

pressured, and he had to be hit," the Mafia figure said.

This explanation was confirmed in its essential points by Frank Bompensiero, the Mafia boss of San Diego, before he was shot to death outside his home on February 10, apparently because the Mafia found out he had been giving information to the FBI.

The other important Mafia figure who talked about the Rosselli murder is not an FBI informant but has provided information to the Times on a pledge that his identity would be protected.

He said that the reasons for the elimination of Rosselli were not related to the reasons for Sam Giancana's murder, although the same Mafia group, the Chicago family, was responsible. Giancana was killed because he tried to reassert his authority in Chicago after a ten-year absence, the Mafia figure said.

The task of killing Rosselli proved difficult because he was a cautious man. Nevertheless, his pursuers were persistent.

"They would watch his movements for a couple of weeks, leave him alone for a few months, then go back and watch him some more," the Mafia figure said.

"Rosselli was careful, but nobody can be that careful. When the decision is made to hit you — you're dead no matter how long it takes."

On July 28 Rosselli ate a late brunch at his sister's home in Plantation, Fla. Then, at 12:50 p.m., he left in her car, a silver 1975 Chevrolet Impala. He gave no hint of having an appointment and she assumed he would be back soon.

What happened then was described by the unnamed Mafia figure. Rosselli drove to a marina and went aboard a private boat where he was received by two men, one an old friend, the other a visitor from Chicago.

The boat put off, and a third man on shore drove the Rosselli car to the Miami International Airport, where it was later found.

While Rosselli was sipping a glass of vodka, the man from Chicago grabbed him from behind and held his hand tightly over Rosselli's nose and mouth until he was asphyxiated — not a difficult feat because Rosselli had emphysema.

A Cannon washcloth was taped tightly over Rosselli's mouth to

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**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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make sure he was dead. Then his legs were sawed off so that the body could be stuffed into an oil drum.

When the torso was finally lowered into the drum, the legs were stuffed in with it and heavy iron chains were laced through the holes in the drum, around the body and over the lid of the drum.

But the drum had not been weighted enough, and ten days later three fishermen spotted it on the edge of a sandbar beside a 28-foot-deep canal. They suspected a body might be inside and called police.