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A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THE BOOK OF MORMON
SECRET COMBINATIONS AND THE
AMERICAN MAFIA ORGANIZATION

A Thesis

42

Presented to the
Department of Church History and Doctrine
Brigham Young University

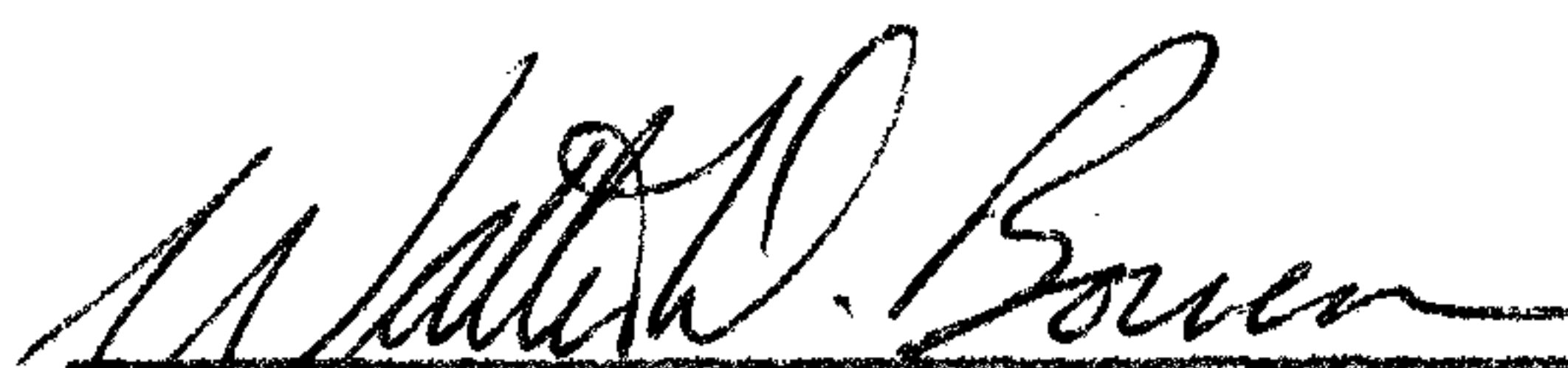
In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Master of Religious Education

by

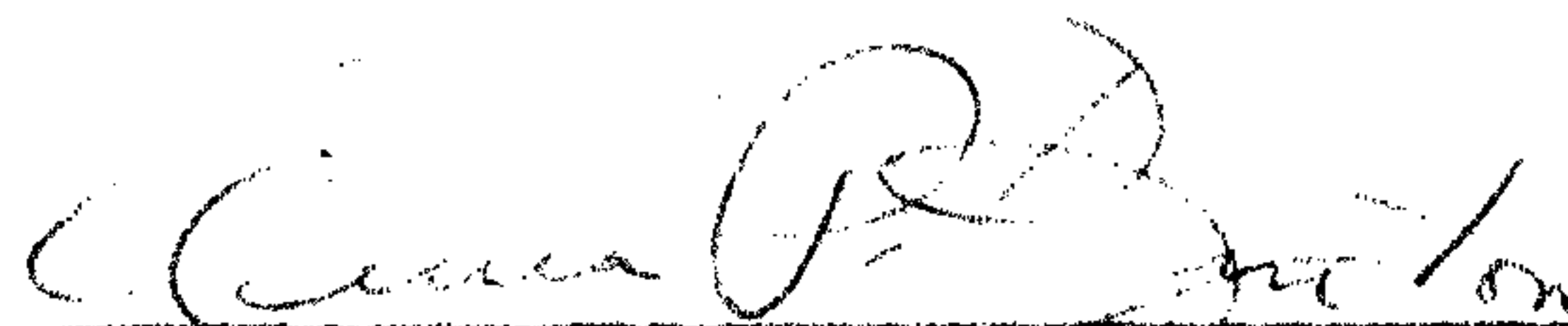
Ray G. Morley

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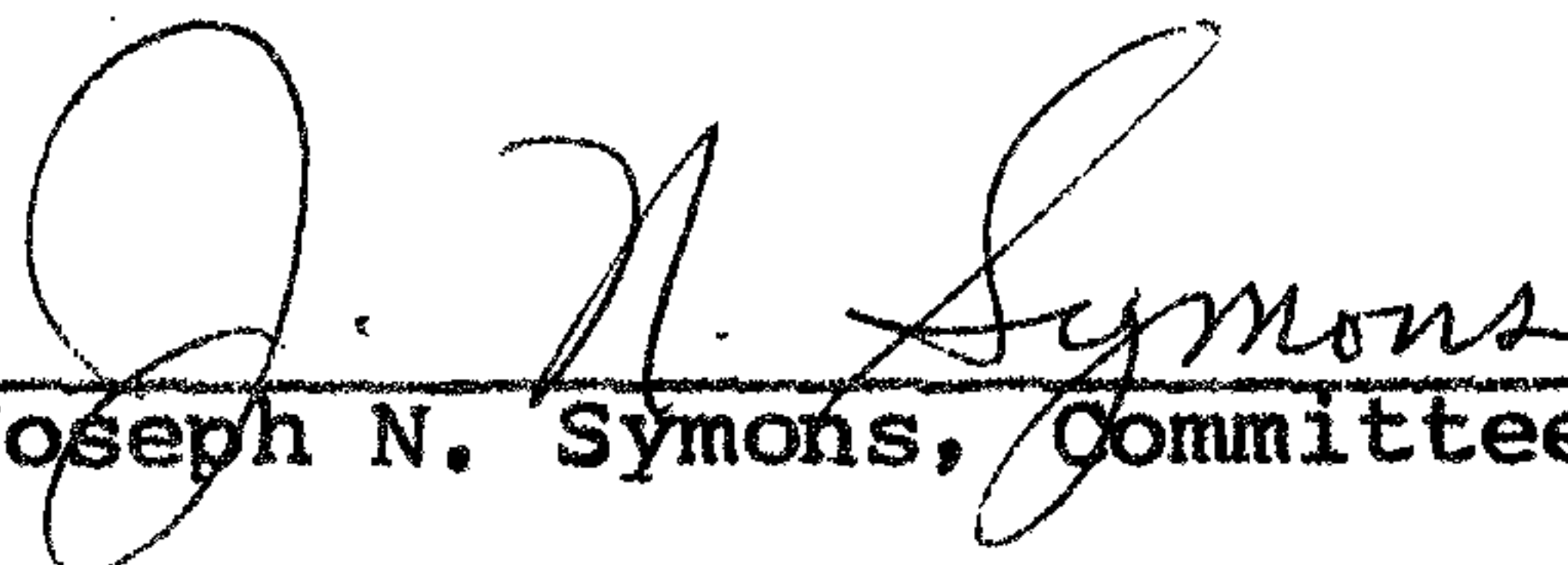
This thesis, by Ray G. Morley, is accepted in its present form by the Department of Church History and Doctrine in the College of Religious Instruction of Brigham Young University as satisfying the thesis requirement for the degree of Master of Religious Education.



Walter D. Bowen, Committee Chairman



Alma P. Burton, Committee Member



Joseph N. Symons, Committee Member

4-14-72

Date



Lamar C. Berrett, Department Chairman

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

It is the common fate of the indolent, to see their rights made a prey by the active. The condition upon which God has given liberty to man is eternal vigilance; which condition if he break, servitude is at once the consequence of his crime, and the punishment of his guilt.

(John Philpot Curran, 1790, quoted in The Freeman, June, 1963, p. 66)

The author expresses appreciation to all who have made this study possible. It was hoped that, once completed, it would help others who love the Lord and cherish their American heritage to be motivated to become actively concerned about the serious threats presented to the nation by secret combinations.

Special acknowledgments are expressed to Dr. Walter D. Bowen, Dr. Alma Burton, Dr. Joseph Symons, and Dr. Richard L. Anderson for their excellent help as members of the author's Graduate Committee.

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Heartfelt appreciation is expressed to a loving wife Sandy, and our ten precious children for their patience and support.

A special debt of gratitude is expressed to a loving Father in Heaven who has so miraculously given the world the sacred record of the past "American" civilizations to guide and direct us in our actions here in this "land which is choice above all other lands . . ." May the inhabitants of the land avoid the mistake of those who have gone before by heeding the ominous warnings of a loving Father who said;

And this cometh unto you, O ye Gentiles, that ye may know the decrees of God--that ye may repent, and not in your iniquities until the fulness come, that ye may not bring down the fullness of the wrath of God upon you as the inhabitants of the land have hitherto done.

Behold this is a choice land, and whatsoever nation shall possess it shall be free from bondage, and from captivity, and from all other nations under heaven, if they will but serve the God of the land, who is Jesus Christ, who hath been manifested by the things which we have written. (Ether 2:11-12)

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INTRODUCTION

The history of America has always held a particular fascination for the Latter-day Saints, a fascination born of a great heritage and pride in this ". . . land choice above all other lands . . ." ¹ This interest in America is heightened when one first reads the Book of Mormon ² and learns of her tragic history. The Lord has decreed:

Behold, this is a choice land, and whatsoever nation shall possess it shall be free from bondage, and from captivity, and from all other nations under heaven, if they will but serve the God of the land, who is Jesus Christ, who hath been manifested by the things which we have written. ³

The Book of Moses and the Book of Mormon recount the tragic experiences of three ancient civilizations who were

¹Book of Mormon, Ether 2:7.

²The Book of Mormon and Pearl of Great Price are considered to be divinely inspired books by the membership of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

The Book of Mormon is an account of God's dealings with the ancient inhabitants of the American continent. This book contains a brief history of two distinct peoples, namely: the Jaredite civilization (2200 B.C. to 600 A.D.) and the Nephite-Lamanite civilization (600 B.C. to 421 A.D.).

The Pearl of Great Price is a second volume of Latter-day Saint scripture consisting of: (1) The Book of Moses-- a brief account of Father Adam and his posterity (Adamic civilization) as they dwelt here on this continent. The Adamic civilization represents the earliest civilization to live upon this continent and serves a very significant purpose in this study. (2) The Book of Abraham. (3) The Writings of Joseph Smith, and (4) the Articles of Faith are also included in this volume of scripture but have no direct relationship to this study.

³Book of Mormon, Ether 2:12.

privileged to live in this choice land. Each civilization in turn forgot God and utterly refused to serve Him. Each in turn was destroyed from off the face of this land. The purpose of this study was to trace the underlying causes of their disobedience and their consequent destruction.

In June of 1838 Abraham Lincoln asked and answered a very pertinent question for each American to consider.

He said:

At what point then is the approach of danger to be expected? If it ever reaches us, it must spring up amongst us. It cannot come from abroad. If destruction be our lot, we must ourselves be its author and finisher. As a nation of freemen we must live throughout all time, or die by suicide.⁴

Our present day American civilization represents the fourth major known civilization to have inhabited this continent. Inhabitants of this choice land today are bound by the same decree as each of the previous "American" civilizations and are expected to "serve the God of the land, who is Jesus Christ" or . . . "be swept off when the fullness of this wrath should come upon them [us]."⁵

This study explores one very real possibility of national suicide and attempts to point out lessons--very costly lessons--learned by earlier western civilizations and preserved for us in the Book of Mormon. This uniquely

⁴Lincoln, in an address on the "Perpetuation of Our Political Institution," as quoted in I Am an American, comp. and ed., Frances Cavanah and Lloyd E. Smith (Racine, Wisconsin: Whitman Publishing Co.), p. 78.

⁵Book of Mormon, Ether 2:8.

"American" volume of scripture traces the history of secret combinations through 4,000 years of history and concludes by saying:

For the Lord worketh not in secret combinations, neither doth he will that man should shed blood, but in all things hath forbidden it, from the beginning of man. And whatsoever nation shall uphold such secret combinations to get power and gain, until they shall spread over the nation, behold they shall be destroyed.⁶

Secret societies exist in America today. It is an amazing thing that more has not been done by the membership of the Church in examining the possible dangers presented by such organizations.

This study presents an attempt to examine the origin, structure and purpose of the American Mafia Organization (Cosa Nostra) in light of Book of Mormon secret combination references. The evidence gathered seems to establish the fact that the American Mafia organization and some of the Book of Mormon secret combinations were one and the same and hence pose a serious threat to the national welfare.

For the general purpose of this study, the following definitions will be used.

Secret. Something whose existence is not known. A thing that is kept separate or hidden from view, or from all persons except the individuals concerned.

Secret combination. A secret alliance of persons or parties to further a common interest or activity.

Secret society. A society of persons who use secret signs, oaths, rites, and symbols.

Mafia. A secret combination that had its origin on the Island of Sicily during the seventeenth century. Other names which are sometimes used to designate this same combination are: Cosa Nostra, Syndicate, Mob, and Rackets.

American Mafia. Has reference to that portion of the old Sicilian Mafia that was brought to America near the end of the nineteenth century. Under the direction of a few ingenious underworld leaders it was developed into the nationwide secret society known today as the Cosa Nostra.

CHAPTER I

BOOK OF MORMON SECRET COMBINATIONS

AN OVERVIEW

Latter-day books of scripture give accounts of the rise and fall of former civilizations in the Americas. In an attempt to answer three questions that bear significantly on this study, one needs to quote liberally from Latter-day Saint available scriptural records.

Some questions of significance are these:

1. What is the structure and purpose of a secret combination?
2. Which of the American civilizations had secret combinations?
3. What effect, if any, did these secret combinations have upon the civilizations in which they were found?

THE ADAMIC CIVILIZATION

Moses, in referring to Father Adam, records the earliest known record of any secret combination. About our first parents Moses wrote:

And Adam and Eve, his wife, called upon the name of the Lord, and they heard the voice of the Lord from the way toward the Garden of Eden, speaking unto them, and they saw him not; for they were shut out from his presence.

And he gave unto them commandments, that they should worship the Lord their God, and should offer the

firstlings of their flocks for an offering unto the Lord. And Adam was obedient unto the commandments of the Lord.¹

And Adam and Eve blessed the name of God, and they made all things known unto their sons and their daughters.

And Satan came among them, saying: I am also a son of God; and he commanded them, saying: Believe it not; and they believed it not, and they loved Satan more than God. And men began from that time forth to be carnal, sensual, and devilish.

And the Lord God called upon men by the Holy Ghost everywhere and commanded them that they should repent;

And as many as believed in the Son, and repented of their sins, should be saved; and as many as believed not and repented not, should be damned; and the words went forth out of the mouth of God in a firm decree; wherefore they must be fulfilled.

And Adam and Eve, his wife, ceased not to call upon God. And Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bare Cain, and said: I have gotten a man from the Lord; wherefore he may not reject his words. But behold, Cain hearkened not, saying; Who is the Lord that I should know him?

And she again conceived and bare his brother Abel. And Abel harkened unto the voice of the Lord. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.

And Cain loved Satan more than God. And Satan commanded him saying: Make an offering unto the Lord.

And in process of time it came to pass that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the Lord.

And Abel he also brought of the firstlings of his flock, and of the fat thereof. And the Lord had respect unto Abel, and to his offering;

But unto Cain, and to his offering, he had not respect. Now Satan knew this, and it pleased him. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.

And the Lord said unto Cain: Why art thou wroth? Why is thy countenance fallen?

If thou doest well, thou shalt be accepted. And if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door, and Satan desireth to have thee; and except thou shalt hearken unto my commandments, I will deliver thee up, and it shall be unto thee according to his desire. And thou shalt rule over him.²

¹Pearl of Great Price, Book of Moses 5:4-5.

²Moses 5:12-23.

The Lord then outlined for Cain the consequence of his present course of action; Cain's response to the Lord's counsel is recorded as follows:

And Cain was wroth, and listened not any more to the voice of the Lord, neither to Abel, his brother, who walked in holiness before the Lord.

And it came to pass that Cain took one of his brothers' daughters to wife, and they loved Satan more than God.³

The conditions appear to be right for Satan to use Cain as an effective instrument in his diabolical work.

And Satan said unto Cain: Swear unto me by thy throat, and if thou tell it thou shalt die; and swear thy brethren by their heads, and by the living God, that they tell it not; for if they tell it, they shall surely die; and this that thy father may not know it; and this day I will deliver thy brother Abel into thine hands.

And Satan swore unto Cain that he would do according to his commands. And all these things were done in secret.⁴

Cain's acceptance of the proposal is evident from the following verse:

And Cain said: Truly I am Mahan, the master of this great secret, that I may murder and get gain. Wherefore Cain was called Master Mahan, and he gloried in his wickedness.⁵

From the foregoing account one gets a scriptural or theological answer to the first question posed, namely:

(1) A secret combination is a secret covenant or agreement between at least two persons for the express purpose of obtaining material gain through unrighteous means.

³ Moses 5:26, 28.

⁴ Moses 5:29-30.

⁵ Moses 5:31.

The Prophet Moses continued his record as follows:

And Cain went into the field, and Cain talked with Abel, his brother. And it came to pass that while they were in the field, Cain rose up against Abel, his brother, and slew him.

And Cain gloried in that which he had done saying: I am free; surely the flocks of my brother falleth into my hands.⁶

Cain, having rejected the greater knowledge from God, and having killed his brother Abel was now in a position to receive the consequences of his misdeeds as previously outlined by the Lord.

And Cain was shut out from the presence of the Lord, and with his wife and many of his brethren dwelt in the land of Nod, on the east of Eden.⁷

Thus Cain and his associates having sworn themselves to secrecy initiated a secret plan and put into effect among the children of Adam. Cain's wickedness constituted the first murder among the Sons of Adam.

Further light is shed on the effect of this secret combination on the Adamic civilization by reading from the Book of Moses, chapter five:

And Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bare Enoch, and he also begat many sons and daughters. And he builded a city, and he called the name of the city after the name of his son, Enoch.

And unto Enoch was born Irad, and other sons and daughters. And Irad begat Mehujael, and other sons and daughters. And Mehujael begat Methusael, and other sons and daughters. And Methusael begat Lamech.

⁶Moses 5:32-33.

⁷Moses 5:41.

And Lamech took unto himself two wives; the name of one being Adah, and the name of the other Zillah.

And Lamech said unto his wives, Adah and Zillah: Hear my voice, ye wives of Lamech, hearken unto my speech; for I have slain a man to my wounding, and a young man to my hurt.

If Cain shall be avenged sevenfold, truly Lamech shall be seventy and seven fold.

For Lamech having entered into a covenant with Satan, after the manner of Cain, wherein he became Master Mahan, master of that great secret which was administered unto Cain by Satan; and Irad, the son of Enoch, having known their secret, began to reveal it unto the sons of Adam;

Wherefore Lamech, being angry, slew him, not like unto Cain, his brother Abel, for the sake of getting gain, but he slew him for the oath's sake.

For, from the days of Cain, there was a secret combination, and their works were in the dark, and they knew every man his brother.⁸

It becomes evident from the preceding passages that not only were murders committed for the purpose of getting gain but it also became expedient, as in the case of Irad and Lamech, to destroy human life to insure the secrecy of the covenant.

Wherefore the Lord cursed Lamech, and his house, and all them that had covenanted with Satan; for they kept not the commandments of God, and it displeases God, and he ministered not unto them, and their works were abominations, and began to spread among all the sons of men.

And it was among the sons of men,* and among the daughters of men these things were not spoken, because that Lamech had spoken the secret unto his wives, and they rebelled against him, and declared these things abroad, and had not compassion;

Wherefore Lamech was despised, and cast out, and came not among the sons of men, lest he should die.

And thus the works of darkness began to prevail among all the sons of men.

And God cursed the earth with a sore curse, and was angry with the wicked, with all the sons of men whom he had made.⁹

⁸Moses 5:43, 44, 47, and 51.

⁹Moses 5:52-56.

*Sons of men (members of the combination) as distinguished from Sons of God (disciples of Christ).

And the children of men were numerous upon all the face of the land. And in those days Satan had great domination among men, and raged in their hearts; and from thenceforth came wars and bloodshed; and a man's hand was against his own brother, in administering death, because of secret works, seeking for power.¹⁰

Then sometime during the sixth generation of Adam's posterity, the Lord called Enoch, a son of God, to preach repentance to all men everywhere. He summarized the spiritual condition of the children of men in these words:

And for these many generations, ever since the day that I created them, have they gone astray, and have denied me, and have sought their own counsels in the dark; and in their own abominations have they devised murder, and have not kept the commandments, which I gave unto their father, Adam.

Wherefore, they have foresworn themselves, and, by their oaths, they have brought upon themselves death; and a hell I have prepared for them, if they repent not.¹¹

Enoch, a worker of righteousness, was instrumental in affecting the translation of the City of Holiness and in vision he saw the fate of the residue of the people who populated the earth at that time.

And Enoch also beheld the residue of the people which were the sons of Adam; and they were a mixture of all the seed of Adam save it was the seed of Cain, for the seed of Cain were black, and had not place among them.

And after that Zion was taken up into heaven, Enoch beheld, and lo, all the nations of the earth were before him;

And there came generation upon generation; and Enoch was high and lifted up, even in the bosom of the Father, and of the Son of Man; and behold, the power of Satan was upon all the face of the earth.

And he saw angels descending out of heaven; and he heard a loud voice saying; Wo, wo be unto the inhabitants of the earth.

And he beheld Satan; and he had a great chain in his hand, and it veiled the whole face of the earth with

¹⁰Moses 6:15.

¹¹Moses 6:28-29.

darkness; and he looked up and laughed, and his angels rejoiced.

And Enoch beheld angels descending out of heaven, bearing testimony of the Father and Son; and the Holy Ghost fell on many, and they were caught up by the powers of heaven into Zion.

And it came to pass that the God of heaven looked upon the residue of the people, and he wept, and Enoch bore record of it saying: How is it that the heavens weep, and shed forth their tears as the rain upon the mountains?¹²

The Lord said unto Enoch: Behold these thy brethren; they are the workmanship of mine own hands, and I gave unto them their knowledge, in the day I created them; and in the Garden of Eden, gave I unto man his agency;

And unto thy brethren have I said, and also given commandment, that they should love one another, and that they should choose me, their Father; but behold, they are without affection, and they hate their own blood;

And the fire of mine indignation is kindled against them; and in my hot displeasure will I send in the floods upon them, and my fierce anger is kindled against them.¹³

. . . and among all the workmanship of mine hands there has not been so great wickedness as among thy brethren.

But behold, their sins shall be upon the heads of their fathers; Satan shall be their father, and misery shall be their doom;¹⁴

But behold, these which thine eyes are upon shall perish in the floods; and behold, I will shut them up; a prison have I prepared for them.¹⁵

And Enoch also saw Noah, and his family; that the posterity of all the sons of Noah should be saved with a temporal salvation;

Wherefore Enoch saw that Noah built an ark; and that the Lord smiled upon it, and held it in his own hand; but upon the residue of the wicked the floods came and swallowed them up.¹⁶

¹²Moses 7:22-28.

¹³Moses 7:32-34.

¹⁴Moses 7:36-37.

¹⁵Moses 7:38.

¹⁶Moses 7:42-43.

Thus in vision Enoch saw the flood and knew of the impending destruction. By the time of Noah's ministry it appeared that the influence of this secret combination upon the children of Adam was not only universal but was THE way of life for all of the sons of men. This is clearly implied in the following reference.

And the Lord said unto Noah: My Spirit shall not always strive with man, for he shall know that all flesh shall die; yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years; and if men do not repent, I will send in the floods upon them.

And in those days there were giants on the earth,* and they sought Noah to take away his life; but the Lord was with Noah, and the power of the Lord was upon him.

And the Lord ordained Noah after his own order; and commanded him that he should go forth and declare his Gospel unto the children of men, even as it was given unto Enoch.

And it came to pass that Noah called upon the children of men that they should repent; but they hearkened not unto his words.¹⁷

And God saw that the wickedness of men had become great in the earth; and every man was lifted up in the imagination of the thoughts of his heart, being only evil continually.¹⁸

The earth was corrupt before God, and it was filled with violence.

And God looked upon the earth, and behold, it was corrupt, for all flesh had corrupted its way upon the earth.

And God said unto Noah: The end of all flesh is come before me, for the earth is filled with violence, and behold I will destroy all flesh from off the earth.¹⁹

17

Moses 8:17-20.

18

Moses 8:22.

19

Moses 8:28-30.

*The Hebrew word for giants used in Genesis as it is used here implies that those referred to were not especially of great stature, but instead were ferocious, impious, and daring characters who delighted in carnage and devastation wherever they were to be found. Reynolds and Sjodahl, Commentary on the Pearl of Great Price (Salt Lake City: Deseret Book Publishing Co., 1969), p. 207.

We know from sacred records that the flood became a reality ". . . and Noah only remained alive, and they that were with them in the ark." (Gen. 7:23). The evidence seemed to support the idea that the works of darkness continued to spread their evil influence among the posterity of Adam, until God sent the flood to cleanse the earth of this wickedness.

Thus we see, in answer to our second and third questions, that a secret combination exerted a major influence, if not THE major influence, in the destruction of the antediluvian civilization.

THE JARED CIVILIZATION

More than one hundred years following the destruction of the Adamic Civilization by the flood and some time after the separation of the continents in the days of Peleg,²⁰ a small company of people were led by the hand of the Lord back to the "Promised Land." According to the scriptural account they came from the Tower of Babel at about the year 2200 B.C. They were led by Jared and his brother, who were holy men inspired of God. They were driven for 344 days upon the ocean before landing upon the shores of the Promised Land. They established the beginning of a great civilization in the Promised Land. In fact, so great was this civilization to be that the Savior said of it . . . "and there shall be none

²⁰Gen. 10:25; D&C 133:23-24.

greater than the nation which I will raise up unto me of thy seed²¹

In the fourth generation following their arrival on the American continent King Omer, a descendent of Jared, had his kingdom usurped from him by his son, Jared. In time Jared's brothers rebelled against him, overthrew the kingdom, and restored their father Omer to his rightful office as king.

Then from Ether, chapter eight, we read:

And now Jared became exceeding sorrowful because of the loss of kingdom for he had set his heart upon the kingdom and upon the glory of the world.

Now the daughter of Jared being exceeding expert, and seeing the sorrows of her father, thought to devise a plan whereby she could redeem the kingdom unto her father.

Now the daughter of Jared was exceeding fair. And it came to pass that she did talk with her father, and said unto him: Whereby hath my father so much sorrow? Hath he not read the record which our fathers brought across the great deep? Behold, is there not an account concerning them of old, that they by their secret plans did obtain kingdoms and great glory?

And now, therefore, let my father send for Akish, the son of Kimmor; and behold, I am fair, and I will dance before him, and I will please him, that he will desire me to wife; wherefore if he shall desire of thee that ye shall give unto him me to wife, then shall ye say: I will give her if ye will bring unto me the head of my father, the king.

And now Omer was friend to Akish; wherefore, when Jared had sent for Akish, the daughter of Jared danced before him that she pleased him, insomuch that he desired her to wife. And it came to pass that he said unto Jared: Give her unto me to wife.

And Jared said unto him: I will give her unto you, if ye will bring unto me the head of my father, the king.²²

²¹Ether 1:43.

²²Ether 8:7-12.

Akish appears willing to enter into an agreement with Jared only after protecting himself by establishing a secret covenant after the order established by Cain.

And it came to pass that Akish gathered in unto the house of Jared all his kinsfolk, and said unto them: Will ye swear unto me that ye will be faithful unto me in the thing which I shall desire of you?

And it came to pass that they all sware unto him, by the God of heaven, and also by the heavens, and also by the earth, and by their heads, that whoso should vary from the assistance which Akish desired should lose his head; and whoso should divulge whatsoever thing Akish made known unto them, the same should lose his life.

And it came to pass that thus they did agree with Akish. And Akish did administer unto them the oaths which were given by them of old who also sought power, which had been handed down even from Cain, who was a murderer from the beginning.

And they were kept up by the power of the devil to administer these oaths unto the people, to keep them in darkness, to help such as sought power to gain power, and to murder, and to plunder, and to lie, and to commit all manner of wickedness and whoredoms.

And it was the daughter of Jared who put it into his heart to search up these things of old; and Jared put it into the heart of Akish; wherefore, Akish administered it unto his kindred and friends, leading them away by fair promises to do whatsoever thing he desired.

* And it came to pass that they formed a secret combination, even as they of old; which combination is most abominable and wicked above all, in the sight of God;

* For the Lord worketh not in secret combinations, neither doth he will that man should shed blood, but in all things hath forbidden it, from the beginning of man. ²³

King Omer, having been warned in a dream, flees from the hand of Akish and Jared is anointed king.

. . . Behold it came to pass that because of the secret combinations of Akish and his friends, behold, they did overthrow the kingdom of Omer.

Nevertheless, the Lord was merciful unto Omer, and also his sons and to his daughters who did not seek his destruction.

²³ Ether 8:13-16, 18, 19.

And the Lord warned Omer in a dream that he should depart out of the land; wherefore Omer departed out of the land with his family.

And it came to pass that Jared was anointed king over the people, by the hand of wickedness; and he gave unto Akish his daughter to wife.

And it came to pass that Akish sought the life of his father-in-law; and he applied unto those whom he had sworn by the oath of ancients, and they obtained the head of his father-in-law, as he sat upon his throne giving audience to his people.

For so great had been the spreading of this wicked and secret society that it had corrupted the hearts of all the people; therefore Jared was murdered upon his throne, and Akish reigned in his stead.²⁴

And there began to be a war between the sons of Akish and Akish, which lasted for the space of many years, yea, unto the destruction of nearly all the people of the kingdom, yea, even all, save it were thirty souls, and they who fled with the house of Omer.²⁵

Following this devastating civil war, the Jaredites enjoyed four generations of peace and prosperity. Then during the reign of King Com, we read:

And the people had spread again over all the face of the land, and there began again to be an exceeding great wickedness upon the face of the land, and Heth began to embrace the secret plans again of old, to destroy his father.

And it came to pass that he did dethrone his father, for he slew him with his own sword; and he did reign in his stead.

And there came prophets in the land again, crying repentance unto them--that they must prepare the way of the Lord or there should come a curse upon the face of the land; yea, even there should be a great famine, in which they should be destroyed if they did not repent.²⁶

The people refused to heed the counsel of the prophets and a great famine came upon them. Poisonous serpents came among the inhabitants. Their herds of cattle fled into the land southward because of the dangerous reptiles. A famine soon followed forcing the inhabitants of

²⁴ Ether 9:1-6.

²⁵ Ether 9:12.

²⁶ Ether 9:26-28.

the land to humble themselves and repent of their wickedness. With sincere repentance came an end of the famine.

A long period of fourteen generations followed the famine in which no mention is made of the secret combination. Then in the days of Com, another Jaredite leader, we read:

And in the days of Com there began to be robbers in the land, and they adopted the old plans, and administered oaths after the manner of the ancients, and sought again to destroy the kingdom.

Now Com did fight against them much; nevertheless, he did not prevail against them.

And there came also in the days of Com many prophets, and prophesied of the destruction of that great people except they should repent, and turn unto the Lord, and forsake their murders and wickedness.²⁷

Then in the next generation we read of the fulfillment of this prophesy.

And they hearkened not unto the voice of the Lord, because of their wicked combinations; wherefore, there began to be wars and contentions in all the land, and also many famines and pestilences, insomuch that there was a great destruction, such a one as never had been known upon the face of the earth; and all this came to pass in the days of Shiblom.

And the people began to repent of their iniquity; and inasmuch as they did the Lord did have mercy on them.²⁸

Four more generations pass away and we read:

And it came to pass that there arose a rebellion among the people, because of that secret combination which was built up to get power and gain; and there arose a mighty man among them in iniquity, and gave battle unto Moron, in which he did overthrow the half of the kingdom; and he did maintain the half of the kingdom for many years.²⁹

And again in the next generation:

And in the days of Coriantor there also came many prophets, and prophesied of great and marvelous things,

²⁷ Ether 10:33-34; 11:1.

²⁸ Ether 11:7-8.

²⁹ Ether 11:15.

and cried repentance unto the people, and except they should repent the Lord God would execute judgment against them to their utter destruction;

And that the Lord God would send or bring forth another people to possess the land, by his power, after the manner by which he brought their fathers.

And they did reject all the words of the prophets, because of their secret society and wicked abominations.

And it came to pass that Coriantumr Begat Ether, and he died, having dwelt in captivity all his days.³⁰

Now this Ether, the last great Jaredite prophet, was raised up to cry repentance to his people. Ether lived in the days of Coriantumr, who like Moroni of a later civilization, lived in the cavity of a rock and witnessed the extermination of his people. Ether recorded the happenings among his people on twenty-four gold plates. This record later came forth unto the Nephite Prophets and was abridged by Moroni and included with the plates of Nephi.*

We read in the thirteenth chapter of Ether of this great prophet:

. . . but great and marvelous were the prophecies of Ether; but they esteemed him as naught, and cast him out; and he hid himself in the cavity of a rock by day, and by night he went forth viewing the things which should come upon the people.

And as he dwelt in the cavity of a rock he made the remainder of this record, viewing the destructions which came upon the people, by night.

And it came to pass that in that same year in which he was cast out from among the people there began to be a great war among the people, for there were many who rose up, who were mighty men, and sought to destroy Coriantumr by their secret plans of wickedness, of which hath been spoken.

And now Coriantumr, having studied, himself, in all the arts of war and all the cunning of the world, wherefore he gave battle unto them who sought to destroy him.

But he repented not, neither his fair sons nor

³⁰ Ether 11:20-23.

*Book of Ether and the sealed portion of the 24 Gold Plates.

daughters upon the face of the whole earth who repented of their sins.

Wherefore, it came to pass that in the first year that Ether dwelt in the cavity of a rock, there were many people who were slain by the sword of those secret combinations, fighting against Coriantumr that they might obtain the kingdom.

And it came to pass that the sons of Coriantumr fought much and bled much.

And in the second year the word of the Lord came to Ether, that he should go and prophesy unto Coriantumr that, if he would repent, and all his household, the Lord would give unto him his kingdom and spare the people--

Otherwise they should be destroyed, and all his household save it were himself. And he should only live to see the fulfilling of the prophecies which had been spoken concerning another people receiving the land for their inheritance; and Coriantumr should receive a burial by them; and every soul should be destroyed save it were Coriantumr.

And it came to pass that Coriantumr repented not, neither his household, neither the people; and the wars ceased not; and they sought to kill Ether, but he fled from before them and hid again in the cavity of the rock.³¹

Coriantumr gathered his forces and fought with the army of Shiz. The battle raged until all his countrymen, except Ether and himself had been destroyed by the sword.³²

Centuries later, Alma, a Nephite prophet, speaking to his son, Helaman, concerning the twenty-four gold plates which contained the history of the Jaredites, gave these words of caution to his son, who was to be the new record keeper for the Nephite people.

And now, I will speak unto you concerning those twenty-four plates, that he keep them, that the mysteries and the works of darkness, and their secret works, or the secret works of those people who have been destroyed, may be made manifest unto this people; yea,

³¹ Ether 13:13-22.

³² Ether 15.

all their murders, and robbings, and their plunderings, and all their wickedness and abominations, may be made manifest unto this people; yea, and that ye preserve these interpreters.

For behold, the Lord saw that his people began to work in darkness, yea, work secret murders and abominations; therefore the Lord said, if they did not repent they should be destroyed from off the face of the earth.

And the Lord said: I will prepare unto my servant Gazelem, a stone, which shall shine forth in darkness unto light, that I may discover unto my people who serve me, that I may discover unto them the works of their brethren, yea, their secret works, their works of darkness, and their wickedness and abominations.

And now, my son, these interpreters were prepared that the word of God might be fulfilled, which he spake saying:

I will bring forth out of darkness into light all their secret works and their abominations; and except they repent I will destroy them from off the face of the earth; and I will bring to light all their secrets and abominations, unto every nation that shall hereafter possess the land.

And now, my son, we see that they did not repent; therefore they have been destroyed, and thus far the word of God has been fulfilled; yea, their secret abominations have been brought out of darkness and made known unto us.

And now, my son, I command you that ye retain all their oaths, and their covenants, and their agreements in their secret abominations; yea, and all their signs and their wonders ye shall keep from this people, that they know them not, lest peradventure they should fall into darkness also and be destroyed.

For behold, there is a curse upon all this land, that destruction shall come upon all those workers of darkness, according to the power of God, when they are fully ripe; therefore I desire that this people might not be destroyed.

Therefore ye shall keep these secret plans of their oaths and their covenants from this people, and only their wickedness and their murders and their abominations shall ye make known unto them; and ye shall teach them to abhor such wickedness and abominations and murders; and ye shall also teach them that these people were destroyed on account of their wickedness and abominations and their murders.

For behold, they murdered all the prophets of the Lord who came among them to declare unto them concerning their iniquities; and the blood of those whom they murdered did cry unto the Lord their God for vengeance upon those who were their murderers; and thus the judgments of God did come upon these workers of darkness and secret combinations.

Yea, and cursed be the land forever and ever unto those workers of darkness and secret combinations, even unto destruction, except they repent before they are fully ripe.

And now, my son, remember the words which I have spoken unto you; trust not those secret plans unto this people, but teach them an everlasting hatred against sin and iniquity.³³

Thus Alma admonished his son to be silent concerning that portion of the Jaredite record containing the oaths, signs and covenants of the secret combinations.

In examining the extracted portion of the Jaredite record in terms of the original questions, the answers become evident. (1) The secret combination spoken of among the Jaredites seemed to be of the same structure and purpose as that secret combination found among the Adamic civilization. (2) The secret combination flourished among the Jaredite people; and, (3) the secret combination totally destroyed the Jaredite civilization through the process of civil wars.

THE NEPHITE-LAMANITE CIVILIZATION

The Nephite-Lamanite civilization represented the third major group of people to inhabit this continent. According to the written record, they were led away from Jerusalem by the hand of the Lord at 600 B.C. Eight years later they arrived in the western hemisphere and began to prosper in their new home. The Nephite-Lamanite civilization had been established upon this continent for over 500 years

³³ Alma 37:21-32.

before Helaman received instruction concerning the guardianship of the plates from his father, Alma. The Nephites apparently had no experience with secret combinations among their own people before that time. The knowledge of the combinations as contained in the ancient records had been purposely withheld from the people by the prophets--and, Satan, as yet, had not "inspired" anyone to form such secret combinations.

It is interesting to note that just twenty-two years after Alma had admonished his son, Helaman, to keep these things from his people, that Satan put it into the heart of man to establish just such a secret society.

We read in the first chapter of Helaman:

Now when those people who were desirous that he (Paanchi) should be their governor saw that he was condemned unto death, therefore they were angry, and behold, they sent forth one Kishkumen, even to the judgment-seat of Pahoran, and murdered Pahoran as he sat upon the judgment-seat.

And he was pursued by the servants of Pahoran; but behold, so speedy was the flight of Kishkumen that no man could overtake him.

And he went unto those that sent him, and they all entered into a covenant, yea, swearing by their everlasting Maker, that they would tell no man that Kishkumen had murdered Pahoran.³⁴

Some time during the following year the inception of the Gadianton robbers began.

And it came to pass that Helaman, who was the son of Helaman, was appointed to fill the judgment-seat, by the voice of the people.

But behold, Kishkumen, who had murdered Pahoran, did lay wait to destroy Helaman also; and he was upheld by his band, who had entered into a covenant that no one should know his wickedness.

³⁴Helaman 1:9-12.

For there was one Gadianton, who was exceeding expert in many words, and also in his craft, to carry on the secret work of murder and of robbery; therefore he became the leader of the band of Kishkumen.³⁵

Having established a band of robbers, Gadianton took his forces and fled out of the hands of the authorities and into the wilderness where they could gather together dissenters from the Nephite forces:

But behold, when Gadianton had found that Kishkumen did not return he feared lest that he should be destroyed; therefore he caused that his band should follow him. And they took their flight out of the land, by a secret way, into the wilderness; and thus when Helaman sent forth to take them they could nowhere be found.

And more of this Gadianton shall be spoken of hereafter . . .³⁶

It appeared that for a time the Gadianton robbers were content practicing their deceptions in the more settled parts of the land.

And it came to pass in the forty and ninth year of the reign of the judges, there was continual peace established in the land, all save it were the secret combinations which Gadianton the robber had established in the more settled parts of the land, which at that time were not known unto those who were at the head of government; therefore they were not destroyed out of the land.³⁷

Then after eighteen years (about twenty-five B.C.) of strengthening themselves the Gadianton band was successful in overthrowing the government.

And it came to pass that in the sixty and sixth year of the reign of the judges, behold, Cezoram was murdered by an unknown hand as he sat upon the judgment-seat. And it came to pass that in the same year, that his son, who had been appointed by the people in his stead, was also murdered. And thus ended the sixty and sixth year.

³⁵ Helaman 2:2-4.

³⁶ Helaman 2:11-12.

³⁷ Helaman 3:23.

And in the commencement of the sixty and seventh year the people began to grow exceedingly wicked again.

For behold, the Lord had blessed them so long with the riches of the world that they had not been stirred up to anger, to wars, nor to bloodshed; therefore they began to seek to get gain that they might be lifted up one above another; therefore they began to commit secret murders, and to rob and to plunder, that they might get gain.

And now behold, those murderers and plunderers were a band who had been formed by Kishkumen and Gadianton. And now it had come to pass that there were many, even among the Nephites, of Gadianton's band. But behold, they were more numerous among the more wicked part of the Lamanites. And they were called Gadianton's robbers and murderers.

And it was they who did murder the chief judge Cezoram, and his son, while in the judgment-seat; and behold, they were not found.

And now it came to pass that when the Lamanites found that there were robbers among them they were exceeding sorrowful; and they did use every means in their power to destroy them off the face of the earth.

But behold, Satan did stir up the hearts of the more part of the Nephites, insomuch that they did unite with those bands of robbers, and did enter into their covenants and their oaths, that they would protect and preserve one another in whatsoever difficult circumstances they should be placed, that they should not suffer for their murders, and their plunderings, and their stealings.

* And it came to pass that they did have their signs, yea, their secret signs, and their secret words; and this that they might distinguish a brother who had entered into the covenant, that whatsoever wickedness his brother should do he should not be injured by his brother, nor by those who did belong to his band, who had taken this covenant.

And thus they might murder, and plunder, and steal, and commit whoredoms and all manner of wickedness, contrary to the laws of their country and also the laws of their God.

And whosoever of those who belonged to their band should reveal unto the world of their wickedness and their abominations, should be tried, not according to the laws of their country, but according to the laws of their wickedness, which had been given by Gadianton and Kishkumen.

* Now behold, it is these secret oaths and covenants which Alma commanded his son should not go forth unto the world, lest they should be a means of bringing down the people unto destruction.

* Now behold, those secret oaths and covenants did not come forth unto Gadianton from the records which were

delivered unto Helaman: but behold, they were put into the heart of Gadianton by that same being who did entice our first parents to partake of the forbidden fruit.

Yea, that same being who did plot with Cain, that if he would murder his brother Abel it should not be known unto the world. And he did plot with Cain and his followers from that time forth.

And also it is that same being who put it into the hearts of people to build a tower sufficiently high that they might get to heaven. And it was that same being who led on the people who came from that tower into this land; who spread the works of darkness and abominations over all the face of the land, until he dragged the people down to an entire destruction, and to an everlasting hell.

Yea, it is that same being who put it into the heart of Gadianton to still carry on the work of darkness, and of secret murder; and he has brought it forth from the beginning of man even down to this time.

And behold, it is he who is the author of all sin. And behold, he doth carry on his works of darkness and secret murder, and doth hand down their plots, and their oaths, and their covenants, and their plans of awful wickedness, from generation to generation according as he can get hold upon the hearts of the children of men.

And now behold, he had got great hold upon the hearts of the Nephites; yea, insomuch that they had become exceedingly wicked; yea, the more part of them had turned out of the way of righteousness, and did trample under their feet the commandments of God, and did turn unto their own ways, and did build up unto themselves idols of their gold and their silver.

And it came to pass that all these iniquities did come unto them in the space of not many years, insomuch that a more part of it had come unto them in the sixty and seventh year of the reign of the judges over the people of Nephi.

And they did grow in their iniquities in the sixty and eighth year also, to the great sorrow and lamentation of the righteous.

And thus we see that the Nephites did begin to dwindle in unbelief, and grow in wickedness and abominations, while the Lamanites began to grow exceedingly in the knowledge of their God; yea, they did begin to keep his statutes and commandments, and to walk in truth and uprightness before him.

And thus we see that the Spirit of the Lord began to withdraw from the Nephites, because of the wickedness and the hardness of their hearts.

And thus we see that the Lord began to pour out his Spirit upon the Lamanites, because of the easiness and willingness to believe his words.

And it came to pass that the Lamanites did hunt the band of robbers of Gadianton; and they did preach the

word of God among the more wicked part of them, insomuch that this band of robbers was utterly destroyed from among the Lamanites.

And it came to pass on the other hand, that the Nephites did build them up and support them, beginning at the more wicked part of them, until they had overspread all the land of the Nephites, and had seduced the more part of the righteous until they had come down to believe in their words and partake of their spoils, and to join with them in their secret murders and combinations.

And thus they did obtain the sole management of the government, insomuch that they did trample under their feet and smite and rend and turn their backs upon the poor and the meek and the humble followers of God.

And thus we see that they were in an awful state, and ripening for an everlasting destruction.³⁸

Nephi the son of Helaman had been in the land Northward preaching the gospel at the time the judgment-seat was overthrown by the band of Gadianton.

Upon his return Nephi had strong words of rebuke for those Nephites in the land southward.

Yea, wo be unto you because of that great abomination which has come among you, and ye have united yourselves unto it, yea, to that secret band which was established by Gadianton!

Yea, wo shall come unto you because of that pride which ye have suffered to enter your hearts, which has lifted you up beyond that which is good because of your exceeding great riches!

Yea, wo be unto you because of your wickedness and abominations!

And except ye repent ye shall perish; yea, even your lands shall be taken from you and ye shall be destroyed from off the face of the earth.³⁹

Nephi then proceeded to offer a sign to the people as proof for the divine authenticity of his predictions.

Yea, even at this time ye are ripening, because of your murders and your fornications and wickedness, for everlasting destruction; yea, and except ye repent it will come unto you soon.

³⁸ Helaman 6:15-40.

³⁹ Helaman 7:25-28.

Yea, behold it is now even at your doors; go ye in unto the judgment-seat, and search; and behold, your judge is murdered, and he lieth in his blood and he hath been murdered by his brother, who seeketh to sit in the judgment-seat.

And behold, they both belong to your secret band, whose author is Gadianton and the evil one who seeketh to destroy the souls of men.⁴⁰

Upon examining the house of the chief judge they found him to have been slain as foretold by Nephi.

Now behold, notwithstanding that great miracle which Nephi had done in telling them concerning the death of the chief judge, they did harden their hearts and did not hearken unto the words of the Lord.

Therefore Nephi did declare unto them the word of the Lord saying: Except ye repent, thus saith the Lord, ye shall be smitten even unto destruction.⁴¹

The people's refusal to humble themselves and repent prompted Nephi to plead with the Lord for a famine to come upon his people instead of their total destruction by the sword as he had prophesied.

And so it was done according to the words of Nephi. And there was a great famine upon the land, among all the people of Nephi. And thus in the seventy and fourth year the famine did continue, and the work of destruction did cease by the sword but became sore by famine.

And this work of destruction did also continue in the seventy and fifth year. For the earth was smitten that it was dry, and did not yield forth grain in the season of grain; and the whole earth was smitten, even among the Lamanites as well as among the Nephites, so that they were smitten that they did perish by thousands in the more wicked parts of the land.

And it came to pass that the people saw that they were about to perish by famine, and they began to remember the Lord their God; and they began to remember the words of Nephi.⁴²

When it became evident that their repentance was sincere Nephi appealed to the Lord in their behalf, saying:

⁴⁰Helaman 8:26-28.

⁴¹Helaman 10:13-14.

⁴²Helaman 11:5-7.

O Lord, behold this people repenteth; and they have swept away the band of Gadianton from amongst them inso-much that they have become extinct, and they have concealed their secret plans in the earth.

Now, O Lord, because of this their humility wilt thou turn away thine anger, and let thine anger be appeased in the destruction of those wicked men whom thou hast already destroyed.

O Lord, wilt thou turn away thine anger, yea, thy fierce anger, and cause that this famine may cease in this land.

.....
 And it came to pass that in the seventy and sixth year the Lord did turn away his anger from the people, and caused that rain should fall upon the earth . . .⁴³

With the rain came four years of righteousness and prosperity followed by increased activity on the part of the Gadianton robbers.

And it came to pass that in the eightieth year of the reign of the judges over the people of Nephi, there were a certain number of the dissenters from the people of Nephi, who had some years before gone over unto the Lamanites, and taken upon themselves the name of Lamanites, and also a certain number who were real descendants of the Lamanites, being stirred up to anger by them, or by those dissenters, therefore they commenced a war with their brethren.

And they did commit murder and plunder; and then they would retreat back into the mountains, and into the wilderness and secret hiding places, hiding themselves that they could not be discovered, receiving daily an addition to their numbers, inasmuch as there were dissenters that went forth unto them.

And thus in time, yea, even in the space of not many years, they became an exceeding great band of robbers; and they did search out all the secret plans of Gadianton; and thus they became robbers of Gadianton.

Now behold, these robbers did make great havoc, yea, even great destruction among the people of Nephi, and also among the people of the Lamanites.

And it came to pass that it was expedient that there should be a stop put to their work of destruction; therefore they sent an army of strong men into the wilderness and upon the mountains to search out this band of robbers and to destroy them.

⁴³Helaman 11:10-12; 17.

But behold, it came to pass that in that same year they were driven back even into their own lands. And thus ended the eightieth year of the reign of the judges over the people of Nephi.⁴⁴

This scripture represents the unfortunate condition of the Nephite-Lamanite civilization at the birth of Jesus Christ into this world. Conditions continued to worsen. By the end of the next year, it was recorded:

And it came to pass that thus ended this year. And the robbers did still increase and wax strong, insomuch that they did defy the whole armies of the Nephites, and also the Lamanites; and they did cause great fear to come unto the people upon all the face of the land.

Yea, for they did visit many parts of the land, and did do great destructions unto them; yea, did kill many, and did carry away others captive into the wilderness, yea, and more especially their women and children.⁴⁵

Great signs and wonders were shown forth at the time of the birth of Jesus Christ but the impressiveness of these signs and wonders were soon forgotten by the people on the western continent and by the year 5 A.D., we find the majority once again in an apostate condition.

And it came to pass that the ninety and third year did also pass away in peace, save it were for the Gadianton robbers, who dwelt upon the mountains, who did infest the land; for so strong were their holds and their secret places that the people could not overpower them; therefore, they did commit many murders, and did do much slaughter among the people.

And it came to pass that in the ninety and fourth year they began to increase in great degree, because there were many dissenters of the Nephites who did flee unto them, which did cause much sorrow unto those Nephites who did remain in the land.

And there was also a cause of much sorrow among the Lamanites; for behold, they had many children who did grow up and began to wax strong in years, that they became for themselves, and were led away by some who were Zoramites, by their lyings and their flattering

⁴⁴Helaman 11:24-29.

⁴⁵Helaman 11:32-33.

words, to join those Gadianton Robbers.

And thus were the Lamanites afflicted also, and began to decrease as to their faith and righteousness, because of the wickedness of the rising generation.⁴⁶

The rapidity with which the Nephites and Lamanites rejected the signs of the Savior's birth and began dissenting over to the Gadianton robbers is an indication of the poor spiritual condition of the people at that time.

And it came to pass that the people did still remain in wickedness, notwithstanding the much preaching and prophesying which was sent among them; and thus passed away the tenth year also; and the eleventh year also passed away in iniquity.

And it came to pass in the thirteenth year there began to be wars and contentions throughout all the land; and the Gadianton robbers had become so numerous, and did slay so many people, and did lay waste so many cities and did spread so much death and carnage throughout the land, that it became expedient that all people, both the Nephites and the Lamanites, should take up arms against them.

Therefore, all the Lamanites who had become converted unto the Lord did unite with their brethren, the Nephites, and were compelled, for the safety of their lives and their women and their children, to take up arms against those Gadianton robbers, yea, and also to maintain their rights, and the privileges of their church and of their worship, and their freedom and their liberty.

And it came to pass that before this thirteenth year had passed away the Nephites were threatened with utter destruction because of this war, which had become exceedingly sore.⁴⁷

By the sixteenth year the Gadianton robbers had grown bold enough to claim a legal right to the judgment-seat. Giddianhi, the Gadianton leader, wrote an epistle to Lachoneus, the Nephite governor, saying, in part:

Therefore, I write unto you, desiring that ye would yield up unto this my people, your cities, your lands, and your possessions, rather than that they should visit you with the sword and that destruction should come upon

⁴⁶3 Nephi 1:26-30.

⁴⁷3 Nephi 2:10-13.

you, Or in other words, yield yourselves unto us, and unite with us and become acquainted with our secret works, and become our brethren that ye may be like unto us--not our slaves, but our brethren and partners of all our substance.

And behold, I swear unto you, if ye will do this, with an oath, ye shall not be destroyed; but if ye will not do this, I swear that my armies shall come down against you, and they shall not stay their hand and shall spare not, but shall slay you, and shall let fall the sword upon you even until ye shall become extinct.

. . . and I hope that ye will deliver up your lands and your possessions, without the shedding of blood, that this my people may recover their rights and government, who have dissented away from you because of your wickedness in retaining from them their rights of government, and except ye do this, I will avenge their wrongs, I am Giddianhi.⁴⁸

The reaction of Lachoneus at such a bold proposal is instructive:

Now it came to pass when Lachoneus received this epistle he was exceedingly astonished, because of the boldness of Giddianhi demanding the possession of the land of the Nephites, and threatening the people and avenging the wrongs of those that had received no wrong save it were they had wronged themselves by dissenting away unto those wicked and abominable robbers.

Now behold this Lachoneus, the governor, was a just man, and could not be frightened by the demands and the threatenings of a robber; therefore he did not hearken to the epistle of Giddianhi, the governor of the robbers, but he did cause that his people should cry unto the Lord for strength against the time that the robbers should come down against them.⁴⁹

Upon receiving the epistle from Giddianhi the Nephites prepared themselves for a great battle. The Nephites gathered themselves together in the land southward because of the great curse which was upon the land northward. As they gathered together they brought all their flocks, grains, and fruit, leaving the land for miles around barren

⁴⁸3 Nephi 3:7-8; 10.

⁴⁹3 Nephi 3:11-12.

and desolate. They laid up enough provisions for a seven year period. And then:

It came to pass that in the nineteenth year Giddianhi found that it was expedient that he should go up to battle against the Nephites, for there was no way that they could subsist save it were to plunder and rob and murder.

And they durst not spread themselves upon the face of the land insomuch that they could raise grain, lest the Nephites should come upon them and slay them; therefore Giddianhi gave commandment unto his armies that in this year they should go up to battle against the Nephites.

And it came to pass that they did come up to battle; and it was in the sixth month; and behold, great and terrible was the day that they did come up to battle; and they were girdled about after the manner of robbers; and they had a lamb-skin about their loins, and they were dyed in blood, and their heads were shorn, and they had headplates upon them; and great and terrible was the appearance of the armies of Giddianhi, because of their armor, and because of their being dyed in blood.

And it came to pass that the armies of the Nephites, when they saw the appearance of the army of Giddianhi, had all fallen to the earth, and did lift their cries to the Lord their God, that he would spare them and deliver them out of the hands of their enemies.

And the battle commenced in this the sixth month; and great and terrible was the battle thereof, yea, great and terrible was the slaughter thereof, insomuch that there never was known so great a slaughter among all the people of Lehi since he left Jerusalem.

And notwithstanding the threatenings and the oaths which Giddianhi had made, behold, the Nephites did beat them, insomuch that they did fall back from before them.⁵⁰

Two years of peace followed this great slaughter before the robbers attempted another seige.

And in the twenty and first year they (the robbers) did come up to battle; but they came up on all sides to lay siege round about the people of Nephi; for they did suppose that if they should cut off the people of Nephi from their lands, and should hem them in on every side, and if they should cut them off from all their outward privileges, that they could cause them to yield

⁵⁰3 Nephi 4:4-8, 11-12.

themselves up according to their wishes.

Now they had appointed unto themselves another leader, whose name was Zemnarihah; (Giddianhi having been killed) therefore it was Zemnarihah that did cause that this siege should take place.

But behold, this was an advantage to the Nephites; for it was impossible for the robbers to lay siege sufficiently long to have any effect upon the Nephites, because of their much provision which they had laid up in store.

Because of the scantiness of provisions among the robbers--for behold they had nothing save it were meat for their subsistence, which meat they did obtain in the wilderness.⁵¹

The robbers were forced to terminate their siege and retreat. While in the process of retreating in their weakened condition, the Nephites fell upon them and slaughtered them.

The Nephites rejoiced, saying:

May the Lord preserve his people in righteousness in holiness of heart, that they may cause to be felled to the earth all who shall seek to slay them because of power and secret combinations, even as this man hath been felled to the earth.

And they did rejoice and cry again with one voice, saying: May the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, protect this people in righteousness, so long as they shall call on the name of their God for protection.⁵²

With this victory came the promise of a new day for the inhabitants of the promised land:

And now behold there was not a living soul among all of the people of the Nephites who did doubt in the least the words of all the holy prophets who had spoken; for they knew that it must needs be that they must be fulfilled.

Therefore they did forsake all their sins, and their abominations and their whoredoms, and did serve God with all diligence day and night.

And now it came to pass that when they had taken all the robbers prisoners, into prison, and did cause the

⁵¹₃ Nephi 4:16-19.

⁵²₃ Nephi 4:29-30.

word of God to be preached to them, and as many as would repent of their sins and enter into a covenant that they would murder no more were set at liberty. But as many as there were who did not enter into a covenant, and who did still continue to have those secret murders in their hearts yea, as many as were found breathing out threatenings against their brethren were condemned and punished according to the law.

And thus they did put an end to all those wicked, and secret, and abominable combinations, in the which there was so much wickedness and so many murders committed.⁵³

Later, the sacred record reads:

And they granted unto those robbers who had entered into a covenant to keep the peace, of the band who were desirous to remain Lamanites, lands, according to their numbers, that they might have, with their labors wherewith to subsist upon; and thus they did establish peace in all the land.

And they began again to prosper and to wax great; and the twenty and sixth and seventh year passed away, and there was great order in the land; and they formed their laws according to equity and justice.

And now there was nothing in all the land to hinder the people from prospering continually, except they should fall into transgression.⁵⁴

This peaceful condition lasted for a very short period of time. Only two years passed away until the people began to be divided into social classes which eventually resulted in additional internal strife.

And the people began to be distinguished by ranks, according to their riches and their chances of learning, yea, some were ignorant because of their poverty, and others did receive great learning because of their riches.

Some were lifted up in pride, and others were exceedingly humble; some did return railing for railing, while others would receive railings and persecution and all manner of affliction and would not turn and revile again, but were humble and penitent before God.

And thus there became a great inequality in all the land, insomuch that the church began to be broken up; yea, insomuch that in the thirtieth year the church was

⁵³ 3 Nephi 5:1, 3-6.

⁵⁴ 3 Nephi 6:3-5.

broken up in all the land save it were among a few of the Lamanites who were converted unto the true faith; and they would not depart from it, for they were firm, and steadfast, and immovable, willing with all diligence to keep the commandments of the Lord.

Now the cause of this iniquity of the people was this--Satan had great power, unto the stirring up of the people to do all manner of iniquity; therefore they had enjoyed peace but a few years.

Now they did not sin ignorantly, for they knew the will of God concerning them, for it had been taught unto them; therefore they did wilfully rebel against God.⁵⁵

Into this society filled with wickedness and social injustices came men who had been raised up among the people to serve as prophets. These were "men inspired from heaven and sent forth, stand among the people in all the land, preaching and testifying boldly of the sins and iniquities of the people."⁵⁶

There were many of the people who were angry at the prophets because of their boldness in testifying against evil. Many of the high priests, chief judges, and lawyers sought occasion to destroy the prophets who spoke so openly against their evil practices. Some of the prophets were taken and put to death secretly. When these secret murders were about to be revealed, the guilty chief judges, lawyers, high priests, and their friends entered into an infamous compact.

And they did enter into a covenant one with another, yea even into that covenant which was given by them of old, which covenant was given and administered by the Devil, to combine against all righteousness.

Therefore they did combine against the people of the Lord, and enter a covenant to destroy them, and to deliver those who were guilty of murder from the grasp

⁵⁵₃ Nephi 6:12-16, 18.

⁵⁶₃ Nephi 6:20.

of justice, which was about to be administered according to the law.

And they did set at defiance the law and the rights of their country; and they did covenant one with another to destroy the governor, and to establish a king over the land, that the land should no more be at liberty but should be subject unto kings.

. . . but in this same year, yea, the thirtieth year, they did destroy upon the judgment-seat, yea, did murder the chief judge of the land.

And the people were divided one against another; and they did separate one from another into tribes, every man according to his family and his kindred and friends; and thus they did destroy the government of the land.

And the regulations of the government were destroyed, because of the secret combination of the friends and kindreds of those who murdered the prophets.

And they did cause a great contention in the land, insomuch that the more righteous part of the people had nearly all become wicked; yea, there were but few righteous men among them.

And thus six years had not passed since the more part of the people had turned away from their righteousness, like a dog to his vomit, or like a sow to her wallowing in the mire.

Now this secret combination, which had brought so great iniquity upon the people, did gather themselves together, and did place at their head a man whom they did call Jacob.

And they did call him their king; therefore he became a king over this wicked band; and he was one of the chiefest who had given his voice against the prophets who testified of Jesus.

And it came to pass that they were not too strong in number as the tribes of the people, who were united together save it were their leaders did establish their laws, everyone according to his tribe; nevertheless they were enemies, notwithstanding they were not a righteous people, yet they were united in the hatred of those who had entered into a covenant to destroy the government.

Therefore, Jacob seeing that their enemies were more numerous than they, he being the king of the band, therefore he commanded his people that they should take their flight into the northernmost part of the land, and there build up unto themselves a kingdom, until they were joined by dissenters (for he flattered them that there would be many dissenters) and they became sufficiently strong to contend with the tribes of people and they did so.⁵⁷

⁵⁷3 Nephi 6:28-30; 7:1-2, 6-12.

The above passages represent the last recorded account of the secret combinations in the western world prior to the coming of Jesus Christ to this continent. Christ, however, provided the obituary for King Jacob and his wicked combination in the following verse.

And now behold that great city Jacobugath, which was inhabited by the people of King Jacob, have I caused to be burned with fire because of their wickedness, which was above all the wickedness of the whole earth, because of their secret combinations; for it was they that did destroy the peace of my people and the government of the land; therefore I did cause them to be burned, to destroy them from before my face, that the blood of the prophets and the saints should not come up unto me any more against them.⁵⁸

For the space of nearly 200 years following the ministry of Jesus Christ upon this continent, there was a period of peace and prosperity previously unknown to the American continent. But as had been prophesied by many of the early prophets, the people once again were found forsaking the ways of righteousness to follow the designs of the Evil One.

And now it came to pass in this year, yea, in the two hundred and thirty and first year, there was a great division among the people.

And it came to pass that in this year there arose a people who were called the Nephites and they were true believers in Christ, and among them there were those who were called the Lamanites--Jacobites, and Josephites, and Zoramites;

And it came to pass that the wicked part of the people began again to build up the secret oaths and combinations of Gadianton. And also the people who were called the people of Nephi began to be proud in their hearts, because of their exceeding riches, and became vain like unto their brethren the Lamanites.

⁵⁸ 3 Nephi 9:9.

And from this time the disciples began to sorrow for the sins of the world.

And it came to pass that when three hundred years had passed away, both the people of Nephi and the Lamanites and become exceeding wicked one like unto another.

And it came to pass that the robbers of Gadianton did spread over all the face of the land; and there were none that were righteous save it were the disciples of Jesus. And gold and silver did they lay up in store in abundance, and did traffic in all manner of traffic.⁵⁹

During the lifetime of the great prophet-warrior, Mormon, conditions became most regrettable. Mormon and his forces were forced to retreat from one city to another while the Lamanite forces continually harrassed them. Mormon, in attempting to gather together his people to wage war against the Lamanites, gave a brief glimpse into the conditions of his day.

And it came to pass that we did gather in our people as far as it were possible, that we might get them together in one body.

But behold, the land was filled with robbers and with Lamanites; and notwithstanding the great destruction which hung over my people, they did not repent of their evil doings, therefore there was blood and carnage spread throughout all the face of the land, both on the part of the Nephites and also on the part of the Lamanites; and it was one complete revolution throughout all the face of the land.⁶⁰

It is perhaps during this same period of time that Mormon wrote, in an epistle to his son Moroni, the following:

And now I write somewhat concerning the suffering of this people. For according to the knowledge which I have received from Amoron, behold the Lamanites have many prisoners, which they took from the tower of Sherrizah; and there were men, women, and children.

And the husbands and fathers of those women and children they have slain; and they feed women upon the flesh of their husbands, and the children upon the flesh

⁵⁹ 4 Nephi 1:35-36; 42-46.

⁶⁰ Mormon 2:7-8.

of their fathers; and no water, save a little, do they give unto them.

And notwithstanding this great abomination of the Lamanites, it doth not exceed that of our people in Moriantum. For behold, many of the daughters of the Lamanites have they taken prisoners, and after depriving them of that which is most dear and precious above all things, which is chastity and virtue--

And after they had done this thing, they did murder them in a most cruel manner, torturing their bodies even unto death; and after they have done this, they devour their flesh like unto wild beasts, because of the hardness of their hearts; and they do it as a token of bravery.⁶¹

. . . and in the three hundred and fiftieth year we made a treaty with the Lamanites and the robbers of Gadianton in which we did give unto the Lamanites all the land southward.⁶²

This division of the land provided for a ten year period of peace between the two opposing forces but Mormon kept his people busy preparing themselves for the day when the Lamanites should come up against them.

It came to pass that the Lamanites did not come to battle again until ten years more had passed away. And behold, I had employed my people, the Nephites, in preparing their lands, and their arms against the time of battle.

And it came to pass that the Lord did say unto me: Cry unto this people--repent ye, and come unto me, and be ye baptized and build up again my church, and ye shall be spared.

And I did cry unto this people, but it was in vain, and they did not realize that it was the Lord that had spared them, and granted unto them a chance for repentance. And behold, they did harden their hearts against the Lord their God.⁶³

Then because of the hardness of the hearts of his people Mormon . . . "Did utterly refuse from this time forth to be the commander and leader of his people" (Mormon 3:11).

Mormon later relented and once again led his people

⁶¹Moroni 9:7-10.

⁶²Mormon 2:28-29.

⁶³Mormon 3:1-3.

against overwhelming forces of the Lamanite army. This civil war marked the tragic end of the once great Nephite nation. Moroni, the son of Mormon, stood alone as the sole survivor of that terrible conflict. For thirty-five years following the destruction of his own people, Moroni served as compiler and abridger of the Nephite and Jaredite records. He alone was qualified to summarize the role of the secret combination as it related to the destruction of the Jaredite and Nephite civilizations. He wrote:

And it came to pass that they formed a secret combination even as they of old; which combination is most abominable and wicked above all, in the sight of God.

For the Lord worketh not in secret combinations, neither doth he will that men should shed blood, but in all things hath forbidden it, from the beginning of man.

And now I Moroni, do not write the manner of their oaths and combinations for it hath been made known unto me that they are had among all people, and they are had among the Lamanites.

And they [secret combinations] have caused the destruction of this people of whom I am speaking [Jaredites] and also the destruction of the people of Nephi.⁶⁴

SUMMARY

The answer to the question concerning the existence of secret combinations among the previous western civilizations is clear. Each civilization studied found themselves in possession of a "promised land" bound by an irrevocable commandment to worship the God of that land who is Jesus Christ. In each instance Satan "inspired" the organization

⁶⁴Ether 8:18-21.

of a secret combination that led the people into the paths of wickedness for the sake of earthly gain and power. These workers in darkness corrupted the people in each of the three civilizations studied. Each civilization destroyed itself through wickedness and affiliation with the secret combination. With the death of the prophet Moroni and the close of the Book of Mormon record, the promised land was devoid of an enlightened people and in the depths of spiritual darkness.

The conclusion from Latter-day Saint scripture is:

1. A secret combination or society was a secret covenant established between two or more persons or parties for the express purpose of using force to get material gain, power, and control by unrighteous means.

2. That each of the three preceding "American" civilizations spoken of in the Holy Scripture had these secret combinations at various times during their existence.

3. Each of these preceding civilizations was destroyed as a direct result of the wickedness fostered by these secret combinations.

THE "AMERICAN" GENTILE CIVILIZATION

Thus far, a brief definition of a secret combination has been given along with the destructive force it had on each of the previous "American" civilizations.

The role of a secret combination in our modern American (gentile) civilization will now be presented.

Conditions today were foreseen by many of the ancient prophets. In Paul's epistle to Timothy, he said:

Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;

Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.⁶⁵

This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy.

Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,

Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof; from such turn away.⁶⁶

For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.⁶⁷

MORONI'S PROPHECY

Latter-day conditions were also seen and prophesied by the prophet Moroni, who lived in a most interesting period of time. He lived to see the destruction of his own people and he knew and understood the conditions that had brought about their downfall. He had also searched the ancient records of the Jaredites and had discovered the reasons for their destruction. He was then privileged to look into the

⁶⁵I Timothy 4:1-3.

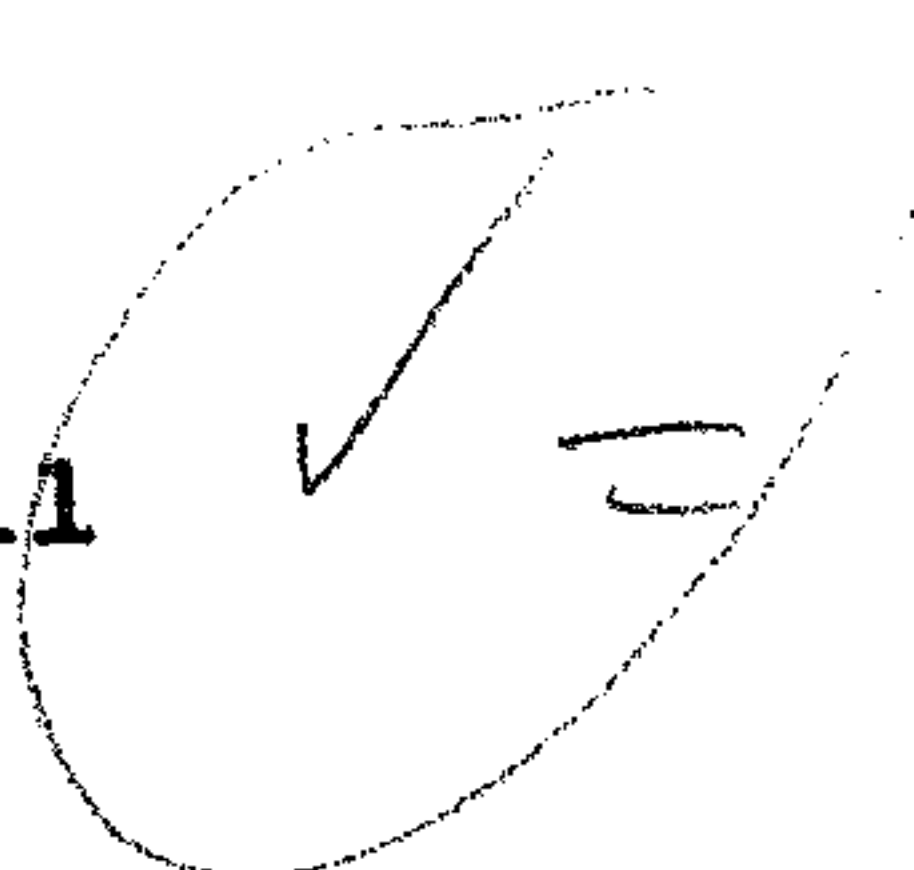
⁶⁶II Timothy 3:1-5.

⁶⁷II Timothy 4:3-4.

future and view the "Gentile" nation that was to inherit this "promised land" in the last days. Not only was he able to learn of all these things but he was then commanded to record them and seal them up as part of the sacred record. This record was destined to be instrumental in convincing the "Jew and Gentile that Jesus is the Christ." This record also re-established an ancient covenant between the inhabitants of this land and their God.

In closing his record concerning the Jaredite and Nephite civilizations, Moroni said:

And whatsoever nation shall uphold such secret combinations, to get power and gain, until they shall spread over the nation, behold, they shall be destroyed.⁶⁸

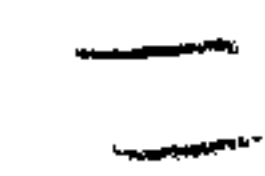


It is instructive to examine Moroni's comments in some detail. Note specifically that Moroni said:

1. Any nation that is infiltrated to the point of having men in all our levels of society engaged in secret organizations was possessed of the adversary and must await the judgments of God.

2. If the American nation fails to restrict or destroy the secret combination which shall come among us, the secret combination will destroy this nation.

Wherefore, o ye Gentiles, it is wisdom in God that these things should be shown unto you, that thereby ye may repent of your sins, and suffer not that these murderous combinations shall get above you, which are built up to get power and gain--and the work, yea, even the work of destruction come upon you, yea, even the sword of the justice of the Eternal God shall fall upon



⁶⁸ Ether 8:22-24.

you, to your overthrow and destruction if ye shall suffer these things to be.

Wherefore, the Lord commandeth you, when ye shall see these things come among you that ye shall awake to a sense of your awful situation because of this secret combination which shall be among you; or wo be unto it, because of the blood of them who have been slain; for they cry from the dust for vengeance upon it, and also upon those who built it up.⁶⁹

3. "O ye Gentiles . . ." (addressing the latter-day American civilization specifically).

4. "It is wisdom in God that these things should be shown unto you . . ." (resultant effect of secret societies on "American" civilizations).

5. "That thereby ye may repent of your sins . . ." (it is impossible for the combinations to thrive in a righteous society).

6. "And suffer not that these murderous combinations shall get above you . . ." (gain sufficient strength to overpower the constituted authority).

7. "Which are built up to get power and gain . . ." (through unrighteous means).

8. "The work of destruction [will] come upon you . . . if ye shall suffer these things to be." (We will be destroyed, as a free nation, if we allow these combinations to gain unrighteous control.)

9. "Wherefore, the Lord commands you, when ye shall see these things [secret combinations] come among you . . ." (Moroni forewarned us that they would be in our midst).

⁶⁹Ether 8:2 -24.

10. ". . . that ye shall awake to a sense of your awful situation . . ." (This seems to indicate that the Church and possibly the nation will be in an apathetic condition such as we are experiencing today.)

11. ". . . because of this secret combination which shall be among you; . . ." (He reaffirms the fact that this combination shall be in our midst.)

12. ". . . the blood of them who have been slain . . . cry from the dust for vengeance upon it, and also upon those who build it up." (The Lord is mindful of the terrible destruction and carnage caused by this secret combination and the law of justice demands satisfaction.)

Moroni then generalizes again concerning the effect of this organization on any society in which it might be found:

For it cometh to pass that whoso buildeth it up seeketh to overthrow the freedom of all lands, nations and countries; and it bringeth to pass the destruction of all people, for it is built up by the devil, who is the father of all lies, even that same liar who hath caused man to commit murder from the beginning; who hath hardened the hearts of men that they have murdered the prophets, and stoned them, and cast them out from the beginning.

Wherefore, I, Moroni, am commanded to write these things that evil may be done away, and that the time may come that Satan may have no power upon the hearts of the children of men, but that they may be persuaded to do good continually, that they may come unto the foundation of all righteousness and be saved.⁷⁰

Thus we find that the general effect of this secret society on these civilizations was to "overthrow the freedom"

⁷⁰ Ether 8:25-26.

and to "bring to pass the destruction of all people."

When Moroni concluded his prophecy by stating his motives for recording this revelation, he informed us that, ". . . I, Moroni, am commanded to write these things . . ." and his reason for revealing them is, ". . . that evil may be done away, and that the time may come that Satan may have no power over the hearts of the children of men."

CHAPTER II

HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN MAFIA ORGANIZATION

The objective of this study is to make a comparative study between the American Mafia organization and the Book of Mormon secret combinations. Before such a study could be made it was necessary to become acquainted with some basic information concerning the Mafia organization. Included in this information will be the origin, organization, purpose, and personnel involved in that "honored society." The growth and development of the Mafia, from its origin on the Isle of Sicily during the sixteenth century, to the vast underworld criminal complex of today will be examined.

SICILIAN INCEPTION¹

Sicily's history pre-dates the Christian era and like her sister country, Palestine, Sicily is bounded by two large continents--Africa on the south and the European mainland on the north.

There are many parallels and at least one striking contrast between these two small countries. Sicily, like Palestine, has been conquered repeatedly by many invading nations, most of whom have shown the land or the people very

¹"Sicily," The Columbia Encyclopedia (New York and London: Columbia University Press, 1968), pp. 1955-56.

little respect or kindness. Evidence seemed to indicate that the Mafia was originally organized as an underground movement among the Sicilians in order to protect themselves from their cruel invaders.² At least sixteen conquerors have plundered the land over the last two-and-a-half millennia, including the Phoenicians, Greeks, Romans, Carthaginians, Vandals, Byzantines, Africans, Arabs, Saracens, Normans, Spaniards, Bourbons, Nazis, and the French, British, and American forces of World War II.³

There is one obvious contrast between the two countries. The country of Palestine has given the world a single man--the Son of God--whose life and teachings have revolutionized the thinking of much of the civilized world. Sicily, ironically, has allowed a single organization--the Mafia--to grow on her soil to become the island's greatest enemy.

According to some writers, familiar with the history of Sicily, the modern Mafia organization posed the greatest threat to the freedom and liberty enjoyed by the people of Sicily.⁴ What is more significant is that this same organization⁵ now threatens the freedom and liberty of the

²Michele Pantaloneone, The Mafia and Politics (London, Ghetto and Windus, 1966), p. 28.

³Edward Joseph Allen, Merchants of Menace: The Mafia (Springfield, Illinois, 1962), pp. 10-11.

⁴Note those books in the bibliography marked with an asterisk (*).

⁵While we are confident that American organized crime is not mainly the Sicilian Mafia transplanted, the similarities between the two organizations are direct and too great to be ignored.

citizens of the United States of America.⁶

As far back in history as the invasion of Sicily by the Phoenicians, and then under the Greeks, Romans, and Carthaginians, the land of Sicily was divided into large estates known as Latifundia. These were then given to men of stature who would agree to pay a certain tax on the property. The land was cultivated exclusively with the labor of native Sicilians forced into slavery or with slaves imported from other areas. Farm houses were constructed in the center of the Latifundia with large fortified storehouses surrounded by the humble dwellings of the owner's trusted guards and of the slaves who were forced to live on the property.

The Goths, Byzantines and Arabs used almost an identical system during the years they controlled Sicily. The Normans succeeded in driving out the Arabs about the year 1,000 A.D. but in doing so did not improve the conditions of the native Sicilians.

Following the Normans, ~~each~~ succeeding sovereign, from Swabian to Bourbon, conquered and fortified the coastal regions first and then proceeded to distribute the interior sections of the land to their followers and those who were willing to pay the high price for the land.

Under the feudal system, a feudi was then sub-divided into smaller sections called, feudo. A Baron was lord of one

⁶Evidence will be cited in the body of this paper from many of America's leading criminologists to support this statement.

or more feudi with the right to populate it and cultivate it as he desired. Each feudi contained a farm house, always built on the best site of the feudi; in this farm house lived the Campieri, the overseers of the estate, and a number of his armed guards. Due to the complete lack of public law enforcement authority on the feudi, the Baron needed someone who could command obedience from his slaves and force them to do the work. Consequently most Barons turned to men who were adept at the use of force. These men were chosen as the overseers and armed guards. Thus overseers and armed guards were frequently selected from among men with criminal records. This criminal element succeeded in usurping more and more power from the Baron and soon they had established themselves as the absolute authority on the feudi in the absence of the Baron. Over the years a system of tyranny was established based upon violence and systematic exploitation.⁷

THE BOURBONS VS. GARABALDI

The feudal system was common throughout Sicily until 1812 at which time it was officially abolished, although in practice it continued many years.⁸ The abolishment of the feudal system replaced the feudal system and a new relationship between landowner and laborer developed. The private guards and armed gangs disappeared, they were replaced by a

⁷Pantaloone, op. cit., pp. 24-27.

⁸Columbia Encyclopedia, op. cit., p. 1956.

new hierarchy, which consisted of stewards (small land holders); campieri (superintendents); and gabellotti (chief overseer). The Baron soon felt a need for a trusted aid in administering the affairs of his estate. He, therefore, began to rely on his trusted gabellotto more and more in conducting the affairs of the feudi.

From 1812 onwards, when the feudal structure was being threatened more and more by the popular uprisings of 1820 and 1848, the gangs of gabellotti and stewards (now known as the Mafia), protected by the baron, tried their utmost to deprive the established authority of its power and to take it over themselves: safety in the countryside was entrusted to the corps of private guards, and the Mafiosi (as men of the Mafia came to be called) ministered their own rough form of justice, dependent not so much on respect for the law as on the fear which they inspired and on their desire to avoid interference, at all costs, from the public authorities . . .⁹

The Baron, in return for the aid of his trusted servant, protected him in every way he could from falling into the hands of the law.

It was some time during this period of 1812-1860 that the term MAFIA first became associated with the system.¹⁰

⁹Columbia Encyclopedia, op. cit., p. 1956.

¹⁰A more popular story dates the Mafia rather exactly from March 30, 1282, when a young Sicilian called upon his people to drive out the French oppressors, because of the rape of his intended bride, with the cry of Morte all Francia ("Death to France"). (One writer translates this as "death to all the French," a novel transliteration for "alla.") To this was added Italia anela (Italy cries). The initials of the mnemonic slogan read: M-A-F-I-A. This is the most romantic, the most popular, and the most unfounded explanation of the society's origins. The only verifiable aspect of the tale is a three-day massacre of French elements on the island by the native Sicilians.

The Narcotics Bureau dates the Mafia back to more

There are numerous and improbable theories concerning the origin of the word. Giuseppe Pitre' (1841-1916), the greatest authority on Sicilian folklore, simply believed that it came from a dialect term common in the Palermo district of II Borgo expressing beauty and excellence. You will hear the word used more frequently to describe a fiery and impatient stallion, a vigorous multi-colored rooster, a proud, overbearing girl with flashing eyes and stamping feet. . . . They admire the kind of beauty that is flaunted as a challenge, that is one of the visible aspects of power, the fatal beauty that will damn timid people who try to conquer it. The word first appeared in a criminal sense, with a capital "M," in the title of a dialect play, *I Mafiusi della Vicaria*, by Giuseppe Rizzotto, which enjoyed great popularity in 1863. The appropriate translation, at the time, would have been "the handsome and daring men of Palermo's jail." The name stuck. It has been used commonly by non-Mafia men ever since, but the Mafiosi themselves never use it.¹¹

During the early part of the nineteenth century while the feudal structure was being threatened, the gangs of gabelotti and stewards, protected by the Barons, tried to usurp power from the established authorities. For several years the Mafiosi administered their own form of justice, based on fear of violence, throughout the countryside.

By the second half of the nineteenth century the Mafia had become the perfect inter-provisional organization whose aim was to rob the legitimate authorities of their power and preserve the feudal structure in the countryside.¹²

recent times: the latter part of the eighteenth century. At that time, the society was put together to combat the Bourbons.

Obviously, the separate explanations--dating the origin of the Mafia at separate points from the ninth to the eighteenth century--are vastly inconsistent. And yet they may be logically consistent if one does not confuse a movement with its form, an historic drive with its organized expression.

¹¹Luigi Barzini, The New York Review, Sept. 22, 1966.

¹²pantaleone, op. cit., p. 27.

The origin of this famous organization goes back to the feudal period, when individual power took the place of public authority. The landowning baron, in order to defend his possessions, had to pay squads of ruffians who undertook to protect the castle and farm on condition that they themselves were defended and protected against the authorities for all the crimes and robberies they committed.¹³

All these protections and privileges which the Mafiosi enjoyed brought them a number of economic advantages so that in the rural centres particularly the Mafia Gabelotto was the only person, except the landowner himself, whose activity enabled him to amass a fortune. After several years' activity he found himself in a position to invest money in buying land and naturally, when this was the case, he turned his wits to his best advantage, even if it furthered his interests, against his own master. The landowner was often sent threatening letters, or attempts were made to kidnap him or shoot him on his doorstep, with the obvious aim of terrorizing him and preventing him from going to the feudo. He nearly always turned to the 'friend of the friends' gabelotto for help, and entrusted him with the delicate task of defending his person and settling the affair without offending the 'friends.'

Thenceforth the landowner had to renounce his dues. Tired of getting nothing from his estate, fearing to press the gabelotto to pay the rent, he was forced to sell his land. However, no one in the village or elsewhere dared to buy it because everyone knew that the gabelotto wanted to acquire it for himself, and was waiting for his chance, which came when the landowner, tired of waiting for a buyer, offered it to him at an absurdly low price . . .¹⁴

As more and more Mafiosi became the principal landowners, the Mafia organization¹⁵ was strengthened and began

¹³Ibid., p. 28 (as quoted from Fratelli Bocca, *Storia della siciliana rivoluzione del 1848*; Bologna 1867, p. 251).

¹⁴Pantaleone, op. cit., pp. 27-28.

¹⁵Tyler differs in his explanation of the organizational structure of the Mafia; he has said: "The Mafia was the spirit of contempt and hostility toward established law and order. In this spirit, men arose who felt it was not only their need but also their duty to take the law in their own hands. Such men joined in bands for a variety of lawless

to expand its operations beyond its normal activities. It turned its attention to any aspect of rural or urban life which could be exploited. As early as 1892, this second stage led to the organization of the real industry of crime and violence which had already become efficient by the beginning of the century.

The earliest and most classic forms of this industry were, and still are, cattle thieving and the compulsory guardianship of crops. If, for instance, a landowner was so ingenuous as to think that he could manage without using the guards and campieri imposed by the Mafia chief, he was liable to find scores of olive trees or his whole vineyard cut down just when they were about to yield heavy crops. This was the first 'warning.'

If, as very seldom happened, the victim decided to resist and to denounce the matter to the police, he soon found that herds of his cattle were missing, and to prevent him wasting time in searching for them, a filly or a calf with its legs broken was left behind in his fields. This second warning, a blood-stained one, was meant to intimate that things were becoming dangerous for anyone who persisted in not taking the hint.

Between the two warnings the victim had plenty of time to see for himself that the police he had called in were quite unable not only to trace the culprits but also to give him any kind of guarantee for the future. In the end he generally threw in his hand and accepted the presence of 'collaborators' imposed on him by the Mafia; asked the Mafia chief's approval before drawing up a contract for share-cropping; and last but not least, agreed to pay a tribute in kind which was strictly assessed in proportion to his income. In this way the victim became a member of the 'Onorata Societa' of the so-called 'friend of the friends,' and he had the bitter satisfaction of trying out the efficiency of the Mafia protection, as a result of which he found that he was no longer subjected even to the petty thefts made by the scassapagghiara.

acts--revolutionary, patriotic, vindictive, criminal. These bands--each with its own name, its own allegiances, its own leader--were all infected with the outlaw spirit, the temper of mafia. While each of these bands had its own brand name, such as Fratellanza, Amoroso, Stoppaglieri, Mala Vita, etc., the generic term to describe this vast body of 'bad men' was mafia." Gus Tyler, Organized Crime in America, pp. 334-335.

Sometimes the protected man found the corpse of a scassapaggiara with his hands cut off, on his estate boundary; this, in the Mafia's crude code of symbols, was the punishment given to the intending thieves. In the same way cut-off genitals stuffed into the mouth meant that the dead man had 'offended' a 'friends' woman; or if the tongue was cut off, it meant that the victim had witnessed a misdeed and had been unable to abide by the strict law of omerta.¹⁶

The Honored Society

This 'Onorata Societa'¹⁷ (honored society) accrued to itself the power of life and death over its own members and over anyone who, having learned of it, attempted to disclose it.

The code of 'honor' which governs the lives of the members of the society is called Omerta.¹⁸ As with the word Mafia, there are conflicting explanations of the meaning and origin of the word, Omerta.¹⁹

Some claim that it is a derivation of the word homo (man). Others maintain that it is a derivation of umirta (humble). Actually it is a combination of both since a Mafioso is expected to have the qualities of a

¹⁶ Pantaloneone, op. cit., pp. 28-30.

¹⁷ Norman Lewis, The Honored Society (New York City: Putman, 1964).

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ Tyler has a broader view of the Code of Omerta. "Even the famous code of omerta--with its great wall of silence--is not peculiarly Sicilian. It is the universal code of the underworld, the inner government of the outlaw --whether he be criminal, patriotic, revolutionary or delinquent. The only aspect that is distinctly Sicilian is the word itself--omerta--generally believed to be derived from uomo ('Man') and meant to refer to a kind of "manhood" where one stands up for himself with a fist or pistol." Tyler, op. cit., p. 332.

'real man' and also to inculcate a sort of obsequiousness designed to impress others as genuine humility. While both manliness and humility may have been in the original ideal of the Mafia and its code, Omerta, neither qualification is present in the modern Mafioso. Rather, it is a hypocritical facade which sometimes fools even the perspicacious in law enforcement.²⁰

The objectives of the 'society' seem to be, "to protect the rights of the members to remain free to accumulate material gain." The code of Omerta requires:

1. Refusal to recognize any legal power as binding, except its own code.
2. Self-justice . . . getting one's rights by one's own hand.
3. Obligation to assist a brother in trouble, at all costs.
4. Adherence to the death to its rule and discipline, having once embraced it.
5. To shun publicity.
6. To help any and all who appeal for help whether member or not.
7. To replace law enforcement as intermediary between criminal and victim.
8. To protect the 'rights' of the criminal and remain free and prosper.
9. To secure 'friends' influential in business, political, and social circles.
10. Silence.²¹

This code of conduct is followed implicitly, but if a member of the society were to violate it, he would immediately become subject to severe sanctions. "In Sicily the criminal who violates it is called 'Nfame' (infamous) and is punished by his comrades with ostracism, contempt, mutilation, or death, according to circumstances."²²

A further word of explanation concerning the 'code of Omerto' may prove helpful to our understanding.

²⁰Allen, op. cit., p. 14.

²¹Ibid.

²²Cesare Mori, The Last Struggle with the Mafia (London and New York: Putman).

1. It is dishonorable to appeal to the state's authorities for justice.

To turn to the authorities and the law for aid is considered dishonorable and it is more than dishonorable to inform the police about the activities of anyone forced to defend his prestige or punish an outrage in the only way open to him.²³

2. Administration of 'family' justice.

The marked difference between the Mafia and other societies lies in its conviction that it has a "right" indeed a "duty" to execute the death sentence on its "traditores" . . .

With the Mafia the memory of an offense does not lessen, but grows more intense with the passage of time, and the death blow must inevitably fall on its victim. Usually . . . is delivered in the deepest secrecy, carefully planned to shield the murderer from detection.²⁴

3. An offense received by one of the members must be considered an offense against the "family" and must be avenged at all cost. The "Society" is divided into large units called "families" with different levels of leadership within each family. If any member of the family is offended he has the moral obligation to avenge the wrong.

A man who wants to preserve his self-respect must personally defend his dignity and honor without turning to the authorities and the law, especially when the affront to be punished is an open challenge or an unacceptable insult to his family . . . He can expect aid only from his relatives. The family was the source of his strength. His duty was to protect it, make it prosper, enlarge it by producing vigorous male children, widen its sphere of influence by allying it to other families, and cultivating influential friends.²⁵

²³Barzini, op. cit.

²⁴Lewis, op. cit., pp. 18-19.

²⁵Barzini, op. cit.

4. Absolute obedience to authority. One must place his loyalty to the "society" before any personal desires. A "brother" must be willing to carry out any assignment given regardless of how distasteful it may be.

Other duties include absolute obedience . . . however distasteful or repugnant the assignment. For example, if a defecting member has been found worthy of death, the Capo may assign a close relative to carry out the execution in order to test his loyalty to the organization. One therefore, must love the Mafia above the individual members of his own family. One must consent to martyrdom, if deemed necessary in the eyes of the leadership.²⁶

Items 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 are newer innovations in the society and need not be commented on at this point.

10. Absolute silence concerning the names of members or any information of the association. A "brother" or a "friend," as members are called, is indissolubly obligated to keep silent. "Disclosure, whether malicious or merely indiscreet, means death."²⁷

The Evolution of a Mafia Leader

The Mafia organization is controlled by the Mafioso. As a member of the organization begins to grow in stature and recognition, a noticeable change takes place:

Thus there is an alta (higher) Mafia and a bassa (lower) Mafia with the possibility of advancement from one to the other if the force of circumstance permits. As one gains wealth and political and social influence, his rise becomes automatic and remains so long as such political and social influence and prestige remains.²⁸

²⁶Lewis, op. cit., p. 17.

²⁷Allen, op. cit., p. 18.

²⁸Ibid., p. 18.

. . . In the lower echelon, or the so-called "bassa" Mafia, the strong-arm thug, the instrument used by the full-blown Mafioso to execute his criminal edicts was originally called "ricottaro." The ricottaros might be called "freshmen" in the Mafia university. In order to impress the upperclassmen, or the "alta" Mafia, these arrogant, truculent young hoodlums are not only willing, but eager to commit the most atrocious crimes hoping thereby to gain recognition and eventual acceptance into the higher and more rarefied Mafia atmosphere.²⁹

A considerable number of these young toughs are either imprisoned or killed before they reach the age of thirty . . . Having reached maturity, however, many of them mend their ways and decide to adopt the personalities and methods of their elders in the society, and thus begins the rise of the "higher" species of their kind . . . As the ricottaro matures, there will be fewer and fewer chances of crime involving violence. Where they do appear, the record further reveals few prosecutions; and fewer, if any, convictions . . . All the present crop of top Mafioso were, at the outset of their criminal careers, ricottaros of the most truculent kind; and yet, today they are able to pass themselves off to a gullible society as much abused and persecuted "gentlemen" . . .³⁰

Thus, it is seen that there are no elections, no appointments, no necessity for sectional assistance, no need for personal intercessors or apologists in the creation of a Capo. Having once achieved this lofty position of prominence so long as his prestige remains and he himself remains true to the code, his "people" are content to recognize and give the proper obeisance to him in his exalted post. He rises and falls as an individual . . . He is, in effect, a dual personality, a veritable Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde . . .

Thus his whole existence is devoted to concealing himself within a cloak of immunity. His very personality must exude innocence. He develops all of the qualifications and performs all of the duties of the good and the helpful citizens, friend, and neighbor. In all of his external manifestations, in alms-giving, in favor bestowing, in sympathetic understanding of another's difficulties, in actively seeking opportunities to be of service to others he outdoes the most Christian of men. In effect, to be eligible for acceptance in the Alta Mafia, he has been "born again." There is a transformation in his whole character, from the external viewpoint, of course he shuns ostentation even recognition. Far

²⁹Allen, p. 24.

³⁰Ibid., pp. 30-31.

from the haunts of men he wishes to live unseen, unknown. He will on every occasion turn the other cheek. He will give the soft answer that turneth away wrath. He will return good for evil and do good for those who would injure him.³¹

In 1860 the Mafia supported the army of liberation under the leadership of Giuseppe Garibaldi. The Bourbon oppressors were overthrown and driven from the country. The Mafia, however, found itself in a position to demand certain privileges from the new government in return for their support of the army of liberation. The concessions were granted to the Mafia and the country of Sicily has been plagued with this parasitical organization since that date.

By the beginning of the twentieth century the Mafia was flourishing in all the urban centers of western Sicily. The Palermo Mafia had become the dominant force in controlling the activities of the organization. It was at about this time that individual "families" within the Mafia began to specialize. Each family would assume major control of at least one area of commerce such as the produce markets, the slaughter houses, the taxi-drivers, etc. Gradually the organization became more and more sophisticated.

The Mafia 'family' became the first step in the affiliation, and it is almost always composed of blood relations or relations by law of the same family . . . The recognized chief of the 'family' is the most authoritative member, even if, as sometimes happens, he is the youngest. The power of a 'family' depends not only on the number of its members but also on the high placed friendships made by its chiefs outside the village. The higher and more qualified these connections the higher his reputation and the respect given by his followers.³²

³¹Allen, pp. 30-31.

³²Ibid., p. 34.

A 'cosca' consists of a number of families, sometimes all from the same village and sometimes from the neighboring ones. They must always be concerned with the same activity which must never clash with the interest of the other cosche, or an armed conflict is bound to take place.

A consorteria consists of all the cosche in a district which are concerned with the same criminal activity . . .

The so-called Onorata Society consists of all the consorteria of the Mafia bound together into a criminal organization.

In the symbolic jargon used by the Mafia, every word has its precise meaning. As in all big criminal organizations, the Mafia has its own special language which its members use in order to make their talk obscure or unintelligible. His jargon is accompanied by winks, as well as by gestures with the hands, the shoulders, the belly and the feet.³³

. . . The argot of organized crime is a pungent blend of traditional underworld words (swag for stolen goods), slang from Jewish (goniff for thief) and Italian (compare for friend), ghetto words from the Negro underworld of jazz and drugs (fuzz for policemen), and military talk (pieces for gun). It is heavily laced with profanity . . . used to punctuate nearly every sentence.³⁴

Nicknames serve to conceal real names, which are almost never used when the men of organized crime speak to each other. Police wiretaps and bugs reveal a constant use of nicknames, some of them known but others not. To make it even more difficult for law-enforcement men to identify who is being talked about, members increasingly use vague references such as "the man we saw yesterday," or "the guy out at the beach." The Bosses of the Confederation are almost always referred to as the Old Man.

Examples of aliases:

Charlie the Blade	Jimmy Blue Eyes	Good-Looking Al
One-ear Frankie	Pip the Blind	Killer Kane
Milwaukee Phip	The Spider	Singing Sam
Dom the Sailor	Mickey the Wise Guy	The Clutching Hand
Jerry the Lug	Blah Blah	Mule Ears ³⁵

³³Allen, pp. 34-37.

³⁴Salerno, Crime Conferation, p. 153.

³⁵Ibid., p. 149.

THE MOVE TO AMERICA

Many Italian immigrants began coming to America during the latter part of the nineteenth century. These immigrants settled primarily in the "little Italies" of New York, Chicago, Boston, and other large American cities. Although the Mafia was only one of many secret groups in America at that time, it did not take long for the Mafia to recognize America as a land of opportunity.

When the mafia came to America in the post-Civil War period, organized crime was well on its way. The mafia was just another strand, albeit a mighty one, in the garroting rope of American crime.

At first mafia elements operated almost exclusively within the "little Italies" of America. They entered into warfare against the other ethnic gangs. They then merged. And then they became the dominant element in the merger.

While lurid journalism has made "organized crime" and "mafia" synonymous, this is a dangerous distortion of both the origin and nature of the underworld. Organized crime in America is not an import, "Made in Sicily." It is American risen out of a native matrix of lawlessness, different but not dissimilar from that of Sicily. The underworld is not an Italian organization, but a vast syndicate of many ethnic and native groups.³⁶

In support of this view we note the following statement concerning the prevalence of secret societies in America at about that same time: "It has been authoritatively stated that there are in the United States over fifty distinct secret orders, with over 70,000 lodges and 5,500,000 members . . ."³⁷

³⁶Tyler, op. cit., p. 336.

³⁷J. M. Foster, writing in the Arena for February, under the title "Secret Societies and the State," as quoted in The Improvement Era, March, 1898, p. 373.

By the 1880's the Mafia were moving in to exploit and terrorize the Sicilian immigrants, by employing the same tactics here, in America, as they had used in Sicily. As they began to flourish in many major cities throughout America it became apparent they had both the organization and the manpower to control much of the illegal traffic in extortion, bootlegging, prostitution, gambling, and related areas.

From the middle of the nineteenth century there seems to be no lack of gangs in the large metropolitan areas of New York, areas of California, and Chicago. Some of the more popular gangs were the Bowery boys, True Blue Americans, the American Guards, the Dead Rabbits. These gangs, however, were just that, gangs of boys and young men who delighted in terrorizing particular segments of a city and especially specific minority groups such as the Italian Ghettos of New York and the Chinese of San Francisco.

It was not until after the turn of the century that Al Capone (see Appendix A), an early Mafia leader in Chicago, helped to streamline the organization and adapt it to this country by instigating the following methods. (1) He exterminated the rival underworld leaders in his area and organized virtually all illegal activity under one head. (2) He developed a highly efficient intelligence (communication) system throughout the city involving barbers, shoe-shine boys, hotel clerks, etc. (3) He invited all major Mafia leaders to a "national convention" in Atlantic City in

May, 1929. It was at this meeting that he laid the foundation for a nationwide criminal organization or syndicate for gambling, prostitution, labor-racketeering, extortion, and bootlegging.³⁸

Since the days of Capone, other men have contributed to the organization known today as the Cosa Nostra. One of the major contributors following Capone was Salvatore Luciano (Charles "Lucky" Luciano) (see Appendix B) who successfully organized the New York Mafia families in the same way that Capone had done in Chicago. Luciano instituted regional conferences, "replaced the traditional 'kiss' with the handshake,"³⁹ and changed the style of dress* and mannerisms of the New York brotherhood so much so that New York City Police Commissioner Michael J. Murphy testified under oath that:

Organized crime today is big business and, like all big businesses, employs all the aids and techniques of industry. Sophistication is so advanced that public relations policies are laid down by the various underworld groups. Ostentatious display, lavish public entertaining, conspicuous clothes, and the flashy blond are 20 years out of date. The top echelon frowns on

³⁸ Frederic Sondern, Jr., Brotherhood of Evil: The Mafia (New York: Farrar, Straus and Cudahy, Inc., 1959).

³⁹ Peter Maas, The Valachi Papers (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1968), pp. 28-29.

*"The racketeer is not someone dressed in a black shirt, white tie, and diamond stickpin whose activities affect only a remote underworld circle." (Organized Crime and Illicit Traffic in Narcotics, p. 16.)

those who create a bad image. The air or respectability, the quiet life in the residential neighborhood, the "portrait" of the respectable, aging family man, are the order of the day.⁴⁰

Under the direction of Capone, Luciano, and other underworld leaders, the American Mafia Organization has experienced phenomenal growth since coming to America.

Organized crime in mid-twentieth century America is the product of an evolutionary process, extending over more than a century. Contrary to popular belief, the cartelization of crime did not begin with Prohibition, although the Eighteenth Amendment provided a distinctive vigor and form to the syndicate. Nor did "crime incorporated" begin with the highly publicized Mafia, although individuals and groups commonly associated with it undoubtedly put their stamp on the underworld. The roots of organized crime can be found in New York, Chicago, and San Francisco, in Kansas, Texas, and Missouri, many decades before Volstead or Capone. The line of development from buccaneer to businessman, from fist-cuffs to finance parallels the contour of the American economy. The binding tie from past to present is the very accurate word "gangster." The gang is an organized group, a culture within the culture, demanding of its members a loyalty above state, religion, and even family. In its primitive form it is juvenile, undirected, and suave. This transfiguration from the primitive to the civilized is a repetitive, recurring in one generation after another, in a kind of destructive creation wherein the brutes of yesterday become the criminal lords of tomorrow.⁴¹

Members of the Mafia organization are now oftentimes accepted in American communities as respectable law abiding citizens. So grave had the situation in this nation become by 1951 that the Kefauver Committee summarized the situation as follows: "There is a nationwide crime syndicate known as

⁴⁰Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Government Operations, United States Senate, Organized Crime and Illicit Traffic in Narcotics (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1963), Part K, p. 45.

⁴¹Donald R. Cressey, Theft of a Nation (Harper & Row, Publishers, 1969), p. 56.

the Mafia, whose tentacles are found in many large cities. It has international ramifications which appear most clearly in connection with the narcotics traffic.⁴²

By 1963, the situation was described by Senator John McClellan, Chairman of the Senate Government Operations Committee, as follows:

There exists in the United States today a criminal organization that is directly descended from and is patterned upon the centuries old Sicilian terrorist society, the Mafia. This organization, also known as Cosa Nostra (a uniquely American name), operates vast illegal enterprises that produce an annual income of many billions of dollars. This combine has so much power and influence that it may be described as a private government of organized crime.⁴³

THE MODERN AMERICAN MAFIA ORGANIZATION

The underworld is what it is largely because Americans are too moral to tolerate human weakness, and because they are too great lovers of liberty to tolerate the tyranny which might make it possible to abolish what they prohibit.⁴⁴

Senator John McClellan of Arkansas was commissioned by the United States Senate to chair the committee of Government Operations and the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations. This committee, under the direction of Senator McClellan, heard testimony from Joseph Valachi (see Appendix C) and leading police officers from many major cities in the United States. This testimony taken from the eighty-eighth session of Congress record forms the primary source of information on the American Mafia Organization as it exists today.

The following excerpts represent a graphic picture

⁴²Excerpts from Organized Crime and Illicit Traffic in Narcotics (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1963), Part I, Findings and Conclusions, p. 117.

⁴³Ibid.

⁴⁴Cressey, op. cit., p. 72.

of the present day American Mafia organization and outlines the scope of its major activities.

The Mafia (Cosa Nostra)

When asked to identify, by name, the secret organization he was a member of, Joseph Valachi gave the following testimony before the "Rackets" committee.

The Chairman: . . . when did you become a member of this organization?

Mr. Valachi. In 1930.

The Chairman. What is the name of it?

Mr. Valachi. Cosa Nostra.

The Chairman. This is in Italian?

Mr. Valachi. This is "Our Thing" and "Our Family" in English.⁴⁵

Later that same day, Valachi testified further concerning that same secret organization.

Senator Muskie. This morning we got into some discussion of the nature of the Cosa Nostra. Is this organization anything like the Mafia, or is it part of the Mafia, or is it the Mafia?

Mr. Valachi. Senator, as long as I belong to this Cosa Nostra, all I can tell you is that they never express it as a Mafia. When I was speaking, I just spoke what I knew. . . .

Now, Senator, I don't know what they called it in Italy. I know this thing existed a long time, but in my time I have been with the Cosa Nostra and that is the way it was called, the way I am telling you, Senators, that the outsiders call it the Mafia, and they call it buttons, or combination or organization, and they have been using half a dozen expressions. That is all I can tell you.

Senator Muskie. But you never called it Mafia within the organization?

Mr. Valachi. We never did (p. 121).

⁴⁵Testimony, p. 80. Henceforth, all references to this source will be indicated by the page number in parentheses.

The Secret Covenant⁴⁶

Testimony indicates the following qualifications for membership in the Cosa Nostra organization:

1. The candidate must have full Italian ancestry.

Mr. Alderman. . . . now tell me, who can become a member of this organization if they are selected and elected? What are the qualifications?

Mr. Valachi. . . . you have to be a full Italian (p. 238).

2. The candidate must enter a secret covenant with other members of the organization. Joseph Valachi testified of those rites:

Mr. Valachi. . . . when I came in, I sat down and they were at the edge of the table, it was a long table, and there was a gun and a knife on the table. . . . I repeated some words they told me. . . . He (the spokesman) went on to explain that they lived by the gun and the knife and . . . you die by the gun and by the knife. . . . That is what the rules were, of Cosa Nostra . . . then he gave me a piece of paper, and I was to burn it. . . . This is the way I burn if I expose this organization. . . . after that we got around the table and drew numbers (pp. 180-183).

⁴⁶A "secret" society such as the Masons is really not a secret at all, for, whatever its privy rites may be, its existence is a public matter. A revolutionary organization, such as the Communist Party, may have secret agents, meetings and operations, but as a party its existence is not denied nor unprovable in a court of law. But of the Mafia it may be said, as Reuter did say in his Apalachin report, that while "its membership and organization have been the subject of many books and reports," such documents were "based almost entirely upon information short of legal evidence." This circumstance "permits of reasonable inference or speculation but . . . no official findings can be properly made."

Quoted from Gus Tyler, Organized Crime in America (Ann Arbor: The University of Michigan Press, 1962, pp. 224-225).

From the numbers drawn a godfather was selected for the new member.

Mr. Valachi. Then he pricks your finger, the godfather. . . . with a needle, and he makes a little blood come out, and in other words, that is the expression, the blood relationship. It is supposed to be like brothers. . . .

The Chairman. In other words, symbolic of the fact that you are willing to spill your blood to give your blood or give your life?

Mr. Valachi. That is right. (p. 184).

The rites were concluded with a handshake and an oath.

Mr. Valachi. Then they all shake hands, everybody gets up and shakes hands, and say a few words together, which I can't recall. . . .

Senator Mundt. In executive session you said when you had your hands all clasped together and repeated some words in Italian or Sicilian, that what it meant was, "One for all and all for one."

Mr. Valachi. Yes; that is the way I explained it (pp. 184-185).

Valachi added additional testimony concerning these secret rites when questioned by Senator McIntyre.

Senator McIntyre. So that you have told us all that you know about the actual initiation ceremonies of the Cosa Nostra?

Mr. Valachi. Senator, that is right. Let me explain it this way. You are only made once; that is all. If you live to be a hundred years it will be just that once.

Senator McIntyre. So that all you know about the ceremony is what you have already previously described?

Mr. Valachi. That is the same ceremony today, what I described in 1930 (p. 210).

Valachi testified to the rules of conduct which were explained to him at the time he was admitted into the organization. They were: (1) the code of silence, (2) a prohibition against sexual involvement with the wife or daughter of another member, (3) no physical violence against another member without permission (pp. 185-186).

The Commission

The activities of the American Mafia organization is controlled by a national commission. Former Attorney-General Robert Kennedy, testifying before the Senate subcommittee, said:

We know that Cosa Nostra is run by a commission and that the leaders of Cosa Nostra in most major cities are responsible to the commission. We know that the membership in the commission varies between nine and twelve active members and we know who the active members of the commission are today . . .

We know that the commission makes major policy decisions for the organization, settles disputes among the families, and allocates territories of criminal operation within the organization (pp. 6-7).

Police commissioner Michael J. Murphy of New York City testified:

Senator Brewster. . . . Mr. Commissioner, this morning the Attorney-General testified that there was a national crime syndicate that this commission or Board of Directors actually directed criminal activity throughout the United States. Would your experience bear that out?

Commissioner Murphy. . . . Yes, sir; completely (p. 62).

Joseph Valachi testified concerning that same commission when he said, "Well, we have what we call Griemeson. That is sort of like, in English, would express it as a commission" (p. 56).

The Family

"The Family" is the basic unit in the Mafia organization. The definition of the "family" as used by the Mafia, is explained by Valachi:

Senator Muskie. Mr. Chairman, I think it ought to be made clear that we are not speaking about family in

the usual sense. This is not family in the sense of fathers and mothers and sons and daughters?

Mr. Valachi. No; we are not speaking about that.

Senator Muskie. It is simply an organization of people who are not necessarily related to each other?

Mr. Valachi. Oh, no; I didn't say "related." We are speaking about the Cosa Nostra. That is the expression they use, but not in the immediate family, by no means. It doesn't mean mother or father or any sister or brother or anything like that (p. 82).

Concerning his "family" Valachi testified:

Mr. Valachi. . . . My family, the one I belonged to for 30 years never met as a whole. . . .

Senator Muskie. This is a secret organization, and how do you get to know that someone is a member of this same family?

Mr. Valachi. He will introduce him to you, for instance, as "a friend of ours." That means a member.

Now if he happens to be with someone that isn't a friend of ours, he will just simply say, "Meet a friend of mine," which means nothing. That is a code between us (p. 83).

The "family" assists any family member who gets into trouble while on some "family authorized" assignment.

Senator Jackson. . . . Mr. Valachi, yesterday I inquired regarding the compensation to the members of the family. I want to ask you what was the arrangement when one of the members got in trouble or difficulty, sent to prison, and he had a family to support? How was that handled or was it handled?

Mr. Valachi. . . . In that case, they helped you all the way, and they support your family while you are away. You get that if it is something that they ordered you to do. The money comes from dues . . . there were dues being paid of \$25 a month . . . for each soldier (pp. 239-240).

New York City is the principal scene of organized crime in America. Cosa Nostra according to Joseph Valachi and law enforcement witnesses, has five families in metropolitan New York and New Jersey (see Appendix D). Valachi spent his thirty years as a member of the organization among the New York families. Valachi testified that these five

families contained, in his estimate, about 2,000 active members and perhaps 2,500 to 3,000 inactive members (p. 271). Valachi did have a knowledge of other cities in the United States which contain Cosa Nostra families (see Appendix E). Some of these cities he identified for the sub-committee.

Mr. Alderman. . . . Could you mention the cities where other families exist of the Cosa Nostra and if you know the numbers of the members as you know them, could you mention them?

Mr. Valachi. I will start with Philadelphia. In Philadelphia, I would say about 100. Boston, when I left the streets, was about 20, 18 or 20. Chicago, about 150. Cleveland, about 40 or 50. Los Angeles, about 40. Tampa, about 10. Newark, about 100. Detroit, I am not familiar at all with Detroit . . . Buffalo, about 100-125. . . . Utica, New York, about 80-100. . . . New Orleans, very few in New Orleans (p. 386).

Mr. Alderman. How about Miami and Las Vegas?

Mr. Valachi. None in Miami. Only that they go there and live there.

Mr. Alderman. Is that what they call an open area?

Mr. Valachi. Well, put it an open area, yeah.

Mr. Alderman. What do you mean by an open area?

Mr. Valachi. No one is there.

Mr. Alderman. Any member of the family can settle there and operate there?

Mr. Valachi. Yes.

Mr. Alderman. But they don't exist as a family group?

Mr. Valachi. That is right. They have gone there from all families.

Mr. Alderman. . . . Is Las Vegas an open area?

Mr. Valachi. The same as Miami (p. 387).

Joseph Valachi's testimony centered primarily around the five Mafia families of the New York City area. The law enforcement officials of several other major metropolitan areas, testified that organized crime in the Cosa Nostra pattern is a serious and continuing malignancy in their cities. The Sub-Committee heard testimony concerning Tampa, Florida; Buffalo, New York; and the city of Boston, including nearby Rhode Island. It should be pointed out that the

Mafia activities are not limited to these cities alone, nor were they necessarily selected as top ranking centers of organized crime. On the contrary, the top police officers of those cities appeared as witnesses in order to forward the Sub-Committee's avowed legislative purposes in holding the hearings. Captain William J. Duffy, Director of Intelligence for Chicago Police Department, furnished the Sub-Committee with the detailed information about the syndicate that operates organized crime in Chicago. Like the other police officers who testified before the Sub-Committee, Captain Duffy pinpointed the group which he was talking about. "When I use the term 'crime syndicate' I am referring to a particular criminal organization known variously in the Chicago area as the 'outfit,' the 'mob,' the 'Mafia,' and most recently the 'Cosa Nostra'" (p. 506).

The Intra-Family Organization

The 'family' organization developed into a sophisticated organizational structure. The main levels in the family hierarchy as indicated by Joseph Valachi are: ". . . the individual bosses of the individual families, and then we had an underboss, and then we had what we call a Caporegima which is a lieutenant, and then we had what we call soldiers" (p. 80). The boss of the family holds supreme control within his 'family' organization. He is known as the "Capo." Vito Genevose was the boss of the family to which Joseph Valachi belonged. (See Chart 1.) (See Appendix D.)

The underboss or "Sotto Capo" serves to shield the "boss" from the law or any direct threat on his person. He is the last person one must get through to get to the boss. Each family has a number of lieutenants or Caporigimas. These men are directly responsible to the boss of the family, and each has a number of soldiers or button men who are responsible to him. Joseph Valachi and approximately twenty-nine other soldiers served under their lieutenant, Pasquale Ebole. The number of soldiers in a given family varies. The Genevose family was one of the larger. Valachi testified:

Senator Mundt. . . . How many soldiers would be under a boss?

Mr. Valachi. Well, certain families have, Vito Genevose has about 450, in and about that.

Senator Mundt. 450?

Mr. Valachi. About 450, yes, sir. It could be even 500, but I am giving it roughly (p. 81).

Concerning the status of the soldiers in the underworld, Mr. Shandley of the New York Police Department testified:

Mr. Alderman. . . . Even though they are soldiers, they are high in the ranks of criminality?

Mr. Shandley. Yes, sir, this should not be construed to indicate that this is the extent of this operation because all of these people he designates as soldiers, which are actually group leaders, they have people working for them at an occupational level. Some of them have a great many, some would only have a few, but they definitely have somebody beneath them (p. 81).

Captain LaVern J. Duffy, Director of Intelligence for the Chicago Police Department, testified that in the Chicago area, the syndicate plans its operations on a continuing, long-term basis. The Chicago police have observed a system of training and promotion in which today's Mafia

leaders school their heir apparent. He stated that "his office believes there are twenty-six men who lead 300 full-time gangsters in control of Chicago's organized crime."⁴⁷

The Criminal Activities of
the Mafia Organization

Over the years, the Mafia has expanded the scope of its operations. Their criminal activities now include:

1. Murder. Murder is probably the most important single activity for strengthening the criminal organization. The Mafia receives its greatest strength from the fact that it can impose the death penalty on offenders and informers. Captain William Duffy of the Chicago Police Department testifies before the Sub-Committee:

Mr. Duffy. From countless investigations, and after long analysis, we have concluded that the one single characteristic that is most responsible for the success and continuity of this crime syndicate is the ability of the group to commit murder and other acts of violence without compunction. . . .
. . . people have just refused to cooperate stating that they are afraid for their lives.⁴⁸

Superintendent of Police O. W. Wilson testified:

"The most nefarious actions of those engaged in organized crime is their resort to murder in order to maintain discipline within their organization."⁴⁹

Since 1919, in the Chicago area there have been 976 gangland murders of which only two have been cleared by the arrest and convictions of the murderers. Commissioner Edwards from Detroit testified that murder has always been

⁴⁷ Excerpts, p. 19. ⁴⁸ Ibid., pp. 512-513.

⁴⁹ Ibid., p. 487.

a potent weapon among organized criminals. Edwards stated that there had been sixty-nine gangland murders in the Detroit area between 1927 and 1962.⁵⁰

Police Chief Brown from Tampa, Florida, testified that from 1928 to 1963 there had been twenty-three gangland slayings in the Tampa area, one of which had been solved.⁵¹

2. Money-raising activities. Former Attorney-General Robert Kennedy testified before the Sub-Committee that large sums of money from numerous localities were being funnelled into the Mafia organization. He cites numerous instances where sums of money exceeding \$20 million a year are collected by the Mafia organization. Such enormous totals are not unusual. They illustrate how big a business organized crime has become. Attorney-General Kennedy testified as follows:

As I testified before the Senate and House Judiciary committees in the summer of 1961, we estimated that illegal gambling alone had a gross volume of some \$7 billion annually. We have made progress since that time. We have successfully prosecuted 1,283 gamblers for wagering tax or interstate gambling violations.

There is, in any event, no doubt that illegal gambling still takes an enormous amount of money, much of which is used to feed other kinds of organized crime.

To illustrate, in an interstate numbers game case which we prosecuted successfully in New York City, records seized during a raid disclosed that this single operation grossed \$6 million a year. In the three related cases successfully prosecuted in the western district of Pennsylvania, a total of \$40 million was involved.

Figures of this magnitude have been found all over the country (p. 11).

⁵⁰ Excerpts, p. 22.

⁵¹ Ibid., p. 23.

The gross national product for the United States of America in 1964 amounted to near \$400 billion dollars. It has been estimated that the Mafia organization took a tithe or \$40 billion tax free dollars from the American public that year.⁵²

The corporate giant of crime annually enjoys a profit greater than General Motors, Standard Oil, Ford, General Electric, and U.S. Steel combined. Its gross business is larger than that of all American automotive companies put together.⁵³

3. Narcotics. Illicit drug traffic has long been a source of revenue for the Mafia Organization. (See Appendix B, Luciano.)

Narcotics also provide enormous profits. Because of the remarkable vigilance and law enforcement efforts of the Bureau of Narcotics, under Henry Giordano, we know the syndicate leadership has ordered its members to stay out of the narcotics traffic.

This greed--and the efforts of the Bureau of Narcotics--are typified by the historic case involving an international heroin ring. This operation smuggled, conservatively speaking, \$150 million worth of heroin into this country in the false bottoms of trunks supplied by unsuspecting Italian emigrants.

How important this case was to the syndicate can be gauged from what happened to the 24 men indicted in New York. The body of one defendant was found in the Bronx, full of bullet holes, shortly before the trial. The badly-burned body of a second defendant was found in a field near Rochester, New York, during the trial. Another defendant attempted suicide and three others, the leader of the ring here, fled the country two of them forfeiting \$50,000 bail . . .

Gambling and narcotics are not the only sources of great income to the rackets. Usurious loans--known in

⁵²Maas, Valachi Papers, p. 26.

⁵³Ralph Salerno and John Tompkins, Crime Confederation (Garden City: Doubleday & Co., Inc., 1969), p. 225.

the underworld as "juice loans" or "shylocking"-- involved large amounts as well as frequent hoodlum threats of violence made to insure payment (pp. 11-12).

4. Shylocking.

The principal syndicate "shylocker" in New York was carrying some loan records when he was arrested by the FBI recently for violating probation. While he first contested revocation of his probation at a hearing, he quickly changed his plea to guilty when the courts sought to question him about the records. From other sources we know why he was so anxious to avoid talking about his loans. He had loaned over \$125,000 of his own money at usurious rates. The additional money he was handling for the syndicates ran into hundreds of thousands more . . .

Considering that an interest rate of \$6.00 back for \$5.00 borrowed per week is not unusual in the underworld, the size of the profits from this activity is apparent. If there is no repayment, the rate would compound to over 700% over the usual twelve-week loan period.

Yet even the enormous amounts of money involved in these activities tell only part of the story of the rackets' financial interests. What is at least as disturbing, and far more insidious, is the increasing encroachment of the big businessmen of the rackets into legitimate business (p. 12).

5. Extortion.

In some cases, the familiar weapon of extortion has been used not only as a source of direct income, but as a wedge to obtain control of respectable enterprises.

An illuminating case in point began in 1960 with the series of threats directed against the partners in a Brooklyn furniture enterprise. Subsequently, one partner was beaten by unknown assailants. Acting on the advice of a New York rackets leader, the partners then sought protection from another important racketeer, ranked high in the Profaci-Magliocco family. The "patron" agreed to provide the necessary protection, but announced that he, too, was now a partner in the business, of which the paid-up inventory alone was over \$60,000.

In return for his new "partnership" he gave \$10,000 to one partner for his entire interest and \$5,000 to the other for a half interest.

Thereafter the racketeer proceeded to milk the company dry. Then came a series of mysterious fires which resulted in an insurance settlement of over \$105,000.

Another scheme used by the racketeers for intruding into legitimate business is bankruptcy fraud. The method of operation is simple.

The racketeer buys or opens a retail store, often through a "front" man. He deposits substantial funds into a bank account for the store and, using that as a basis for credit, orders large amounts of merchandise.

He then sells the goods through the ostensible, legitimate store, but does not pay his creditors. Anxious to protect their investment, they give him extended opportunity to pay.

By the time the collector comes with the sheriff, however, the ostensible merchant has disappeared--or contends that he lost the retail sale proceeds, now safely hidden, at the race track or in a so-called burglary. . . .

Still another form of encroachment into legitimate business is the fictitious employee scheme.

To promote their illegal activities, racketeers in some parts of the country have arranged to be placed on the payrolls of ostensibly legitimate business, which they may, indeed, own themselves.

This employment is purely fictitious and the racketeer performs no services for the firm, but the "job" permits him to devote his time to operating illegal activities while the job title and his tax returns show him to be a member of the honest business community.

A racketeer in this position can use the business as a funnel for racketeering profits by repaying loans, for example, with illegally obtained funds . . .

Other racketeers have interests in a variety of legitimate businesses--the garment industry, construction, bowling alleys, liquor wholesaling, real estate, juke boxes, vending machines, restaurants, and others (pp. 12-13).

6. Labor relations.

Racketeers' intrusions into businesses are paralleled by their intrusions into labor relations . . .

In the past two and one-half years (1961-1963), 43 labor and 34 management representatives have been indicted for violations of the Taft-Hartley Act prohibition against payoff to union officials. A total of 201 persons have been indicted for this and other labor-management offenses during the same period and we have so far secured 146 convictions (pp. 13-14).

The effect of the criminal activities of the American Mafia Organization is summarized by former Attorney-General Kennedy:

The reason, decidedly, exists. The financial costs of organized crime is not limited to the vast illicit profits of gambling or narcotics. When racketeers bore

their way into legitimate business, the cost is borne by the public.

When infiltration is into labor relations, the racketeer's cut is paid by higher wages and higher prices --in other words, by the public.

When the racketeer bribes local officials and secures immunity from police action, the price exacted by corrupt law enforcement--incalculable in dollars-- is paid, again by the public.

In short, organized crime affects everyone. It cannot be the concern only of law enforcement officers. It must be the urgent and active concern of every citizen (p. 16).

Cressey specifically identifies the danger involved by this infiltration into legitimate business.

Criminal organizations dealing only in illicit goods and services are no great threat to the nation. The danger of organized crime arises because the vast profits acquired from the sale of illicit goods and services are being invested in illicit enterprises, in both the economic sphere and the political sphere. It is when criminal syndicates start to undermine basic economic and political traditions and institutions that the real trouble begins. And the real trouble has begun in the United States.⁵⁴

The Self-Protecting Measures Used by the Mafia

The basic strength of the Mafia organization comes from the ten self-protecting measures identified by Jay Shanley of the Central Investigation Bureau of the New York City Police Department.

The organized crime rulers . . . have had relatively long reigns. This stability of command, frustrating to the police, must be a puzzle to the public. These overlords have remained in their positions of power despite ruthless and ambitious underlings on one side and the full might of the federal, state, and municipal enforcement on the other. This can be accounted for, to a degree, by certain tactics--methods of operations--

⁵⁴Cressey, Theft of a Nation, p. 1.

employed by them . . . among these protective measures are the following:

1. Insulation.

Every law-breaker tries to avoid arrest. These efforts usually become more concrete and complicated in direct proportion to the prestige and cunning of the perpetrator. The top ranks of these families seldom become involved in crimes in such a manner that would subject them to embarrassment, much less arrest.

Their personal conduct is free of obvious misdeeds. Social associations are generally very restricted, and contact with actual law-breakers is non-existent. Of necessity, as the levels descend, the members get closer to operations and become increasingly vulnerable to police activities. But this descent is deep in the pyramid and a long way from the top.

Specific plans and devices are used, but basically, the strongest insulation is supplied by a philosophy which permeates the group; i.e., that the boss must be protected. "Inculcation of this thinking on the membership has been highly successful (pp. 66-67).

Mr. Shanley then adds additional information to this idea of insulation when he testified to the following:

Mr. Shanley. . . . In relation to the insulation, I think that a study of the arrest records of the people who will appear on this chart [see police records accompanying Chart 1] is one of the greatest indications of how effective insulation is.

Most of these people start off with a series of arrests when they are young men. They are arrested for various types of crimes.

Then as they go on and become a little bit older, these arrests cease.

A man who does not get up in the ranks, he continues to accumulate arrests, but these other people go sometimes 25 years without an arrest.

This is because they have been removed from the operational level. Somebody else is taking the risk. They are out of it (p. 74).

Later in the testimony Mr. Shanley used an example to illustrate the principle of insulation.

Mr. Shanley. . . . We made a chart to find out how far the lower echelon would be away from a man like Aloi. We figured in order to reach Aloi, you would have to penetrate thirteen levels to get to Aloi.

To get to the man who would talk to Aloi about his

account in this policy operation, you would have to go through twelve levels. This is the difficulty in it.

When I speak of these men being in gambling, they are well removed from it and insulated, in this instance by thirteen or fourteen levels (p. 311).

Another example used to illustrate the principle of insulation was given by Joseph Valachi as he testified that this pattern was followed exactly in the murder of a certain Giannini in September, 1952. Charles Luciano, then boss of the family, sent word from Italy to Vito Genevose, the underboss, that Giannini was an informer; Genevose told Anthony (Tony Bender) Strollo to have Giannini murdered; Strollo told Valachi who supervised the thugs who committed the murder (p. 6).

2. Respect. Another inviolate rule is the requirement that there must be a strong sense of respect for leaders and traditions. This is beyond merely protecting the boss. Deference is given to position, authority, and seniority, and is unmistakable when observed. Status is often revealed by the tone of voice, the held door, the proffered seat. "Sleepers" (high-ranking members whose importance is relatively unknown) have been revealed to police by displays of respect (p. 6).

Mr. Shanley. . . . There was one man we knew but we never considered him to be on any particular high status. . . . Every time this man had occasion to walk over to the detective to be interrogated, everybody stood up and let him pass them. . . . Everybody jumped up and let him sit down. . . .

. . . Tony Bender . . . was in a station house and this fellow was showing his disregard for the arrest . . . clowning around . . .

Bender said, . . . "Why don't you sit down, Frank." Frank sat down and never opened his mouth for the rest of the night (p. 74).

3. The buffer. The family boss does not mix or deal with his underlings but has a trusted servant who stands between him and trouble. This man termed a buffer has many functions and is aware of all business dealings engaged in by the boss.

This buffer, although he is not a high-ranking member, has the confidence of the organization. He alone could testify against the top man, but even here precautions are taken to assure that his testimony would be unfounded and useless as state's evidence.

Mr. Shanley gave an example to illustrate the use of the buffer.

Mr. Shanley. We have one here, Anthony Corillo, Tony the Sheik. He is a buffer in a sense for Mike Moranda. You observe Tony the Sheik, you are going to see Mike Moranda . . . he usually is in his company

. . . .

 Mr. Alderman. Do you find, for example, Vito Genevose, or Jerry Catina or Mike Moranda . . . do they deal directly with the soldiers . . . ?

Mr. Shanley. No they do not . . . very few of these people are in operations. They are insulated against themselves (pp. 271-272).

4. The appointment.

In these families all important matters go through channels. At the last stage, it comes to one man--the buffer--and he takes it to the overlord. This procedure is strictly followed, but there have been times when a low level superior was permitted to speak to the boss on business. This is unusual, and requires following a set method.

The member concerned must obtain permission from his immediate boss. This request then goes through channels to the buffer, who presents it to the head. All this communication is done in person. Such a request is not honored except under unusual and urgent circumstances, or when it comes from an old, old friend.

When a request is granted, the buffer picks up both the petitioner and his immediate supervisor, and brings

them to a place previously selected as convenient and acceptable to the overlord.

The meeting is formal. The matter is discussed, the petition is made and, in due time, a decision is rendered, and then is handed down to the petitioner. This concludes the matter. These "appointments" are very infrequent, occur within families only, and differ from a sit down.

5. The sit down.

A sit down develops when there is a threat to gangland peace because of a dispute between members of this sub-society. At one time, force--frequent and ruthless--was the ultimate pacifier. However, according to the chiefs of these notorious clans, when open violence is used, "the only winners are the cops."

If a question comes up, the syndicate lesser leaders arrange to sit down and thrash it out. In most cases the issue can be resolved at this level. If necessary, it can go higher. On occasion, when these disputes reach a higher level, the disputants find out they are members of the same family.

Sometimes the quarrel must be referred to the highest authorities, the heads of the families. Arrangements are made to meet, and the heads sit down and talk the matter over. Their decision is final.

The sit down, really a peace conference, has eliminated clashes between established houses. The sit down does not apply to settling differences with people outside of these families, although conciliatory approaches are used in such instances, at least at the start (p. 68).

Mr. Valachi testified that on one occasion he was called to one of these sit downs.

Mr. Valachi, I was brought on the carpet (called to a hearing about a disciplinary infraction). . . . He was represented by his lieutenant and I was represented by my lieutenant . . . which was Tony Bender . . . and also Albert Anastasia was there, which was his boss (pp. 186-187).

After the shooting of Albert Anastasia there was a meeting (at Apalachian, N.Y.) . . . held for two main reasons that I know of. One was to talk about the justifying of Albert Anastasia. The other one was that they were going to talk about eliminating some couple of hundred new members . . . but they never reached to have this meeting and they never had a chance to tell it because they got arrested (p. 388).

6. Discipline.

All disciplining of members of these tribes, no matter how barbaric, including murder, is done within the same house or family, by their own members. Thus, if a family member has violated the rules or refuses to abide by his superior's decision, he must be punished. This punishment varies from a warning, through cutting him out of some lucrative endeavor, to the ultimate-murder.

Keeping the killing within the family eliminates the development of vendettas, makes it easy to perform the task, and paves the way for the disappearance.

It has been the experience in New York City that murders of mob members have been performed by fellow members of the same family. Almost without exception, any other recent racket-type killing in New York City have been committed by mavericks, spontaneously, or people outside the family.

Mr. Valachi supplies another example to illustrate the principle of discipline.

Mr. Valachi. . . . Willy Moretti was killed and they expressed it that he was a sick man . . . he was supposed to be a mercy-killing (pp. 324-325).

7. The disappearance.

Sometimes a sit down decides that a murder is the only solution to the problem discussed. As mentioned, the homicide is assigned to the mob to which the victim belongs. Within a short time, the man disappears. In five instances in the last three years a member and usually his car have vanished without a trace. These obliterations were carried out by utices, "friends"--possibly actual blood relatives--completely trusted by the victim. The victim showed no fear, no change from routine, prior to his disappearance.

This technique has great advantages. There is no apparent violence. No sprawled body and bullet-punctured car. No gruesome pictures. No inflamed press and public. Usually, sometime after the victim was last seen, he is reported as a missing person in the jurisdiction in which he resides. Frequently, this is a small town adjacent to the city but, regardless, there is no body and no complaint of homicide. The case is carried as a missing person, a disappearance (p. 69).

Joseph Valachi provided the Sub-Committee with the method by which these disappearances are carried out.

Senator McIntyre. One last question. I have been somewhat intrigued about these disappearances. You know there has been talk here of people being killed. How do they accomplish these disappearances? You said on one occasion they bury the man.

Mr. Valachi. Yes.

Senator McIntyre. Do they drop him in the river or how else do they cause these men to disappear?

Mr. Valachi. When they throw them in the river they don't use the expression of "burying them" because 99 out of 100 will always come up in the river. When I use the expression "buried," I mean they bury them in some area upstate, somewhere, anywhere. It could be anyplace.

Senator McIntyre. Is this the way they caused these people to disappear so that police or nobody found them?

Mr. Valachi. Right (p. 395).

Sergeant Salerno testifying before the committee gave another instance which illustrates the same point.

Sergeant Salerno. (On the disappearance of Armond Rava.) We don't truly have an official complaint, either that he is missing, by any member of his family who do reside in our city, nor do we have any complaints of homicide, nor is there a body . . . (p. 361).

Joseph Valachi gives evidence that this method was used repeatedly by the Mafia.

Mr. Valachi. (On the disappearance of Tony Bender.) Vito Genevose told me that it was the best thing that could have happened to Tony And he said, "Well, you know he was a sick guy, and he won't be able to take it like you and I." Like he couldn't take time . . . time in prison . . . it meant that in our language he had ordered his death (pp. 87-88).

8. Permission. All illicit activities within a family require the approval of the boss. The family that gives permission will help if anything goes wrong. Family policy is the criterion; crimes which arouse the public are forbidden. The Genevose family would not grant permission to any of its soldiers to deal in narcotics. Joseph Valachi was later convicted of a narcotics charge and given fifteen years in the penitentiary. Therefore, when he testified

before the Sub-Committee concerning narcotics, he knew what he was talking about.

Mr. Valachi. . . . You are in serious trouble if you were arrested for narcotics You have another trial after having a trial with the government (p. 319).

9. The money mover.

The main objective of these families is the efficient amassing of money. Huge amounts of cash from illegal sources pose two problems. Its true ownership must be hidden, and it must be put to work. The greedy overlords consider the need to put the money to work quickly equal in importance to the need to hide its ownership. The money mover provides this service.

The money mover is apt at insulating himself. He has fury at his service. He has excellent and wide-spread connections. And he has as his partner an astute, unethical businessman. He and his partner merge two basic abilities: brains and brawn. The partner invests through corporations, other partners, and as an individual. Importing, real estate, trust funds, books, stocks and bonds, are typical undertakings. Both the money mover and his partner enjoy some returns, but the bulk of the profits go to the mob. The object is to invest in legitimate situations, but anywhere a quick buck can be made without too much risk is not overlooked.

10. Public relations.

The organization is always concerned with public opinion, and all strong actions which might influence the public must be cleared with the Cosa Nostra leaders. Failures in this area reflect upon the boss. The front of respectability and propriety must be maintained (p. 70).

This information represents a graphic picture of the methods and procedures used by the Mafia organization to insure the continued success of their illicit underworld-upper-world cartel.

CHAPTER III

A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THE STRUCTURE AND PURPOSE OF BOOK OF MORMON SECRET COMBINATIONS AND THE AMERICAN MAFIA ORGANIZATION

DEFINITION OF A SECRET COMBINATION

A secret combination is a satanically inspired secret organization whose objective is to get "power and gain" through any expedient means.¹

Definition of "Power and Gain"

The possession, control, or command of people, money, or usable merchandise.

LUCIFER--ARCHITECT OF THE "AMERICAN" SECRET COMBINATION, ANCIENT AND MODERN

Satan's role has always been and will always be to inspire men to do evil. The means used to inspire them are

¹According to O. W. Wilson, Superintendent of Police, Chicago, a secret combination is defined as, "The combination of a number of persons who resort to criminal means in order to establish a monopoly in a financially profitable activity, whether such activity be legitimate or illegitimate. Killings, beatings, bombings, fires and other terrorist acts are threatened and used to drive out competitors and to warn others who may desire to enter the lucrative field. Corruption of public officials is sought by criminals in order to assure against the interruption of their profitable operations. (Testimony, p. 486.)

varied but have always been designed to lead men away from "light and truth" into the darkness of depravity and destruction.

The secret combination as established by Satan is symptomatic of a more basic social problem. Satan has always used these secret combinations as a catalyst in an already sick society, to compound the social disorders and disrupt the moral, economic and political functions of society. Once disrupted, "anarchy . . . the absence of all government . . . the antipode of order . . ." is fostered. "Every man is a law unto himself and his own right arm, is his power to enforce his own will . . ." ² Under these conditions confusion reigns; famine and disease are rampant; human misery is everywhere evident. The outcome is war and destruction.

This portion of the study will attempt to identify and compare some of the most significant characteristics of the American Secret Combinations--ancient and modern.

We will begin by establishing the fact that Satan was the architect of the secret combination.

The Adamic Civilization

Satan said unto Cain: Swear unto me . . . and this day I will deliver thy brother Abel into thy hands . . . All these things were done in secret. . . . And Cain said: Truly I am Mahan, the master of this great secret that I may murder and get gain. ³

²Erastus Snow, Journal of Discourses, XXII (April 4, 1881), 151.

³Moses 5:29-31.

For Lamech having entered into a covenant with Satan, after the manner of Cain, wherein he became Master Mahan, master of that great secret which was administered unto Cain by Satan . . . For from the days of Cain, there was a secret combination, and their works were in the dark . . . Wherefore the Lord cursed . . . all them that had covenanted with Satan . . . and their works were abominations and began to spread among all the sons of men . . . And God cursed the earth with a sore curse, and was angry with the wicked, with all the sons of men whom he had made.⁴

The Jaredite Civilization

Now the daughter of Jared . . . did talk with her father, and said unto him: whereby hath my father so much sorrow? Hath he not read the record which our fathers brought across the great deep? Behold, is there not an account concerning them of old, that they by their secret plans did obtain kingdoms and great glory? . . . Akish did administer unto them the oaths which were given by them of old . . . which had been handed down even from Cain . . . And they were kept up by the power of the devil . . . And it came to pass that⁵ they formed a secret combination, even as they of old.

The Nephite Civilization

Now behold, those secret oaths and covenants did not come forth unto Gadianton from the records which were delivered unto Helaman; but behold, they were put into the heart of Gadianton by that same being who did entice our first parents to partake of the forbidden fruit . . .

Yea, that same being who did plot with Cain, that if he would murder his brother Abel it should not be known unto the world. And he did plot with Cain and his followers from that time forth.

And also it is that same being who . . . led on the people who came from that tower into this land; who spread the works of darkness and abominations over all the face of the land . . .

Yea, it is that same being who put it into the heart of Gadianton to still carry on the work of darkness, and of secret murder; and he has brought it forth from the beginning of man even down to this time.

⁴Moses 5:49-56.

⁵Ether 8:9-16.

And behold, it is he who is the author of all sin. And behold, he doth carry on his works of darkness and secret murder, and doth hand down their plots, and their oaths, and their covenants, and their plans of awful wickedness, from generation to generation according as he can get hold upon the hearts of the children of men.⁶

The Gentile Civilization

Wherefore, O ye Gentiles, . . . when ye shall see these things come among you . . . awake to a sense of your awful situation, because of this secret combination which shall be among you . . . for it is built up by the devil, who is the father of all lies; even that same liar who hath caused man to commit murder from the beginning . . . And there are also secret combinations, even as in times of old, according to the combinations of the devil, for he is the foundation of all these things; yea, the foundation of murder, and works of darkness.⁷

Summary

The sacred record has conclusively established the fact that Satan was the architect of the ancient "American" secret combination which did exist among the Adamic, Jaredite and Nephite-Lamanite civilizations. It has also been shown that the same secret combination will be present among the American gentile civilization in these last days.

The purpose of the following material is to show that the ancient "American" secret combination and the present day American Mafia organization are, by virtue of their structure and purpose, one and the same organization.

⁶Helaman 6:26-30.

⁷Ether 8:23-25; 2 Nephi 26:22.

A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF "AMERICAN" SECRET
COMBINATIONS--ANCIENT AND MODERN

The American Secret
Combination--A Government
within a Government

A secret combination is aptly described as a "government within a government."⁸ The secret combination is a rigidly controlled organization with a specific group of people holding membership and with specifically defined objectives and authority.

A comparison of this "second government" is most effectively made by using the approach suggested by Dr. Hugh Nibley in his book, Since Cumorah.⁹ The three general categories and several specific characteristics identified by Dr. Nibley as they related to the Book of Mormon secret societies will be presented. Comparison will be made with each specific characteristics of the American Mafia organization. The purpose for this will be to establish the fact that they are one and the same organization and the very combination spoken of by Moroni in Ether 8:23-24.

1. Formation of secret agreements (covenants)
between individual and groups. (See Appendix F for some
common characteristics of secret covenants.)

⁸" . . . it shows what has been aptly described as a private government of organized crime, a government with an annual income of billions, resting on a base of human suffering and moral corrosion" (McClellin, Testimony, p. 6).

⁹Hugh Nibley, Since Cumorah (Salt Lake City: Deseret Book Co., 1967), pp. 407-408.

1.1 Book of Mormon secret combinations.

1.11 The Adamic civilization.

And Satan said unto Cain: Swear unto me by thy throat, and if thou tell it thou shalt die; and swear thy brethren by their heads, and by the living God, that they tell it not; for if they tell it, they shall surely die; and this that thy father may not know it; and this day I will deliver thy brother Abel into thine hands.

And Satan sware unto Cain that he would do according to his commands.

And Cain said: truly I am Mahan, the master of this great secret, that I may murder and get gain (Moses 5: 29-31).

And Lamech said unto his wives, Adah and Zillah: Hear my voice, ye wives of Lamech, hearken unto my speech; for I have slain a man to my wounding, and a young man to my hurt.

If Cain shall be avenged seven-fold, truly Lamech shall be seventy and seven fold.

For Lamech having entered into a covenant with Satan, after the manner of Cain, wherein he became Master Mahan, master of that great secret which was administered unto Cain by Satan; and Irad, the son of Enoch, having known their secret began to reveal it unto the sons of Adam;

Wherefore Lamech, being angry, slew him, not like unto Cain, his brother Abel, for the sake of getting gain, but he slew him for the oath's sake.

For, from the days of Cain there was a secret combination, and their works were in the dark, and they knew every man his brother.

Wherefore the Lord cursed Lamech and his house, and all them that had covenanted with Satan; for they kept not the commandments of God, and it displeased God, and he administered not unto them, and their works were abominations, and began to spread among all the sons of men.

And it was among the sons of men, and among the daughters of men these things were not spoken, because that Lamech had spoken the secret unto his wives, and they rebelled against him, and declared these things abroad, and had not compassion;

Wherefore Lamech was despised, and cast out, and came not among the sons of men, lest he should die (Moses 5:47-54).

1.12 The Jaredite civilization.

And it came to pass that Akish gathered in unto the house of Jared all his kinsfolk, and said unto them: Will ye swear unto me that ye will be faithful unto me in the thing which I shall desire of you?

And it came to pass that they all sware unto him, by the God of heaven and also by the heavens, and also by the earth, and by their heads, that whoso should vary from the assistance which Akish desired should lose his head; and whoso should divulge whatsoever thing Akish made known unto them, the same should lose his life.

And it came to pass that thus they did agree with Akish. And Akish did administer unto them the oaths which were given by them of old who also sought power, which had been handed down even from Cain, who was a murderer from the beginning . . .

And it came to pass that they formed a secret combination, even as they of old (Ether 8:13-15, 18).

1.13 The Nephite civilization.

And he (Kishkumen) went unto those that sent him, and they entered into a covenant, yea, swearing by their everlasting Maker, that they would tell no man that Kishkumen has murdered Pahoram (Helaman 1:11).

Those judges . . . many friends . . . and kindreds . . . did enter into a covenant one with another, yea, even into that covenant which was given by them of old, which covenant was given and administered by the devil, to combine against all righteousness.

Therefore they did combine against the people of the Lord, and enter into a covenant to destroy them, and to deliver those who were guilty of murder from the grasp of justice (3 Nephi 6:27-29).

1.14 The Gentile civilization.

Wherefore, O ye Gentiles . . . the Lord commandeth you, when ye shall see these things come among you that ye shall awake to a sense of your awful situation, because of this secret combination which shall be among you (Ether 8:23-24).

1.2 American Mafia organization.

Mr. Valachi. . . . When I came in, I sat down and they were at the edge of the table, . . . I repeated some words they told me. . . . He (the spokesman) went on to explain that they lived by the gun and the knife and . . . you die by the gun and by the knife . . . then he gave me a piece of paper, and I was to burn it . . . This is the way I burn if I expose the organization. . . . Then he pricks your finger, . . . with a needle, and he makes a little blood come out, and in other words, that is the expression, the blood relationship. It is supposed to be like brothers.

Mr. Chairman. In other words, symbolic of the fact that you are willing to spill your blood to give your life?

Mr. Valachi. That is right . . . then they all shake hands, everybody gets up and shakes hands, and says a few words together, which I can't recall.

Senator Mundt. In executive session you said when you had your hands clasped together and repeated some words in Italian or Sicilian, that what it meant was, "One for all and all for one."

Mr. Valachi. Yes; that is the way I explained it.

Mr. Valachi. Can I say something as to what I am telling you now. I need go no further to say nothing else but this here, what I am telling you, what I am exposing to you and to the press and everybody. This is my doom. This is the Promise I am breaking. Even if I talked I should never talk about this, and I am doing so. . . .

Senator Mundt. That is the highest oath you took. In other words, that was the most sacred in this organization.

Mr. Valachi. That is right (Testimony, pp. 180-185).

Senator Brewster. . . . Do the members of the syndicate literally take an oath of allegiance to the syndicate?

Attorney-General Kennedy. Yes they literally take an oath and they have a blood letting. . . . I might say . . . that part of the requirement formerly was that you had to kill somebody in order to come into the organization (p. 31).

Death is the penalty for telling wives (p. 105).

Senator Curtis. . . . In regard to the wives and children of members of the Cosa Nostra, were the facts of how the soldiers made his living . . . generally withheld from his wife and his children?

Mr. Valachi. Well, Senator, you ain't supposed to [tell them] (p. 242).

Senator Muskie. . . . With respect to Cosa Nostra, as I understand it, this is an organization which establishes an allegiance for its members that is higher than family, country, and religion. It becomes the primary allegiance of the member (p. 23).

Mr. Shandley. . . . basically, the strongest insulation is supplied by a philosophy which permeates the group, i.e., that the boss must be protected. Inculcation of this thinking on the membership has been highly successful. Whether, in younger men, this stems from the hope that such sacrifices in the beginning will

eventually afford them similar comfort, or, in the case of the older men, never advanced, this thinking has become a part of a way of life, or whether it is a combination of fear and the traditional distaste for informing cannot be firmly stated. But it is this philosophy that gives the strongest protection to the hierarchy of these infamous families. And it is a philosophy which has produced 30 years of silence, this witness being the only one who dared to abandon the credo (pp. 66-67).

Commissioner Edwards. . . . Our research into the leadership of organized crime leads again and again to a small group of families of Sicilian extraction closely interrelated by marriage and by strong ties in legal and illegal enterprises. The frustrations of our police in law enforcement centers around a code of absolute silence and positive refusal of all forms of cooperation with legal authority on the part of these families (p. 399).

2. Murder as a means of gaining power.

2.1 Book of Mormon secret combination.

2.11 The Adamic civilization.

And Cain said: Truly I am Mahan, the master of this great secret, that I may murder and get gain. Wherefore . . . gloried in his wickedness. . . . Cain rose up against Abel, his brother, and slew him. And Cain gloried in that which he had done, saying: I am free; surely the flocks of my brother falleth into my hands (Moses 5:31-33).

And the children of men were numerous upon all the face of the land. . . . and a man's hand was against his own brother, in administering death, because of secret works, seeking for power (Moses 6:15).

2.12 The Jaredite civilization.

And Jared said . . . (unto Akish) . . . bring unto me the head of my father, the king (Ether 8:12).

. . . And Akish did administer unto them the oaths which were given by them of old who also sought power, which had been handed down even from Cain, who was a murderer from the beginning.

And they were kept up by the power of the devil to administer these oaths unto the people, to keep them in darkness, to help such as sought power to gain power, and to murder (Ether 8:15-16).

Heth began to embrace the secret plans again of old, to destroy his father. . . . he slew him with his own sword; and did reign in his stead (Ether 9:26-27).

And in the days of Com there began to be robbers in the land; and they adopted the old plans, and administered oaths after the manner of the ancients, and sought again to destroy the kingdom (Ether 10:33).

. . . there arose a rebellion among the people, because of that secret combination which was built up to get power and gain (Ether 11:15).

Now the brother of Shared, whose name was Gilead, also received great strength to his army, because of secret combinations.

And it came to pass that his high priest murdered him as he sat upon his throne.

And it came to pass that one of the secret combinations murdered him in a secret pass, and obtained unto himself the kingdom; and his name was Lib (Ether 14:8-10).

2.13 The Nephite civilization.

. . . it was his (Kishkumen's) object to murder, and also that it was the object of all those who belonged to his band to murder and to rob, and to gain power, (and this was their secret plan and their combination) . . . (Helaman 2:8)

Cezoram was murdered by an unknown hand. . . . and it came to pass that in the same year, that his son, . . . was also murdered . . . And now behold, those murderers and plunderers were a band who had been formed by Kishkumen and Gadianton and now it had come to pass that there were many, even among the Nephites, of Gadianton's band . . . And it was they who did murder the chief judge Cezoram and his son. . . . behold they were not found (Helaman 6:15, 18-19).

And they did enter into a covenant one with another, yea, even into that covenant which was given by them of old, which covenant was given and administered by the devil, to combine against all righteousness.

Therefore they did combine against the people of the Lord, and enter into a covenant to destroy them, and to deliver those who were guilty of murder from the grasp of justice, which was about to be administered according to the law.

And they did set at defiance the law and the rights of their country (3 Nephi 6:28-30).

2.14 The Gentile civilization.

And the Gentiles are lifted up in the pride of their eyes. . . .

And there are also secret combinations, even as in the times of old, according to the combinations of the devil, for he is the foundation of all these things, yea, the foundation of murder, and works of darkness . . . (2 Nephi 26:20-22)

O ye Gentiles . . . repent of your sins and suffer not that these murderous combinations shall get above you, which are built up to get power and gain . . . (Ether 8:23).

For the Lord worketh not in secret combinations, neither doth he will that man should shed blood, but in all things hath forbidden it, from the beginning of man (Ether 8:19).

For the Lord worketh not in secret combinations, neither doth he will that man should shed blood, but in all things hath forbidden it, from the beginning of man (Ether 8:19).

2.2 American Mafia organization.

Mr. Duffy. From countless investigations, and after long analysis, we have concluded that the one single characteristic that is most responsible for the success and continuity of this crime syndicate is the ability of the group to commit murder and other acts of violence without compunction . . . people have just refused to cooperate stating that they are afraid for their lives (pp. 512-513).

Mr. Wilson. The most nefarious actions of those engaged in organized crime is their resort to murder in order to maintain discipline within their organization. (Testimony of O. W. Wilson, Superintendent of Police, Chicago, Illinois.)

. . . the Mafia or the Cosa Nostra inflicts upon its own members, who violate their code, punishments far more severe than society inflicts upon them after they are apprehended. And, as a consequence, of course, we have syndicated crime on the increase in America (testimony of John McClellan, p. 3).

In five instances in the last 3 years, a member and usually his car have vanished without a trace. These obliterations were carried out by Judases, "friends"--possibly actual blood relatives--completely trusted by

the victim. The victim showed no fear, no change from routine, prior to his disappearance.

This technique has great advantages. There is no apparent violence, no sprawled body in a bullet-punctured car. No gruesome pictures. No inflamed press or public . . . the case is carried as a missing person, a disappearance.

Chris Scrary, April 10, 1959, was later found cut up in seven pieces, covered with lime. His finger prints and belt buckle were carefully preserved to let everyone know who it was and to let them know that Pete Licovili was back in town with money and power (p. 432).

On June 12, 1948, Sam Scray and Pete Lucido just plain disappeared (p. 430).

Ubal Calabresse . . . on St. Valentine's day, 1962, just disappeared (p. 435).

976 gangland murders in Chicago between 1919-1962 . . . 2 of these 976 have been solved. . . . 62% of the "small time" murderers are convicted in Cook county over the same period of time.

103 legal executions in Cook county, Illinois since 1919. Over ten times that many executions performed by the Mafia in that county over the same period of time (pp. 487-488).

Senator Mundt. Your job as a soldier was to carry out death sentences made by your bosses?

Mr. Valachi. Right (p. 243).

On the day Maranzano died, some forty Cosa Nostra leaders allied with him were slain across the country, practically all of them Italian-born old-timers eliminated by a younger generation making its bid for power (V.P., p. 111).

I asked Vito how come there had to be these killings, and he said that whenever a boss dies, all his faithful have to go with him . . . (V.P., p. 116).

. . . Despite the more businesslike image of the younger gang leaders, many mobsters are still animals in fedoras . . . One of the most chilling conversations that the FBI have overheard involved two of Giancans's hoods telling a third, "Jackie," about the murder of one of their colleagues, a 350-pounder by the name of William Jackson.

James Torello: Jackson was hung up on that meat hook. He was so heavy he bent it. He was on that thing three days before he croaked.

Fiore Buccieri (giggling): Jackie, you shoulda seen the guy. Like an elephant, he was, and when Jimmy hit him with that electric prod . . .

Torello (excitedly): He was floppin' around on that hook, Jackie. We tossed water on him to give the prod a better charge, and he's screamin' . . .⁹

Murder has been and is an instrument of organization policy in the Mafia, and Joseph Valachi was one of many soldiers of the syndicate whom the leadership ordered to commit murder . . . Valachi gave detailed accounts of approximately three dozen murders that were directly linked with Mafia activities, and police officials specifically corroborated his information on dates, locations, and circumstances.¹⁰

3. Money or material gain as a demonstration of power.

3.1 Book of Mormon secret combination.

3.11 The Adamic civilization.

And Cain said: Truly I am Mahan, the master of this great secret, that I may murder and get gain (Moses 5:31).

Cain gloried in that which he had done, saying: . . . the flocks of my brother falleth into my hands (Moses 5:33).

And the children of men were numerous upon all the face of the land . . . and a man's hand was against his own brother, in administering death, because of secret works, seeking for power (Moses 6:15).

3.12 The Jaredite civilization.

. . . Behold, is there not an account concerning them of old, that they by their secret plans did obtain kingdoms and great glory? (Ether 8:9)

. . . because of the secret combination of Akish and his friends, behold they did overthrow the kingdom of Omer (Ether 9:1).

Now the people of Akish were desirous of gain, even as Akish was desirous for power; wherefore, the sons of Akish did offer them money, by which means they drew away the more part of the people (Ether 9:11).

⁹Time, August 22, 1969, p. 22.

¹⁰Findings, p. 118.

. . . Shez was smitten by the hand of a robber, because of his exceeding riches . . . (Ether 10:3).

. . . there arose a rebellion among the people, because of that secret combination which was built up to get power and gain (Ether 11:15).

3.13 The Nephite civilization.

And when the servant of Helaman had known all the heart of Kishkumen, and how that it was his object to murder . . . and to rob, and to get power, (and this was their secret plan, and their combination) . . . (Helaman 2:8).

For behold, the Lord had blessed them so long with the riches of world that they had not been stirred up to anger, to wars nor to bloodshed; therefore they began to set their hearts upon their riches; yea, they began to seek to get gain that they might be lifted up one above another; therefore they began to commit secret murders, and to rob and to plunder, that they might get gain.

And now behold, those murderers and plunderers were a band who had been formed by Kishkumen and Gadianton (Helaman 6:17-18).

. . . they did build up unto themselves idols of their gold and their silver (Helaman 6:31).

Nephi . . . returned to the land of Zarahemla . . . and seeing the people in a state of such awful wickedness and those Gadianton robbers filling the judgment-seats . . . condemning the righteous because of their righteousness; letting the guilty and the wicked go unpunished because of their money; and moreover to be held in office at the head of government, to rule and do according to their wills, that they might get gain and glory of the world, and, moreover, that they might the more easily commit adultery and steal, and kill, and do according to their own wills . . . (Helaman 7:4-5).

3.14 The Gentile civilization.

Wherefore, O ye Gentiles, it is wisdom in God that these things should be shown unto you that thereby ye may repent of your sins, and suffer not that these murderous combinations shall get above you, which are built up to get power and gain (Ether 8:23).

And the Gentiles are lifted up in the pride of their eyes . . . and preach up unto themselves their own wisdom and their own learning, that they may get gain and grind upon the face of the poor.

And there are also secret combinations, even as in times of old (2 Nephi 26:20,22).

3.2 American Mafia organization.

As I testified before the Senate and House Judiciary Committees in the summer of 1961, we estimated that illegal gambling alone had a gross volume of some \$7 billion annually. . . . There is, . . . no doubt that illegal gambling still takes in enormous amounts of money, much of which is used to feed other kinds of organized crime. . . . Narcotics also provide enormous profits. . . . Gambling and narcotics are not the only sources of great income to the rackets, usurious loans --known in the underworld as "juice-loans" or "shylock-ing"--involve large amounts, as well as frequent hoodlum threats of silence made to insure repayment. . . . the familiar weapon of extortion has been used not only as a source of direct income, but as a wedge to obtain control of respectable enterprises (p. 12).

Another scheme used by racketeers for intrusion into legitimate business is bankruptcy fraud. . . . Still another encroachment into legitimate business is the fictitious employee scheme. . . . Other racketeers have interests in a variety of legitimate businesses--the garment industry, construction, bowling alleys, liquor wholesaling, real estate, jukeboxes, vending machines, restaurants, and others.

Such business interests in some cases have fostered official corruption. In an eastern city, a leading racketeer and the city's mayor and police chief are awaiting trial on charges of extensive corruption involving substantial payoffs and the city officials in exchange for approving contracts for city business. . . .

Racketeers' intrusions into businesses are paralleled by their intrusions into labor relations. . . . in the past 32 months (we) have taken prosecutive action against a number of corrupt businessmen as well as dishonest officers or members of some 45 different unions. . . . 43 labor and 34 management representatives have been indicted for violations of the Taft-Hartley Act prohibition against payoffs to union officials. . . . Thus, organized crime not only becomes more refined in its activities but also takes advantage of modern developments in transportation and communication. As it does so--and grows richer and more powerful in the process--it can more easily elude law enforcement efforts (pp. 11-15).

Senator Mundt. These fellows at the top made a lot of money? Are they pretty wealthy. . . ?

Mr. Valachi. There is lots of wealthy ones there . . . There is about 40 to 50 wealthy ones. . . .

Senator Mundt. When you use the word "wealthy," how many dollars are you talking about?

Mr. Valachi. Close to the million dollar or past the million dollar or half the million dollars.

Senator Mundt. Close to 40 to 50 of them are close to millionaires?

Mr. Valachi. Right. . . .

Senator Mundt. I am talking of the Genovese family.

Mr. Valachi. Right (p. 301).

Senator Mundt. Now, what would be your best estimate as to the income in those 30 years that Vito got out of this?

Mr. Valachi. I would have to have an adding machine. I can't estimate that.

Senator Mundt. Is it big money?

Mr. Valachi. It would break the adding machine. I can't go anywhere near that figure (p. 109).

4. Public relations and propaganda as a means of deceiving the people.

4.1 Book of Mormon secret combination

4.11 The Adamic civilization.

And Satan said unto Cain: Swear unto me . . . and swear thy brethren . . . and this that thy father may not know it . . . (Moses 5:29).

For, from the days of Cain, there was a secret combination, and their works were in the dark, and they knew every man his brother (Moses 5:51).

And thus the works of darkness began to prevail among all the sons of men (Moses 5:55).

4.12 The Jaredite civilization.

. . . Akish administered it unto his kindred and friends, leading them away by fair promises to do whatsoever thing he desired (Ether 8:17).

And it came to pass that Akish begat other sons, and they won the hearts of the people, notwithstanding they had sworn unto him to do all manner of iniquity according to that which he desired (Ether 9:10).

4.13 The Nephite civilization.

For there was one Gadianton, who was exceeding expert in many words, . . . therefore he became the leader of the band of Kishkumen (Helaman 2:4).

And Amalickiah was desirous to be a king . . . And they had been led by the flatteries of Amalickiah, that if they would support him and establish him to be their king that he would make them rulers over the people (Alma 46:4-5).

And it is those who have sought to take away the judgment-seat from me that have been the cause of this great iniquity; for they have used great flattery, and they have led away the hearts of many people which will be the cause of sore affliction among us (Alma 6:14).

4.2 The American Mafia organization.

Public opinion is a concern of the criminal administrator. All strong action must be cleared with higher authorities. So compelling is this concern that failure to control bad situations is a serious reflection on the boss. A recent assault on a Federal agency in Brooklyn caused a considerable decrease in the prestige of the head of the faction concerned. Many felt that the absence of discipline within his unit could cause his disappearance, although he personally was not involved (p. 70).

Mr. Valachi. . . . Johnny and I and the other two were already there and so was Bobby; we met Vito Genovese . . . he was speaking with us, and he said, "I want to take you boys along with me because I want to see the respect due you comes to you . . ."

. . . He had warned me not to tell Bobby Doyle anything. And in fact, he told me that night that I belonged to him all of the time, and that Bobby Doyle was acting lieutenant, "but don't feel that he is your lieutenant. You are personally under me. But when you speak with him, let him believe that . . . (pp. 227-228).

Mr. Shanley. . . . the appearance that organized crime gives is very deceptive. It is like an ice berg. Much of it is below the surface. In dealing with people who are in organized crime, they frequently have a very beguiling manner. They give the impression of not being as quick as they might be. They are ingratiating frequently in their manner. They are obliging. They go to all efforts to make themselves liked (p. 263).

Senator Mundt. Is this the same Montana who was made "Man of the Year" in the city of Buffalo?

Mr. Valachi. The one who was supposed to run for mayor or something. The one who was at Apalachin. . . . That is the one (p. 196).

Racketeers placed a premium on smooth and unobtrusive operation of their employees. The undisciplined, trouble-making young "punk" was not acceptable. The primary condition for admission to the racket organization was not necessarily involvement in delinquent acts but training in attitudes and beliefs which would facilitate the smooth operation of the criminal organization. Prior development of specific skills and experiences seemed less necessary than the learning of an underlying illegitimate orientation or point of view conducive to the development of organized crime.¹¹

When Genovese heard of his [Valachi's] prospective move, he drew Valachi aside for some words of advice. "It's different from living in the city," Genovese said. "Make the people in the neighborhood like you. Don't fool around with the 'weak' [ordinary, law-abiding citizens]. Give to the Boy Scouts and all charities. Try to make it to Church. Don't fool around with the local girls (V.P., p. 206).

5. Extortion and intimidation as a means of obtaining power.

5.1 Book of Mormon secret combination.

5.11 The Adamic civilization.

And Satan said unto Cain: Swear unto me by thy throat, and if thou tell it thou shalt die; and swear thy brethren by their heads, and by the living God, that they tell it not; for if they tell it they shall surely die . . . (Moses 5:29).

And a man's hand was against his own brother; in administering death, because of secret works, seeking for power . . . (Moses 6:15).

. . . because that Lamech had spoken the secret unto his wives . . . Lamech was despised, and cast out, and came not among the sons of men, lest he should die (Moses 5:53-54).

¹¹Cressey, Theft of a Nation, p. 240.

5.12 The Jaredite civilization.

And it came to pass that they all sware unto him . . . that whoso should vary from the assistance which Akish desired should lose his head; and whoso should divulge whatsoever thing Akish made known unto them, the same should lose his life (Ether 8:14).

5.13 The Nephite civilization.

And he (Kishkumen) went unto those that sent him, and they entered into a covenant, yea, . . . into that covenant which was given by them of old, . . .

Therefore they did combine against the people of the Lord, and enter into a covenant to destroy them (3 Nephi 6:27-29).

. . . Lachoneus the governor of the land, received an epistle from the leader and the governor of this band of robbers; and these were the words which were written, saying:

. . . it seemeth a pity unto me . . . that ye should be so foolish and vain as to suppose that ye can stand against so many brave men who are at my command, who do now at this time stand in their arms, and so await with great anxiety for the word--go down upon the Nephites and destroy them.

And I, knowing of their unconquerable spirit, having proved them in the field of battle, and knowing of their everlasting hatred towards you because of the many wrongs which ye have done unto them . . .

Therefore I write unto you, desiring that ye would yield up unto this my people, your cities, your lands, and your possessions, rather than that they should visit you with the sword and that destruction should come upon you.

I am the governor of this the secret society of Gadianton; which society . . . I know to be good;

. . . I hope that ye will deliver up your lands and your possessions, without the shedding of blood, that this my people may recover their rights and government, who have dissented away from you because of your wickedness (3 Nephi 3:1-10)

As many as there were who . . . did still continue to have those secret murders in their hearts, yea, as many as were found breathing out threatenings against their brethren were condemned . . . (3 Nephi 5:5).

5.2 The American Mafia organization.

Mr. Valachi. . . . I repeated some words they told me. . . . He (the spokesman) went on to explain that they live by the gun and the knife. . . . then he gave me a piece of paper, and I was to burn it This is the way I burn if I expose the organization (pp. 180-183).

Attorney-General Kennedy. They have all taken this oath. They all believe in the organization. They have always felt the worst thing you can possibly do is talk. They have seen others who have talked who have not lived, so they are not going to talk (pp. 23-24).

Attorney-General Kennedy. . . . The usual reply of a convicted hoodlum in a position to give information is that he doesn't want to trade a jail cell for a hearse (p. 15).

Attorney-General Kennedy. . . . Mr. Valachi is the only one who will actually come and testify in public as to what he knows. That is what distinguishes him (p. 24).

Attorney-General Kennedy. In some cases, the familiar weapon of extortion has been used not only as a source of direct income, but as a wedge to obtain control of respectable enterprises. (See Appendix G, some legitimate businesses owned, infiltrated, or influenced by the Mafia.)

An illuminating case in point began in 1960 with a series of threats directed against the partners in a Brooklyn furniture enterprise. Subsequently, one partner was beaten by unknown assailants. Acting on the advice of a New York rackets leader, the partner then sought the advice of a New York rackets leader, the partner then sought protection from another important racketeer.

The "patron" agreed to provide the necessary protection, but announced that he, too, was now a partner in the business, of which the paidup inventory alone was more than \$60,000.

In return for his new "partnership" he gave \$10,000 to one partner for his entire interest and \$5,000 to the other for a half interest.

Thereafter, the racketeer proceeded to milk the company dry. Then came a series of mysterious fires which resulted in an insurance settlement of over \$105,000 (p. 12).

. . . Albert went out on bail because the wife sold the house and put up \$15,000. Well it ain't but a couple of weeks and we hear on the radio that they found Albert's body in some field . . .

[Following Albert Agueci's release on bail, the FBI found] . . . Albert Agueci's body . . . in a field on November 23, 1961. His arms had been bound behind his back with wire, and he had been strangled with a clothes-line. He was then doused with gasoline and set on fire. An autopsy report revealed that approximately thirty pounds of flesh had been sliced from Agueci's body while he was still alive.¹²

6. Appeal of the secret combination to the youth as a means of obtaining power.

6.1 Book of Mormon secret combination.

6.11 The Adamic civilization.

And thus the works of darkness began to prevail among all the sons of men (Moses 5:55).

And Noah and his sons hearkened unto the Lord, and gave heed, and they were called the sons of God.

And when these men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, the sons of men saw that those daughters were fair, and they took them wives, even as they chose.

And the Lord said unto Noah: The daughters of thy sons have sold themselves; for behold mine anger is kindled against the sons of men (Moses 8:13-15).

6.12 The Jaredite civilization.

Now the daughter of Jared being exceeding expert, and seeing the sorrows of her father, thought to devise a plan whereby she could redeem the kingdom unto her father (Ether 8:8).

6.13 The Nephite civilization.

And it came to pass . . . that the Gadianton robbers, who dwelt upon the mountains, who did infest the land; for so strong were their holds and their secret places that the people could not overpower them; therefore they did commit many murders, and did do much slaughter among the people.

. . . there were many dissenters of the Nephites who did flee unto them, which did cause much sorrow unto those Nephites who did remain in the land.

And there was also a cause of much sorrow among the Lamanites; for behold, they had many children who did

¹²Valachi Papers, pp. 263-264.

grow up and began to wax strong in years, that they became for themselves, and were led away by some who were Zoramites, by their lyings and their flattering words, to join those Gadianton robbers.

And thus were the Lamanites afflicted also, and began to decrease as to their faith and righteousness, because of the wickedness of the rising generation (3 Nephi 1:27-30).

6.2 The American Mafia organization.

Sen. Javits. . . . Do you make any connection between the age of these people and their eligibility and your previous statement that these were pretty high up criminals and that they had a lot of people working for them? In other words, do you see a period of maturity before anybody really rates being named even in this family?

Mr. Shandley. I would say there has to be some period when they are proving themselves. There may be some more significance to these age ranges actually.

We haven't been able to go into it in detail to make such determinations. But the fact is that the average age of these leaders runs 62. The average age of the lieutenants runs around 56 years old.

It is peculiar that most of these people had to achieve a certain degree of prominence in this field in their early twenties and thirties. Some of them were up there when they were 29 or 30. They were at second levels, and so on.

It offers the possibility that this thing might be nondynastic in character and it might be a question of strong personalities (p. 274).

Mr. Adlerman. How much did some of these fellows pay to get into the organization?

Mr. Valachi. About \$40,000.

Mr. Adlerman. Why would they pay money to come in an organization and become soldiers in an organization?

Mr. Valachi. Just that they wanted to be recognized. That is the only way I can describe it.

Mr. Alderman. Were they getting protection?

Mr. Valachi. Well, once they feel, you know, the word "button men," got around so loose especially in the Bronx and Harlem, well, "they are filthy button men," those are the only descriptions I can give you. They felt they were equal to the tough guys. How else would you explain it?

Mr. Chairman. They were equal to a tough guy?

Mr. Valachi. Once they get in, that is the way they feel (pp. 297-298).

When I was a juvenile court judge . . . I had a young man who was a product of this outfit, in terms of familial relationships brought into me . . .

At 15, we found in talking with him that he had had so instilled in him by his father and grandfather the absolute refusal to cooperate with law in any form . . . that he was the toughest single case in terms of rehabilitation that I ever recall in that court. We didn't get anywhere with him (p. 419).

Attitudes Demonstrated by
Members of the American
Secret Combinations

1. The Gadiantons were totally partisan, the laws and interests of the combination taking priority over all other laws and interests.

1.1 Book of Mormon secret combinations.

1.11 The Adamic civilization.

And Cain loved Satan more than God (Moses 5:18).

And Satan said unto Cain: Swear unto me by thy throat, and if thou tell it thou shalt die; and swear thy brethren by their heads, for if they tell it they shall surely die (Moses 5:29).

And Cain said: Truly I am Mahan, the master of this great secret, that I may murder and get gain. Wherefore, Cain was called Master Mahan, and he gloried in his wickedness. . . . Cain rose up against Abel, his brother, and slew him. And Cain gloried in that which he had done, saying: I am free (Moses 5:31-33).

For the Lord worketh not in secret combinations, neither doth he will that man should shed blood, but in all things hath forbidden it, from the beginning of man (Ether 8:19).

For Lamech having entered into a covenant with Satan after the manner of Cain, wherein he became Master Mahan, master of that great secret which was administered unto Cain by Satan; and Irad, the son of Enoch, having known their secret, began to reveal it unto the sons of Adam. . . . Wherefore Lamech, being angry slew him, not like unto Cain, his brother Abel, for the sake of getting gain, but he slew him for the oath's sake.

For, from the days of Cain, there was a secret combination, and their works were in the dark, and they

knew every man his brother. . . . These things were not spoken, because that Lamech had spoken the secret unto his wives, and they rebelled against him, and declared these things abroad, and had not compassion;

Wherefore Lamech was despised and cast out, and came not among the sons of men, lest he should die (Moses 5:49-51, 53, 54).

1.12 The Jaredite civilization.

Akish gathered in unto the house of Jared all his kinsfolk, and said unto them; will ye swear unto me that ye will be faithful unto me in the thing which I shall desire of you?

. . . they all sware unto him, . . . that whoso should divulge whatsoever thing Akish made known unto them, the same should lose his life (Ether 8:13-14).

And they hearkened not unto the voice of the Lord, because of their wicked combinations (Ether 11:7, 22).

1.13 The Nephite Civilization.

. . . Kishkumen . . . murdered Pahoran . . . and he went unto those that sent him, and they all entered into a covenant, yea, swearing . . . that they would tell no man that Kishkumen had murdered Pahoran (Helaman 1:9, 11).

Satan did stir up the hearts of the more part of the Nephites, insomuch that they did unite with those bands of robbers, and did enter into their covenants and their oaths, that they would protect and preserve one another in whatsoever difficult circumstances they should be placed, that they should not suffer for their murders, and their plunderings, and their stealings.

And it came to pass that they did have their secret signs, and their secret words; and this that they might distinguish a brother who had entered into the covenant, that whatsoever wickedness his brother should do he should not be injured by his brother, nor by those who did belong to his band, who had taken this covenant.

And thus they might murder, and plunder, and steal, and commit whoredoms and all manner of wickedness, contrary to the laws of their country and also the laws of their God.

And whatsoever of those who belonged to their band should reveal unto the world of their wickedness and their abominations, should be tried, not according to the laws of their country, but according to the laws of their wickedness, which had been given by Gadianton and Kishkumen (Helaman 6:21-24).

1.14 The Gentile civilization.

Wherefore, o ye Gentiles, . . . repent of your sins, and suffer not that these murderous combinations shall get above you, which are built up to get power and gain. . . . when ye shall see these things come among you . . . ye shall awake to a sense of your awful situation, because of this secret combination which shall be among you . . . it cometh to pass that whoso buildeth up seeketh to overthrow the freedom of all lands, nations and countries; and it bringeth to pass the destruction of all people, for it is built up by the devil . . . even that same liar who hath caused man to commit murder from the beginning . . . (Ether 8:23-25).

1.2 American Mafia organization.

This tightly knit association of professional criminals demands and gets complete dedication and unquestioned obedience by its members to orders, instructions, and commands from the ruling authority or boss or bosses thereof. Family, religion, and country are all secondary and required to be subservient to the interest of this vicious criminal syndicate (p. 2).

. . . The Mafia or the Cosa Nostra inflicts upon its own members, who violate their code, punishments far more severe than society inflicts upon them after they are apprehended. And, as a consequence, of course, we have syndicated crime on the increase in America (p. 3).

. . . This is an organization which establishes an allegiance for its members that is higher than family, country, and religion. It becomes the primary allegiance of the member (p. 23).

Mr. Alderman. . . . You discussed the credo for not informing.

Mr. Shanley. Yes sir.

Mr. Alderman. How strong is this credo in this organization?

Mr. Shanley. As strong as life itself in this organization.

Mr. Alderman. What is the penalty if a man talks?

Mr. Shanley. Death.

Mr. Alderman. You are convinced of that.

Mr. Shanley. I am convinced of that (p. 72).

All disciplining of members of these tribes, no matter how barbaric, including murder, is done within the same house or family, by their own members. Thus, if a family member has violated the rules or refused to abide by a superior's decision he must be punished. This

punishment varies from a warning, through cutting him out of some lucrative endeavor, to the ultimate--murder (p. 69).

Mr. Alderman. What happened in Chicago?

Mr. Valachi. They had made a rule around that same time, but they gave their soldiers \$200 a week to stop selling narcotics, and that is what the soldiers in New York were mumbling about. At least in Chicago they gave you \$200 a week; over here they wanted you to stop. . . . Chicago was taxing some certain business that they have in Chicago, and I wouldn't know just which businesses, and that helped to pay these members to keep them out of the narcotics. Now, if they were caught after getting that kind of payment, there was no chance at all for them. They would pay with their lives.

Now, up to the time when I left the street, I heard a couple were caught, and taken care of, Senator . . .

Senator Muskie. When you say "a couple were caught," you mean in Chicago?

Mr. Valachi. Yes, even after that \$250 or \$200 was issued, a few were caught, and they paid with their lives. . . .

Senator Muskie. In the Genovese family what was the penalty for breaking the rule?

Mr. Valachi. Well, the Genovese family was the same penalty. If you were caught and they had the evidence on you, you were dead (pp. 320-322).

Senator Curtis. In regard to the wives and children of members of the Cosa Nostra, were the facts of how the soldiers made his living and what he engaged in generally withheld from his wife and from his children? . . . Did the soldier let his wife and children know how he made a living--was that disclosed?

Mr. Valachi. Well, Senator, you ain't supposed to . . . You are not supposed to tell them anything (p. 242).

Mr. Shanley. . . . they keep their children severed from their own operations. They send them to fine schools. It is all in keeping with the background of respectability which they strive so hard to achieve (p. 277).

Mr. Alderman. If for any reason a lieutenant, boss or somebody, wished to kill some soldier, they first had to go to the court or the council?

Mr. Valachi. That is it.

Mr. Alderman. And prefer a charge which the council or consiglieri would hear and make a determination whether the boss or lieutenant was justified in killing the soldier? . . .

Mr. Alderman. Do I understand it this way: That Lucky Luciano and Vito Genovese had to justify before the rest of the bosses the reason why they killed Maranzano and show that they had a bona fide or just reason for killing him?

Mr. Valachi. Right (pp. 237-238).

2. All were ambitious, hence the labor for power and gain. (See Appendix H, Amalickiah and Vito Genevose.)

2.1 Book of Mormon secret combinations.

2.11 The Adamic civilization.

. . . the Lord God, spake . . . saying: That Satan . . . came before me, saying--Behold, here am I, send me, I will be thy son, and I will redeem all mankind, that one soul shall not be lost, and surely I will do it; wherefore give me thine honor (Moses 4:1).

. . . Cain hearkened not, saying: Who is the Lord that I should know him? (Moses 5:16)

And Cain loved Satan more than God . . . (Moses 5:18).

. . . Satan said unto Cain: Swear unto me by thy throat . . . and this day I will deliver thy brother Abel into thy hands. And Satan sware unto Cain that he would do according to his commands . . .

And Cain said: Truly I am Mahan, the master of this great secret, that I may murder and get gain . . .

And Cain went into the field, and Cain talked with Abel, his brother. And it came to pass that while they were in the field, Cain rose up against Abel, his brother, and slew him.

And Cain gloried in that which he had done (Moses 5:29-33).

. . . the children of men were numerous upon all the face of the land . . . and a man's hand was against his own brother, in administering death, because of secret works, seeking for power (Moses 6:15).

2.12 The Jaredite civilization.

And now Jared became exceeding sorrowful because of the loss of the kingdom, for he had set his heart upon the kingdom and upon the glory of the world.

Now the daughter of Jared being exceeding expert, and seeing the sorrows of her father, thought to devise a plan whereby she could redeem the kingdom unto her father (Ether 8:7-8).

Akish gathered in . . . all his kinsfolk . . .

Akish did administer unto them the oaths which were given by them of old who also sought power, which had been handed down even from Cain, who was a murderer from the beginning (Ether 8:13, 15).

. . . Akish and his friends . . . did overthrow the kingdom of Omer. . . . Jared was anointed king over the people, by the hand of wickedness; . . .

. . . Akish sought the life of his father-in-law; and he applied unto those whom he had sworn by the oath of the ancients, and they obtained the head of his father-in-law . . .

. . . Jared was murdered upon his throne, and Akish reigned in his stead.

. . . Akish began to be jealous of his son, therefore he shut him up in prison, and kept him upon little or no food until he had suffered death (Ether 9:1, 4, 5, 6, 7).

. . . Akish begat other sons, and they won the hearts of the people, notwithstanding they had sworn unto him to do all manner of iniquity according to that which he desired.

Now the people of Akish were desirous for gain, even as Akish was desirous for power (Ether 9:10-11).

. . . Heth began to embrace the secret plans again of old, to destroy his father (Ether 9:26).

2.13 The Nephite civilization.

Now these are their names who did contend for the judgment-seat, who did also cause the people to contend: Pahoran, Paanchi, and Pacumeni. . . .

. . . Pahoran was appointed by the voice of the people to be chief judge . . .

But behold, Paanchi, and that part of the people that were desirous that he should be their governor, was exceeding wroth; therefore, he was about to flatter away those people to rise up in rebellion against their brethren.

And it came to pass as he was about to do this, behold, he was taken and was tried according to the voice of the people, and condemned unto death; . . .

Now when those people who were desirous that he should be their governor saw that he was condemned unto death, therefore they were angry, and behold, they sent forth one Kishkumen, even to the judgment-seat of Pahoran, and murdered Pahoran as he sat upon the judgment-seat (Helaman 1:3, 5, 7, 8, 9).

Helaman was appointed to fill the judgment seat

. . .

But behold, Kishkumen, who had murdered Pahoran, did lay wait to destroy Helaman also; and he was upheld by his band . . .

. . . there was one Gadianton, who was exceeding expert in many words, and also in his craft, to carry on the secret work of murder and of robbery; therefore he became the leader of the band of Kishkumen (Helaman 2:2, 3, 4).

. . . it was his [Kishkumen's] object to murder, and also that it was the object of all those who belonged to his band to murder, and to rob, and to gain power (Helaman 2:8).

2.14 The Gentile civilization.

. . . whoso buildeth it (the secret combination) up seeketh to overthrow the freedom of all lands nations and countries (Ether 8:25).

2.2 American Mafia organization.

The origin of this famous organization goes back to the feudal period, when individual power took the place of public authority. The landowning baron, in order to defend his possessions, had to pay squads of ruffians who undertook to protect the castle and farm on condition that they themselves were defended and protected against the authorities for all the crimes and robberies they committed.¹³

All these protections and privileges which the Mafioso enjoyed brought them a number of economic advantages so that in the rural centres particularly the Mafia Gabelotto was the only person, except the landowner himself, whose activity enabled him to amass a fortune. After several years' activity he found himself in a position to invest money in buying land and naturally, when this was the case, he turned his wits to his best advantage, even if it furthered his interests, against his own master. The landowner was often sent threatening letters, or attempts were made to kidnap him or shoot him on his doorstep, with the obvious aim of terrorizing him and preventing him from going to the feudo. He nearly always turned to the 'friend of the friends' gabelotto for help, and entrusted him with the delicate task of defending his person and settling the affairs without offending the 'friends.'

¹³Storia della siciliana rivoluzione del 1848, Fratelli Bocca; Fologna 1867, p. 251 as quoted in Mafia and Politics, p. 28.

Thenceforth the landowner had to renounce his dues. Tired of getting nothing from his estate, fearing to press the gabellotto to pay the rent, he was forced to sell his land. However, no one in the village or elsewhere dared to buy it because everyone knew that the gabellotto wanted to acquire it for himself, and was waiting for his chance, which came when the landowner, tired of waiting for a buyer, offered it to him at an absurdly low price.¹⁴

. . . there is an alta (higher) Mafia and a bassa (lower) Mafia with the possibility of advancement from one to the other if the force of circumstance permits. As one gains wealth and political and social influence, his rise becomes automatic and remains so long as such political and social influence and prestige remains.¹⁵

. . . In the . . . "bassa" Mafia, the strong-arm thug, the instrument used by the full-blown Mafioso to execute his criminal edicts was originally called "ricottaro." These arrogant, truculent young hoodlums are not only willing, but eager to commit the most atrocious crimes hoping thereby to gain recognition and eventual acceptance into the higher and more rarefied Mafia atmosphere.¹⁶

A considerable number of these young toughs are either imprisoned or killed before they reach the age of thirty . . . Having reached maturity, however, many of them mend their ways and decide to adopt the personalities and methods of their elders in the society, and thus begins the rise of the "higher" species of their kind . . . As the ricottaro matures, there will be fewer and fewer chances of crime involving violence . . . all the present crop of top Mafiosi were, at the outset of their criminal careers, ricottaros of the most truculent kind . . .¹⁷

. . . Thus, it is seen that there are no elections, no appointments, no necessity for sectional assistance, no need for personal intercessors or apologists in the creation of a Capo. Having once achieved this lofty position of prominence so long as his prestige remains and he himself remains true to the code, his "people"

¹⁴ Mafia and Politics, pp. 27-29.

¹⁵ Merchants of Menace, p. 18.

¹⁶ Ibid., p. 24.

¹⁷ Ibid., pp. 25-26.

are content to recognize and give the proper obeisance to him in his exalted post. He rises and falls as an individual.¹⁸

The Chairman. . . . yesterday we were approaching, at least leading up to the killing of Masseria. We had just gotten to the point where he had been taken to a restaurant somewhere, is that correct?

Mr. Valachi. Yes, Senator; Coney Island.

Mr. Chairman. Now, who got him over there to the restaurant?

Mr. Valachi. His friends, Charley Luciano and Vito Genovese and Ciro Terranova. . . .

The Chairman. What I was trying to determine is that you had been trying actually, your side, the Maranzano group, had been trying to get to him to kill him for a good while, had they not?

Mr. Valachi. Yes. . . .

The Chairman. When you were unable to do it as I understand it, you finally got Genovese and these others to set him up for you . . .

His own people around him wanted to do it?

Mr. Valachi. That is right.

Mr. Chairman. It was Masseria's own people who killed him at the restaurant?

Mr. Valachi. That is right. . . .

Mr. Valachi. . . . Ciro was there, Vito was there. Charley was there . . .

. . . Ciro was so shaky in putting the key in the ignition that they threw him off the wheel. . . . Ever since then Ciro Terranova was getting what was called buckwheats, you know, like he was being stripped, you know, a little at a time he was being taken, his power was being taken away from him. After a while he took it so hard that he died from a broken heart . . .

The Chairman. What does the record of the New York police force show?

Sergeant Salerno. It shows at 3:30 p.m. on April 15, 1931, Giuseppe Massaria, alias Joe the Boss, . . . while sitting in a restaurant at 2715 West 15th Street in the Coney Island section of Brooklyn, was shot in the back and head by unknown persons who escaped. Cause of death was six gunshot wounds of the head and body. The case is active (pp. 211-212).

¹⁸ Merchants of Venice, pp. 30-31.

3. The combinations were highly competitive, fighting fiercely amongst themselves (See Appendix I, the Castellamarse War.)

3.1 Book of Mormon secret combinations.

3.11 The Adamic civilization.

And the children of men were numerous upon all the face of the land. And in those days Satan had great dominion among men, and raged in their hearts; and from thenceforth came wars and bloodshed; and a man's hand was against his own brother, in administering death, because of secret works seeking for power (Moses 6:15).

3.12 The Jaredite Civilization.

. . . Jared was anointed king over the people by the hand of wickedness . . .

And it came to pass that Akish sought the life of his father-in-law; and he applied unto those whom he had sworn by the oath of the ancients, and they obtained the head of his father-in-law, as he sat upon his throne,

. . . therefore Jared was murdered upon his throne, and Akish reigned in his stead.

And it came to pass that Akish began to be jealous of his son, therefore he shut him up in prison, and kept him upon little or no food until he had suffered death (Ether 9:4-7).

And it came to pass that Akish begat other sons, and they won the hearts of the people, notwithstanding they had sworn unto him to do all manner of iniquity according to that which he desired.

Now the people of Akish were desirous for gain, even as Akish was desirous for power; wherefore, the sons of Akish did offer them money, by which means they drew away the more part of the people after them.

And there began to be a war between the sons of Akish and Akish, which lasted for the space of many years, yea, unto the destruction of nearly all the people of the kingdom (Ether 9:10-12).

3.13 The Nephite civilization.

. . . Nephi delivered up the judgment seat to a man whose name was Cezoram.

For as their laws and their governments were established by the voice of the people, and they who chose evil were more numerous than they who chose good, therefore they were ripening for destruction, for the laws had become corrupted.

Yea, and this was not all; they were a stiffnecked people, insomuch that they could not be governed by the law nor justice, save it were to their destruction (Helaman 5:1-3).

. . . Cezoram was murdered by an unknown hand as he sat upon the judgment seat. And it came to pass that in the same year, that his son, who had been appointed by the people in his stead, was also murdered. . . .

And now behold, those murderers and plunderers were a band who had been formed by Kishkumen and Gadianton

. . . And it was they who did murder the chief judge Cezoram, and his son, while in the judgment-seat; and behold they were not found (Helaman 6:15, 18, 19).

Behold ye say that I have agreed with a man that he should murder Seezoram, our chief judge . . .

Behold I say unto you: Go to the house of Seantum, who is the brother of Seezoram, and say unto him--

Has Nephi, the pretended prophet who doth prophesy so much evil concerning this people, agreed with thee, in the which ye have murdered Seezoram, who is your brother? (Helaman 9:23, 26, 27).

And the people were divided one against another; and they did separate one from another into tribes, every man according to his family and his kindred and his friends; and thus they did destroy the government of the land.

And every tribe did appoint a chief or a leader over them . . .

Now all this was done, . . . because they did yield themselves unto the power of Satan.

And the regulations of the government were destroyed because of the secret combination . . .

And they did cause a great contention in the land, insomuch that the more righteous part of the people had nearly all become wicked (3 Nephi 7:2, 3, 5, 6, 7).

3.2 American Mafia organization.

We know that Cosa Nostra is run by a commission and that the leaders of Cosa Nostra in most major cities are responsible to the commission . . .

We know that the commission makes major policy decisions for the organizations, settles disputes among the families and allocates territories of criminal operation within the organization. . . .

We know that the commission now has before it the question of whether to intercede in the Gallo-Profaci family gangland war in New York. . . .

The casualty list of this one gang war alone offers a somber illustration of how cruel and calculating the underworld continues to be.

Since the summer of 1961, there have been 5 persons murdered and 13 persons seriously injured; 10 of these were shot, 1 nearly strangled, 1 beaten in a New York night club, and 1 beaten and then thrown from a speeding car. . . .

Such violence is not limited to New York or Chicago. There have been 37 gangland murders since 1960 and in the Youngstown, Ohio area, there have been 70 bombings since 1950 (pp. 6-7).

Since 1919, in the Chicago area there have been 976 gangland murders of which only two have been cleared by the arrest and convictions of the murderers . . . there have been 69 gangland murders in the Detroit area between 1927 and 1962 (Excerpts, p. 22).

Police chief Brown from Tampa, Florida, testified that from 1928-1963, there had been 23 gangland slayings in the Tampa area, one of which had been solved (Excerpts, p. 23).

Mr. Duffy. . . . At this time he learned of this secret pact between Maranzano and Gagliano. They were going to join together after two bosses of the Masseria were killed.

Now, Masseria had condemned to death all the Castelllemarese Sicilians. All the Castelllemarese in the United States wanted to join up with him to save their lives. This became a nationwide war (p. 168).

Mr. Chairman. How many were killed during this 14-month period of undeclared war . . .

Mr. Valachi. Senator, I got the score. The score was, we lost 1 and they lost from 40 to 60 (p. 214).

Forty killed on the day Marantano died.

A sitdown develops when there is a threat to gangland peace because of a dispute between members of this sub-society. At one time, force--frequent and ruthless --was the ultimate pacifier. However, according to the chiefs of these notorious clans, when open violence is used "the only winners are the cops."

If a question comes up, the syndicate lesser leaders arrange a sit down and thrash it out. In most cases the issue can be resolved at this level. If necessary, it can go higher. On occasion, when these disputes reach a higher level, the disputants find out they are members of the same family.

Sometimes the quarrel must finally be referred to the highest authority, the heads of the families. Arrangements are made to meet, and heads sit down and talk the matter out. Their decision is final.

The sitdown, really a peace conference, has eliminated clashes between established houses (p. 68).

4. Project a noble image, with much talk of rights and wrongs, high courage and upright character.

4.1 Book of Mormon secret combinations.

4.11 The Adamic civilization.

Behold, here am I, send me, I will be thy son, and I will redeem all mankind, that one soul shall not be lost (Moses 4:1).

Satan came tempting him saying: "Moses, son of man, worship me . . ." (Moses 1:12).

. . . Satan . . . commanded, saying: I am the only begotten, worship me." (Moses 1:19)

And Satan came among them saying: I am also a son of God," and he commanded them, saying: "Believe it not;" and they believed it not, and they loved Satan more than God . . .

Satan sware unto Cain that he would do according to his commands (Moses 5:30).

. . . The Lord said unto Cain: Where is Abel, thy brother? And he said: I know not, am I my brother's keeper? (Moses 5:34)

. . . Cain said unto the Lord: Satan tempted me because of my brother's flocks. And I was wroth also; for his offering thou didst accept and not mine, my punishment is greater than I bear.

Behold thou hast driven me out this day from the face of the Lord, and from thy face shall I be hid; and I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond in the earth; and it shall come to pass, that he that findeth me will slay me, because of mine iniquities for these things are not hid from the Lord (Moses 5:38-39).

And Noah and his sons hearkened unto the Lord, and gave heed, and they were called the sons of God (Moses 8:13).

And it came to pass that Noah called upon the children of men that they should repent; but they hearkened not unto his words;

And also, after that they had heard him, they came up before him, saying: Behold, we are the Sons of God; have we not taken unto ourselves the daughters of men? And are we not eating and drinking, and marrying and giving in marriage? And our wives be bear unto children, and the same are mighty men, which are like unto men of old, men of great renown. And they hearkened not unto the words of Noah (Moses 8:20-21).

4.12 The Jaredite civilization.

. . . Wherefore, Akish administered it (the secret covenant) unto his kindred and friends, leading them away by fair promises to do what soever thing he desired (Ether 8:17).

And it came to pass that his high priest murdered him as he sat upon his throne (Ether 14:9).

4.13 The Nephite civilization.

Nephi, the son of Helaman, returned . . .

And seeing the people in a state of such awful wickedness, and those Gadianton robbers filling the judgment seats . . .

Condemning the righteous because of their righteousness, letting the guilty and the wicked go unpunished because of their money; and moreover to be held in office at the head of government, to rule and do according to their wills, that they might get gain and glory of the world, and, moreover, that they might the more easily commit adultery, and steal, and kill, and do according to their own wills (Helaman 7:1,4,5).

Lachoneus, the governor of the land, received an epistle from the leader and the governor of this band of robbers; and these were the words which were written, saying:

Lachoneus, most noble and chief governor of the land, behold, I write this epistle unto you, and do give unto you exceeding great praise because of your firmness, and also the firmness of your people, in maintaining that which ye suppose to be your right and liberty; yea, ye do stand well, as if ye were supported by the hand of a god, in the defense of your liberty, and your property, and your country, or that which ye do call so.

And it seemeth a pity unto me, most noble Lachoneus, that ye should be so foolish and vain as to suppose that ye can stand against so many brave men who are at my command, who do now at this time stand in their arms, and do await with great anxiety for the word--go down upon the Nephites and destroy them.

And I, knowing of their unconquerable spirit, having proved them in the field of battle, and knowing of their

everlasting hatred towards you because of the many wrongs which ye have done unto them, wherefore if they should come down against you they would visit you with utter destruction. . . .

Therefore I write unto you, desiring that ye would yield up unto this my people, your cities, your lands, and your possessions, rather than that they should visit you with the sword and that destruction should come upon you.

Or in other words, yield yourselves up unto us, and unite with us and become acquainted with our secret works, and become our brethren that ye may be like unto us--not our slaves but our brethren and partners of all our substance.

And behold, I swear unto you, if ye will do this, with an oath, ye shall not be destroyed; but if ye will not do this, I swear unto you with an oath, that on the morrow month I will command that my armies shall come down against you, and they shall not stay their hand and shall spare not, but shall slay you, and shall let fall the sword upon you even until ye shall become extinct.

And behold, I am Giddianhi; and I am the governor of this the secret society of Gadianton; which society and the works thereof I know to be good; and they are of ancient date and they have been handed down unto us.

And I write this epistle unto you, Lachoneus, and I hope that ye will deliver up your lands and your possessions, without the shedding of blood, that this my people may recover their rights and government, who have dissented away from you because of your wickedness in retaining from them their rights of government, and except ye do this, I will avenge their wrongs. I am Giddianhi (3 Nephi 3:1-4, 6-10).

4.2 The American Mafia organization

. . . The racketeer is not someone dressed in a black shirt, white tie, and diamond stickpin, whose activities affect only a remote underworld circle.

He is more likely to be outfitted in a gray flannel suit and his influence is more likely to be as far-reaching as that of an important industrialist.

The American public may not see him, but that makes the racketeer's power for evil in our society even greater. Lacking the direct confrontation with racketeering, the American citizen fails to see the reason for alarm (p. 16).

. . . Organized crime today is big business and, like all big business, employs all the aids and techniques of industry. Sophistication is so advanced that public relations policies are laid down by the various underworld groups. Ostentatious displays, lavish public

entertaining, conspicuous clothes, and the flashy blond, are 20 years out of date. The top echelon frowns on those who create a bad image. The air of respectability, the quiet life in the residential neighborhood, the "portrait" of the respectable, aging family man, are the order of the day (p. 45).

. . . I was led to the other end of the table past them, and the other guy with me said, "Joe, meet Don Salvatore Moranzano. He is going to be the boss for all of us throughout the whole trouble we are having." This was the first time I ever saw him. Gee, he looked just like a banker. You'd never guess in a million years that he was a racketeer.²⁰

Senator Mundt. Is this the same Montana who was made "Man of the Year" in the city of Buffalo?

Mr. Valachi. That is the one.

Senator Curtis. . . . This making him Man of the Year, was that by the Cosa Nostra government or by the city of Buffalo?

Mr. Valachi. Not Cosa Nostra. That was, how do you put it--newspapers. . . .

Mr. Chairman. . . . you didn't know who actually presented the award.

Mr. Valachi. No. . . .

Mr. Chairman. . . . my understanding is that it was the Fraternal Organization of the Buffalo Police Department that actually presented the award to Montana, and not the newspapers (pp. 196-197, 206-207).

Mr. Shanley. . . . The appearance that organized crime gives is very deceptive. It is like an iceberg. Much of it is below the surface. In dealing with people who are in organized crime, they frequently have a very beguiling manner. They give the impression of not being as quick as they might be. They are ingratiating frequently in their manner. They are obliging. They go to all efforts to make themselves liked (p. 263).

Mr. Shanley. . . . There was a time when most of these people did live in the areas where they had a great deal of influence. Now this has been changed. Most of these people are moving out largely because of the same reason that everybody else moves, their position has improved, they go into a better neighborhood. They keep their children severed from their own operations. They send them to fine schools. It is all in keeping with the background of respectability which they strive so hard to achieve (pp. 276-277).

²⁰Valachi Papers, p. 95.

The 1940's closed with a notable change in Valachi's mode of living. Since his marriage he had resided in various apartments in the Bronx. Now Valachi joined the ever-fashionable flow of mobsters to the suburbs. Like his colleagues, he never engaged in anything remotely connected with the underworld in his new surroundings. Indeed, when Genovese heard of his prospective move, he drew Valachi aside for some words of advice. "It's different from living in the city," Genovese said. "Make the people in the neighborhood like you. Don't fool around with the 'weak' (ordinary, law abiding citizens). Give to the Boy scouts and all the charities. Try to make it to church. Don't fool around with the local girls."²¹

By this time the boy (Valachi's son) had finished his days in school. It was one of the best in New York City. Its name was Mount St. Michael. As I remember, it cost about \$1600 or \$1800 a year to keep him in that school. He boarded there and came home only on holidays, as we wanted to keep him off the streets of the Bronx.²²

. . . The Mafia front men are characterized by the smile, the glad hand, the tuxedo and the ticket to the charity ball. But the Mafia tools are still money, murder, and corruption (p. 400).

Senator Javits. . . . How do you account for the fact that in 35 years you pursued a criminal career and you were not convicted once?

Mr. Valachi. Actually, I was not committing any crimes. . . .

After you get used to burglarizing or committing crimes, you don't feel these other things are crimes. For instance, I had been in machines. I don't think that was a crime; everybody else had them (pp. 114-115).

5. Professed piety and religion, swearing by the God of heaven.

5.1 Book of Mormon secret combinations.

5.11 The Adamic civilization.

And Satan said unto Cain; Swear . . . thy brethren by their heads, and by the living God, that they tell it not (Moses 5:29).

²¹Valachi Papers, p. 206.)

²²Ibid., p. 207.

And Satan came among them, saying: I am also a son of God; . . . (Moses 5:13).

. . . Noah called upon the children of men that they should repent; but they hearkened not unto his words;

. . . after that they had heard him, they came up before him, saying: Behold, we are the sons of God; have we not taken unto ourselves the daughters of men? And are we not eating and drinking, and marrying and giving in marriage? And our wives bear unto us children, and the same are mighty men, which are like unto men of old, men of great renown . . . (Moses 8:21).

5.12 The Jaredite civilization.

. . . Akish gathered in unto the house of Jared all his kinsfolk, and said unto them: Will ye swear unto me that ye will be faithful unto me in the thing which I shall desire of you?

And it came to pass that they all sware unto him by the God of heaven, and also by the heavens, and also by the earth . . . (Ether 8:13-14).

5.13 The Nephite civilization.

. . . Kishkumen . . . murdered Pahoran . . . and he went unto those that sent him, and they all entered into a covenant, yea, swearing by their everlasting Maker, that they would tell no man (Helaman 1:9, 11).

5.2 The American Mafia Organization.

The initiation rites of the old Mafia had a decidedly "religious" tinge and have probably not changed much over the years . . . the neophyte is taken to a room where a leaders' council is assembled. On a table in the room is displayed the paper image of a saint. He offers to two friends his right hand and they draw enough blood to wet the effigy. On this image the novice takes his oath and then he burns the effigy at the candle's light.²³

Mr. Maranzano called a meeting . . . It was held in the Bronx in a big hall around Washington Avenue. The place was packed. There was at least four or five hundred of us jammed in. . . .

We were all standing. There wasn't any room to sit. Religious pictures had been put up on the walls, and there was a crucifix over the platform at one end of the

²³ Reid, The Mafia, p. 33.

hall where Mr. Maranzano was sitting.

Mr. Maranzano . . . was an educated man. He had studied for the priesthood in the old country, and I understood he spoke seven languages . . . he was a nut about Julius Caesar and even had a room in his house full of nothing but books about him. That's where he got the idea for the new organization.²⁴

. . . well, it finally happened around 1951 that Willie Moretti was killed and they expressed it that he was a sick man, and once Vito even told us, and he said, "Lord have mercy on his soul" (p. 324).

"Believe me, when they go to church, because most of them are so religious they got saints hanging all over the walls of their houses, when they go to church they pray to God, Jesus, Mary and Joseph, give me the strength to rob again."²⁵

6. Paranoid, always attributing their troubles to the wickedness of others.

6.1 Book of Mormon secret combinations.

6.11 The Adamic civilization.

. . . Cain said . . . Satan tempted me because of my brother's flocks . . . his offering thou didst accept and not mine. My punishment is greater than I can bear (Moses 5:38).

If Cain shall be avenged seven-fold, truly Lamech shall be seventy and seven fold (Moses 5:48).

6.12 The Jaredite civilization.

6.13 The Nephite civilization.

And behold, I am Giddianhi; and I am the governor of this the secret society of Gadianton; which society and the works thereof I know to be good; . . .

²⁴Valachi Papers, p. 104.

²⁵Nicholas Pileggi, "What Makes a Mafioso?" New York Times News Service, March 29, 1970), Forum F1 and F7.

And I write this epistle unto you, Lachoneus, and I hope that ye will deliver up your lands and your possessions, without the shedding of blood, that this my people may recover their rights and government, who have dissented away from you because of your wickedness in retaining from them their rights of government, and except ye do this, I will avenge their wrongs (3 Nephi 3:9, 10).

6.2 The American Mafia organization.

. . . "Joe" Flynn recalls, "thought everybody was responsible for Joe, except Joe. He only took up crime, for instance, because he never had a chance as a kid. It was the prison administrator's fault that he had to kill a man he didn't even know. He doesn't even consider himself a traitor to the Cosa Nostra; in his mind Vito Genovese was the real traitor."²⁶

The Chairman. . . . Would you care to tell us why you have been willing under these circumstances to tell the law enforcement officials and . . . this committee your story . . .

Mr. Valachi. The main answer to that is very simple. No. 1, it is to destroy them. . . .

Mr. Chairman. Destroy who?

Mr. Valachi. The Cosa Nostra leaders, or the bosses.

. . . .
Mr. Chairman. Why do you feel like it should be destroyed?

Mr. Valachi. . . . they have been very bad to soldiers and they have been thinking of themselves, all through the years. . . .

As the Senator put it before, what did I get out of it? Nothing but misery . . . (p. 119).

The Ecology of Secret Combinations

1. They crystallize around ambitious individuals.

(See Appendix A, B, H, and J, Al Capone-Luciano.)

1.1 Book of Mormon secret combinations.

1.11 The Adamic civilization.

And I, the Lord God, spake unto Moses, saying: That Satan, whom thou hast commanded in the name of mine only

²⁶Valachi Papers, p. 41.

Begotten, is the same which was from the beginning, and he came before me, saying--behold, here am I send me, I will be thy son, and I will redeem all mankind, that one soul shall not be lost, and surely I will do it. Wherefore give me thine honor (Moses 4:1).

And Satan said unto Cain: Swear unto me by thy throat, . . . and this day I will deliver thy brother Abel into thine hands.

And Satan sware unto Cain that he would do according to his commands . . .

. . . Cain was called Master Mahan, and he gloried in his wickedness.

. . . Cain rose up against Abel, his brother and slew him.

Cain gloried in that which he had done saying: I am free; surely the flocks of my brother falleth into my hands (Moses 5:29-33).

And the children of men were numerous upon all the face of the land . . . and a man's hand was against his own brother, in administering death, because of secret works, seeking for power (Moses 6:15).

1.12 The Jaredite civilization.

And now Jared became exceeding sorrowful because of the loss of the kingdom, for he had set his heart upon the kingdom and upon the glory of the world.

Now the daughter of Jared being exceeding expert, and seeing the sorrows of her father, thought to devise a plan whereby she could redeem the kingdom unto her father (Ether 8:7, 8).

And it came to pass that Akish sought the life of his father-in-law; and he applied unto those whom he had sworn by the oath of the ancients, and they obtained the head of his father-in-law, as he sat upon his throne giving audience to his people.

For so great had been the spreading of this wicked and secret society that it had corrupted the hearts of all the people; therefore Jared was murdered upon his throne, and Akish reigned in his stead.

And it came to pass that Akish began to be jealous of his son, therefore he shut him up in prison, and kept him upon little or no food until he had suffered death.

. . . Now the people of Akish were desirous for gain, even as Akish was desirous for power; wherefore, the sons of Akish did offer them money, by which means they drew away the more part of the people after them.

1.13 The Nephite civilization.

But behold, Paanchi, and that part of the people that were desirous that he should be their governor, was exceeding wroth; therefore, he was about to flatter away those people to rise up in rebellion against their brethren (Helaman 1:7).

But behold Kishkumen, who had murdered Pahoran, did lay wait to destroy Helaman also; and he was upheld by his band, who had entered into a covenant that no one should know his wickedness.

For there was one Gadianton, who was exceeding expert in many words, and also in his craft, to carry on the secret works of murder and of robbery; therefore he became the leader of the band of Kishkumen (Helaman 2:3,4).

It was his [Kishkumen's] object to murder, and also . . . it was the object of all those who belonged to his band to murder, and to rob, and to gain power, (and this was their secret plan, and their combination) . . . (Helaman 2:8).

. . . those murderers and plunderers were a band who had been formed by Kishkumen and Gadianton. And now it had come to pass that there were many, even among the Nephites, of Gadianton's band. But behold, they were more numerous among the more wicked part of the Lamanites. And they were called Gadianton's robbers and murderers (Helaman 8:18-19).

. . . go ye in unto the judgment-seat, and search; and behold, your judge is murdered, and he lieth in his blood; and he hath been murdered by his brother, who seeketh to sit in the judgment seat.

And behold, they both belong to your secret band . . . (Helaman 8:27-28).

1.2 The American Mafia organization.

. . . it is seen that there are no elections, no appointments, no necessity for sectional assistance, no need for personal intercessors or apologists in the creation of a Capo. Having once achieved this lofty position of prominence so long as his prestige remains and he himself remains true to the code, his "people" are content to recognize and give proper obeisance to him in his exalted post. He rises and falls as an individual

. . . 27

. . . The strongest insulation is supplied by a philosophy which permeates the group; i.e., that the boss must be protected (p. 67).

Another inviolate rule is the requirement that there must be a strong sense of respect for leaders and traditions. This is beyond merely protecting the boss. It exceeds deference due any leader, and is not confined to ordinary bows and scrapers present in all organizations. This is respect in the true sense of the word.

With relations to individuals, it seems to be achieved partly by position and partly by seniority, with stress on the former, although all things being reasonably equal, the older member has more prestige. Among some older men, it involves hat-tipping and bowing reminiscent of royalty, but usually it is less courtly, although by no means subtle. It is unmistakable.

A member's position and the value of his counsel appear, in many cases to be enhanced by age per se. Perhaps old age, under the circumstances, is a superior achievement in itself.

In public places, the reflex response triggered by the need to comply with this code has been beneficial to law enforcement. The terms of address, the tone of voice, the held door, the proffered seat, and demeanor generally frequently reveal status in different groups. Based on these observations it is easy to believe that neglect of such niceties might bring severe discipline to the offender.

A number of sleepers--high-ranking members previously considered possessors of routine membership--have been uncovered from a deep probe started by displays of this nature (p. 67).

Vito Genovese, after a 12-year exile in Italy, returned to the United States in 1945 to undertake a successful power grab in Cosa Nostra. The subcommittee concludes that Genovese, in his drive for power, was involved in numerous gangland murders. Among those who were supposedly killed because they stood in Genovese's way were Willie Moretti, Anthony "Tony Bender" Strollo, (Strollo has been missing since 1963 and is believed to have been the victim of a murder ordered by Genovese, according to the testimony of Joseph Valachi, p. 87 of the hearing record) and Albert Anastasia.

The subcommittee also concludes that Vito Genovese was able to eliminate or intimidate so many potential rivals that his accession to power in the Mafia was largely unopposed.

Vito Genovese, even though he is serving a 15-year sentence in Federal Prison for conspiring to violate narcotic laws, is still the most powerful figure in the Mafia today, and was aptly described by Joseph Valachi as "the boss of all bosses under the table.

2. They cannot thrive or even survive without the acceptance and encouragement of society in general.

2.1 Book of Mormon secret combinations.

2.11 The Adamic civilization.

Wherefore the Lord cursed Lamech and his house, and all them that had covenanted with Satan; for they kept not the commandments of God, and it displeased God, and he ministered not unto them, and their works were abominations, and began to spread among all the sons of men.

And it was among the sons of men, and among the daughters of men these things were not spoken, because that Lamech had spoken the secret unto his wives, and they rebelled against him, and declared these things abroad, and had not compassion. . . .

And thus the works of darkness began to prevail among all the sons of men (Moses 5:52, 53, 55).

And when these men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, the sons of men saw that those daughters were fair, and they took them wives, even as they chose.

And the Lord said unto Noah: the daughters of thy sons have sold themselves; for behold mine anger is kindled against the sons of men, for they will not hearken to my voice. . . .

And God saw that the wickedness of men had become great in the earth; and every man was lifted up in the imagination of the thoughts of his heart, being only evil continually (Moses 8:14, 15, 22).

2.12 The Jaredite civilization.

And it came to pass that Jared was anointed King over the people, by the hand of wickedness; . . . (Ether 9:4).

And in the days of Com there began to be robbers in the land; and they adopted the old plans, and administered oaths after the manner of the ancients, and sought again to destroy the kingdom. . . .

And there came also in the days of Com many prophets, and prophesied of the destruction of that great people except they should repent, and turn unto the Lord, and forsake their murders and wickedness.

And it came to pass that the prophets were rejected by the people . . . And they hearkened not unto the voice of the Lord, because of their wicked combinations (Ether 10:33; 11:1, 2, 7).

2.13 The Nephite civilization.

. . . there was continual peace established in the land, all save it were the secret combinations which Gadianton the robber had established in the more settled parts of the land, which at that time were not known unto those who were at the head of government; therefore they were not destroyed out of the land (Helaman 3:23).

And now it came to pass that when the Lamanites found that there were robbers among them they were exceeding sorrowful; and they did use every means in their power to destroy them of the face of the earth.

But behold, Satan did stir up the hearts of the more part of the Nephites, insomuch that they did unite with those bands of robbers, and did enter into their covenants and their oaths, that they would protect and preserve one another in whatsoever difficult circumstances they should be placed, that they should not suffer for their murders, and their plunderings, and their stealings.

And it came to pass that they did have their signs, yea their secret signs and their secret words; and this that they might distinguish a brother who had entered into the covenant, that whatsoever wickedness his brother should do he would not be injured by his brother, nor by those who to his band, who had taken this covenant.

And thus they might murder, and plunder, and steal, and commit whoredoms and all manner of wickedness, contrary to the laws of their country and also the laws of their God.

And whosoever of those who belonged to their band should reveal unto the world of their wickedness and their abominations, should be tried, not according to the laws of their country, but according to the laws of their wickedness, which had been given by Gadianton and Kishkumen (Helaman 6:20-24).

And it came to pass that the Lamanites did hunt the band of robbers of Gadianton; and they did preach the word of God among the more wicked part of them insomuch that this band of robbers was utterly destroyed from among the Lamanites.

And it came to pass on the other hand, that the Nephites did build them up and support them, beginning at the more wicked part of them, until they had overspread all the land of the Nephites, and they had seduced the more part of the righteous until they had come down to believe in their works and partake of their spoils, and to join with them in their secret murders and combinations. And thus they did obtain the sole management of the government (Helaman 6:37-39).

2.14 The Gentile civilization.

. . . whatsoever nation shall uphold such secret combinations, to get power and gain, until they shall spread over the nation, behold, they shall be destroyed.

. . . Wherefore, the Lord commandeth you, when ye shall see these things come among you that ye shall awake to a sense of your awful situation, because of this secret combination which shall be among you; . . . (Ether 8:22-24).

2.2 The American Mafia organization.

The history of organized crime throughout the last 80 years demonstrates that gambling has been a major revenue producer, although at times supplanted by rum-running, black markets, and narcotics. In that period, dozens of other rackets, once widespread and firmly entrenched, have been practically eliminated. But gambling demonstrates an ability to withstand every onslaught made upon it. I might add, this is in large measure due to its wide community acceptance. These cunning criminal groups have an almost instinctive ability to capitalize on the persistent desires of a part of the public for the prohibited. Their ingenuity in creating and supplying wrongful accommodations stresses the insidious nature of the enemy. Routine enforcement has never been adequate. Strenuous attempts to arouse the public through legislative committees and exoses, and similar extraordinary circumstances, produce only relatively short periods of suppression. Constant enforcement aimed at complete elimination of the bookie and the policy banker is the only answer (pp. 44-45).

The searing searchlight of the public hearing, and the increased effort by the state through its waterfront commission, state investigation commission, and state police, and by the city through its department of investigation have aided in reducing the power of the underworld. So has the entrance of the additional Federal agencies into the fight against organized crime, in the form of a newly created unit in the Department of Justice, and in its investigative are, the FBI.

. . . these new allies have added to the existing aggressive and experienced forces of the police and district attorney's offices. The constant anticrime activities of the Federal Narcotics Bureau, the U.S. Customs, and the Internal Revenue Bureau have also given great impetus to the attack.

Another ally in the battle against organized crime is the vital and penetrating reporting of the seven good daily newspapers in New York City.

The spotlight of publicity, which brings their corrupt and evil manipulations into the open, is a constant source of fear and anxiety to the criminal hierarchy. Aroused public opinion is one of the most effective weapons in routing out and destroying these underworld figures (p. 46).

The drain on the national economy is so enormous that if the Cosa Nostra's illegal profits were reported, the country could meet its present obligations with a 10 percent tax reduction instead of a 10 percent surcharge increase. And nowhere is its impact more pernicious than in poverty-stricken ghettos, where people play the numbers not as a lark, but in a frantic effort to get money. In New York City alone the Cosa Nostra runs a numbers racket that scoops up around \$240,000,000 a year. It takes all this cash out of slum areas and, of course only puts a fraction of it back.²⁸

The Detroit area Mafia of the 1960's is big business. On the legal side it is involved in selling everything from horseraces to fruit juice; on the illegal, everything from dope to football bets; however, the Mafia's principal product is fear (p. 400).

I think the conspiracy . . . exists in large measure because of four things: (1) Public complacency, (2) Murder, just plain fear, . . . (3) Political influence. They don't buy public officials anymore . . . What they do now is to find front people who will get campaign contributions of a very respectable nature into the hands of influential figures, . . . the net result is someone close to the seat of power who at least can put in a good word . . . (4) outright corruption (pp. 405-406).

. . . the conviction that there is an illegal conspiracy of some strength and cohesiveness and continuity existing in the Southeastern Michigan area and tied in with other similar organizations throughout the country, that conviction does not exist among our people in Detroit.

Senator, as I know the Judiciary, it does not exist among the judges . . . (p. 421).

Mr. Edwards. We would like Senator, to see the outcome of this hearing be that the American public in its majesty rose up and smashed this infamous national conspiracy (p. 483).

²⁸Valachi Papers, p. 275.

What accounts for failure of local police agencies to cope more effectively with the Mafia:

. . . (5) Inadequate state laws: ". . . the hard to realize fact is that we have not legislated it to be a crime to engage in that activity which we have come to refer to as "organized crime" and it follows that there is no meaningful punitive sanction to be imposed.

(6) failure to impose available sanctions . . . (pp. 493-494).

. . . There are some individuals who believe that a Mafia or Black Hand exists and operates in this community, but they are in the minority . . . The evidence presented, the volume of written material examined, and the witnesses interviewed point to the existence in this community of an organized crime element whose method of operation are similar to the pattern of the Sicilian Mafia as we understand it . . .

. . . our records indicate that the vast majority of our unsolved crimes stem from underworld activity involving persons of Sicilian or Italian ancestry . . .

Mr. Brown. Notwithstanding their findings, the grand jury concluded that there was no national or local Mafia in Tampa (report dated 3-30-56) (pp. 521-522).

3. They flourish in affluent societies or remain dormant for years and then grow rapidly when circumstances are favorable.

3.1 Book of Mormon secret combinations.

3.11 The Adamic civilization.

And Cain was shut out from the presence of the Lord, and with his wife and many of his brethren dwelt in the land of Nod, on the east of Eden (Moses 5:41).

And Enoch also beheld the residue of the people which were the sons of Adam; and they were a mixture of all the seed of Adam save it was the seed of Cain, for the seed of Cain were black and had not place among them (Moses 7:22).

And Noah and his sons hearkened unto the Lord, and gave heed, and they were called the sons of God.

And when these men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, the sons of men saw that those daughters were fair, and they took them wives even as they chose.

And the Lord said unto Noah; the daughters of thy sons have sold themselves; for behold mine anger is kindled against the sons of men (Moses 8:13-15).

3.12 The Jaredite civilization.

. . . behold, it came to pass that because of the secret combinations of Akish and his friends, behold, they did overthrow the kingdom of Omer . . .

. . . Jared was anointed king over the people, by the hand of wickedness . . .

. . . For so great had been the spreading of this wicked and secret society that it had corrupted the hearts of all the people; therefore Jared was murdered upon his throne, and Akish reigned in his stead. . . .

And there began to be a war between the sons of Akish and Akish, which lasted for the space of many years, yea, unto the destruction of nearly all the people of the kingdom, yea, even all, save it were thirty souls, and they who fled with the house of Omer (Ether 9:1,4,6,12).

. . . Omer was restored again to the land of his inheritance.

. . . Omer . . . begat Emer; and he anointed Emer to be king . . .

. . . the Lord began again to take the curse from off the land, and the house of Emer did prosper exceedingly . . . In the space of sixty and two years they had become exceeding rich . . .

. . . and thus the Lord did pour out his blessings upon this land, which was choice above all other lands . . .

. . . Emer did . . . begat Coriantum, and he anointed Coriantum to reign in his stead. . . .

. . . Coriantum did walk in the steps of his father, and did build many mighty cities, and did administer that which was good unto his people in all his days . . .

. . . he begat Com, and Com reigned in his stead . . . And the people had spread again over all the face of the land, and there began to be an exceeding great wickedness upon the face of the land, and Heth began to embrace the secret plans again of old (Ether 9:13,14,16, 20).

And there came prophets in the land again, crying repentance unto them . . .

But the people believed not the words of the prophets . . .

And it came to pass that there began to be a great dearth . . . there was no rain upon the face of the earth.

And there came forth poisonous serpents . . .

And it came to pass that there were many of them which did perish . . .

And it came to pass that when they had humbled themselves sufficiently before the Lord he did send rain upon the face of the earth; and the people began to revive again (Ether 9:28-35).

. . . Shez, who was a descendant of Heth . . . began to build up again a broken people. . . .

. . . Shez . . . begat Riplakish . . . and Riplakish reigned in his stead. . . .

. . . and there began to be war again in the land, insomuch that Riplakish was killed, and his descendants were driven out of the land.

. . . after the space of many years, Morianton, (he being a descendant of Riplakish) . . . did gain power over all the land, and did establish himself king, over all the land. . . .

. . . the people became exceeding rich under his reign, both in buildings, and in gold and silver, and in raising grain, and in flocks, and herds, . . .

. . . Morianton . . . begat Kim; and Kim did reign in the stead of his father . . .

. . . he (Kim) begat Levi . . .

. . . Levi . . . did obtain unto himself the kingdom.

. . . he (Levi) also begat Coram, whom he anointed king in his stead.

. . . Coram . . . did pass away, . . . and Kish reigned in his stead.

. . . Kish passed away also, and Lib reigned in his stead. . . .

. . . And the whole face of the land northward was covered with inhabitants.

And they were exceedingly industrious, and they did buy and sell and traffic one with another that they might get gain. . . .

And never could be a people more blessed than were they, and more prospered by the hand of the Lord . . .

. . . Lib . . . begat Hearthom.

. . . Hearthom reigned in the stead of his father.

. . . and he begat Heth, and Heth lived in captivity all his days, and Heth begat Aaron and Aaron dwelt in captivity all his days; and he begat Ammigaddah, and Ammigaddah also dwelt in captivity all his days; and he begat Coriantum, and Coriantum dwelt in captivity all his days and he begat Com. . . .

And in the days of Com there began to be robbers in the land; and they adopted the old plans, and administered oaths after the manner of the ancients and sought again to destroy the kingdom (Ether 10).

3.13 The Nephite civilization.

But behold, when Gadianton had found that Kishkumen did not return he feared lest that he should be destroyed; therefore he caused that his band should follow him. And they took their flight out of the land, by a secret way, into the wilderness; and thus when Helaman sent forth to take them they could nowhere be found (Helaman 2:11).

There were a certain number of the dissenters from the people of Nephi, . . .

And they did commit murder and plunder; and then they would retreat back into the mountains, and into the wilderness and secret places, hiding themselves that they could not be discovered, receiving daily an addition to their numbers, inasmuch as there were dissenters that went forth unto them.

And thus in time, yea, even in the space of not many years, they became an exceeding great band of robbers; and they did search out all the secret plans of Gadian-ton; and thus they became robbers of Gadian-ton.

Now behold, these robbers did make great havoc, yea, even great destruction among the people of Nephi, and also among the people of the Lamanites. . . .

. . . the robbers did still increase and wax strong, insomuch that they did defy the whole armies of the Nephites, and also of the Lamanites . . . (Helaman 11:24-27, 32).

Now this secret combination, which had brought so great iniquity upon the people, and did place at their head a man whom they did call Jacob;

And they did call him their king; therefore he became a king over this wicked band; and he was one of the chiefest who had given his voice against the prophets who testified of Jesus.

And it came to pass that they were not so strong in numbers as the tribes of the people . . .

Therefore, Jacob seeing that their enemies were more numerous than they, he being the king of the band, therefore he commanded his people that they should take their flight into the northernmost part of the land, and there build up unto themselves a kingdom, until they were joined by dissenters, (for he flattered them that there would be many dissenters) and they become sufficiently strong to contend with the tribes of the people; and they did so (3 Nephi 7:9-12).

. . . they [the people of Nephi] were divided into tribes, every man according to his family, kindred and friends (3 Nephi 7:14).

Wherefore, the Lord commandeth you, when ye shall see these things come among you that ye shall awake to a sense of your awful situation, because of this secret combination which shall be among you (Ether 8:24).

3.2 The American Mafia organization.

The subcommittee finds that the metropolitan area of New York is the leading center of organized crime in the

Nation, and that its principal criminal organization is firmly in the hands of the Cosa Nostra leaders (p. 119).

In any large metropolis today, the crime problem is urgent and diversified and a source of constant concern. New York City, with its almost 8 million residents and its additional millions of workers and visitors daily, is the focal point for various enterprises, both legal and illegal. It is an extremely attractive magnet to every boy who wants to "make good," to everyone who wants to be in the "big time," whether the careers they envision are legitimate or unlawful. This, of course, presents New York with enormous law enforcement challenges.

To meet these challenges, the New York City police department has been raised to its greatest strength in history--over 25,000 policemen and women. It has a detective force of over 3,000, including experts who specialize in countering the attacks of racketeers. The police force has been increased by more than 5,000 in the last 9 years, through the efforts and interest of Mayor Robert F. Wagner.

Organized crime is not a recent phenomenon. Legislative hearings in the 1880's and 1890's revealed widespread and continuing criminal conspiracies which are the heart of organized crime. In 1904, the focal point of New York City's subculture was the depredations of the "black Hand," a group which preyed on newly arrived Italian residents to the city. Their activities, which took the form of extortions, bombings, and death threats, led to the creation of a special squad in the police department. The new squad smashed the "Black Hand" in four years. . . .

Throughout the early years, police efforts against organized crime continued unabated and largely alone. The struggle, a difficult one, ebbed and flowed; for our foe was and still is resilient, resourceful, and unregenerate. As illegal sources of finance were shut off he sought and found new rackets. These ran from frauds on the immigrant through prostitution and gambling to bootlegging and rumrunning, whose profits and savagery have never been equaled before or since.

With the end of prohibition came the Luciano prostitution ring; the waterfront invasion; industrial racketeering with bomb-throwing, acid-spraying terrorists; the paper unions; and the sweetheart contract. Strenuous deeds by the city's prosecutors, in cooperation with the police department rackets squad, eliminated prostitution as an arm of organized crime. Thanks to the same combination, the industrial terrorist, as known then, no longer exists. This is not to say that all industrial racketeering has been eliminated; but it is now curtailed and circumspect.

Today the caution, sophistication, and personal conduct of the major racketeers, and insulation inherent in their system, make it, in every practical sense, extremely difficult and, at times, almost impossible to secure evidence to convict them.

These difficulties, faced by law enforcement officials in obtaining evidence, are due in large measure to the lack of cooperation and absence of a sense of community responsibility on the part of that substantial element of the public that deals directly and indirectly with the underworld. The labor leader who hires a "few of the boys for picket line duty"; the no-question asked management who seek "the man who can deliver," that is, the strike-breaker; the businessman who over-extends his credit and seeks the shylock; the horse player; and the policy player, all contribute to organized crime.

There are many people who in one way or another seek the services of these racketeers and then find themselves saddled with unwanted and unscrupulous business partners and overseers. Additional invasion of industries and corporations is achieved through fronts and corporate structures which hide true ownership. The victim himself at first does not consider himself victimized. After a while, when his control over his personal or business life has been assumed by others, he decides he dare not seek the aid of law enforcement to extricate himself (p. 44).

Organized crime today is big business and, like all big business, employs all the aids and techniques of industry. Sophistication is so advanced that public relations policies are laid down by the various underworld groups . . .

Ease of transportation and communication has added to the difficulties in combating crime's higher echelons. Our constant attention has led to a large exodus of New York racketeers from New York City proper to places near and far. Yet we do not believe that any criminal interest has been relinquished to a material degree because of this. The remote control racketeer is commonplace. In addition, confederation is nationwide. An occurrence on the west coast may have had its genesis in New York or vice versa. Jet transportation has made the United States a 4½-hour nation and the criminal select have taken full advantage of this streamlined age (pp. 44-45).

A bookmaker may subscribe to a regular telephone answering service . . . Thus, organized crime not only becomes more refined in its activities, but also takes advantage of modern developments in transportation and communication. As it does so--and grows richer and more powerful in the process--it can more easily elude law enforcement efforts.

Our principal problem is insulation. The kingpins of the rackets--our main targets--are often far removed from their illegal activities. In fact, when we see that one of our subjects has become operational we know he is no longer a kingpin.

For example, a racket lord need only contact one or two trusted lieutenants to successfully direct a massive, illegal gambling operation and collect great profits. With modern means of communication, he need not even enter the State in which the illegal activity is centered (pp. 14-15).

Mr. Adlerman. Mr. Valachi, we have covered New York rather extensively. Now are there any other members, any other families outside of the area of New York?

Mr. Valachi. You mean like Chicago, Boston?

Mr. Adlerman. Yes. Could you mention the cities where other families exist of the Cosa Nostra, and if you know, the numbers of the members as you know them, could you mention them?

Mr. Valachi. I will start with Philadelphia. In Philadelphia I would say about a hundred. Boston, when I left the streets, was about 20, 18 or 20. Chicago, about 150. Cleveland about 40 or 50. Los Angeles, about 40. Tampa, about 10. Newark, about a hundred. Detroit, I am not familiar at all with Detroit. . . .

Mr. Adlerman. How about Buffalo?

Mr. Valachi. Buffalo, about 100 or 125.

Mr. Adlerman. Utica, N.Y.?

Mr. Valachi. Utica, about 80 to 100.

Mr. Adlerman. I think you covered New Orleans, did you?

Mr. Valachi. No, I didn't cover New Orleans. Very few in New Orleans. . . .

Mr. Valachi. I remembered all I can remember just now . . . (pp. 386-387). (See Appendix D.)

. . . Despite the combined might of every level of government the under-society is still strong in membership and its vitality, endurance, and reserves are not to be underestimated.

The harsh fact is that, although organized crime has never faced such dedication to its destruction, it can afford to wait (p. 46).

Mr. Valachi. . . . We were getting \$25 a week.

Senator Jackson. \$25 a week?

Mr. Valachi. Yes; between four of us. In fact, Senator, I went on a couple of burglaries. . . .

Senator Jackson. You were doing a little moonlighting?

Mr. Valachi. I felt \$25 a week was kind of rough.

. . .

Mr. Valachi. During the troubles. Naturally you corroborate because you know it is rough. There ain't nobody making any money, you are in hiding, so you can't make money.

Senator Muskie. In other words, you were simply paid during the war to take care of your living expenses while you were a fighting soldier?

Mr. Valachi. That is right (p. 194).

. . . Al Capone was brought to Chicago in 1919 by John Torrio who inherited the mantle of vice lord of the city from Big John Colosimo. Colosimo was murdered by Torrio. Capone had been a member of the 5 point gang in New York; he lined up gambling and prostitution for Torrio. By 1924 Torrio was one of the most powerful hoodlums in the nation. Torrio was arrested and imprisoned and an attempt was made on his life so he turned Chicago vice over to Capone. From 1924 to 1931 Capone controlled the Chicago underworld. In 1927 with the election of mayor "Big Bill" Thompson, Chicago became a "wide open" town and crime ran rampant. Frank "the Enforcer" Nitti took over the Chicago underworld after Capone was imprisoned in 1931. It was at this time that Frank Costello from the New York Mafia joined forces with the Chicago Mafia in joint ventures--they concentrated on liquor wholesaling, gambling and labor unions infiltrations. The syndicate controlled the movie industry through extortion. In 1943 Nitti committed suicide and Paul De Lucia (alias Paul the Waiter Ricca) took over. Until he went to prison then Tony Accardo alias Joe Batters--a grand jury investigation was started in Sept. 1943 in Cook County was destined to have a great effect on the Chicago underworld. The syndicate began to hibernate for a while. (As soon as the Kefauver committee arrived in Chicago to conduct this hearing most syndicate members left town (pp. 501-504).

4. They have destroyed every American civilization in which they have been able to thrive:

4.1 Book of Mormon secret combinations.

4.11 The Adamic civilization.

For from the days of Cain, there was a secret combination, and their works were in the dark, and they knew every man his brother.

Wherefore the Lord cursed Lamech, and his house, and all them that had covenanted with Satan; for they kept not the commandments of God, and it displeased God, and he ministered not unto them, and their works were

abominations, and began to spread among all the sons of men. . . .

And thus the works of darkness began to prevail among all the sons of men.

And God cursed the earth with a sore curse, and was angry with the wicked, with all the sons of men whom he had made (Moses 5:51, 52, 55, 56).

And the children of men were numerous upon all the face of the land . . . and a man's hand was against his own brother, in administering death, because of secret works, seeking for power (Moses 5:15).

. . . for these many generations, ever since the day that I created them, have they gone astray, and have denied me, and have sought their own counsels in the dark; and in their own abominations have they devised murder, and have not kept the commandments, which I gave unto their father, Adam.

Wherefore, they have foresworn themselves, and, by their oaths, they have brought upon themselves death; and a hell I have prepared for them, if they repent not (Moses 6:28-29).

And Noah and his sons hearkened unto the Lord, and gave heed, and they were called the sons of God.

And when these men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, the sons of men saw that those daughters were fair, and they took them wives, even as they chose.

And the Lord said unto Noah: The daughters of thy sons have sold themselves; for behold mine anger is kindled against the sons of men, . . .

. . . Noah called upon the children of men that they should repent; but they hearkened not unto his words;

. . . And God saw that the wickedness of men had become great in the earth; and every man was lifted up in the imagination of the thoughts of his heart, being only evil continually. . . .

The earth was corrupt before God, and it was filled with violence. . . .

And God said unto Noah: . . . Behold I will destroy all flesh from off the earth (Moses 8:13-15, 18, 20, 22, 28, 30).

4.12 The Jaredite civilization.

. . . the Lord worketh not in secret combinations . . . And they [secret combinations] have caused the destruction of this people [Jaredites] of which I am now speaking . . . (Ether 8:19, 21).

4.13 The Nephite civilization.

And they [secret combinations] have caused the destruction . . . of the people of Nephi (Ether 8:21).

4.14 The Gentile civilization.

Wherefore O ye Gentiles, it is wisdom in God that these things should be shown unto you, that thereby ye may repent of your sins, and suffer not that these murderous combinations shall get above you, which are built up to get power and gain--and the work, yea, even the work of destruction come upon you, . . . to your overthrow and destruction if ye shall suffer these things to be.

Wherefore, the Lord commandeth you, when ye shall see these things come among you that ye shall awake to a sense of your awful situation, because of this secret combination which shall be among you; . . .

For it cometh to pass that whoso buildeth it up seeketh to overthrow the freedom of all lands, nations, and countries; and it bringeth to pass the destruction of all people, for it is built up by the devil . . . (Ether 8:23-24).

4.2 The American Mafia organization.

There exists in the United States today a criminal organization that is directly descended from and is patterned upon the centuries old Sicilian terrorist society, the Mafia. This organization, also known as Cosa Nostra, operates vast illegal enterprises that produce an annual income of many billions of dollars. This combine has so much power and influence that it may be described as a private government of organized crime.²⁹

I have often maintained that organized crime threatens the very existence of our society; that it is a far greater threat internally than is communism (p. 496).

Mr. Chairman. Do you feel this ratio of increase is a danger or a menace to our country if something is not done about it?

Mr. Stone. There is no question, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman. . . . Is this thing becoming such a menace that it endangers law and order throughout the

²⁹ Findings and Conclusions, p. 117.

country?

Mr. Stone. Positively . . .

Mr. Chairman. Unless something is checked, unless we find something to abate it, then the whole country is in danger.

Mr. Stone. That is right, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman. And that you don't feel is an exaggeration?

Mr. Stone. Not a bit, sir (p. 561).

President Nixon told Congress last April that we "have not substantially impeded the growth and power of organized criminal syndicates. Not a single one of the 24 Cosa Nostra families has been destroyed. They are more firmly entrenched than ever before."³⁰

Cosa Nostra functions as an illegal invisible government. However, its political objective is not competition with the established agencies of legitimate government. Unlike the Communist Party, it is not interested in political reform. Its political objective is a negative one: nullification of government.³¹

The point I want to make is this: If we do not on a national scale attack organized criminals with weapons and techniques as effective as their own, they will destroy us.³²

³⁰ John L. McClellan, Readers Digest, March, 1970, p. 56.

³¹ Donald Cressey, Theft of a Nation, p. 248.

³² Robert Kennedy, The Enemy Within, p. 265.

CHAPTER IV

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The evidence presented in this paper seems sufficient to lead the thoughtful reader to the conclusion that the American Mafia organization reveals the nature and characteristics of the ancient secret societies warned against by ancient and modern prophets.

1. Secret combinations are instituted by the Devil. God has commanded us not to work within the framework of secret combinations.

2. Secret combinations are designed to get material gain and power over others through unrighteous means.

3. Secret combinations were instituted among Adam's family on the earth after one of his sons rebelled against God and "Loved Satan more than God."¹ These combinations spread across the face of the land creating a secret society that was instrumental in causing the destruction of that civilization.

4. The Jaredites searched the ancient records to find the details of the secret society, then in order to gain power they instituted those same combinations among their people. The combination spread across the land causing the destruction of the Jaredite civilization.

¹Moses 5:28.

5. The Nephites sealed up the ancient records in order to protect the people from the evil that had destroyed the two previous civilizations. Satan, however, "inspired" certain men to organize a secret combination. The combination grew to corrupt the Nephite-Lamanite society and eventually caused the utter destruction of the Nephite population.

6. Moroni the last Nephite prophet to live upon this continent warned us that these same secret combinations would be in our midst. He counselled us to destroy these combinations before they destroyed this nation. Moroni prophesied, "For it cometh to pass that whoso buildeth it up seeketh to overthrow the freedom of all lands, nations, and countries; and it bringeth to pass the destruction of all people, for it is built up by the devil."²

7. The American Mafia (Cosa Nostra) is a secret combination that is firmly rooted in the United States of America today.

8. The American Mafia has all the essential characteristics of the ancient secret combinations that caused the destruction of the three past "American" civilizations. (a) The American Mafia requires of its members a dedication beyond that required by family, country, or any other organization. To reveal the organization is to forfeit one's life. (b) It has established murder, or threat of death, as its principle sources of

²Ether 8:25.

power and control. (c) It's primary objectives center around the acquisition of material gain, power and control. (d) The organization is strengthened by dissenters and long periods "of hibernation" wherein it exerts every effort to infiltrate government and private business, corrupting the people and gaining control of society especially in times of affluence. (e) The organization has clustered around ambitious, immoral leaders who have been successful in gaining control of the combination through acts of violence and intrigue. (f) The combinations are highly competitive and until recently were feuding frequently among themselves. (g) The members of the combination attempt to project a good public image through expressions of piety, flattering words and charitable acts.

On the basis of the structure and purpose of the secret organizations one is led to the conclusion that these similarities are not mere coincidences but rather were authored and instituted from the same source. That source is readily identified in holy writ as being:

. . . Built up by the devil, who is the father of all lies; even that same liar who beguiled our first parents, yea, even that same liar who hath caused man to commit murder from the beginning, who hath hardened the hearts of men that they have murdered the prophets, and stoned them, and cast them out from the beginning.³

³ Ether 8:25.

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APPENDIX

APPENDIX A

AL CAPONE

Al Capone was born in Naples, Italy, in the year 1899. He was reared in the Brooklyn, New York, area until the early 1920's. While still a teenager he met and was hired by a member of the Mafia organization named Johnny Torrio. In the early 1920's Torrio left the state of New York and moved to Chicago, Illinois. Capone soon joined him and by 1925 Torrio and Capone were partners in a \$100,000 a week enterprise.

Threats on his life forced Torrio's retirement during the middle 1920's and meant that young Al Capone inherited the entire lucrative business.

Capone was born a Neapolitan--a resident of Naples, Italy--and not a true Sicilian. This meant that there was no opportunity for him to rise to the position of a Capo "Don." Don--is a courtesy title bestowed on the true Mafioso, but, the Sicilian Mafioso of the Chicago area organized themselves behind Capone, having recognized his ability to organize and plunder.

Over the next five years, Capone exterminated the rival gangs--costing 500 lives; gained control of bootlegging, prostitution and gambling in Illinois; laid the organizational foundation for the modern American Mafia.

He had also developed a highly efficient communication network involving hundreds of people from the local barber and shoe shine boy to the professional wire tapper.

His most significant move came in May 1929, however, when Capone invited all major Mafia leaders to the First National Mafia Convention in Atlantic City. It was at this conference that the basic design and the unwritten constitution of the modern American Mafia organization or syndicate for gambling, prostitution, labor racketeering, extortion and bootlegging was formulated.

On his return trip from Atlantic City to Chicago, Capone was arrested for carrying a gun without a permit and was sentenced to a year in jail. This was followed by an eleven year conviction for income tax evasion in 1931. These two encounters with the law effectively ended the career of Al Capone as a leading figure of the American Mafia Organization.

¹Frederic Sondern, Jr. Brotherhood of Evil: The Mafia (New York: Farrar, Straus, Cudahy, Inc., 1959).

APPENDIX B

SALVATORE LUCIANIA

ALIAS

CHARLES "LUCKY" LUCIANO

Salvatore Lucania, better known as Charles "Lucky" Luciano, was born near Palermo, Sicily, in 1897.

Luciano was schooled in the teeming streets of New York's Lower East Side. At 18, already an expert gang fighter and chief runner for an important narcotics peddler, he was caught delivering heroin and served six months of a one-year sentence in jail. But this only made him eligible for underworld promotion.

By the early 1920's he had become chief of staff for Guiseppe Masseria, a don who had great seniority in the brotherhood and a fearsome reputation for ruthlessness. It took a few years, a hundred murders and untold mayhem to organize the bootlegging empire of the Eastern seaboard, but Masseria finally won control of it. Thus he became the area's principal capo mafioso. Luciano was his brains, his memory and his constant companion. Together they made a powerful team, and Luciano began to exert great influence in the New York Mafia councils.

Luciano foresaw the end of prohibition and began to develop financial interests in other areas. Massaria felt he was trying to expand too fast. At this point Luciano relied upon "an ancient rule of the brotherhood (which) requires a Capo mafioso to step down when age impairs his initiative." Massaria refused to step aside for Luciano and subsequently in April 1931, ~~Massaria refused to step aside for Luciano and subsequently in April 1931,~~ Massaria was murdered in a Coney Island restaurant. By

succession Luciano now became a Capo. A gifted diplomat and a shrewd businessman, he organized many other New York gangs into a powerful syndicate. Almost immediately other New York Capos saw the advantage of increased organization and cooperation.

Luciano next began to reform the Mafia "image." He changed the style of clothes from the broad brimmed hats and high collared, tightly fitting coats to the conservative banker-style suits. He replaced the traditional Mafia kiss with the handshake and the secretive back room meetings with regional meetings in the finest facilities.

By 1935 Luciano had revolutionized the New York Mafia organization and had established the same kind of syndicate as Capone had previously formulated in the Chicago area.

In 1935 Luciano was making ten million dollars a year on his organized prostitution racket. Problems arose among the disgruntled prostitutes because of their lack of take-home pay. John Dewey, New York special prosecutor, had Luciano convicted and sentenced to thirty to fifty years in jail. His prison sentence was cut short by little publicized circumstances and the World War II effort.

In 1945 the New York State Parole Board concluded that Luciano had made a significant contribution to the war effort by controlling the docks. They deported Luciano to Italy as a free man. In Italy Luciano organized the flow

of narcotics into America. The channels opened up by Luciano have been expanded and streamlined until in 1963 the Senate Subcommittee came to the following conclusions.

After study of all the evidence, the conclusion must be that the illicit narcotics traffic is in truth an industry of startling size, and that independent examination of its intricate operations, from source to consumer, tends to verify the knowledgeable estimates of the Bureau of Narcotics about the considerable volume of the traffic. The total sales at the "street" level to the consumer are estimated at \$350 million annually; the average addict spends about \$5,000 on his habit each year; the average daily use of heroin in the United States is figured at 3 kilograms of pure heroin.

There is cause for alarm in testimony that indicates that the traffic in opium from Communist China moves in considerable volume across the borders of Burma and Thailand, and there is reason for strong condemnation of the complete failure of the Red Chinese authorities to offer any kind of international cooperation to efforts to stop the sordid traffic in human misery. Further, evidence offered by former Commissioner of Narcotics Harry J. Anslinger, included in the record of these hearings, indicates that the smuggling of opium out of Red China is quite likely an instrument of Chinese Communist policy in seeking to build trade balances in dollars.

The subcommittee finds that the Far East and Middle East are the two main production centers for the opium from which the principal drug of addiction, heroin, is processed, and that the traffic in this opium stems principally from Turkey, Burma, Thailand, Laos, and Yunan Province of Communist China. Authorities of all countries concerned, with the single exception of Red China, contribute to the international control effort to the best of their abilities.

The subcommittee finds that the principal sources of the heroin introduced into the United States are the countries of the Near and Middle East, where the opium from poppies ostensibly grown for medical and scientific purposes is diverted in volume to Syrian, Lebanese, and from Turkey into Syria and Lebanon, where it is processed into morphine base in crude clandestine laboratories.

Corsican racketeers in France form the next link in the network of illicit traffic in narcotics. They work closely with the French-speaking Syrian and Lebanese gangs, annually purchasing approximately 1 ton of

morphine base for conversion into heroin in clandestine laboratories generally located on the Mediterranean seacoast of France.

The subcommittee finds that the Corsican gangsters, having produced the heroin, market it for use by addicts in the United States in two ways. The principal avenue of traffic is through sales to Mafia elements in Italy and Sicily, who have working agreements with Cosa Nostra groups in the United States, and who arrange smuggling ventures through the port of New York or by way of Canada and Mexico. The second avenue of traffic, developed in recent years, is through direct sales of heroin by the French Corsican racketeers to French-speaking Canadian racketeers, who in turn smuggle the heroin into the hands of Mafia gangsters in the metropolitan areas of the United States that are centers of addiction.

The subcommittee finds that the well-organized Mafia or Cosa Nostra racketeers in the United States complete the international network of illicit traffic in narcotics. They have almost complete control of the importing, wholesaling, and distribution operation in this country.

The subcommittee finds that actual sales of heroin to addicts at the street level in the United States are made by so-called pushers, who are not generally members of crime syndicates. These persons are usually petty criminals who are concentrated in the metropolitan areas of heaviest addiction.

The subcommittee concludes that the fantastically spiraling costs in the illicit narcotics traffic, which annually may reach a total of \$350 million in street level volume of sales to addicts, do not realistically reflect the actual cost of narcotic addiction to the national economy. Authorities state that half of the Nation's known addicts support themselves by stealing, realizing only a fifth of the value of stolen property from underworld "fences." The gross value of property stolen by addicts is estimated to reach a half billion dollars annually in New York alone. Additionally, the national economy must bear the burden of the costs of law enforcement in the narcotics field and the ever-mounting expenditures for treatment and rehabilitation.

There are additional areas of great concern in the illicit narcotic traffic other than the substantial importing of Heroin originating in the Near East. Much of California's supply of heroin is produced in Mexico and smuggled into the United States in spite of rigorous enforcement by authorities of the two countries. A large

part of the marijuana consumed in the United States also comes from Mexico.

The subcommittee finds that the illicit traffic in cocaine, which had declined almost to the vanishing point in the past 20 years, has recently shown an alarming resurgence. The primary source of Cocaine is South America, where it is processed in increasing quantities in remote areas for the illicit traffic. The smuggling of cocaine is an enterprise of importance to certain Cuban nationals, some of whom are Castro sympathizers. Since cocaine is a stimulant rather than a narcotic, its likely effect upon addicts is to make them aggressive and dangerous (pp. 120-122).

The New York State Parole Board's decision to deport Luciano to Italy, a new life and, supposedly, oblivion did not work out exactly as planned. The American Mafia now had a first-rate delegate in Italy to direct their already flourishing narcotics traffic. Even though he was separated from his family and the leading Capo's of the American Mafia Organization he still maintained great power and control until his death.

Mr. Shanley. Well, in relation to Luciano, what would become apparent in these charts is the number of pilgrimages that were made by these various well-situated people to Luciano. Joe Adonis went to see him, and "Patchie" Evelin went to see him, and Tommy Eboli went to see him, and he apparently--even while he was in Europe--he received a great deal of respect. There is no question that his power was so great that even in Europe he could exercise it (p. 251).

APPENDIX C

JOSEPH MICHAEL VALACHI--THE WITNESS

On June 22, 1962, at the United States penitentiary in Atlanta, Georgia, a convict by the name of Joseph Michael Valachi brutally attacked and killed a fellow inmate.

This rather routine incident eventually led the leading law enforcement officers of this nation and the American public to re-evaluate the role of organized crime in America. The results of this re-evaluation are startling. The inescapable result. According to leading criminologists, is that the American society, as we know it, is in a critical situation, wherein its very existence is threatened by a criminal conspiracy. This conclusion rests largely on the testimony of one man. Who is that man? How creditable is his testimony? What were his motives? Is there a possibility of a misunderstanding or a misrepresentation of his testimony? These are questions that need answers if the remainder of this paper is to have any significance.

Joseph Valachi--The Man

Joseph Michael Valachi was born September 22, 1904, in Manhattan's East Harlem, the second of seventeen children born to Marie and Dominick Valachi, emigrants from Naples, Italy. Joseph's father was a pushcart peddler and

a worker at the New York Garbage dumps. Joseph attended public schools, when he wasn't helping his father, until at the age of eleven he was sent to the New York Catholic Protectory, for incorrigible behavior. At fourteen he was released from the protectory and after one more year of school, he went to work with his father. His father demanded Joseph's weekly paycheck in order to support his drinking habit. Joseph soon began to steal to have some money of his own.

By the time Joseph was eighteen years old he had joined the 'minutemen' of the East Harlem 107th street. This burglary gang supported themselves by crashing in store windows and escaping with the stolen goods in less than one minute's time. Valachi's criminal activities became more varied and lucrative as he increased in age and experience.

The opportunity to become 'mobbed up' (join the Cosa Nostra) came in 1933 when Valachi was twenty-six years old. He joined this secret organization with full knowledge of what was required of its members. He retained active membership in the organization for thirty-three years. These were years of lies, thefts, adultery, dope peddling, gambling, and murder. Finally after thirty-three years as an active member of the organization he was unjustly accused of informing the police of certain details relating to the secret society. He was sentenced to death by his 'Capo.' Three attempts were made on his life in the next few days.

and finally in desperation he picked up a two foot length of metal pipe, hit a fellow inmate over the head and immediately requested police protection. Within five months his testimony--consisting of 1180 pages and some 300,000 words--had been obtained and was in the hands of America's leading law enforcement officials.

Joseph Valachi--The Witness

How valid is the testimony of Joseph Valachi?

There are a number of factors that cause one to question the validity of the testimony of a man with Valachi's background. Some of these factors are:

1. Joseph Valachi was directly involved in numerous murders, according to his sworn testimony. (a) Senator Muskie: This is something you wanted to do (murder Joe Baker), but if you didn't want to do it could they have forced you to do it? Valachi: A thought like that never even entered our mind as to whether you wanted to do it or not. You are there for that purpose senator. Sen. Muskie: So that doing these things comes as naturally as breathing? Valachi: That is right, yes.

2. Valachi was a liar, thief, gambler, adulterer and a dope peddler in addition to being a murderer according to his sworn testimony. (a) Sen. Javits: Now exactly to what do you attribute your immunity from conviction in thirty-five years? How do you account for the fact that for thirty-five years you pursued a criminal career and you were not convicted once? Valachi: Actually I was not

committing any crimes. Do you mean crimes for making a living? Sen. Javits: Yes, the crimes that you described yourself. Valachi: Well after you get used to burglarizing or committing crimes, you don't feel these other things are crimes . . . "

Proof of Joseph Valachi's creditability as a witness. Other factors must be considered as they relate to the creditability of Valachi's testimony. What prompts a man with Valachi's background to turn state's evidence and attempt to destroy an organization he spent his life building. What factors motivated Valachi to testify?

1. Valachi's motivation for testifying. (a) The mafioso personality is an enigma to those who are not familiar with the history of the Mafia organization and the people who have developed it. From them the members of this organization are taught that personal pride, physical power, cleverness, deception, retaliation are virtues that should be fostered and developed.

When Joseph Valachi was falsely accused of breaking the most important covenant of his life he immediately retaliated in the only way he knew how, by attempting to destroy those who would have destroyed him.

James P. Flynn, the FBI agent who spent more time with Valachi than any other special agent, said, "Valachi has no real remorse for anything he has done in his life, except this. Nothing crushed him more than the fact that he got the wrong man. It really plagues him. Getting a

guy who was going to get him was the one satisfaction he was willing to settle for. If he had been successful, he probably never would have talked.

Valachi's motivation for revealing the nature of the Cosa Nostra stemmed from his desire to retaliate against those who had tried to destroy him. His desire was to destroy the entire Cosa Nostra organization.

The chairman: . . . I will ask you this . . . why have you been willing under these circumstance to tell the law enforcement officials and come and tell this committee your story, what you know?

Valachi: The main answer to that is very simple. Number 1, it is to destroy them.

Mr. Chairman: Destroy who?

Valachi: The Cosa Nostra leaders, or the bosses. The whole-how would you explain it-that exists.

The Chairman: You want to destroy the whole syndicate or the whole organization?

Valachi: That is right; yes, sir.

Valachi was convinced that the surest way to destroy the secret organization was to cooperate with the federal authorities.

(b) Another motivating factor that caused Valachi to testify was his frustrated ambitions within the crime syndicate: "Why" he would complain, "should some guys who put in less time be ahead of me?"

The Chairman: Why do you feel like it (the Cosa

Nostra) should be destroyed?

Valachi: Well, through the years first of all I was concerned, and second they have been very bad to the soldiers and they have been thinking of themselves, all through the years. It is all put together, and I put together so many things that it all comes to that, to destroy them.

Mr. Chairman: There are just many reasons that add up to the fact that you don't think such an organization should be permitted to operate or exist, is that correct?

Valachi: That is right. As the senator put it before, what did I get out of it? Nothing but misery. As you all understand once you are in you can't get out.

c. A third motivating factor was Valachi's habit of blaming someone else for all his troubles: "Joe" Flynn recalls, "thought everybody was responsible for Joe, except Joe. He only took up crime, for instance, because he never had a chance as a kid. It was the prison administration's fault that he had to kill a man he didn't know. He didn't even consider himself a traitor to the Cosa Nostra; in his mind Vito Genovese was the real traitor.

2. The ability of the police to check every major statement for accuracy from legal documents. (a) former Attorney-General Kennedy testified:

"A witness who will testify in the face of threats to himself and his family is rare. This is one reason the

disclosures made by Joseph Valachi are of such significance. For the first time, an insider--a knowledgeable member of the racketeering hierarchy--has broken the underworld's code of silence.

Valachi's disclosures are more important, however, for another reason. In working a jigsaw puzzle each piece in place tells us something about the whole picture and enables us to see additional relationships.

It is the same in the fight against organized crime. Valachi's information is a significant addition to the broad picture. It adds essential detail and brings the picture into sharper focus. It gives meaning to much that we already know.

3. Valachi's near perfect recall. The fact of Valachi's nearly total recall is undeniable. Except for minor memory lapses, his FBI interrogation checked out on every verifiable point. I can attest to this because I read the reports of these interrogations at the Westchester county jails and Fort Monmouth exactly as they came into Washington before they were documented. And beyond the areas of interest to law enforcement officers, it is virtually impossible to find fault on even the most obscure details in his story--the name of a policeman who arrested him in the 1920's, a tabloid headline in the early 1930's, the price on a race one of his horses won in the 1940's.

Summary

It would appear that Joseph Valachi was the ideal witness, having everything to gain and nothing to lose, motivated by his ego and personal aggrandizement.

Supportive evidence from the U.S. Attorney General, U.S. Senate Subcommittee, the FBI files and several of the leading special agents and leading law enforcement officers representing many of America's largest cities, all swearing under oath, all corroborating the testimony of Joseph Valachi.

APPENDIX D

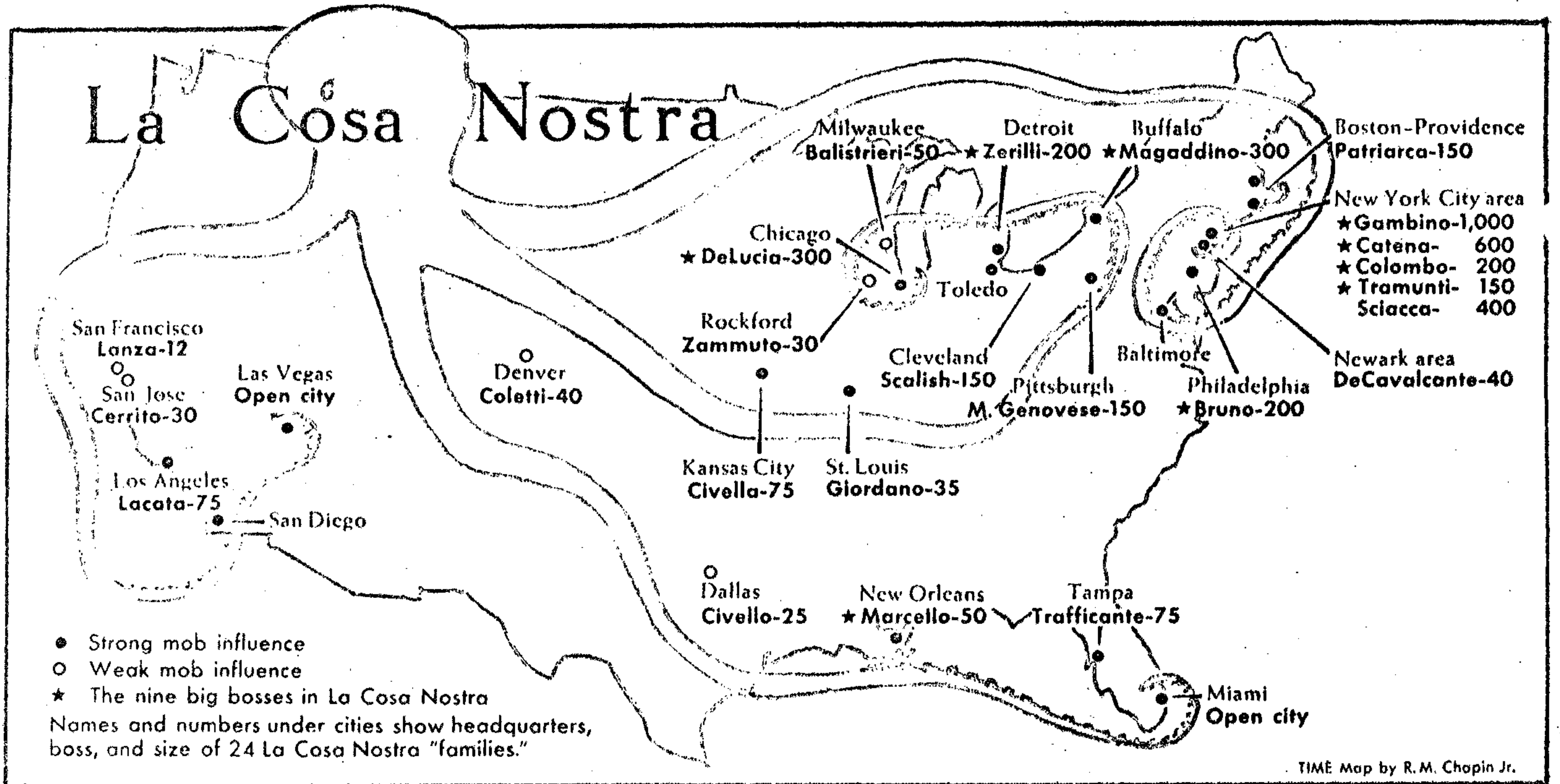
The Vito Genovese Family is illustrative of the five Mafia family organizations that exist in New York.

The other four are:

1. Joseph Bonanno Family
2. Carlo Gambino Family
3. Guiseppe Magliaccho
4. Gaepano Lucchese.

The Genovese Family is the largest and most important family in New York.

APPENDIX E



The Mafia (La Cosa Nostra) itself, the Italian core of organized crime, consists of only 3,000 to 5,000 individuals scattered around the nation in 24 "families," or regional gangs, each headed by a boss and organized loosely along military lines. There is no national dictator or omnipotent unit giving precise direction on all operations. Rather, the families constitute a relatively loose confederation under a board of directors called the Commission. From this soft center the mob's web spreads to many thousands of allies and vassals representing most ethnic groups. "We got Jews, we got Polacks, we got Greeks, we got all kinds," Jackie Cerone, a member of the Chicago gang, once observed with both accuracy and pride.

Meyer Lansky, the gang's leading financial wizard, was actually being overly modest when he chortled in 1966: "We're bigger than U.S. Steel." Measured in terms of profits, Cosa Nostra and affiliates are as big as U.S. Steel, American Telephone and Telegraph Co., General Motors, Standard Oil of New Jersey, General Electric, Ford Motor Co., IBM, Chrysler and RCA put together. (Time, August 22, 1969)

APPENDIX F

SOME COMMON CHARACTERISTICS OF SECRET COVENANTS

1. An oral commitment. "Sware unto me by thy throat . . ." (Moses 5:29). "They sware unto him . . ." (Ether 8:14). "Swearing . . . that they would tell no man . . ." (Helaman 1:11). "repeated some words . . ." (Testimony, p. 182).
2. Sworn to secrecy. "Tell it not . . ." (Moses 5:29). "Whoso should divulge . . ." (Ether 8:14). "Tell no man . . ." (Helaman 1:11). "If I expose this organization . . ." (Testimony, p. 182).
3. Threat to life. "Thou shalt die . . ." (Moses 5:29). "Lose thy head . . ." (Ether 8:14). "Thou shalt die . . ." (3 Nephi 6:28). "This is the way I burn if . . ." (Testimony, p. 183).
4. Commit accomplices to secrecy. "Swear thy brethren . . ." (Moses 5:29). "Akish gathered . . . all his kinsfolk . . ." (Ether 8:13). "Went to those who sent him . . ." (Helaman 1:11). "35-40 (men present)" (Testimony, p. 182).
5. Individual commitment. "By their heads . . ." (Moses 5:29). "By their heads . . ." (Ether 8:14). "Same as they of old . . ." (3 Nephi 6:28). "They called us in one at a time . . ." (Testimony, p. 181).

6. Swear by diety. "Swear . . . by the living God" (Moses 5:29). "Swear by the God of Heaven" (Ether 8:14). "Swear by their everlasting maker . . ." (Helaman 1:11). "Swear by the Virgin Mary . . ." (The Mafia, p. 34).

7. Protect the organization from the authorities. "That thy father may not know it . . ." (Moses 5:29). Implied (Ether 8:12-13). Implied (Helaman 1:9-11). "The boss must be protected . . ." (Testimony, p. 67).

8. Gain undue advantage over another person. "I will deliver thy brother Abel into thy hands . . ." (Moses 5:29). "Bring me the head of my father, the king" (Ether 8:12). "Kishkumen . . . murdered Pahoran as he sat upon the Judgment seat . . ." (Helaman 1:19). ". . . resting on a base of human suffering and moral corrosion . . ." (Testimony, p. 6).

9. To get power and gain. "Truly I am Mahan . . . that I may murder and get gain . . ." (Moses 5:29). "Sought power and gain . . ." (Ether 8:15). ". . . to murder and to rob, and to gain power . . ." (Helaman 2:8). "It . . . has been aptly described as a private government of organized crime, a government with an annual income of billions . . ." (Testimony, p. 6).

10. The identical secret organization. The original secret organization established (Moses 5:29). ". . . did administer oaths of old . . . which had been handed down from Cain . . ." (Ether 8:15) "They did enter into a covenant . . . that covenant which was given by them of old . . ."

(3 Nephi 6:28). ". . . when ye see these things come among you . . . it is built up by the Devil . . . even that same liar who hath caused men to commit murder from the beginning" (Ether 8:24-25).

APPENDIX H

SECRET COMBINATION PERSONNEL

Those whom Satan chooses to work through in establishing the secret combinations are the sons of men who manifest greedy, ambitious, immoral, ruthless, proud, clever, wicked characteristics. Cain was the archetype but each succeeding civilization has had its counterpart.

Amalickiah: An Ancient Mafioso

Although Amalickiah lived on the earth at a time when the secret combination was not officially organized and functioning he, nevertheless, demonstrated the characteristics of a true Mafioso.

1. Amalickiah was desirous to be a king; and those people who were wroth were also desirous that he would be their king; and they were, the greater part of them, the lower judges of the land and they were seeking for power (Alma 46:4).

2. And they had been led by the flatteries of Amalickiah, that if they would support him . . . he would make them rulers over the people (Alma 46:5).

3. Thus they were led away by Amalickiah to dissensions . . . thus they dissented even from the church . . . (Alma 46:6-7).

4. . . . Amalickiah, because he was a man of cunning device and a man of many flattering words, that he led away the hearts of many people to do wickedly; yea, and to seek to destroy the Church of God, and to destroy the foundation of liberty . . . (Alma 46:10).

5. Amalickiah fled with a small number of his men (Alma 46:33) to the camp of the Lamanites.

6. Amalickiah . . . did stir up the Lamanites to anger against the people of Nephi (Alma 47:1).

7. The Lamanite king commanded his army to go with Amalickiah to battle against the Nephites (Alma 47:1).

8. Part of the Lamanite army refused to obey because of fear (Alma 47:2).

9. The king was angry and "gave Amalickiah the command of that part of his army which was obedient . . . and commanded him that he should go forth and compel them to arms (Alma 47:3).

10. Now behold this was the desire of Amalickiah; for he being a very subtle man to do evil therefore he laid the plan in his heart to dethrone the king of the Lamanites (Alma 47:4).

11. . . . and he sought to gain favor of those who were not obedient . . ." (Alma 47:5).

12. "Now it was not Amalickiah's intention to give them battle according to the commandments of the King; but behold, it was his intention to gain favor . . ." (Alma 47:8).

13. ". . . that he might place himself at the head and dethrone the king and take possession of the kingdom (Alma 47:8).

14. ". . . when it was night he sent a secret embassy . . . desiring that the leader . . . Lehonti . . . should come down . . . for he desired to speak with him (Alma 47:10).

15. Amalickiah plots with Lehonti to betray his own men, ". . . if Lehonti will make him (Amalickiah) second leader over the whole army" (Alma 47:13).

16. And it came to pass that he delivered his men, contrary to the commands of the king. Now this was the thing that Amalickiah desired that he might accomplish his designs in dethroning the king (Alma 46:17).

17. Now it was the custom among the Lamanites, if their chief leader was killed, to appoint the second leader to be their chief commander" (Alma 47:19).

18. Amalickiah caused that one of his servants should administer poison by degrees to Lehonti, that he died (Alma 47:18).

19. Now, when Lehonti was dead, the Lamanites appointed Amalickiah to be their leader and their chief commander (Alma 47:19).

20. . . . Amalickiah marched with his armies (for he had gained his desires) to the land of Nephi . . .
And the king came out to meet him with his guards.
. . . Amalickiah caused that his servants should go forth to meet the king and they went and bowed themselves before the king, as if to reverence him . . .
. . . the king put forth his hand to raise them,
. . . as a token of peace . . .
. . . when he had raised the first from the ground behold he stabbed the king to the heart; and he fell to the earth (Alma 47:20-24).

21. Now the servants of the king fled; and the servants of Amalickiah raised a cry, saying: "Behold, the servants of the king have stabbed him to the heart, and he has fallen and they have fled; behold, come and see (Alma 47:25-26).

22. . . . Amalickiah pretended to be wroth, and said: Whosoever loved the king, let him go forth, and pursue his servants that they may be slain.

23. And the army which pursued after them returned, having pursued after them in vain; and thus Amalickiah, by his fraud, gained the hearts of the people (Alma 47:30).

24. . . . Amalickiah had sent an embassy to the queen informing her that the king had been slain by his servants, that he had pursued them with his army, but it was in vain, and they had made their escape--(Alma 47:32).

25. . . . the queen . . . desired him that he should bring witnesses with him to testify concerning the death of the king (Alma 47:33).

26. . . . Amalickiah took the same servant that slew the king, and all them who were with him, and went unto the queen, . . . they all testified unto her that the king was slain by his own servants; . . . thus they satisfied the queen concerning the death of the king (Alma 47:34).

27. . . . Amalickiah sought the favor of the queen, and took her unto him to wife (Alma 47:35).

28. . . . thus by his fraud, and by the assistance of his cunning servants, he obtained the kingdom (Alma 47:35).

Vito Genovese: A Modern Mafioso*

Vito Genovese lived on the earth at a time when the American Mafia organization was officially organized and functioning. Genovese manifests the same characteristics that have characterized the "sons of men" in previous American civilizations.

1. Vito Genovese was born on the outskirts of Naples in 1897. He arrived in this country when he was sixteen, and his earliest known haunts were in New York's Greenwich Village (Valachi Papers, p. 148).

2. Genovese married at some point prior to 1924, but his wife died in 1929.

Later he met the love of his life, Anna Petillo, who was unfortunately married. Then, as luck would have it, her husband was murdered, and within two weeks Genovese married her. . . . According to Valachi, Peter Mione and Michael Barrese killed him on Genovese's orders . . . (Valachi Papers, p. 148).

3. The Giuseppi Massaria Family, including Vito Genovese, warred against the Salvatore Maranzano Family in the Castellamarese war of the early 1930's (Testimony, p. 162).

4. The Massaria Family lost from 40 to 60 family members during the war and many others dissented to the Maranzano family (Testimony, p. 214).

5. Vito Genovese, Charles Luciano and Ciro Terranova did plot with Maranzano for the murder of their boss, Massaria (Testimony, pp. 201-211).

6. Massaria was murdered on April 15, 1931, in a Coney Island restaurant by Genovese and others (Testimony, p. 211).

7. Maranzano was established as the "Boss of all Bosses" over the five New York Mafia families with Genovese and Luciano as his "Underbosses" (Testimony, p. 215).

8. Genovese and Luciano did plot with four Jewish associates to dress as policemen and bribe their way into Maranzano's office to take his life (Testimony, pp. 229-230).

*See Appendix D, the Vito Genovese Family.

9. Salvatore Maranzano of Brooklyn, New York, was shot and stabbed to death by four unknown men posing as police officers on September 10, 1931 (Testimony, p. 232).

10. After the Masseria and Maranzano murders, Vito Genovese, then in his middle thirties, became the obvious heir apparent to Charles "Lucky" Luciano (Valachi Papers, pp. 116-119).

11. Genovese, however, was accused in 1934 of the murder of Ferdinand "The Shadow" Boccia, and fled to Italy (Valachi Papers, p. 151).

12. Genovese remained in Italy for 12 years where he was decorated by Mussolini during World War II (Valachi Papers, pp. 192-193).

13. Naples, Italy, August 27, 1944, Genovese was arrested for masterminding the black marketing of U.S. Army supplies (Valachi Papers, p. 192).

14. Genovese offered officer Dickey a bribe of \$250,000 in cash if he would not extradite him back to the United States to stand trial (Valachi Papers, p. 194).

15. January 15, 1945, Peter LaTempa, key witness against Genovese was poisoned while being held in protective custody (Valachi Papers, p. 195).

16. While Genovese was in Italy, Charles Luciano was tried and convicted of compulsory prostitution and imprisoned in the United States. With Genovese in Italy and Luciano in prison, Frank Costello took over as boss of the most important family in the Cosa Nostra (Valachi Papers, pp. 146-147).

17. Genovese returned to the United States in June 1945, just a few months before Luciano was removed from a New York State Prison to be deported to Italy (Valachi Papers, pp. 191, 194-195).

18. The murder charge against Genovese was dismissed because the Chief witness was poisoned (Valachi Papers, p. 195).

19. Genovese did not, however, automatically pick up the strength, prestige, and profits that he had enjoyed as underboss to Luciano (Valachi Papers, pp. 205-206).

20. There were men in his way, and succeeding events indicate that he had to drive ruthlessly to regain the pinnacle of power (Valachi Papers, pp. 205-206).

21. Willie Moretti was the first to go of those who stood in the path of Vito Genovese. On October 4, 1951, in a hoodlum hangout in Cliffside Park, N.J., Willie Moretti was shot twice in the head (Valachi Papers, pp. 210-213).

22. On the evening of May 2, 1957, the reputed top man of the New York underworld, Frank Costello, entered the lobby of his Manhattan apartment house. He was shot in the head by an unidentified gunman. Even though the murder attempt failed, Costello was removed from a leading position in the Cosa Nostra hierarchy (Valachi Papers, pp. 237-239).

23. Mr. Alderman. . . . At that time was there any question of the fact that Genovese had then assumed leadership of the family?

Inspector Shanley. There was no question (Testimony, p. 250).

24. On the 25th of October in the same year, 1957, Albert Anastasia was shot to death in a barbershop in a New York hotel. The Anastasia murder was done according to the Cosa Nostra rules, by Anastasia's subordinates, with the approval of Vito Genovese (Valachi Papers, pp. 243-246).

25. September 1959, Anthony "Little Augie" Pisano was murdered by Vito Genovese because of insubordinate behavior (Valachi Papers, pp. 239, 256).

26. The disappearance, in 1960, and presumed murder of Vicent "Jimmy Jerome" Squillante, Albert Anastasia's underling, who was reputed in underworld circles to be willing to work for Genovese, but who was killed instead.

27. The disappearance, in 1962, and presumed murder of Anthony "Tony Bender" Strollo. Genovese had ordered Strollo's murder (Valachi Papers, pp. 265-266).

28. Thus by murder and with the assistance of his "friends" Genovese became the "Boss of all Bosses, under the Table" and maintained that position until his death in February 1969 (Valachi Papers, pp. 215-225).

According to testimony Joseph Valachi was either directly connected with or had intimate knowledge of each of the murder cases noted above.

APPENDIX J

SUMMARY OF ARRESTS IN FAMILIES NAMED BY JOSEPH VALACHI--CRIME CATEGORY

Name of Family	Total Arrests	Homicides	Dangerous Weapons	Narcotics	Gambling	Assaults	Misc.
Genovese, 156 men in group	1,064	44	177	85	84	85	589
Percent per man	6.8	0.27	1.12	0.50	0.49	0.50	3.9
Average per man (1 man has 40 arrests, 1 man has 1)	7	(1)	1	(2)	(2)	(2)	1
Gambino, 80 men in group	476	14	57	26	92	22	254
Percent per man	6	.175	0.73	0.325	1.15	0.42	3.18
Average per man (1 man has 31 arrests, 1 man has 1)	6	(5)	(9)	(3)	(1)	(8)	3
Lucchese, 62 men in group	387	15	50	36	53	29	204
Percent per man	6.25	0.24	0.81	0.58	0.86	0.47	3.3
Average per man (1 man has 36 arrests, 1 man has 1)	6	(4)	(11)	(10)	(11)	(2)	3
Profaci, 36 men in group	319	11	39	12	48	23	186
Percent per man	8.86	0.31	1.08	0.333	1.34	0.64	5.17
Average per man (1 man has 29 arrests, 1 man has 1)	9	(3)	1	(3)	1	(7)	5
Bonanno, 22 men in group	119	6	11	8	2	12	79
Percent per man	5.4	0.28	0.50	0.36	0.13	0.54	3.59
Average per man (1 man has 13 arrests, 1 man has 1)	5	(4)	(2)	(3)	(6)	(2)	3
Total, 5 families, 356 men	2,365	90	334	167	280	182	1,312
Percent per man	6.64	0.25	0.94	0.47	0.79	0.51	3.69
Average per man	7	(4)	1	(2)	(11)	(2)	4

(1) = 1 out of 1. (2) = 1 out of 2. (3) = 1 out of 3. (4) = 1 out of 4. (5) = 1 out of 5. (6) = 1 out of 7. (7) = 2 out of 3. (8) = 2 out of 5. (9) = 3 out of 4. (10) = 3 out of 5. (11) = 4 out of 5.

A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THE BOOK OF MORMON
SECRET COMBINATIONS AND THE
AMERICAN MAFIA ORGANIZATION

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MRE Degree, May 1972

ABSTRACT

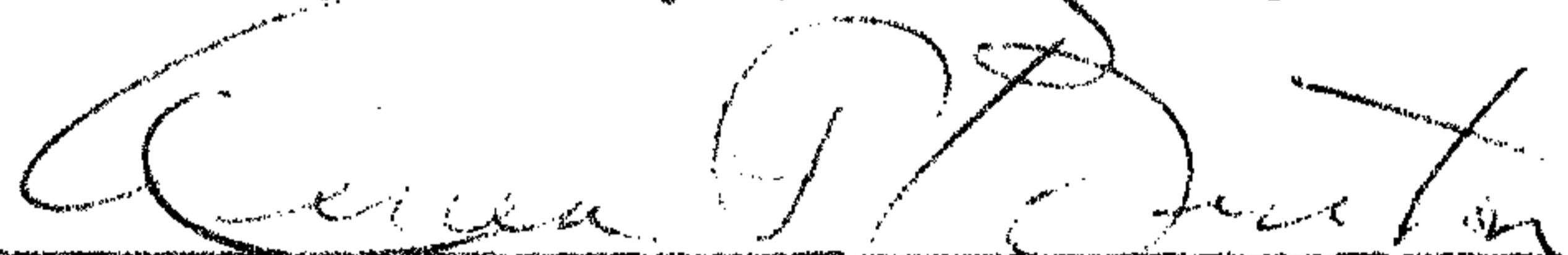
The Book of Mormon and the Book of Moses, sacred scripture of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, have woven into their pages a brief history of secret combinations on the "American" continent. Secret combinations have caused the destruction of three previous civilizations that have existed on this continent.

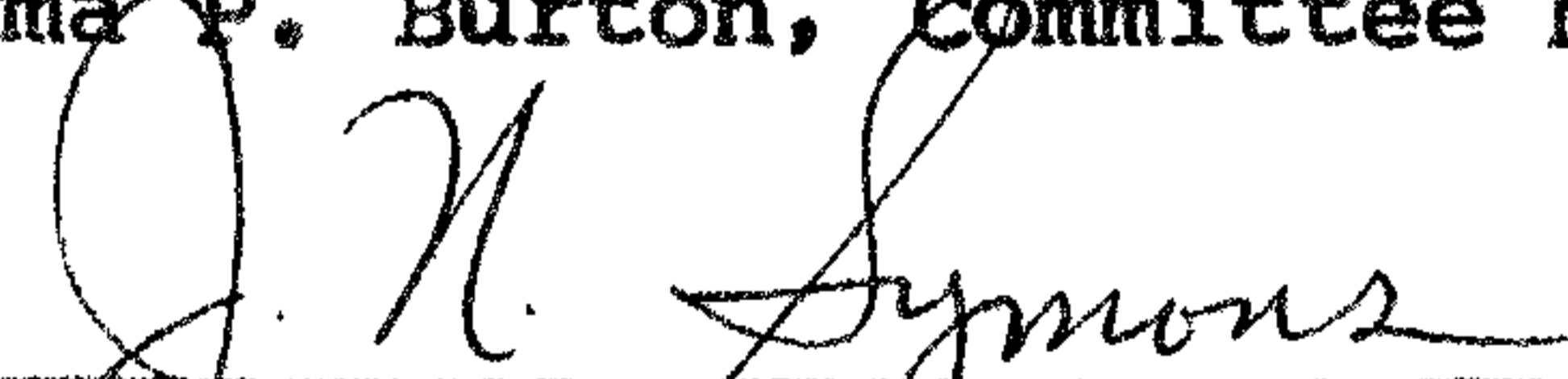
The prophet Moroni warned the latter-day American inhabitants that "This secret combination . . . shall be among you . . ." (Ether 8:24).

The evidence summarized in this study leads one to the conclusion that the American Mafia Organization (Cosa Nostra) is the same organization warned against in sacred scripture.

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