

• *Restricted to the Use of Law Enforcement Officials*

# FBI

## *Law Enforcement*

# BULLETIN



1952

JANUARY

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Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
J. Edgar Hoover, Director

# FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin

JANUARY 1952

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United States Department of Justice  
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January 1, 1952

TO ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS:

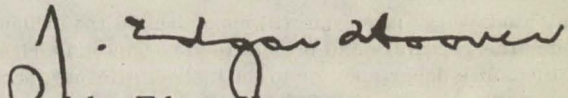
Members of the International Association of Chiefs of Police met recently in Miami, Florida, to hold their 58th Annual Conference. On the last day of the meeting the attending members unanimously approved a resolution that all citizens be urged to respond to the duties of good citizenship.

This resolution is a positive approach to the responsibilities of law enforcement officers in a democracy. It recognizes the fact that the officer does not completely fulfill his functions simply by exercising the authority of criminal investigation and apprehension. By virtue of his position each officer is a responsible official in a democracy. As such an official, he should take a leading part in developing good citizenship and good government, working constantly with his fellow citizens toward that end.

The question might be asked: Just what, exactly, can the officer do to promote good citizenship and good government? There are many things he can do, without detouring a single step from his usual duties. When a citizen complains of having to leave his work to serve on a jury, the officer can point out that jury duty is essential to democratic government and the rights and liberties we all enjoy under it. During criminal investigations the officer can urge respect for the law as a safeguard against destruction of the democratic process. He can also explain the value of citizen cooperation in reducing the rate and cost of crime in the community.

Law enforcement officers can be leaders among their fellow citizens in promoting good citizenship and good government. For our own good and the good of all, we should not shirk this responsibility.

Very truly yours,

  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director



# FBI NATIONAL ACADEMY



## ***Forty-eighth Class Graduates From FBI Academy***

Graduation exercises for the 57 members of the forty-eighth session of the FBI National Academy were held in the Departmental Auditorium, Washington, D. C., on November 16, 1951. The class was composed of representatives from 33 States, Alaska, Puerto Rico, and Cuba.

Diplomas were presented to the group by Deputy Attorney General A. Devitt Vanech and Director Hoover.

It is the primary purpose of the FBI National Academy to train law enforcement officers from local communities as police instructors and police administrators. With this graduation, the alumni of the FBI National Academy total 2,426.

### ***Addresses***

Mr. Rogers D. Kennon, Nashville, Tenn., president of the class, spoke briefly. Admiral William M. Fechteler, Chief of Naval Operations, and the Honorable J. Howard McGrath, Attorney General of the United States, delivered major addresses. Invocation and benediction at the services were given by Dr. Edward L. R. Elson, of the National Presbyterian Church, Washington, D. C.

Attorney General J. Howard McGrath, discussing the fundamental differences between police in a democracy and police under a dictatorship, spoke as follows:

We live at such a critical juncture in the history of the human race that I hope you gentlemen who graduate today from the FBI National Academy realize that the law represented behind the studies which you have just completed is the high-water mark of western civilization. The difference between this graduation and most others I am familiar with is that you are mature and experienced and that you step back from here directly into the maelstrom of human activity where it is apt to be most violent and full of the danger, the tragedy and the deepest meanings of human existence.

Behind every arrest you will make, behind the evidence you gather, organize and present to your superiors, either in the police department or to the district attorney, is the law of the society under which we live. That law has its roots in the Ten Commandments, the decalogue of the Old Testament, in the Roman law, in Christianity itself, in Anglo-Saxon law, and in our own law. In short, when

you express the will of your community by serving as the enforcement arm, you become the living representative carrying into action 2,000 years of religion, of moral development, and of progress.

When any enforcement officer anywhere misapplies the functions of his office, or performs any act of misfeasance, malfeasance or nonfeasance, he by that much breaks down the structure of a civilization society has spent 20 centuries in building. You, in the first and the front line of enforcement, are the pivot on which in the initial instance all this vast human machinery of the past and the present moves.

It is one of the ironies of the organization of society that the most successful police systems prevail where there was no law at all—just the police who were the law. That is true today and we call such a system a "police state." Gilbert and Sullivan in a comic opera called *The Pirates Of Penzance* have a line which goes like this: "Ah, Take one consideration with another—a policeman's lot is not a Happy one." But the experience of these authors was under a democratic English government where a policeman's authority is a constrained and a strictly defined job. Under such an arrangement it may truly be said that a "policeman's lot is not a happy one," unless he understands how the story of civilization itself is compressed into even the most routine of his daily duties.

But a police agent in a totalitarian state is unencumbered by a Constitution, Civil Rights, or anything so complicated and full of red tape as courts, then appellate courts, and appeals from appellate courts. Even the Supreme Court of the United States which is the court of last resort refuses to regard itself with finality. In fact our Supreme Court is so delicately attuned to justice and regards that word with such devout dedication, that it will, on occasion, in the interests of truth and what may be termed a refined justice, reverse itself on its own opinions.

It is the very essence of the greatness of a society to loathe to make mistakes where justice is involved.

It is under this kind of tradition in our country, as you so well know, that you will be required to apply the training you have just completed and where you will become the chiefs and directors of police work. What you gentlemen do as police officials in the years that lie ahead is of the first order of consequence to me as the attorney general of the United States, and as a citizen, to my successors in this post, and to Director J. Edgar Hoover who has been your mentor and the mentor of untold other police officials all over the United States, and, indeed, the world.

But more than that the manner in which you use the instruction that has been given you is of the utmost importance not only to your communities, locally, but to



your country federally. The local community is undergoing an acid test in law enforcement. Our struggle in this area is to restrain the tendency toward Federal enforcement where local authority should prevail. But if a vacuum is created and crime flourishes brutal and brazen, and drunk with graft and greed, then who can say what measures for the enlargement of the Federal enforcement power may be demanded by the people.

Against that highly undesirable end you must stand as a bulwark and the power of your position will be determined by the knowledge and the integrity you bring to your job. You will not be alone. For when it comes to the showdown the people invariably rally around the loyal and honest official. It is instinct in the community to act in support of honorable government because, to put it simply, a community seeks to preserve itself quite like an individual, and honest government means community self-preservation. Citizens on the local level need a rallying point, quite as leadership is needed on all levels, and there is no better rallying point than the honest government representative, particularly in the sensitive and dramatic area of police authority. You may be hated and you certainly will be feared—but only by the gangster and the hoodlum, by the fixer and by the political panderer. It has been my privilege through the years to direct the work of many thousands of government officials

in city, State, and national offices. I have yet to see an official of integrity and character who did not have either the respect or the love or both of the people he served, and whose place was not more secure by far than that of the official who played the game two ways from Sunday. Moreover does it need to be stated that an honest official and an efficient one is a jewel and a helpmeet to his superiors and that, by the same token, a dishonest official is a source of embarrassment and irritation?

All this is axiomatic.

Of more profound concern to us today is a death struggle for the whole of mankind which is taking place so to speak right on the very doorstep of every citizen of the United States and the free world and in which you must play a particular role—and an important role. In fact you gentlemen here in front of me today and the over 2,300 alumni of the academy who have graduated before you, are a representative sample of the proof—or the disproof—of whether or not ours is a government of laws and not of men and whether as a nation and in practice, I say in practice, in town, and country, on the street, in our police stations and in our courts, we are in truth what we say we are—a democracy living up to our Constitution, and operating within a framework of State and Federal codes predicated upon equality of justice under law—equality of justice *For All* under law.



Left to right: Deputy Attorney General A. Devitt Vanech, Mr. Rogers D. Kennon, Director J. Edgar Hoover, Attorney General J. Howard McGrath, Admiral William M. Fechteler, and Dr. Edward L. R. Elson.



Now the public agency easiest to administer is a police organization without law; while the hardest is a police organization with law under democratic principles. That is why among the hardest jobs to hold down is a police commissionership or directorship in some of our big cities. Law protects the accused lest the innocent suffer. The criminal crawls into the interstices of this protection. He sneaks around the margins of the law, cloaks himself in its complexities, and often defeats it, using the venal politician as a utensil in this evasion.

Thus the police officer is confronted on one side by the law which he himself cherishes and has sworn to uphold and which is in fact his reason for being; and he is confronted on the other side by the malefactor who flouts the law and finds in some political ally a back-door method for further frustrating the police. In a democracy that is our problem and we have been struggling with it in precisely the double-barreled form I have just indicated since we first became a nation.

One of the deadliest and most efficient police systems in the history of all time was established on this earth about 700 years ago under an incredible despot named Genghis Khan, who could neither read nor write. The Great Khan had no law except his own. He ruled by murder and devastation one-half of the then known world. But it was said of his dominion that a maiden of tender years, alone and unescorted, could ride with a sack of gold the length and breadth of his nomad Empire, from Armenia to Korea, and from Tibet to the Volga, and no one would dare to molest her if she carried the protective credentials of the Great Khan. Yet under that practically perfect police system there was chaos, destruction, mass murder and the loss of property on a scale so stupendous that historians stand off in bewilderment at it even to this day.

In our own time we have witnessed three or four such police systems. Hitler, Mussolini, and Stalin have tried hard and come close to emulating this Genghis Khan. While Hitler and Mussolini are done, Stalin's chapter in history is not yet closed and his police system is even now going stronger than ever. The dread that hangs upon the world while Soviet despotism lives may end in a catastrophe that could make Genghis Khan look like a juvenile delinquent.

In a civilized government the police system is an adjunct to peace and order but in the total state it is government itself, determining everything, even what has been called thought control. When our police by so much as a single gesture, a single blow—except in self-defense—adopt the Soviet, the Nazi, the Mussolini methods of police brutality we malfom our police system in the very spit and image of communism and the image of the others. An ancient Greek said to a man who demanded the establishment of democracy in Sparta: "Go thou, and first establish democracy in thy household." It is easy enough to make a man talk under torture and we have in our own hour the instances of Cardinal Mindzenty, of Vogeler and Oatis, but that kind of testimony is meaningless anywhere and we thank God it is unacceptable and outlawed under our system. That, I know, is one of the more elementary facts you have been taught here in the Academy. You know, too, that to deny police brutality on the witness stand after it has in fact been perpetrated, compounds the

police offense against society, for it adds perjury to the original crime of assault.

But in the Soviet Union the police system is infinitely simpler. It may not be necessary for the agent of the NKVD even to bother so much as to appear in person to make an arrest. Newspaper people who have lived in Moscow tell me—and I am sure Director Hoover has heard about—the telephone arrest. A guest at a party returns from the phone to which he had been unexpectedly summoned, his face white, apologizes hurriedly that he must leave at once, and departs. The police simply sent for him. Neither his family nor his friends ever hear from him again. The accused, in effect, arrests himself. For anyone to make inquiry about the whereabouts of the accused, particularly foreigners, and, worst of all, newspaper correspondents, is only to add to the misery of the vanishing citizen of the Soviet Union. This is the nature of the police instrument known as the instrument of terror!

In our country up to this hour we have safely restrained ourselves from adopting the tactics of the enemy in resisting his infiltration on our home soil. But the enemy with infinite skill and cunning, but no wisdom, and less character, has actually transferred the subtleties of human torture from the police barracks to the American courtroom. The target of his torture is very apt to be the law of the land and the person of the judge. We have seen this very thing happen with fatiguing and wearisome repetition and insistence, for example, on full view before the press and the world in the courtroom of Federal Judge Harold R. Medina. The attempted trick was to use the very sublimity of the civilization and the law under which we live to impair it, first by badgering the judge into an untoward statement or action, and then to exploit that to demand a mistrial and thus prolong and vitiate the entire proceeding. Its failure in spite of the fact that the legal hecklers had energy, numbers, knowledge—and ruthlessness beyond human understanding—is evidence, in part, of the strength of our scheme of justice and the high quality of our judiciary. Its evil largely, and its unwisdom, consists in the fact that the defense so discredited itself that lawyers of honorable reputation are now loathe to accept the defense of a citizen accused of Communist conspiracy. The American lawyer, using Communist techniques, has degraded his own client before civilization and dragged himself down in the process. Everybody has a right to trial and defense in this country—the murderer, the rapist, the kidnapper, the traitor and the Communist conspirator—and they all have a right to the presumption of innocence. Of course I believe with every fibre of my being that a Communist conspirator like any other accused criminal has a right to his day in court. *But that is not what he wants.* He knows he is safe in this country from the abuse a critic of communism would get in the Kremlin's Lubyanka Prison and he misuses this sense of security from savage punishment to needle and harass the court.

He has acted, indeed, as if the court itself were on trial before him. If, in this self-cheapening process he has brought himself to disrepute, then his failure to find honorable legal talent to defend him is his own problem. Even here our respect for justice to the least worthy, reaches so far and goes so deep, that in the end and no matter how hostile the climate of public opinion, the Com-



munist conspirator will find himself the recipient of the defense and the justice, in court and out, he would be the last to grant to an adversary.

That's the measure of the civilization in which you men play so important a role.

## Public Opinion Stressed

In his address, Admiral Fechteler pointed out that a member of the profession of law enforcement should regard his career as an opportunity to serve. He spoke of the greater challenge and greater opportunities which face those who follow the profession and stressed, particularly, the influence of public opinion on the conduct of people today. His address was as follows:

I am honored at having an opportunity to speak to this class of graduates of the National Academy. It is a pleasure to be with you on this occasion. I am deeply conscious of the significance of this ceremony to you who are graduating and to our country as well.

There is no more important group in our social structure than those who have dedicated their lives to the enforcement of law. There is no group which has greater opportunity for good; conversely, no group has a greater opportunity for doing harm.

It is particularly true at just this time that those who follow the profession of law enforcement—and I do consider it a profession—face a greater challenge and enjoy greater opportunities to be of vital service than any of their predecessors during our past history.

The criminal law, if carefully, honestly and consistently enforced, will do much to safeguard the welfare of our people. The law, more perhaps than any other of our institutions, is a great bulwark of our way of life. Ours is a government under the law.

But the law is not the only institution which shapes the conduct of the people. There are many other great influences at work. Public Opinion is an example—to name but one.

It is fairly easy to use a well-administered body of criminal law to prevent antisocial action on the part of most persons. But in order to achieve universal support and application for the law, it must be reinforced by public opinion wherever public opinion teaches that disobedience to law is impiety.

We give full faith and credit in this country to the proposition that great men have no right to consider themselves exempt from the obligations of moral law. We achieve this result from the impact of public opinion. If public opinion were otherwise, great men in Government could, if they wished, prevent the application of the law to themselves.

And so I suggest that the responsibility of law-enforcement officers everywhere neither begins nor ends merely with the enforcement of law.

Not only must such officers regard and recognize public opinion, but they must mold and maintain it in accordance with the very highest standards of honesty and integrity. Whether you wish it or not, your position is one in which you cannot escape exerting a profound influence upon the

views of the public. You are leaders in fixing the standards of public morality in your respective jurisdictions. This is the challenge which you face.

Your influence will extend far beyond the scope of your immediate duties. Even the fundamental heritages and traditions of our country are largely in your keeping. For example, the pattern of patriotism which you display will become the pattern of many others with whom you come in contact—and probably without your ever becoming conscious of that fact.

You are already, or you are soon to become, leaders with a far from negligible effect in formulating national policy.

Our confused and difficult world needs various things, and among these one of the most necessary is that in the nations, such as ours, which still uphold democratic beliefs, these beliefs should be wholehearted and profound—not apologetic toward dogmatisms of the right or of the left, but deeply persuaded of the value of liberty, freedom, and unity.

Without these beliefs, life on our politically divided but technically unified planet will hardly continue to be pleasant.

These fundamental persuasions you hold, I am sure. If you practice them with forthrightness, others, not as well persuaded as you, will come to hold them too. Your profession, incidentally, is excellently well adapted to the practice of forthrightness.

Thus your philosophies of statesmanship as you reveal them to the public are of vast importance. If, however, they are to have a maximum effect, the public must have a high regard for you.

It is my belief that the law enforcement agencies of this country pretty generally enjoy the confidence and respect of the people. I am greatly impressed by the thought of how bad it would be for all of us if such were not the case; and I mention the matter only to point out that a maintenance of the present happy relationship is well worth considerable care and effort.

I subscribe to the view that in a free government such as ours, the people have a right to make their own mistakes. If that be true, you have an additional burden of public guidance. You, yourselves, must be above reproach. You, yourselves, may not enjoy the luxury of making mistakes.

Only the most careful preparation for your work and the most passionate devotion to your duty will save you from error.

You must approach your work with the zeal and earnestness of a clergyman. Yours is a service and responsibility which requires dedication. It is not merely a job—or even a position. It is a status.

You must regard your career as an opportunity to serve. It is not so much a question "What does the Service offer me?" Rather the question must be "What have I to offer the Service."

As the years pass, you will find the path of duty complicated not only by heavy responsibilities but also by conflicting advice, and sometimes by heavy pressures from men who earnestly believe themselves to be right. Let me urge that throughout your careers in the service of the public, you adhere steadfastly to the simple virtues which have given character to the lives of our great leaders.

*(Continued on page 12)*





## FEATURE ARTICLE

# ***Systems Used in Professional Car Theft Operations***

### ***Larceny in Eight Figures***

Auto theft is one of law enforcement's biggest and most consistent problems. During 1950, the last calendar year for which complete figures are available, automobiles stolen in the United States had an estimated value of more than 73 million dollars. Compared with the same period of 1950, auto thefts reported during the first 6 months of 1951 were 18.6 percent higher in urban areas and 20 percent higher in rural areas. These figures represent an enormous problem, both in investigative effort and monetary loss.

Quantity is not the only factor making auto theft investigations difficult. While the auto thief is not generally accorded the highest intellectual rating in crime circles, some of his schemes display an element of ingenuity. This is particularly true of the professional auto thief.

### ***Come and Get It***

Not that it's always hard to steal an automobile. Any car thief, no matter how amateur, would laugh at the suggestion. If he is looking for a car to steal he need only walk down the street, keeping a sharp eye for the vehicles with keys in the ignition switch. Most of the cars stolen each year were left in that condition.

Removal of keys does not stop the experienced thief, however. Windows and door locks can be broken and ventilator windows can be pried open. Locked automobiles can be lifted bodily into freight trucks and hauled away. There are other schemes, perhaps more clever while they last. These systems, usually thought up by experts, warrant the study of every officer working on automobile thefts. Any one of them, with or without variations, could turn up in his area tomorrow.

### ***Keys Made to Order***

An Ohio-Florida auto theft ring thought out a method of dealing with the uncooperative owner who puts his keys in his pocket after parking.

Finding a car unlocked but the keys gone, one of the thieves would jot down the license number and obtain, where possible, the data necessary to make a key. He would then have a key made for that number, find the car again and drive it away. This method had a defect, however. Sometimes the car could not be found the second time as soon as it was needed. They then acquired a key-making machine to make keys on the spot and drive the car away at once.

Automobile dealers sometimes place a delivery sheet on the windshield of a new car while it is still in the showroom. Some experienced thieves, aware of this business practice, have strolled through the showrooms and surreptitiously obtained the key number and the name and address of the buyer. A key is then made and the car is stolen soon after delivery to the new owner.

Year in and year out, theft by key remains a popular method among the professionals. Discovery of extra keys in the possession of a person arrested for auto theft often leads to uncovering the operations of a theft ring. Such leads should be developed completely. Quite often the thief is only a small part of the operation. Other members of the ring specialize in rebuilding the stolen vehicles, obtaining registration and titles and finding buyers.

### ***Customer Turns Thief***

A variation of the key method used by the Ohio-Florida ring was to rent a car owned by one of the large rent-a-car companies in a large city, drive it to a parking spot, make a key and then return the car to the rental company. When the car again emerged from the garage the waiting thief followed until the car was parked and then stole it with the key made earlier.

Many professional car thieves have used drive-it-yourself agencies as a source of supply. One made a practice of renting cars and transporting them into other States where they were sold for modest sums. The thief rented these cars exclusively from drive-it-yourself agencies, usually es-



tablishing his credit by prior rentals. After one such transaction, prior to sale of the stolen car, the thief encountered the owner on the streets of a city hundreds of miles away in another State. Offering suitable explanations, he returned the car to the owner with payment for its use.

The leader of another ring became a parking lot proprietor in order to systematize his auto theft operations. Many of the stolen automobiles handled in this operation had at one time or another been parked on one of the lots, during which time the ringleader and his associates had easy access to obtain key data and motor and license numbers for later use in the theft and titling of the cars selected.

### ***Bogus Buyers***

A thief operating in the Southern States relied on trickery to obtain automobiles. While in one city he adopted the name of a prominent citizen and went to the office of a large motor car company where he indicated his intention of buying a new car. The salesman, believing the thief to be a respectable citizen there, permitted him to take the car to exhibit it to the thief's supposed father, who allegedly would finance the purchase. The thief returned later with the explanation that his father was busy at the moment. He was granted further permission to use the car, drove it away and did not return.

In the same city, less than 3 months later, the thief and his wife approached a salesman employed by a department store and induced the salesman to entrust them with a quantity of merchandise to display in a department store in another State where the thief said he was the manager. The salesman went along for the ride. Arriving in the second city, the thief, his wife and the salesman left the automobile, previously stolen by a ruse in a third city, on a parking lot and entered a large hotel. The thief asked his wife if she wanted to go to their room. When she replied in the negative the two men went to the fourth floor where the thief stepped into a room not his own, stating that he wanted to speak to a friend. Five minutes later the salesman went back to the parking lot and discovered the automobile and his merchandise were gone. In this case, as in so many others, the auto thief was using his same general methods to perpetrate collateral crimes.

The automobile used in the incident just related

was stolen by means of a slight variation of the trick used to obtain the merchandise. The thief approached a salesman of a large automobile agency and induced the salesman, on pretext of purchase, to drive him to the rooming house where he and his wife were living. The salesman was invited to wait downstairs. The thief and his wife left by a rear exit and drove away. A key in the salesman's pocket instead of the switch would have prevented both a crime and a sizable financial loss.

### ***The Raiding Technique***

When reports and investigation show a series of apparently related auto thefts, attention should be given to the possibility that the thief is not known to local officers and is operating from distant headquarters. One southern auto thief who confessed to the theft of approximately 75 cars from the same metropolitan area maintained a base of operations hundreds of miles distant and flew by commercial airline to the area where the cars were stolen. In West Virginia a gang of accomplished thieves entered into an elaborate oral agreement with an auto wrecking company to handle the cars stolen by the gang. One of the stipulations in the agreement was that the automobiles must not be stolen within a radius of 100 miles of the city in which the wrecking company operated.

### ***The Hearts and Flowers System***

Love is ordinarily a matter quite remote from auto-theft schemes but a Lothario arrested in 1948 found it could be used quite handily in his trade. Each feminine friendship was quickly ripened into an engagement and then, of course, there was the little matter of an automobile for that long honeymoon and the happy days of married life. When the young lady had financed the purchase, Lothario disappeared with the car, sold it on a fictitious bill of sale in another State and started looking for his next romance. Fifteen cars were stolen by use of this system. But the system was not foolproof. One of the ladies, incensed at such cavalier treatment of her affections and her purse, told the story to the authorities and that was the beginning of the end.

No matter how clever the scheme may appear, each has its weakness. All of those related here have failed, usually as the result of coordinated work on the part of officers working in different jurisdictions. So long as the auto thief pays no



attention to jurisdictional lines, close cooperation between sheriffs' offices, city police, State police and the FBI will continue to be the best means of dealing with this crime.

## AUTO THEFTS RISE DURING WINTER MONTHS<sup>1</sup>

Figures for the 5 years 1946 to 1950, inclusive, reveal that auto thefts follow seasonal fluctuations similar to robbery and burglary. Activity is higher during the cold months and lower from late spring to early fall.<sup>1</sup>

Caution is advised in using these 5-year averages to anticipate theft patterns for the future on a monthly basis. March, a high month in the 5-year average, did not in any single year set a high for auto thefts. Likewise, July set the low only 1 year of the 5. Occasionally a month which is usually high for auto thefts will show fewer thefts reported than those for another month which is lower in the 5-year average. The general seasonal trend, however, is clearly shown.

December led in thefts 2 years of the 5 with the lead changing from January to April to Oc-

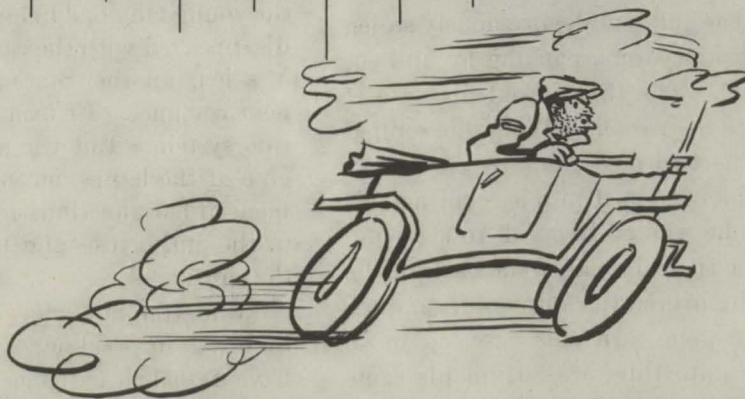
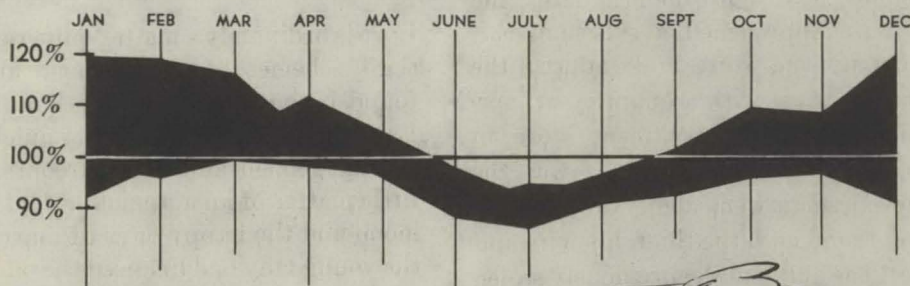
tober in the remaining 3 years. Of the least active months, the low was centered in June, July, and August with June setting the low 2 years. May and September form a twilight zone between the active and less busy months.

The year 1946 was the most active for car thieves, due possibly to the war inspired automobile shortage. Since then, thefts have declined appreciably, with a slight upswing in 1950. The increase in 1950 left auto thefts still well below the peak year, 1946. But note that reported thefts of automobiles during the first 6 months of 1951 rose 18.6 percent in urban areas and 20 percent in rural areas as compared to the same period in 1950.

<sup>1</sup> Figures from "Offenses Known to the Police" urban police agencies, FBI Uniform Crime Reports.

### AUTO THEFT - MONTHLY VARIATIONS 1946-1950

PERCENT OF ANNUAL CHANGE



FBI CHART



# IDENTIFICATION

## *The Whorl*

Articles concerning the technical aspects of the loop group and the arch group of fingerprint patterns have been published in previous issues of the *FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin*. The final grouping of fingerprint patterns to be discussed in this series consists of those patterns which are identified under the general classification of whorls. A whorl is that type of pattern in which at least two deltas are present with a recurve in front of each delta. Figures 1 and 2 are examples of whorls with minimum requirements.



*Figure 1.*

The descriptive statement concerning the minimum requirements of a whorl is very general and includes all types of whorls. When necessary, for extension purposes, the whorl may be divided into four subdivisions. The plain whorl and the central pocket loop will be discussed in this issue. The double loop and the accidental will be discussed in future issues. Even though this whorl subdivision is used, all types of whorls are grouped together under the general classification of "whorl" in the Identification Division of the FBI and are designated as such with the subdi-

## **Whorl Patterns in Fingerprint Classification**

vision types being used only as a classification extension.

### *Factors Determining Types*

Whenever the subdivisions are used, certain factors are involved in the determination of the different types. These factors are: (1) line of flow, (2) appendages, and (3) obstructions.

*The line of flow.*—The line of flow may be explained as being an imaginary line drawn from a delta to the center of the innermost recurving ridge. The inner line of flow is determined by drawing an imaginary line between the inner delta and the center of the innermost recurving ridge.

*Appendages.*—Appendages in reference to whorls are of two categories: (a) Those used in conjunction with the line of flow and, (b) those involving whorls in which loop formations are present (this type of appendage will be discussed with double loops).

The recurve of the plain whorl and the central pocket loop must be free of any appendage connected to it at the point of contact with the line of flow. An appendage at that point is considered to spoil the recurve.



*Figure 2.*





Figure 3.

*Obstructions.*—Obstructions are confined to the central pocket loop type of whorl only. In the central pocket loop usually at least one of the recurves turns upon itself forming a pocket within the loop. If this formation is not present, an obstruction at right angles to the line of flow may be used in place of it.

One, two, or all of these factors may affect the interpretation of a whorl and each factor should be considered in reference to the subdivisions discussed in the following paragraphs.

### ***The Plain Whorl***

The plain whorl consists of the simplest form of whorl construction and is the most common of the whorl subdivisions. The plain whorl has two



Figure 5.

deltas and at least one ridge making a complete circuit, which may be spiral, oval, circular or any variant of a circle. An imaginary line drawn between the two deltas must touch or cross at least one of the recurving ridges within the inner pattern area. A recurving ridge, however, which has an appendage connected with it at the line of flow cannot be construed as a circuit. An appendage connected at that point is considered to spoil the recurve on that side. Figures 3, 4, and 5, are typical examples of the plain whorl.

### ***Central Pocket Loops***

The central pocket loop type of whorl consists of one or more recurving ridges or an obstruction at right angles to the inner line of flow with two



Figure 4.



Figure 6.





Figure 7.

deltas between which an imaginary line would cut or touch no recurving ridge within the inner pattern area. This pattern the reader will note may consist of either of two different and distinct formations: (1) That in which the formation consists of a recurve or recurves in front of each of the two deltas, and (2) that in which an obstruction is used in lieu of a recurve in front of the inner delta.

In the first formation described, one or more simple recurves of the plain loop usually recurves a second time to form a pocket within the loop. The minimum requirements for a central pocket loop with this ridge formation are (a) two deltas, (b) a recurve in front of each delta free of any appendage attached at the point of contact with the inner line of flow, and (c) an imaginary line drawn from delta to delta which does not touch or cross any recurving ridge within the inner pattern area.



Figure 8.



Figure 9.

In order to classify the second formation as a central pocket loop, one basic requirement must be met—the obstruction must cross the line of flow at right angles if it is to be used in lieu of a recurve. The minimum requirements for the obstruction types of central pocket loop are (a) two deltas, (b) a loop formation in front of one delta and obstruction at right angles to the inner line of flow, and (c) the obstruction must be free of any appendage at the point of contact with the line of flow.

It should be observed that while an obstruction must cross the line of flow at right angles, it is not necessary for a recurve to do so, as the angle test applies to obstructions only. Also it must be remembered that the recurve or obstruction of the central pocket loop, as that of the plain whorl, must be free of any appendage connected to it at the point crossed by the line of flow. Figures 6, 7, 8, and 9 are examples of the central pocket



Figure 10.



loop consisting of recurves in front of both deltas. Figure 10 exemplifies a central pocket loop of the obstruction type.

## **Problem Prints**

Whorl-type patterns such as the plain whorl and the central pocket loop may occasionally give the classifier difficulty whenever the problem arises as to whether the imaginary line drawn from delta to delta touches a recurving ridge within the inner pattern area. Points to be considered in such a situation include degree of pressure used in taking impressions, inking, and variation in opinion. Considering all these, the pattern should be given the preferred classification and referenced to the other possibility.

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## **FBI National Academy**

*(Continued from page 5)*

You may find guidance in the words of Theodore Roosevelt who said:

"Let us see to it that we neither do wrong nor shrink from doing right because the right is difficult; that on the one hand we inflict no injury, and that on the other we have a due regard for the honor and the interest of our mighty Nation; and that we keep unsullied the renown of the flag which beyond all others of the present time or of the ages of the past stands for confident faith in the future welfare and greatness of mankind."

One other thing—a practical matter.

There will undoubtedly be many times when you will become discouraged at the prospects of personal advancement—when you will feel a disinclination to continue in the performance of duties which you believe to be below your capabilities.

You cannot permit such thoughts to lessen your efforts or your interest in your work.

The achievement of extraordinary success with consequent advancement is largely a matter of opportunity. No man can make his opportunity. He can only make use of such opportunities as occur. Many persons retire after years of solid achievement without having had any great opportunity to distinguish themselves.

However, so far as I know, no one has distinguished himself in high places without long and faithful preparation. Even should opportunity come to the man who is unprepared, he will be unable to take advantage of it.

Although no one can make his own opportunities, success is not an accident. The surest way of rising to the top of one's profession is by thoroughly mastering the details of each duty as it is reached. When a man does that, fame, if it comes to him, is but an episode. His mind is fixed solely upon the full development of his powers and the effective performance of his appropriate work.

One's whole life may well be a preparation for a brilliant success, which so far as the world knows, was earned within the scope of a few days or a few hours.

Although your public service may be a stern taskmaster, may make many demands upon you and may be less than tolerant of serious shortcomings, in it you will find a life of satisfaction—a life so attractive that those who leave it will carry with them, more often than not, an abiding nostalgia for the public service and its ways.

No matter what the influence to which you may become subject, you have absolute control of one facet of your work: You can always do your best. Usually your best will be enough.

What I mean to say is best quoted thus:

"Whether a man accepts from Fortune her spade and will look downward and dig, or from Aspiration her axe and cord, and will scale the ice, the one and only success which it is his to command is to bring to his work a mighty heart."

I congratulate all of you most sincerely upon the completion of your instruction here, and I wish you every success in the years to come. I have every faith and confidence in you no matter what emergencies you may be called upon to face.

May God bless you every one.

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## **FIELD TRAINING**

In keeping with its policy of cooperation the FBI, on request, will assist in local training programs. This includes a study to determine the need for training within the department and making instructors available.

In addition to firearms training, field instruction may include crime scene searches, moot court training, fingerprint courses, photography, defensive tactics, report writing, preservation of evidence, etc., depending upon the needs of the department.

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## **Identity by Fingerprints**

A young man entered the police department in Columbus, Miss. He did not, he stated, know who he was or where he was from. Police authorities forwarded the youth's fingerprints to the FBI.

The amnesia victim appeared to be a person of culture. He said that he remembered being in Columbus the prior day and recalled starting to cross the street. He noticed a red traffic light and remembered waiting for a green light; beyond that his mind was blank.

A search of the FBI files disclosed that the amnesia victim was a man who, on November 26, 1943, had enlisted in the Army at Fort McClellan, Ala. Information available was promptly transmitted to the authorities at Columbus, Miss.



# SCIENTIFIC AIDS

## Glass Is Evidence

Did glass found at the scene of a hit-and-run accident originate from the headlight or parking light of a particular make and year of car? Could glass particles found in a suspect's trouser cuffs have originated from glass found at the scene of a breaking and entering case? Was a cafe window broken as a result of a blow from the inside or outside? These are typical questions which a glass fracture examination can often answer.

All glass fracture examinations are concerned with glass broken or believed to have been broken during the commission of a crime. The glass might be window glass from the scene of a burglary; glass fragments from an automobile headlight lens, sealed beam unit, or parking light lens; glass through which a bullet has passed; or glass fragments from other sources.

It may be possible to determine the year and make of car involved in a hit-and-run case from an examination of the fragments of a headlight lens found at a crime scene provided the lens was manufactured prior to 1939 or 1940. This examination is based upon the fact that the headlight lens formerly manufactured for a certain make and model of automobile or truck bore a particular lens prism arrangement, certain edge characteristics, and a characteristic shape which distinguished that lens from those used on other makes and models of cars and trucks. (See fig. 1.)

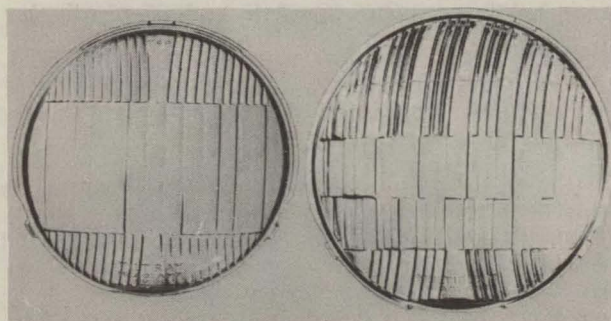


Figure 1.—Sample headlight lenses employed by car manufacturers prior to 1939–40. Left: headlight lens from 1937 Chevrolet; right: headlight lens from 1936 Oldsmobile.

## Glass Fracture Examinations Aid The Investigator

Automobiles and trucks manufactured since 1939 or 1940, however, are furnished with sealed beam headlight units which are interchangeable on all vehicles manufactured since that time. Consequently, an examination of glass fragments from a sealed beam headlight unit could not result in an identification of a particular year and make of car or truck. (See fig. 2.)

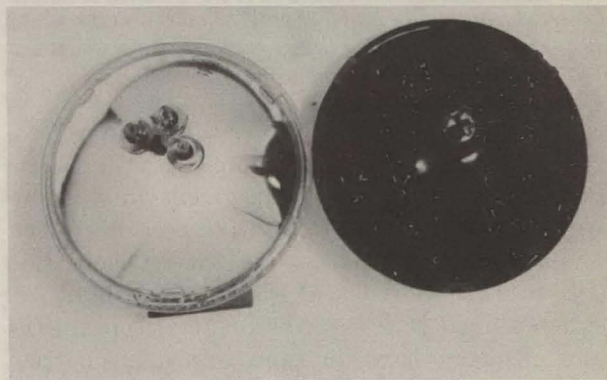


Figure 2.—Two types of sealed-beam units in use today. On left is the glass-reflector type; on right is the metal-reflector type.

It should be noted that it is still possible to identify fragments of glass from the scene of a hit-and-run accident with fragments taken from a suspect car, no matter with what type of headlight (sealed beam unit or headlight lens) the vehicle was equipped. Although the bulk of the vehicles on the roadways today are fitted with sealed beam units, the possibility of identifying the year and make of car fitted with the obsolete headlight lens still exists. (See fig. 3.)

Since manufacturers began to place parking lights on the front fenders of automobiles, fragments of glass from parking-light lenses have become more common evidence at the scenes of hit-and-run accidents. Furthermore, because of the yearly changes in parking-light design, it is possible to identify glass fragments from a parking-light lens with a certain make and year of car. (See fig. 4.)

Of particular value in burglary and hit-and-run cases are microscopic, spectrographic, physical, and other comparisons of glass fragments from a crime scene with glass from a suspect car, a sus-



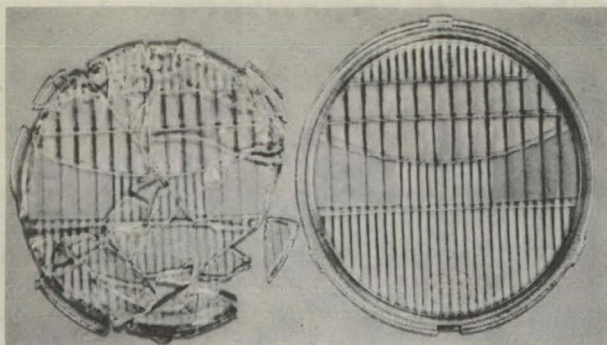


Figure 3.—A recent case in which glass fragments found at the scene of a hit-and-run accident were identified as having originated from a headlight lens manufactured for 1929-31 Fords. On the left is the reconstruction of the fragments from the scene, and on the right is the known headlight lens for 1929-31 Fords from the Headlight Lens File in the FBI Laboratory.

pect's trouser cuffs, gloves, et cetera. A microscopic comparison of the minute cracks found on the broken edges of all glass fragments might show two fragments originally to have been one piece. By spectrographic analysis and the determination of the refractive index of glass fragments, it can be determined if two pieces of glass contain the same elements, have the same optical properties, and if they could have come from the same source. This index varies with the changes in the elements as well as the percentage of the elements present. Identical analyses and indices of refraction for a known and a questioned piece of glass are strong circumstantial evidence of a common source. An examination of glass fragments found embedded in the end of a stick of wood and glass from a window at the scene of a breaking and entering might reflect that both glass fragments could have

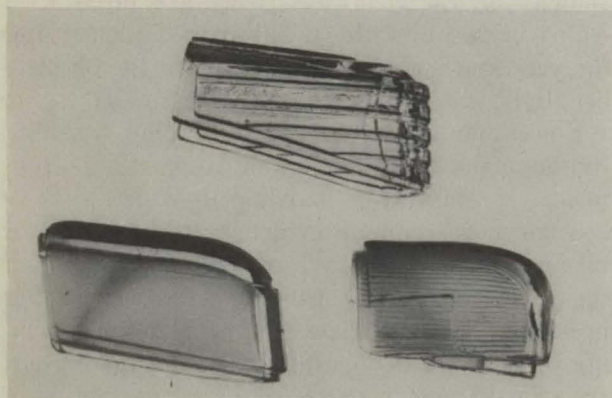


Figure 4.—It is possible to identify the year and make of car from an examination of fragments of glass from a parking light lens. Top, parking light lens from 1942 Nash; on left, parking light lens from 1941 Studebaker, and on right, parking light lens from 1941 Ford.

come from the broken window. A possible common source might also be shown as a result of an examination of glass particles removed from the body of a hit-and-run victim and glass from a headlight of a suspect car.

### *Inside or Outside?*

Glass fracture examinations can also determine if a windowpane was broken as a result of a blow from within or without, it being necessary to piece together enough of the broken pieces of glass from the scene to permit a study of the pattern of cracks and to permit orientation of the glass fragments in their original position. If a section of glass was broken as a result of a blow or pressure on one surface, the side upon which pressure was applied can often be determined from a visual examination of the broken edges. Generally, the pattern of cracks will resemble the spokes of a wheel radiating outward from the point of impact of the blow. These cracks are called radial cracks. Other cracks have the appearance of concentric circles around the point of impact and connect one radiating crack with the next. These cracks are called concentric cracks. (See fig. 5.)

Glass fragments adjacent to the point of impact are generally triangular in shape and they are bounded by two radial cracks and one concentric crack.

When pressure is applied to a section of glass, the side of the glass upon which the pressure is applied is compressed, while the rear side of the glass is stretched. This is reflected by configurations on the edges of the broken pieces of glass. These configurations are sometimes referred to as "stress lines." These lines, seen without the aid of a microscope, curve from one side of the broken edge to the other. They will be found to be nearly parallel to one side and perpendicular to the other. (See fig. 6.)

The following is a suggested method of determining from which side of a piece of glass a blow (or pressure) was applied:

1. Piece together as many of the glass fragments as possible, select a triangular piece of glass adjacent to the point of impact (such as the piece ABC in fig. 5), and examine it for the presence of stress lines. This triangular piece should be bounded by two radial cracks and one concentric crack as is the triangular piece of glass, ABC, in figure 5. If a triangular piece of glass at the point of impact is not available, select a piece of glass as close as possible to the point of impact (which piece will often be four-sided and, if so, it will generally be bounded by two radial cracks and two concentric cracks).



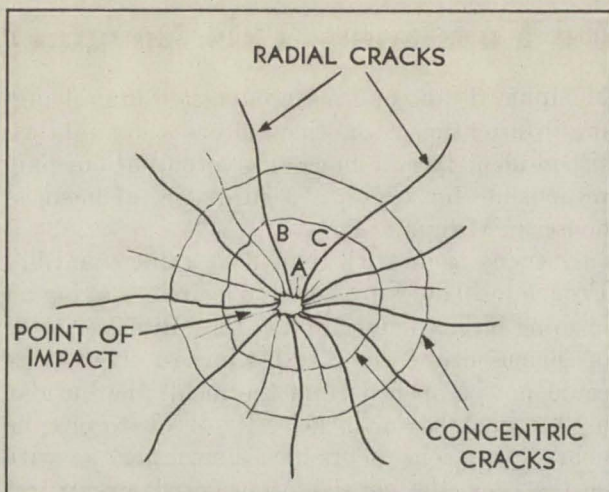


Figure 5.—A simple illustration of a reconstructed broken window pane showing the radial and concentric cracks, and the triangular segments of glass near the point of impact.

2. Stress lines on the broken edges of the glass (which edges form the radial cracks) will be parallel to the side of the glass which was struck and will be perpendicular (at right angles) to the rear side. Consequently, for the radial cracks we have the "3r" rule which states: "Stress lines on a radial crack will be at right angles to the rear side of the glass" (where the front side of the glass is referred to as the side which was struck).

3. The rule for concentric cracks is the reverse of the "3r" rule provided that the concentric crack to be examined is near the point of impact (preferably adjacent to the point of impact). This provision is stated because it is possible that a concentric crack a distance away from the point of impact might have been produced when the glass fell from the window and struck the ground rather than as a direct result of the blow to the glass. The reverse of the "3r" rule as applied to concentric cracks would be that the stress lines on a concentric crack will be at right angles to the front side (that is, the side from which the blow came) rather than the rear side.

In order that the investigator will not become confused in the application of the rules for concentric and radial cracks, it is suggested that he remember that if the crack is *radial* the stress lines will be parallel to the side struck and that the reverse is true for concentric cracks.

4. If radial or concentric cracks cannot be definitely established, the side from which the blow came cannot be determined.

### Recover All of It

When glass is found at a crime scene, the investigating officer should recover all fragments possible. In the event a glass fracture examination is desired, the glass recovered during the course of the investigation should be packed separately and care should be taken that fragments of glass do not rub against one another. It is advisable to

wrap each piece of glass separately and then incorporate the total number in one package. Each piece of glass should be identified by the investigating officer. The known and questioned glass fragments can be packed in the same shipping container but should be packed so that they will not become mixed in shipment.

A recent case in which a glass fracture examination was of great help in the investigation of a police case is set-out below.

About 11 p. m. on a night in January 1951, two men were driving near the outskirts of a southwestern city when suddenly the driver of the car became blinded by the headlights of an oncoming car and was forced to leave the highway, damaging the car. Included in the damage to the car was a smashed left front window.

The car involved was owned by one of the two men but not fully paid for, and following the accident, both men decided purposely to locate the car on a railroad track so the car would be demolished and the owner would be paid by his insurance company. Approximately 3 miles from the accident scene, the two men drove the car upon the

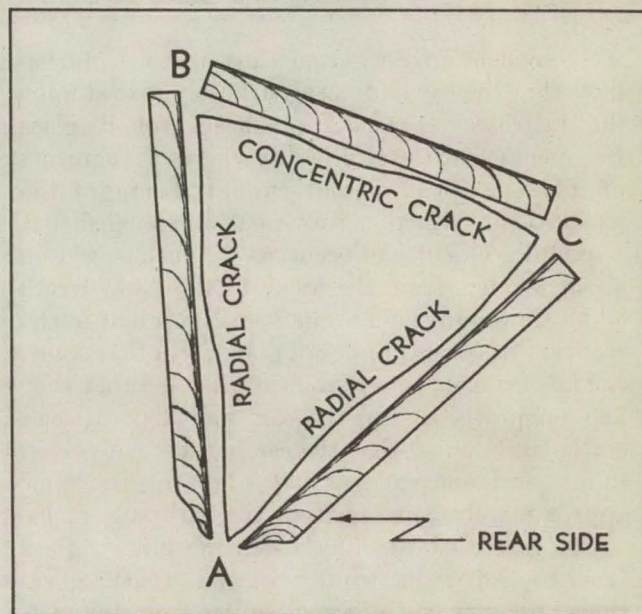


Figure 6.—Determining from which side of a pane of glass a blow was struck. An enlargement of the triangular piece of glass ABC in figure 5 is shown above. Point A is adjacent to the point of impact of the blow. Note that edge BC is a concentric crack and that the stress lines run in an opposite direction from the stress lines on radial cracks AB and AC. Applying the "3r" rule, section ABC as well as the entire pane shown in figure 5 was struck by a blow from the reader's direction on the front side.



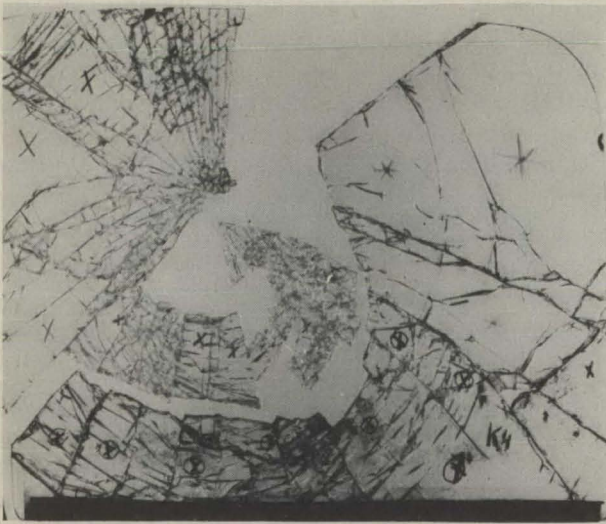


Figure 7.—Showing the reconstruction of the glass from the accident 3 miles from the railroad, glass found near the railroad tracks and glass from the left front window of the car.

railroad tracks and shortly thereafter it was completely demolished by a fast-moving eastbound train. The two men proceeded to their respective homes and the wrecked car was taken to a junk yard.

Subsequent investigation caused officers to believe that the car had been purposely placed upon the railroad tracks. The officers found glass fragments near the railroad tracks and fragments of glass in the left front window frame of the wrecked car. Further investigation revealed that a second accident had occurred that same evening about 3 miles from the scene of the train wreck and a thorough crime scene search resulted in the recovery of several pieces of glass from that scene.

The two men, upon interview, denied that they had purposely driven the car upon the railroad tracks and denied that the car had been involved in an accident earlier that night at the spot approximately 3 miles from the railroad tracks.

The police officers forwarded the known glass from the left front window of the car, the questioned glass from the scene 3 miles from the railroad accident and the glass found near the railroad tracks to the FBI Laboratory for a glass fracture examination. The examination of glass fragments from the three different sources revealed them to have been originally one piece (see fig. 7), thus placing the automobile at the scene of the first accident which the two men had previously denied had occurred. The suspects admitted the crime.

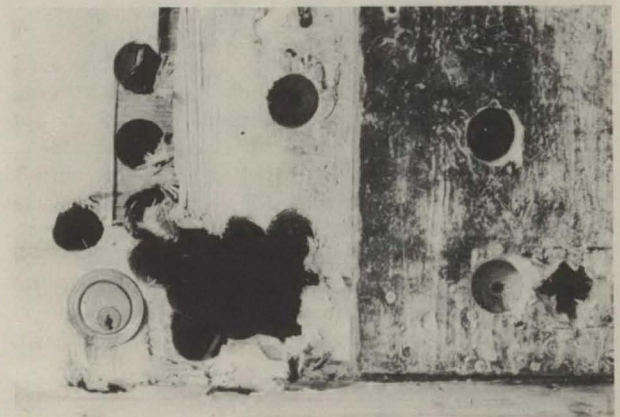
## Do You Know This Burglar?

Memphis, Tenn., police are interested in exchanging information with other officers who might assist in identifying a burglar or group of burglars responsible for almost 100 burglaries of business houses in Memphis.

Entry is made with the aid of a brace and bit. From 8 to 10 holes are bored in a circle, making an opening large enough for an arm. Bits used were of various sizes from  $\frac{3}{4}$  to  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches. If the lock could not be opened from the inside the burglar used a pinch bar or large screw driver to pry the door. Since some doors have a steel plate or wire on the back, the burglar often bored several test holes to locate an unobstructed spot. Rear doors and side doors well hidden from view were selected for entry.

In addition to money, the burglar has taken meat and cigarettes.

The method used by this burglar during the past 3 years has been to commit a series of burglaries within a period of 1 month and then remain idle for 3 or 4 months. This method leads Mr. M. A. Hinds, chief of detectives in Memphis, to believe that officers in other cities may also be attempting to locate this burglar at the moment; it is quite possible that he is operating elsewhere during the periods when no burglaries are being committed in Memphis.



Photograph showing method of boring holes in a door.

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### NUMBER RESTORATION

Serial numbers frequently are obliterated on weapons and machines. FBI experts conduct tests which usually result in the restoration of these numbers. The restored numbers are then searched through the National Stolen Property Index maintained by the FBI.



# CRIME PREVENTION

The Young American Medals Committee of the United States Department of Justice recently announced the rules which will be used to select young Americans each year for medals to be awarded by the United States Government. One medal will be awarded for bravery and another for outstanding service. The rules became effective July 1, 1951, but will be applicable to acts of bravery performed and recognition of character and service achieved at any time during the calendar year 1951.

Members of the Young American Medals Committee are: Philip B. Perlman, Solicitor General of the United States, chairman; J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, member; and Mrs. Grace M. Stewart, Executive Assistant to the Attorney General, member and executive secretary.

The attention of all police officers and other interested citizens is directed to the method of making nominations for these awards and the rules by which the boy or girl receiving each award will be selected.

## ***Regulations Establishing the Young American Medal for Bravery and the Young American Medal for Service and Prescribing Requirements and Procedures for Awarding Such Medals***

Pursuant to the authority contained in the act of August 3, 1950, 64 Stat. 397-398, and by direction of the Attorney General of the United States, the following regulations are hereby promulgated for the purpose of establishing and awarding the medals provided for in the act above mentioned:

**SECTION 1. Names of medals.**—There are hereby established two medals, one to be known as the Young American Medal for Bravery and the other to be known as the Young American Medal for Service.

**SEC. 2. Young American Medal for Bravery.**—(a) This medal may be awarded to a person 18 years old or under, who habitually resides in the United States (including its Territories and possessions and the Panama Canal Zone), and who during a given calendar year has exhibited exceptional courage, attended by extraordinary decision,

## ***Young American Medal Awards For Service, Bravery***

presence of mind, and unusual swiftness of action, regardless of his or her own personal safety, in an effort to save or in saving the life of any person or persons in actual imminent danger. A candidate for this medal must habitually reside in the United States but need not be a citizen thereof. No more than two such medals may be awarded in any one calendar year.

(b) In order to establish eligibility for the Young American Medal for Bravery, it must appear that all of the conditions set forth in subsection (a) of this section concur in the unusual endeavor exhibited by the candidate.

**SEC. 3. Young American Medal for Service.**—(a) The Young American Medal for Service may be awarded to any person who is a citizen of the United States and is 18 years old or under, and who has achieved outstanding or unusual recognition for character and service during a given calendar year. No more than two such medals may be awarded in any one calendar year.

(b) Only citizens of the United States are eligible to receive the Young American Medal for Service. Character attained and service accomplished by a candidate for this medal must have been such as to make his or her achievement worthy of public report. The outstanding and unusual recognition of the candidate's character and service must have been public in nature and must have been acknowledged by the chief executive officer or officers of a State, county, municipality, or other political subdivision, or by a civic, educational, or religious institution, group, or society, and must have been prominently mentioned in the public press or on the radio or television in the community wherein the service was accomplished or wherein the candidate habitually resides.

(c) The recognition of the character and service upon which the award of the medal for service is based must have been accorded separately and apart from the Young American Medals Program and must not have been accorded for the specific and announced purposes of rendering a candidate eligible, or of adding to a candidate's qualifications, for the award of the Young American Medal for Service.

**SEC. 4. Eligibility requirements.**—(a) The act or acts of bravery and the recognition for character and service which make a candidate eligible for either of the medals must have occurred during the calendar year for which the award is made.

(b) To be eligible for either medal a candidate must not have reached his or her nineteenth birthday on the date of the pertinent exhibition of bravery or recognition for character and service, respectively.

(c) A candidate may be eligible for both medals in the same year, and the receipt of either medal in 1 year will not affect a candidate's eligibility for the award of either or both the medals in a succeeding year.



(d) Acts of bravery performed and recognition of character and service achieved by persons serving in the Armed Forces, which arise from or out of military or naval duties shall not make a candidate eligible for either of the medals: *Provided, however*, That a person serving in the Armed Forces shall be eligible to receive either or both of the medals if the act of bravery performed or the recognition for character and service achieved is on account of acts and service performed or rendered outside of and apart from military or naval duties.

SEC. 5. *Information required.*—(a) A recommendation in favor of a candidate for the award of either of the medals established by sections 2 and 3 of these Regulations must be accompanied by (1) a full and complete statement of the candidate's outstanding endeavor or recognized character and service achievement (including the times and places) which it is thought qualifies the candidate to receive the medal suggested, (2) supporting statements by witnesses or persons having personal knowledge of the facts surrounding the candidate's unusual endeavor or recognized achievement, as the case may be, (3) a certified copy of the candidate's birth certificate, or, if no birth certificate is available, other authentic evidence of the date and place of the candidate's birth, and (4) a biographical sketch of the candidate, including information as to his or her citizenship or habitual residence, as the case may require.

SEC. 6. *Procedure.*—(a) All recommendations and accompanying documents and papers should be submitted to the Governor or chief executive officer of the State, Territory, or possession of the United States (including the Panama Canal Zone) wherein the candidate's outstanding endeavor or achievement occurred. In the case of the District of Columbia, the papers should be submitted to the Board of Commissioners of that District. If the outstanding endeavor or achievement did not occur within the boundaries of any State, Territory, or possession of the United States, the papers should be submitted to the Governor of the State, or to the chief executive officer of the Territory or other possession of the United States, wherein the candidate habitually maintains his or her residence.

(b) The appropriate Governor or other chief executive officer will consider the various recommendations received by him and after the close of the pertinent calendar year will nominate therefrom the candidate for the Young American Medal for Bravery and the candidate for the Young American Medal for Service who, in his opinion, are shown by the facts and circumstances to be the most worthy and qualified candidates from his territorial jurisdiction to receive consideration for awards of the above-named medals respectively.

(c) Not later than the expiration of 2 months after the close of the pertinent calendar year, the respective governors or other highest executive officers will submit the names of the candidates nominated by them, the documents and papers containing the information required by these Regulations, together with any comments they desire to make, to the Young American Medals Committee, United States Department of Justice, Washington 25, D. C. From the candidates so submitted, the Young American Medals Committee will, with the approval of the Attorney General of the United States, select the candidates who in its

opinion are shown by the facts and circumstances to be entitled to the medals, and will award appropriate medals to the candidates so selected.

(d) Nominations of candidates for medals will be considered only when received from governors or other chief executive officers of States, Territories, or possessions of the United States (including the Panama Canal Zone), but the nomination of candidates by such officers shall not be considered mandatory: *Provided*, That the failure of any such executive officer to nominate a candidate for a medal shall not affect the power of the committee and the Attorney General to consider nominations received from the governors or other chief executive officers of other jurisdictions, and to award medals to candidates finally selected from such nominations: *Provided further*, That if, in the opinion of the Attorney General, no candidate nominated for the award of any one of the medals established by these Regulations for a given calendar year meets fully the exacting requirements warranted by the high national honor to be conferred, that particular medal or medals need not be awarded for that calendar year.

(e) The decisions of the Young American Medals Committee awarding medals shall, when approved by the Attorney General, be final and not subject to further review.

SEC. 7. *Presentation.*—(a) The Young American Medal for Bravery and the Young American Medal for Service will be presented by the President of the United States in person to the candidates finally selected and will be presented in the name of the President and the Congress of the United States. The presentation ceremonies shall be held during the calendar year next following the year for which the awards are made, at such time and place as shall be selected by the President and the Attorney General.

(b) The candidates who are finally selected by the Young American Medals Committee, with the approval of the Attorney General, to receive the medals will be duly advised with respect to the time and place set for the ceremonies incident to the presentation of the awards by the President of the United States. The committee will officially designate a proper adult person or persons (preferably the parents of the candidate) to accompany the finally selected candidates to the presentation ceremonies. The candidates and persons designated to accompany them will be advised with respect to transportation and other allowances.

(c) There shall be presented to each recipient of a medal an appropriate certificate of commendation stating the circumstances under which the act of bravery was performed or citing the outstanding recognition for character and service, as the case may be. The certificate will bear the signature of the President of the United States, the Attorney General of the United States, and the members of the Young American Medals Committee.

(d) There shall also be presented to each recipient of a medal a miniature replica of the medal awarded, in the form of a lapel button for masculine wear, or in the form of a pin appropriate for feminine wear, as the case may require.

(e) Each medal awarded will be furnished in an appropriate plush-lined container.

SEC. 8. *Posthumous awards.*—In cases where the above-named medals are awarded posthumously, the Young



American Medals Committee will designate the father or mother of the deceased to receive the medal. If there be no father or mother, the committee will designate some other suitable person to receive the medal on behalf of the deceased. The decision of the Young American Medals Committee in designating the person to receive the medal posthumously awarded shall be final.

SEC. 9. *Succeeding awards.*—In the event that a person who has already received an award of either the Young American Medal for Bravery or the Young American Medal for Service should be found by the Young American Medals Committee, with the approval of the Attorney General, to be entitled to an award of the same type of medal in a later calendar year, the committee will designate an appropriate device to represent the succeeding award in lieu of another medal.

SEC. 10. *Effective dates.*—These Regulations shall be effective as of July 1, 1951. They shall, however, be applicable to acts of bravery performed and the recognition of character and service achieved, as outlined in sections 2 and 3 of these Regulations, which occur at any time during the calendar year 1951.

YOUNG AMERICAN MEDALS COMMITTEE,  
PHILIP B. PERLMAN, *Chairman.*  
J. EDGAR HOOVER, *Member.*  
GRACE M. STEWART,  
*Member and Executive Secretary.*

## **Pearisburg, Va., Junior Police**

On March 8, 1951, the Honorable Vincent L. Sexton, Jr., State circuit court judge, administered the oath to 45 members of the Pearisburg, Va., Junior Police.

This impressive ceremony was the culmination of several months' work on the part of Chief of Police Robert E. McCormack, who had been ably assisted by Officer Earl Martin, Pearisburg Police Department.

Participating in the ceremony were Capt. L. E. Thomas, Commanding, Fourth Division, Virginia State Police, Wytheville, Va., Area Sgt. E. B. Hedrick, Virginia State Police, and Giles County Sheriff Emory Johnston, Pearisburg, Va. Other participants included Henry A. Johnson, Safety Engineer, Celanese Corp. of America and Chairman of the Safety Committee, Pearisburg Lion's Club, the sponsoring organization; Lion's President Gordon F. Ruble; Mayor Clarence J. Taylor, who presented the members identification cards; and the Reverend Allen J. Harkness, Pearisburg, who gave the invocation.

Chief McCormack obtained his ideas for the junior police organization from the July 1950 issue of the *FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin*,



*Chief of Police Robert E. McCormack.*

which related a similar organization promoted by Chief William M. Hall of the Sumter, S. C., Police Department. After discussing the idea with Pearisburg Town Manager Julian Hirst, the idea of a junior police was presented to the Pearisburg Lion's Club, which immediately offered its support.

The Lion's Club underwrote the purchase of equipment, consisting of a helmet, a chrome badge bearing the member's number and the inscription "Junior Police Pearisburg, Va." and an official identification card which each member is required to have on his person at all times.

### **Requirements for Membership**

In order to become eligible for membership in the Pearisburg Junior Police, a boy must be age 9-16, and his application must be signed by the principal of his school and the head of his church, to reflect he is attending school and church or Sunday School. Chief McCormack advises that this phase of the program has the complete support of the Parent-Teacher Association, the churches, and the community in general, as it has had the effect of increased interest in school work and the religious endeavors of the community.





*Members of the Pearisburg Junior Police.*

### **Junior Police Duties**

The Pearisburg Junior Police functions as a school patrol at school crossings, public parades and events connected with school or community programs. In addition, each week end two members of the junior police are assigned to ride in the police patrol car in an effort to acquaint them with police responsibilities and problems.

Weekly meetings are held on Saturday from 10 a. m. to 12 noon, at which time informal instruction and topics are presented and discussed. At a recent meeting, for example, Sgt. E. B. Hedrick, Virginia State Police, appeared before the junior police to acquaint them with such matters as fingerprinting and detection of latent fingerprints at the scene of a crime.



*Participating in the Pearisburg Junior Police ceremony were: Back row, left to right, Capt. L. E. Thomas, Henry A. Johnson, Rev. Allen J. Harkness, Mayor Clarence J. Taylor, Sgt. E. B. Hedrick. Front row, left to right, Judge Vincent L. Sexton, Jr., SA Prince G. Melton, SA Lyle D. Hunzeker, Gordon F. Ruble, ASAC Edward L. Boyle.*

As an indication of the interest in this program, Chief McCormack observed that since the swearing-in ceremony the membership has increased from 45 to 69, and others from the surrounding county of Giles have made application for membership.

Admission of new members is now decided by vote of the current membership, and requirements remain the same.

At the ceremony, Lion's President Gordon F. Ruble acted as master of ceremonies and presented the principal speaker for the occasion, the Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the Richmond Office, FBI, who spoke to the group on Youth and Law Enforcement.

### **Stockton Officer To Enter Ministry**

Capt. Sam King concluded one successful career in the service of society with his retirement from the Stockton, Calif., Police Department, to begin a second career, also devoted to service.

Captain King, who prior to his retirement on August 1, 1951, was head of the traffic division of his department, has been serving part-time as minister and evangelist for several years. Just prior to his retirement, he attended the American Soul Clinic at Los Angeles, Calif., preparatory to attending a conference of the Evangelical-Methodist Church in Phoenix, Ariz.

### **Experienced Officer**

First appointed to the Stockton Police Department on July 1, 1922, Sam King "pounded the beat," was advanced to desk sergeant, and later served as secretary to the chief and to the detective division. He was appointed a captain of police in October 1944. During World War II he served as director of the Stockton Police Department's Auxiliary. As head of the traffic division, he is credited with developing the division to a high standard of performance. He has devoted much of his own time to the cause of safety.

Well versed in law-enforcement work, the 55-year-old officer intends to put his experience in the profession to use in his new vocation. He hopes to help in leading many persons, especially juveniles, away from lives of crime.

Editorial comment in the Stockton Record, expressed the community sense of loss in the officer's retirement.



## POLICE PERSONALITIES

The fifty-eighth annual conference of the International Association of Chiefs of Police met October 28, through November 1, 1951, at Miami, Fla. The convention, which was well attended by representatives of law enforcement bodies throughout the country, discussed civil defense and other emergency measures; reorganization of West German Police; international and public relations; organized crime; juvenile delinquency and juvenile drug addiction; narcotic enforcement; social protection; crime prevention; traffic law enforcement; education and training; Federal, State and local cooperation; arson, and other matters of interest to all law enforcement officers.

An election of new officers for the ensuing year was held on October 31, 1951. Those elected and their new positions are as follows: Emile E. Bugnon, Wood Ridge, N. J., president; Charles J. Tierney, St. Paul, Minn., first vice president; Cyrille Leblanc, Gardner, Mass., second vice president; Carl F. Hansson, Dallas, Tex., third vice president; I. B. Bruce, Colorado Springs, Colo., fourth vice president; Walter Headley, Miami, Fla., fifth vice president; George Otlewis,



Walter F. Anderson, left, retiring president of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, congratulates Emile E. Bugnon, his successor at the fifty-eighth annual conference.—(City of Miami News Bureau Photo).

## New Officers Elected at IACP Convention

Chicago, Ill., sixth vice president; John F. Murray, Perth Amboy, N. J., secretary; Larry J. Benson, Chicago, Ill., treasurer; and John Chisholm, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, sergeant at arms.

Los Angeles, Calif., was unanimously selected as the site of next year's convention.

## Sweeney Elected President in Pennsylvania

When elected president of the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association, Chief Frank A. Sweeney of Jenkintown, Pa. became the first law-enforcement officer in Pennsylvania to be accorded the honor of having served as president of three of the State's important law-enforcement groups.

Chief Sweeney was appointed a police officer on February 2, 1928, and particularly distinguished and endeared himself to his community by his sincere and consistent interest in the welfare of children. The eleventh in a family of 12 children, he realized the importance of having toys and plenty of them, so one of his first jobs was to interest the families in town in bringing to the station house all unwanted, broken, and discarded toys. During the year, Chief Sweeney painted and repaired so that at Christmas time, no child would be without a play toy. For his work in this regard, he soon earned the name of the "Santa Claus Cop."

This interest in children did not end with his appointment as chief of police in 1935, and today he is one of the most sought-after speakers at all youth gatherings.

Active in all phases of law-enforcement work, he has served as president of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Police Chiefs' Association and the Montgomery County Police Chiefs' Association. He still serves as secretary with the latter group.

Chief Sweeney is an ardent exponent of the theory that police training makes a good law-enforcement officer. He has attended every type of police school sponsored by police organizations





*Chief of Police Frank A. Sweeney, Jenkintown, Pa., Police Department (center) being congratulated by Harry Nebinger, secretary of the Police Chiefs' Association of Southeastern Pennsylvania (left), and Chief of Police S. Clarence Johnson, Cheltenham Township, Pa., Police Department (right).*

throughout the Commonwealth, and attended the FBI National Academy in the spring of 1946. He is in demand as a police instructor.

Chief Sweeney has been active in the International Chiefs of Police Association, serving on the crime-prevention committee of that organization. He is also well known for his campaign against drunken drivers and "hot-rod" speeders.

## **IACP Employs Kirkwood**

Uniform crime reporting was originated by the International Association of Chiefs of Police and this organization has since the program's inception in 1930 acted in an advisory capacity to the FBI in the conduct of the program.

To the end that the IACP through its committee on uniform crime records can be of real assistance to the police in the uniform crime reporting program, the services of a field representative, Mr. Robert H. Kirkwood, have been made available.

The committee on uniform crime records will designate departments to be contacted by Mr. Kirkwood. Such visits will have as their purpose the rendering of all possible assistance to the local department contacted in connection with preparation of the uniform crime reports and to promote the highest possible degree of uniformity in the crime data collected and published by the FBI.

Questions relative to the proper classification of offenses and the like should continue to be directed to the FBI by contributing agencies but any neces-

sary field work in connection with the uniform crime reports will be handled by the field representative of the committee on uniform crime records of the IACP.

## **Indianapolis Appoints O'Neal**

The appointment of John J. O'Neal as acting chief of the Indianapolis Police Department on July 1, 1951, climaxed his long and able career as a law enforcement officer. Chief O'Neal entered the ranks as a patrolman on February 14, 1917, and since that time has served in nearly every division of the department. On January 1, 1948, he was appointed inspector in charge of the Detective Division and served there until his appointment as acting chief of police.

While serving in the Records Division of the department Chief O'Neal was largely responsible for setting up the record system which is presently in use. These records include a stolen property and pawn shop file, which is maintained on a daily basis and has been most helpful in the solution of crimes and in recovery of stolen property. This file has been used as a model by other police departments.

Chief O'Neal is the senior member of a father and son team prominent in Indiana law enforcement. His son is Maj. Robert O'Neal, a National Academy graduate, who for the past 4 years has been executive officer, second in command, of the Indiana State Police.



*John J. O'Neal, acting chief of police, Indianapolis, Ind.*



# MISCELLANEOUS

## *Preserving Evidence*

One of the most important considerations in criminal investigations is the collection, preservation, and identification of evidence. A case may be won or lost in the courtroom, depending upon the manner in which the evidence has been collected, preserved, and identified.

## *Availability of Equipment*

Much has been said concerning the proper collection, preservation, and identification of evidence, with special emphasis on the use of certain types of containers, envelopes, labels, and other materials. While law enforcement officers recognize the importance of properly collecting, preserving, and identifying evidence, the necessary equipment may not be readily available after usual business hours. Such equipment must be on hand at all hours of the day or night.

## *Solution*

With these considerations in mind an "evidence kit" was devised containing workable items which would assist in the proper collection, preservation, and identification of evidence. This kit, including contents, was equipped at a total cost of around \$6.50. It was brought to the attention of law enforcement groups in the course of police training programs requested of the FBI.

## *Hagerstown's Kit*

The Hagerstown, Md., Police Department was one of the first to adopt the idea and has since installed one kit in each police car. One is also kept at headquarters for emergency use. The evidence kit used by the Hagerstown, Md., Police Department, contains the following items:

1. Plaster of paris, ice cream cartons.
2. Ruler and gummed labels.
3. Graph paper, pencil, compass, and steel tape.
4. Shipping tags.
5. Ball of twine.

## *Keep Evidence Kits Available for Instant Use*

6. Cellophane tape.
7. Fingerprint powder, lifting tape, scissors, and fingerprint brush.
8. Cellophane envelopes.
9. Paper bags.
10. Plain white envelopes.
11. Small payroll type envelopes.
12. Cotton.
13. Chalk.
- 14 and 15. Assorted pill boxes.
16. Notebook, pencil, and assortment of forms required for reporting various types of cases.

## *Adopted in Annapolis*

Authorities at Annapolis, Md., after examining this "evidence kit," enthusiastically adopted the idea and have installed one kit in each police car.

Reports from these police departments indicate that the kits have proved themselves well worth while. They have been of material assistance to officers in the handling of evidence in both criminal and traffic cases.

The contents of this evidence kit are described here as suggestive of the basic requirements of such equipment. Other law enforcement agencies will want to make substitutions or additions to the equipment, in accordance with experience and specific needs encountered in their investigations.



*Type of evidence kit used by Hagerstown, Md., Police Department.*



## WANTED BY THE FBI

**JOHN THOMAS HILL, with alias: John S. Hill**

***Unlawful Flight To Avoid Prosecution  
(Murder)***



*John Thomas Hill*

On March 19, 1950, John Hill and five associates, sometime between 8:30 and 9 o'clock that evening, allegedly entered the store of an elderly resident of Willoughby, Md., and beat him to death with a hammer. Hill's associates were subsequently apprehended by the Maryland State Police, but Hill, termed the "ring leader" of the murder, is still at large.

Investigation reflected that Hill went to Portsmouth, Va., where, on the morning of March 22, 1950, he called at the home of his mother-in-law in search of his estranged wife. He later located her at a neighbor's house, and with some friends, they started to drink. Subsequently, after returning to the mother-in-law's home, an argument developed. Suddenly Hill rushed out of the house. His wife was found with two ice pick wounds in the head and three in the breast.

On May 2, 1950, Hill was indicted by a Queen Annes County, Md., grand jury for murder. A warrant is outstanding at Portsmouth, Va., charging him with felonious assault. A complaint was filed before a United States Commissioner at Baltimore, Md., on May 17, 1950, charging Hill with a violation of Title 18, U. S. Code, section 1073, in that he fled from the State of Maryland to avoid prosecution for the crime of murder.

At the time of the Maryland murder, Hill was

out on bond on a charge of atrocious assault and battery with intent to murder his nephew. He is reported to have stated that he had no compunction about killing any person to further his own interest. Moreover, it is believed that if cornered by law enforcement officers he would attempt to shoot his way out. He may have a shotgun in his possession. He allegedly is noted for being involved in numerous scrapes in which other individuals have been seriously injured. Among other incidents, it is alleged that he attempted to drown a woman, holding her head under water in a stream until she lost consciousness, then leaving her for dead, and that he threw a passenger out of an automobile while driving at a high rate of speed along the highway. **He must be considered as extremely dangerous.**

Hill's arrest record dates back to 1926. On August 18, 1926, he was received at the New Jersey State Prison, Trenton, N. J., on a 2- to 3-year sentence on a charge of atrocious assault and battery. He allegedly broke into the bedroom of a woman and stabbed her in the stomach, inflicting injuries which, at first, were believed to be fatal. In 1941, he received a 6 months' sentence in New Jersey on a drunk and disorderly charge. He reportedly wants to fight when intoxicated.

He reportedly has been employed in a shipyard and in canneries, and has sold wood and coal. He has traveled extensively in Maryland, New Jersey, Virginia, and New York. He likes to gamble.

It is reported that Hill has posed as a doctor. He would carry a small black bag with medicine and make out prescriptions. On one occasion he attempted to cure high-blood pressure. In addition, it was reported that the black bag contained items known as "spiritualist tricks." Hill purportedly could put good luck into a house or create good omens for anyone for a fee.

### ***Description***

Hill is described as follows:

Age.....	48.
Born.....	Sept. 2, 1903, Chester, Md. (not verified).
Height.....	5 feet 7 inches.
Weight.....	200 to 220 pounds.
Build.....	Heavy.
Hair.....	Black.
Eyes.....	Brown.
Complexion.....	Dark brown.
Race.....	Negro.
Nationality.....	American.



Education.....	Third grade.												
Occupations.....	Oyster dredger, waterman, farmer, truck driver.												
Scars and marks.....	Burn scars on lower right leg, scar on left index finger, scar on left forearm, scar on back of neck right side, scar on left cheek bone, scar on right forehead.												
FBI number.....	600,921.												
Fingerprint classification.	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>14</td> <td>S</td> <td>1</td> <td>U</td> <td>OOI</td> <td>13</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>L</td> <td>1</td> <td>U</td> <td>OOI</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	14	S	1	U	OOI	13		L	1	U	OOI	
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## Notify FBI

Any person having information which may assist in locating Hill is requested immediately to notify the FBI or the special agent in charge of the Division of the FBI nearest his city.

## How Should You Report It?

This is a series of questions and answers on how to classify crimes under the uniform crime reporting system. The series is continued from the December 1951 issue of the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin. Additional questions and answers will appear in subsequent issues.

*Question: A complainant states that a fortune teller took \$500 of his money, placed it in a paper bag and gave him the bag with instructions not to open it until 7 days had passed. He opened the bag at the designated time expecting to find \$5,000 which the gypsy had promised. The bag was empty. Is this included on the monthly report to the FBI?*

Answer: No. This would come within the embezzlement and fraud classification of the uniform crime reporting system. This classification is not one of the part I classes of offenses appearing on the monthly report of offenses known.

*Question: The traffic code of a city makes it a violation to use slugs in parking meters. Should the use of slugs in a parking meter be scored as theft?*

Answer: No. This should be classed as "Embezzlement and Fraud," under the uniform crime reporting system.

*Question: A maid in a home stole money and wearing apparel on different occasions over a period of 3 months. The dates on which money and clothing were stolen are indefinite, but the first re-*

*port made of this to the police was on December 5. After questioning the employee, she admitted having stolen \$10 on one occasion and \$20 on another; clothing was taken at different times. Under the uniform crime reporting procedure should this be reported as a number of individual cases of petty larceny or as one case of larceny?*

Answer: Score as one offense since it appears that one subject committed consecutive pilferings from one individual.

*Question: Two men entered a store. One, through pretext, induced the clerk to show him certain merchandise in the rear of the store. Meanwhile, the second man obtained a shotgun from a showcase near the front of the store and departed. How should this be classified under the uniform crime reporting system?*

Answer: Theft. As a practical matter, unlawful intent prior to entering a store during business hours is difficult to show in shoplifting cases. However, since shoplifting presents a special policing problem, provision is made for an additional tabulating of such crimes separately under the larceny-theft classification on the supplement to return A, which is forwarded to the FBI each month by police in cities having 25,000 or more population.

*Question: A thief rifles a number of cars parked on the same side of the street in a city block. How many larcenies (thefts) should be reported under the uniform crime reporting system?*

Answer: One for each car rifled.

## American Academy of Forensic Sciences

Prof. Ralph F. Turner, Department of Police Administration, Michigan State College, East Lansing, Mich., has advised that the fourth annual meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences will be held March 6, 7, and 8, 1952, in the Biltmore Hotel, Atlanta, Ga.

Those who are interested in presenting papers should submit their titles immediately to Dr. A. W. Freireich, program chairman, 180 Hempstead Avenue, Malverne, N. Y.

The complete proceedings of the third meeting of the Academy are in the hands of the printer. Single copies will be \$8, 288 pages, illustrated. Orders may be sent to Professor Turner.



*Interesting Pattern*

# FINGERPRINTS



This pattern is rare and the ridge formations very unusual.

Close analysis reveals that the ridges enter on each side, converge in the center and continue

or tend to continue out the tip of the finger. Applying the definitions, this pattern is classified as a tented arch of the upthrust type.