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Director, FBI

**THE CRIMINAL "COMMISSION" ET AL
AR - CONSPIRACY**

In further developing our plan of action against La Causa Nostra, the name used by its members in identifying the Italian criminal organization, the Bureau is considering the recommendation of new legislation to cope more effectively with this organization, its leaders and its members. The fact that such a recommendation is under consideration is not to be discussed with anyone outside the Bureau at this time.

In reviewing data developed to date in this investigation, of particular importance for the above purposes is information received from member-sources concerning the initiation ceremony, oath, and rules governing members. For legislative purposes, in laying groundwork for the conclusive establishment of Causa Nostra as a de facto organization, the fact that each of these member-sources has furnished substantially identical accounts of initiation, oath, and rules will be of great significance. This will be particularly true considering that descriptions of the initiation ceremony furnished by members received into this organization in the 1950s are identical to an account furnished by a source who was initiated as a member in 1930. Of similar significance is the fact that these accounts were received from sources, unknown to one another, as far separated as New York and San Francisco.

It can be appreciated that the aspects of initiation, oath, rules, and permanence of the organization which will be of greatest weight will be those which, of themselves, suggest contravention of certain provisions of the U. S. Constitution and of the common good. For example, one veteran member has divulged that the oath consisted, in part, of swearing to place his country, family and religion in a secondary position to his allegiance to Causa Nostra. Another source has expressed this similarly by recounting that part of his oath of membership consisted of swearing to place the organization in a position of supremacy over all else in his life.

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Evans _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____

2 - Philadelphia
2 - San Francisco

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Letter to New York

RE: THE CRIMINAL "COMMISSION" ET AL

and in reports under this caption, it is now of great importance that we delineate in most specific terms the nature and purposes of this organization, setting forth complete detail of membership, including initiation ceremony, oath, preparation leading up to membership, background investigation conducted on proposed members, et cetera, to provide a firm basis for any forthcoming recommended legislation.

With this specific purpose in mind, New York is to recontact member-sources developed to date and fully discuss the above in order to gather the greatest detail possible in these particular areas. To carry out this assignment New York should recontact Joseph Valachi, NY 3461-C-TE, NY 3341-C-TE and NY 3864-PC, and any other sources of which the Bureau may not be specifically aware who may be in a position to furnish firsthand information concerning the above matters. It should be noted that hearsay-type information, though accurate, is not desired in this instance. New York may wish to discuss this matter with NY 3886-C-TE, who, though he is not known to claim membership, may possibly be a member. This observation is based on the latter source's extremely close association with leaders and members who apparently extend this source their full confidence. However, if exploring his position as a possible member would tend to strain your relations with this informant, such a discussion need not be entered.

New York should handle this discussion with NY 3864-PC immediately inasmuch as this source's availability for any extended period is in question. You should also completely develop all other matters of interest pertaining to this organization and its leaders with this source for similar reasons.

Philadelphia should discuss this matter with PH 609-PC and any other live source who may be in a position to furnish the firsthand data desired.

San Francisco should discuss the above aspects of this organization with SF 2550-C-TE. San Francisco may wish to discuss this matter with SF 2354-C, who, though he is not known to have acknowledged membership, has been reported by SF 2550-C-TE to be a member.