

27 Jan 70

Kohn Urges U.S. Crime Info Center

By SAM HANNA

(States-Item Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — Aaron M. Kohn, managing director of the Metropolitan Crime Commission of New Orleans, today proposed a nationwide clearing house to enable businessmen to collect information on the penetration of organized crime into legitimate enterprises.

He told a workshop meeting sponsored by the United States Chamber of Commerce, "One of our most serious problems is the lack of willingness of business to serve its own best ends."

Too often, he said, the reaction of business executives when Mafia activities in regular commercial areas are disclosed is that the information is hurting the business community.

KOHN appeared in a panel discussion with Charles H. Rogovin, administrator of the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration of the Justice Department.

Both agreed there is no simple way to spot agents of organized crime syndicates who are looking for quick profits in apparently respectable real estate deals, juke box services or other activities.

Kohn said that Carlos Marcello, whom he considers the New Orleans area rackets boss, attends community functions and presents a respectable appearance. "Most people who meet him come away saying, 'It just can't be true what they say about that man,'" Kohn said.