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WASHINGTON

January 2, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR RICHARD A. HAUSER

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS

Organized Crime Article

SUBJECT:

Like Macbeth's ghost the organized crime article continues to rise and haunt us. Jensen now says the article can be published after January 19 of this year.

Previously Justice advised that it could not substantiate mob involvement in the toxic waste, sports, and funeral home areas (pages 1 and 3), yet those items still appear in this revised draft. On page 4, line 18, "Racketeer Influenced and Criminal Organizations" should be "Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations."

The attached memorandum for Chew defers to Justice, dubitante, on the appropriateness of publishing the article.

Attachment

WASHINGTON

January 2, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR DAVID L. CHEV STAFF SECRETARY

FROM: RICHARD &. HAUSEF DEPUTY COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Organized Crime Article

The Department of Justice, for reasons that are not clear, has changed its views and now believes that the organized crime article may be published after January 19, 1986, without affecting pending prosecutions. I will defer, dubitante, to the Department's conclusion.

The Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act is incorrectly cited on page 4, line 18 as the "Racketeer Influenced and Criminal Organizations" Act. In addition, the Department previously advised that it could not substantiate mob involvement in the toxic waste, sports, and funeral home areas. References to those areas should accordingly be deleted on pages 1 and 3 of the draft.

RAH:JGR:aea 1/2/86 cc: FFFielding RAHauser JGRoberts Subj Chron

WASHINGTON

January 2, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR DAVID L. CHEV STAFF SECRETARY

FROM: RICHARD A. HAUSEF Original signed by RAH DEPUTY COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Organized Crime Article

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RAH:JGR:aea 1/2/86 cc: FFFielding RAHauser JGRoberts Subj Chron

WASHINGTON

December 19, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR DAVID L. CHEW STAFF SECRETARY

FROM:

RICHARD A. HAUSER

SUBJECT: The President's Article on Organized Crime

This office has reviewed the referenced article, which we understand is scheduled for publication in the December 29th, Sunday, New York Times Magazine.

While the Department of Justice has cleared the substance of the article, it has recommended that publication be postponed. Federal prosecutions are pending against major organized crime figures in the Southern District of New York, and the Department believes that publication at this time could jeopardize the government's cases against these individuals. Justice will advise as to when publication is, in its view, appropriate.

When the decision is made to proceed with this article, the following changes must be made:

- 1. Delete references to toxic wastes and sports-rigging schemes in the first paragraph. The Department of Justice advises they cannot substantiate organized crime in these areas.
- On page 2, line 6, Justice advises the correct figure is \$1.1 million, not \$6.5 million.
- Bottom of page 3: Justice advises it cannot substantiate mob involvement in the funeral home industry.
- On page 21, lines 18-19, delete "A mob lawyer and," to avoid a potential libel suit against the President.

RAH:mcl cc: FFFielding RAHauser VJGRoberts Subject Chron

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 12/31/85 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 11:00 a.m. 1/2/86

SUBJECT: ORGANIZED CRIME ARTICLE

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RESPONSE:

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David L. Chew Staff Secretary Ext. 2702

FRANKS Provident Provident

WASHINGTON

December 31, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR DAVID CHEW

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FROM: PATRICK J. BUCHANAN

It is my understanding that Justice has now given clearance for the Organized Crime Article to appear in the January 19th issue of the New York Times Magazine. In order for this to be accomplished, we must give the New York Times final authorization this week. We need to have this back from the President as guickly as possible, by Thursday at the latest.



Office of the Deputy Attorney General

The Deputy Attorney General

Weshington, D.C. 20530 December 31, 1985

Honorable Alfred H. Kingon Secretary of Cabinet and Deputy Assistant to the President The White House Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Kingon:

In a letter dated December 19, 1985, I acquainted you with some concern within the Department of Justice about a possible impact on certain pending cases if the proposed Presidential article on organized crime were to be published soon. Since then, upon further review and in light of developments in the pending cases, we have concluded that if the proposed article were not to be published before January 19, 1986, it would not affect those prosecutions. Consequently, we would like to modify our earlier request and ask only that publication of the proposed article be withheld until January 19.

We appreciate your sensitivity to this matter.

Sincerely,

D. Lowell Jensen Deputy Attorney General

cc: Fony Dolan The White House

bcc: David Chew

WASHINGTON

December 30, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

PATRICK J. BUCHANAN

RE:

The President's Organized Crime Article

Attached is the final draft of your Organized Crime Article. This draft (by Tony Dolan) has been reviewed by the Justice Department and approved. With the few designated exceptions, all of Justice's suggested comments and revisions have been incorporated.

You might like to know:

The New York Times has accepted this article; it is now 1. scheduled for the January 19th Sunday Magazine. They are enthusiastic about the article -- they feel it is an important subject and the piece provides information not widely known about the Reagan Administration's efforts in this area; they are also pleased to have the President's byline.

2. This article, based on notes Tony took during Oval Office sessions and cabinet meetings, is essentially the same as the one you approved earlier in the year. However, the Times editors suggested that certain points be made more specific, additional information, etc. Those additions have been made; the bracketed sections indicate the new sections. We believe the suggested changes have made the piece much stronger.

(Dolan) December 30, 1985 3:00 p.m.

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WINNING THE WAR AGAINST THE MOB; HOW EVERY AMERICAN CAN HELP

by RONALD REAGAN

Waterfront extortion in New York, mob wars in Philadelphia, threats against the families of F.B.I. agents and a federal prosecutor in Cleveland, attempted bribery of State officials in Louisiana, protection rackets for bookmakers and pornographers in Los Angeles. And in places too numerous to mention all across America: piracy of union pension and welfare funds, toxic wastes spewed out along our highways and into our wildernesses, legitimate businesses fronting as fencing networks for burglars and thieves and hijackers, corruption of professional and college athletes with sports-rigging schemes, an invisible tax on food and construction purchases imposed by illegal syndicates and paid for by every American.

This is the face of organized crime in America in the 1980's; not at all different from the face of organized crime a generation or two ago -- a point on which I can cite personal experience. Like all too many Americans, I've seen the mob at work.

In the early 1940's, along with many fellow members of the Hollywood community, I watched as organized crime moved in on the

motion picture industry, largely through a takeover of the stagehands' union, International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, and an attempted move on the union to which I belonged, The Screen Actors Guild. Before it was over, two vice presidents of the stagehands' union would split over \$1.1 million with the Chicago underworld. They would also be indicted and go to jail. And one of them, Willie Bioff, would eventually be killed by a bomb the mob placed in his car. But through the commitment and efforts of people like my friend, Bob Montgomery, then president of S.A.G., the mob's attempted infiltration of our union was stopped. (Not that things quieted down after that; a few years later it was the communists who tried to take over S.A.G., at a time when I had succeeded Bob as president of the union. It wasn't long before there was violence and personal threats and the police were advising me to carry a pistol. Since then, I've understood those who argue that the tactics used by mobsters and totalitarian ideologues have a lot in common.)

So, over the years, the tactics and techniques of organized crime have stayed much the same. Recently, jurors in a major American city got an inside glimpse at the boldness and scope of the mob when they heard a clandestinely recorded tape of a mob boss explaining to a subordinate why the Federal Government could not prosecute him under anti-racketeering laws. He claimed the statute applied only to attempts to take over legitimate businesses rather than what he was doing: running an <u>ill</u>egitimate business.

BOSS:	"Our argument is we're illegitimate business!"
SUBORDINA	TE: "We're a shylock!"
BOSS:	"We're a bookmaker. We're selling marijuana. We
	are illegal here, illegal there. Arsonists. We
	are everything."
SUB:	"Pimps."
BOSS:	"So what?"
SUB:	"Prostitutes."
BOSS:	"The law does not cover us, is that right?"
SUB:	"That's the argument."
BOSS:	"I wouldn't be in a legitimate business for all
	the money in the world."

But whatever that particular mob boss's views, his colleagues in the crime business sharply disagree and are accounting for one major change in the modus operandi of organized crime: to an unprecedented extent today the mob has been moving to infiltrate and control legitimate businesses. In the New York area alone, members of the five mob families have been convicted or are facing trial for not just labor racketeering and extortion but also criminal infiltration of such legitimate business as restaurants, food distribution, entertainment, waterfront cargo handling, vending, liquor, securities, garbage and toxic waste disposal, trucking, jewelry, garment, construction, real estate, liquor, (and even funeral home industries.) Page 4

Yet even as the mob has grown bolder in seeking to corrupt legitimate sectors of our society, there has been another, more hopeful, countervailing change resulting from a new will and energy here in Washington: a "quantum leap" in successful efforts to expose the mob and prosecute its leaders. To cite one example: One of the most potent legal weapons against organized crime, one of the weapons the gangsters fear most, court-authorized electronic surveillances, were once limited to fewer than 100 applications to Federal courts each year. On taking office, we removed that limit, and in 1984 Federal investigators installed 289 bugs and taps, all duly authorized by Federal judges applying strict statutory criteria.

Today, thanks to tedious but inspired work by F.B.I. agents, not only are convictions up but jurors and the American public are learning about the mob out of their own mouths. That mob boss and his subordinate quoted in the tape above are a good example: both went to trial recently under a 20-count indictment for violating the Racketeer Influenced and Criminal-Organizations (RICO) law. Hearing the tapes of conversations like this one, jurors are convicting top-level mobsters today and sending them away for long prison terms at a rate never before achieved in the annals of American law enforcement. And for the first time, we are beginning to exploit fully the statutory weapons Congress provided in the 1970 Organized Crime Control Act, particularly the seizure of financial assets. Organized crime convictions have quadrupled since 1981 and last year the Federal government confiscated millions in illicit financial assets.

And it's developments like these that prompted me to write this article: I want to present the facts about organized crime, to explain the scope of our Administration's efforts against it and illustrate why I think for the first time in our history we have the mob on the run; and, finally, I want to explain how I think all of us can help put a permanent end to its widespread influence in America.

While lawmen, prosecutors and scholars still argue over an exact definition of organized crime, perhaps a 1967 presidential commission put it best when it suggested the term be applied to groups that have become sufficiently sophisticated to regularly employ the techniques of both violence and corruption to achieve their criminal ends.

I think it's worth taking a moment to look back over the rise of the mob's power in this country and the all-too-frequently failed attempts to combat it, episodes like those I saw in Hollywood in the 1940's have been repeated many times in our Nation's history.

No one's quite sure when organized crime actually began in America -- some see its first signs in urban gangs that sprang up in our large cities in the late 1800's; some say it started with a mobster named Big Jim Colissimo who protected his Chicago rackets by buying influence among judges and Government officials. After he was gunned down in his own restaurant in 1910, one of Colissimo's hired enforcers, Johnny Torrio, took his place. But Johnny Torrio retired early -- to make room for a cousin he had brought in from Brooklyn to help him, a young man by the name of Al Capone.

As Capone became the lord of the Chicago underworld in the twenties, so too, famous gangsters like Lucky Luciano and Meyer Lansky rose to ascendancy in other big cities like New York. U.S. Senate hearings years later would show that in 1931 two groups of gangsters set up a national commission -- in effect an underworld government that divided up the country into spheres of influence. The commission settled disputes and negotiated illicit deals ranging from contract murders to influence-buying with Government officials. They called their criminal confederation "This Thing of Ours," or "La Cosa Nostra" (LCN). While the number of sworn or "made" members was strictly limited, the LCN accepted many others as members and functionaries in all but the ceremonial formality. The mafia really is an equal opportunity employer; its auxiliaries include criminals of all faiths, races and nationalities so long as they are reliable "earners."

Throughout the years, as the mob grew in size and sophistication, a few dedicated Americans and corruption fighters took it on. And whenever, as President, I've spoken about organized crime I've made an effort to note those names. There were Judge Samuel Seabury and Prosecutor Thomas Dewey who in the 1930's began to expose and prosecute New York's criminal gangs. There were Eliot Ness and his small group of agents who, because the Capone mob couldn't stop their investigations by "touching" them with bribes or threats, earned fame as "The Untouchables." The first federal law enforcement administrator to recognize the signs of a national criminal syndicate and sound the alarm was Harry Anslinger, director of the old Narcotics Bureau in the Treasury Department. Senator Estes Kefaveur in the early fifties led widely publicized Senate hearings that first exposed the nationwide criminal syndicates. Senator John McClellan used his Senate rackets committee to investigate union corruption and organized crime; it was the McClellan Committee that first heard the chilling testimony of Mafia defector and former hit-man Joseph Valachi. And Robert Kennedy, who described in his best-selling book "The Enemy Within" the arrogance of the mob bosses he had questioned as a young counsel to the McClellan Committee, also helped, after being appointed Attorney General by President Kennedy, to intensify the struggle against organized crime which ultimately culminated in a concept proposed years earlier by Attorney General Herbert Brownell: special teams of Federal prosecutors, named "Organized Crime Strike Forces," that could focus on mob activities in the various regions of the country.

And no such litany could ever leave out the incalculable good done by crusading reporters and editors whose stories sparked many of the important Government investigations. There were many of them; Eugene Methvin of the Readers Digest and Nick Gage of the New York Times did many exposes on the mob over the years; and I think here too of Clark Mollenhoff of the Des Moines Register, a friend from my days when I worked in Iowa as a broadcaster. Clark was one of the first to write about union corruption in the early 1950's and give the McClellan committee staff the specifics it needed to conduct its probe. And in 1977, I shared the shock of all Americans when I read of the murder of an Arizona reporter Don Bolles, who had worked with extraordinary dedication to expose organized crime's inroads in the Southwest.

But although the revelations of these dedicated Americans brought strong public outcry and a demand for action each time they occurred, efforts to follow up on their work were often poorly planned, badly organized, and short-lived.

Now, some cynics -- driven perhaps by their own ideological or personal dislike of our society -- have suggested that such efforts must always fail. They claim too many Americans especially those who call themselves conservatives have a tendency to preach our country's virtues but turn a blind eye to social ills like organized crime.

I know I've been accused myself of believing in "Norman Rockwell's America," a place where, as portrayed in the artist's famous <u>Saturday Evening Post</u> covers, decent people lead decent lives and a respect for the laws of the community and the values of our country is the accepted norm.

As a small-town boy who's a believer in the innate goodness of this country and her people, I'll readily plead guilty to that charge. But, like most Americans, I have never felt that believing in America means believing that nothing's wrong here or needs changing. In fact, it's always been my experience that the truly important reforms in our society are the work not of Government but of people -- patriotic, everyday Americans who believe so strongly in our national values that they grow angry Page 9

at injustice or wrongdoing and either handle the problem themselves or insist their local or state Government take action.

The truth is there's never been any question that the American people want the mob put out of business. It's why they've rewarded many crusading prosecutors and reformers with higher elective office. And the remarkable popularity of a T.V. series like "The Untouchables" or a novel and movie like "The Godfather" reveals more than just public fascination with a secret society; down deep the American people know a criminal confederation exists in our country, that it has incredible power -- and they want something done about it.

That's why this issue has always seemed to me a place of common ground for conservatives and liberals, Republicans and Democrats; a place where all Americans could align themselves against a dangerous and all too persistent domestic enemy.

Believe me, nothing was more evident in the first year and a half of our Administration than that such an alliance was necessary. The steady expansion of organized crime into legitimate business as well as it continued and ever deeper involvement into illicit activity like drug trafficking had clearly brought America to the crisis point.

By 1981, drug trafficking through our Southeast coastline caused so much violence and corruption it threatened to turn South Florida into a latter-day Dodge City. Early in our Administration, I appointed a special South Florida task force under Vice President Bush to deal with the immediate crisis but while the task force was highly effective it was still only a stop-gap measure; and for only one region of the country.

It was clear to me that much, much more was needed. And not only to combat the escalating drug trade. The drug trade's growth, as horrible and destructive as it was, was actually a by-product of a deeper problem: the tolerance for so many years of a criminal underground in America, its nationwide syndicates and their ever-widening reach into our lives and our society.

As threatening as the drug trade, for example, were those new varieties of organized criminal groups: motorcycle and prison gangs or groups like Asian or Colombian drug gangs. In my own mind, there has never been any doubt their growth could be traced to the insularity of the traditional mob to prosecution. In fact, by the late '70's, the old and new groups were setting up close and expanding ties. For these new gangs, the old-style mob and their arrogant defiance of the law was an example to emulate, an inspiration.

The grim truth was that the underworld's power and size -black marks on our history since the turn of the century -- had continued to grow in the last two decades. And this crisis of crime -- the continuing strength of the traditional mob after nearly a hundred years, the growing drug empires, the new gangs -- prompted me to call the Cabinet into special session at the White House on September 12, 1982.

It was at that meeting that Attorney General Bill Smith building his case with a quiet, methodical courtroom manner, cited many of these facts I have just mentioned, flipping through page after page of statistics and anecdotal evidence about crime, listing its financial and human cost to America. He talked not only about the steady rise in street crime over two decades but the growth and increasing sophistication of regional and national networks of professional criminals. He described the alarmingly successful attempts of these networks to corrupt legitimate businesses, unions, political figures, and members of law enforcement and government agencies; he made it clear that career criminals had, by the late 1970's and early 1980's, not only grown bolder in their activities but were continuing to extend their reach into legitimate and law abiding sectors of our society, buying and bribing their way to the kind of official protection and respectability that would permit them to operate their criminal undergrounds with impunity.

And not long after the cabinet meeting, the Justice Department concluded an investigation that revealed just this kind of attempt to permanently corrupt American society when the Department brought an indictment against one of its own.

On August 10, 1983, a former Federal prosecutor was convicted for bribery and obstruction of justice. During the trial, the prosecutor was heard on tape recorded conversations offering to sell government investigative information to a private detective who worked for a lawyer representing a major drug figure. The tape disclosed that the government attorney revealed sensitive information about government investigations -and then went on to offer to sell the names of confidential informants. A portion of the recording went like this:

Government Prosecutor: "Those are the critical items . . . that's the critical type of information . . . the asking price for all of this is \$200,000."

A few moments later on the tape, the prosecutor noted how helpful this information could be for a drug dealing operation.

Prosecutor: " I will say this that if, if they play their cards right . . . the \$200,000 will be nothing, nothing."

Private detective: "Uh huh."

Prosecutor: "It'll be nothing compared to the money profit they'll make."

After hearing about this case, I did something the staff has told me for years is a sure sign I'm angry; and if there was that tell-tale tightening around my mouth and jaw, I think it's understandable. I was angry; and, really, what decent American wouldn't be? Here was a startling example of the trend the Attorney General has spoken about that day in the Cabinet room: a Government prosecutor, a man sworn to protect this country's citizens from criminals, had instead sought to go into business with the underworld by soliciting bribes from them.

I had talked with the Attorney General about matters like these during my first year in office and along with Presidential Counselor Ed Meese, a former prosecutor who would later succeed Bill as Attorney General, we had decided that in dealing with the crime crisis we would reject the quick fixes; we wanted instead a sustained, long-term frontal assault on organized crime and public corruption. Page 13

It was just this kind of program Bill Smith outlined that day in the Cabinet Room; it had several key elements. First, we would establish -- following the successful example set in South Florida -- 12 regional task forces that would investigate and prosecute the drug cartels and keep a special eye on La Cosa Nostra involvement. Second, we would establish a national commission to hold regional hearings on organized crime, to expose its tactics and structure and come up with recommendations for a national strategy. Third, we would push for a sweeping overhaul of the Federal criminal code; an anti-crime bill that would give prosecutors and investigators the tools they needed to fight criminal conspiracies. Fourth, the Justice Department would carry out a series of related initiatives that included: more vigorous prosecution of the mob including use of the RICO statute which Congress enacted in 1970 to confiscate more of its financial assets; better inter-agency cooperation in the Federal Government and a yearly report by the Attorney General. We also ordered closer cooperation with State and local law enforcement including new training programs at a Federal facility in Glynco, Georgia that would focus on the mob's new and more sophisticated tactics. And, finally, we wanted additional prison space that would help end the scandalous practice of shortening sentences for major criminals because there wasn't room to incarcerate them.

All of this meant a considerable commitment of Federal dollars in a period of time when I had urged the Congress to cut the budget. It would mean the addition of more than 1,000 new Federal investigators and 200 new prosecutors. That was more manpower than was currently employed in the already existing organized crime strike forces; so it would be a dramatic addition to our resources and would halt the steady decline in Federal investigative personnel whose number, incredibly enough, had gone down drastically. (Between 1974 and 1980 the F.B.I. had lost almost 800 agents or close to 8 percent of its strength even as the crime statistics were rising rapidly.)

This fiscal commitment, however, was not at all inconsistent with my own long-held belief that when Government grows big and bloated and gets into areas where it's neither competent nor wanted, it also tends to ignore its important, constitutional duties. Duties like providing for national defense, and -- in this case -- protecting its citizens from criminal wrongdoing. The Federal Government's deficits were not due to too much money being spent for law enforcement or defense purposes -- in both areas spending had been dramatically reduced in the 70's as a percentage of the Federal budget; so our plan then would be a step towards redressing an imbalance that had grown up over a decade.

And, as Bill Smith concluded his presentation to the cabinet, the expected happened: objections were made about the cost of the plan. I could sense the tension; members of the Attorney General's personal staff like Tex Lezar and Kenneth Starr, had worked hard on the plan as had F.B.I. Director William Webster and Associate Attorney General Rudy Guiliani. (Serving a few years later as our U.S. Attorney in New York's Southern District, Rudy would conduct widely-publicized investigations against New York's top mob families.) I let the discussion go on for a while but then intervened. I noted the financial details needed to be worked out with the Office of Management and Budget. But I made it clear financial considerations could not stand in the way; I approved this plan and wanted it.

So it was at a crowded Justice Department auditorium on October 14, 1982, I announced the plan with this final comment: "It comes down in the end to a simple question, we must ask ourselves: What kind of people are we if we continue to tolerate in our midst an invisible, lawless empire? Can we honestly say that America is the land with justice for all if we do not now exert every effort to eliminate this confederation of professional criminals, this dark, evil enemy within?"

The program received overwhelming support from Republican and Democrats in the Congress and from the American people. And it was not long before our 12 regional task forces were up and running, our national commission was fully operational and our other initiatives were underway. All except for the crime bill. That took a long, tough struggle but a year ago last fall Congress finally acted.

It's starting to pay off now. Organized crime convictions have more than quadrupled since 1981; we are cutting deeply into the infrastructure of the mob by prosecuting major leaders -- and not as one long-time crusader against organized crime, Professor Robert Blakey of Notre Dame, said about past Government prosecutions, "picking off the retired or wounded." The Justice Department has cases currently underway against leaders in New York's Gambino organization, which law enforcement authorities consider the largest and most powerful underworld organization in the nation and New York's Colombo group as well as leaders in the New England, Milwaukee, Kansas City, Cleveland and Chicago areas. We're also hitting the mob where it hurts the most: in the pocketbook, using both new and old laws to confiscate their financial assets. Convictions for all drug law violators also increased 90 percent and convictions of top-echelon organizers and financiers increased 186 percent from 1981 to 1984. U.S. seizures of cocaine during the first 7 months of 1984 were 216 percent greater than cocaine seizures for all of 1981. Heroin seizures were 67 percent greater and marijuana seizures were 8 percent greater for the first 7 months of 1984 than in all 1981.

Conducting extensive hearings in Washington, D.C., Florida, New York and Chicago, the President's Organized Crime Commission has also been having a widespread impact. It has exposed many of the new crime gangs, giving local and State law enforcement the information they need to stop these groups before they become as entrenched and dangerous as La Cosa Nostra. Most important, the commission has investigated and exposed the all-too-rarely discussed problem of those institutions and professionals -- like corrupt banks, unions or crooked lawyers -- whose veneer of respectability help make them the mainstays of organized crime in America. In addition to being the first Government body to focus public attention on the willingness of some banking institutions to launder money for the mob, the commission has already sent to me and Attorney General Meese proposals for new regulations that would prevent such abuses. The commission's final report is not due till next year, but already it is helping the public and our Administration get at the roots of organized crime. Commission attorneys, for example, as the result of stern sentences imposed by a Federal judge in Chicago, Prentice Marshall, succeeded in securing sworn testimony detailing for the first time for the American public the inside story of LCN influence in important aspects of labor racketeering.

Our local and State initiatives are underway; we are working far more effectively with the prosecutors and policemen there; they, in turn, have taken new heart in their own long-running fight against local organized crime.

For all these reasons, I think we are now making real progress. The mob's internal structure has been badly weakened by prosecutions; and its methods of operation in legitimate spheres are becoming increasingly exposed.

But what we need now is the help of all Americans; to move forward with our national strategy, to eradicate organized crime's extensive influence in American society. And to do it within the life span of this generation.

Here then are the basic tenets for a program of action against the mob.

* * * * *

First, our goal must be victory against the mob -- nothing short of it. When I first discussed an offensive on organized crime, I got some well-meaning advice suggesting we play down the long-term objectives. Wars on crime announced in other administrations had sometimes fizzled; so there were political risks in boldly stated objectives. But that advice I had to reject. Uncertain trumpets lead to half-hearted crusades; and halfway-wars usually cause more problems than they solve. I think our national policy must be the one I outlined to the United States Attorneys at the White House last year: "We're in this thing to win. There will be no negotiated settlements, no detente with the mob. It's war to the end where they're concerned. Our goal is simple: We mean to cripple their organization, dry up their profits and put their members behind bars where they belong. They've had a free run for too long a time in this country."

Second, with aroused public opinion and mobilized Government agencies, victory isn't just possible, its probable.

We can do it. We mustn't listen to those that say the mob will always exist because it serves to gratify illicit impulses that are part of human nature. No governmental action is going to repeal human nature or fully abolish illegal practices like prostitution, illicit gambling, pornography and so forth. But what can be destroyed is those networks of regional or national racketeers who feed on these practices; the secret confederations and syndicates, the hidden governments that run them and profit off of them.

Third, we must never forget that the mob is the criminal community's flagship. What we do against the mob is directly

related to fighting other kinds of crime like street crime, burglary, etc. As I have said before, the street criminal or petty burglar is part of a larger community of career criminals; many have close ties to mobsters or their operations -professional burglars, for example, who use mob fences to peddle their stolen goods. It's time we realized every criminal profits from the climate of corruption and wrongdoing the mob creates.

Fourth, at the State and local level and only there can the war against it finally be won. The Federal Government can do much to break up the interstate rings of career criminals; yet these syndicates will permanently be put out of business only when the revenue they derive at the local level from illegal racketeering is dried up. Rackets like numbers or sports-betting operations or the pornography trade provide millions of dollars in revenue to crime bosses. Most Americans who play an illegal numbers game at the corner store or place a sports bet over the phone don't realize they're helping to finance a nationwide criminal conspiracy that is using this money to import drugs, buy off politicians and policemen, and further many other corrupt practices.

Fifth -- the public must encourage and support local and State police agencies in combatting local rackets. Local and State law enforcement must do more to crack down on racketeering; and to do this they are going to need every citizen's support. The public should also support police forces as they develop special units to probe organized crime and municipal corruption; for many police departments, which traditionally have concentrated on street crime, these are new areas of responsibility and they need citizen support and involvement to get their plans off the ground. Local police forces should also be encouraged to maintain strong internal affairs units that will protect them from penetration by mob influence or corruption that undermines public confidence. Currently, for example, 21 states including a number with severe LCN problems have no laws authorizing law enforcement agencies to use court-supervised electronic surveillance, a vital weapon in the war on organized crime. Since 1970 when Congress passed the Organized Crime Control Act, 23 states have adopted their own RICO laws modelled on Title IX. The latest to do so is Ohio. I believe the states that have not enacted such laws should do so.

Sixth -- Business and labor -- corporations, banks, and unions -- must exercise special care to stop the mob's stepped-up efforts to penetrate them. Sadly, many such institutions in recent years have not been vigilant on this score. Even worse, some of these institutions -- when discovered doing business with the mob -- launch a vain attempt to protect their reputation and try to obstruct law enforcement investigations. This too must end. And the only way to do it is a refusal by average Americans to patronize or do business with such institutions.

Seventh -- the American people need to constantly remind elected officials they want appointments of judges and prosecutors who understand the need to protect society from criminal wrongdoing. Our Administration has appointed fair but tough-minded judges to the Federal bench, who are aware that the public as well as criminal defendants have rights that need protection. We've seen a real decrease in crime for more than 3 years in a row now largely because we are now locking up more career criminals for longer periods of time. And this effort needs to be duplicated many times over at the State and local level. We need responsible but vigorous prosecutions and tough sentences for those who help organized crime, especially those in government, law, business or labor who have betrayed their trust to their fellow citizens.

Eighth -- our criminal justice system must be protected. Judges and lawyers in particular have a sacred obligation to guard the public against unethical or illegal acts in the courts. Our organized crime commission and many law enforcement officials have found that improper conduct by lawyers representing mobsters in criminal or business proceedings is one of the mainstays of mob power. (For example, a magazine article exposing one of the mob's legitimate business fronts referred in passing to longtime LCN member Jimmy Fratianno as "an infamous hit man." His LCN superiors ordered Fratianno to file a libel suit, which was eventually dismissed. Years later, facing a long jail term, Fratianno became a government witness and admitted under oath that he had been directly involved in five mob murders and had incriminating advance knowledge in four. Fratianno claims his libel suit had been ordered for the obvious purposes of raising the cost of hard-hitting reporting about organized crime and deterring journalists and publishers from doing their duty.) When the courts are misused and lawyers are found

involved in improper activities, especially when those activities involve organized corruption, the public should insist that local bar associations discipline their members; only in this way can public confidence in the integrity of our judicial system be properly maintained.

Ninth -- Americans must stay informed about charges of wrongdoing aimed at public officials. Sometimes innocent officials are subject to irresponsible charges for strictly political reasons; I've heard of incidents at the local level where the mob and their friends in political life will feed this controversy in order to embarrass an official whose integrity has stood in their way in the past. So too, these same forces will unite to downplay legitimate charges of illicit activity against Government officials who have done them favors and really are guilty of wrongdoing. There is only one solution to this dilemma: an alert public that demands high standards of performance from its public officials, weighs charges of wrongdoing carefully and insists on fairness on all sides but also demands such charges be vigorously investigated.

On July 28, 1982, in a Rose Garden ceremony when I appointed 19 Americans from all walks of life to the President's Commission on Organized Crime I quoted what a Federal judge once said about the mob lords.

The judge called them "hardened, sophisticated criminals who thought of themselves as a group above the law, men who placed loyalty to each other above loyalty to their country and its

Page 23

law-abiding citizens." He noted that these men "wear two faces," that they "cloaked themselves in the respectability of charitable or civic organizations, even as they work to prey on innocent people and undermine the very moral foundations of our society."

These words, spoken at the sentencing of defendants who participated in a notorious meeting of crime bosses in Apalachin, New York, in 1957, are as true today as when they were first spoken by Judge Irving Kaufman, the man I asked to head The President's Organized Crime Commission.

America has lived with the problem of organized crime for far too long. I believe that if the American people will now give their full support to the war going on against the mob, we can -- in our children's lifetime and perhaps even in our own -obliterate this evil and its awful cost to our nation. I ask all Americans to help in this cause, a cause worthy of America's past and important to her future. UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

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ATTN: EDITORS -- PUBLISHERS

PRESIDENT'S MOB ARTICLE CITED IN MISTRIAL REQUEST

BY WILLIAM M. REILLY

NEW YORK (UPI) -- ATTORNEYS FOR SEVERAL REPUTED MOBSTERS CLAIM AN ARTICLE BY PRESIDENT REAGAN ON ORGANIZED CRIME HAS DENIED THEIR CLIENTS A FAIR TRIAL, AND ONE OF THE LAWYERS HAS SUGGESTED REAGAN BE FORCED TO TESTIFY ABOUT THE PIECE.

DEFENSE ATTORNEY DAVID BREITBART CITED THE ARTICLE TUESDAY IN REQUESTING A MISTRIAL IN THE CASE OF NINE ALLEGED COLOMBO CRIME FAMILY MEMBERS CHARGED WITH EXTORTION AND RACKETEERING IN THE NEW YORK CONCRETE AND RESTAURANT INDUSTRIES.

ALTHOUGH THE LAWYER'S MOTION FOR A MISTRIAL WAS DENIED, U.S. DISTRICT COURT JUDGE JOHN KEENAN DID AGREE TO DECIDE WHETHER A HEARING SHOULD BE HELD ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE PRINTING OF THE JAN. 12 MAGAZINE PIECE, WHICH APPEARED WHILE SEVERAL ORGANIZED CRIME CASES WERE BEING TRIED IN NEW YORK.

"IT APPEARS THAT THERE WAS AN INTENTIONAL ATTEMPT TO INTERFERE WITH THE FAIR TRIAL OF THESE DEFENDANTS BY THE USE OF THE MEDIA," SAID BREITBART, WHO REPRESENTS GENNARO "GERRY LANG" LANGELLA.

AN ATTORNEY WHOSE PICTURE ACCOMPANIED THE PIECE SUGGESTED REAGAN SHOULD BE ORDERED TO EXPLAIN HOW HE CAME TO WRITE THE ARTICLE, ENTITLED "DECLARING WAR ON ORGANIZED CRIME," IN THE SUNDAY MAGAZINE OF THE NEW YORK TIMES.

"IF WE HAVE TO CALL THE PRESIDENT, LET'S CALL HIM AND ASK HIM WHO ASKED HIM TO WRITE THE ARTICLE," SAID MICHAEL COIRO, WHO REPRESENTS DOMINIC "LITTLE DOM" CATALDO. "WE CAN SERVE A SUBPOENA ON THE PRESIDENT. BRING HIM IN HERE, AND LET HIM TELL US WHAT'S WHAT."

LAST WEEK, KEENAN, ON LEARNING OF THE ARTICLE'S IMPENDING PUBLICATION, WARNED THE JURORS -- WHOSE IDENTITIES HAVE NOT BEEN MADE PUBLIC -- NOT TO READ IT.

BUT BREITBART ARGUED JURORS WOULD EVENTUALLY LEARN OF ITS CONTENTS.

IN THE ARTICLE, REAGAN WRITES, "TO AN UNPRECEDENTED EXTENT THE MOB HAS BEEN MOVING TO INFILTRATE AND CONTROL LEGITIMATE BUSINESSES.

"IN THE NEW YORK AREA ALONE, MEMBERS OF THE FIVE MAJOR MOB FAMILIES HAVE BEEN CONVICTED OR ARE FACING TRIALS NOT JUST FOR LABOR RACKETEERING AND EXTORTION BUT ALSO FOR CRIMINAL INFILTRATION OF SUCH BUSINESSES AS RESTAURANTS, FOOD DISTRIBUTION, ENTERTAINMENT."

(contal)

THE STORY ALSO CARRIED A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE SHEET-COVERED BODY OF PAUL CASTELLANG, THE REPUTED "BOSS OF BOSSES" OF ORGANIZED CRIME, WHO WAS GUNNED DOWN WITH HIS ALLEGED LIEUTENANT THOMAS BILOTTI IN NEW YORK DEC. 16.

BREITBART ARGUED THE ARTICLE WOULD PREJUDICE JURORS AGAINST HIS CLIENT AND HIMSELF.

"IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT THE ARTICLE SEEMS TO ATTRIBUTE A LACK OF AMERICANISM OR AN UN-AMERICAN TRAIT TO LAWYERS WHO WOULD DEFEND PEOPLE ACCUSED OF BEING MEMBERS OF ORGANIZED CRIME ... THE GREATHESS OF OUR NATION ... IS PREDICATED ON THE FACT THAT THIS IS A NATION OF LAWS, AND NOT A NATION OF MEN," THE ATTORNEY SAID.

UPI 01-15-86 01:43 RES

WASHINGTON

January 21, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS

SUBJECT:

Letter to Commission for Social Justice Regarding Organized Crime Article

More fallout from the President's organized crime article, although in this case the objection -- that the President is being unfair to Italian Americans in using terms such as "Cosa Nostra" and "Mafia" -- strikes me as groundless. Buchanan has the action on drafting a response, which we will have an opportunity to review.

CU ID # WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET JR H - INTERNAL Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) LO INT ul Name of Correspondent: Π **MI Mail Report User Codes:** (C)(B) VA ROUTE TO: ACTION DISPOSITION Tracking Туре Completion Action Date of Date Office/Agency YY/MM/DD Code YY/MM/DD (Staff Name) Code Response Ď ORIGINATOR **Referral Note:** 86, U み **Referral Note: Referral Note:** Sec. 1 **Referral Note:** 1.21 1 200 **Referral Note:** 4 6 3 ACTION CODES: **DISPOSITION CODES:** A - Appropriate Action L - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary A - Answered C - Completed C - Comment/Recommendation **R** - Direct Reply w/Copy **B** - Non-Special Referral S - Suspended D - Draft Response S - For Signature F - Furnish Fact Sheet X - Interim Reply to be used as Enclosure FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE: Type of Response = Initials of Signer Code = "A" Completion Date = Date of Outgoing **Comments:** Same and the second Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.

Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB). Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files. Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590. WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 1/17/86 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY:

1/23/86

Document No.

SUBJECT: LETTER TO COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE RE ORGANIZED CRIME ARTICLE

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REMARKS: This letter was sent to Mr. Regan. Please prepare a response from staff to Mr. Parillo, to be submitted to this office for review before being sent.

RESPONSE:

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DONALD REGAN CHIEF OF STAFF WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC 20500

DEAR MR PRESIDENT

WE READ YOUR ARTICLE IN THE NEW YORK TIMES OF JANUARY 12, 1986 WITH GREAT INTEREST

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THE NEW YORK STATE COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE, ORDER SONS OF ITALY IN AMERICA, REPRESENTING THE OLDEST AND LARGEST ASSOCIATION OF AMERICANS OF ITALIAN ANCESTRY IN NEW YORK STATE, APPLAUDS YOUR VIGOROUS EFFORTS TO TOTALLY ERADICATE ORGANIZED CRIME IN THE UNITED STATES REGARDLESS OF THE ETHNICITY OF THE CRIMINALS INVOLVED.

WITH ALL DUE RESPECT HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THE ARTICLE WAS INSENSITIVE AND OFFENSIVE TO ITALIAN AMERICANS. INTENTIONAL OR NOT, THE INAPPROPRIATE USE OF TERMS SUCH AS COSANDSTRA AND MAFIA IN CERTAIN CONTEXTS SUCH AS THE DESCRIPTION OF THE CRIGINS OF ORGANIZED CRIME, LEFT THE UNMISTAKABLE IMPRESSION THAT ORGANIZED CRIME IS PRINCIPLY ITALIAN AMERICAN.

WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF PREPARING A COMMUNICATION WHICH WILL FURTHER CLARIFY CUR OBJECTION TO THE ARTICLE AND WHICH WILL BE RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED TO YOUR OFFICE

WE WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH YOUR APPROPRIATE STAFF MEMBERS TO FURTHER OUTLINE OUR CONCERNS

WE ARE CERTAIN THAT YOU SHARE OUR INTEREST IN ENSURING THAT NO ETHNIC GROUP IS UNFAIRLY STIGMATIZED AS A RESULT OF YOUR LAUDABLE CAMPAIGN TO ERADICATE ORGANIZED CRIME IN THE UNITED STATES

CC: DONALD REGAN EDMUND MEESE

> JOSEPH PARILLO CHAIRMAN COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE 22-10 ROBINWOOD AVE SCHENECTADY NY 12306

19:43 EST

MGMCOMPLY BY MAILGRAM MESSAGE, SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR WESTERN UNION'S TOLL - FREE PHONE NUMBERS

WASHINGTON

February 12, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR DAVID L. CHEW STAFF SECRETARY

75



FROM: JOHN G. ROBERTS ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Letter Re: Organized Crime Article

Counsel's Office has reviewed the draft letter from Mr. Buchanan on the use of the terms "mafia" and "La Cosa Nostra" in the President's organized crime article, and finds no objection to it from a legal perspective. The spelling of Rudy Giuliani's name needs to be corrected in the two places it appears, and "Casa" should be "Cosa."

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

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ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 2/13/86

SUBJECT: LEETER RE ORGANIZED CRIME ARTICLE

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REMARKS: Do you have any objection to the attached response to a letter to the President from the Commission for Social Justice?

RESPONSE:

1000 FE

David L. Chew Staff Secretary

WASHINGTON

February 10, 1986

Dear Mr. Parillo,

75

Thank you for your letter of January 14 and pledge of support for the Administration's efforts against organized crime.

I can assure you the President could not agree with you more that organized crime is a scourge that cuts across all groups and sections of our country; that is why he so emphatically pointed out in the article: "The mafia really is an equal opportunity employer; while it has a restricted inner circle its auxiliaries include criminals of all faiths, races, and nationalities..."

You will be interested to know that our United States Attorney in New York, Rudy Guiliani, himself of Italian-American descent, has argued many times that while it is important to use historical terms like mafia and La Casa Nostra it is equally important to understand the mob knows no regional or ethnic boundaries. Indeed, Mr. Guiliani said recently that the use of these terms actually helps prevent prejudice.

Again, many thanks for your letter and words of support for our efforts to eradicate the social evil of organized crime.

Best Regards,

Patrick J. Buchanan Director of Communications

DRAFT

Mr. Joseph Parillo Chairman Commission For Social Justice 22-10 Robinwood Ave. Schenectady, N.Y. 12306 N ROMAND 3075 TIMOTHY RD BELLMORE NY 11710 14PM



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CC: DONALD REGAN -Edmund Meese

> JOSEPH PARILLO CHAIRMAN COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE 22-10 ROBINWOOD AVE SCHENECTADY NY 12306

19:43 EST