

This document is made available through the declassification efforts  
and research of John Greenewald, Jr., creator of:

# The Black Vault

---



The Black Vault is the largest online Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)  
document clearinghouse in the world. The research efforts here are  
responsible for the declassification of hundreds of thousands of pages  
released by the U.S. Government & Military.

**Discover the Truth** at: **<http://www.theblackvault.com>**

---

Agency Information

AGENCY : FBI  
RECORD NUMBER : 124-10286-10347

RECORD SERIES : HQ

AGENCY FILE NUMBER : 92-6054-621

---

Document Information

ORIGINATOR : FBI  
FROM : SAC, SD  
TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

TITLE :

DATE : 04/23/1964  
PAGES : 5

SUBJECTS :  
LCN, ASSOC, MEMBERS, IDENT, PHOTO, RACK ACT, B/F  
INT, RCK

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT  
CLASSIFICATION : Unclassified  
RESTRICTIONS : 4  
CURRENT STATUS : Redact  
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 06/26/1998

OPENING CRITERIA : INDEFINITE

COMMENTS :

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (92-6054)

FROM: SAC, SAN DIEGO (92-229) (P)

SUBJECT: LA COSA NOSTRA  
AR - CONSPIRACY  
(OO: New York)

DATE: 4/23/64

Re San Diego letter to the Bureau, 12/6/63 and 2/24/64, captioned as above.

INFORMATION SET FORTH IN THIS LETTER SHOULD NOT BE DISSEMINATED TO ANYONE OUTSIDE THE BUREAU, AND SHOULD NOT BE INCLUDED IN THE DETAILS OF ANY REPORT.

Under date of 12/13/63, the Los Angeles Division advised that LA 4448-C-TE had advised that the following well known San Diego figures are not members of the San Diego "Regina":

JOSEPH E. MATRANGA, CII No. 984601

FRANCISCO ISADORE MATRANGA, FBI No. 412019B

JOSEPH ERNESTO MATRANGA

SALVATORE BOMPENSIERO, FBI No. 337538.

This information was based on informant viewing photographs of the above individuals furnished Los Angeles by the San Diego Division.

At the request of the San Diego Division, the San Francisco Division contacted VICTOR F. BUONO, former SD 923-C

- ③ - Bureau (AM - REGISTERED) EX-105  
 2 - New York (92-2300) (AM - REGISTERED) REC-1  
 1 - Los Angeles (92-1112) (REGISTERED)  
 2 - San Francisco (92-593) (AM - REGISTERED)  
 3 - San Diego (1 - 92-229)  
       (1 - 92-19) (JOSEPH ERNESTO MATRANGA)  
       (1 - 92-76) (SALVATORE BOMPENSIERO)

THC:vr  
(11)

1 APR 30 1964

REC-104

7 2 MAY 22 1964

NINE

CHARTER

SD 92-229

who is now in Folsom Penitentiary, exhibiting to him photographs of the following which were furnished San Francisco by San Diego letter dated 1/22/64:

MARCO LIMANDRI

FRANK BOMPENSIERO

JOSEPH J. LIMANDRI

JOSEPH ERNESTO MATRANGA

JOHN PRIZIOLA, Detroit Hoodlum, Father-in-law  
of JOSEPH ERNESTO MATRANGA.

BUONO, on 3/24/64, advised he knew FRANK BOMPENSIERO very well. He stated that BOMPENSIERO "bucked" TONY MIRABILE (now deceased) for control of the rackets in San Diego following World War II, and BOMPENSIERO has always been close to the MATRANGAS. BUONO stated that it was his recollection that MIRABILE and BOMPENSIERO made an agreement whereby BOMPENSIERO operated North of Broadway in San Diego and MIRABILE operated South of Broadway. This was prior to the time BOMPENSIERO was sent to prison on a bribery conviction in 1955.

BUONO did not recognize the photograph of MARCO LIMANDRI, but stated that he first met JOSEPH J. LIMANDRI in San Bernardino through one RALPH SPEZZANO (phonetic), a bail bondsman. LIMANDRI was then said to be active in narcotics and prostitution. LIMANDRI later came to San Diego.

JOSEPH ERNESTO MATRANGA was believed by BUONO to be the head of the young Italian hoodlum element in San Diego, and his brother, GASPARE MATRANGA, was once thought to be the enforcer and strong man of this group.

PRIZIOLA was not known to BUONO.

BUONO was asked to identify "ARNATO" or "ARNOTO" (Said by LA 4448-C-TE to be the "Capo Regime" of the San Diego group). BUONO stated that this name was familiar

CALIF

CALIF

SD 92-229

to him in some way, but he could not definitely state why. He suggested that many times Italians use the maiden names of their mothers as nicknames and that this might be true in this case. He could not connect this name with any known individual.

Informants of the San Diego Office contacted to date have been unable to identify "ARNATO" or "ARNOTO". SD 1080-PC, who is of Italian descent was of the opinion that "ARNATO" in Sicilian meant "Another", but could identify no one this name called to mind.

Concerning information relating to JOSEPH ERNESTO MATRANGA and his brothers, ROBERT NEWSOME, Sergeant, San Diego County Sheriff's Office, has advised that GASPARE MATRANGA is suffering from arteriosclerosis, is crippled and is considered emotionally unstable. He is no longer on friendly relations with his brothers. CALIF

Although LA 4448-C-TE has stated definitely that JOSEPH ERNESTO MATRANGA is not a member of the San Diego "Regina", SD 1080-PC, has advised as follows: CALIF

In early 1963, MIKE AIELLO, bartender and errand boy for the MATRANGAS, told AIELLO's wife that AIELLO and JOSEPH ERNESTO MATRANGA had gone to Los Angeles to pick up some money in a suitcase in a hotel room there. MATRANGA met with a group of unidentified men who apparently made it rough for him, and indicated they did not trust him. They wanted to know who else knew he was meeting with them. MATRANGA told them no one else but AIELLO, who was then waiting outside the room. MATRANGA then brought AIELLO into the room, identified him and vouched for him. AIELLO told his wife that he had now been identified to the group and was "caught in the webb" whereby he was required to take many risks without extra compensation from MATRANGA.

Somewhat similar information was obtained from ANN MARCELLO, niece of Mrs. AIELLO, and an employee of the Pacific Telephone Company at San Diego, who furnished this

information to a Telephone Company Special Agent.

~~JOSEPH ERNESTO MATRANGA~~ and ~~FRANCISCO ISADORE MATRANGA~~ are married to daughters of Detroit hoodlum ~~JOHN PRIZIOLA~~, and it may be that the MATRANGAS have a group of hoodlums over which they exercise some control without being actual members of the La Cosa Nostra. CALIF

An attempt was made to develop MIKE AIELLO as an informant, and although at first he appeared to be cooperative, he refused to furnish any information concerning his own activities or the activities of the MATRANGAS.

CALIF By letter dated 3/24/64, the San Francisco Division advised that ~~ANGELO MARINO~~, reported "CAPO", of the La Cosa Nostra, San Jose, California, had been in San Diego sometime in January, 1964, and contacted SALVATORE and FRANK BOMPENSIERO. The purpose of this contact is not known; however, of recent date SALVATORE ~~BOMPENSIERO~~, who had licenses for The Corsair and The Spot, bars in downtown San Diego, taken away from him by the California Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission, is said to be buying control of local bars in the San Diego, California, area using other persons as owners of record, since he cannot personally own a liquor license.

In this regard PCI JACK OWENS GOSS advised that SALVATORE BOMPENSIERO was purchasing "The Carousel", a bar and cafe in El Cajon, California, and pointed out that BOMPENSIERO was there every day redecorating the bar and getting the place ready to reopen it. However, a check of Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission records at San Diego revealed that this bar was licensed in the name of ~~ARCHIE AVAKINA~~, 2016 Anaheim Street, Long Beach, California, on 3/4/64, and BOMPENSIERO's name does not appear in the record at all.

CALIF Informants in Tijuana, B. C., Mexico, are following the activities of JASPERE JOE ~~MATRANGA~~, who has been identified as a member of La Cosa Nostra by LA 4448-C-TE. His activities have not been extensive to date.

SD 92-229

Arrangements have been made with the Los Angeles Division whereby LA 4448-C-TE will come to San Diego to renew acquaintances with persons known to him in an effort to obtain current information concerning the "Regina" at San Diego and the identity of "ARNATO".