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Document Information

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DE 92-914

LEADS:

DETROIT

AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Will follow and report changes in organizational structure and leadership.

Will determine whether or not known-Italians are actually members of the organization.

INFORMANTS

<u>Identity of Source</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Agent to Whom Furnished</u>	<u>Location</u>
DE T-1 is DE 889-C-TE	6/8/62	SA WINSTON T. CHURCHILL	137-929-109 OTHER 4
	7/9/62	"	92-218-786
	9/28/62	"	92-218-841
	10/1/62	"	92-218-841
	11/23/62	"	137-929-109
DE T-2 is DE 868-C-TE	9/27/62	SA BARRON T. CONKLIN	137-2385-7
DE T-3 is DE 878-C-TE	10/18/62	SA ROBERT N. FITZPATRICK	137-289-171
DE T-4 is DE 906-C*	7/11/62		92-561-Sub 1- 28
	8/13/62		92-561-Sub 1- 61
	8/25/62		92-561-Sub 1- 73
DE T-5 is PCI [redacted] [redacted]	11/5/62	SA LEO C. SHIRLEY	92-218-859

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92-914-1028-9

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Careful consideration has been given to the use of T symbols in this report and they have been used only in those instances where it is necessary to conceal the source.

Detroit Informants DE 370-C, DE 878-C-TE, DE 889-C-TE, and DE 906-C\* have furnished considerable information in the past which cumulatively reflects good over-all coverage of the Detroit "Family", but every effort is being made to develop new sources which can authoritatively define the organization in the light of current organizational changes. It is to be noted that the local organization appears to be undergoing a change, with JOSEPH ZERILLI, reported "Commission" member and the "elder statesman" becoming more inactive while the second generation leadership is apparently beginning to take over. It has not been authoritatively determined whether the organization of the Detroit "Syndicate", including non-Italians, coincides in all respects with the organization of "Causa Nostra".

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Source: DE T-1 879-C-TE WTC

Source advised on June 8, 1962, that ANTHONY ZERILLI, ANTHONY TOCCO, and wives went to Brooklyn, New York, on June 6, 1962, to visit JOSEPH PROFACI who was seriously ill. PROFACI died on June 7, 1962, and JOSEPH ZERILLI and wife departed for Brooklyn that date.

Source advised on November 23, 1962, that JOSEPH PROFACI, JR., was in Detroit visiting ANTHONY TOCCO during the Thanksgiving holliday and was to return to New York November 25, 1962.

No other contacts with "Commission" members from other areas have been reported by local sources during the past six months.

Source: DE T-4 906-C\*

Source advised on July 11, 1962, that MARTIN THOMAS, Sicilian hoodlum active in the Detroit "Syndicate", stated, in discussing control of gambling operations in Ecorse, Michigan, that such matters go to JOSEPH ZERILLI who he characterized as the "elected boss". THOMAS said that the Sicilians have a board of directors and that JOSEPH ZERILLI would be considered chairman of the board. If there were an argument among them, ZERILLI would make the decision. THOMAS further commented that the Sicilians also have a "higher court".

Source: DE T-2 868-C-TE Brown

Source advised on September 27, 1962, that several years ago the rackets in Detroit were organized by JOSEPH ZERILLI, WILLIAM "Black Bill" TOCCO, PETER CORRADO (deceased), and ANGELO MELI. As a result of this organization this group virtually controlled all gambling and other illegal activities in the Detroit area and in the cities of Toledo, Youngstown, and Warren, Ohio.

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Source said that as of the present time the above-named individuals have more or less retired and take no active part in illegal activities except where a matter of policy is involved which cannot be handled by their sons who have now taken over.

Source: DE T-1

Source advised on July 9, 1962, that as a result of a fight between two Italians working for the syndicate a hearing was to be held by ANTHONY ZERILLI or DOMINIC CORRADO to straighten out the dispute. Source stated that he had been advised that JOSEPH ZERILLI does not hold hearings on minor dispute cases.

Source advised on September 28, 1962, that JOSEPH ZERILLI is becoming more inactive in his legitimate enterprise each day and that rumors are circulating among his friends and relatives that he may go into total retirement. Source stated that JOSEPH ZERILLI is considered by the younger Italians to be the elder statesman and advisor to them when they have problems.

Source stated on October 1, 1962, that JOSEPH ZERILLI had told him that during the coming year he, ZERILLI, was going to take it easier and might go into total retirement. ZERILLI said that he is getting old, that his health has not been the best during the past year, and that his wife had been after him to completely retire and take life easy.

Source: DE T-3 878 C-TE

Source advised on October 18, 1962, that the Detroit "Syndicate" can roughly be divided into three groups which are not distinct groups, independent one from the other, but are merely a number of individuals joined together under a common leader through marriage or friendship. Source said that these three groups each look to JOE ZERILLI as their leader and as the one among them who over the longest period of years has managed to hold his power, respect, and prestige undiminished.

**SAMUEL FINAZZO** - active in handbook and numbers action

**AUGUST DI ORIO** - numbers operator

**ERNEST DI ORIO** - numbers operator

Source said that in addition to the above-named syndicate leaders, "elder statesmen" and chief lieutenants in the three groups within Detroit's Italian syndicate there are literally hundreds of "little guys" or "workers" who do their superiors bidding in any task assigned. Included among this group are Syrians, Negroes, Jewish, and others who are active.

Source advised that **TONY ZERILLI**, the son of **JOE ZERILLI**, **JACKIE TOCCO**, the son of **WILLIAM "Black Bill" TOCCO** and **NIKE POLIZZI**, the son-in-law of **JOHN "Papa John" PRIZIOLA**, will take over the whole operation.

OTHER 4

Source: DE T-5 

Source advised on November 5, 1962, that in the event of the death of the older racket people such as **JOE "Scarface" BONMARITO** and **JOE MASSEI** of Miami, **PETER LICAVOLI**, **ANTHONY MELI**, and **WILLIAM TOCCO**, there will be a terrific battle for leadership of the rackets by the second generation including **DOMINIC CORRADO**, **JACK** and **ANTHONY TOCCO**, **ANTHONY ZERILLI**, and **MICHAEL POLIZZI**. Source advised that in his opinion the influence of **ANTHONY GIACALONE** (who is close to **DOMINIC CORRADO**) may have something to do with who will take over. Source said further that the blood relationship between the **ZERILLIs**, **TOCCOs**, and **CORRADOs** which was respected by the parents, might be ignored by the younger group coming into power.

The following is a chart of the organization and leadership of the Detroit "Syndicate" based on information furnished by local sources in the past:

**JOSEPH ZERILLI ("Commission" Member, Michigan)**

58001-2110