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DATE: 11-14-2017

JFK Assassination System
Identification Form

Date: 5/20/201

Agency Information

AGENCY : FBI
RECORD NUMBER : 124-10288-10458
RECORD SERIES : HQ
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : 92-6054-2317

Document Information

ORIGINATOR : FBI
FROM : DIRECTOR, FBI
TO : SAC, LA
TITLE :
DATE : 04/24/1968
PAGES : 1
SUBJECTS :
LCN, GENTILE, NICOLO, PROSECUTION, OC, ACT, TRA,
ITALY, MAFIA VIOLENCE
DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : Unclassified
RESTRICTIONS : 4
CURRENT STATUS : Redact
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 07/09/1998
OPENING CRITERIA : INDEFINITE
COMMENTS :

DATE: 11-14-2017

SAC, Los Angeles

April 24, 1968

Director, FBI

- 1 - Mr. Kelly
- 1 - Mr. Rutland
- 1 - Mr. Emery

**LA COSA NOSTRA
ANTI-RACKETEERING - CONSPIRACY**

JP 6

Enclosed is a copy of a translated manuscript prepared by Nicolo Gentile, who, until his flight to Italy in the latter 1930's to avoid a narcotics prosecution, operated in the upper levels of the United States Mafia in various cities.

Though the substance of this document has previously been included in a La Cosa Nostra national summary report, this manuscript should be reviewed, particularly by Agents handling LA 4448-C-TE, for the purpose of further developing our knowledge of early La Cosa Nostra history, much of which has had a bearing on later events, power structures, leadership trends, etc.

It is noted for example that LA 4448-C-TE states that former Los Angeles "boss" Joe Ardizzone was murdered in 1931 by the Jack Dragna faction which took control of La Cosa Nostra in Los Angeles, California, apparently from about that time till Dragna's death in 1956. You will also note that Gentile, in discussing the events leading up to the murder of Salvatore Maranzano on 9/10/31, and the subsequent formation of the "Commission" shortly thereafter, recounts that with the word of Maranzano's murder, a purging operation was undertaken in which many of those aligned with Maranzano were murdered. Gentile refers to this operation as the "Sicilian vespers," as have certain other sources in commenting on this purge, which was reported to have claimed victims in various parts of the country.

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You should explore with LA 4448-C-TE his recollection of the above situation and determine if he knew whether Ardizzone's death came about as part of the purge of Maranzano's sympathizers.

You should continue to make full use of this source, and any other Los Angeles source thus qualified, to assist in the full development of key events in La Cosa Nostra's history in this country. Advise the Bureau of results.

Enclosure
TJE:mid
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[Handwritten signatures and initials]

MAILED 27
APR 24 1968
COMM-FBI

- Olson _____
- Loach _____
- Mohr _____
- Shapiro _____
- Sper _____
- Tahan _____
- Tracy _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holloman _____
- Gandy _____

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