

FBI

Law Enforcement

BULLETIN



1960

JULY

Vol. 29 No. 7

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

J. Edgar Hoover, Director

FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin

JULY 1960

Vol. 29, No. 7

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United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D. C.

July 1, 1960

TO ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS:

We are faced today with one of the most disturbing trends that I have witnessed in my years in law enforcement--an overzealous pity for the criminal and an equivalent disregard for his victim.

This dangerous tendency is inherent in the various theories and systems now being suggested, many of which are aimed at making sweeping changes in our established methods of dealing with the lawless. A continual study of all practices is a necessity, for there is no progress in a static society, but every conceivable angle must be considered before revisions are made.

One proposal, which proponents attempt to justify from an economy standpoint, calls for a vast decrease in the number of persons sentenced to prison. Other diverse schemes being propounded, if adopted, would have the effect of virtually opening the doors of our prisons or turning them into little more than restrictive resort hotels. These plans, of course, would remove the threat of the thing most feared by the criminal--punishment for his misdeeds.

A prison official proposes that all jails be converted into hospitals or rehabilitation centers. Inmates are not in prison to be punished but to be treated as sick men, he asserts. With these few words he has adjudged all criminals mentally ill. Do away entirely with definite prison terms, exhorts another individual, who advocates the establishment of an absolute indeterminate sentence system under which a criminal would remain in jail only that length of time he requires to convince a person or group of persons that he is "rehabilitated." A premium would be placed on acting ability. Still another expounds a reciprocal law throughout the United States whereby all charges against an individual--no matter for what crime or in what jurisdiction--would be wiped out merely by serving one prison sentence.

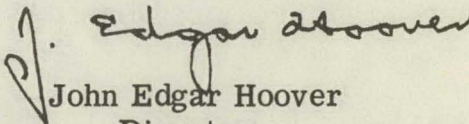
Americans are noted for favoring the "underdog." But all too often we have witnessed a "mad dog" transformed into an "underdog" by certain people who quickly forget or choose to ignore the great suffering by innocent victims of hardened and professional criminals.

It is imperative that every honest effort be made to rehabilitate those individuals who have strayed from lawful ways. But must the American people, and especially the law enforcement officer, continually be forced into a type of Russian roulette by a distorted philosophy which places concern for the criminal above the welfare of society, and time after time releases men who have demonstrated nothing but contempt for our laws.

There can be no law and order in a society which excuses crime on the premise that the perpetrator is "sick." Basic logic demands that a man be held morally and legally responsible for his willful acts.

When a hardened criminal unwisely is granted leniency, the very lives of countless unwary citizens who by chance come in contact with him are placed in jeopardy. As part of its over-all responsibility to protect the public, law enforcement must take a strong stand against perverse pity for criminals and its resulting dangers.

Very truly yours,


John Edgar Hoover
Director



FEATURE ARTICLE

*"And Time, a maniac scattering dust,
And Life, a Fury slinging flame."*

ALFRED, LORD TENNYSON

Arson or the act of willfully and maliciously setting fire to another man's property or to one's own, when insured, with intent to defraud the insurers, is an unusual if not uncommon form of crime. The firesetter poses a serious and puzzling problem to society. One incendiarist may cause many thousands of dollars' damage and may even cause loss of life, whether or not this was intended. Yet the motives of financial gain or personal revenge may be lacking. Clearly, fire has a special psychological significance for certain individuals.

The Israelites associated fire with deity and recognized fire as a purifying agent. In the New Testament as well as in the Old Testament, fire was associated with punishment. Fire is an intrinsic part of our folklore of magic and mysticism; symbolically it stands for passions of love and hate and appeals to the desire for power, destruction, and re-creation. Almost all legends regard fire as a gift of the gods, or as stolen from them. Many primitive tribes have purification through fire ceremonies which counteract the evil influences of enemies or departed persons. Some tribes believe that angry gods may be placated by the burning of live sacrificial victims.

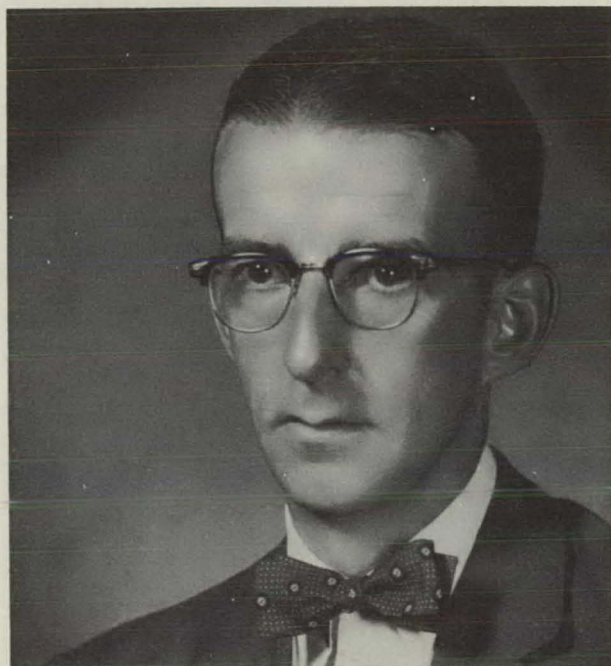
According to a Greek myth, Prometheus stole fire from Olympus and taught men the use of it, for which Zeus, swearing revenge, had Prometheus chained naked to a pillar in the Caucasian mountains, where a greedy vulture tore at his liver all day, year in and year out; and there was no end to the pain, because every night his liver grew whole again. Jung cites legends and tribal ceremonies which show a clear sexual symbolism in the generation of fire. The relationship between fire and sex is further illustrated by such expressions as "burning desire" and "flames of passion."

Many Motivations Are Behind Acts of the Arsonist

by DR. JOHN M. MACDONALD, Assistant Medical
Director of the Colorado Psychopathic Hospital,
University of Colorado Medical Center, Denver

Pathological firesetting has been the subject of many studies by European psychiatrists, especially during the latter part of the 19th century. It has received curiously little attention from English and American writers. Intensive psychopathological studies of individual cases are rare, but there have been a number of comprehensive descriptive statistical reviews. Stekel's analysis of a pyromaniac in volume 2 of his *Peculiarities of Behavior* and Lewis and Yarnell's encyclopedic review *Pathological Firesetting* are perhaps the outstanding representatives of these two approaches to the problem.

Pathological firesetting is sometimes referred to as pyromania. There is, however, no general agreement about the definition of this term. Some writers use the word "pyromania" whenever the firesetting arises out of psychological conflicts,



Dr. John M. Macdonald.

whereas other writers restrict its use to firesetting without conscious motivation. The dichotomy between conscious and unconscious motivation may be of spurious significance for, as Waldrop has observed, in many instances where there would seem to be obvious motivation—the overt behavior and explanation are merely the rationalization of a concealed pathological motive which furnishes the most compelling force behind the firesetting. In order to avoid confusion, the description “pyromania” will be used in this article to describe only those firesetters who suffer from that form of impulse neurosis (neurotic character or psychopathic personality) associated with morbid repetitive impulses to set fires.

Incidence and Psychopathology

In their review of 1,145 cases, Lewis and Yarnell found that the highest rate of incidence occurred at the age of 17 years, with minor peaks in the incidence curve around the ages of 26, 40, 49, and 60 years. The age group containing the greatest number of pathological firesetters is between 15 and 20 years. European studies in the 19th century showed that firesetting was primarily the crime of the female adolescent. Today, arson is rarely committed by women. Firesetting, like suicide, may occur in waves. Frequently the offense is committed in a state of drunkenness; thus 47 percent of Beer's 800 cases were under the influence of alcohol at the time of the firesetting.

Lewis and Yarnell also noted that the incidence of mental deficiency in firesetters is higher than in the general population, as is shown in their figures:

	Percent
Morons or imbeciles.....	48
Borderline to dull normal intelligence.....	22
Dull normal to low average intelligence.....	13
Average to superior intelligence.....	17

Despite the general agreement that many firesetters are mentally defective, it should be noted that a defective arsonist is more likely to be detected than his more intelligent colleague, and the figures may therefore not be a reliable guide. Furthermore, mental defectives may falsely confess to acts of arson.

One-half of Lewis and Yarnell's cases had been in trouble with the authorities for one or more types of antisocial activity ranging from petty stealing to manslaughter. Those under 25 years of age indulged chiefly in crimes against property

(stealing, robbery, mutilating property) associated with impulsive behavior such as running away, truancy, and sexual misadventures. With advancing years, crimes against the person—disorderly conduct, drunkenness, and vagrancy—take precedence. As would be expected from a group showing predominantly inferior intelligence, such crimes as forgery and swindling are infrequently met with. Twenty-five to 30 percent of their cases had been committed to some type of institution before the arrest for arson.

Lewis and Yarnell found in a review of their cases that 26 incendiary fires were known to have caused loss of life, and in many other fires people lost their lives in the same neighborhood where and at the same time that some of the incendiaries were at work, but definite proof that they were responsible was never established. Of great interest is the fact that 10 of their men had accidentally caused loss of life, as through a car accident years before committing the arson, and another 5 had been guilty of manslaughter. Six men committed murder after the arson arrest.

Motives Vary

Many and varied have been the theories advanced to account for the act of incendiarism. The firesetters themselves give a wide range of explanations and the expressed motivations include revenge, jealousy, excitement, relief of tension, the wish to defraud insurance companies, and attempts to hide evidence of theft, homicide, or other crime. Attention seeking and the wish to play the role of hero are apparent in some cases; certainly spectacular results can often be obtained with little effort. It should be remembered that these explanations given by firesetters may be secondary rationalizations and that the firesetters may be unaware of their true motivations. Often no motive is given, as the incendiary is at a loss to account for his crime.

At times, volunteer firemen set fires to enable them to pose as heroes in extinguishing them, or to give them a chance to operate the new piece of up-to-date equipment that has recently been furnished. Sometimes the members of one company may set fires in the territory of another company so that they may demonstrate their alertness and their interest in safeguarding the property of the town by being first on the ground. Lewis and Yarnell report 51 cases of volunteer firemen who

set fires alone and 40 instances where groups of men belonging to a volunteer fire department were arrested for deliberately setting fires. Stekel once observed that the desire to be a fireman is sublimated pyromania. A closely allied group are "buffs" or persons who spend much of their spare time at fire stations, collect pictures of fire engines and also pieces of firefighting equipment. They may set fires or confine themselves to calling out the firemen with false alarms.

According to Lewis and Yarnell:

Women do not seem to make fires for the purpose of setting the firemen in action. The few instances noted, where an interest in calling out the firemen was expressed, seemed, with rare exceptions, to involve women who were "in love" with a certain fireman and set a fire in their own home so that the beloved fireman would have to come to their rescue. Most of the women who set fires in order to play heroines usually make themselves heroic victims. They talked about an incendiary who tried to abuse them, endangered their lives by making a fire, threatening letters were alleged to have been received, and so on. Women are most destructive of their own or their family's property and they rarely extend their activities beyond the limits of property belonging to their neighbors, their church or their employers.

The change in social conditions over the last 50 years is probably responsible for the lack of reference in contemporary reports to homesick servant girls who occupied such a prominent position in earlier European studies.

Yarnell, in a study of firesetting in children, found that about 60 percent of her 60 cases were between the ages of 6-8 years and 35 percent were between 11-15 years. These two groups showed significant differences. Children in the 6-8-year group showed the following characteristics:

1. They set fires with associated fantasies to burn some member of the family who has either withheld love from the child or become too serious a rival for the love of the parents.

2. The fires are made in or around their own home, cause little damage, and are usually put out by the child himself; significance is chiefly symbolic.

3. The children show other types of asocial behavior such as running away from home, truancy, stealing, and general hyperkinesis and aggression.

4. Frequently associated are learning disabilities or physical handicaps which further hamper the child in its social adjustment.

5. All children show acute anxiety and suffer from terrifying dreams and fantasies, including

vivid attacks by the devil, ghosts, and skeletons.

6. All children have some sexual conflicts and many tell of active masturbation, sodomy, or fellatio; type of activity does not seem significant.

7. Enuresis was noted in only nine of the cases and seemed a part of the general picture rather than specifically associated with the fire motif. All the boys with strong passive components suffered with enuresis.

8. A special group of children were orphans who had been placed in boarding homes but had failed to make an emotional adjustment.

In contrast, children in the adolescent group showed quite different mechanisms and reactions. They tended to go in pairs, with an active and passive member, and set fires for excitement. (The number of boys who worked with a partner or as a member of a gang was about twice the number of boys who worked alone.) Expressions of guilt, or a rich fantasy life, were not obtained.

Parental Influence

Johnson and Szurek believe that a parent's unwitting sanction, or indirect encouragement, is a major cause of, and the specific stimulus for, fire-setting as well as other forms of antisocial behavior. One or occasionally both parents derive unconscious, and less frequently conscious, vicarious gratification of their own poorly integrated forbidden impulses by sanctioning such behavior in the child. Often a parent may unconsciously select only one child to be the scapegoat in a family of several children, the others being exempted and consequently well behaved.

These authors give the following example of this mechanism:

A mother was alarmed to find her 5-year-old younger son playing with matches. The son reminded her of her "no-good" brother Ed, who had set fires and who had aroused her jealousy because he was her father's favorite. She warned her son to stop playing with matches: "I told him fires should be only in a stove, a fireplace, or for cigarettes." All was well, so far. "But," she added, "I said that if he insisted on fires, we would burn some papers in the sink. My husband said it was stupid to burn papers in the sink, but I thought it was better than burning the house down the way my brother Ed nearly did twice."

Note the vacillation between the mother's conscience-dictated prohibition and the permissive loophole of "... if he insisted. ..." This tele-

scoped case report provides clues leading to eventual explanation of—

- (1) The selection of the scapegoat;
- (2) The choice of antisocial behavior to be fostered; and
- (3) A technique concocted of vacillating prohibition and permission, for inadvertently encouraging the behavior. The subtle permissions and encouragement defy detection unless parent and child are studied intensively by one experienced in ferreting out significant clues.

Suicidal Purposes

Of the 1,145 adult males reported by Lewis and Yarnell, 154 (13.4 percent) were psychotic. Schizophrenia is the most common form of psychosis encountered in firesetters. Often the fire is set for suicidal purposes, in response to auditory hallucinations or for symbolic reasons. ("I burnt the house to get rid of disease and pestilence.") Organic brain disease, particularly alcoholic psychosis, delirium, senility, and general paresis of the insane, may be encountered. Less commonly firesetters suffer from depression or mania. Although it has been suggested that there is a significant etiological relationship between epilepsy and arson, proof is lacking.

The appearance of firesetting at puberty and the menopause has long attracted attention. In 1813 Osiander attributed the disorder to a particular disturbance of the brain due to the development of puberty.

"The arterial blood drains to the genitals, the venous blood to the brain. Then the organs of vision are deprived of arterial blood and become irritable. Then there is an imperative need for light and this need causes the individuals to make fires."

Fenichel states that sexual excitement at the sight of fires is a normal occurrence in children. In his opinion, it is not easy to explain.

Analysis reveals the effectiveness of sadistic drives, which aim to destroy the object, and a cutaneous pleasure in the warmth of the fire. But, in addition, there is something more specific about the excitement aroused by the fire. . . . The pleasure in starting a fire (in reality, or in fantasy) may become the indispensable condition for sexual enjoyment. In an incendiary perversion, intense sadistic strivings govern the sexual life, the destructive force of the fire serving as a symbol for the intensity of the sexual urge. The patients are full of vindictive impulses, which receive their specific form from their urethral-erotic fixation.

Regardless of age, from 15 to 20 percent of all the firesetters in the study of Lewis and Yarnell had been in some officially recorded difficulty over sexual delinquency. Schmid drew attention to the similarity between the "impassioned tone" found in letters written by sex criminals and those written by firesetters. He collected 11 cases in which the offense was committed just before the onset of the first menstruation. Bleuler also considered that there was some association between menstruation and firesetting. Possession of obscene literature or female underclothing is another clinical indication of an association between sexual psychopathology and arson.

Stekel noted that some firesetters are impotent men or frigid women. Certainly there are many cases where the arson followed failure in an attempted heterosexual relationship.

Stekel also reported the fact that fire dreams may occur before firesetting, some on the night before. More than half the cases personally examined by Schmid declared that on the previous night or several nights before the arson, they were scared out of sleep by a dream about fire. Another clinical observation which has been made by many writers is that many firesetters give a history of childhood enuresis. This observation is supported by the time-honored adage that children who play with fire will wet the bed.

Pyromania

The term "pyromania," as already mentioned, has been reserved for firesetters who suffer from an impulse neurosis or psychopathic personality associated with morbid repetitive impulses to set fires. Other hallmarks of the psychopathic state may include an unstable work record, a tendency to roam the country, alcoholism, intolerance of frustration and discipline, other forms of antisocial behavior, lack of judgment, and failure to profit from either punishment or experience.

Frequently the arson is preceded by some emotional stress resulting from rejection or provocation by family or friend, financial reverse, or failure in heterosexual relationship. Complaint may be made before the fire of mounting tension, feeling "weak all over," headache, or other physical symptom. These feelings are relieved following the blaze. The property selected for burning may have some symbolic significance or it may be chosen by chance, for revenge, for gain, or because the risk of detection appears slight. The fires may

be set in such a manner as to cause maximum embarrassment to the offender's family. Thus one arsonist always chose public buildings. Although his father was mayor of the town, the patient lacked awareness of the motive for his choice of buildings and had a ready explanation (rationalization) for each offense.

Despite the pyromaniac's poor sense of responsibility, lack of remorse for his actions and efforts to avoid detection, he may, nevertheless, commit the crime in such a manner as to insure his arrest. Thus he may leave behind some personal possession as, for example, a billfold or parole paper which makes identification inevitable. Often he will become increasingly careless with each succeeding fire. His behavior at the scene of the fire or elsewhere may arouse suspicion. He may volunteer his services to the police as an amateur detective or make pointed comments in a tavern about fires in the neighborhood. Sometimes he will even give himself up or seek psychiatric treatment. Some pyromaniacs experience a conscious sense of guilt, yet continue to repeat their offenses.

Case Cited

The following case is given as an illustration: W. F., a 35-year-old married man, was admitted to hospital after he had set fire to his apartment. He was behind in his rent but had made a verbal agreement with his landlord that he would make some repairs to the apartment in lieu of rent payment. When, without warning, the landlord had the water supply turned off, the patient became very angry. His feelings of anger and tension were not relieved by drinking several bottles of beer and, after brooding for some hours, he decided to burn his apartment and an adjacent unoccupied house. After failing to talk himself out of this plan, he poured gasoline around the apartment but did not remove his own possessions before setting the fire. On arrival of the firemen, he gave himself up with immediate relief of his feelings of excitement and tension. At the time of the fire, his wife was absent on a visit to her parents.

Some years earlier he had set fire to the home of a neighbor whose dog had kept him awake at night by barking. This firesetting also occurred in a setting of anger which had been precipitated by his arrival home to find his wife out and the evening meal unprepared. Other impulsive anti-social acts included the assault of a fellow worker

and a threat, while drunk, to kill his wife and himself. On another occasion, a suicidal attempt following criticism by his mother was almost successful and he remained in coma for some hours. He claimed that his mother told the doctors: "I have had enough. I hope he dies."

He described his father as a model of the community, a perfect man who did not drink, swear, or smoke and had only kindly thoughts. His father always referred to alcohol as firewater. In contrast to the father, a rather passive unsuccessful businessman, his mother, on whom he was very dependent, appeared to be more dominant and somewhat more affectionate. She used to drink with him and raised no objection when he told risqué stories.

Childhood Signs

His favorite song in childhood was "Keep the Home Fires Burning." A younger brother with whom the patient shared a bed was enuretic until the age of 15. The patient did not suffer from enuresis. He recalled great excitement as a child from putting out fires with a stream of urine. As an adult, he was concerned because his drinking companions would feel the urge to urinate soon after drinking, yet he would go to the restroom with them and be unable to urinate.

At 19, he left home and obtained clerical work in another State where he boarded with a 50-year-old widow. She lavished money on him, went out with him frequently, and behaved in a seductive manner toward him. He left her home after she attacked him with a carving knife because he had invited a young girl to his room. His first job was terminated when he confessed that he had stolen \$50 from petty cash. Despite great ambition and business acumen, his work record was very poor. Whenever he reached a senior position, he would act in a manner likely to insure his dismissal. For example, on one occasion when offered promotion, he informed his employer about the theft in his first job.

His first marriage was punctuated by alcoholic bouts and he deserted his wife after 3 years. Sex relations were unsatisfactory as his wife was frigid. When she had a hysterectomy, his mother commented to him with obvious pleasure, "Now she won't be interested in sex." His second marriage was opposed by his parents and, on a visit to their home, his mother insisted on his sleeping in a separate room from his wife, stating, "My Billy

boy needs his rest." The patient was impotent for the year before his admission to hospital.

Antisocial Trends

Psychological tests showed superior intelligence, considerable unresolved oedipal conflict, significant oral dependent character traits, and doubts about his masculinity. An underlying schizophrenic process was suspected. While in the hospital, he appeared composed but at times became very angry and expressed the fear that he would lose control of himself. These episodes usually followed disagreement with his wife or receipt of a critical letter from his mother. He did not tolerate frustration well and it was significant that he tried to pick arguments with an elderly, rather maternal nurse.

In this patient we see poor masculine identification and a pathological relationship to the mother which has resulted in abnormally strong feelings of dependency and hostility. Although he has some awareness of his mixed feelings for his mother, he does not appreciate their depth or their influence upon his behavior. His feelings of hostility are heightened following any act of rejection by his mother or mother-substitute, and such rejection usually precedes his impulsive antisocial behavior. The fires provide dramatic symbolic expression of his anger and, like his drinking bouts and suicidal attempt, also have a self-destructive quality. The antisocial act thus expresses the forbidden feeling of hostility and also results in punishment for expression of this feeling. The self-destructive tendency is particularly revealed in his work record.

Medicolegal Aspects

All persons charged with arson should undergo psychiatric examination. Special care should be taken to search for symptoms of schizophrenia and it may be necessary to admit the patient to hospital for prolonged observation. The aims of the examination should be to determine the clinical diagnosis, the psychological origins of the criminal behavior, and the prospects of treatment. The court will also require an opinion on the question of criminal responsibility.

The psychotic firesetter should be committed to a mental hospital. The disposition of the non-psychotic offender may pose serious problems, as it is not always possible to determine with confi-

dence the prognosis or to assess the risk of social danger which might result from setting the offender at liberty. In general, it may be said that firesetting in children and adolescents is often a self-limiting problem, resulting as it does from the stresses of puberty and adolescence. This is not always true and examination may reveal findings which point to a more gloomy outlook. Treatment of the child may have to be combined with treatment of the parents.

Once an older vagrant begins to set fires, he will not change his habit pattern, according to Lewis and Yarnell. These older offenders are all chronic recidivists and the best disposition in their opinion would seem to be an indeterminate sentence as criminally insane to an institution from which they cannot escape.

Confinement Necessary

In pyromania, as previously defined, the prognosis is usually poor in the absence of treatment, and even with treatment the outlook for recovery may not be good in a proportion of cases. Even though the incendiary may be legally sane within the strict definition of the M'Naghten Rules, greater protection to society may be offered by his treatment in a mental hospital than by his incarceration in a penitentiary. Greater protection will not, however, be offered to society by mere confinement in a mental hospital without intensive psychiatric treatment. Indeed, the risk to society may be increased if the chance of escape is greater from the hospital than from the prison.

When there are marked antisocial or sadistic trends present in the pyromaniac, the need for custody in an institution is imperative. Schmeideberg, a psychoanalyst who is chairman of the Association for the Psychiatric Treatment of Offenders, makes these forthright comments:

The violent thread of sadism runs throughout the majority of the cases of arson I have treated or examined. This fact should always be taken into consideration in dealing with arsonists. It seems to me, however much it may run against our feelings, that severe sentences in certain cases of arson are the only means of dealing with them. Take, for example, the case of the Hartford circus fire, where so many people were maimed and killed. Can there be any argument against a life sentence? There are many other cases too numerous to mention where no other solution is feasible.

An excellent adjustment in an institution should not be used as a criterion for release. Recidivism

is a feature of pyromania and release from prison or hospital should not be lightly advised.

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(Reprinted from the Journal of Forensic Medicine, April-June 1959).

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AMNESIA VICTIM IDENTIFIED

An unknown white male amnesia victim was fingerprinted at a New Orleans, La., hospital in late June 1959. He was believed to be between 25 and 30 years of age. The young man's fingerprints were submitted to the FBI Identification Division by the New Orleans Police Department, which requested any available information that would help to establish identity.

A search of the FBI fingerprint files was made and two cards bearing prints identical with those of the amnesia victim were found. These prints had been made for civil identification purposes by the Waltham, Mass., Police Department, and contained pertinent data which was transmitted to the New Orleans Police Department for its use in locating and notifying the man's family.

An interesting sidelight of the case was the fact that the prints by which the man was identified had been taken when he was 10 years old.

FBI Disaster Squad Once More Proves Worth

At approximately 3:25 p.m., Thursday, March 17, 1960, a Miami-bound commercial airliner from Chicago carrying 57 passengers and a crew of 6 crashed near Cannelton, Ind., killing all of the passengers and the entire crew. At the request of airline authorities, the FBI Disaster Squad was immediately dispatched to the scene to identify the remains of victims.

The recovery of the plane and the segments of the victims presented unusual difficulties. Although the earth was of hard clay, the plane's impact burrowed a 40-foot crater and the fuselage telescoped, decompressed, and reburied itself, leaving only a small crater visible to searchers. Excavation required power shovels and bulldozers which were impeded by the uncertain location of the plane's parts. A detail of troops from the Fort Lee, Va., Graves Registration Section was required to minutely sift each scoopful of dirt to detect fragmentary human remains. A field morgue became an immediate necessity and taxed to the limit the facilities of the city's only mortician. The generous assistance of the Indiana State Troopers contributed immeasurably to the Disaster Squad's efforts at positive identification.

The complexities of identification may be depicted by the fact that the largest single fragment of human remains which was recovered and could be attributed to one individual weighed only 8 pounds. Positive identification of 12 of the individuals aboard the aircraft was made possible through fingerprints from the FBI's files, while an additional 5 were identified through personal effects such as jewelry and other belongings. The absence of more complete remains rendered further identification impossible.

Positive identification of victims of tragedies and disasters of like nature demands the maximum utilization of orderly, scientific procedure by trained experts. Despite the difficulties involved, the efforts of the FBI Disaster Squad, through the application of modern techniques tempered by a vast amount of experience, yielded otherwise impossible results. Truly, this is a significant achievement in the field of personal identification. The Disaster Squad will assist, without charge, any law enforcement agency or transportation company in identifying disaster victims.

FBI NATIONAL ACADEMY



National Academy Has Served Nation a Quarter Century

The FBI National Academy—"The West Point of Law Enforcement"—will climax this month a quarter century of service to the American people through advanced training of police officers.

Born in an era of syndicated crime and organized lawlessness, the Police Training School of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, as it was originally known, was designed to equip the local police officer with the basic knowledge of criminal investigation and apprehension. Nowadays, the Academy selects only professional policemen, training them as executives and instructors so they can teach the many other officers.

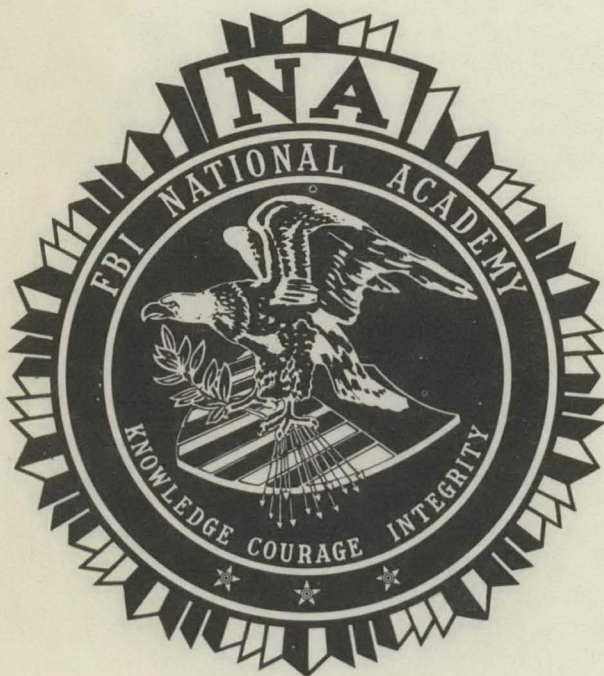
In the early thirties the Nation was racked with crime, and communities throughout the United States found themselves financially unable to cope with the growing menace. The onslaught of mob-

sters with huge bank accounts, fast automobiles, and death-dealing machineguns bred panic in the minds of responsible national officials. The cry for a Federal police agency with broad powers grew louder. Director J. Edgar Hoover, however, recognized that the lifeblood of democracy could conceivably be sapped by the institution of such an organization. His contention then—as it is today—was that in a democracy law enforcement is first and foremost the responsibility of local officers. He held that the removal of the political overtones from law enforcement combined with formal training of officers was the only sound, enduring solution to the problem. His manifestation of this opinion was the formal opening of the FBI's Police Training School on July 29, 1935.

The early sessions of what was to become the FBI National Academy were held entirely in the Department of Justice building in Washington, D.C., but after the completion of the FBI Academy at Quantico, Va., in 1940, a portion of the training was shifted to that facility. Today, training at the FBI National Academy is modeled after the curriculum of Special Agents of the FBI, with emphasis on local problems rather than Federal.

Professional Officers Selected

A prospective student of the National Academy must intend to pursue law enforcement as a lifetime career. He must have devoted at least 5 substantially continuous years to law enforcement and be nominated by the head of his department or a higher official for attendance. He cannot have reached his 51st birthday and must be certified for strenuous physical exertion. His character must be outstanding and he is required to hold at least a high school diploma or its military equivalent. In addition, he should be prepared to devote 12 weeks of hard, uninterrupted study and be fully able to absorb a tremendous amount of material in this relatively short time.



FBI National Academy Seal.



Practicing disarming methods under watchful eye of FBI instructor.

The curriculum which the officer will study is flexible, designed to meet current challenges to law enforcement officials. Uses of photography in law enforcement, surveillances, unnatural causes of death, preparation of cases for trial, police budgeting, police records, organization and administration, homicide investigations, use of dogs in law enforcement, jail management, raids and roadblocks, traffic control, and police patrol are but a few of the subjects which are taught at the National Academy. Although the officer is not expected to become an expert in each of the fields covered at the Academy, he is expected to thoroughly familiarize himself with the many aspects of the problems and develop an awareness of potentially explosive situations.

The efficient law enforcement officer must be physically fit. The FBI maintains a staff of physical education instructors who train the student in



Three NA students receive instruction in obtaining latent fingerprints.

methods of self-defense and disarming tactics. For this reason, the appointee must be in top physical condition to be considered for acceptance to the Academy.

Expert Instructors Used

The majority of the courses at the FBI National Academy are taught by Special Agents of the FBI who are experts in their fields. In addition, various individuals, whose training and experience qualify them to provide expert instruction, present lectures on different topics during the National Academy sessions. For example, Mr. Jack Carley, associate editor of the Memphis (Tenn.) *Commercial Appeal*, has lectured on "The Relationship between the Press and Law Enforcement" for many years. Mr. Carley is a former member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and has been



Two NA men engage in a "duel" as part of their firearms training.



Photographing and diagraming a mock crime scene for practical training.

active in the profession of journalism for more than 30 years.

Mr. Carl Hansson, retired chief of the Dallas, Tex., Police Department, has discussed "Selection of Personnel," while Dr. Frontis Johnston, dean of the faculty at Davidson College, has taught "The Constitution and the Bill of Rights," a topic on which he is recognized as an outstanding authority. These are but a few of the outside faculty members whom the FBI has chosen for special presentations of current subjects related to law enforcement.

Proper firearms development is one phase of an officer's training which cannot be overemphasized. No part of his instruction is considered more important or valuable, and the fact that his life and often the life of a fellow officer may depend directly upon his skill with the weapon he is carrying is the single motivating factor in the full week devoted by the student to firearms training. Using the famous FBI firearms ranges at Quantico, Va., the officer is presented with realistic situations which he may encounter in the performance of his duties at home. Any mistakes are quickly detected and corrected by the FBI firearms instructors, and the officer is encouraged to maintain the quality of his marksmanship after graduation.

No Tuition Charged

There are no fees or tuition charges for attendance at the National Academy, and such essential items as typewriters are furnished to the students by the FBI. Aside from the actual materials which are needed in their classroom work, how-



Academy students performing a wall search during practical arrest problem.

ever, the FBI does not provide for the day-to-day needs of the officers. The financial plans of an officer who has been invited to attend the Academy should include transportation to and from Washington, board and room, laundry, and other essentials. Surveys conducted reveal an average expenditure of approximately \$872 per man for the 12 weeks of training at Washington and Quantico.

A number of methods have been devised to cover the expenses of students. Some police departments provide the employee with extra funds during the period of his attendance. In some areas, contributions are made by local merchants and businessmen, while still others have established scholarship funds involving small donations from members of the department over a long period of time. One outstanding incident occurred in which an officer actually worked his way through the Academy by taking photographs of members of his class and local scenes in Washington which he sold in order to pay his modest food bill. The National Academy files are replete with incidents of extreme hardship having been endured to enable an officer to secure the training.

Appointees are selected from law enforcement agencies throughout the United States without regard to the size of the department. They are trained with a view to preparing them to undertake the organization and development of police schools within their departments and for possible advancement to administrative positions.

With the graduation of the 65th session of the FBI National Academy on June 8, 1960, 3,878 officers from all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and numerous foreign nations have completed the training. Of those still engaged in law enforcement, more than 28 percent are executive heads of their agencies, occupying such positions as chief of police, sheriff, superintendent of State police, and the like. The graduates have their own alumni association with chapters at local and regional levels, and those still active in law enforcement work regularly hold retraining sessions. A bimonthly newsletter containing information concerning promotions, commendations, and investigative accomplishments is sent to all graduates.

FBI National Academy graduates have distinguished themselves in countless instances. A recent event involved the disarming of a robber in

(Continued on page 17)

Bank Bandits Caught by Movie Camera

On April 12, 1957, shortly after noon, a masked bandit, accompanied by a female clad in a black coat and a scarf on her head, entered a bank in Cleveland, Ohio. Stationing himself in front of a teller's window, the armed bandit waited while his accomplice, apparently only a teenager, calmly proceeded to empty the money from the teller's drawer into a brown paper bag. Both were unaware that they were playing the star roles in the film premiere of a bank robbery. A hidden movie camera in the bank was photographing the entire proceeding.

One of the bank tellers had observed the masked bandit enter the bank and had immediately tripped the silent alarm which also set the movie camera into motion. The final installation and loading of the camera with film had been completed only the day before the robbery.

Leaving the bank with the \$2,372.63 loot, the robbers were observed to enter a black and white car which was already moving, thus indicating a third person was involved in the plot. Two minutes after the bandits had fled, detectives from the local police department arrived at the bank and rushed the film for immediate processing. FBI Agents were dispatched to the bank and commenced immediate investigation.

TV Stations Assist

By approximately 4:30 that same afternoon, the film had been processed. Numerous identifiable features of the bandits could be noted. Still prints of the film were distributed to police officers, FBI Agents, surrounding police departments, and to the newspapers. The film was rushed to TV stations for broadcasting. National networks immediately picked up the broadcasts, giving the film nationwide coverage.

It was determined that the female bandit closely resembled one of two teenage girls seen earlier that day in a restaurant located about 3 blocks from the bank. The girls were said to be driving a two-tone black and white car. Investigating detectives subsequently learned that one of the girls was missing from her home. A photograph of the girl—furnished to the detectives by her mother—was identified as that of the female bandit by a bank employee. A photograph of the

girl's boy friend was identified as that of the male bandit who had taken part in the bank robbery with her.

Further investigation revealed that the girl bandit's companion in the restaurant the morning of the robbery had been the driver of the getaway car. The second girl's boy friend, although he had not participated in the robbery, had loaned his car and gun and had accepted \$100 of the stolen money.

Publicity Brings Surrender

Local warrants for armed robbery of a financial institution were obtained for the two bank robbers on April 13, 1957. The male bandit turned himself in to police headquarters the same day. Now completely unmasked, the young bank robber told police he had gone to Indiana by bus after the robbery but, when he realized the robbery film was being shown on TV, he decided to return to Cleveland and surrender. "Where can you go when you're on TV all the time" was the remark he made to detectives and FBI Agents. The girl was arrested the following day when her whereabouts were made known to police by an anonymous telephone call.

The bandit and the two girls pleaded guilty to the charge of armed robbery in the Court of Common Pleas in Cleveland, Ohio. The man was sentenced to a term of 10-25 years in the State penitentiary. The two girls received sentences of 2 years' probation. The owner of the car was found guilty by a jury for receiving \$100 of the stolen bank money and, after an appeal was upheld by a higher court, a sentence of 5 years' probation was imposed on August 1, 1958.

In view of local prosecution, an assistant United States attorney declined to institute Federal proceedings. *J.C. #91-10031*

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EXTORTION

Use of the mails to convey a threat to kidnap or injure or demand ransom or reward for the release of a kidnaped person is a violation within the investigative jurisdiction of the FBI. A threat to injure property coupled with an intent to extort is a violation. An interstate communication by means other than mail containing such threats or demands also is a violation.



Arkansas Police Use Bloodhounds With Good Results

by **HOLLIS SPENCER**, Sheriff of Washington County, Fayetteville, Ark.

Possibly no one thing connected with law enforcement has been the subject of as many incorrect stories and bad jokes as the bloodhound. To many people, the name brings up a picture of Little Eva being pursued across the ice, or the cartoon concept of the big dogs as dead-nosed clowns unable to find their way to the dog food bowl unassisted.

Here in northwest Arkansas the peace officers know better. They have learned from experience that the bloodhound, properly trained and handled, can be of very real assistance in the task of law enforcement.

Most of the 60,000 inhabitants of Washington County, Ark., where I am sheriff, are concentrated in the towns—a total of over 30,000 people living in the adjoining towns of Springdale and Fayetteville alone. My headquarters are in Fayetteville, the county seat.

In a large county this means much of the area is given over to woods and brush. The same situation exists in other northwest Arkansas counties and in the Oklahoma and Missouri counties adjoining Arkansas. All are located in the rough, thickly wooded Ozark Mountains.

A fugitive, or a lost child, can sometimes prove almost impossible to find in the mountains. Several times in the past we found it necessary to have the Arkansas State Police fly in bloodhounds from the State penitentiary near Pine Bluff. On other occasions we called on Sheriff L. L. (Slim) Weaver of Mayes County, Okla., for the use of his dogs.

Need Recognized

Although we received full cooperation from these agencies, it became apparent to members of the Northwest Arkansas Peace Officers Association, of which I am president, that we needed bloodhounds. We felt they should be centrally located so that all law enforcement agencies in the Ozarks could use them.

The need was explained to businessmen in Washington and Benton Counties. With their aid, \$350 was raised through voluntary contributions. It was enough to buy two bloodhounds.

On August 22, 1956, State Trooper Leon Clinton of Rogers, Ark., and Joe Means, then sheriff of Benton County, examined the dogs at the State penitentiary. After a day spent observing the behavior and tracking abilities of the dogs being handled by trustees under supervision of Lee Hensley, prison director, they bought two animals.

Training Completed

The two bloodhounds, Susie and Mountain, were stationed at Rogers, which is centrally located. Although they had received basic training at the penitentiary, the dogs were given additional training by Sheriff Means, Trooper Clinton and the late Dr. W. R. Jackson, a Rogers veterinarian.

In this job they originally had the assistance of an individual whose unquenchable thirst led him to spend most of his time in the various jails in Benton County. This prisoner, always a trusty, served as the "fugitive." For years it was a common joke among Arkansas peace officers that the dogs had trailed this practice quarry so many times they could not follow a trail unless the fugitive had been drinking.

The trusty served long and well as a trainer, but retired suddenly one afternoon when, as the bloodhounds drew near, he clambered hurriedly into a tree. In his haste, he failed to gain sufficient altitude, with the result that one of the dogs removed the seat of his pants in a single bite. He was unhurt, but his dignity was never really recovered.

Susie and Mountain have played such an important part in law enforcement work in northwest Arkansas that I would like to relate a few of the instances in which they did admirable service, and were instrumental in bringing cases to a successful conclusion.

On a hot, sultry day in September 1956, two ex-convicts being transferred from Joplin to Carthage, Mo., to answer charges of armed robbery of a market, overpowered a deputy sheriff, took his .44-caliber revolver, and escaped in the police car. The deputy sheriff's car was subsequently found abandoned in the brush on a "dead end" road in the Galesburg, Mo., area.

Sheriff George Hickam of Jasper County, Mo., at the suggestion of Sheriff Bill Hemphill of Barry County, Mo., who is a member of the Northwest Arkansas Peace Officers Association, asked that the bloodhounds be brought to the area where the car had been abandoned.

It was about 1 p.m. the same day when the officers with our bloodhounds reached the area and joined with two bloodhounds owned by Sheriff Weaver in the search for the two escapees.

The bloodhounds were allowed to smell the interior of the abandoned car, and, instead of being retained on a leash, were permitted to freely pick up the trail of the escapees. As a number of officers and onlookers had previously been in the area immediately surrounding the car, it caused some confusion. Each bloodhound took off on a separate trail. However, after a number of false starts, it appeared the bloodhounds had located the right trail near a cane patch.

After being on the trail for some time, the dogs led the officers to a small stream where a letter known to have been in possession of the men was found. This assured everyone that the bloodhounds were on the right trail.

The tracking continued until about 5 p.m. when, because of the extreme heat, it became necessary to stop the bloodhounds in order to allow them to drink from a nearby farm well and have 15 or 20 minutes rest.

Although there had been much speculation as to whether or not the bloodhounds, following their rest, would again pick up the scent of the escapees, they proved their tracking ability by immediately picking up the trail.

About a quarter of a mile farther on, the bloodhounds showed considerable interest in a large oak tree, even attempting to climb the tree. It was later learned that the escapees had previously stopped and rested here, leaning against the tree.

From the oak tree, the bloodhounds headed toward a nearby cedar thicket. Before the dogs reached the thicket, the two fugitives stood up with their hands in the air. One of them yelled, "Don't let the bloodhounds get me." Both men

expressed fear of the dogs. The .44 caliber was thrust in the waist of the older man's pants and Sheriff Hemphill has assured me the fugitive was so frightened by the bloodhounds he shook to the extent that it was difficult to make him stand still long enough to remove the revolver from his belt.

It was about 6 p.m. when the bloodhounds located the two escapees after trailing them for a distance of at least 5 miles through underbrush and timber.

During the search for the two men, a "Walkie-Talkie" two-way radio operated by an officer on the search made it possible for other units in the area and Sheriff George Hickam, who was directing the search from an airplane, to be fully apprised of developments in the case.

As numerous officers on learning of the escape of the two suspects had come to the area to assist, the roads in the area were constantly patrolled. Their patrolling, plus the use of the airplane, prevented free movement of the escapees to such an extent that they found it necessary to hide in the cedar thicket in order to prevent detection and made it possible for them to be apprehended before they were able to leave the area.



Sheriff Hollis Spencer.

Sheriff Hemphill has reported that since the search for the two escapees was so successful, Sheriff Hickam has purchased bloodhounds for his department.

Entirely different weather conditions prevailed when Vernon Smith, sheriff of Lawrence County, Mo., asked for the bloodhounds to trail a prisoner who had escaped from a road gang. The weather was foggy and misty with a light rain falling. Under these conditions the bloodhounds were successful in locating the escapee after trailing him 3 or 4 miles through flat, brushy country.

Similar weather conditions existed when the bloodhounds were used by an area fire department one night in an effort to trail a person who had been starting fires near a railroad trestle. The bloodhounds promptly followed a trail to a nearby house. Although at the time it was believed the bloodhounds were possibly following a false trail, subsequent investigation linked an occupant of the house with the fires.

The bloodhounds have been used on several other occasions to track down "firebugs."

On November 7, 1956, the bloodhounds were used to track down an individual in the vicinity of Lowell, Ark., after he set a fire that burned off several acres. Before the officers reached the area

of the first fire, two other fires had been set. The bloodhounds were taken to the location of the last fire. They picked up a trail which led to the home of a person who had recently been released from the State hospital for the insane. This person admitted setting the fires, and arrangements were made for him to return to the hospital for further treatment.

On April 10, 1957, I received a telephone call from Sheriff Means of Benton County, asking me to take the bloodhounds to the scene of a fire near Decatur, Ark. He believed this fire, together with other fires in the same vicinity, had been set.

The bloodhound Susie picked up a trail near the fire. After trailing for over a mile through brush and over rolling hills which had been previously burned, she led me and Everett Hill, State forest ranger, to a barn where we found a man milking his cows. He admitted setting the fire after learning he had been trailed from the fire to the barn by the bloodhounds. Confessing to a violation of the Arkansas fire law, he was fined \$50 in the justice of peace court. The fine was suspended on payment of court costs.

Lost Persons Located

The bloodhounds have also proven very valuable locating lost persons. In November 1956, Sheriff Means used the bloodhounds to locate an 83-year-old resident of Rogers, Ark., who had been missing from his home for about 9 hours. Investigation by Sheriff Means revealed the elderly man had last been seen walking past a sawmill near Bentonville, Ark. He took the bloodhounds to the sawmill.

The dogs trailed the missing man for about a mile and a half to where he was found entangled in a barbed wire fence. The place was so inaccessible that it is possible he could have remained entangled in the wire fence for a number of days before being found. The victim was suffering from shock, and it was the opinion of the hospital authorities that if he had remained much longer out in the cold, he might have died from exposure.

Douglas Floyd Owen, sheriff at Marshfield, Mo., in 1957, asked for the use of the bloodhounds to help in the search for an 8- or 9-year-old boy who had been missing from his home near Marshfield for a period of over 24 hours. The bloodhounds located the boy about 5 or 6 miles from his home after trailing him through brush and timber. The boy suffered no ill effects from the adventure.



Susie and Mountain with, right to left, Patrolman Leon Clinton, Arkansas State Police; the late Dr. Jackson; and Chief Quant Morrison, Rogers, Ark.

NATIONAL ACADEMY

(Continued from page 12)

I have cited cases in which the bloodhounds were successful. Like other aids to law enforcement, however, they are not infallible. While in general the animals meet with success, there are times when hot, dry ground, or the presence of many persons in the area, has caused them to lose the trail.

Back-tracking by criminals, together with their walking in rivers and streams, have at times made it difficult if not impossible for the bloodhounds to follow a trail to its end. We accept this percentage of failure (and it is small) just as we accept the occasional failure of roadblocks, fingerprint investigations and other means of apprehending suspects.

We have learned that there are times when the hounds are able to trail a suspect even after he has taken elaborate measures to conceal his trail. For example, in training the animals the "fugitive" normally carries a roll of paper. He marks his trail for the officers by placing pieces of paper at intervals in brush or on tree limbs. In this way, the officers working with the bloodhounds soon found that the dogs do not always follow the exact path taken by the suspect. At times they are some distance from the actual trail, apparently taking the scent from the air rather than from the ground.

Another problem arises when the dogs are allowed to trail without leashes. In difficult terrain this can result in the dogs' getting so far ahead of the officers that the men lose contact with them. It is possible for the dogs themselves to become lost under these conditions, which will disrupt the entire operation.

On one occasion when the bloodhounds were used without leashes in the broken mountain country near Berryville, Ark., it was learned after the suspect was arrested that the dogs had actually caught up with him. However, he had been able to drive them off with a club and avoid arrest for several more hours.

The members of the Northwest Arkansas Peace Officers Association are proud of the achievements of the bloodhounds. They feel that had the dogs been successful in only one of the above cases, they would have more than paid for their purchase and training.

Much of the credit for the dogs' success should, I feel, go to Dr. Jackson of Rogers, who died during the past year. His training, care and interest contributed greatly to the excellent results obtained with the bloodhounds.

South Carolina. One of the several officers searching for the suspect suddenly came face to face with him at a street corner. The robber had a pistol in his hand and the policeman moved quickly to grab him, attempting to pin his arms to his side; however, the suspect managed to free his gun and pointed the cocked revolver at the head of the officer. Another officer nearby, an FBI National Academy graduate, subconsciously reacting to the training he had received, grabbed the pistol and covered the hammer with the palm of his left hand just as the criminal pulled the trigger. The hammer slammed forward, but the firing pin did not reach the cartridge, embedding itself instead in the graduate's hand. The trained policeman, in one quick twist of the weapon, gained complete control of it and at the same time threw the suspect off balance. Although he continued to resist violently, the two officers quickly overpowered and handcuffed him. A supreme example of the value of formal training, disarming tactics is but one phase of the instruction which the student receives at the FBI National Academy.

The principles stressed a quarter of a century ago have proved sound. The total impact of the National Academy cannot be defined. The desire for proper training and cooperative endeavor which the Academy encourages has indeed increased over the years as a result of the diligent efforts of the individual graduates. With justifiable pride and deep appreciation, the FBI observes the accomplishments of the 3,878 graduates of the National Academy and the contributions which they have rendered to their organizations. By their achievements and dedication to duty, they have immeasurably enhanced the stature of the law enforcement profession.

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SABOTAGE

The several sections of the sabotage statute cover generally the willful destruction or attempted destruction of national defense materials, premises, or utilities, and the willful making of any such material in a defective manner. Violations thereof are within the FBI's jurisdiction.

OTHER TOPICS

New FBI Office Established at Tampa, Florida

In June 1960, the 54th field office of the FBI was opened in Tampa, Fla. The new office brings to a total of three the number of field offices established in Florida to serve State and local law enforcement officers and to enable the FBI to better discharge the responsibilities placed upon it by Congress. Mr. J. F. Santoiana, Jr., has been designated Special Agent in Charge of the Tampa office.

The territory covered by the new office has been served in the past by resident agencies operated from the Miami, Fla., FBI field office. Located along a heavily traveled main U.S. arterial highway, the Tampa office serves 18 central and western Florida counties and includes famous Cape Canaveral, the missile testing center. Resident agencies of the office are located in Cocoa, Fort Myers, Lakeland, Orlando, St. Petersburg, and Sarasota, Fla.

The area which the new field office serves has experienced Florida's unusually large postwar growth in population and is today the scene of vast industrial expansion. In the ensuing problems of law enforcement occasioned by the substantial increase in population, the Tampa office is in a position to afford close liaison and assistance to State and local officers in matters of mutual interest.

Several recent cases in the area have shown the great value of cooperation in law enforcement work. Tampa, for example, was the scene of a kidnaping and armed robbery which eventually led to one of the criminals, Billy Owens Williams, being placed on the FBI's list of "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives." Williams had been apprehended but escaped before trial from the Chattahoochee, Fla., State Hospital on March 21, 1958. The FBI joined the search for him under the



Aerial view of the city of Tampa.

Fugitive Felon Act, and he was subsequently added to the "Top Ten" list. Williams was captured by FBI Agents in New York on March 4, 1960, and returned to local authorities at Tampa.

Early this year, cooperation in another case of major local import resulted in the speedy apprehension of Donald G. Henderson, wanted by the Hillsborough County, Fla., Sheriff's office in connection with the double murder of two residents. A Federal warrant was obtained after it was determined that Henderson had fled interstate, and 6 days after the crime, Henderson was apprehended in Chicago, Ill., by FBI Agents and later returned to Tampa.

Cooperation in preventive law enforcement must not be overlooked. Florida's position as one of the foremost vacationlands of America has a tendency to lure a number of jewel thieves and other criminals who prey on such areas. Considerable activity of law enforcement agencies in Florida is therefore directed toward thwarting the efforts of the thieves and their "fences." These individuals constitute a trying investigative problem in that they rapidly remove all identify-

ing data or marks from stolen items and thereafter introduce them into legitimate channels. Under Federal law, the interstate transportation of stolen property valued at \$5,000 or more is within the jurisdiction of the FBI.

The inauguration of the Tampa office will also facilitate the expansion of police training schools in central and western Florida. The necessity of keeping abreast of modern developments in police techniques and scientific crime detection, along with the familiarization with new services provided by the FBI, demands continual training at all levels. A substantial number of police officers throughout the area are graduates of the FBI National Academy.

The Tampa field office is headquartered at 1224 South Dale Mabry Highway, Tampa 9, and its telephone number is 8-0781. The FBI extends a cordial invitation to law enforcement officers, public and civic officials, and the general public to make full use of the new facilities provided by the establishment of the Tampa field office. (*Photo courtesy of Tampa News Bureau.*)

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HAPPY REUNION

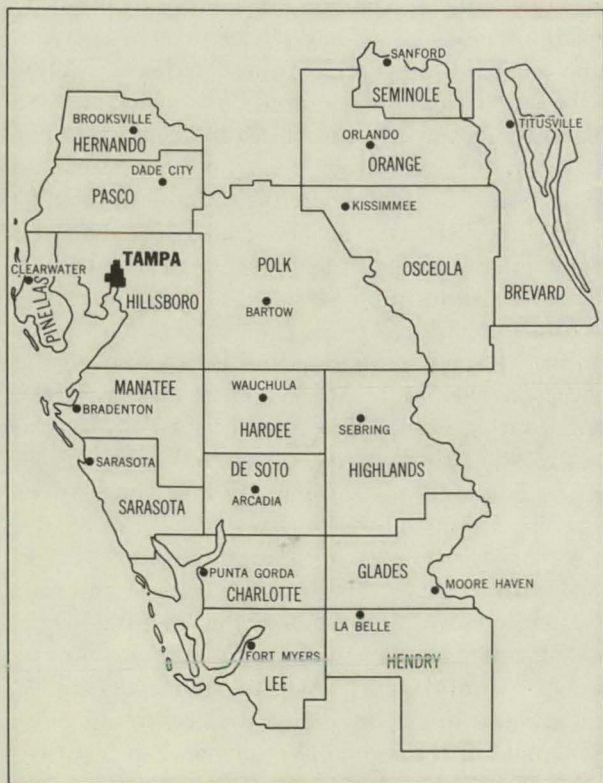
In November of 1957, a nun in Brooklyn, N.Y., sought the help of the Department of the Navy in locating her brother whom she had not seen since 1908. In her letter she stated that members of her family had not heard from him in many years, that he had served in the Navy during World War I, was now in his 70's, and had been born in County Mayo, Ireland.

When the letter was referred to the FBI and searched in the Identification Division files, the nun was advised that a man possibly identical with her brother had enlisted in the Navy in 1918 and had come to the attention of the Los Angeles Police Department in 1938 under another name.

In July of 1958, the New York City Police Department advised that "as a result of the FBI Identification Division's skill in selecting the correct record, despite an incorrect birthdate," the New York Police had been able to conduct further search and the missing brother had been located alive and well in California.

As a closing note to this interesting instance of the public service performed by the FBI's missing-persons program, a grateful letter was subsequently received from the nun, thanking the FBI for helping her locate her brother.

I.I. #782



The area of Florida covered by the new FBI office at Tampa.

Safety Helmets Prove Invaluable in Police Work

by CHARLES E. BROWN, *Chief of Police,
Richmond, Calif.*

On September 25, 1957, safety helmets were designated the official head covering of uniformed officers of the Richmond, Calif., Police Department. On that date—to the best of our knowledge—we established a precedent by becoming the first department to have its uniformed officers 100 percent helmeted.

The idea of using helmets was born because of several head injuries sustained by our officers in the line of duty, which resulted in loss of services of the injured officers for some time, and because of our concern over the safety and morale of our men.

Previously, two motorcycle officers suffered head injuries as a result of automobile-motorcycle accidents, and both these officers still suffer from headaches attributable to their injuries which occurred several years ago. Others had also suffered several minor head injuries over the years. The two serious injuries described below, however, brought the idea to fulfillment.

Basis for Need

Several officers were detailed to a local drive-in restaurant where a group of juveniles was causing



Chief Charles E. Brown.

a disturbance which rapidly began to assume riot proportions. The officers took several youths into custody. Two of them were handcuffed and placed in the rear seat of one of the patrol cars to get them out of the action. An officer was instructed to drive them away from the scene immediately to avoid the possibility of any misguided attempt at rescue by the milling teenagers while the other officers were restoring order. As the officer started to back the patrol car around to leave, one of the handcuffed youths reared back in his seat, doubled up his legs and delivered a driving, two-footed kick to the back of the unprotected head of the driver. The juvenile's shoe heels had been fitted with steel plates which transformed them into deadly weapons. As a result of the kick, the officer sustained a dangerous concussion of the brain which hospitalized him. He was unable to return to duty for 30 days and is still subject to recurrent headaches after all this time.

The second and more serious injury was incurred by an officer on routine patrol about 10 o'clock one night. While passing one of the recreation centers, he noted several youths loitering around the doorway. He stopped, and in accordance with our policy, asked them to either go inside or disperse. They all left except one who had been drinking, and he refused to leave. After it became apparent he would not obey, he was asked to accompany the officer to the patrol car; he again refused to obey. After he refused the second time, the officer grasped him by the arm to bring him in and a scuffle ensued. During the scuffle, a second youth suddenly appeared behind the officer, jumped on his back, put a hammerlock on him and both fell to the ground. The first youth grabbed the officer's baton and began beating the officer on the head and shoulders. Finally, the first youth grabbed for the officer's gun, but he was able to hold it in his holster for a while. The gun was finally discharged by the youth—fortunately hitting no one. The youth wrested the gun from the holster and struck the officer on the head with it. They finally left the officer and ran. Their victim was found to be suffering from severe head lacerations which necessitated 16 stitches to close, a frontal skull fracture, and concussions. There is no doubt but that a helmet would have saved both of the above officers from their injuries.

As a result of these events, we sought some method of minimizing the hazards of our profession and settled on a three-phase safety program

which we requested of the Richmond city officials. The helmets were one phase and the other two were safety belts for all cars and plastic separators between the front and rear compartments of the patrol cars for the transportation of prisoners.

As is true with any expenditures of this type, the program had to be "sold" to the city officials. It was presented as a necessary safety program and also could be justified in hard dollars and cents. In the case of the last officer to be injured, the actual cost to the city for salary payments while he was off, medical care and other expenses, was \$744.69—all of which could have been avoided if the officer has been wearing a helmet. The city officials agreed with our reasoning and made the necessary funds available.

We decided that the helmets should not be worn on a selective basis, such as just by motorcycle riders, but should become the official headgear of all uniformed personnel, from chief to patrolman. The use of the cloth cap was discontinued entirely, and on September 25, 1957, the helmets became the only official headgear of the department.

As is true with any change, we had to endure a period of adjustment after the officers began wearing their helmets. Neither the officers nor the public was used to the "new look," and at first the officers were self-conscious. This was not helped by the standard jokes and gibes of "space man," "moon man," "Buck Rogers," etc., which were used by friends of the officers as well as those antagonistic towards law enforcement. This phase of our difficulties soon disappeared as the public became used to the innovation and it is now an accepted part of the local scene.

Complaints Encountered

Our biggest problem was, of course, the usual resistance to change that experience has taught us to expect whenever something different or unusual is put into effect. The standard complaints were that the helmets were too hot—too heavy—they didn't fit—they impaired hearing, and so on. Some of the complaints were valid, such as the fact that they are heavier than the cloth cap and are warmer, particularly when worn in the patrol cars. Another problem in modern cars is the lack of adequate headroom. We accordingly changed our original regulations concerning the wearing of the official headgear to the extent that

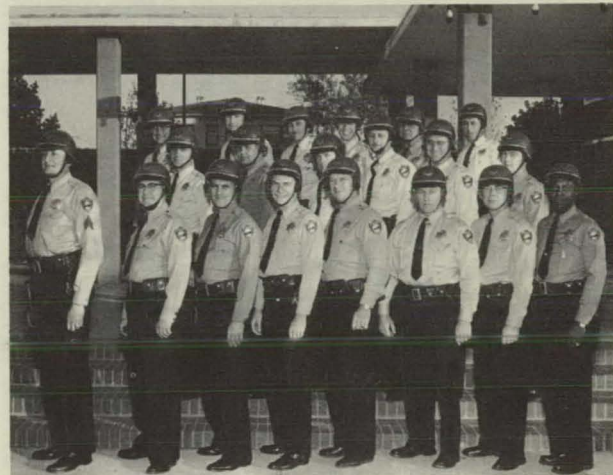


Five of the Richmond Police Department officers who were saved from injury or possible death by the safety helmets.

it is not mandatory that the officer wear the helmet at all times when he is in his patrol car. It is preferred that he do so as much as possible, but there are times when he is more comfortable when he is not wearing it, as on extremely warm days. This we have left to the officer's good judgment, and none have taken advantage of the privilege. Of course, when the officer leaves his patrol car for any reason, the wearing of the helmet is mandatory.

The complaints that they did not fit some of the officers were handled by mechanical adjustments. Gradually the complaints dwindled as the officers became accustomed to them.

Acceptance of the helmets was speeded considerably by the experience of several officers when the



Platoon of Richmond, Calif., Police Department officers wearing safety helmets.

helmets brought them unscathed through accidents and violence that previously would have resulted in serious and painful injury to them. Several of these experiences serve as an illustration of the value of the helmet in preventing injury.

Protective Value of Helmets

About a month after we started wearing the helmets, one of our officers took a person under arrest to the hospital for emergency treatment of an injury. A ramp led from the street to the emergency entrance of the hospital and continued on as a loading platform, which was about 3½ feet from the ground level. At the top of the ramp, the prisoner attempted to break away from the officer and run down the loading platform. The officer grabbed the prisoner, and in the ensuing scuffle, the officer lost his footing, and with the prisoner in his arms, both plunged off the platform to the concrete roadway beneath. The 190-pound officer, carrying the dead weight of the prisoner on top of him, landed on the back of his head on the concrete, but the helmet took the full force of the blow. Instead of a virtually certain basal fracture of the skull, the officer was uninjured and was able to handcuff the prisoner and continue his interrupted trip to the emergency ward. The officer did not require any treatment.

Two officers in a patrol car were struck broadside at an intersection with sufficient force to totally demolish the car. The impact threw both officers forward and upward. The driver's head was driven into the steel bracket holding the sun visor, and the passenger officer's head was thrown into contact with the metal around the windshield with enough force to crack the helmet. Neither suffered any head injury nor was even knocked out—which was fortunate—because flames began to shoot out from under the dashboard, and both officers were able to get safely out of the car.

An officer, answering a call on a large disturbance, arrived at the scene to find about 90 persons, mostly teenagers, engaged in a major gangfight. The officer saw that several individuals were down and that considerable damage was being inflicted by boards measuring 1 inch thick by 4 inches wide and about 5 feet long which had been torn from a fence in the area. The officer jumped from his car to go to the rescue of one person who had been knocked down and was being viciously beaten. While the officer was making his way through the

melee, one of the combatants ran behind the officer, swung one of the fence boards edge first and struck him on the back of the head. Although the mere weight of the blow staggered him, he was unhurt, as the helmet absorbed almost the entire shock, and he was able to turn, disarm the attacker and still proceed to the rescue of the man being beaten.

This same officer, at a later date, answered a call to a local tavern where a merchant seaman had gone berserk. Upon arrival, he learned that the man had chased everyone from the bar and was engaged in destroying the interior furnishings and stock. When the officer entered the dimly lit bar, the exact whereabouts of the seaman was not known, but he was believed to be in a rear room. Just inside the entrance was a lattice wall supporting some vines, and as the officer passed this, the seaman suddenly swung a heavily built wooden bar stool from behind the latticework. The heavy seat of the stool crashed into the top of the helmet. The officer was not injured, and with the help of other officers, subdued the man. Although the helmets are considered virtually unbreakable, the top of the helmet was shattered by the tremendous force of the blow, which is understandable, inasmuch as the stool was very solid and was wielded full force by a 245-pound berserk man. The result of such a crushing blow on the officer's unprotected head can easily—or uneasily—be imagined.

While on routine night patrol, one of our men arrested an intoxicated man, and, while attempting to place him in the patrol car, was set upon by an unruly crowd which twice got the prisoner away from him. On the second attempt, the officer was spun around, and someone in the crowd threw a heavy 3-foot-long 2-by-4 piece of timber which caught him on the side of the head. Although the force of the impact was enough to have resulted in a fractured skull, the helmet took most of the impact, and the officer sustained only some contusions and lacerations on the side of his face and was able to continue on his shift.

Another officer, while on patrol, noticed a loose window in a local business establishment and went over to check for a possible burglary. There were two double-length windows side by side and, when he touched the first one, it fell inside the building. The officer leaned inward through the opening, and at the same time the upper portion of the adjacent window toppled over and fell

from a height of about 3 feet. The frame struck the officer on the back of his helmet, turned and fell horizontally across his head, shattering the glass so the frame was around his shoulders—resulting in the officer being “framed.” The helmet took the initial blow and, because of the overhang in front and back, kept the glass shards from the officer’s face as the frame fell around his body. He was neither injured by the blow nor cut by the glass, and we feel the helmet was directly responsible for his escaping any injury.

Psychological Effect

The psychological effect of the helmet has proven to be of inestimable value, both in raising of the morale of the officers themselves and in the deterrent effect on the hoodlum. The officer, knowing he is far better protected against bodily harm, is, understandably, more confident when he is required to undertake forceful action. He can handle any violence more expeditiously because he is not slowed down or put out of action by blows or impacts that previously would have put him at a disadvantage. Antagonistic people and hoodlums with whom the police often come in contact now hesitate before attacking or resisting one of our officers. The helmets speak of preparedness for forceful action and protection from injury which tilt the odds heavily in the favor of the officer and make the opposition think more carefully before running up against such unfavorable odds.

Now, after 2 years of experience with the helmets, we feel that their purchase has been more than justified. Financially, they have paid for themselves many times over. In 1956 and 1957, the city received no refund from the State compensation premiums, but in 1958, because of our safety record, the city received the considerable sum of \$49,149.77 as a refund—and a large percentage of that can be attributed to the helmets. The cost of lost-time salaries and medical bills alone saved by the helmets would have more than repaid their original cost. The greatest benefits, however, were not financial, but were received in the welfare of our officers, where, as noted above, the helmets saved several of them serious, if not fatal, injuries. I can think of no greater justification, and the helmets will remain part of Richmond’s official uniform, to which they add a distinctive, eye-catching smartness.

JULY 1960

Windblown Material Identified by FBI

The diversity of material sent to the FBI Laboratory for examination frequently constitutes a genuine challenge, in addition to being a constant source of interest to laboratory technicians.

On November 3, 1959, some unusual “cobwebby” material was received in the laboratory from Sheriff F. L. McGehee at Ocala, Fla. Sheriff McGehee reported that the week before, on October 26, large masses of weblike material were discovered to be apparently falling from great heights near an elementary school in Marion County, Fla. Neighbors and parents of the children became alarmed and kept the children away from school. The mysterious material was reported to the sheriff’s office. It was determined to be nonradioactive and forwarded to the FBI Laboratory for identification.

As a result of examinations made by FBI technicians, the fine, fibrous material was found to be identical to the web material produced by the Giant Silk Spider, genus *Nephila*. This spider is found along the Gulf Coast in Central and South America and on various Caribbean Islands. It produces large webs, a yard or more across, which are known to be borne and scattered by the winds.

A known Giant Silk Spider web, with which the material from the sheriff’s office was compared, was obtained from the Smithsonian Institution. The label on the bottle of the spider web material reads as follows: “Found in Florida, September 20, 1892, in great quantities covering an area of one hundred miles.”

A report giving the results of the laboratory examination was forwarded to the sheriff at Ocala. *Memo from B.J. White to Mr. Parsons - 11/10/59*
Re: Exam. of windblown material found in Ocala, Florida, area.

SKIN COVER-UP SCHEME

Certain narcotic addicts are now using flesh-colored skin pastes to conceal needle marks on their arms and legs. The pastes are primarily designed to cover skin blemishes such as scars, moles, pimples and the like, but can be detected readily upon close observation. These concoctions can also be used for disguise purposes much as leg makeup is used in amateur theatricals to give the effect of a suntan. *Detroit Crimdel 63-4296-15-174*
(63-4296 Ser. 280 - 1/21/60)

WANTED BY THE FBI

JAMES VERNON FAIN, also known as **James Henry Fain**, and "**Huntsey**"

Unlawful Flight To Avoid Prosecution (Assault With a Dangerous Weapon)

On April 15, 1958, James Vernon Fain reportedly ambushed a woman at her home in Cassville, W. Va., and in the ensuing struggle inflicted numerous wounds about the head of his victim after she refused to go out with him. Returning to the victim's home the next morning, April 16, 1958, the ex-parolee allegedly abducted the woman at gunpoint and held her in a deserted barn for the remainder of the day.

After fleeing the State of West Virginia in a stolen automobile, Fain entered Pennsylvania where State troopers gave chase. During the pursuit, he abandoned the stolen vehicle on a hill, causing the getaway car to drift back into the oncoming police cruiser and culminating in a serious accident in which a Pennsylvania State trooper was critically injured. As a result of this treachery, Fain made good his flight from the officers.

The Fugitive

Fain first brought himself to the attention of law enforcement officers in June of 1939 when, as a teen-ager, he was arrested in West Virginia on a charge of driving while intoxicated, for which he was assessed a fine and a 30-day jail sentence. Less than a year later, as a result of an auto theft

charge, the fugitive was ordered to a reform school until he reached the age of 21. Freed before the expiration of the term, Fain faced charges in late 1942 of breaking and entering, which netted him a 1- to 10-year sentence. Paroled in 1944, he was sentenced to the West Virginia State Penitentiary in 1948 for from 1 to 20 years on a charge of rape. The sentence was subsequently commuted to 1 to 5 years, and in 1956 the ex-parolee received another parole. He has admitted other offenses ranging from driving without an operator's license to auto larceny.

Process

A Federal warrant was issued on April 22, 1958, at Fairmont, W. Va., charging Fain with unlawful flight to avoid prosecution for the crime of assault with a dangerous weapon.

Description

James Vernon Fain is described as follows:

Age-----	36, born November 30, 1923, Boone County, W. Va.
Height-----	5 feet 8 inches.
Weight-----	140 to 150 pounds.
Build-----	Medium.
Hair-----	Black.
Eyes-----	Brown.
Complexion-----	Brown.
Race-----	Negro.
Nationality-----	American.
Occupations-----	Miner and laborer.
Scars and marks-----	Scar on right eyebrow, two small scars right side of chin, pimpled face.
FBI Number-----	2,085,031.
Fingerprint classification--	6 1 aA-2a 1 aA3a.

Fain has been known to possess firearms, and caution should therefore be exercised in effecting his apprehension. He should be considered armed and extremely dangerous.

Notify FBI

Any person having information as to the whereabouts of this fugitive is requested to immediately contact the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice, Washington 25, D.C., or the Special Agent in Charge of the nearest FBI field office, the telephone number of which may be found on the first page of local telephone directories.



James Vernon Fain

INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION

The interstate transportation of stolen property valued at \$5,000 or more with knowledge that the property was stolen is a Federal offense. This act also covers the interstate transportation of counterfeit, falsely made, altered, or forged securities with the intention to defraud. Another section prohibits the interstate transportation of dies, plates, or tools to be used in forging or altering securities or to be used in preparing counterfeit securities. The statute, which is under the FBI's jurisdiction, also covers "receivers."

Transporting persons interstate in furtherance of a scheme to obtain money or property valued at \$5,000 or more by false or fraudulent pretenses and also the sending of communications in interstate or foreign commerce by wire, radio, or television with intent to defraud are Federal violations.

FRAUD AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT

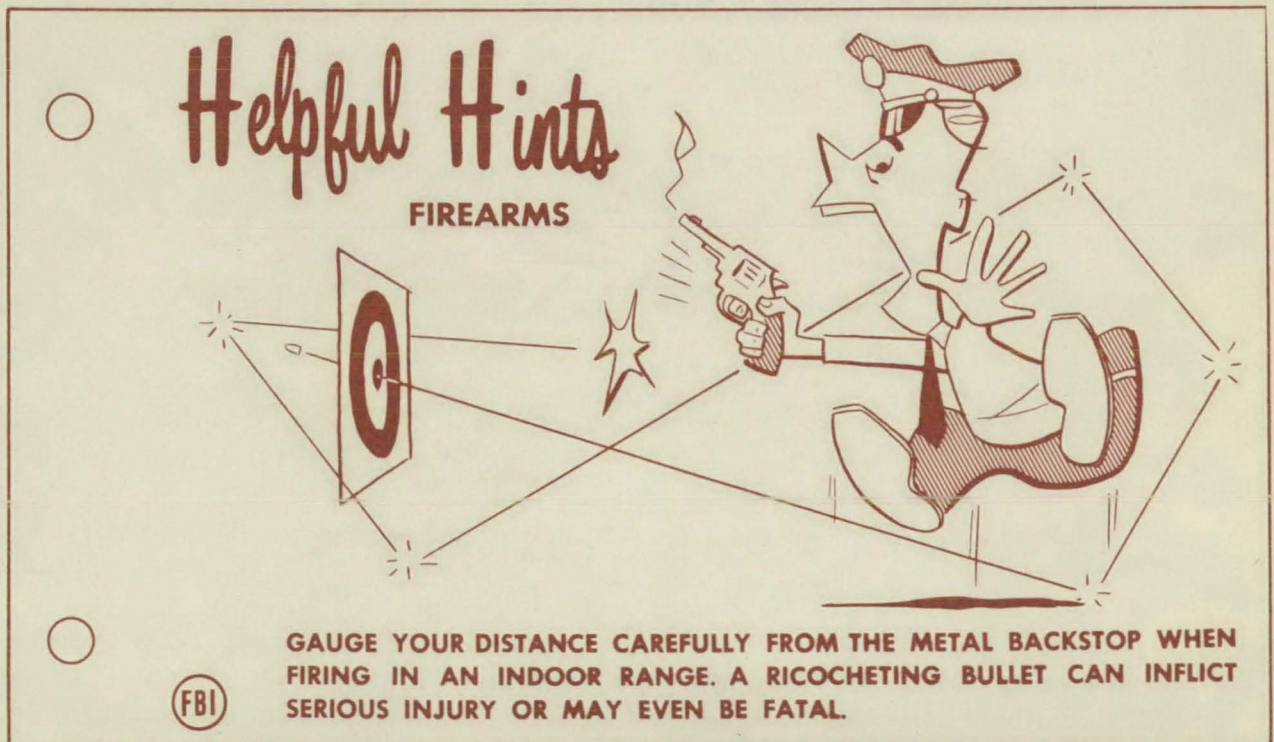
The presentation of false or fictitious claims against the Government and the misrepresentation or concealment of facts concerning matters within the jurisdiction of the Government are violations over which the FBI has jurisdiction.

UNLAWFUL FLIGHT STATUTE

The FBI conducts investigation under the unlawful flight statute to locate local fugitives who have fled interstate to avoid prosecution, custody, or confinement after conviction for murder, kidnapping, burglary, robbery, arson punishable as a felony, mayhem, rape, assault with a dangerous weapon, extortion accompanied by threats of violence, damaging or destroying by fire or explosive any building or other real or personal property, or any attempt to commit any of these offenses. The FBI also conducts investigation under the unlawful flight statute to locate persons who have fled interstate to avoid giving testimony in any local criminal proceedings charging the commission of an offense punishable by imprisonment in a penitentiary. Fugitives apprehended, as a matter of practice, are released to local authorities for extradition and prosecution or confinement.

KICKBACK RACKET ACT

It is unlawful to cause any person employed on public works financed directly or indirectly by Federal funds to give up any part of his compensation as a result of force, intimidation, or threats. These violations are investigated by the FBI.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

RETURN AFTER 5 DAYS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Questionable Pattern



The questionable pattern shown here has the appearance of a loop, but close examination reveals an appendage abutting at a right angle to and between the shoulders of the looping ridge, thus eliminating the required sufficient recurve for a loop type of pattern. This pattern is classified as a tented arch and is referenced to a loop.