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REC-31

EX-103

November 22, 1968

AIRMAIL

Commissioner R. W. Whitrod
Commonwealth Police
Box 339
Kingston, A. C. T., Australia 2604

My dear Commissioner:

Reference is made to your letter of November 7, 1968,
your file 100/1.

Regarding the request contained in paragraph 6 of your letter that you be furnished with a summary of the antecedents of leading Mafiosi in this country, I regret to advise you that we will be unable to do this. As much as we desire to assist you in this matter of mutual interest, allegations of "Mafia" connections have been received concerning such a great number of persons that it would be a practical impossibility to assemble the personal background data in question.

Any relationship of persons engaged in organized crime in Australia with those similarly engaged in the United States would naturally be of interest to us here, as well as of interest to you. Wherever beliefs of such activities come to your attention, we would appreciate receiving the information available to you and will be happy to reciprocate in furnishing you all pertinent data in our possession concerning the individuals named.

Your letter of November 7, 1968, appears to indicate a prime interest in the illicit traffic in narcotics, which prompts me to suggest that you may desire to communicate with the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, which is also a part of the United States Department of Justice. That organization may have information

NOTE: See Page 2

1 - Liaison Section

CLG:jny

54 DEC 6 1968

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

DATE: 11-14-2017

Commissioner R. W. Whitrod

of value in line with your request because of the nature of the narcotics traffic, which often involves international movement. It is suggested that you write directly rather than having your letter of November 7, 1968, forwarded because of the possibility that you may have specific information in this field which would be of value to the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs in responding to any request that you may make.

Again, I would like to assure you of the desire of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to cooperate fully with you in matters of mutual interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: Commissioner Whitrod's letter indicated that his organization is already in possession of the reports of the hearings before the Permanent Subcommittee of Investigations of the Committee on Government Operations of the United States Senate (McClellan Committee) in which Joseph Valachi and others gave extensive testimony concerning La Cosa Nostra membership and activities in the United States. In his letter, Whitrod indicated a prime interest in narcotics traffic and requested to know the genetic antecedents of leading (Mafiosi) La Cosa Nostra members to determine possible relationships with persons in Australia. FBI investigations have shown no particular value in gathering such information and is not available in most instances, nor set up in such a manner that it can be readily assembled. Our investigations of La Cosa Nostra have not indicated any liaison with similar elements in Australia.

92-6054-2449

563-10328

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA



339
Box 138, Kingston, A.C.T. 2604
Telephone: 9 0051
Telex: C.I.S. 201

Crime Intelligence Section,

45 Jardine Street
KINGSTON, A.C.T.

In reply, please quote:

100/1

CRIME INTELLIGENCE

7th November, 1968

SECRET

The Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
WASHINGTON. D.C. 20535
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

As you are aware my organisation is currently investigating the background and activities of the Mafia and similar Italian criminal societies in Australia.

2. My officers have been studying the development of the Society in the U.S.A., and with the aid of the Senate Papers on Organised Crime and Illicit Traffic in Narcotics, a picture of the operations in your country has been evolved.

3. Due to the history of the Society's involvement in the narcotics traffic between Europe and the U.S.A. it seems likely that the Society is connected with the ever increasing amount of narcotics reaching Australia.

4. As reported in my letter to you dated 7th March 1968 there is recent evidence of prominent members of the Australian Society visiting the U.S.A. and Canada, which indicates collusion in the mutual interests of the Society.

5. The indices of my Crime Intelligence Section contain at this juncture something in excess of 11,000 Italians of Sicilian and Calabrian extraction, and I have no doubt that there are genetic connections with Italians currently active in the U.S.A.

6. In order that I may pursue this line of enquiry, I would be pleased if it were possible for you to supply me with a summary of the antecedents of leading Mafiosi, in particular date and place of birth and full names of parents, who have come to your attention since the Appalachian raid.

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7. Any information you feel able to impart will of course be treated in the strictest confidence, and I shall be only too willing to reciprocate in a manner to our mutual benefit.

Yours sincerely,

K. L. Milte Supt.

for (R.W. WHITROD)
Commissioner.

92-6054-2449

SECRET