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Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 4/5/63

FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES (92-1130)

SUBJECT: INTERVIEW PROGRAM
CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE MATTERS

Re Los Angeles letter to Bureau dated 3/15/63.

In connection with the captioned program, the following individuals have been interviewed since the date of referenced communication:

ANDREW JOSEPH LOCOCO

LOCOCO is the subject of a closed anti-racketeering case.

ANDREW JOSEPH LOCOCO, proprietor of the Cockatoo Inn and Hotel, Hawthorne, an alleged hoodlum, was interviewed March 13, 1963. He contacted his attorney and was advised to cooperate with the agents.

LOCOCO admitted having been a bookmaker and having profited from past bookmaking activity carried on in the old Cockatoo Cafe during the latter 1940s. He admitted he was acquainted with certain alleged hoodlums from the Milwaukee, Wisconsin area and Los Angeles, however, he denied he was ever in business with any of them. He denied he was engaged in any unlawful activity other than bookmaking.

LOCOCO allowed agents to physically inspect the Cockatoo Inn in search of an alleged gaming room said to exist on the second floor of the structure. No such room was located.

EDWARD I. GRITZ

GRITZ is being developed under the top echelon criminal program and was interviewed on 3/15/63. He furnished information regarding his contacts with hoodlums including JOHN BATTAGLIA and others. He was advised of the proposed subpoena of Associate Supreme Court Justice WILLIAM O. DOUGLAS by Attorney RUSSELL PARSONS, who is representing Mrs. AL PARVIN in her divorce suit.

- ② - Bureau
- 1 - Los Angeles

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LORENZO JOSEPH MANFREDI *CALIF*

MANFREDI is associated and mentioned primarily in the case captioned, "MICHAEL ANTHONY RIZZI, aka, AR, Bufile 92-6107."

MANFREDI was contacted on 3/6 and 3/12/63, at the Los Angeles County Jail resulting from a burglary conviction. He expressed fear for his life due to rumors that he was a "fink" for the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) that have been widely circulated, believed by him to have been started by Hollywood Division, LAPD detectives. He denied to agents having been a "fink" for any law enforcement agency but, nevertheless, is in fear because he has reason to believe that MICHAEL RIZZI, also confined at the Los Angeles County Jail, believes the rumors to be true.

On the first contact, MANFREDI agreed to furnish information of value concerning the Italian elements of organized crime if he could be moved from the jail and out of the reach of RIZZI. Inquiry was made to have MANFREDI transferred, but since he had already been sentenced on one charge, the jail authorities did not believe it was feasible since he was awaiting sentencing on another burglary charge.

MANFREDI has admitted being a booster and pimp, and claims to know RAYMOND PATRIARCA very well and formerly lived in the same block in Providence, Rhode Island.

MANFREDI agreed to furnish information when appropriate arrangements can be made that would be safe to contact him without prison authorities being aware of the purpose. He expressed a desire to go to a different prison than that which RIZZI is sent.

Further attempts will be made to resolve these difficulties. A PCI case has been opened by the Los Angeles Office on MANFREDI.

DALTON SMITH *CALIF* *Neu*

SMITH is the subject of a pending AR investigation currently under investigation by the Los Angeles Office.

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Recently SMITH was associated with Mojave Electric Company at Lancaster, California, which company was the recipient of a U.S. Government small business agency loan and after the company went into bankruptcy, was the subject of a Fraud Against the Government case.

SMITH now has an electrical company in Los Angeles, known as Stereovision, but most of his work is in Las Vegas, Nevada. SMITH currently has an electrical contract for a remodeling job on the Thunderbird Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas.

SMITH is an associate of DON J. MEDLEVINE, formerly owner of the Chez Paree in Chicago and MEDLEVINE claims to be a partner of SMITH but SMITH denies this business relationship.

SMITH is originally from Slydell, Louisiana, and has been in the Los Angeles area since about 1950.

SMITH exhibited a cooperative attitude during the course of this interview.

EDWARD De STEFFANO *Calif.*

STEFFANO is a known associate of JOHN BATTAGLIA and other gamblers, and is presently on Federal probation for a conviction on a guilty plea by Internal Revenue Service (IRS) of bookmaking without a Federal Wagering Stamp. At the time of his arrest he was working for JOHN BATTAGLIA, who was also arrested and prosecuted on the same charge.

At the time of this pending prosecution, about a year and one half ago, SA GEORGE E. BLAND was introduced to De STEFFANO by a friend, PCI PAT DINNOCENT, inasmuch as De STEFFANO had requested advice from PCI as to what course of action he should take. A meeting was arranged and De STEFFANO was given the alternative of possibly talking to help himself or taking his chances on a guilty plea.

An accidental meeting with De STEFFANO on 4/3/63, resulted in a conversation, at which time he admitted that he is again bookmaking, only on his own this time and in a very small way. He partially explained his operation, including the manner in which he layed off the bets. It is contemplated

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opening a PCI case on De STEFFANO and recontacting him in an effort to develop him as an informant.

MOSE "MOE" ~~STEVEN~~ STEVENS

CALIF.

STEVENS was interviewed on 4/2/63. He is the proprietor of Stevens Barbeque, 4272 South Figueroa. STEVENS has long been regarded by local police as a leading policy operator and a narcotics pusher. He was uncooperative in answering questions regarding gambling equipment received. He reportedly has interests in after hours social clubs which are fronts for gambling and other vice activities, and he allegedly was part owner, though not of record, of the Intime Social Club at Adams and Budlong, which was recently closed down by IRS following a raid by local police. STEVENS was allegedly associated with ELIHUA ("BLACK DOT") MC GEE, long time Los Angeles gambling figure in the ownership of the Intime Social Club.

Results of additional contacts in conformance with this program will be reported in the next monthly letter.