

FROM THE FEB 2 1974

## Cover Blown, Mafia Squealer Still Hides

### Honolulu

A former Mafia boss—his FBI cover blown when Australia deported him—slipped away from a San Francisco-bound plane and apparently went into hiding in Hawaii yesterday from mobsters. They were reported to have placed a \$500,000 "contract" on his life for turning informer.

A Qantas Airlines spokesman said Vincent (Big Vinnie) Teresa, one-time New England mob kingpin who claimed "punks" with no "code of honor" had taken over the Mafia, left the plane at Honolulu on a refueling stop Wednesday.

But the airline and authorities said they did not know his whereabouts or whether he secretly boarded another plane to the mainland.

"If those guys in America know I'm on a certain plane, I could get it at the airport — right between the eyes," said Teresa, 48, as he left Sydney after his false identity supplied by the FBI was disclosed by New South Wales state Premier Neville Wran.

"I know what the Mafia can do to a man who has crossed it," Teresa said. "One day you wake up and find your head in one room

and your legs in another."

Honolulu FBI chief Lee Laster said he did not know Teresa's whereabouts but, "I think you can take it for a fact that when he says his life is in danger he is correct."

Teresa was paroled from a 20-year prison term for stock fraud and given a new identity by the FBI after implicating more than 30 of his former associates. He detailed his decision to inform in a 1973 book, "My Life in the Mafia."

His cover was blown when Wran disclosed his alias in the state parliament. Australian authorities, saying Teresa had given false information when applying for a visa, ordered him Wednesday to leave the country immediately.

Furious at Wran, Teresa said, "If all this reaches the states, and I'm sure it will, there'll be 5000 animals headhunting for my family tonight. If he (Wran) can sleep with that on his conscience, then I'm sorry."

Wran said Teresa arrived in Sydney last Friday under the name of Santana. He said the hoodlum had been taken to Australia to testify about government proposals to legalize gambling in New South Wales.

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