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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

REC-55

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (137-7461)

DATE: 5/21/62

FROM : *JAB* SAC, NEW YORK (137-7694)
CONF. INFF.

SUBJECT: NY 3368-C-TE

NY 3368-C-TE was interviewed by SAS WARREN J. DONOVAN and JAMES P. FLYNN on 5/15/62 and furnished the information set forth below:

THE CRIMINAL COMMISSION; ET AL
AR - CONSPIRACY
NY File 92-2300

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 1-27-95 BY SP8 MAC/JKL
(JF-16)

NY 3368-C-TE advised that a ritual is part of the formal induction of a sponsored Italian hoodlum into the organized criminal element as a "button man".

Prior to this ritual, the sponsor, already in the organized element, brings the candidate around to meet the various caporegima in a particular "family". The purpose of this introduction is to determine whether any information is known to them that would be an impediment to acceptance of the candidate into the family.

If no impediment is uncovered, such as having been at one time a pimp (procurer) or ever having furnished information to the police, the candidate is "made" by a caporegima, underboss or boss. Only they have the power to make button men.

This informant pointed out that SWATS MULLIGAN (DOMINICK CIAFFONE) cannot become a button because he was a pimp, but also advised that CARL IPPOLITO aka Poppey of Trenton, New Jersey was made a button despite the fact that he was known to have acted as a police informant in the past. According to the source, the fact that IPPOLITO is a money maker, one who has the talent for making money in the rackets or legitimately, was the deciding factor. It is his opinion that IPPOLITO is not trusted by his fellows and is not permitted to know about matters of absolute secrecy.

- 3 - Bureau (137-7461)
- 1 - New York (137-300 Sub A)
- 1 - New York (92-632)
- 1 - New York (137-7694)

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The informant stated that among the many button men in the United States are numbered men in the professions and respectable occupations. He added that doctors and lawyers are included, naming an (FNU) LONGO, an attorney in Brooklyn, New York, as an example. He also cited one of JUDY GARLAND's husbands, VINCENT MANELLI, a Hollywood producer, as a button man who was made by JOSEPH PROFACI. *N.Y.*

It is to be noted that this informant when in California knew the following to be important members of the organized criminal element:

index { FRANK SCAPITORI (ph) in San Francisco
SEBASTIANO NANI
JACK DRAGNA and his son, JACK, in Los Angeles
JIMMY BRANZONE (ph), now deceased } *deceased*

The informant again iterated that in the New York area there are five "families", and that the head of each family is a member of the "Commission". He pointed out that throughout the United States, there are approximately 30 members of the "Commission", indicating that there are as many "families", each headed by a boss, underboss and consuleri with caporegima and button men, numbering approximately 10 to each caporegima.

The informant advised that the boss of each family is supposed to be chosen by the button men, and is known by them as the "padrone" or "old man". His underboss is often called "padronesuita" (ph). The "consuleri" is usually semi-retired and does not usually have any button men directly under him, but receives a piece of the action of many of the "family" members.

This source also pointed out that the Chicago "family" conducts its internal organization in a slightly different manner, selecting a new boss about every four years. The former boss is promoted to semi-retirement, deriving income from the "family". He cited ROCCO FISCHETTI as being in this category today. He explained that this is a truer form of organization, allowing many more to make money than the New York system where a boss, like PROFACI, can be in power and derive a lion's share of the money for over 30 years.

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He also pointed out that under the "old country" rules, if a father was a button man, his son, during his father's lifetime, could not be a button man, but could be in on everything in the "family". The purpose was to avoid a "blood line" which would influence decisions to the detriment of those button men in the "family" not of the "blood line".

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The modern, or Americanized, rule does not prevent the "making" of father and son during the same lifetime. He cited ALBERT ANASTASIA as among the first of the modern bosses. He stated that in the New York area, VITO GENOVESE and JOSEPH PROFACI follow the old country rules, while CARLO GAMBINO, THOMAS LUCHESE and JOSEPH BONANNO are modern in their rule.

The informant stated above that the button men are supposed to select their own boss. He pointed out that more often than not, the Commission will appoint a boss of their own choosing. He did not cite an example of this.

In further explaining the function and authority of a consuleri, the informant stated that in the absence of boss or underboss, the consuleri makes minor decisions. He is at all times an advisor to the bosses, underboss, caporegima and the button men.

The informant stated that the caporegima is often called a captain, but added that such terms as general colonel, etc., have no meaning or comparison with existing organization in the criminal element.

Concerning the expression "the geep", the informant advised that this is applied to a person of the old rule, often called "mustaches". It is a term used, but not to the face of the person to whom referred.

The informant advised that the JOSEPH PROFACI family has as caporegima the following:

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LEO GARIANO aka Big Leo - Brooklyn
HARRY FRONTANA - Brooklyn
SALVATORE MUSSACCHIO aka Sally the Sheik - Brooklyn
JOHN ODDO aka Johnny Bathboach - Brooklyn
SALVATORE BADALAMENTI - Brooklyn
JOHN MISURACA aka Big John - New Jersey
RALPH TROPANO aka Whitey - Connecticut

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N.Y. ~~JOSEPH MAGLIOCCO~~ is the underboss in this family and ~~CHARLES LO CICERO~~ aka Charlie the Sidge, is consuleri. ~~ANTHONY BONASERA~~ aka The Chief, was a caporegima but due to a syphilitic condition has been retired and is paid about \$200.00 per week.

The informant related he knew of two other buttons who became syphilitic and when the condition deteriorated their control of their tongues, they were executed. ~~WILLIE MORETTI~~ *deceased* was one such button and the other was executed by ~~SARO MCGAVERO~~ and ~~PETER DE FEO~~.

The following named individuals are button men who answer to ~~SALVATORE BADALAMENTI~~, according to the informant:

N.Y. { ~~ANTHONY PERRAINO~~
~~LITTLE TODDO~~ (red-faced Italian who looks Irish)
~~JOSEPH INDELICATO~~ aka Joe Scotch (currently in Florida)

The informant advised that ~~JOHN SCIMONE~~ aka Johnny Scimini, was a chauffeur for ~~JOSEPH PROFACI~~ as well as his chief executioner on private killings of ~~PROFACI's~~ that were done without clearance with the Commission.

Concerning ~~FRANK PROFACI~~, the informant stated that although a button, ~~FRANK PROFACI~~ answers directly to ~~JOSEPH PROFACI~~. ~~JOSEPH PROFACI's~~ nephews also answer directly to him.

N.Y. The informant added that ~~AMBROSE~~ and ~~ANTHONY MAGLIOCCO~~ answer to their brother, ~~JOSEPH MAGLIOCCO~~. The same would apply to ~~MICHAEL GENOVESE~~ who answers directly to his brother, ~~VITO GENOVESE~~. In both cases, the brothers of the bosses have power and respect due to their relationship.

The informant advised that ~~JOE PARISI's~~ sister, who is employed by the Compensation Board, has in the past been the girl friend of ~~JOHNNY ROBOLITTO~~ and ~~TOMMY FARULA~~. He stated that she is now the girl friend of ~~CARMINE DE SAPIO~~.

The informant named the following as caporegima in the ~~VITO GENOVESE~~ family:

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~~FRANK TIERI~~ aka Funzwah
~~PETER DE FEO~~
~~DOMINICK DE QUATRO~~ aka Dom the Sailor
~~ANTHONY CARILLO~~ aka Tony the Sheik
~~BENJAMIN DE MARTINO~~ aka Benny the Bum
~~ANGELO DE CARLO~~ aka Gyp

MIKE MIRANDA is the underboss in the family, while THOMAS EBOLI aka Tommy Ryan is the consuleri. MIKE GENOVESE, aka Gumba Mike, is a button directly answerable to VITO GENOVESE and therefore commands a great deal of respect and power.

The informant named the following as being in the GENOVESE family:

Nix
mler

~~IGGY LEONE~~
~~GEORGE SMURRA~~ aka George Blair
~~JOSEPH SILESI~~ aka Joe Rivers
~~TOMMY LOMBARDI~~ who is with TIERI
~~PAUL JOHN CARBO~~ aka Frankie Carbo
~~MIKE COPPOLA~~
~~VINNIE MAURO~~
~~AL GUMBA~~
~~SALVATORE BADALAMENTE~~
~~JIMMY BATAGLIA~~ aka Jimmy Battles

According to the informant, JIMMY BATAGLIA owns a piece of Mid-City Trucking Company.

The informant advised that BENJAMIN DE MARTINO aka Benny the Bum is a caporegima with VITO GENOVESE and has the Bronx area, as well as part of Westchester, in which to operate. The informant will attempt to determine additional information regarding his operations and activities. He also advised that the following are members of DE MARTINO's crew operating in Manhattan's East Harlem area in shylocking:

LITTLE MIKE (not otherwise known to informant)
 JERRY (runs a candy store at 120th Street and 2nd Avenue)
 PHIL (owns the candy store - occasionally drives a taxi for cover)

The informant advised that LITTLE ROCKY is a button for ANTHONY CARILLO. He described LITTLE ROCKY, not otherwise known to the informant, as a former shoe shine guy in the neighborhood, who cannot think or ask for himself. He added that he typifies the caliber of the newly made buttons.

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The informant named the following individuals as members of the JOSEPH BONANNO family:

- ~~CARMINE GALANTE~~ aka Lilo - underboss
- ~~THOMAS GRECO~~ aka Tommy Palmer - consuleri
- ~~JOSEPH BIONDO~~ aka Joe Bandy - consuleri
- ~~MICHAEL CLEMENTE~~
- ~~PHILIP ALBANESE~~ aka Philly Katz
- ~~ROSARIO MOGAVERO~~ aka Saro, Sarutz
- ~~ROCCO PELLIGRINO~~
- ~~ANTHONY LEONE~~
- ~~ANTHONY LISI~~
- ~~FRANK GARUSO~~ aka Frankie the Bug
- ~~JOSEPH TICARELLI~~
- ~~SAMUEL GIARRUSO~~ aka Little Sammy
- ~~MICHAEL BONDEFEO~~ aka Mike Bond
- ~~NATALE EVOLA~~ aka Joe Diamond
- ~~JOHN ORMENTO~~ aka Big John
- ~~JOSEPH RICCOBONO~~
- ~~JOSEPH VENTO~~
- ~~SALVATORE GRANELLO~~ aka Solly Burns #55
- ~~ANTHONY PRESENZANO~~ aka Little Moe
- ~~EBARRATO~~ aka Al Walker

The informant described the following individuals as "animals", who kill for the sake of killing:

- ~~ANTHONY LISI~~
- ~~ANTHONY PRESENZANO~~
- ~~WILLIE CICCONE~~
- ~~ROSARIO MOGAVERO~~

The informant advised that the following belong to the THOMAS LUCHESE family:

- ~~VINCENT ALO~~ aka Jimmy Blue Eyes
- ~~JOHNNY BIOGUARDI~~ aka Johnny Dio
- ~~THOMAS BIOGUARDI~~ aka Tommy Dio
- ~~THOMAS MILO, SR.~~ (deceased)
- ~~JOSEPH STRACI~~
- ~~JOHN BIELE~~ aka Johnny Foto
- ~~JAMES PLUMERI~~ aka Jimmy Doyle

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The informant stated that although JOSEPH SCHIPANI is a button man, he doubts that SCHIPANI is a caporegima. He added he did not know with whom SCHIPANI is connected or to whom he answers.

The informant advised that JIMMY THE BARBER, not otherwise known to the informant, is a button man who did answer to ANTHONY BONASERA. His girl friend resides in a third floor apartment over a grocery store down from 51 President Street, Brooklyn, New York. The informant believes he may now answer to JOHN ODDO.

A TOMMY GATES is a flunky for JIMMY THE BARBER.

The informant stated TOMMY FARULA is not a button man, nor is ANTHONY ANASTASIA. He added that CARLO GAMBINO does back ANASTASIA. GAMBINO took over the ALBERT ANASTASIA family when ALBERT was murdered.

The informant advised that ED LANZERI (ph) is a button in the VITO GENOVESE family. LANZERI operates on Pier 7, Bush Terminal, and hangs out around 72nd Street and 17th Avenue, Brooklyn, New York.

The informant advised that the following individuals were members of the organized criminal element in Baltimore, Maryland, and were also individuals of stature in the organization:

with {
~~ANGELO PERRARA (ph)~~
~~JIMMY CORONA~~
~~BENNY PROTTO~~
~~LOUIS COMI~~
~~JOHN COMI~~
~~MR. TOM~~

The above was furnished the Baltimore Division for its information.

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The informant advised that ~~BUCKY BACHAGALUPE~~ (ph), who operates a restaurant across from ~~the~~ railroad station in Trenton, New Jersey, is the center of animosity in that area among his fellow members of the organized criminal element. The reason for this ill feeling is not known to the informant. He added that the word in the underworld is that JOSEPH PROFACI wants BUCKY killed, but that ~~CHARLES TOURINE~~ aka Charley White, Charley the Blade, had interceded on BUCKY's behalf.

N.Y. The informant stated CHARLES TOURINE is a button, probably with a New Jersey crew.

According to the informant, BUCKY has threatened the underworld with exposure in a letter left with his wife in the event anything happens to him.

The informant further advised that an active button man in the Trenton, New Jersey area was MIKE TRAMONTANA (ph) aka Daylight.

He advised also that MICKEY DODGE is a rapidly rising button in Paterson, New Jersey. He described him as a very tough guy who uses cologne profusely and dresses like a fag. 

The above was furnished the Newark Division for its information.

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