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(Type in plain text or code)Via A I R T E L \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (92-6054)  
 FROM: SAC, SAN DIEGO (137-1088) (P)

LA COSA NOSTRA  
 AR - CONSPIRACY  
 (OO: NEW YORK)

Re San Diego airtel to Bureau, 10/18/67.

SD 1064-C-TE was recontacted on 10/30/67 and furnished the following information on the La Cosa Nostra (LCN):

I. SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

Refer to referenced airtel describing meeting informant had 10/2/67 with LCN member JIMMIE PRATIENNO, FRANK VELOTTA, and BOB TEGAY.

Informant advised TEGAY was attempting to arrange financing on the part of B.A.C.K. Oil and Refining Company, 2441 Pine Street, Bakersfield, California, telephone 324-3318, for the purchase of Time Oil Company and related enterprises. The purchase price of Time Oil Company is expected to be somewhere between 47,500,000 and 60,000,000.

B.A.C.K. Oil and Refining Company, Inc. officers are GEORGE L. BELLUOMINI, President; and F. GREGORY CARUSO, Vice-President.

Informant believes BELLUOMINI is a reputable person and a wealthy rancher in the Bakersfield area.

④ - Bureau (REGISTERED) 3 - New York (92-2300) (REG) NOV 13 1967  
 (1 - 137-9187) (1 - 137-13139)  
 2 - Chicago (92-1173) (REG) 2 - New Orleans (REG)  
 2 - Cleveland (92-748) (REG) 1 - Phoenix (Info) (REG)  
 2 - Detroit (92-914) (REG) 2 - San Francisco (92-593) (REG)  
 2 - Kansas City (92-883) (REG) 1 - St. Louis (Info) (REG)  
 2 - Las Vegas (REG) 2 - Tampa (92-218) (REGISTERED)  
 2 - Los Angeles (92-1112) (REG) 3 - San Diego (1 - 92-229)  
 1 - Miami (92-857) (REGISTERED) (2 - 137-1088)

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
 Special Agent in Charge JDA:pg  
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Informant advised TEGAY apparently has a business front located at 1227 Anza Street, San Francisco, California in the name of R.G.C. Consultants, consisting of GEORGE ROWLAND, ROBERT L. GILLILAN and A.B. CHAPMAN.

B.A.C.K. Oil and Refining Company has agreed to pay a fee (for arranging financing) to R.G.S. Construction amounting to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent of the total loan obtained, and to ROBERT TEGAY, a fee of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent of the total loan obtained. In addition, B.A.C.K. will grant to TEGAY the option to purchase six per cent of the total authorized stock in B.A.C.K., Inc. for the sum of \$10 per share upon closing of escrow of the above loan.

Informant advised that it is this  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent that TEGAY is working on which is the basis for hoodlum contacts with TEGAY. TEGAY contacted FRATIANNO, informant, as well as LOUIS TOM DRAGNA, in Los Angeles, hoping he could obtain, through their influence, a Teamster's Loan for B.A.C.K. to purchase Time Oil Company. They had reached an agreement with TEGAY that if they were successful in obtaining a Teamster's Loan or other financing, the informant, FRATIANNO and TEGAY would split the  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent equally.

Informant believes that at this time, LCN member LOUIS TOM DRAGNA of Los Angeles is now associated with GILLILAN and CARUSO in attempting to find financing for B.A.C.K. to purchase Time Oil Company.

## II. SACRAMENTO DIVISION

In the course of his conversation, informant mentioned that FRATIANNO has been a LCN member for the past 18 to 20 years. In a recent conversation with FRATIANNO, he said his mother is critically ill and he expects to fly back to Cleveland to see her in the near future and has asked the informant to accompany him. Informant believes he might go with him, as it will give him an opportunity to contact other LCN members for information.

States FRATIANNO is still operating his trucking company now operating as the Camellia Trucking Company, and is "making a little money on the side betting on football games."



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Advised that he will fly to Sacramento on 11/3/67 to meet with FRATIANNO and they will then drive to Lake Tahoe where FRATIANNO has some "business meetings" arranged. Stated he will report on these meetings upon his return.

### III. LOS ANGELES DIVISION

Informant reported receiving information from his caporegime JOE ADAMO that on Sunday, 10/22/67, a meeting was held in the Los Angeles area attended by NICK LICATA, consigliere TOMMY PALERMO and "capos" ADAMO and DIPPOLITO, at which time LICATA was formally appointed the new boss of the Los Angeles LCN Family. No underboss has yet been appointed by LICATA. LICATA has told capo ADAMO he wants a meeting in the near future with the informant. At this time, the informant will attempt to determine from LICATA, his desires regarding the outstanding contract on the life of ANDYLOCOCO of Hawthorne, California.

Informant advised that he expects to meet in Los Angeles with LCN member JOHN ROSELLI, probably sometime during the week of 11/6 - 11/10/67. At this time, he will attempt to determine if ROSELLI has any further knowledge regarding the expected visit of Florida LCN boss, SANTO TRAFFICANTE, Jr. to Los Angeles.

On 10/26/67, informant flew to Las Vegas where he met with the gambler NICK SIMPONIS and LCN member JIMMIE "The Weasel" FRATIANNO from Sacramento. SIMPONIS apparently is being investigated by IRS and wanted to consult with the informant and FRATIANNO to determine if they had any contacts who could help him with his case. FRATIANNO apparently had discussed this problem in the past with SIMPONIS and suggested the possibility of using THOMAS LOUIS KING (Subject of Sacramento file 92-24), who is in contact with California Assemblyman ROBERT E. BADHAM and who was involved in the Silverthorn Bank embezzlement case at San Francisco. They also discussed the possibility of contacting attorney ALIOTTO, but decided against this as he is running for mayor of San Francisco at this time and would probably be reluctant about contacting them.



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IV. CHICAGO DIVISION

Informant advised LCN capo FRANK LA PORTE is now back in Chicago and called him on 10/27/67, stated his brother-in-law JIMMY DE LA ROSA is still suffering from severe heart trouble. Stated LA PORTE is anxious to sell his "ranch" in Linden, California and that LA PORTE claims he has lost about \$300,000 in the purchase and operation of his mining property in northern California.

States LA PORTE has now succeeded in selling the trucks financed on behalf of JIMMIE FRATTIANNO. Sale of the trucks was arranged through FRED RE CUPIDO, of Huntington Beach, California. LA PORTE told informant that in all he lost about \$30,000 cash as a result of his financing FRATTIANNO's trucking operations.

V. CLEVELAND DIVISION

Informant advised that LCN member LEO MOCERI at Akron, Ohio, still intends to come to southern California this winter.

VI. LAS VEGAS DIVISION

Informant advised that when he visited Las Vegas on 10/26/67, he met with gambler ABE BENJAMIN who was residing in Room 1205 at the Stardust Hotel. He stated that BENJAMIN expects to move to the Landmark Towers Hotel when it is opened in the near future.

Informant believed the Landmark Towers, in which the Kansas City Family is reported to have a large investment, will open in about a month and that it is being completed with a seven-million dollar Teamster's loan.

Informant advised the Detroit family is still upset with the losses they are receiving from the New Frontier Hotel; that HOWARD HUGHES purchased the land and building, but the hotel operation and casino was leased back and the Detroit Family has been unable to profitably operate to date.



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According to ABE BENJAMIN, the employees are inefficient and "stealing them blind." They have imported a new general manager for the casino who is some gambler from the Cleveland area.

#### VII. TAMPA

Per letter dated 10/24/67, from Tampa to San Diego, the photographs of ANTONIO DIECIDUE were shown to the informant and he identified him as the same person described in previous communications as being a LCN member.

#### VIII. NEW YORK DIVISION

Advised about two weeks ago, LCN member MARCO, aka., Mimi Li Mandre of San Diego (92-21), went back to New York City for a visit. (LI MANDRE and his son, JOE, both LCN members now residing in San Diego, were originally involved in the narcotics traffic in New York many years ago and worked with the PRIZIOLA group in Detroit).

LI MANDRE told him upon his return to San Diego, that the boss of the old BONANO Family in New York has resigned because of "ill health" and that the leadership was ineffectual. Stated that four men were participating in the leadership of the Family at the present time and that JOE BONANO was attempting to regain control of the family. LI MANDRE told informant that apparently JOE BONANO has 25 or 30 men behind him who will assist in regaining control of his family. While back in New York, some of the members of the BONANO Family approached MARCO and tried to talk him into contacting JOE BONANO and attempt to use his influence on BONANO to avert open warfare within the family. LI MANDRE did not like the idea of becoming involved and immediately left New York City and returned to San Diego. LI MANDRE advised the informant that he intended to stay in New York a couple of weeks, but when he saw how near things were to exploding in the BONANO Family, he stayed only three days.

The informant advised at the present time, the BONANO Family's leadership is the biggest internal problem involving 175 to 200 members.



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New York, refer to San Diego airtel to Bureau, 7/10/67, referring to the LCN murder of "WILLIE MOORE" of New Jersey, who, according to the informant, was an informant for a "Colonel WHITE" of the Narcotics Bureau.

The Newark Division has advised that the WILLIE MOORE referred to by SD 1064-C-TE is probably WILLIE MORETTI, aka., Willie Moore who was shot to death by four men on 10/4/51 in JOE's Parkview Restaurant, Cliffside Park, New Jersey. At that time, MORETTI held the rank of caporegime in the GENOVESE family.

The generally accepted view of MORETTI's death is that it was mob directed to silence MORETTI who was ailing with paresis and suspected of being senile and therefore, a potential threat. MORETTI had appeared before the Senate Crime Investigating Committee in 1950 and was described as a willing witness. News accounts of his testimony at the hearings described a GEORGE WHITE of the Federal Narcotics Bureau as sitting in on the hearings.

This death of MORETTI was discussed with the informant. He identified him as the WILLIE MOORE he referred to in a previous meeting. Informant advised that he was the one who determined MORETTI was an informant for WHITE because in a conversation with WHITE in Tijuana, B.C., Mexico, WHITE indicated he was aware of the informant's newly appointed status as caporegime. This had only just occurred and the informant reasoned that the only one WHITE could learn it from was MORETTI.

Informant advised that he brought this charge against MORETTI in a LCN meeting in Los Angeles in 1951 and among those present at the meeting were JACK I. DRAGNA (LCN Los Angeles boss at the time); JOHN PRIZIOLA and JIMMY QUASARANO of Detroit; MOMO ADAMO; JOHN ROSELLI; AND SIMONE SCOZARI (the former Los Angeles underboss). After listening to the informant's charge they contacted JOE ZERILLI, who was in New York at the time and he arranged for TOMMY LUCHESE to investigate the charge. Their investigation verified that MORETTI was an informant of Colonel WHITE's and this was accomplished by feeding false information to MORETTI. This



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resulted in MORETTI's murder. Informant advised that he did not know the identity of the persons in New York who actually carried out the killing.

For the information of New York, during this meeting with the informant, he mentioned the existence of smaller LCN groups in Dallas, Rockford, Illinois, Madison, Wisconsin, Gary, Indiana, Pueblo and Denver, Colorado. He will be questioned further for any knowledge regarding the smaller groups.

#### IX. DETROIT DIVISION

A separate communication will be forwarded to Detroit regarding informant's comments in accordance with Detroit airtel to Bureau, 10/24/67. He is being questioned for detailed information regarding origins of the Detroit Family, structure of the leadership, membership, and his associations over the years with the Detroit Division.

#### X. NEW ORLEANS DIVISION

Informant was questioned again regarding FRANK COPPOLA, and stated that he had no knowledge concerning COPPOLA's influence in the U. S. today. Advised that as far as he knew, COPPOLA had been arrested by the Italian government and was in prison for 15 years and his wealth in Italy confiscated. Advised that when COPPOLA was in the U. S. he was a member of the Detroit Family and that when deported, much of his business interests were turned over to SAM CORELLO, who himself was later deported to Italy and the business interests were turned over to the present LCN boss in New Orleans, CARLOS MARCELLO.

#### XI. SAN DIEGO DIVISION

Informant advised at this time there is very little organized criminal activities on the part of the Sicilians. Those who are bar owners are actively engaged in attempting to get their men elected mayor. He is incumbent city councilman ALLEN HITCH, who has promised them that if elected, he will attempt to decrease the policing and regulations of the bars in San Diego. HITCH's campaign manager is HARRY BURNER, who, for many years, has been a business associate of JOHN LI MANDRI (JOHN LI MANDRI operates an insurance and real estate office in San Diego and is the son of LCN member MARCO LI MANDRI and



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the brother of LCN member, JOE LI MANDRI). Informant advised that the Italian bar owners held a recent meeting with HITCH and gave him \$25,000 cash to help his campaign.

Informant advised that LCN member LEO DIA of San Diego, who is presently under IRS investigation, is concerned. DIA has been running the local jukeboxes in San Diego and skimming funds for a long time. States that DIA is now talking about retiring and returning to Italy to live. Informant believes DIA, by this time, has a considerable amount of money stashed away in Italy. States that when LCN member TONY MIRABILE was murdered in San Diego, in an attempted robbery, he had about \$200,000 hidden in his apartment. Stated MIRABILE was the "banker" for the Italian bar owners in San Diego and operated with cash. This money was never recovered. Informant advised that L. was one of the first to get to the apartment and he is convinced DIA has obtained the \$200,000.

Informant also advised that LEO DIA does not get along well with the new boss, NICK LICATA as several years ago, LICATA attempted to buy some stock in Southland Amusement Jukebox Company, San Diego, upon the death of one of the major stockholders, TOM JONES. DIA held the controlling interest at the time and kept LICATA out of the company, selling it to CHARLIE GILARDI, who is now Vice-President.

#### LEADS

#### ALL OFFICES

Requested to furnish any information pertinent or photographs that can be used as a basis for questioning the informant in matters where he might have knowledge.

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