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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : *gpm*
gram SAC, NEW YORK (92-2695) (c)

SUBJECT: GUS SOBELLA
AR
(OO:NEW YORK)

DATE: July 26, 1963

FD 217
2

Re Bureau letter dated 1/28/63, captioned
"THE CRIMINAL COMMISSION, ET AL; AR-CONSPIRACY".

Investigation in this case was conducted
to determine if GUS SOBELLA is a member of "La
Cosa Nostra".

A possibility that SOBELLA was a member
of "La Cosa Nostra" was based on information furnished
by NY 1894-C, who in January, 1958, advised of the
existence of a criminal conspiracy. In describing one
of the "crews" in this conspiracy, which was located
on the lower east side of New York City, he mentioned
the name of GUS SOBELLA, among others. GUS SOBELLA,
the informant stated, was part of the original "crew"
formed by the notorious LUCKY LUCIANO. The informant
said that SOBELLA had no particular position although
he retained a certain amount of respect since he was
close to LUCIANO in the old days.

1-9

- 2- Bureau
- 1- New York (92-638Sub B)
- 1- New York (92-2695)

REC-57
EX-115

92-6054-370

JUL 29 1963

RGO:pm
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[Handwritten signature]

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NY 92-2695

NY 1894-C was recontacted on 4/14 and 5/23/63, by SA WARREN J. DONOVAN, at which time the informant stated that he has not seen SOBELLA in several years. He believed that SOBELLA was still alive and in the New York City area, but he could furnish no information regarding SOBELLA's activities, whereabouts, or any identifying information. Informant could only state that SOBELLA was an older man.

NY Indices are negative regarding GUS SOBELLA, but do contain information regarding one GUS SABELLA which is as follows:

The "New York Daily News", January 13, 1961 edition, a New York City newspaper, reflected that one GERALD STRAVELLI was killed in a gangland-type shooting on 1/12/61, in NYC. The article pointed out that STRAVELLI, on 7/21/57, had shot and killed one GUS SABELLA, 26 Grand St. NYC, in a drunken brawl.

A review of the death certificate for NEW YORK, N.Y. DECLASED SABELLA as conducted by IC ANTHONY AMOROSO, JR. on 4/11/63, reflected his date of birth as 11/15/21, NYC.

By report dated 6/7/63, the Identification Division of the FBI furnished the record for one GUS SABELLA, FBI # 955328, NYCPD # B136075. FD-9 which requested this record was returned reflecting that there was no record for the following names:

GUS SOBELLA, AUGUST SOBELLA and AUGUST SABELLA.

However, the record for GUS SABELLA, FBI #955328, reflect that he had NYCPD # B136075.

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On 6/15/63, SA AUGUST J. MICEK reviewed the records of the NYCPD regarding GUS SABELLA, NYCPD # B136075, at which time he determined that GUS SABELLA died on 3/6/37, after being shot in Brooklyn on 3/1/37.

The records of the Bureau of Criminal Identification and The Central Investigations Bureau, NYCPD, as reviewed on 5/14/63, by SA AUGUST J. MICEK reflect no record identifiable with the subject.

On 4/8/63, Miss PAULINE DE FIORE, Clerk, Credit Bureau of Greater New York, advised IC THOMAS D. MULLARKEY that she could locate no record for GUS SOBELLA or SABELLA.

During April and May, 1963, the following criminal informants familiar with organized crime in the NYC area were contacted regarding the subject with negative results:

Informant

NY 169-C
 NY 3864-C-TE (Former)
 NY 2151-C
 NY 3461-C-TE
 JOSEPH VALACHI
 (conceal identity)

Contacting Agent

SA WILLIAM W. TERRY
 SA BENJAMIN F. GRAVES
 SA WARREN J. DONOVAN
 SA MAX R. FRITSCHER
 SA JAMES P. FLYNN

Inasmuch as investigation by NY has not identified subject and since NY 1894-C can furnish no additional information to identify him or to definitely establish his membership in "La Cosa Nostra", this case is being closed by NY.