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Leads

BALTIMORE:

AT BALTIMORE, MD.

Will, through logical sources, develop information concerning persons reportedly members of the organized Italian underworld under any of the names set forth in this report.

Will, if possible, obtain photographs of these individuals and forward one copy of each to Philadelphia in order that on the next contact, they may be displayed to PH 599-C-TE.

CLEVELAND:

IN CLEVELAND, YOUNGSTOWN, and WARREN, OHIO, AREAS

Will identify individuals believed to be members of the organized Italian underworld.

In view of the fact that PH 599-C-TE is somewhat acquainted in Ohio, will forward to Philadelphia one copy of a photograph of any such person, and these photographs will be displayed to the informant on the next contact.

NEW YORK:

AT NEW YORK CITY

Will report in a subsequent national summary any of this report deemed pertinent.

PHILADELPHIA:

AT PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Will, through informants and any other logical sources, continue to develop and report information pertinent to the background and activities of the organized Italian underworld

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Leads cont'd:

under any of the names set forth in this report, where it is apparent that it refers to one group.

Administrative Data

Information is being set forth in this report, which information was furnished by PH 251-C (deceased), during a period from 1946 to 1960. This information concerns his knowledge of the Italian underworld group, known to him as, most frequently, "The Organization," and at other times as "The Syndicate," "The Combination," or "The Mafia." He insisted that this group is the American branch of the Mafia and obtained his information from personal knowledge of the Mafia when he was in Italy and, although he was not a member, a close association of many years with powerful members in the United States. It will be noted that his description of membership requirements, leadership, and activities is, in most part, the same as that furnished more recently by other sources concerning "La Cosa Nostra."

The referenced report contained information furnished by PH 599-C-TE to the effect that "La Cosa Nostra" originated in Sicily hundreds of years ago and that it is the same organization that has been referred to for many years in Italy and Sicily as "The Mafia."

It is pointed out that many questions are as yet unanswered that PH 599-C-TE might be willing to answer. The conditions of interview are such, however, that it is not possible to conduct the exhaustive type interview that is desired.

As indicated in Philadelphia letter to Bureau, dated 10/4/63, information that could be given to him has been furnished to Commissioner HOWARD R. LEARY of the Philadelphia Police Department, said information pertaining to some phases of the "La Cosa Nostra" in the Philadelphia area.

Shortly after publicity began to appear concerning "La Cosa Nostra" as a result of the testimony of JOSEPH VALACCHI,

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Commissioner LEARY appointed Lieutenant JOHN BARRON to head a special confidential squad of fit men and report directly to the Commissioner concerning activities in organized crime and possible related corruption. All contacts of Bureau Agents with Lieutenant BARRON over a period of years have indicated that he is a dedicated, honest, professional police official, who greatly admires the Bureau and its operations.

Informants

Wherever possible and logical, the variable dates of contacts of informants have been set forth in the body of this report and in the enclosed letterhead memorandum.

PH T-1: PH 251-C (Deceased), who was contacted from 1951 to his time of death by SA DAVID E. WALKER.

PH T-2: PH 599-C-TE, contacted by SA DAVID E. WALKER.

PH T-3: PH 614-C-TE, contacted by SA JOSEPH A. VERICA.

PH T-4: PCI MAX POTNICK, contacted by SA DAVID E. WALKER.

The first source identified in the enclosed letterhead memorandum is PH 623-C*, contacted by SA J. ROBERT PEARCE.

The second source identified in the letterhead memorandum is PH 591-C*, contacted by SA ROBERT W. HOLMES.

The third source furnishing information in the enclosed letterhead memorandum is PH 511-C*, contacted by SA ROBERT W. HOLMES.

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