



# ORGANIZED CRIME INVESTIGATION COURSE



# QUOTE

**“Crime is no longer bound by borders. The bad guys have all the money and no rules. The good guys have all the rules and no money. Transnational organized crime gangs, and the unholy alliances they have formed, have become the most powerful interest group on the planet. Until now, they have seemed unstoppable.”**

**Jeffrey Robinson**

**“The Merger”**

**Organized Crime taking over the world**



# INTRODUCTION

- Organized Crime bosses have embraced globalization every bit as enthusiastically as the heads of legitimate international conglomerates.
- Organized crime, as portrayed in TV shows such as The Sopranos or films such as Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels, is often shown as a glamorous, exciting business inhabited by old-style crooks or good-natured gangsters.
- Organized Crime is big business. It's invariably international and sophisticated but it also strikes right at the heart of our local communities, creating suffering and misery for its victims and making millions for its insidious perpetrators.

# **GENERAL REMARKS ON ORGANIZED CRIME SITUATION**

- **Organized Crime is flourishing worldwide at an unprecedented rate**
- **Undoubtedly a TRILLION DOLLAR INDUSTRY worldwide**
- **Proliferation of transnational organized crime**
- **Influx of prolific foreign criminal groups**
- **Criminal enterprises forging strategic alliances**
- **Posing a serious threat to our national security and economy**

# HISTORY



- ❖ **President Edgar Hoover**
- ❖ **No official term**
- ❖ **Organized crime a widely discussed**
- ❖ **“Godfather”**
- ❖ **Definition for organized crime**
- ❖ **Profit and power**
- ❖ **Modern organized crime**
- ❖ **1980’s and 1990’s**
- ❖ **Palermo Convention**

**ORGANIZED  
CRIME  
IS ALL  
ABOUT MONEY:  
MONEY OR  
POWER**



# DEFINITIONS OF ORGANIZED CRIME

## ■ FIJNAUT GROUP DEFINITION

As a group or network of people primarily focused on illegally obtained profits and in the systematic commissioning of crime with great societal consequences

## ■ EU CONVENTION

Organized crime group shall mean a structured group of three or more persons existing for a period of time and acting in concert with the aim of committing one or more serious crimes or offences established pursuant to this Convention, in order to obtain, directly, or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit.

## ■ SOUTH AFRICA

Organized crime is the systematic commission of serious crimes over a prolonged or indefinite period motivated by a craving for profit or power.

# **ORGANIZED CRIME CONCEPTS/ CRITERIA USED BY SAPS**

- **No formal definition**

- **“Criminal High-flyer” – Any person involved in serious crime over a prolonged period of time for profit or power. No outstanding warrant of arrest or nor involved in any known criminal group.**

- **“Criminal Group”**

- **Two or more persons**

- **Involved in serious crime**

- **Prolonged period of time**

- **Profit or power**

- **Simulate business / commercial structures**

- **Division of labour**

- **Disciplinary sanctions**

- **Engage in money laundering**

- **Corruption**

- **Use violence / intimidation**

- **Transnational**

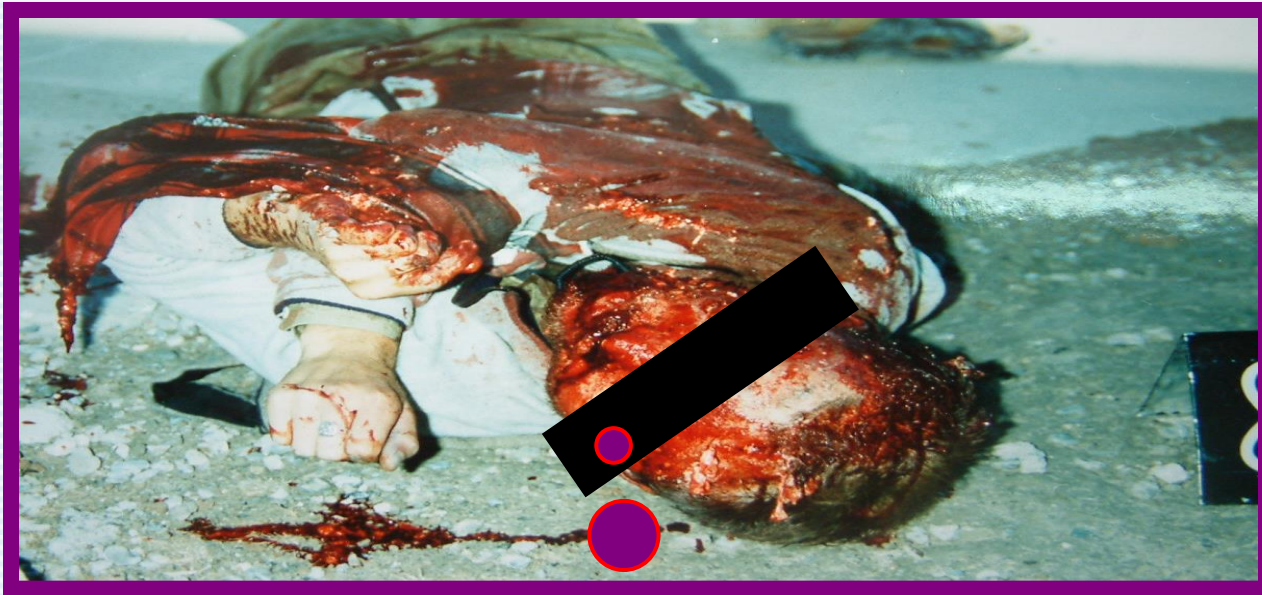




# **ORGANIZED CRIME CONCEPTS/ CRITERIA USED BY SAPS**

- ❏ **SAPS Act (Section 16 describes circumstances or endeavors that amount to organized crime)**
- ❏ **By any enterprise or group of persons who have a common goal in committing crimes in an organized manner**
- ❏ **Persons in trust or making use of specialized or exclusive knowledge**
- ❏ **Revenue/expenditure of national government**
- ❏ **National economy or integrity of currencies**
- ❏ **Such proportion or nature that investigation required at national level**
- ❏ **Unwrought precious metals and diamonds**
- ❏ **Endangered Species**
- ❏ **Transnational crimes**





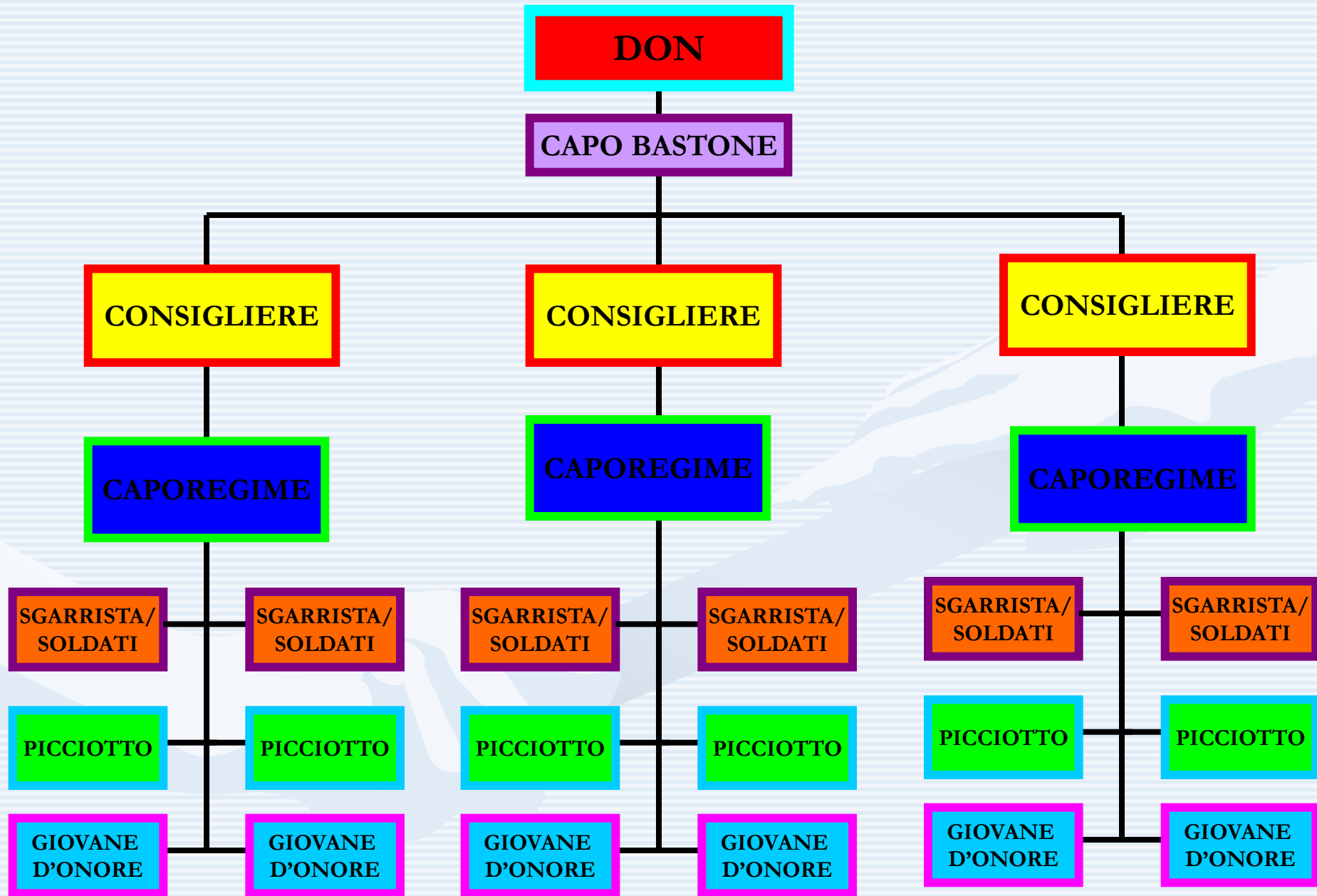
**Organized Crime:  
Silent but violent!**

# HISTORY

- Mafia
- 15<sup>th</sup> Century
- 19<sup>th</sup> Century
- The term Mafia
- Mafiasu
- Sicilian dialects
- The real name of the Mafia
- Omerta
- Laws of the Omerta
- Organized Crime in the USA
- The Black Hand
- Explosion in the USA
- Al Capone
- Lucky Luciano
- Joseph Valachi
- Mafia Criminal activities



# STRUCTURE



# OTHER ORGANIZED CRIME GROUPS



**Chinese Triads**



**Japanese Yakuza**



**Albanian**



**Russian**



**Turkish**



**Israeli**



# OVERVIEW OF ORGANIZED CRIME SITUATION IN SOUTH AFRICA



# HISTORY OF ORGANIZED CRIME IN SOUTH AFRICA

- @ Gangs in the Western Cape
- @ Political and economic development
- @ Post 1994
- @ Organized crime groups can adapt quickly
- @ Organized crime versus gangs
- @ Gangs
- @ Organize crime
- @ Organized crime versus ordinary crimes
- @ Early gangs in South Africa



# WHY SOUTH AFRICA?

- ➡ Economic engine
- ➡ Superimpose legitimate business enterprises
- ➡ New democratic dispensation
- ➡ Direct flights
- ➡ Telecommunications
- ➡ Modern banking centre
- ➡ Porous borders
- ➡ Push and pull factors in region and beyond





# **ORGANIZED CRIME ENTERPRISES (OCE) RSA**

- **Both domestic and foreign OCE**
- **Domestic OCE well entrenched and from criminal gangs to more sophisticated outfits**
- **Use legitimate business or professionals to facilitate organized crime activities**
- **Transnational**
- **Monopoly**
- **Strategic alliances**
- **Social economy of organized crime**
- **Structured and loosely affiliated networks**
- **Military precision**
- **Procure technical expertise**
- **Violence is common denominator**





**Never underestimate  
the danger of  
organized crime!**

# DOMESTIC OCE



**Diverse groups**



**Control territory**



**Exclusive membership - Bouncer groups and motor cycle gangs (Hells Angels)**



**Franchising – American gangs in Western Cape**

# AFRICAN OCE



★ **WAN (Mainly Nigerian):**  
**Drug Trafficking, 419 and**  
**other fraud scams**

★ **Tanzanians: Heroin**

★ **Mozambicans: Arms**  
**smuggling & house**  
**robberies**

★ **Zimbabweans: Bank &**  
**Cash in Transit**  
**robberies**



# FOREIGN OCE



- ★ Russian
- ★ India
- ★ Pakistan
- ★ Chinese
- ★ Eastern European
- ★ Israeli
- Other international crime groups



# **WEST AFRICAN OCE**

- ② **West Africa generally regarded as an example of a humanitarian tragedy characterized by grand corruption, brutal wars and criminal anarchy (ISS Security review Volume 14/2005)**
- ② **Today most law enforcement consider WAN as dangerous adversaries**
- ② **Their global reach, flexibility and amorphous structure have ensured their success in drug trafficking and fraud**
- ② **Flat, loose and flexible**
- ② **Sophisticated and tenacious**
- ② **Human internet**
- ② **Most populous nation in Africa**



# BRIEF OVERVIEW

- 1991
- Multi kilo drug seizures
- Concentrated in Gauteng until late 1990's
- Exploit immigration system
- Highly educated and intelligent
- Dominate the heroin and cocaine trade in RSA
- Opportunists
- Employ RSA citizens as drug mules
- Acquire RSA passports / ID's
- Infamous 419 scams
- Identity hijacking (SA Reserve bank, Lottery)
- 419 Victims kidnapped
- Child prostitution
- Money laundering
- Extra ordinary measures needed to tackle Nigerian onslaught





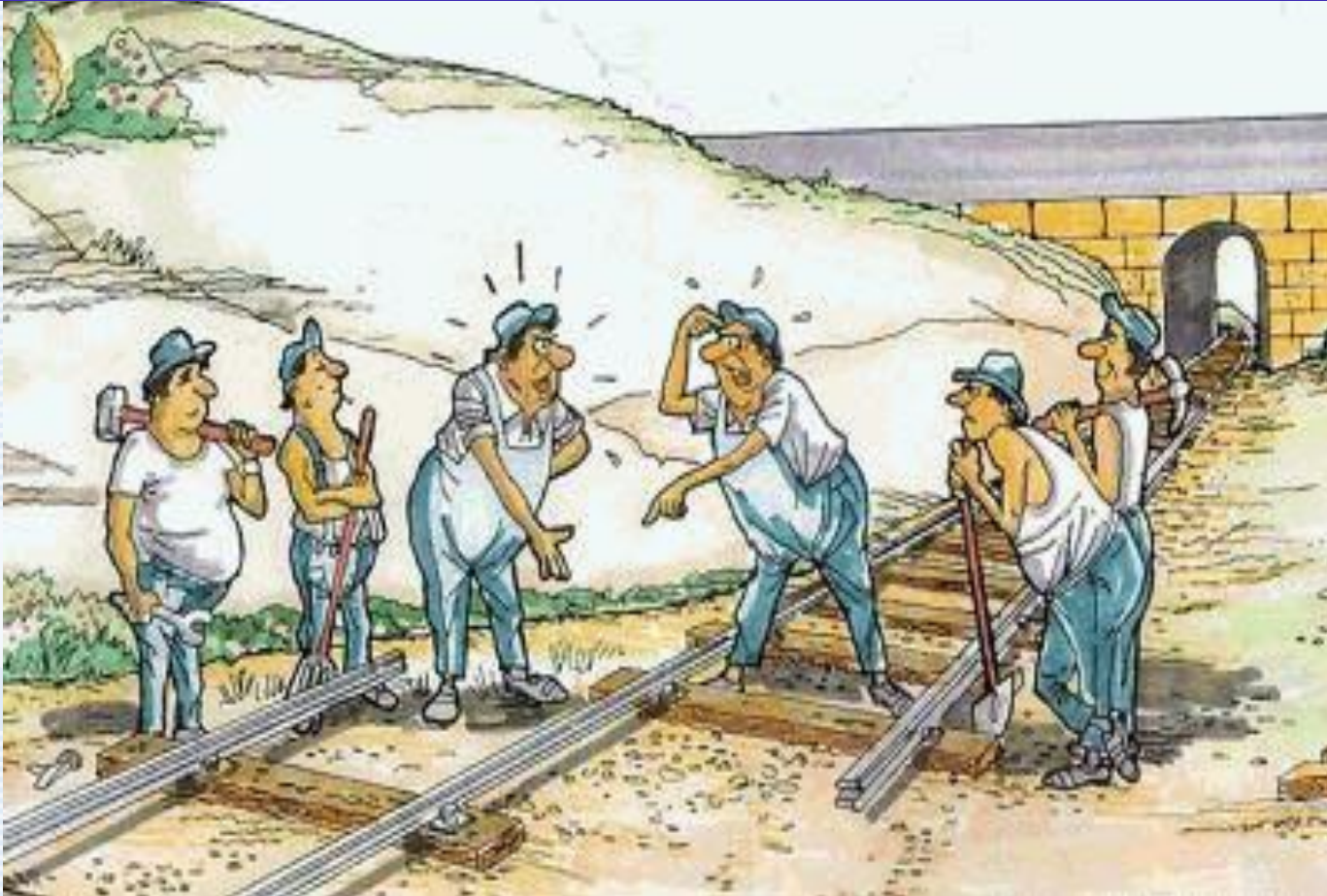
**In a world where national and international boundaries are increasingly irrelevant, the need**

**s**  **olution**

**for cooperation and coordination among law enforcement has never been greater.**

# Any questions ??

Team work is necessary.  
One can always blame it on the other





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***SAPS: Commander: Non Ferrous Metals***