him that "SHARKY was NG" (no good) with SERRA as he got out of a loan with SERRA two years ago by complaining to the people about all the "juice" he had paid SERRA. In talking about SERRA and shylock operations in general in Detroit Informant related that NICK DITTA shylocks. He said that DITTA occasionally loans money and gets "juice" for it and, in fact, recently DITTA commented to him that if they could get \$10,000 "in front" they could make a good living shylocking.

Informant advised that "CHICKIE" SHERMAN mentioned to him the other day that JOSEPH "SCARFACE JOE" BOMMARITO was presently confined to a Miami, Florida, hospital with Parkinson's disease and other complications and that BOMMARITO has been in a coma for the past four days. He said that apparently BOMMARITO is not expected to live.

Informant revealed that RAY MONASTERSKI, an active burglar and "pete-man", was arrested two weeks ago by the Detroit Police Department and later released. Informant said that the police confiscated from MONASTERSKI three "little black books" in which MONASTERSKI had listed the names and addresses of just about every furrier and jewelry store owner in the Detroit area. Informant said that he heard that the police found fourteen names crossed off in MONASTERSKI's "directories" but they couldn't pin any of the B&E's of these fourteen places on MONASTERSKI.

Informant advised that Detective JOHNNY SPECHOCK of the Detroit PD Holdup Squad hangs around the Advance Cleaners on E. Jefferson near about McClellan Ave. He said that SPECHOCK plays a lot of cards in the back room at Advance Cleaners, a new business which is owned by JOE MICHAELS. Informant revealed that JOE MICHAELS, is a brother of EMILY MICHAELS, who is MOSIE MASSU's girl friend. Informant said that "SHARKY" GOODRICH has also been hanging around the Advance Cleaners and SPECHOCK keeps talking to "SHARKY" about various doctors he knows and how much money each has. Informant advised that "SHARKY" is of the

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distinct impression that Detective JOHNNY SPECHOCK is "feeling him out" to give him a real good "score", probably one of these doctors. Informant added that "SHARKY" GOODRICH told him that Detective SPECHOCK was commenting on the "furor" caused in the Detroit underworld by the FBI in the Palm Furniture case and SPECHOCK claimed that the FBI "have movies of the whole Palm Deal" which they can show in court and further that JOHNNY AYOTTE had "spilled his guts" on the Palm deal to the FBI.

Informant advised that AL VARGA was hired back to work nights as a barbute dealer at the game in Ecorse by MIKEY THOMAS. Informant said that VARGA told him that he no longer had any numbers action and that \$10,000.00 in "hits" last week put him out of business. Informant said that AL VARGA was "waxing eloquent" about how the FBI worked and the fact that it was the most powerful organization in the country. Informant revealed that AL VARGA also spoke at length about the Palm Furniture case and said that he (VARGA) had gone to Palm and bought an air conditioner and paid cash for it. He said that VARGA bragged that he walked out of Palm with the air conditioner and no record was ever made of it.

Informant advised that he has heard from many different sources that because of the extreme pressure put on "thepeople" by the FBI in the Palm Furniture deal the "word is out" that MIKE RUBINO and SAMMY GIORDANO may be "ordered" to come into court and, after failing in all their intended motions before the judge, plead guilty to one count of the indictment. Informant specifically excluded JOHNNY AYOTTE from this "manuevr" by explaining that it is commonly believed among "the outfit guys" that AYOTTE spilled his guts to the FBI and a deal has been made with regards to AYOTTE's guilty plea.

Informant stated that MIKE RUBINO has been confined to bed the past week with the flu. He said that RUBINO has been having a great deal of stomach trouble and Informant commented that "MIKE would die in jail". He added, when speaking of RUBINO, that all MIKE knows how to do is "smile, stand around, and get mad" and with his bad stomach and the soft life he has been living RUBINO couldn't "take" prison.

Informant advised that HARRY THOMAS was allowed to plead guilty in Detroit Circuit Court on 2/25/63, to a lesser charge of assault and battery, rather than the original charge

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of taking indecent liberties with a minor female for which, according to Informant, THOMAS could have gotten up to life in prison. Informant stated that THOMAS got two years probation, the first 60 days of which have to be spent in Dehoco and was fined court costs. Informant stated that he has heard that HANK THOMAS finally had to pay the young girl's father, a doctor who lived in THOMAS' neighborhood in Grosse Pointe Park, \$25,000.00 in order to be allowed to plead guilty to the much lesser A&B charge.

Informant advised that the previous night he was at DI LORENZO's Pizzeria and he met "a loud mouth little punk" named PAUL LEGO (ph). He said that he has known LEGO a number of years, seeing him around town, but that he has never paid much attention to him as LEGO has a "bad name". Informant stated that LEGO told him that he had a load of "queer", ie counterfeit money. Informant stated that LEGO claimed that LANEY COBB and DUCKY DIETZ, who got Federal probation recently in Los Angeles for possession of \$45,000.00 in counterfeit \$20.00 bills, had signed a statement against him (LEGO) with the Secret Service. He stated that LEGO lead him to believe that he was the printer of this "queer" money and was "in partners" with one other guy. Informant advised that LEGO told him that he had had two million dollars in counterfeit money which was "a good product in Series G" and for which he was charging \$15.00 a hundred. He revealed that LEGO commented that the "queer" was in \$20.00 denominations and that apparently he had a little over one million dollars of it left. Informant said that one of LEGO's friends, a GEORGE HOLLEMAN (ph) recently got grabbed by the Secret Service in possession of some of LEGO's bills. Informant stated that LEGO claimed that he runs \$63,0000 of the counterfeit bills and then changes the serial numbers. He advised that LEGO also told him that he is planning on coming out with \$5.00 and \$10.00 bills next.

Informant was contacted in the morning of 3/7/63 and was told that a warrant was outstanding for the arrest of JOE CORRADO as a material witness on the Palm Furniture case. Informant stated that he believed he could "dig CORRADO out" by checking some places. A photo of JOE CORRADO was shown to Informant. On the afternoon of that same date, 3/7/63, Informant telephonically advised that he had just left the company of JOE CORRADO. He disclosed that CORRADO was then with SAM TOCCO in

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the office at 12877 Woodward Avenue in Highland Park, Michigan. Informant advised that CORRADO does not resemble the photo previously shown to him. He revealed that CORRADO was dressed in a green sweater, grey pants and brown loafers and that he was wearing a grey sport shirt, moustache and also black, heavy horn-rimmed glasses. CORRADO was arrested by Bureau Agents at 12877 Woodward Avenue immediately following the receipt of this information.