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OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

MAY 1892 EDITION GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27 UNITED STATES G

5010-107-02

Memorandum

Director, FBI (92-6054)

DATE: December 27, 1968

FROM (M) Legat, Rome (92-80) (P)

LA COSA NOSTRA AR – CONSPIRACY

Re Rome letters 11/25/68, and 1/8/68.

Romlet 1/8/68, reported the commencement of the trial in Reggio Calabria on October 23, 1967, against 115 defendants, all of whom were charged with being members of the Mafia and with aggravated criminal conspiracy. On 12/23/68, the court sentenced 73 of the defendants to prison terms ranging from three months to 27 years. Forty of the defendants were acquitted on the grounds of insufficient evidence.

The conviction of the 73 defendants is another severe blow which Italian police forces have dealt the Mafia during recent years.

TONY SARILLO, the caporegima of the VITO GENOVESE "family" of La Cosa Nostra who was arrested in Naples, Italy, on 11/23/68, and charged with conspiring to import and export narcotics, is languishing in jail in Rome. The Instruction Judge has begun a study of the case findings and it may be three to six months before he hands down a decision regarding a trial date for CARILLO.

Dr. ANGELO VICARI. Chief of the Italian National Police, has informed Legat that the Italian police will continue in its efforts to stamp out the Mafia in Italy and pledged his.complete support in following the activities of the American hoodlum element who visit Italy. Dr. VICARI said that while the Mafia continues to be a problem, it is not as grave as it was five or ten years ago. Of immediate concern, according to VICARI, is the wave of banditry that has spread through the Island of Sardinia. Thousands of extra police have been stationed on Sardinia in an effort to stamp out the series of shootings, robberies and kidnapings which have occurred in the last two years. Although not as organized, Sardinian bandits have succeeded in kidnaping wealthy victims, preturning them unharmed after recovering largel sums of ransom money. The police are thwarted because of the mountainous terrain in Sardinia and Sardinia's own form of "omerta." In addition to foot patrols with which system police hope to ferret out the bandits. Dr. VICARI hopes to use special helicopter trained forces. 92 - 6054 - 2473Any pertinent developments wffl be reported promptly. Buregu (969 Liaison)

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