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Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL - REGISTERED  
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TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (92-3434)(92-6054)  
Attention: Assistant Director JAMES H. GALE

FROM: SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (92-124)(92-593)(P)

JOSEPH CERRITO, aka.  
AR  
OO: San Francisco

LA COSA NOSTRA  
AR - CONSPIRACY  
OO: New York

Re San Francisco airtels, 3/22/68 and 4/22/68.

The following information is the result of continued inquiries being made of informants and sources concerning the effect of the publication of the article entitled "The Mob," which appeared in the 3/15/68 issue of "Life" magazine:

On 3/21/68 SF-2850-PC advised he had read the recent article appearing in "Life" magazine regarding JOE CERRITO's position in the San Jose Family of the LCN. PC stated it appears that the information was obtained from a "Mafioso turned stool pigeon" which, in his opinion, is the worst type of pigeon. He stated he has not discussed the article with CERRITO and

- ⑥ - Bureau (AM-RM)
  - (3 - 92-3434)
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- 2 - New York (92-2300)(AM-RM)
- 4 - San Francisco
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  - (1 - 92-593)
  - (1 - 92-635, ARDIZZONE)
  - (1 - 92-1121, SALCICCIA)

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Special Agent in Charge

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does not expect to do so; however, he agreed to consider contacting CERRITO in an attempt to elicit an opinion from him.

On 4/2/68 SF-2689-C-TE advised he visited with SALVATORE TARANTO on Sunday, 3/31/68.

TARANTO advised that he saw MANNY FIGLIA a few days ago. FIGLIA told TARANTO that JOE CERRITO was extremely distressed over the recent "Life" magazine article and that the photograph of him in company with FRANK GARAPOLO took him completely by surprise. According to FIGLIA, CERRITO is now more determined than ever to follow through on his libel suit against "Life".

FIGLIA also told TARANTO that SALVATORE MARINO "got the message" in the "Life" article that a cheese man referred to therein was he.

FIGLIA also advised TARANTO that DOMINICK ANZALONE was also upset by the "Life" article and is in favor of CERRITO's determination to get the matter into court and has offered CERRITO any financial help he may need.

It is to be noted that SALVATORE MARINO is the owner and operator of the California Cheese Co. at San Jose, Calif.

On 4/9/68 SF-2689-C-TE advised that he was in personal contact with BILL SCIORTINO on 4/4/68 in San Francisco. SCIORTINO advised informant that he personally contacted JOE CERRITO at his home in San Jose on the specific instructions of JIMMY LANZA. According to SCIORTINO, JIMMY LANZA was emotionally disturbed concerning the "Life" magazine article, especially in view of the fact that it plainly identified him as leader of the San Francisco family of the LCN. SCIORTINO said that the purpose of his contact with CERRITO at San Jose was to advise CERRITO that LANZA approves of and will support CERRITO's decision to carry on his libel suit against "Life".

The San Diego Office, by communication dated 4/10/68, advised that SD-1064-C-TE furnished the following information concerning his visit with SANTO TRAFFICANTE, JR., LCN boss of Florida, when they met in San Diego on 4/1/68:

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Informant stated that SANTO showed displeasure with the fact that the informant is now only a "soldier" after having been a successful "Capo" before going to prison. SANTO did not seem to be sympathetic toward California LCN leadership, especially the way it was portrayed in the recent "Life" magazine article which ridiculed the San Jose Family. He suggested that the informant attempt to regain his "Capo" status. SANTO indicated he was more closely connected with the Chicago leadership than with the Detroit leaders and that he generally liked the idea of one LCN Family for all of California with closer ties to Chicago.

SANTO questioned the informant about the "Life" magazine article regarding the San Jose Family. The informant told him it was all true. He told SANTO that at the time he was a close friend of LCN "Capo" ANGELO MARINO of San Jose. He described how ANGELO's father, SALVATORE MARINO, had been a "Capo" in the San Jose Family and that several years ago, the San Jose LCN boss, JOE CERRITO, wanted SAL to step down. SAL contacted the informant to get his opinion and the informant advised him that since CERRITO felt that way, he should step down, but only on condition that his son, ANGELO, take his place. CERRITO agreed to this and this is how ANGELO became "Capo".

SANTO described ANGELO as a very weak man who could not kill anyone if his own life depended on it and that he had no talent whatever for LCN racket activity; that most of his adult life was spent chasing women and gambling while his father had to run the California Cheese Co.

The informant told SANTO that around 1963 or 1964 ANGELO came to contact the informant and told him that he had received an execution contract and sought advice. The informant advised that ANGELO wanted him to help him but he told ANGELO he was still on parole and could have nothing to do with it. He told ANGELO to take a couple of trusted "soldiers" and carry out the contract. Sometime later he heard that the intended victim was picked up by INS for deportation and he always suspected ANGELO, instead of killing the intended victim, made an anonymous call to have him picked up rather than kill him. He stated that from questioning ANGELO at that time, he learned ANGELO had even talked to the intended victim while the contract was in force and he also learned the contract had been given ANGELO by the LCN San Jose boss, JOE CERRITO.