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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (92-6054)

DATE: 4/8/64

FROM : SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (92-593) (P)

SUBJECT: LA COSA NOSTRA,
AR CONSPIRACY;
INTERVIEW PROGRAM;
SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

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PETER MISURACA, age 59, of Richmond, California, and reported member of La Cosa Nostra of the San Jose, California family, was interviewed by Bureau Agents at his residence on 2/11/64. MISURACA was discharged from the U. S. Armed Forces about 1942 as a psychotic. He has since undergone a number of operations and has been hospitalized for poor circulation of the blood in the lower extremities. He receives a 50% disability pension from the Government, his wife has a modest job, and he lives in very moderate circumstances. During the course of the interview, MISURACA was advised he had been identified as a member of La Cosa Nostra. He denied his membership or knowledge of such an organization, stating that it was probably his brother, JOHN MISURACA, who put his name on the list of members of that organization. PETE would not elaborate as to why JOHN MISURACA would put his name on the list, or if JOHN is a member of La Casa Nostra. PETE stated he hates his brother JOHN of Irvington, New Jersey and his nephew, ALEX CAMARATA, of Martinez, California, but declined to discuss their activities.

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Negative attempts were made to interview ALEX CAMARATA at Martinez, California. SF 2550-C-TE advised on 3/20/64 that ALEX CAMARATA, and his wife, ROSE, are very excited because the FBI is attempting to interview ALEX. Informant advised ALEX that he had also been interviewed by the FBI, and that the latter knew Informant was a member of La Cosa Nostra.

ALEX and ROSE CAMARATA informed the informant that they had contacted the latter's father, JOHN MISURACA in Irvington,

- 3 - Bureau (AM) (REG)
 - 2 - New York (92-2300) (AM) (REG)
 - 2 - Newark (92-1203) (AM) (REG)
 - 8 - San Francisco
 - (1 - 92-609)
 - (1 - 92-41)
 - (1 - 92-603)
 - (1 - 92-211)
 - (1 - 92-180)
 - (1 - 137-1336) (SF 2550-C-TE)
 - (1 - 137-1336) (SF 2354-C-TE)
- HKM/cs #4 (15)

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DATE: 11-14-2017

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New Jersey; that JOHN MISURACA told them to tell the fellows in California not to "crack" when interviewed by the FBI; that money and attorneys would be made available if they were needed.

Informant suggested to ALEX that they advise their "Capo" ANGELO MARINO of San Jose, California regarding these interviews by the FBI. ALEX told informant they should say nothing to the membership in San Jose at this time because the latter would think that they are attracting the FBI's attention. ALEX told informant that what the San Jose group doesn't know won't hurt them.

ALEX CAMARATA advised SF 2550-C-TE that he was staying away from his home at nights, as well as during the day, in order to avoid the interview with the FBI.

Informant advised PETE MISURACA did not inform anyone of his having been interviewed by the FBI.

Under the Top Echelon Informant Program of this office ANGELO MARINO, "Capo" of La Cosa Nostra in San Jose, California, was interviewed at San Jose on 2/13/64. He denied membership and knowledge of La Cosa Nostra and denied knowing any of its members, but was somewhat disturbed when advised it was known that he was a member of that organization. ANGELO, co-owner of the California Cheese Company of San Jose, indicated his competitor in the cheese business probably gave out the false information of his being a member of La Cosa Nostra.

ANGELO called JOE CERRITO, "Don" of the La Cosa Nostra in San Jose, to his residence at 10:00 P.M., 2/13/64. SF 2354-C-TE was visiting JOE CERRITO in Los Gatos, California at the time the call came from ANGELO MARINO. Informant reported he accompanied CERRITO to ANGELO's house and that ANGELO and CERRITO went into another room to talk while informant stayed in the kitchen area with PRECIOUS MARINO, wife of ANGELO and Mr. and Mrs. MARIO MAGGIO, brother of PRECIOUS MARINO, who were visiting the MARINOS from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

SF 2354-C-TE reported that ANGELO appeared to be very excited and agitated over his interview with the FBI, and

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especially indicated concern about our knowing of his membership in the organization. ANGELO indicated to CERRITO that the interview with the FBI was for a duration of about an hour and a half. CERRITO was very critical that ANGELO or any member of the organization should allow an interview with the FBI to go for more than a few minutes. CERRITO indicated they should merely tell the FBI they have nothing to say and suggest they contact their attorney.

SF 2550-C-TE advised the interview between ANGELO MARINO and the FBI was not generally known to the membership of La Cosa Nostra.

This interview with ANGELO MARINO apparently is of great concern to the leadership of La Cosa Nostra in the San Francisco Bay Area.

SF 2405-C* advised on 3/13/64 that STEVE ZOCCOLI, Council Member of La Cosa Nostra from San Jose met with JAMES LANZA, "Don" of San Francisco, California in the office of the latter. They discussed the fact that ANGELO MARINO had been interviewed by the FBI. LANZA indicated there is nothing going on in this area; that ANGELO should have told him (the Agent) that his facts were a bunch of lies.

Both agreed that they didn't think ANGELO was capable of handling this type of situation; that ANGELO is too young to be a caporegima; and that he was made a "capo" too soon.

ZOCCOLI requested LANZA not mention to CERRITO that ZOCCOLI had discussed this matter with LANZA.

Copies of this letter are being furnished the Newark Office in view of their interest in JOHN MISURACA.