• *Restricted to the Use of Law Enforcement Officials*

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J. Edgar Hoover, Director

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IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE No. _____

August 1, 1949

TO ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS:

Public servants must expect public criticism. Law enforcement, which brings government close to the average citizen, is, as a consequence, more often subject to criticism than other public agencies. Such criticism, if it is based on fact, is usually constructive and should be welcome.

On the other hand, public criticism of a law enforcement agency, when such criticism is not based on fact--whether made through ignorance, misinformation or deliberate maliciousness--is inexcusable. In any case, the damage is definite and irreparable.

Law enforcement in a democracy is a two-way street. An efficient agency has the confidence of the public. Only an agency which has the confidence of the public can be efficient. Unless an agency retains the support of the public, it cannot get necessary information, reports of violations, evidence and testimony so essential in the administration of justice. Those who attempt to shatter that confidence inevitably are attacking the administration of justice--the prime function of government. Politics, selfishness, ignorance and misinformation are not legitimate excuses for wanton disregard of the truth.

It is, therefore, in the public interest, whenever possible, to brand the person who makes unjustified and untrue criticism public, as the falsifier that he is.

Oftentimes law enforcement agencies are placed in positions where, for the time being, they cannot defend themselves. When their record is clean, however, there is not too much cause for concern. Time conspires to reveal the truth, and the motives of those who in the final analysis actually are aligning themselves with the criminal forces, eventually will be disclosed.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

SCIENTIFIC AIDS

Gunpowder Tests

(Continued from July Issue)

On-the-Spot Examinations for Investigative Purposes

Much information for investigative purposes can be gained from an on-the-spot examination of wounds relative to the distance from which a shot was fired.

Wounds of entrance will be comparable in size to the diameter of the bullet. This may vary somewhat depending on the part of the body struck. The skin is elastic and when the bullet penetrates skin over loose tissue it has more of a tendency to stretch on impact and then shrink to normal. The bullet hole in such a case may be smaller than the diameter of the bullet. Wounds in tissue covering bony parts of the body may have openings which exceed the diameter of the bullet.

In contact or near-contact shots, the edges of the wound may be scorched or even contain visible particles of burned or partially burned powder. Sometimes lubricated lead bullets will deposit a grease ring about the entrance wound. Care should be exercised that this is not mistaken for powder residue.

Bleeding about the entrance wound will usually be slight except in those cases where a gaping hole is torn in the flesh as a result of contact or near contact shots. The absence of powder residue about such a wound may be due to the fact that all the residue has been blown into the wound.

The FBI Laboratory has been requested to examine tissues transmitted to it for the presence of powder residues. The transmittal of these tissues has varied from shipping it in alcohol, cotton, embalming fluid and dry. In none of these examinations to date has it been possible to find any residues which follow a pattern. An on-the-spot examination of these tissues by the coroner or a reputable physician probably would have been of more value to the investigating officer.

The exit wound is usually larger than the entrance wound and more profuse bleeding occurs from it. It is usually more irregular than the entrance wound. The bullet, in passing through the body, may be deflected, causing it to exit sideways or broadside making a larger wound at the exit. The edges of the exit wound often protrude in the direction of the bullet as it leaves the body, while at the entrance wound the edges follow the path of the bullet into the wound.

Much can be deducted from an examination of entrance-exit wounds and the path of the bullet through the body. An entrance wound in the back would indicate other than suicide unless it could be determined that some special "rig" had been set up by the victim for the purpose of suicide. An entrance wound in the back would also tend to brand as false any statement by a subject to the effect that the victim was approaching him when the shot was fired. A probe of the wound to determine the path of the bullet is likewise important in ascertaining the direction and elevation of the shot.

While it is not possible in the majority of cases to arrive at a positive conclusion from such on-the-spot examinations, circumstances often indicate the probable manner in which the shot was inflicted.

The Diphenylamine Test for Nitrates or Nitrites

The problem of determining whether or not a suspect fired the weapon in a homicide, apparent suicide or murder often arises.

Erroneous interpretations may be given to the diphenylamine test on a paraffin cast of the hand or hands of a person suspected of having fired a weapon, or on a paraffin cast of a bullet hole in tissue. In addition, the test has definite limitations when applied for the purpose of detecting powder residues from the combustion of gun powder.

The term "diphenylamine test for gunpowder" is misleading. The diphenylamine test is, in reality, a test for nitrates and nitrites. The sources of any nitrates or nitrites found cannot be differentiated by this chemical test.

The test for gunpowder, utilizing a diphenyla-

mine solution, is based on the theory that when a person discharges a firearm, escaping gases may deposit nitrates or nitrites on the firing hand. Even though a positive reaction is obtained it does not necessarily mean the person has fired a gun.

It is true that the hand or hands of the person tested contained nitrates or nitrites if the reaction with diphenylamine is a positive one. It definitely cannot be established, however, from this test alone that the source of the nitrates or nitrites present resulted from discharging a firearm. The suspected person may have handled one or more of a number of substances in the course of his daily living which give the same positive reaction for nitrates or nitrites.

The most common source of nitrate with which one may come in daily contact is tobacco. This would normally be expected in view of the presence of nitrates in the products of combustion of tobacco. Persons handling explosives, fireworks, fertilizers, pharmaceuticals, leguminous plants such as peas, beans, and alfalfa and many other substances containing nitrates would be expected to react positively to the diphenylamine test.

In view of the above, tests were conducted in the FBI Laboratory using the diphenylamine test for the detection of nitrates or nitrites. The results obtained demonstrated the unreliability of the test when applied for the express purpose of determining whether or not a person had recently discharged a firearm. A summary of the results obtained follows:

1. Negative as well as positive results were obtained on both hands of a group of persons who had just fired five successive shots each from a caliber .38 revolver using only one hand for firing.

2. Negative results were obtained on the firing hand of a group of persons who had just fired five successive shots each from a .38-caliber revolver while the hand not used for firing gave a positive reaction.

3. Negative as well as positive results were obtained on the left, the right, and on both hands of various persons who had not fired weapons recently and some instances on the hands of persons who had never fired a weapon.

Despite the unreliability of the diphenylamine test for gunpowder, it does have some investigative value. It may have a psychological effect upon a suspect when he is confronted with the positive results of such a test. The limitations to the test, however, are most definite.

An expert, testifying to the results obtained from the diphenylamine test, must in all fairness limit its qualifications insofar as the reaction of diphenylamine on nitrates and nitrites from gunpowder residues is concerned.

Comparison of Shotgun Patterns

Theoretically, the shot discharged from the average cylinder bore sporting shotgun will cluster together and not separate to any appreciable extent until the cluster has traveled approximately 3 or 4 feet from the muzzle of the weapon. They then begin to spread, covering a larger area as the distance between the muzzle and target increases. The degree of spread is approximately proportional to the range, but not exactly so, due to the many variables involved. These include variations from shell to shell in loading, powder, powder loads, wadding, loading pressures, shot sizes and the varying deformation of shot as it travels through the barrel.

Weapons themselves present variables which affect accurate reproduction of shot patterns, such as barrel length, muzzle construction (choke), and the condition of the gun barrel.

The results of tests conducted in the FBI Laboratory are based on a number of shots which are fired from the suspected shotgun utilizing the same type of ammunition as that used in the shooting. The average minimum and maximum spread of each pattern is recorded after firing at varying distances from the target. The distance at which a shot pattern comparable to that on the victim's garment is obtained, is reported as the approximate distance from which the fatal or questioned shot was fired.

In a recent test conducted in the FBI Laboratory, a section of a wood floor was examined and found to contain a hole, oval in shape, having a short axis of 1 inch and a long axis of 1½ inches. Surrounding the hole were scattered impressions made by 8C shot, all contained in a circular area 2¾ inches in radius, having at its center the entrance hole.

Investigation revealed that a 12-gauge, single-barrel, full cylinder shotgun with 28-inch barrel was used, firing Remington Shur Shot 8C shotgun shells. Using this shotgun and the same type of ammunition for test purposes, the suspected weapon was fired at varying distances from a target and the results of this test follow:

Distance Between Muzzle and Target

Contact: All shot and wads penetrated a hole in the target 1 inch in diameter. Considerable powder residue surrounded the entrance hole which was badly shattered.

3 inches: All shot and wads penetrated a hole in the target 1 inch in diameter. Visible powder particles surrounding the entrance hole were contained in a circle with 8-inch radius having as its center the entrance hole.

6 inches: Most of the shot and all but one wad penetrated a hole in the target 1¼ inches in diameter. Scattered shot surrounding the entrance hole was contained in a circle with 1¼-inch radius having as its center the entrance hole. The one wad which strayed struck the target within the shot pattern. The force behind this was insufficient to cause it to penetrate a paper target. There were no visible powder particles present.

9 inches: Most of the shot penetrated a hole in the target 1⅝ inches in diameter. Scattered shot surrounding the entrance hole was contained in a circle with 1¾-inch radius. One wad penetrated the paper within the shot pattern and another struck the target within this area but did not penetrate it.

12 inches: Most of the shot penetrated a hole in the target 1¾ inches in diameter. Scattered shot surrounding the entrance hole was contained in a circle with 2½-inch radius. No wads reached the target.

15 inches: Most of the shot penetrated a hole in the target 1¾ inches in diameter. Scattered shot surrounding the entrance hole was contained in a circle with a 3-inch radius.

18 inches: Most of the shot penetrated a hole in target 2¼ inches in diameter. Scattered shot surrounding the entrance hole was contained in a circle with 4½-inch radius.

24 inches: A hole in the pattern at the point of aim measured 3-inch diameter. The majority of the shot scattered over the target was contained in a circle with 6¼-inch radius.

From the above tests it was ascertained that a comparable pattern to that found on the wooden floor was obtained between 12 and 15 feet as based on the shot spread. The difference in the size of entrance hole may be attributed to the difference in testing media. The examiner's testimony in this case would be confined only to the results obtained from his tests on a comparable basis.

A hypothetical case involving a laboratory examination of a coat follows. The reader is requested to study the resultant powder patterns obtained at varying distances between muzzle and target and ascertain at what distance the fatal shot was fired.

The victim's jacket (fig. 1) containing an apparent bullet hole in the right breast, was received in the laboratory. It was requested that tests be conducted to determine the distance between the victim and the weapon at the time of discharge. The coat, when received, was smoothly pressed between two layers of corrugated cardboard held fast (to prevent shifting while in transit) with cellulose tape.

A .38-caliber Colt revolver (fig. 2)—the suspected weapon—the bullet recovered from the victim's body, and several rounds of .38-caliber S & W Winchester ammunition were also forwarded to the laboratory for comparison. It was concluded that the bullet from the victim's body was fired in the submitted weapon. It was further determined that the bullet was a .38-caliber S & W Winchester bullet. A microscopic examination of the jacket (fig. 3) revealed the presence of visible powder particles (fig. 4) indicating the possibility of a close range shot.

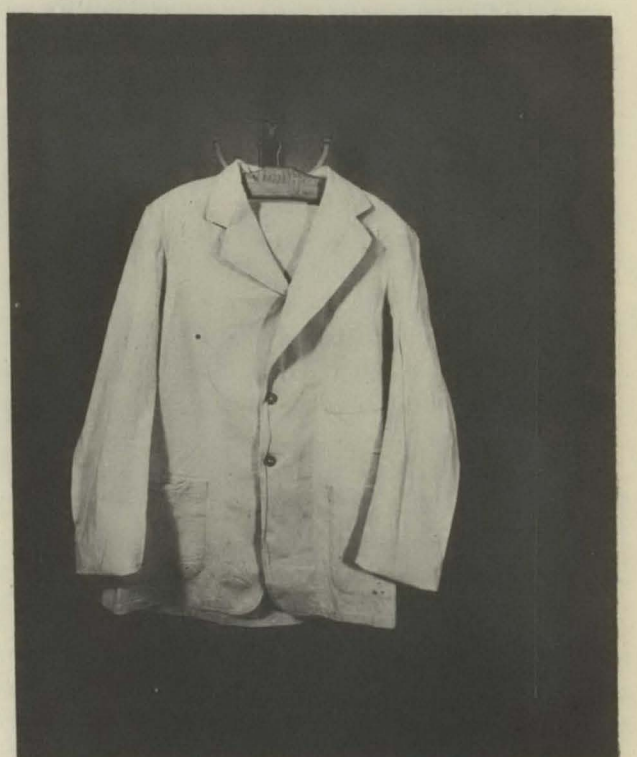

Figure 1.—*Jacket worn by victim showing bullet hole in right breast.*

Figure 2.—*Murder weapon and ammunition taken from cylinder weapon is .38-caliber Colt revolver; ammunition, .38-caliber S & W Winchester with 145-grain bullet.*

With the suspected weapon and the type of ammunition used in the actual shooting, a series of tests were made by firing at varying distances between muzzle and target. The victim's jacket and each target were then chemically processed for powder residue (fig. 5).

The pattern obtained on the jacket (fig. 6) was then compared with the series of patterns obtained on the targets at varying distances between target and muzzle (figs. 7–15). At what distance is a pattern obtained which is comparable to that on the victim's jacket?

It is the examiner's opinion that the pattern comparable to that on the victim's jacket was obtained at a distance from 24 to 30 inches between target and muzzle.

Figure 3.—*Microscopic examination for visible powder particles, residue, discoloration or singeing of fibres.*

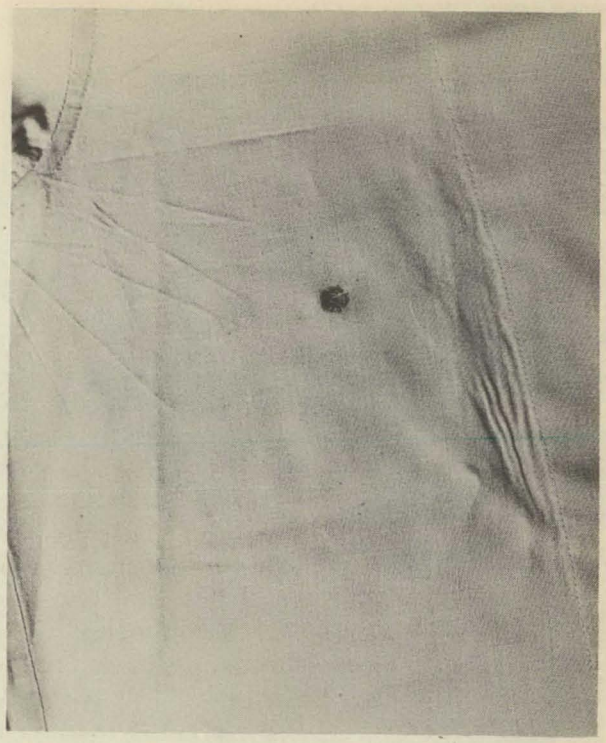

Figure 4.—*Close-up of bullet hole in ordinary light showing visible powder particles.*

Figure 5.—*Pressing the acetic acid dampened rag over the garment to be tested on an ironing board. The paper has been desensitized with photographic hypo; washed and dried; soaked in 0.5 percent sulfanilic acid in water solution and dried; then, soaked in 0.5 percent alpha naphthylamine in methyl alcohol solution and dried.*

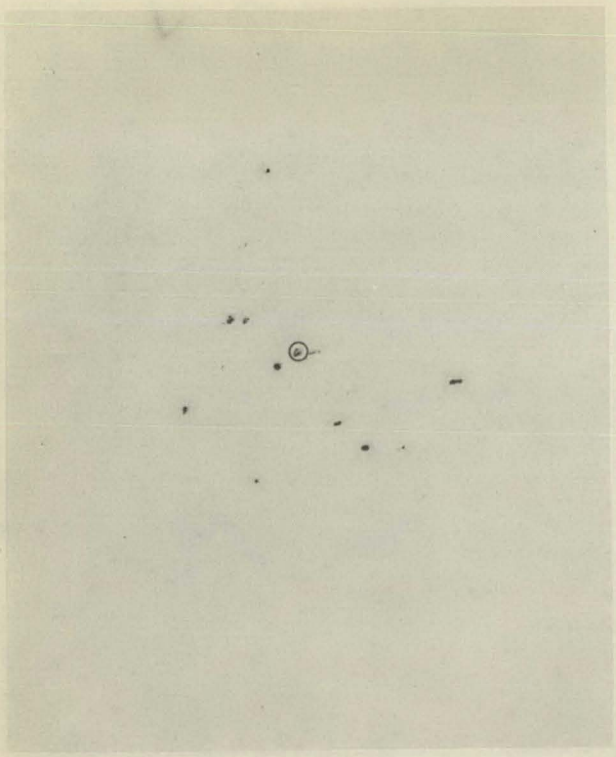

Figure 6.—*Questioned pattern on jacket made by .38-caliber Colt revolver with 5-inch barrel using .38-caliber S & W Winchester 145-grain bullet.*

Figure 8.—*1 inch (.38-caliber Colt revolver 5-inch barrel and .38-caliber S & W Winchester 145-grain bullet).*

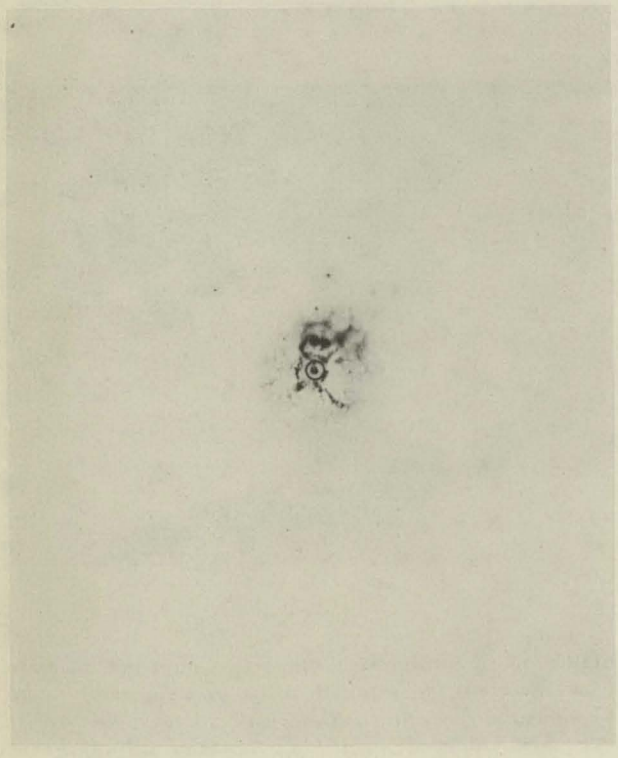

Figure 7.—*Contact (.38-caliber Colt revolver 5-inch barrel—.38-caliber S & W Winchester 145-grain bullet).*

Figure 9.—*3 inches (.38-caliber Colt revolver 5-inch barrel and .38-caliber S & W Winchester 145-grain bullet).*

Figure 10.—*6 inches (.38-caliber Colt revolver 5-inch barrel and .38-caliber S & W Winchester 145-grain bullet).*

Figure 12.—*18 inches (.38-caliber Colt revolver 5-inch barrel and .38-caliber S & W Winchester 145-grain bullet).*

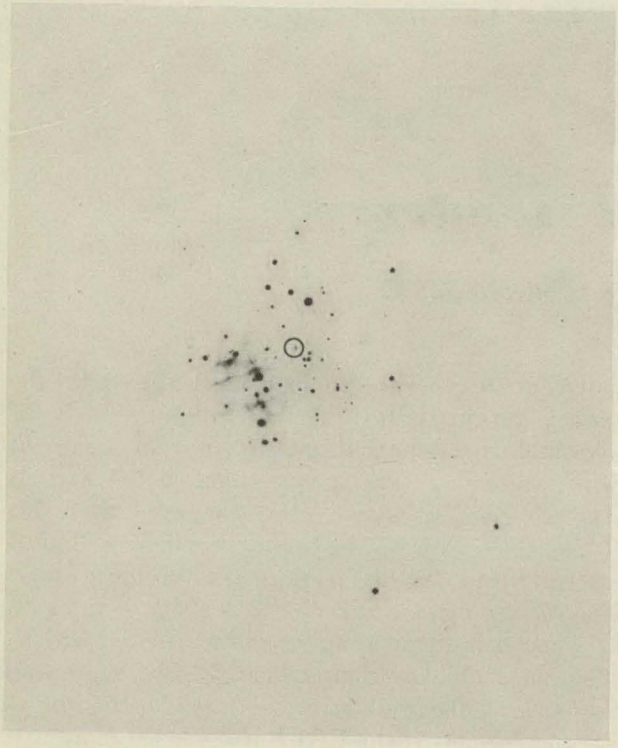

Figure 11.—*12 inches (.38-caliber Colt revolver 5-inch barrel and .38-caliber S & W Winchester 145-grain bullet).*

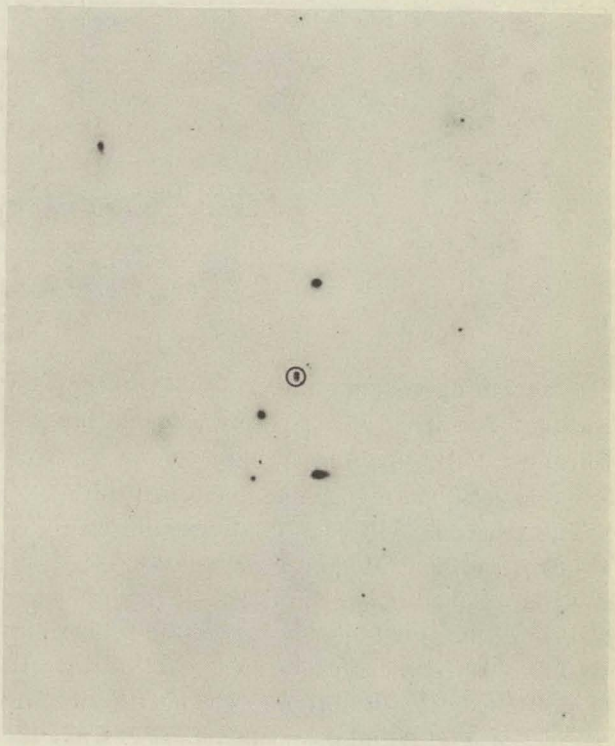

Figure 13.—*24 inches (.38-caliber Colt revolver 5-inch barrel and .38-caliber S & W Winchester 145-grain bullet).*

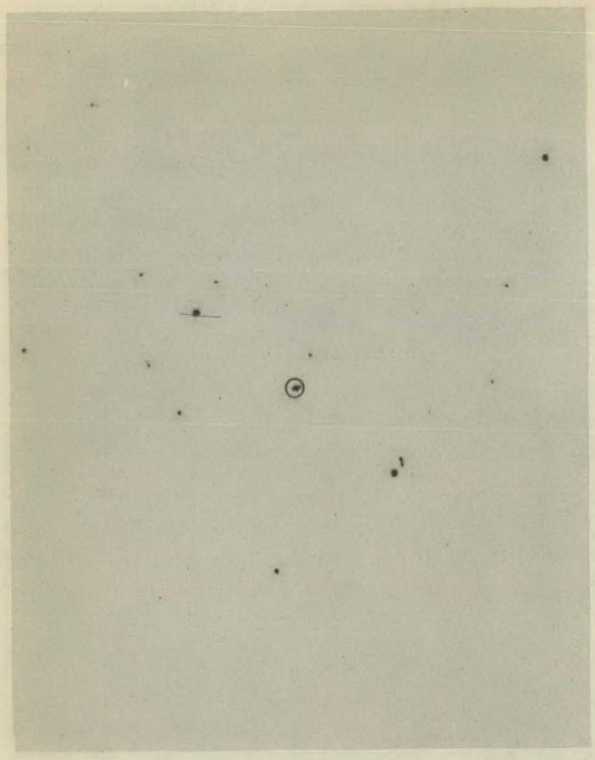

Figure 14.—*30 inches (.38-caliber Colt revolver 5-inch barrel and .38-caliber S & W Winchester 145-grain bullet).*

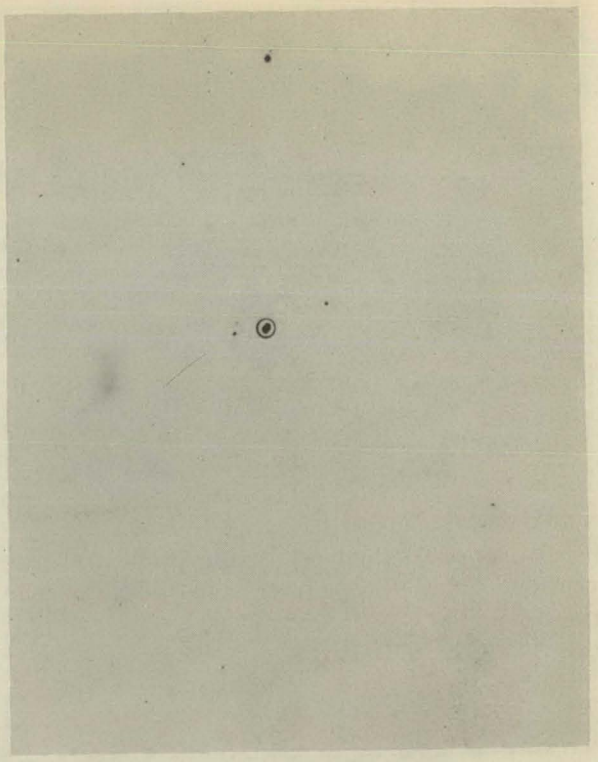

Figure 15.—*36 inches (.38-caliber Colt revolver 5-inch barrel and .38-caliber S & W Winchester 145-grain bullet).*

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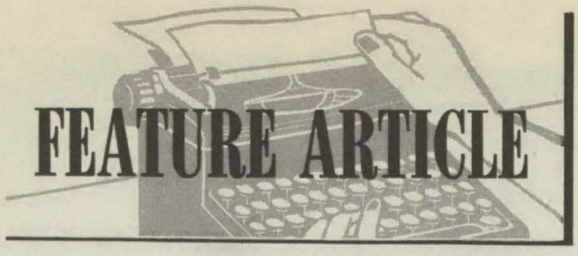
FBI National Academy Retraining Session

The retraining session for all graduates of the FBI National Academy who are still active in law enforcement will be held in Washington, D. C., from September 26 through September 30, 1949.

The program will consist of opening exercises at 10 a. m. on Monday, September 26, 1949, continuing until noon. For each of the half-days following the opening exercises and until 11 a. m. on Thursday, panel forums on the following will be presented: Investigation of Crimes; Police Organization and Administration; Traffic; Juvenile Control, and Police Control.

Graduates of the Academy will appear on the panel forums. Portable microphones will be available throughout the auditorium for the use of any graduate in asking questions on the various topics being discussed. It is believed that this type of program will be highly beneficial and most successful in consideration of the limited time of the retraining session.

The business meeting of the associates will be held on Thursday, September 29, 1949, beginning at 1 p. m. The graduation exercises for the Forty-second Session of the FBI National Academy will be held on Friday, September 30, 1949.



Suicide Prevention, New York City

Police Techniques in the Prevention of Self-destruction by Persons Jumping from Buildings [1]

Introduction

In discharging its primary function of safeguarding life, the Emergency Service Division of the Police Department, New York City, is constantly confronted with the problem of circumventing the suicide plans of the mentally disturbed. There are many forms of self-destruction to which the victim may resort, but that of jumping from great heights presents the most vexing problem of prevention. Once the sufferer steps off into space there is no turning back and the results are almost always fatal.

The high buildings and bridges which are found in a large city offer an almost irresistible temptation to the suicide-prone, who, in "ending it all" often injure or kill unsuspecting pedestrians passing below.

Suicide is not limited to a particular type, sex or age group. Each subject, however, suffers a mental disturbance. Usually the victim is disgusted with life, has a persecution complex, marital troubles, unrequited love, or is morose because of death of a loved one. Sometimes he has an obsessive fear of police, of gangsters, or of certain individuals. He may be a victim of a malignant disease, he may be suffering from dementia praecox, or he may be addicted to alcoholism.

Each of these conditions presents a different problem to the policeman arriving at the scene prior to a jump-suicide. He must guess at the motive underlying the suicide threat and slant his line of cajolery accordingly.

Many individuals threatening suicide by jumping are exhibitionists. If the police can get a net up, or give the exhibitionist any other chance to save "face" with his friends or the crowd which has gathered, the subject can be induced to come in from the window ledge.

If the subject is on the edge of a roof, side of a bridge, or on any high perch where he can walk from place to place, it will be necessary for two men to approach him and keep his attention centered on them in order to confine him to one side of the building. This will give the policemen below a chance to work with the net in one spot and will keep the subject from wandering to another side of the roof.

The situation is not quite so desperate if the subject is sitting down with his legs over the edge of the roof, standing in a window, or standing in a room at a window, for he is confined to a fixed location and his freedom of movement is restricted (figs. 1, 2, 3).

In many cases the subject has a history of prior suicide attempts. Usually the family will know what topics should be discussed with the potential suicide to induce him to come back into the room. Many times, however, the presence of a particular member of the family will aggravate the situation. If this individual stops speaking to the subject, or leaves the scene, the police usually can persuade the subject to leave his perilous perch.

Psychological Tricks

The policeman is dealing with a maladjusted person who is not thinking along rational lines. He

Figure 1.—*Subject is confined to one side of roof above net.*

[1] Information, photographs, and charts, courtesy Capt. Philip Walsh, Police Commissioner's Office, New York City Police Departmnent.

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Figure 2.—*Subject's attention diverted by one patrolman while second patrolman remains hidden.*

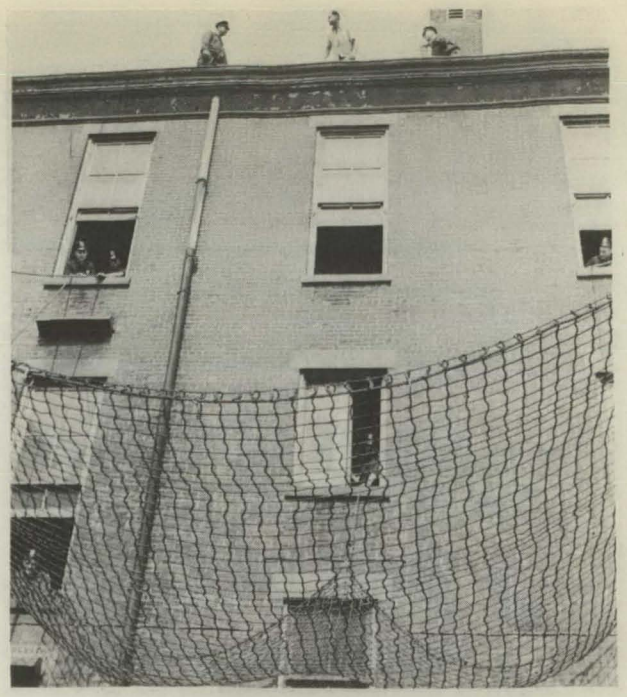


Figure 3.—*Speed, silence, and surprise are elements of successful rescue.*

must, therefore, cater to the whims of the subject in order to induce him to abandon his plans to jump, or the officer may have to resort to other means.

For instance, if:

a. The subject dislikes the police, the officer should don workmens' clothes, such as overalls, etc. This is particularly desirable if the subject is a working man for it allows the officer to approach the subject on an equal basis.

b. The subject is motivated by a religious complex, the summoning of a priest, minister or rabbi, depending on his religion, may have a most desirable result.

c. Subject threatens to jump unless he hears from his sweetheart, wife or a high government official, he may be persuaded to come in and accept a telegram, allegedly from one of those individuals, delivered by a policeman dressed in a messenger's uniform.

The following also may be effective:

a. A smoke or drink offered to the subject, or a message or paper shown him may bring him within reach of rescuers.

b. While several officers keep up a running conversation with the subject, others, hiding out of sight behind chimneys, in adjoining rooms, etc., may be enabled to approach sufficiently close to seize the subject before he can jump.

c. Occasionally the appearance of loved ones or dear friends will have a tendency to cause the subject to lose his nerve and, eventually, return to safety.

These, and other subterfuges may or may not work. As a result of several failures, and in recognition of the fact that this method of persuasion was a hit-or-miss proposition, members of the Emergency Service Division made a study to determine whether or not something could be done to thwart suicidal intentions.

This study involved the following factors:

a. The force of impacts of falling bodies.

b. The length of time it takes for the fall to be completed.

c. Velocity at end of the fall.

d. Kind of rope required for construction of a life net.

e. The best possible method for rapidly setting up of the net on the street and between floors.

f. The kind of equipment needed.

g. The possibility of a subject making a standing broad jump more than 25 feet.

h. Methods of setting up net and training of men.

After many experiments and tests, an arrangement of pipes and lines was devised whereby a rope life net 20 feet wide and 30 feet long could be extended from the face of a building, within 10 minutes after arrival, at the desired floor level. The crews of emergency service squads were then instructed and trained in setting up the net.

The methods described are presently the standard procedures used by police emergency service squads in New York City.

Methods

Teamwork between the various units of the department is an essential principle of the procedure in preventing suicides.

The Communications Bureau is generally the first unit to be informed of a "jumper." The operator must get the exact location of the premises, the kind of building, the height, side of the building from which the subject threatens to jump, whether subject is on the roof or a window ledge, and what the person is actually doing at the time the message is being received. This last is important inasmuch as the message comes either from a person who is watching the subject, or the subject himself. The latter is often the case.

It is at this time that teamwork is intensely important. The radio motor patrol crews concerned must be informed of the potential jumper. The emergency service squads concerned must be dispatched with their life net and equipment. If the victim is speaking, the operator at the Communications Bureau must engage the person in conversation while another operator sends out the necessary messages. Particular care must be exercised that responding radio motor patrol and emergency squads do not sound their signaling devices within hearing distance of the victim, who might become agitated and jump.

Speed, silence, and surprise contribute to the successful rescue of a potential jumper. If at all possible, the responding radio motor patrol crew should approach the location from a direction which keeps them out of view of the subject. The rescue crew should confer with the person who sent for them as to the location of the subject, sex of subject, and type of threats made (figs. 1, 2, and 3).

Erection of the Ground Net

The subject, unlike the fire victim who is eager to jump, wants to avoid jumping into the net or being rescued, therefore, any shouting or loud talking on the part of the rescuers will defeat the purpose. A field phone or walkie-talkie should be used to communicate with the men on the roof or windows, or a whistle signal or flashlight may be used to coordinate the movements of the squads. The striking of pipes or metal net rings against the wall may be sufficient to startle the subject into jumping prematurely.

Before anything else is done, two men should be dispatched to the roof of the area occupied by the subject. Their purpose is to try to confine the subject to the side of the building on which the net is being erected. These men should talk to the subject and try to induce him to leave the danger-

Figure 4.—*Ground net, prior to raising.*

ous area. Kindness and tact are essential. In the meantime the squads are setting up the ground net as illustrated in figures 1, 2, and 3.

The "ground net" is similar in design to the nets used by trapeze artists in the circus. It is 20 feet wide and 30 feet long. (The police should be aware of the fact that the majority of local fire department hook and ladder companies are equipped with a circular life net and extension ladders and not fail to take advantage of this equipment should the occasion arise.)

Steps in Erecting the Ground Net

1. The net is spread out on the ground lengthwise in the direction it is to be raised. The mesh is kept as straight and as square as is possible (fig. 4).

2. (*a*) The sections of pipe are connected with the pronged ends facing opposite to direction of pull. One is laid on either side of the net parallel to its edge (fig. 4).

(*b*) The pronged end of each pole is alongside of each corner of the net, all facing in the same direction as per diagram (fig. 4).

(*c*) The bases are then inserted into the poles (fig. 4).

(*d*) The square edge of the base lies on the highway (fig. 4).

(*e*) These bases should toe in at the bottom so that they will be inside the net area when it is raised (fig. 4).

3. On each corner of the net are two loops which are slipped on to the pronged end of each pole (fig. 5).

Figure 5.—*Ground net partly raised showing end loops of the net.*

Figure 6.—*Location of men in raising or lowering ground net.*

4. The guy lines and the holdback lines are snapped on to both loops at each corner. It is important to hook both loops in event one of the loops works off the prong. There still remains a secure line to that corner of the net (fig. 5).

5. The lines which are to be used in raising the net (pulling lines) will act as holdback lines when the net is lowered and the "guy lines," in addition to steadying the poles, will be used as an aid to the "pulling" or "holdback" lines by quickly moving them in the direction where they may be best utilized. This is accomplished by the guy-line men moving in the opposite direction in which the net is being lowered, however, remaining a sufficient distance to keep the poles in a vertical or straight position to the man who is raising or lowering the pole (fig. 6).

6. A man is assigned to each line for the purpose of raising, steadying, keeping the net spread, and lowering same (fig. 7).

7. A man is assigned to each pole for purpose of lifting and lowering same (fig. 8).

Figure 7.—*Ground net completely raised, showing location of men steading net.*

Figure 8.—*Ground net fully extended.*

8. A man is assigned to the base of each pole for the purpose of footing and holding the base of the pole in a fixed position (figs. 7–8).

9. The erection of the "ground net" requires 16 men: 4 on the holdback or pulling lines; 4 on guy lines; 4 to raise poles; 4 to foot the poles (fig. 9).

10. If the ground net is assembled as per instructions and only 10 men or less are available, it can still be erected by raising only half at one time and tying the guy lines to fixed objects (fig. 10).

11. The ground net should always be raised first in the event subject jumps before the wall net can be put out (fig. 8).

12. The erection of the ground net is very flexible. A narrow court yard, street, or areaway may be overcome by tying one edge of the net to a wall, window, or railing, etc. On a two- or three-story building, particularly a dwelling, it may be brought to a position above the ledge or window upon which the victim is standing and dropped down across the face of the building and pulled in tight against the face of the building by men at various windows thus confining the subject to the area where he is standing while the door of the room is broken into by others of the crew (fig. 8a).

13. The ground net may in extreme cases be extended and held by persons standing on street, etc., but it must be remembered that 30 to 50 persons are needed to keep the net tight and that a body striking a net held close to the ground is going to hit the highway when the net sags with the impact. This means should only be used as a last resort and preferably by tying the net to some fixed object.

Steps in Erecting the Wall Net

The accompanying diagram shows the manner of extending the "wall net." Positions must be taken in the window immediately below the window or ledge upon which the subject is standing.

It is assumed that the subject would be unable to take a standing broad jump and clear the net at 20 feet out from the face of the building. Therefore, it is imperative that the wall net be extended as close to the victim as is possible; this is usually two stories below the subject, or a distance of about 30 feet (figs. 1, 2, and 3).

The men take their positions as indicated in the "net drill chart."

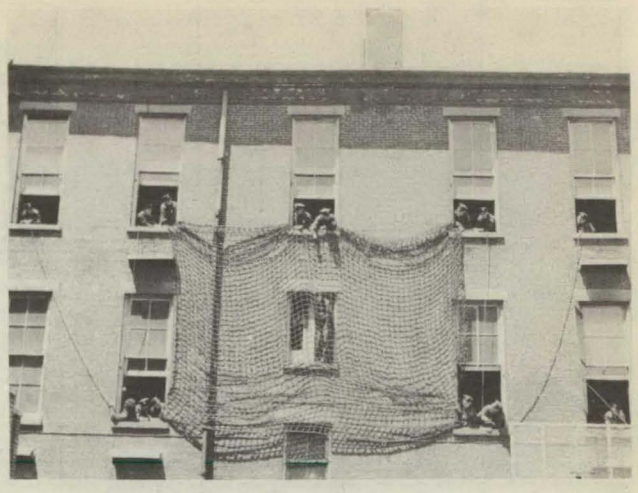


Figure 8 (A).—*Preventing a subject from jumping by holding the net against the face of the building.*

Figure 9.—*Ground net being raised in sections by half of the crew.*

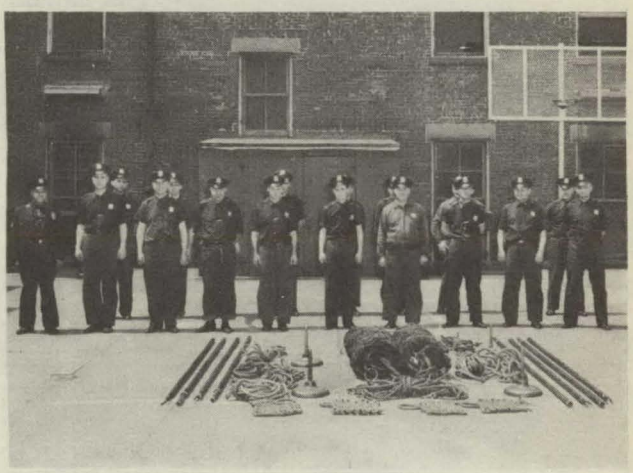
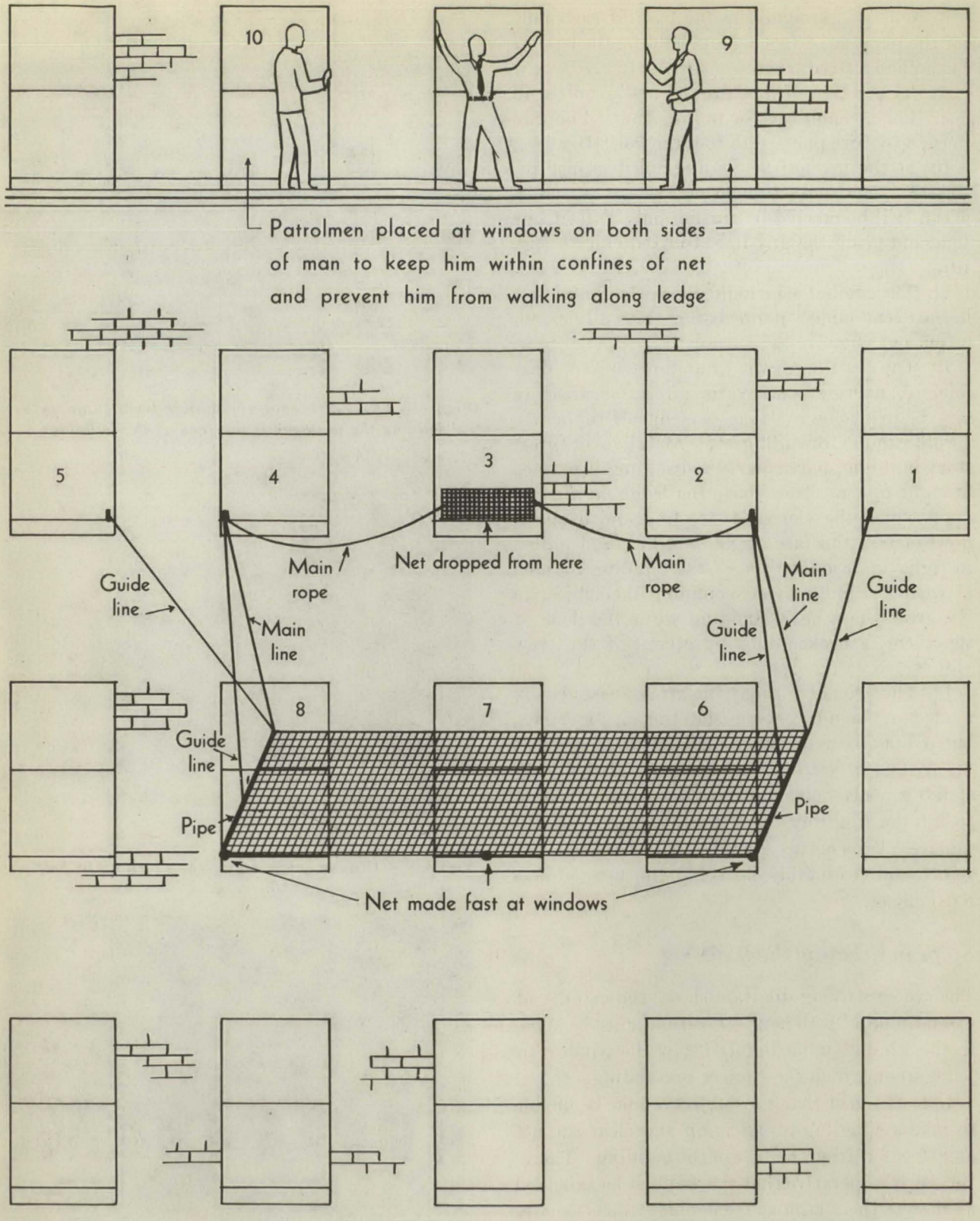


Figure 10.—*Ground net equipment and police emergency service crew.*



DIMENSION OF NET: LENGTH, 30 FEET; WIDTH, 20 FEET

NET DRILL CHART

At position:

(1) One man holds guy line, after having passed end of line to man at position 6 (fig. 11).

(2) Two men hold main and guy lines after having passed the end of the main line to man at position 3 and the end of guy line to man at position 6 (fig. 12).

(3) One man attaches the ends of the main line to the corner loops of the net and awaits the signal to drop the net out of the window (fig. 13).

(4) Same as position 2.

(5) Same as position 1.

(6) Two men couple the extension pipes and insert the pipes through the metal rings in the net as the spread net is lowered to them from floor above and at a given signal they push the net out with the pipe and secure the end of pipe in window sill (See figs. 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16).

Figure 11.—*Net in position to be dropped. Main lines and guy lines in place.*

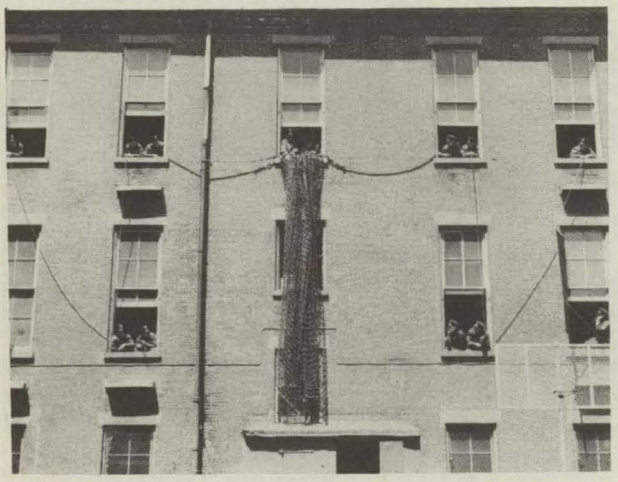


Figure 12.—*Net is lowered.*

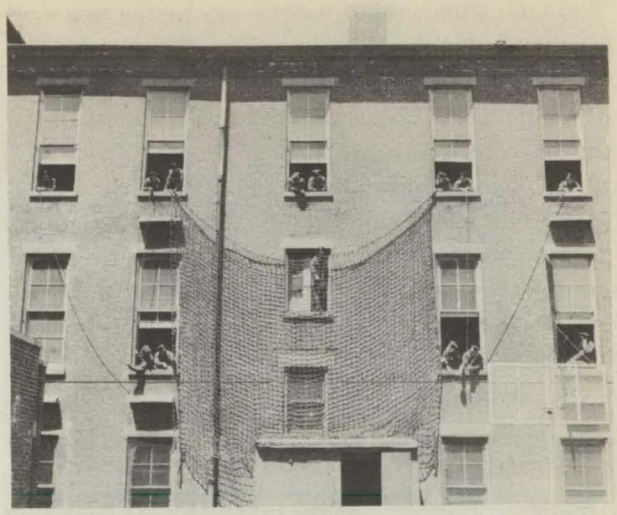


Figure 13.—*Net is spread.*

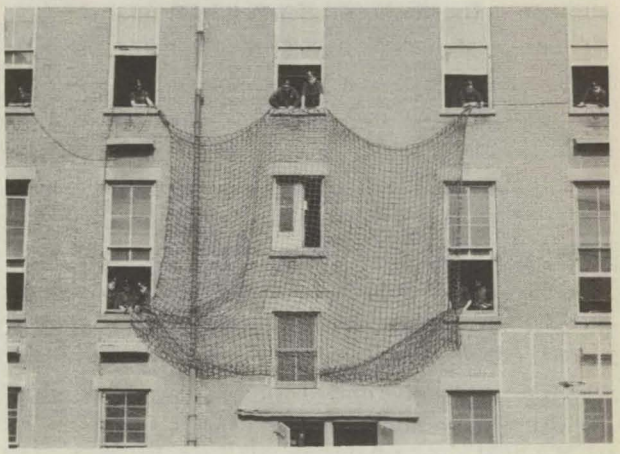


Figure 14.—*Two men insert extension pipes through metal rings of net.*

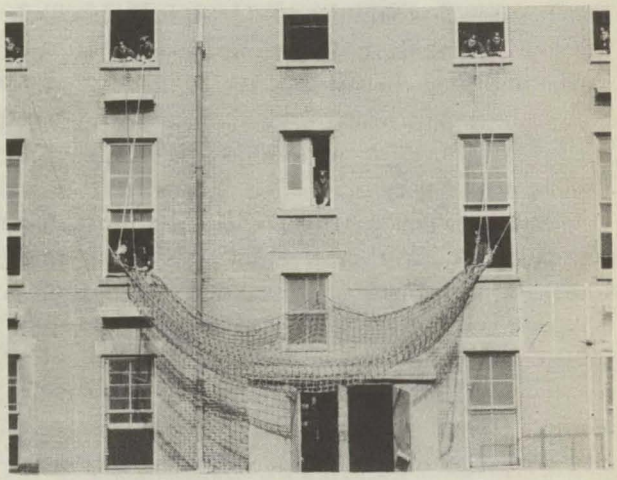


Figure 15.—*Two men continue to slide net over extension pipes.*

(7) One man takes up the sag in the net as it is spread and secures the net to the window by means of a bar across window. Wearing a special life-belt harness he stands by to assist anyone in the net (figs. 16 and 17).

(8) Same position as 6.

(9) One man immediately upon arrival takes position as close to subject as possible, confining subject to area above net and attempts to induce subject to come in by reasoning, persuasion, and tact (figs. 1, 2, and 3).

(10) Same as position 9.

Versatility of Rope Net

If the squad has only one net it can be used either as a wall net or ground net.

It can be raised on the ground with a crew of eight men by raising half of the net at a time.

These rope nets can be used in quarter and half sections, in alleys, areaways, etc. (fig. 18).

As stated previously, on buildings of one to four stories in height, if the subject is in a window threatening to jump, four men bring the net to the roof or floor above the subject. Men are stationed in windows adjoining that in which subject is standing and in windows below him. Spread and firmly secure the net and at a given signal (flashlight) from a crew member in the street, drop the free end of the net past the window in which the subject is standing. All the men then pull the net in close to the face of the building, particularly the men in the adjoining windows, while others crash the door into the room in which subject is standing. If there is time, tie the lower section of the net in close to the face of the building, then should the subject get away he cannot break through. This method was successful even in cases where subject had a razor and slashed at the net.

The Emergency Service Division has used these nets to check the escape of animals from stores and while in transit.

A rope net is used because it is light in weight (80 pounds), flexible, and can be handled by a few men. However, any group which has a tarpaulin 10 by 10 or 20 by 20, with handholes sewed into same, could get good results in the latter method (against face of building).

(To be continued in the September issue of the Bulletin)

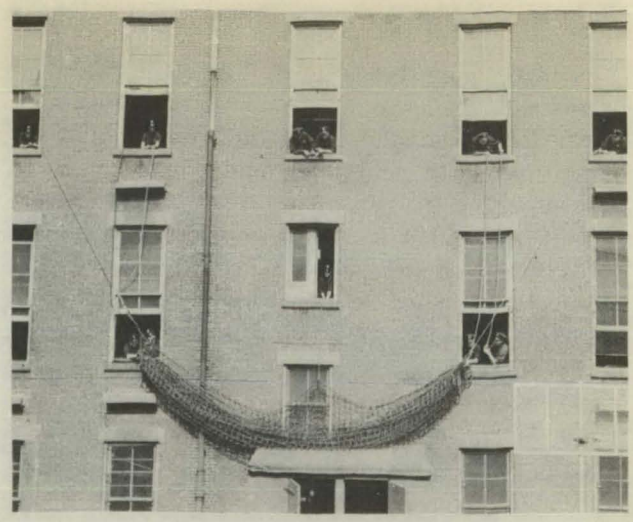


Figure 16.—*Wall net on pipes about to be extended from the building.*

Figure 17.—*Patrolman ready to enter extended wall net and assist subject who lands in net. Note that sage in net is secured by center line.*

Figure 18.—*Net can be used with two poles and half section attached to building.*

Advanced Identification Course

A 5-day advanced course for identification officers of northern California, sponsored by the Bay Counties Identification Officers Association in cooperation with the FBI was concluded on April 29, 1949, at Berkeley, Calif.

Chief John D. Holstrom of the Berkeley Police Department, who with the Special Agent in Charge of the FBI at San Francisco, welcomed the group, made the entire facilities of his department available for use of the officers attending the school. These facilities included, among others, an excellent classroom and a darkroom equipped with the latest photographic, developing and printing equipment.

Sgt. R. T. Sherry, secretary of the Bay Counties Identification Officers Association, sent a notice to all members regarding the course. The purpose of the school was to present officers with a course which would enable them to process, preserve, and effectively present fingerprint evidence in court.

Qualifications for attendance were that the applicant be able to classify and search prints.

The schedule for the 5-day period was as follows:

April 25, Monday: Review of developing, photographing, and lifting of latent prints. This included practical problems.

April 26, Tuesday: Special problems in developing, photographing, lifting, and preserving latent prints. This included problems in the use of the fingerprint and Speed-Graphic cameras.

April 27, Wednesday: Continuation of camera work, including the photographing of latent prints in putty, wax, and on a greasy surface. In addition, the class was given instruction in the preparation of latent print charts for court testimony.

April 28, Thursday: A moot court was held. Identification officers offered testimony in connection with a latent print identification.

April 29, Friday: General identification problems. Organization of an Identification Bureau, the practical uses of an unidentified latent print file, the fingerprinting of deceased individuals, and the proper use of the FBI Identification Division Disposition, Wanted, and Death Notice Forms.

The 37 identification officers who registered were in constant attendance, without tardiness, during the entire 5 days.

Bay counties officers who completed the advanced identification course.

MISCELLANEOUS

Phoenix—Progressive Policing

The Phoenix, Ariz., Police Academy, officially opened to the public on October 16, 1948, is an example of what can be done if law-enforcement administrators have, first of all, vision, and quite as important, the drive to bring the vision to a reality.

Earl O'Clair rose from rookie to the top rank within 17 years. He joined the Phoenix police force in 1931. On November 30, 1947, he became chief of police. Less than a year later the Phoenix Police Department was welcoming the citizenry to open house at the new Phoenix Police Academy in the foothills of South Mountain Park.

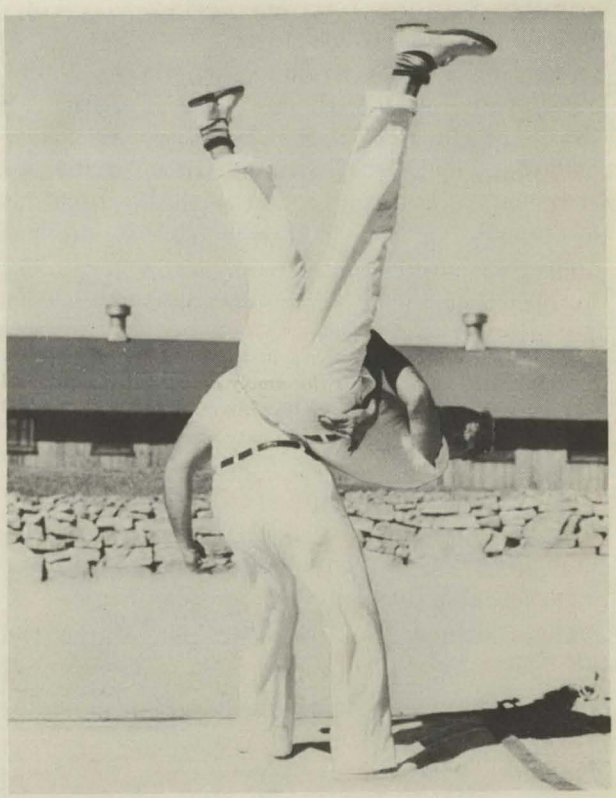
When Chief O'Clair accepted his present position there was no type of training program for any of the officers. Equipment was scarce. The department was undermanned. The jail was overcrowded.

Chief O'Clair, a graduate of the thirty-fifth session of the FBI National Academy, knew that any improvement in the situation had to begin from the foundation and work upward. The men had to know how to do a thing better before it could be done better. The answer lay in a program of police training.

Less than a thousand dollars was available for planning for the future, but Chief O'Clair worked small miracles. With it he converted an old CCC camp on South Mountain into usable training facilities. Utilizing prison labor and encouraging the men in his department to donate spare time, Chief O'Clair and his officers supervised the construction job.

At the end of 2 months the Phoenix Police Department was able to survey its new facilities with pride. These were: an excellent firearms range—one of the finest in the Southwest—classrooms for training purposes, and a clubhouse for recreation. In addition, a large prison compound had been created to care for the overflow from the city jail.

An up-to-date training course was mapped out for new officers, and now, before a patrolman is given a beat he receives 2 weeks of intensified



Sgt. Dick Finley of the detective bureau suffers an upset at the hands of Dale Collier of the juvenile department.

training at the academy. At the end of the period he is assigned duty on the regular force, and after 3 weeks of combined work and training is given 2 more weeks in the academy.

Training is not for new officers only but is afforded all members of the department. Nor are the academy facilities restricted in any way. Courses are offered to all Arizona police officers without charge as a public service. This is of inestimable value to smaller departments which are unable to send representatives to the FBI Academy in Washington. The Phoenix Academy's central location in the State means an added saving in time and money.

On occasion State-wide invitations are extended to all peace officers for specialized training courses at the academy. On December 6, 1948, Chief O'Clair welcomed 23 officers, representing 12

Sgt. Tip Frasier, desk sergeant, and George Van Doren, of the detective bureau, demonstrate shooting from the hip in the academy's pistol bowl on open-house day. Object of fire is the newly constructed automatic target devised by the radio department from models used by the FBI National Academy.

counties, to a fingerprint school sponsored by the Phoenix Police Department in cooperation with the FBI.

Traffic courses, class room study, court procedure, crime scene searches—in fact, all the modern police science courses are taught. The majority of instructors are graduates of the FBI National Academy.

Chief O'Clair and Sheriff Cal Boies, the progressive head of the Maricopa County sheriff's office have cooperated in formulating plans for Statewide firearms training.

In addition to inaugurating a training program for his department, Chief O'Clair has insisted on improved methods of keeping records. At the chief's request one of the FBI's police record experts conducted a complete survey of the records and reporting procedures of the Phoenix department and a detailed report of conditions and recommendations has been furnished Chief O'Clair for his information. He has the welfare of his men constantly in mind. Promotions are no longer merely a matter of seniority, but of qualifications for the job as well.

As an example, when the Chief found a constantly increasing number of officers submitting applications for consideration to attend the FBI National Academy, he resorted to accepting nominees on a competitive basis.

A standard of selection was devised. Part one is a written examination composed of 45 true and

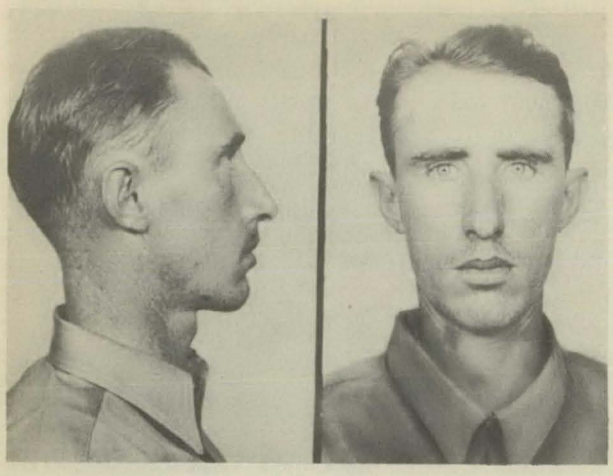
Harold R. Scoville, Phoenix attorney and former juvenile court judge, questions new Patrolman Roy P. White in the "Murder of Lucy Anderson." James A. Walsh, former superior court judge, presides at the mock trial.

false statements. Under part two each officer is rated on 15 separate items by the 8 captains of the police department. Thirty-eight officers have taken the examination. It is interesting to note that the variance in the 3 top grades was only 3.41 points, and that of the 8 captains executing the ratings, 3 are national academy graduates, 2 are graduates of the Northwestern University Traffic Institute, one is a former intelligence officer of the United States Army and the remaining captains are officers of nearly 20 years' experience.

Impartial administration of this type has resulted in high morale, and, while concentrating on improving the department by improving the ability of the individual officer, Chief O'Clair is succeeding in raising the standards of the profession throughout his State. He is adding meaning to the word "profession" as applied to law enforcement.

(Pictures reprinted with permission of *Arizona Republic*)

WANTED BY THE FBI



ED LOGAN MOSELEY

With aliases: Ed Hunt, Ed Logan Mosely, Edward Logan Mosely, Logan Ed Mosely, William Ed Mosely, William E. Mosely, E. L. Moseley, Ed L. Mosely, Juston Jess Moseley, L. A. Moseley, L. E. Moseley, R. L. Moseley, William E. Moseley William Ed Moseley, Ed L. Mosley, William Mosley, William E. Mosley, W. E. Mosley, E. H. Siler, D. W. Smith, Paul Smith.

Interstate Transportation of Stolen Motor Vehicles; Interstate Transportation of Stolen Property.

Ed Logan Moseley was first arrested on a worthless check charge by the Charlotte, N. C., Police Department in the year 1937. Since that time he has been arrested numerous times for worthless checks, forgery, investigation, and larceny after trust.

On or about July 7, 1947, Moseley, accompanied by his wife and three small children, arrived in Counce, Tenn., in a black, 1947 Plymouth automobile. He made plans to buy a store and filling station, and, although financial arrangements were not complete, took possession and began operations.

On July 10, 1947, the subject, who was using the name L. E. Mosley, traded the 1947 Plymouth to a resident of Counce for a 1941 Hudson and $1,500 in cash. He then, in what appeared to be a generous gesture, gave the Hudson to the man from whom he had purchased the store. Immediately thereafter he bought a 1946 Chevrolet pick-up truck, giving a $1,500 check and departed, taking his family with him. He had made no arrangements to dispose of the business. Actually, he had no cash involved in it and the original owner took possession.

It was subsequently determined that the $1,500 check which Mosely had given for the pick-up was worthless and that the 1947 Plymouth had been purchased with a worthless $2,000 check in Texarkana, Tex.

In the course of investigation looking towards his apprehension, it has been diclosed that Moseley has had approximately 14 motor vehicles in his possession within the past 30 months. In almost every case he has obtained these machines by trick or fraud.

Moseley was last known to be driving a 1949 Lincoln club coupe, motor No. 9 E L 24945, bearing 1948 Virginia license 477–749. This vehicle was obtained on November 1, 1948, at Wilmington, N. C., by use of a worthless check in the sum of $3,287.35.

The following is typical of the subject's modus operandi: On January 12, 1949, Moseley went to work in West Plains, Mo., for an electrical company. He worked for a week and a half and left town, taking with him tools, valued at $115, which had been assigned to him. An additional $30 worth of tools had been charged to the firm.

Moseley is reported to be very agreeable and congenial and is allegedly devoted to his wife and children. He is said to be able to mix with people easily and win their confidence. In addition to his wife, described as "an attractive redhead," Moseley is usually accompanied by from two to four children. He remains in one place only a few days at a time.

On January 5, 1948, a Federal grand jury at Jackson, Tenn., returned an indictment against Moseley in two counts, charging interstate transportation of a stolen vehicle, under section 408, title 18, United States Code.

Also on November 10, 1948, a similar complaint was filed at Clarksdale, Miss. On December 20, 1948, a charge of interstate transportation of a stolen vehicle was filed before the United States commissioner at Wilmington, N. C., alleging that Moseley violated section 2314, title 18, United States Code, when he purchased the 1949 Lincoln coupe with a $3,287.35 worthless check drawn on a Columbus, Ga., bank and given at Wilmington, N. C. At least five State warrants are outstanding against Moseley in Georgia, Arkansas, and California.

Moseley reportedly carries a .38 Smith and Wesson pistol in a shoulder holster, occasionally placing it in the glove compartment while he is driving. He is alleged to carry a pistol strapped to his leg and to have stated that he will not be taken alive "by any law."

Moseley is considered to be extremely dangerous.

The subject is described as follows: Born, August 21, 1915, Townville, S. C. (unverified); height 5′ 11″; weight, 150 pounds; build, thin; hair, light brown; eyes, blue; complexion, tanned; race, white; nationality, American; occupations, electrician, cafe operator, commission merchant, share cropper, sprinkler fitter; scars and marks, as of November 1, 1947, badly decayed upper right front tooth. Scar edge of right eyebrow. Small scar on neck; vaccination left forearm, cut scar left little finger, large brown mole on right middle jaw, hernia on right side. Remarks: The subject has a long nose. His decayed front tooth, if it has not been extracted, is exposed when he grins. He usually dresses in work clothes but is neatly clad. He has a pleasing personality and is friendly and a smooth talker.

Any person having information which may assist in locating Ed Logan Moseley is requested to immediately notify the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice, Washington, D. C., or the special agent in charge of the division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation office which is nearest your city.

Fayetteville's Streamlined Department

Well-equipped and scientifically administered, the Fayetteville, N. C., Police Department under Chief L. F. Worrell, has developed into an efficient organization which is modern in the best sense of the word.

Chief Worrell began work with the department as a patrolman 11 years ago. He rose, in less than 7 years, to the top rank of the department at the age of 33.

In January 1941, while serving as a motorcycle officer, "Skinny" Worrell saw two men involved in a running gun battle on a crowded street. He promptly went into action, grappling with and disarming one of the men. In the struggle the weapon was discharged twice in his hand, causing severe powder burns.

Worrell was sent to the FBI National Academy at Washington, D. C., and after further duty on the force was promoted to the rank of lieutenant. Shortly thereafter he was made chief of detectives and on May 12, 1945, he was made chief of police.

Chief Worrell looks upon law enforcement as a profession. One of his first acts as head of the department was to organize a police school for veterans and rookies alike.

New equipment was purchased. An arsenal containing submachine guns, shotguns, and tear gas guns was installed. A complete identification division, including single fingerprint files, is in operation.

Fayetteville, situated at the junction of several United States highways, is a growing city. Its population increased during the war to over 50,000. The city is adjacent to Fort Bragg, huge artillery camp, and is host to a constantly changing stream of visitors.

Chief of Police L. F. Worrell, Fayetteville, N. C.

Despite these factors which might appear to complicate the problems of law enforcement officers, Fayetteville can boast that ninety per cent of its crimes have been solved. The type of policing which the city receives is calculated to reduce crime. It is strict, impartial law enforcement.

Detectives Beard and Melvin discuss a case.

Identification Bureau Director Kelly fingerprints Detective Riddle.

L. M. Williams, Identification Bureau Assistant, searches "Rogue's Gallery."

Police Officer John B. Wemyss in the Radio Room.

One-Minute Recovery

At 12:08 a.m., on February 22, 1949, Officer Benjamin Jeanetta of the West Duluth Station, Duluth, Minn., Police Department, received a phone call from a resident of the city. The man advised that his 1939 Buick club coupe was stolen from the spot where he had parked it in an area near his home.

Officer Jeanetta immediately called KNFE of the Duluth Police Radio Station and put out an alarm for the car. Officers E. Kurki and George S. McQuade, riding in a squad car, heard the alarm, saw the stolen car, apprehended its occupant and canceled the radio item concerning the theft at 12:09 a.m., one minute after the report was made by the owner of the theft.

Taken into custody was one William Edward Miller, 20 who admitted the theft. The subject was prosecuted in State district court for driving, operating, and using a motor vehicle without the owner's permission. On a plea of guilty, Miller was sentenced to 90 days at the St. Louis County Work Farm.

Chief of Police Raymond F. Keating advised also that the owner of the car was notified of its recovery at 12:15 a.m., February 22, just 7 minutes after he had reported the theft.

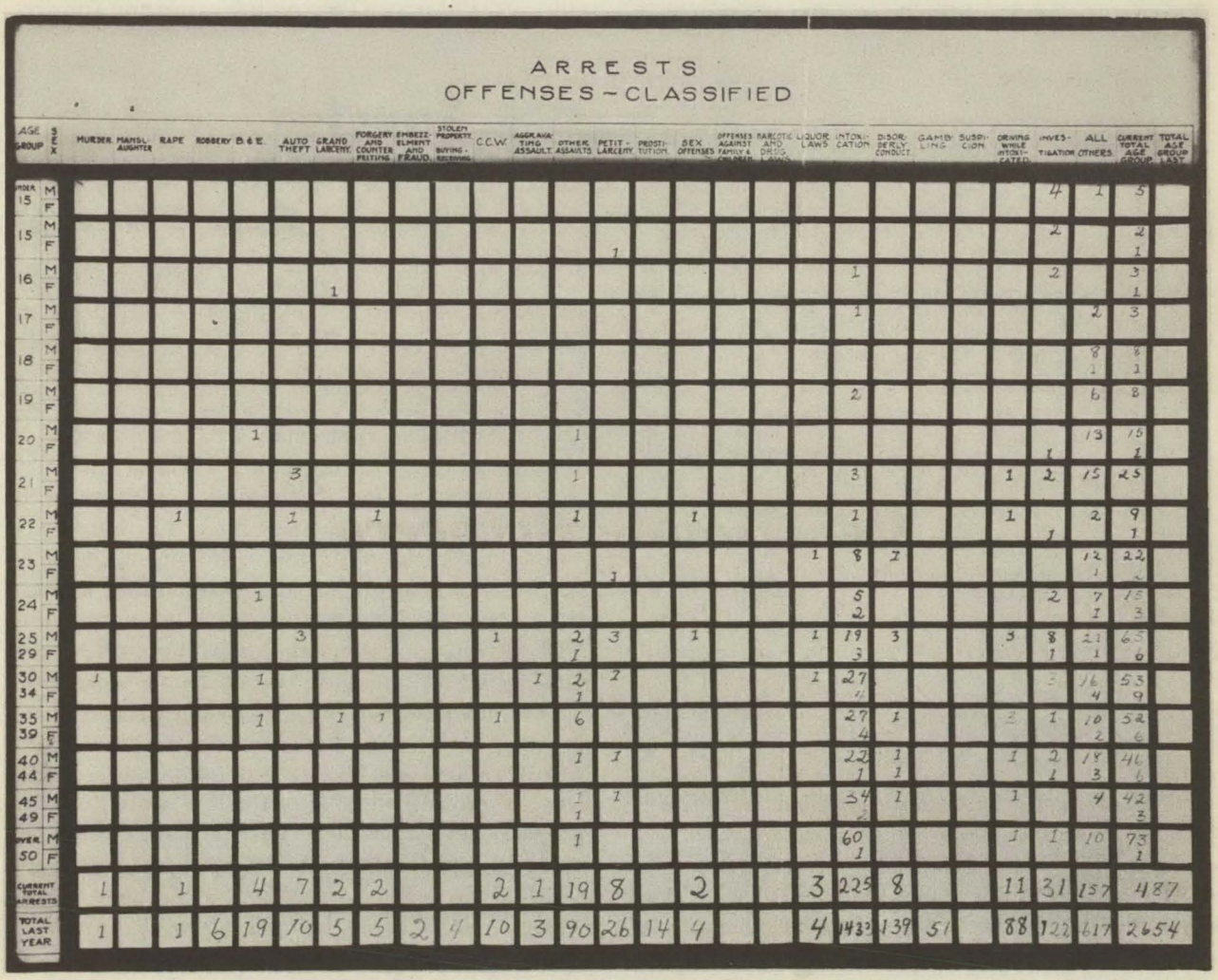
Mansfield's Arrest Chart

Chief J. J. Schwab and Identification Officer Paul J. Martin of the Mansfield, Ohio, Police Department have devised an unusual daily record of arrests.

Mansfield is a city of nearly 50,000 people, and visitors, as well as individual members of the department, can see at a glance what happens daily on the police front.

The board for maintaining the record is built on a wooden frame measuring 46 inches wide, 32 inches high, and 4 inches deep. It is covered by white paper on which is lettered the various offenses and the age groups. A metal frame forming 1¼ inch squares is attached to the white paper and celluloid sheeting is used to cover the entire front. (The department would have preferred plexi-glass covering but was unable to obtain it in sufficient quantities.) Within the frame are two tubular light globes which shed their light outward through the frame. A wax pencil for glazed surfaces is used to record the daily changes in number of arrests on the outside of this celluloid sheeting.

The Mansfield Police Department obtained the services of the city engineer to provide the lettering for the chart and some of the material was donated by local manufacturers. The total cost to the department was approximately $3 plus the labor of Officer Martin.



Death Detail

The condition of the patient was listed as "critical." A needle in one arm allowed an intravenous solution to seep into the sick man's veins, but the patient lay in a coma, the upper part of his body encased in a respirator.

Several nurses stood nearby, holding equipment for the man in the surgeon's gown who worked quickly and quietly, careful not to dislodge the needle in the vein. Skillfully, one by one the man rolled the patient's limp fingers on an inked, portable glass. As each finger was inked it was printed. In order to avoid smearing, all of the ink was removed from the glass each time a finger was rolled in the inked space.

When all 10 fingers had been printed, the white-gowned man and the nurses holding the equipment left the room.

* * *

The duties of a policeman are many and varied. The dangers faced by officers of the law do not always come in the form of gunfire.

The man in the white gown was simply carrying out his regular duties, but in doing so he brushed close to danger.

On October 9, 1948, an unidentified white man was picked up from the street at Clark and Huron Streets, Chicago. He was taken to the Receiving Ward of the Cook County Hospital where his illness was diagnosed as acute spinal meningitis. The sick man was thereupon removed to the Contagious Hospital, adjacent to the Cook County Hospital.

Detectives Harry Petrie and Edward Palm, assigned to the Cook County Morgue Detail, requested permission to fingerprint the man. They were refused admittance to the Contagious Hospital because of the danger of contracting the disease.

The sick man's condition became critical and the detectives were contacted and asked if they still wanted to take fingerprints. Detective Petrie was given the assignment.

The unknown man's fingerprints were taken. Nurses held the fingerprint apparatus as it was deemed inadvisable to place any of the equipment on the furniture in the room because of the danger of contagion.

The fingerprints were submitted to the FBI where they were identified as those of a 36-year-old man who had been fingerprinted in connection with a wartime job.

Once the sick man's identity was established, a detailed investigation led to his place of employment. Inquiry at his rooming house revealed that he had been missing for 4 weeks. The name of a relative was obtained from the landlady and the sick man's relatives were informed of his illness.

Detectives Petrie and Palm are assigned to the County Morgue Detail from the Chicago Police Department. These officers, like their counterparts in every other large city, handle the fingerprinting of all unknown dead persons who are brought to the Morgue. During 1948 about 1,400 unidentified dead were processed at the County Morgue. The task is an onerous one.

Detectives Petrie and Palm have done many fine pieces of work in connection with identifying unknown dead, many of whom are found in such condition that it is difficult and distasteful to handle them.

Detective Petrie has been assigned to the County Morgue Detail for the past 18 years. His partner, Edward Palm, has been on the detail for approximately 8 years.

Los Angeles Ordinance Cuts Car Thefts[1]

Los Angeles city ordinance No. 89677, which concerns the control of auto-parking facilities, is alleged to have curtailed automobile thefts to a considerable degree in the downtown Los Angeles, Calif., area since its adoption.

The ordinance was instituted as a result of problems arising in connection with the operation of some auto parks. Some operators were overcharging parkers and even changing their price signs during the day, thus requiring a customer upon leaving to pay a fee considerably greater than was scheduled at the time his automobile was parked. Occasionally machines were damaged while parked, and the owners had no redress. The major problem, however, was the large number of automobiles stolen from auto parks after closing hours. Certain auto-park operators would leave at closing time with possibly 15 to 20 automobiles, keys in the ignition and doors unlocked, remaining at the lot. It was a simple matter for

[1] Information courtesy Capt. H. M. Lorenson, investigator for the Los Angeles Police Commission, and Capt. Warren Stilson, Los Angeles Police Department.

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a criminal to select an automobile, commit a crime, and then abandon the machine. Many automobiles were taken by those who needed transportation at a late hour in the evening.

In 1944 a request was made for an ordinance regulating auto parks and requiring the owners to obtain permits from the board of police commissioners. The ordinance was adopted on August 30, 1945. Due to the fact that there was an error in wording in the section requiring a bond, the bonding companies refused to write such a bond, and an amendment was requested and approved on April 29, 1946.

Auto park operators were required to file permits. Complete cooperation was not achieved all at once; however, a considerable number complied readily during the year 1946, with a resultant decrease in auto thefts from auto parks for that year. During the months of January and February 1947, compliance with the ordinance was obtained from practically all auto-park operators in the city of Los Angeles. This resulted in a large decrease in thefts from auto parks, better operation of such parks, and fewer complaints from citizens.

While the number of thefts from auto parks has been substantially decreased, the ordinance does not require a person who parks eight automobiles or less to have a permit. A large number of thefts from auto parks are due to this fact, inasmuch as these small auto park operators are not required to lock automobiles left at their parking lots and to deposit the keys.

Statistics reveal that there were 296 fewer cars stolen from auto parks in a 5-month period after the ordinance went into effect than in a similar preceding period.

Canastota Wars on Delinquency

"Small fry" are an increasingly familiar sight in the office of Chief of Police Fred N. Verro, Canastota, N. Y.

"Freddie," as Chief Verro is affectionately known to the youngsters, is the moving force behind an intensive campaign aimed at curbing juvenile delinquency in the city of 5,000 inhabitants. Acting on the theory that kindness and understanding are of primary importance in dealing with the younger element, the chief takes time from his numerous duties to acknowledge a social call or to listen to the problems troubling his boys and girls.

Chief Verro, who joined the police department as a patrolman in 1942, was promoted to the position of chief in the early part of 1946. Since that time he has instituted several programs benefiting the youth of his community.

During December 1948, Chief Verro and the members of his department sponsored the annual police ball, proceeds of which were used to provide a Christmas party for 800 school children. The party was complete, even to Santa Claus who arrived by plane. Gifts of candy, oranges, bubble gum, balloons, and other toys were distributed to the youngsters. Happily, when Santa Claus failed to make an eleventh hour appearance, Chief Verro filled in (or should we say "filled out"—see picture) the Santa Claus assignment.

Not forgetting the youngsters of needy families, Chief Verro and his hard-working men provided a truckload of food, toys, and Christmas trees in those homes in which there would otherwise have been a meager celebration for about 150 kiddies.

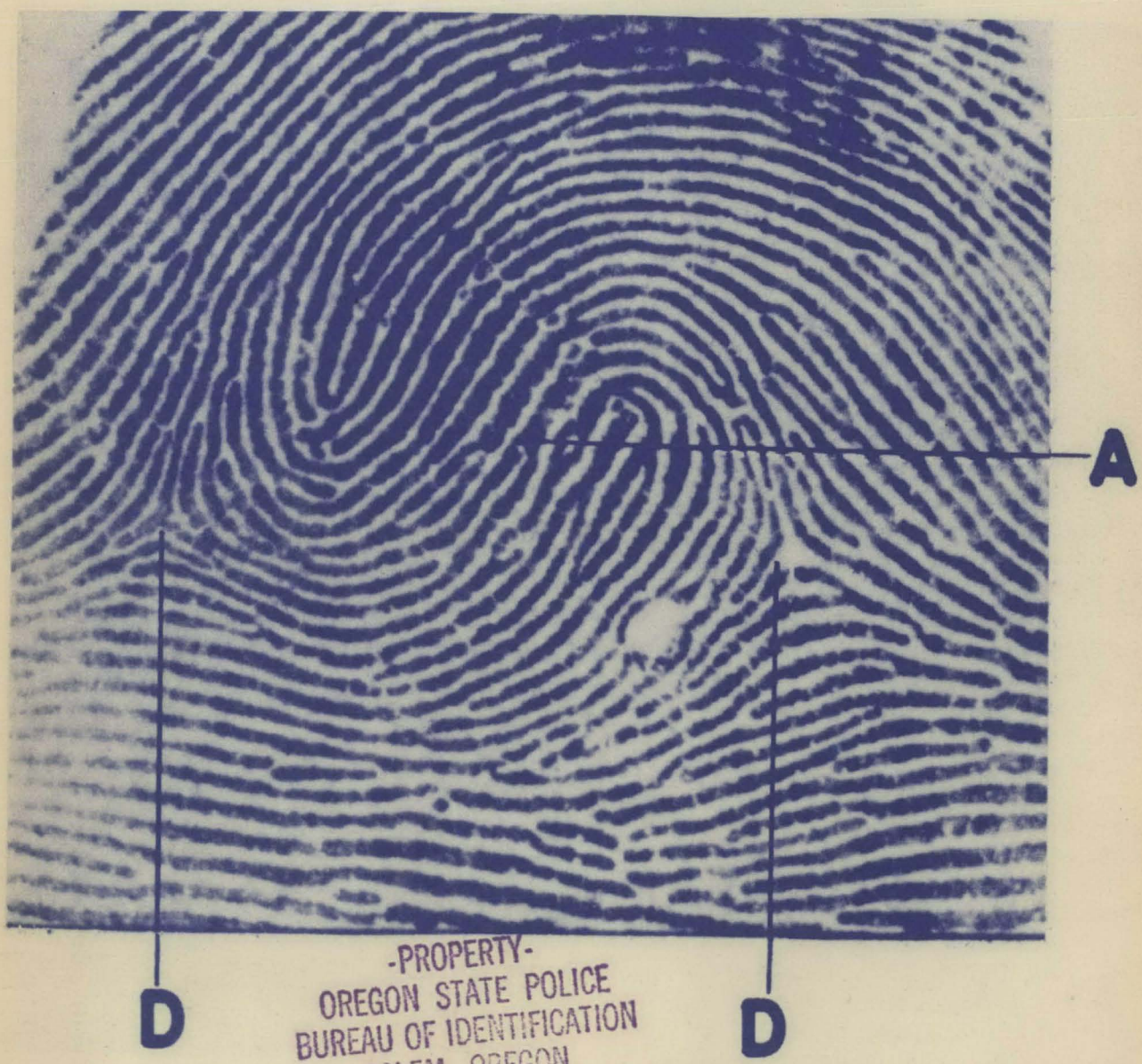
Chief of Police Fred N. Verro.

How is the program working?

"Well," says the chief with understandable pleasure, "during the past 2 years we have had just two cases involving juvenile offenders who had to be sent to correctional homes."

Interesting Pattern

FINGERPRINTS



The double loop pattern presented for your consideration this month is of interest because of the problem relative to the tracing.

The tracing of a whorl type pattern begins at the left delta and usually continues to that point on the tracing ridge which is nearest the right delta. In this pattern that would result in a "meeting" tracing. Where, however, the tracing follows an upthrusting ridge, the tracing should stop at the point on the upthrust which is nearest the right delta. Applying this rule, the tracing stops at point A and the pattern is properly given an "inner" tracing.