MEXICAN MAFIA TATTOOS

"ETERNAL WAR"

TEAR DROPS UNDER RIGHT EYE ONLY.
EACH TEAR INDICATES ONE HIT.
MEXICAN FLAG WITH UFW TYPE EAGLE.
MEXICAN FAMILIA TATTOOS

MEXICAN FLAG WITH CROSSED SWORDS
Inside the Mexican Mafia

By John Hammarley

"... For the first time, a shooter turned informant is revealing the inner workings of the Mexican Mafia outside a grand jury chamber ..."

On January 2, 1978, a man named Eddie Gonzales will be escorted into a heavily guarded Sacramento courtroom by bodyguards from the U.S. marshal's protective custody program. As his former colleagues watch from the defense table, Eddie—a "shooter" who traded testimony for immunity and a new identity—will take the stand in the first major trial involving the so-called Mexican Mafia, a prison-spawned gang that turned from street fighting to heroin running and contract murder.

Eddie will be a key witness in the trial of four Mexican Mafia "soldiers" who are accused of the much-publicized murder of Ellen Delia, a woman whose talent for writing proposals for federal grants won funding for the Get Going Project of East Los Angeles—a social welfare program that may have been used by the Mexican Mafia as a front for dealing in heroin and cocaine. Delia's body was found outside the Sacramento airport on February 17, 1977—and it was Eddie Gonzales's grand jury testimony that helped indict four members of the Mexican Mafia for the murder.

Only the secret grand jury testimony of Eddie Gonzales enabled law enforcement authorities to penetrate the veil of mystery that surrounds the notorious Mexican Mafia. And thanks to Eddie Gonzales, we can tell the inside story of the Mexican Mafia for the first time.

What the jury is likely to hear—according to Eddie's version of the story—is a scenario of betrayal and brutality leading to the execution of Ellen Delia by her lover, Alfredo ("Alfie") Sosa, with the help of her estranged husband, Michael Delia. The Mexican Mafia believed that Ellen, who served as executive secretary of Get Going, was ready to inform authorities about the misuse of the project's federal funds. Alfie Sosa told Eddie Gonzales that Ellen must be murdered; Eddie checked with Michael to confirm that the proposed hit was "strictly business," not a personal grudge by Alfie against his girlfriend. And then the hit was on.

Alfie lured Ellen to Sacramento with a promise that they would patch up their troubled love affair and at the same time share some good cocaine. Ellen was driven to the Los Angeles airport by
A Ride With a Mexican Mafia Shooter

"It was kind of a joke. We laughed about it afterwards."

Eddie and some of his Mafia compatriots decided that one young woman was shooting her mouth off "way too much"—and she had to be silenced.

They picked her up in a car one day; Eddie was driving and his two friends had her pinned in the back seat. Soon after they left the neighborhood, one of the two guys shot her once in the chest and then in the arm.

"Blood was spurting out all over," Eddie recalls. "She kept screaming. 'Kill me, kill me! It hurts too bad!'"

The trio of Mexican Mafia members decided to drive across town to the other side of Los Angeles, to dump the body. It was rush hour. Forty-thirty in the afternoon on the L. A. freeways, and they were chauffeuring a bloodied, half-dead woman past thousands of oblivious commuters.

"She kept pleading with us to kill her," Eddie says without flinching. "The bitch wouldn't die, and we had to find a good spot to dump her. The two guys were throwing their arms around her, pretending they were hugging her. Blood was splattering every place."

One of the Mexican Mafia shooters decided to kill her en route to their destination—a makeshift graveyard in a park. "He tried to use this pocketknife with a blade that wouldn't kill anyone," Eddie says. "He kept stabbing her and she kept screaming."

They finally reached the park, and Eddie remembers the look on people's faces as the last fatal bullets were pumped into her.

"They just kept looking at us with stares," Eddie says. "Maybe they just didn't want to see it."

They dumped the woman's corpse and sped off.

—J.H.
In addidtion to heroin running and contract murder, the Mexican Mafia is expanding to the safer enterprise of federal grantsmanship...
After he met Mike and read just the paper figures about the success rate, he just felt this was really something.”

The Mafia members within Get Going made sure that the people being treated in the program, including many recently released Mafia inmates whom Get Going vouched for, would have “clean” urinalysis samples in tests for drug addiction. Eddie says. “No one would have dirty samples. They [Get Going supervisors] would pee in the bottle for them.

“You’re going to see a lot of officials wearing sunglasses and ducking interviews because of the things with Get Going,” he continues. “I bet there’s going to be a lot of embarrassment.”

Eddie categorically says Get Going had developed a very effective form of subtly pressuring for corrections and parole authorities to release inmates into the project’s welcoming arms. “Get Going had one of the best success records of all the other programs around,” Eddie says. “That's because some records were doctored.”

Ellen Delia was murdered before she could reveal what she knew about the Mexican Mafia’s penetration into federal grantsmanship and the politics of community organizing. But her death prompted a flurry of state and federal interest in Get Going and another inmate self-help program, Community Concern. Both programs have been shut down by authorities, putting an end to the yearly flow of $1 million in federal funds into the hands of Mexican Mafia members and their associates.

Only a few months ago, Eddie Gonzales was earning up to $20,000 for a single contract murder. Today, he lives on a $900-a-month allowance in a city somewhere outside California. It’s all part of the deal—a new identity, a new home for himself and his family, a small allowance. But Eddie is attending classes at a local trade school in the hope of supplementing his income. “I don’t know where all the money goes,” Eddie says with a shrug.

At this moment, Eddie might be poring over the trade school manuals, or helping his wife with the kids, or watching a football game on television. Eddie is an avid pro football fan, and he tries to outguess the point spreads given in the local newspapers.

But he knows that the quiet rhythm of his new life might be interrupted at any moment by the inevitable telephone call from the officials who gave him safety in exchange for testimony. The phone call will summon him to the local airport for the flight to Sacramento—and the courtroom rendezvous which will bring Eddie Gonzales face-to-face with his former comrades of the Mexican Mafia.
SUPREME POWER STRUCTURE
OF LA NUESTRA FAMILIA

SUPREME COMMANDER NUESTRO GENERAL

ARTICLE I. SEC I

NUESTRO GENERAL IS THE SUPREME POWER IN THE ORGANIZATION, KNOWN AS LA NUESTRA FAMILIA, ITS POWERS SHALL HAVE NO LIMIT (WITHIN ART. II. SEC. II. III). SOLEY HE CAN DECLARE WAR ONCE ORGANIZATION AND VIOLENCE IN A STATE OF WAR. THERE WILL NOT PREVAIL UNTIL THE COMMISSION FROM NUESTRO GENERAL...

I. NUESTRO GENERAL WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY RELEASED OF ALL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES RECEIVING A DATE OF ONE YEAR OR LESS...

II. NUESTRO GENERAL WILL BE A SEASONED EXPERIENCED WARRIOR, ANY QUALIFICATION ANOINTED IN ORDER TO HOLD THIS HIGH OFFICE, UNTIL THE TIME COMES FOR NUESTRO GENERAL OR SUCCESSOR. HE WILL SUBMIT THE RANKS OF COMMANDERS AT HIS DISPOSAL...

III. IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY AND NUESTRO GENERAL IS DOWNTON, THE CAPTAIN AT THE HEAD OF THE ORGANIZATION OR THE NUESTRO GENERAL'S SUCCESSOR HAS THE POWER TO APPOINT NEW RANKS AND ALL LEVELS IN THE HIGH COMMAND OF LA NUESTRA FAMILIA...

IV. NUESTRO GENERAL HAS THE POWER IN A STATE OF WAR OR ANY OTHER STATE CONDITIONS AS REGARDS THE STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANIZATION, FOR THE ORGANIZATION TO APPOINT AND WHEN NECESSARY TO DISCHARGE ANY COMMANDER. IT IS IN THE FUNCTION OF A SPECIALIZED POSITION. HOWEVER, HE WILL RECOGNIZE HIS POWER TO APPOINT COMMISSIONS AND IF THE CAPTAIN IS WOUNDED WHERE THE CAPTAIN HAS BEEN DISBURSED, HE WILL RECOGNIZE HIS POWER TO APPOINT A SUCCESSOR...

V. A DISCHARGED COMMANDER WILL USE ALL RANKS OF CAPTAIN AND ALL SUCCESSION AUTHORITY, THAT IS...

VI. HEADQUARTERS OF THE NUESTRA FAMILIA WILL ALWAYS BE WITH THE NUESTRO GENERAL AND HIS LIMB...

VII. ONCE RECOGNIZING THE RESIGNATION OF A COMMANDER, OR A COMITTEE OF AT LEAST THREE (3) COMMANDER, FROM THAT PARTICULAR, IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY TO APPOINT A SECONDARY COMMANDER, THAT IS THE COMMANDER OF THE ORGANIZATION, TO REPORT TO NUESTRO GENERAL...

VIII. NUESTRO GENERAL WILL ALWAYS KEEP IN TOUCH WITH ALL FAMILIAS, REGIONS, ORGANIZATION, AND ORGANIZATION, IN THIS CASE...

IX. THE NUESTRO GENERAL CAN HAVE AS MANY AS TEN (10) ACTIVE COMMANDERS AT ONE TIME, IN DIVERSE REGIONS AND SO ON, ACCORDING TO THEIR LEADERSHIP ABILITY AND OVERALL PROGRESS...

X. THE NUESTRO GENERAL WILL APPOINT A 1ST CAPTAIN OR COMMANDER WHO WILL BE HIS SUCCESSOR. IF THE NUESTRO GENERAL BECOMES INCOMMUNICADO, THE 1ST CAPTAIN OF THE NUESTRA FAMILIA WILL HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY TO SEE THAT EACH CAPTAIN OF THE ORGANIZATION WORKS AND COMPLIES WITH THIS CONSTITUTION...

XI. THE SUCCESSOR APPLIES AS FAR AS THE 1ST CAPTAIN IS CONCERNED, THE NUESTRO GENERAL HAS THE RIGHT TO SELECT THE 1ST CAPTAIN...

DISCHARGE FROM ALL DUTIES OF EL NUESTRO GENERAL

ARTICLE I. SEC I

NUESTRO GENERAL MAY BE IMPEACHED FROM OFFICE WHERE IT IS THE OPINION OF ALL COMMANDERS HOLDING OFFICE AT THAT TIME, THAT HE IS NOT WORKING IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE ORGANIZATION. THIS CAN BE DONE BY A PETITION OR DOCUMENT WITH THE SIGNATURES OF 50 OFFICERS AND ALL HANDWRITING...

II. UPON RECEIVING THIS DOCUMENT THE NUESTRO GENERAL WILL AUTOMATICALLY LOSE ALL POWERS THAT MAY CHALLENGE THE LEGALITY OF THE SIGNATURES IN CASE OF A PETITION, A SIGNATURE WILL BE APPOINTED BY THE BODY TO WRITE TO THE CAPTAINS AND VERIFY THIER VOTE...

III. UPON CONFIRMATION DISCHARGE OF THE NUESTRO GENERAL. HE WILL LOSE ALL RANK AND THE COMMANDER WILL MOVE INTO THAT POSITION...

REVISED BY LAWS AND OBJECTIVES OF LA NUESTRA FAMILIA

ARTICLE III. SEC I

PRIMARY PURPOSE AND GOALS OF THIS ORGANIZATION WILL BE FOR THE BETTERMENT OF ITS MEMBERS AND THE BUILDING OF THE ORGANIZATION ON THE OUTSIDE AND WITHIN THE NUESTRA FAMILIA...

I. ALL MEMBERS WILL WORK SOLO FOR THAT OBJECTIVE AND WILL PUT ALL PERSONAL GOALS AND FEELINGS ASIDE. AN EQUITY WILL BE ACHIEVED...

II. A FAMILIA MAY OR MAY NOT BE RELEASED FROM HIS OBLIGATIONS TOWARDS THE ORGANIZATION. BECAUSE THE MEMBER HAS A RIVAL WITH PRISON OR NOT. WILL BE EFFECTED TO WORK TWO AS HARD AS TO SEE THAT THE ORGANIZATION IS ESTABLISHED AND A SENSE OF HONOR IS IN THE ORGANIZATION.

III. A FAMILIA WILL REMAIN A FAMILIA, MEMBER, UNLESS HE IS DISCHARGED FROM THE ORGANIZATION. HE WILL ALWAYS BE SUBJECT TO THE INTEREST OF THE ORGANIZATION. FIRST AND ALWAYS.
...and an automatic death sentence will be put on a family that turns traitor, deserts, under no other circumstance will a brother family be responsible for the blood of a fellow brother family. Today, this will be considered as an act of treason.

In order for Article II, Section 1 to be invoked, the regional governing body will hold a vote to itself and pass sentence majority rules, in case of a tie, the decision will be final.

All present families in said organization NuEstra Familia will acknowledge a constitution upon reading it and will be held responsible for his actions if said consent is not followed.

**Regimental Commander Captain**

**Article III, Section 1**

Tanto is the regimental commander of la NuEstra Familia and holds the rank (a general). Their (captain) responsibilities are to lead and direct NuEstra Familia. (Note: General care to successfully accomplish the goals set forth in Article II, Section 1 and II.)

For this purpose, he (commander) shall have the liberty of retaining his own lieutenant(s) if he shall always have the liberty of dismissing them (LTS) if he (commander) feels that they are not accepting or handling responsibility. (Note: In peace time a dismissed LTS has an option to invoke Article II, Section II.)

Due to circumstances beyond our control, it may be that their will become too heavy of a burden at the same time. If a captain is transferred from one family in regiment to another where there is no LTS, the captain with the highest rank will take command and the other will be released according to their respect.

A captain will have grades or ratings of first and second, and so forth (Article III, Section II) can be revoked also the lower rating. The greater their authority, no captain can order, issue, or command the order of a higher-ranking officer without direct orders from NuEstra general.

When a NuEstra general becomes an incoming general and cannot supervise his captain, the NuEstra commander NuEstra family will have the responsibility to see that each captain of said organization works and serves in this constitution.

All other captains in a regiment other than the governing captain will be classified as reserves or advisors, although, they will not hold any power or as to the running of the regiment.

There shall be no more than ten (10) captains in this organization (a NuEstra family). At one time, this includes reserves, if there are already five (10) captains in the organization under a regiment without a captain to cut the deck, the governing captain will name the family regiment commanders until a commander arrives or there is an opening in the ranks of the captain.

The reserve captain will take power if the governing captain is disabled, transferred, or discharged by NuEstra general. It will be the duty of the NuEstra commander to take the reserve captain under his name and show him the external functions of the regiment in order so that the reserve captain will be able to govern the regiment if need arises...

All captains will have equal rank, therefore, any captain or order the other except under (Art. III, Section II) of the reserve captain is under the rules and orders that the governing captain has set forth for the running of the NuEstra regiment. In this case, the reserve captain will cease to interfere or be before NuEstra general.

The reserve captain has only as much power as the NuEstra commander wants to bestow upon him. (Note: Any body should at all times know the structure of the reserve captain.

In wartime, the captain must obey the NuEstra general, and NuEstra general should have no standing orders set for by him personally or through one of his tenets. He should be considered as an agent (Article II, Section I) depending upon the seriousness of the offense, which will be dealt with to determine...

In peacetime, as in wartime, the captain is solely answerable to the NuEstra general and a NuEstra general. (Note: To NuEstra general, it will be the duty of the captain to personally see that twenty (10) if his ranks shall be with the NuEstra general when ever possible, if the NuEstra general is disabled, then the captain will second to the NuEstra general, and the family personal and shall have no less than two (1) members per subsection in the regiment.)

**Functions and Qualities de un Lieutenant**

**Art. IV, Section I**

Tantos is third in the power (a touch of NuEstra Familia) he is under the captain, he represents the NuEstra Familia, and he will be in contact with all families at all times and therefore he should be at all times, the example for the soldiers to follow...

He shall be responsible for the building up of the NuEstra personal, and shall have no less than two (1) members per subsection in the regiment.

While in a state of war, and the NuEstra quota crops below the specified requirements all be the first priorities of the lieutenant to restore it up to pair...
ARTICLE 7

SEC I.

REQUEST FOR MEMBERSHIP INTO THIS ORGANIZATION SHALL BE MADE TO THE CAPTAIN, ANY MEMBER CAN MAKE A REQUEST FOR AN INDIVIDUAL PROVING SUCH REQUESTING FAMILIARIA WILL ACCEPT THE RESPONSIBILITY OF INDIVIDUAL.

FINAL DECISION FOR MEMBERSHIP SHALL NOT BE MADE UNTIL THIRTY (30) DAYS HAVE ELAPSED FROM SUCH REQUEST RECEIVED BY THE REGIMENTAL CAPTAIN...

NON-FACET WILL BE GRANTED MEMBERSHIP IF HE (THE APPLICANT) MISREPRESENTS HIS QUALIFICATIONS AS A MEMBER AND SOLADO, AND HE MISREPRESENTS HIS ACTIONS IN BATTLE IN AN EFFORT TO MAINTAIN HIS "SELF-DEFENSE," WHICH IS A COMPREHENSIBLE CONCEPT, WILL BE SUBJECT TO DISCIPLINE UNDER ART. VII SEC. 2. MINOR OFFENSES OR ACT.

I EXPECTED FROM THIS ORGANIZATION DEPENDING UPON THE CIRCUMSTANCES AND SERIOUSNESS OF THE CASE...

MEMBERSHIP OF THIS ORGANIZATION SHALL BE RESTRICTED ONLY TO THOSE OF LATIN EXTRACTION, NO MAXIMUM MINIMAL HUMA INCLUSION BY THIS CONSTITUTION, IN SO FAR AS MEMBERSHIP INTO THIS ORGANIZATION IS CONT. HOWEVER, SUCH LIMITATIONS MAY BE ESTABLISHED IN NUESTRA FAMILIA AS ASSEMBLED NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN CONTROL, ALTHOUGH OTHER EXTRAS (RACES) WILL CONSIDERED WITHIN THE CONSENT OF BOTH THE CAPTAIN AND GENERAL.

ART VII

SEC I.

No PUNITIVE IS To BE ADMINISTERED BY THE REGIMENTAL CAPTAIN... 

III. ALL FAMILIARIA SHALL BE SUBJECT TO DISCIPLINARY ACTION OR IMMEDIATE EXCLUSION FROM THIS ORGANIZATION... 

IV. UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES THERE WILL BE FIGHTING BETWEEN FAMILIARIA, TO DO SO WILL BRING DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS AND IF GUNFIRE IS SPILLED, IT WILL RESULT IN THE EXPULSION OF ONE OR ALL PARTIES INVOLVED...

SEC II.

I. No MEMBER OF THIS ORGANIZATION (LA NUESTRA FAMILIA) WILL ALWAYS SHOW PROPER RESPECT TO EACH OTHER, FAMILY AND BOTH IN WORDS AND ACTIONS...

II. No MEMBER OF THIS ORGANIZATION SHALL PUT MATERIAL THINGS WHETHER IT BE DRUGS, MONEY, OR AN (OR FUNKS AS RELATE TO THE PUNISHMENT) BEFORE THE BEST INTEREST OF LA NUESTRA FAMILIA OR BROTHER FAMILIAS...

III. No FAMILIARIA SHALL LIE ABOUT HIS POSITION OR RANK OF LA NUESTRA FAMILIA, NOR WHEN DISCUSSING BUSINESS TO A SUPERIOR OR TO A BROTHER MEMBER, NOR SHALL THERE BE ANY LYING OR GIVING FALSE EVIDENCE...

IV. IT IS THE DUTY OF EACH GUERRERO TO DO TO BATTLE FOR LA NUESTRA FAMILIA, ANDREW SOLADO...

VII. AS THE STANDARD ANSWER FOR A FAMILY WHEN HE IS ASKED OF ANY COUNTY, CITY, OR TOWNE ORGANIZATION TO SUPPORT THE PRINCIPLES, ALL THAT MATTERS IS THAT TO AS A GUERRERO LA NUESTRA FAMILIA ARE LIVING UP TO YOUR RESPECTIBILITY. REMEMBER THAT THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT SHARE THE RESPONSIBILITIES AT THE TIMES OF THE ANSWER IS NOT...

VIII. AS THE STANDARDS AND CONVENTIONS ARE ALL PART OF THIS SAME CONSTITUTION TO BE ENTERED WITHOUT A MILL IN TELLING OF THE RESPONSIBILITIES. IT IS NOT TO BE READ IN ITS ENTIRETY, ALL SECTIONS THAT TO ONE CONCEPT ARE TO BE READ AS ONE...