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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 1/17/63

FROM : SAC, Philadelphia (92-1027)

SUBJECT: THE CRIMINAL "COMMISSION," ETAL
AR - CONSPIRACY

Re Bureau letter 1/8/63.

Reference is also made to Philadelphia letters to the Bureau dated 12/5/61 and 4/3/62 captioned, "TOP ECHELON CRIMINAL INFORMANT PROGRAM - PHILADELPHIA DIVISION," and Philadelphia Airtel to the Bureau dated 12/20/62 of the same caption, all setting forth information furnished by PH-599-PC.

It is pointed out that PH-599-PC has been reported by numerous informants and sources to have been a member of "The Organization" for many years and to have been involved in Organization executions. It is recalled that this Informant was reported by some sources to be a member of the Organization during the "CAPGA" investigation, which took place shortly after the mid-1940's. It is also pointed out that this Informant was reported to have been involved as one of the killers in an Organization execution which took place during late 1940. It is not known if he was a member at that time; however, it is quite possible that if he was not a member, he was admitted possibly following this particular execution. The Informant (as with other members of the Organization) considers "respect" to be highly significant and desirable and definitely considers himself to be above the average criminal, although he freely admits that he has been involved in criminal activities throughout his adult life.

The contacting Agent has been acquainted with the Informant since approximately 1950, when he was first contacted in connection with the "TENUCA" investigation. He apparently has some personal respect for the contacting Agent, having made that evident during the contacts by his conversation and, also, by the amount of information that he has

3 - Bureau (REGISTERED MAIL)

- 2 -
- 1 - 137-7265
- 2 - Philadelphia
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(THE CRIMINAL "COMMISSION," ETAL)

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furnished to date. It is pointed out, however, that although each contact appears to improve his relationship with the Agent and his inclination to talk more freely, nevertheless, the interviews continue to be very carefully planned in order to develop the information without asking direct questions. It is considered vitally important to the ultimate development of this Informant to, at the present time, avoid asking direct questions that would make it inescapable that he is considered as an informant.

It is also pointed out that security of contact with this individual must be considered most seriously. He is incarcerated and it is not considered desirable to contact him any more frequently than every three months. Even these contacts should be on more or less irregular intervals. In an effort to avoid pinpointing the Informant during visits to the prison, other hardened convicts who have been known to the Agent for a number of years are contacted and maintained in general conversation, in order that they will discuss this fact with other inmates and reduce the significance of the contacts. It is important to impress upon the Informant that consideration is given to his security, particularly since associates in the Organization are exerting considerable political pressure to cause him to be released on parole in the near future. If he feels the contacting Agent is careless in this regard, he may well refuse to make meetings after he is released from prison.

In view of the above, it is not considered desirable to recontact PH-599-PC at the present time, particularly when it is considered that he was contacted on December 18, 1962, as reflected by information in the last-mentioned reference above. If still desired by the Bureau, efforts will be made to set up an appropriate interview in approximately one month and efforts will be made by steering the conversation to develop as much of the information as possible with regard to the request in Bureau letter 1/8/63. It is noted that some information concerning present and past restrictions on members joining the Organization is set forth in Philadelphia Airtel dated 12/20/62 captioned "TOP ECHELON CRIMINAL INFORMANT PROGRAM - PHILADELPHIA DIVISION," Bureau File 137-7265.