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ACTION EUR-01

INFO	LOG-00	AID-01	A-01	CA-02	CCO-00	CIAE-00	CTME-00
	C-01	OASY-00	DODE-00	DS-00	ED-02	FBO-01	HA-09
	HHS-06	H-01	IMMC-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	LAB-04	L-03
	ADS-00	M-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OCS-06	OMB-01	OPR-01
	PA-02	PM-02	PRS-01	P-01	SCT-03	SIL-00	SNP-00
	SP-00	SR-00	SS-00	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	USSS-00
	ASDS-01	CORE-00	/051W				

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O 121206Z NOV 93
 FM AMEMBASSY ROME
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9332
 INFO DEPT JUSTICE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
 AMCONSUL FLORENCE
 AMCONSUL MILAN
 AMEMBASSY VIENNA
 ALLEC COLLECTIVE
 AMEMBASSY LJUBLJANA
 AMCONSUL NAPLES
 AMEMBASSY BERN
 AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

RELEASED IN FULL

UNCLAS ROME 019506

E.O. 12356: N/A
 TAGS: SOCI, PGOV, IT
 SUBJECT: COSA NOSTRA CULPRITS FOR FALCONE MURDER NAMED

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 1. ON NOVEMBER 11 THE CALTANISSETTA JUDICIARY ISSUED
 ARREST WARRANTS AGAINST EIGHTEEN MEMBERS OF COSA
 NOSTRA WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE MAY 1992 FATAL ATTACK
 ON ANTI-MAFIA JUDGE GIOVANNI FALCONE, HIS WIFE, AND
 THE POLICE ESCORT. INVESTIGATORS OF THE ANTI-MAFIA
 POLICE DEPARTMENT (DIA) WERE GIVEN A BOOST IN THEIR
 INVESTIGATION BY REVELATIONS OF COSA NOSTRA MEMBER
 SANTO MARIO (SANTINO) DI MATTEO, WHO WAS RECENTLY
 ARRESTED AND WHO ADMITTED TO HAVING TAKEN PART IN THE
 ATTACK, ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS.

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2. INVESTIGATORS REPORTEDLY FOUND ~~UNCLASSIFIED~~ INVOLVEMENT IN THE ATTACK AND HAVE DETERMINED THAT COSA NOSTRA ACTED ALONE. LEOLUCA BAGARELLA, BROTHER-IN-LAW OF COSA NOSTRA "CZAR" TOTO' RIINA, LED THE GROUP THAT ORGANIZED THE ASSASSINATION. GIOVANNI BRUSCA, SON OF COSA NOSTRA "BOSS" BERNARDO BRUSCA ACTIVATED THE BOMB PLACED UNDER THE HIGHWAY ON WHICH FALCONE'S MOTORCADE PASSED. THE EXPLOSIVE WAS REPORTEDLY PREPARED BY ONE OF COSA NOSTRA'S "GREATEST EXPLOSIVE EXPERTS," PIETRO RAMPULLA, ACCORDING TO A MAFIA INFORMANT. ANOTHER MAFIOSO, RAFFAELE GANCI, USED HIS CELLULAR PHONE TO ALERT A COSA NOSTRA SIX-MAN COMMANDO TEAM WAITING FOR FALCONE ABOVE THE HIGHWAY NEAR THE TOWN OF CAPACI. GANCI REPORTEDLY FOLLOWED THE HEAD OF FALCONE'S PALERMO POLICE ESCORT, ANTONIO MONTINARO, AS THE LATTER LEFT POLICE HEADQUARTERS TO PICK UP FALCONE AT THE AIRPORT.

3. TEN OF THE EIGHTEEN PERSONS FOR WHOM ARREST WARRANTS WERE ISSUED WERE ALREADY IN JAIL. FOUR
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PERSONS WERE TAKEN INTO CUSTODY AND ONE ESCAPED ARREST ON NOVEMBER 11. ONE OF THOSE ARRESTED WAS SALVATORE SBEGLIA, A MAJOR BUILDER IN SICILY WHO DID RENOVATION WORK FOR THE PALERMO CATHEDRAL. REPORTEDLY, HE LIVED NEXT DOOR TO THE LAST SAFEHOUSE RIINA USED BEFORE HIS CAPTURE IN JANUARY 1993. OTHER THAN BAGARELLA, THE IDENTITIES OF THOSE IN HIDING OR PREVIOUSLY UNDER ARREST HAVE NOT YET BEEN MADE PUBLIC (SEE PARAGRAPH 4 BELOW). FOLLOWING ARE THE NAMES OF THE EIGHTEEN PERSONS, IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER, FOR WHOM, ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, AN ARREST WARRANT WAS ISSUED:

GIUSEPPE AGRIGENTO
LEOLUCA BAGARELLA (RIINA'S BROTHER-IN-LAW; IN HIDING)
GIOVANNI BATTAGLIA
SALVATORE BIONDINO (RIINA'S DRIVER)
SALVATORE (TOTO') CANCEMI (A COSA NOSTRA "BOSS"
ALREADY UNDER ARREST)
GIOVANNI BRUSCA (ACTIVATED THE BOMB)
VINCENZO D'AGOSTINO
MARIO SANTO (SANTINO) DI MATTEO (ALREADY UNDER ARREST)
GIOVANBATTISTA FERRANTE
CALOGERO GANCI (ARRESTED)
DOMENICO GANCI (ARRESTED)

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RAFFAELE GANCI (ALREADY UNDER ARREST)
GIOACCHINO (GINO) LA BARBERA
PIETRO RAMPULLA (EXPLOSIVE EXPERT)
SALVATORE (TOTO') RIINA
ANTONINO TROIA
SALVATORE SBEGLIA (MAJOR SICILIAN BUILDER; ARRESTED)
GIUSTO SCIARABBA (ARRESTED).

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4. CALTANISSETTA PUBLIC PROSECUTOR GIOVANNI TINEBRA IS SCHEDULED TO HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE IN CALTANISSETTA, SICILY, THE AFTERNOON OF NOVEMBER 12 TO GIVE DETAILS OF THE POLICE AND JUDICIAL OPERATION. CORRECTING THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN PRESS REPORTS, HE TOLD THE ITALIAN NEWS AGENCY ANSA THE MORNING OF NOVEMBER 11 THAT A NEW ARREST WARRANT HAD NOT BEEN ISSUED FOR TOTO' RIINA. EMBASSY SENIOR COUNSEL FOR INTERNATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT MICHAEL DE FEO AND EMBASSY LEGAL ATTACHE WALTER MANGIACOTTI WILL ATTEND THE PRESS CONFERENCE TO SHOW U.S. SUPPORT FOR THE INVESTIGATIONS.

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