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(AGENCIES AND FOREIGNS OUT)

LIFE-HOFFA 200

NEW YORK (AP)-LIFE MAGAZINE SAYS THAT EDWARD GRADY PARTIN, THE TEAMSTERS UNION OFFICIAL WHO HELPED PUT JAMES R. HOFFA IN PRISON, SPURNED A BRIBE OF \$1 MILLION TO RECANT HIS TESTIMONY.

AN OFFER OF A \$1 MILLION BRIBE WAS MADE THROUGH THE COSA NOSTRA, THE CURRENT ISSUE OF THE MAGAZINE SAYS.

PARTIN, WHO WAS THE LEADER OF A TEAMSTERS LOCAL IN BATON ROUGE, LA., WAS A GOVERNMENT WITNESS AGAINST HOFFA AT A 1964 TRIAL IN CHATTANOOGA, TENN., WHICH LED TO CONVICTION OF THE UNION PRESIDENT ON A CHARGE OF CONSPIRING TO TAMPER WITH A FEDERAL JURY. HOFFA IS SERVING AN EIGHT-YEAR PRISON TERM.

THE LIFE ARTICLE SAYS \$2 MILLION WAS MADE AVAILABLE TO COSA NOSTRA MOBSTERS "TO BE PAYABLE TO ANYONE WHO COULD WRECK THE GOVERNMENT'S JURY-TAMPERING CASE ON WHICH HOFFA HAD BEEN CONVICTED."

"AS THE MOB SAW IT," THE ARTICLE CONTINUES, "PARTIN WAS A LOGICAL TARGET FOR A FIX. IF HE COULD BE PERSUADED SOMEHOW TO RECANT HIS OWN TESTIMONY OR TO 'TAINT' IT BY CLAIMING THAT WIRETAPS HAD BEEN USED AGAINST HOFFA, THE CONVICTION WOULD SURELY BE REVERSED."

PARTIN CONFIRMED THAT INITIALLY HE WAS OFFERED \$25,000 A YEAR FOR 10 YEARS TO CHANGE HIS TESTIMONY, LIFE SAYS, ADDING: "HE TURNED IT DOWN. THE ANTE WAS HIKED UNTIL IT REACHED AN OVER-ALL TOTAL OF \$1 MILLION. STILL PARTIN REFUSED."

PARTIN IS SAID EVENTUALLY TO HAVE REPORTED THE ALLEGED BRIBE ATTEMPT TO THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT.

THE LIFE ARTICLE SAYS IT IS NOT KNOWN WHAT HAPPENED TO THE \$2 MILLION FUND, WHICH IT SAYS WAS PUT UP BY FRIENDS OF HOFFA, "SOME IN THE UNION, SOME IN THE MOB, SOME IN BOTH."

JQ615ACD AUG 29