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Date: 3-30-65

To: Director, FBI

(Bufile : 92-6054)

Attention : _____

Legal Attache, Ottawa

(92-62)

REC-31

Title LA COSA NOSTRA	Character AR - CONSPIRACY Reference BUlet 2-2-65.
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Enclosed are the following communications received from the RCMP: Original and two copies of RCMP letter dated 3-26-65, together with three copies of the enclosure thereto.

Remarks:

Dissemination

- ☒ May be made as received
☐ May be made as indicated by stamp on enclosure
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Following offices would be interested in receiving copies of enclosures:

New York (92-2300)

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- ☐ RUC
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ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO
BE ADDRESSED:

THE COMMISSIONER
ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE
OTTAWA 8, CANADA



HEADQUARTERS - DIRECTION GÉNÉRALE

TOUTE CORRESPONDANCE DOIT
ÊTRE ADRESSÉE COMME SUIT:

LE COMMISSAIRE
GENDARMERIE ROYALE DU CANADA
OTTAWA 8, CANADA

YOUR NO.
VOTRE N°

OTTAWA 8, CANADA

OUR NO. HQ-330-Q-1-3 (Vol. 2)
NOTRE N°

March 26, 1965.

Mr. Moss Lee Innes,
c/o U.S. Embassy,
Ottawa, Ontario.

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IS SUPPLIED TO YOU BY THE R.C.M. POLICE FOR
INFORMATION OF YOUR DEPARTMENT ONLY. IT IS
NOT TO BE MADE KNOWN TO ANY OTHER AGENCY
OR PERSON WITHOUT THE WRITTEN PERMISSION OF
THE R.C.M.P.

Re: La Cosa Nostra, Montreal, Quebec
Canada

New York report of 26-Jan-65 on La Cosa
Nostra was referred to our Montreal office for their
comments and attached are copies of their report dated
8-Mar-65 in this regard.

DPOB - 11/10/10
GALIBRIEL, JAL

NV
ELA
2. Regarding the information concerning Vic
COTRONI's position as leader of the Montreal Group, since
the 1957 Appalachin Meeting, we have suspected that Vic
COTRONI has been a member of the "Mafia". Our opinion is
that COTRONI has had control or played a major roll in
directing all major criminal activities in the Montreal, CANADA
area and as a result derived an enormous financial benefit.
This conclusion has been reached as a result of information
received from various sources, subsequent to the Appalachin
Meeting, when it was disclosed that Vic COTRONI may have also
attended the Appalachin Meeting, but was one of several
persons who escaped apprehension.

3. Persons of importance who have had contact
or dealings with Vic COTRONI in the past and who we
consider could be part of the COTRONI organization are
as follows:-

(1) Frank COTRONI - FPS #648069, born 9-Sept-30, Montreal, CANADA

He is the brother of Vic and Guiseppe COTRONI
and reported to be an "enforcer" for the
protection and prostitution rackets in
Montreal. Reported to act as supervisor
for the Eastend Gang, assisted by one Joseph
COCCOLICHIO, referred to below, for the
COTRONI organization.

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ENCLOSURE

OTHER FILE REFERENCES:

DIVISION "C"
SUB-DIVISION

RCMP FILE REFERENCES:

DETACHMENT Mtl. N.C.I.U.

C-330-Q-1-3

DATE 8 March 1965

HQ-330-Q-1-3 (V.2)

RE:

Vincent Cotroni

PROPERTY OF R.C.M.P. — THIS POLICE REPORT
IS SUPPLIED TO YOU BY THE R.C.M. POLICE FOR
INFORMATION OF YOUR DEPARTMENT ONLY. IT IS
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SECRET

1. Further to memo from H.Q. Assistant C.I.B. Officer dated 12 FEB 65, requesting information relevant to the involvement of the COTRONIS, GALENTE, GRECO, etc., with the BONANNO family at this time, please be informed of the following.

2. There exists a definite link between BONANNO and these other individuals. Joseph BONANNO Alias "BANANAS" FPS No. 891104 is alleged to have entered this country as early as 1938. In 1954 ~~Carmino~~ GALENTE Alias "LILLO THE CIGAR", FPS No. 815013, recently reported by Joseph VALACHI as an underboss to BONANNO, considered a top U.S. hoodlum at the time, took over the Montreal Syndicate. He controlled organized gambling, protection rackets, stock frauds, gambling, among other major crime specialties. He was known to have dictated on policies relevant to the Syndicate's operations.

3. Up to this time, Frank alias "FRANKIE P" ~~PETRULA~~, FPS No. 389562, a well known local hoodlum, who had succeeded "Edge Man" Harry ~~DAVIS~~, following the latter's slaying in 1946, was known as strong arm man for GALENTE's newly formed Canadian Syndicate. He lost his job in 1955 and subsequently disappeared mysteriously in 1956. PETRULA is reported to have had close associations with Harry SHIP, FPS No. 47477, a top syndicate member and Luigi alias Louis GRECO FPS No. 815813, then considered an enforcer for the syndicate. By 1956 the vice syndicate controlled all forms of crime.

4. It is at this juncture that Police opinions are the most conflicting and speculative. The chain of command as presented earlier is generally accepted. Following PETRULA's disappearance, one conjecture is that the city was divided into two distinct and separate groups, namely "The East End Gang" and "The West End Gang". Others maintain that this division was never made at all in terms of area but rather in relation to the type of crime committed.

5. Irrespective of the motivations, the city was divided. Replacing PETRULA we find that Harry SHIP had control of the West End with GRECO as his counterpart in the East End. The West had the French Canadian and Jewish elements whilst the East comprised mostly of Italians and a lesser number of French Speaking followers. This set-up was

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ENCLOSURE

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Vincent COTRONI

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CANADA

THIS SET-UP WAS in evidence as late as 1961 when Vic COTRONI FPS No. 183003 was reported as gradually taking over both East and West. His brother, Frank COTRONI FPS No. 648069 with Giuseppe COCOLICCHIO FPS No. 758891 were responsible for the East End. Similarly Peter ADAMO FPS No. 354597 and William COE FPS No. 98184 had control of the West End mob also under Vic COTRONI. Louis GRECO's decisions, as an enforcer were relegated to and acted upon by Vic COTRONI, his chief Lieutenant, until the late 1950. At this time, an internal struggle was beginning to show between the East and West factions. The Jewish element from the West were gradually loosing ground and the COTRONI mob began showing contempt. At this juncture, SHIP is shot at from close range. He was wounded in the legs and obviously it was only intended to scare him into submission rather than an attempt on his life. Salomon SCHNAPP FPS No. 963768, an influential West End edgeman had his establishment, the ~~CHEZ PAREE NIGHT CLUB~~ demolished by goons. This we consider, was the final blow to the East and West divisions.

6. Prior to the East-West amalgamation, a second theory, less probable than the first, was also advanced. Since Carmine GALENTE was using both Louis GRECO and Vic COTRONI as enforcers as early as 1955, a two way split in crime specialties may have existed. GRECO could have handled drugs, gambling, stock frauds, counterfeiting, book-making and receiving. Vic COTRONI, through his associates may have been responsible for prostitution, bonds and securities, hold-ups and major rackets. Drugs could have been an open field. Bootlegging into one another's specialty could have been tolerated within reason with some measure of control.

7. Since 1961, Vic COTRONI's influence and prestige within the syndicate is known to have flourished rapidly. We suspect that he is presently the Commission boss. His brothers Frank and Michel COTRONI are considered his enforcers. GRECO, on the contrary, is renewing acquaintances with petty hoodlums. As a result his activities are becoming increasingly susceptible to detection. GRECO is also reported financially on the decline. This figures since he now operates a second rate restaurant in Three Rivers, P.Q. ("LE ROI DU SPAGHETTI").

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RE:

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Vincent CCONI

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SECRET

8. Referring to Para. 2 where a request is made for the names of 20 members whom we feel belong to the Montreal "Decina". Inasmuch as we are convinced that the "Cosa Nostra" has extended its tentacles here, we have no evidence to substantiate the existence of even one "Cosa Nostra" family in Montreal. We have received no information at any time to the effect that other than GALENTE, any of the local commission belonged to this organization as we know it to function. The allegation that BONANNO, in 1964 came to form a family of "borgatta", comes as no surprise. Had he been given the opportunity of settling here, this may have come about. Between his incarceration, legal proceedings and subsequent deportation, it is most doubtful that he had made any gains at forming such a family, particularly since the Montreal group wanted to be left alone.

9. Since we have been alerted to the possibility of a "Cosa Nostra" family being formed here, the matter will be borne in mind and any information of value will be promptly reported.


Sgt.
C.A.L. Liboiron, 15323.
i/c Montreal N. C. I. U.

- (2) ~~Joseph COCCOLICHIO~~ - FPS #758891, born 28-Jan-20,
Montreal, CANADA

Reported to be "strong-arm man" and "enforcer" for the COTRONI syndicate and assists Frank COTRONI in the supervision of the so called Eastend Gang.

- (3) ~~Peter ADAMO @ ADAMS~~ - FPS #354597, born 29-June-14,
Ontario, CANADA

ADAMO is a gambler who is connected with race and bookmaking businesses. Reported to be supervisor of the so called Westend Gang with one ~~George William COHEN~~, referred to below, for the Vic COTRONI organization. Members of the Westend Gang are reported to be well-known safecrackers and also dispose of stolen bonds. It is reported that ADAMO and COE do not take an active part in the safecracking or thefts but establish new outlets for distribution of the bonds and plan places to be robbed.

- (4) ~~George William COE~~ - FPS #98184, born 3-May-05,
London, England.

COE is well-known Montreal gambler and reported to be a "pressure man" for the syndicate (one who contacts managers of nightclubs demanding protection). Also note information on Peter ADAMO.

- (5) ~~Armand COURVILLE~~ - FPS #356432

He is a close associate of COTRONI and acts as a front in various businesses for the COTRONI organization.

- (6) ~~Fernand Pierre LEFEBVRE~~ - no known record.

He is a close associate of COTRONI and owner of Jacques Cartier Motel in Montreal, possibly another business interest of COTRONI. Believed to act as courier for COTRONI.

- (7) ~~Paul VIOLI~~ - FPS #820579, born 6-Feb-32, Reggio,
Calabria, Sicily.

VIOLI is a naturalized Canadian and has been involved in illicit alcohol, counterfeit, protection, arson and land fraud. Recent investigation has shown a close association between VIOLI and the COTRONI organization.

- (8) ~~Irving~~ ELLIS - FPS #833862, FBI #2068775, born 16-Jan-65, Montreal, CANADA

ELLIS is reported to be an "edge man" and collector of protection fees from the gambling syndicate. Past investigation has shown that ELLIS has accompanied COTRONI to Miami, Florida in 1958 and was believed to be the contact man between COTRONI and the Carmine GALANTE organization. Recently ELLIS has been involved in the Embassy Steel investigation.

- (9) ~~Jackie~~ SHUGAR - FPS #335733, born 8-July-08, Russia.

He is a well-known gambler and recent investigation has shown his involvement in the Embassy Steel operation. CANADA

- (10) ~~Hyman~~ STERNMAN - FPS #17851A, FBI #108053A, born 7-Oct-10, New York City, N.Y. CANADA

A well-known gambler and steel broker who is now subject of the STERNMAN-BERCOVITCH et al investigation.

- (11) ~~Leo~~ BERCOVITCH - FPS #486134, born 26-Dec-04, Canada.

Well-known Montreal gambler and is the subject of recent investigation concerning STERNMAN-BERCOVITCH et al.

- (12) ~~Solomon~~ SCHNAPP @ Solly ~~SILVERS~~ - FPS #963768, FBI #413-712-D. CANADA

He is well-known "middleman" and "edge man" for the Montreal criminal element and presently subject of the STERNMAN-EMBASSY STEEL investigation. CANADA

- (13) ~~Harry~~ SHIP - FPS #474777, born 1913 Canada.

Well-known Montreal gambler and "edge man" for the syndicate. CANADA

- (14) ~~Louis GRECO~~ - FPS #225228, born 19-Sept-13, Montreal, CANADA

In the 1950s reported to be one of Carmine GALANTE's top enforcers in the protection and stock racketeering activities. Recent reports indicate that he has lost his influence in the organization to a certain extent.

- (15) ~~Albert LEAN~~ - FPS #415880, FBI #305157B, born 13-Sept-11/12, Worcester, Mass. (Granted landed status at Montreal 9-Apr-53.) CANADA

Investigation in the past revealed that LEAN was involved in gambling, prostitution, protection, narcotics and stock rackets. In 1957 connected with George BRISBOIS, FPS #882285, FBI #683656C in the narcotic field and also associated with Louis GRECO in the latter part of 1950 and early 1960 in the Welland Investment Limited stock rackets with such well-known stock racketeers as Arthur TORTORELLA (FBI #471455), Carmine LOMBARDOZZI (FBI #290869) and Stanley YOUNGER (FBI #272384D). Recent enquiries indicate LEAN residing in Quebec City, P.Q. and that there has been contact between LEAN and Vic COTRONI.

- (16) ~~Vincenzo ORLANDO @ Jimmy~~ - FPS #330940, born 17-Feb-15, Montreal, CANADA

Mich
~~Previous investigation revealed that ORLANDO~~ is an ex-hockey player for the Detroit Redwings and has been banished from entering the U.S. He refereed wrestling matches in the Montreal Forum and other locations in the province in the 1950s and associates with known gamblers, nightclub people and wrestlers. Some of his associates in the past were Solly SCHNAPP, Harry SHIP, Harry SMITH, Stanley PAPADAKIS (FPS #668151 - brother-in-law of Peter ADAMO) and other well-known Montreal hoodlums. ORLANDO is married and his wife is from Miami, Florida where in the past they spent considerable time each year. He has a brother Joseph "Josie" ORLANDO, FPS #615331, who, in the 1950s managed a gambling establishment on St. Antoine St.,

Montreal. ORLANDO is also mentioned in our correspondence dated 22-Feb-65, your reference 88-157, our reference 62 HQ-1180-1-C-4 concerning Joseph Vincent ASARO.

- (17) Leo SCANZANO - FPS #587119, born 7-Jan-25. Information received in 1960 revealed that SCANZANO made application for permission to enter the U.S.A. as a non-immigrant. Enquiries at that time revealed that he was involved in gambling and on his application for permission to enter the U.S. gave his destination as one William FIORE of Springfield, Mass. who was a well-known gambler and operator of bookie joints in the western Mass. area. Enquiries also revealed that SCANZANO operated gambling establishments and the Chance Cafe, 1236 Crescent St., Montreal, a front for card games and a rendezvous for prostitutes and hoodlums etc. in the 1950s. Confidential information received at that time revealed that SCANZANO operated the Aldos restaurant, 1061 Mountain Street, Montreal along with his brother Frank SCANZANO, Joseph ORLANDO and Vincent ORLANDO. Frank SCANZANO has a police record and is recognized as a "strong arm" type. Leo SCANZANO, in the 1950s was active in white slave traffic between the U.S. and Montreal for a few years. He is married and has two children. It is reported that SCANZANO and Vincenzo ORLANDO were king pins for the Mafia organization in Montreal at that time. SCANZANO is also referred to in our correspondence of 22-Feb-65, your reference 88-157. CANADA

- (18) Frank GUZZO - FPS #117817

He is the son-in-law of Vic COTRONI and has accompanied him on trips to U.S. and other CANADA countries in the past.

- (19) Ralph GUZZO - 905 Welder Street, Montreal. CANADA

He is the father of Frank GUZZO and in 1959 managed the Chez Paree Nightclub which was then partly owned by COTRONI.

- (20) Michael (Michel) COTRONI @ "Nick" - FPS #623532, born 12-June-28, Montreal. CANADA

He is the brother of Vic and Frank COTRONI.

- (21) ~~Paul Emile~~ ~~DESORMIERS~~ - FPS #235595; born 31-Oct-13, ~~Montreal, CANADA~~ CANADA

Residence - 6647 Chauvin St., Montreal. He is the father-in-law of Frank COTRONI and recent enquiries revealed that in 1960 was the sole owner and president of the Lakeshore Lines Ltd., Montreal, P.Q. and after a four month operational period claimed to have earned approximately \$300,000. In the Fall of 1960 the Island King, a cruise ship owned by DESORMIERS, was burned and supposedly destroyed by gangland violence. He received over \$100,000 for local insurance companies for the damage incurred. He has only two minor convictions in 1930 - 1941 for theft and immorality. He presently declares himself as unemployed and his estimated worth is valued at over \$800,000.

- (22) ~~Fernando (Ferdinando)~~ ~~MUCELLI~~ - born 4-Jan-28, ~~Italy.~~ He is the nephew of Vic COTRONI and is presently employed with the firm of Guiseppe SUPUTO & FIGLI Ltd., 8510-8th Ave., Ville St. Michael, P.Q. mentioned in previous correspondence concerning Joseph BONANNO. CANADA

- (23) ~~Dominic~~ ~~DeFRANCESCO~~ - FPS #734889

See information on brother Joseph DeFRANCESCO mentioned below.

- CANADA (24) ~~Joseph~~ ~~DeFRANCESCO~~ - FPS #235759

Past investigation has shown close association between Joseph DeFRANCESCO and his brother Dominic with the COTRONI organization. Joseph in the past has often acted as a chauffeur for Vic COTRONI. Enquiries as recent as October 1964 revealed that a private party was held at the "One and Two Nightclub", 755 Butler Street, Montreal, a hangout for various racketeers. Persons observed attending this party were Frank COTRONI, Dominic DeFRANCESCO, Joseph DeFRANCESCO, Orlando DeFRANCESCO (FPS #915011), John Patrick McGuire, FPS #640757, Vincenzo ORLANDO and other criminals from the Montreal area.

4. Most of the persons mentioned above have been the subject of correspondence with your agency on separate files. There are other persons we could name who have had contact with Vic COTRONI and his brothers in various criminal activities, however, we have tried to give you the names of persons we feel have played a major part in the criminal fields such as gambling, protection, prostitution, etc. This is not to say that all these persons mentioned belong to the so called Montreal branch of the "family", however, such persons as his brother Frank COTRONI, Joseph COCCOLICHIO, Peter ADAMO, George William COE, Armand COURVILLE, Paul VIOLI, Irving ELLIS, Vincenzo ORLANDO, Leo SCANZANO, the GUZZOS and DeFRANCESCOs could be part of the COTRONI "family".

5. This information is forwarded to assist your Department in any further enquiries. We would appreciate any additional information you may obtain in this matter.



E.L. Martin, Supt.,
Officer in Charge,
Criminal Investigation Branch.

Encls.