

# FBI

## *Law Enforcement*

# BULLETIN



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

# FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin

Restricted to the Use of Law Enforcement Officials

JUNE 1957

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The *FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin* is issued monthly to law-enforcement agencies throughout the United States. Much of the data appearing herein is of such a nature that its circulation should be limited to law-enforcement officers; therefore, material contained in this Bulletin may not be reprinted without prior authorization by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.







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

June 1, 1957

TO ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS:

With the total of major crimes soaring over the 2 1/2 million mark for the first time in history in 1956, it is absolutely essential that the long-echoing voice of law enforcement, imploring deserved support, be given public recognition. In the wake of the 13.3 per cent rise in crimes, an increase of 300,700 offenses over 1955, the urgent needs of the police profession can be ignored only with grave danger to citizen safety and national welfare.

For a shocking breakdown into simple reality, there was one serious crime committed every 12.3 seconds of last year, and one major offense for every 65 persons of our population. Certainly, a clear warning for the future lies in reports from cities across the country reflecting that persons under 18 years of age accounted for more than 45 per cent of the arrests for major crimes in 1956.

Against this criminal surge, the police forces of the country, fighting doggedly and courageously under tremendous handicaps, have performed in splendid fashion. Since 1950 crimes have mounted almost four times as fast as population. Yet, in the past two decades police personnel on a per capita basis have increased from 1.6 to only 2.0 per 1,000 inhabitants, less than one additional officer for every 2,000 people.

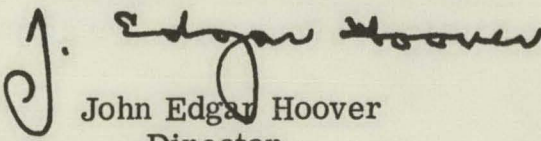
Although undermanned, police agencies have demonstrated outstanding quality and efficiency in the increase of more than 62 per cent in cases cleared by arrest in this period. In 1955 there were 643,000 cases cleared by arrest, as compared with 396,000 in 1935. Confronted by more formidable burdens and charged with far greater responsibilities, today's officer is clearing almost 5 cases by arrest to every 3 so cleared by his predecessor of twenty years ago.

The crime problem has a bearing on every man, woman and child in the land. Police bravery in action, resourcefulness in planning, and dedication to duty cannot alone win society's battle against crime. Law enforcement seeks not rewards or favors but rather the very means of discharging its obligations to the citizenry--financial support for proper salaries, sufficient manpower, suitable facilities and equipment, adequate training and essential functioning.

Meriting particular and immediate attention is the meager police pay scale, seriously hindering recruitment and retention of the intelligent career officers demanded for first-class law enforcement today. It is certainly disgraceful that so often the policeman who spends a full shift guarding school crossings, protecting sleeping communities on night patrol, or risking death in pursuit of criminals must find additional employment to eke out a livelihood for his family.

Only the most valiant and diligent efforts of American police agencies prevent crime from submerging the country. It is indeed ironic that law enforcement finds itself begging for the wherewithal and opportunity to defend an indifferent citizenry. Surely, the safety of our communities is no greater than the strength and adequacy of these front-line police defenses.

Very truly yours,

  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director





## FEATURE ARTICLE

# ***Value of Science and Records in Fugitive Cases***

The fugitive hunt today is characterized by the criminal's use of high-speed transportation, improvements in communications facilities, and other modern-day conveniences. As the fleeing felon becomes more adept in hiding out, law enforcement must become more adept in utilizing the latest developments in crime fighting to cope with this problem.

It is no longer possible to conduct fugitive investigations solely by means of interviews, by questioning individuals in the hope of obtaining information concerning the whereabouts of a wanted individual. As previously mentioned, the interview is a vital preliminary technique in uncovering all available descriptive data concerning a fugitive and will continue to be an important element in every phase of investigation. Against the present-day tactics of the fleeing felon, however, it is additionally necessary to use the new scientific crime detection techniques to pick up or follow the trail of the fugitive in flight.

The immediate objective in a fugitive hunt is the location and apprehension of the criminal. It must be remembered, however, that ultimately the subject will be brought to trial and it will be the duty of the investigating police officers to present evidence and testimony in the case. This objective must be borne in mind during all stages of the investigation. Even during the pursuit, officers must be alert for evidence which will be pertinent in proving the guilt or the innocence of the suspect. In connection with such evidence, crime laboratory examinations play a most important part.

Science in crime detection is not "reserved" for major cases or for large-city departments. Any police agency confronted with an investigative case and interested in fulfilling its duty to citizens should certainly consider all available means of solving the case. The possibility of a prompt solution through science should be considered by police agencies inasmuch as long investigations sap the manpower and funds of an organization.

### ***Submitting Material***

The FBI Laboratory is available to answer the needs of any duly authorized police agency in criminal cases. There should be no mystery about submitting material to the Laboratory. Any police officer or agency can properly submit material for any of the examinations conducted by the Laboratory by following the instructions contained in the pamphlet, "Suggestions for Handling of Physical Evidence," which is available free of charge to law enforcement agencies from the FBI. This pamphlet provides data concerning the proper sealing of evidence; amount of evidence needed for examination; wrapping, packing, and transmitting the material.

The following are points to remember in requesting an FBI Laboratory examination:

1. Send all requests by letter to the Director, in duplicate, marked "Attention FBI Laboratory."
2. Forward evidence either by registered mail or railway express.
3. Furnish name of subject or suspect and victim, if known.
4. Set out the nature of the violation.
5. Make a list of the evidence.
6. State what types of examinations are desired.
7. Set out the basic facts concerning the crime insofar as they pertain to the Laboratory examination.
8. Make reference to previous correspondence, if any.
9. Include a statement as to whether or not the evidence was examined by another expert in the same technical field.
10. State what disposition should be made of the evidence.

Experience in police schools indicates that uncertainty regarding the letter of transmittal is frequently a factor in foregoing the use of the FBI Laboratory. Basically, this letter is merely



a statement of what material is being sent, the available details of the crime and the evidence, and the examination desired to be made on the material submitted.

## Types of Examinations

Among the items examined by the Laboratory are the following:


Charred material (ashes)	Obliterated or altered numbers
Blood	Gunpowder patterns
Bombs and explosives	Soil specimens
Plaster casts	Firearms
Documents	Wood specimens
Fraudulent checks	Toolmarks
Glass fragments	Metals
Hairs and fibers	Paint specimens
Poisons	

Many of these examinations can play an important role in identifying or eliminating a suspect in a criminal case.



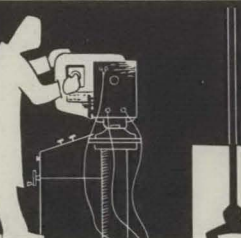

## Case Example

The manager of a liquor store in Georgia was shot and killed during an armed robbery. After the bullet was removed from the body, an officer properly marked the bullet and sent it to the FBI Laboratory for determination of the make and calibre of gun from which it had been fired. In a short time the FBI Laboratory reported that the bullet had been fired from a .32 calibre pistol which was one of four possible makes.

The police department had no suspects at the time. The officer in charge of the investigation contacted all the pawnshops in the area, making arrangements to fire all the .32 calibre pistols of those four makes which the pawnshops had on hand. In addition, pawnshop operators were to notify him when anyone pawned such a gun. At intervals for several weeks, as the pawnshop operators reported to him, the officer fired the pawned pistols of the four specified makes into a box



# FBI LABORATORY SERVICES

## LABORATORY EXAMINATIONS




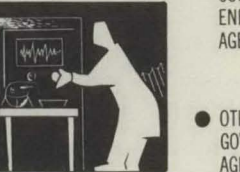
## SERVICES REQUESTED BY:

BIOCHEMICAL  
BIOLOGICAL  
CHARRED PAPER EXAMINATIONS  
CRYPTANALYSIS  
ELECTRICAL  
ELECTRONICS  
EXPLOSIVES  
FIBERS  
GENERAL CHEMICAL

GLASS FRACTURES  
GUNPOWDER TESTS  
GUNS & AMMUNITION  
HANDWRITING - HAND PRINTING  
INDENTED WRITING  
INK & PENCIL EXAMINATIONS  
METALLURGICAL  
NUMBER RESTORATION

OBLITERATED WRITING  
PAPER EXAMINATIONS  
PETROGRAPHIC  
PHARMACOLOGICAL  
PHOTOGRAPHIC EXAMINATIONS  
PORTRAIT PARLE EXAMINATIONS  
RADIO  
RESEARCH

SECRET WRITING  
SHOEPRINT EXAMINATIONS  
SPECTROGRAPHIC ANALYSES  
TIRETREAD EXAMINATIONS  
TOOLMARKS  
TOXICOLOGICAL  
TRANSLATION  
TYPEWRITING & OTHER  
MECHANICAL IMPRESSIONS

## "RESEARCH"


SPECIAL AGENTS PROVIDE EXPERT TESTIMONY IN COURT

INSTRUCT CLASSES OF SPECIAL AGENTS AND POLICE OFFICERS

ENGINEERING AND DEVELOPMENT OF RADIO

WRITE BOOKLETS FOR FBI USE, AND ARTICLES FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT BULLETIN

- FBI FIELD OFFICES
- LOCAL STATE, CITY, AND COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES
- OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES





stuffed with clean cotton. After each firing he retrieved the bullet, marked it and sent it to the Laboratory for comparison. After he had submitted about 50 bullets fired from pawned guns and other suspect weapons, the Laboratory reported that one of the bullets had been fired from the gun which had fired the fatal bullet. The officer checked his records, went to the pawnshop and obtained the gun, along with the name of the person who had pawned it. As a result, two men were taken into custody. They admitted their guilt and both subsequently received life sentences.

### ***Tracing Fugitives***

As generally occurs, the large majority of investigative leads prove fruitless but coverage of such leads is necessary if the case is to be solved or the fugitive apprehended. In tracing the trail of a criminal, laboratory examinations can be helpful. For example, in crimes involving explosions, the exact identification of the explosive, such as characteristics, manufacturer, etc., can be of assistance in locating the place of purchase and possibly in securing data concerning the purchaser.

The successful technique of publicizing wanted criminals elicits many reports of individuals believed to be identical or similar in description to the fugitive. If the suspect cannot be contacted to prove or disprove identity, document examinations many times can be useful. For instance, hotel or motel registration cards, automobile registrations, credit applications, and other items bearing handwriting of the suspect can be compared with known specimens of the subject. A positive identification would pinpoint the subject's whereabouts in connection with the place and date of the document and further the investigation to locate the fugitive.

During the investigation of a jewel theft case in California, local officers uncovered local hotel registration cards bearing a name which was thought to be an alias of a jewel thief of long standing who was living in Baltimore, Md. This suspect denied being in California at the time of theft and fought extradition to California. Document examiners in the FBI Laboratory, upon request of the local police authorities, identified the hotel registration signatures with the known handwriting of the suspect. FBI examiners testified concerning their findings at an extradition hearing in Maryland and

later at a habeas corpus hearing, and the suspect was subsequently ordered extradited to California. Tried and convicted in State court in California, the suspect was sentenced to a prison term in the State penitentiary.

In tracking the elusive bad check passer, the FBI's National Fraudulent Check File is available to local police agencies. Bad checks submitted can be searched against this file of previously received fraudulent checks for similarities in handwriting, names, typewriting, check protector markings, and watermarks. Oftentimes, a name on a check will be discovered to be the alias of a well-known criminal and in these cases the identification record of this individual can be furnished to the police agency which submitted the check.

### ***Value of Fingerprints***

One of the greatest handicaps of the criminal in flight is the collection of fingerprints maintained in the Identification Division of the FBI. This repository of prints was begun in 1924 in cooperation with the International Association of Chiefs of Police and on March 1, 1957, totaled 144,134,592 prints.

Today fingerprints of over 72,000,000 persons are on file. Of this number, over 11½ million were fingerprinted in connection with crimes which they had committed or were suspected of having committed. The remainder of the fingerprints are located in the civil files and consist of finger impressions of members of the armed forces, Government employees, aliens, persons employed on classified projects in which the Government has an interest, and citizens who have volunteered their fingerprints to insure against loss of identity.

A local police agency seeking a fugitive can utilize this collection of fingerprints as a "locator system." The local agency can submit the fingerprints of the wanted person and if this individual has a fingerprint record in the FBI files, this record will be "flagged." If at any subsequent time, a set of fingerprints on this wanted person is sent in to the FBI, the agency which placed the "stop notice" is notified. In this manner, an average of more than 1,000 fugitives a month are identified through submission of fingerprint cards to the FBI.

The full details of the fingerprint "stop notices" and the "wanted notices" which are carried in the monthly issues of the insert to the FBI Law En-



forcement Bulletin are included in the article entitled "FBI 'Stop' and 'Wanted' Notices Aid in Fugitive Hunts" in the February 1956 issue of the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin. Reprints of this article are available free of charge to interested police agencies upon request.

Examples of the operation of the "stop notice" system are numerous and varied. One "notice" placed in February of 1948 led to the location of an individual wanted for absconding when this fugitive's prints were submitted in October of 1951 in connection with an application for a taxi driver's license.

Authorities of a state prison who had a "wanted notice" on a man since 1917 were advised of his location as reflected by fingerprints submitted in October of 1951 when this individual applied for a duplicate Merchant Mariner's Document. In another case, a safe cracker, surprised by local officers in Virginia, was captured after a gun battle in which his right hand was too severely injured

to allow the fingers to be printed. The prints of the left hand were sent in to the FBI and from these prints the man was identified as a fugitive wanted in Virginia and Tennessee.

### ***Single Fingerprint File***

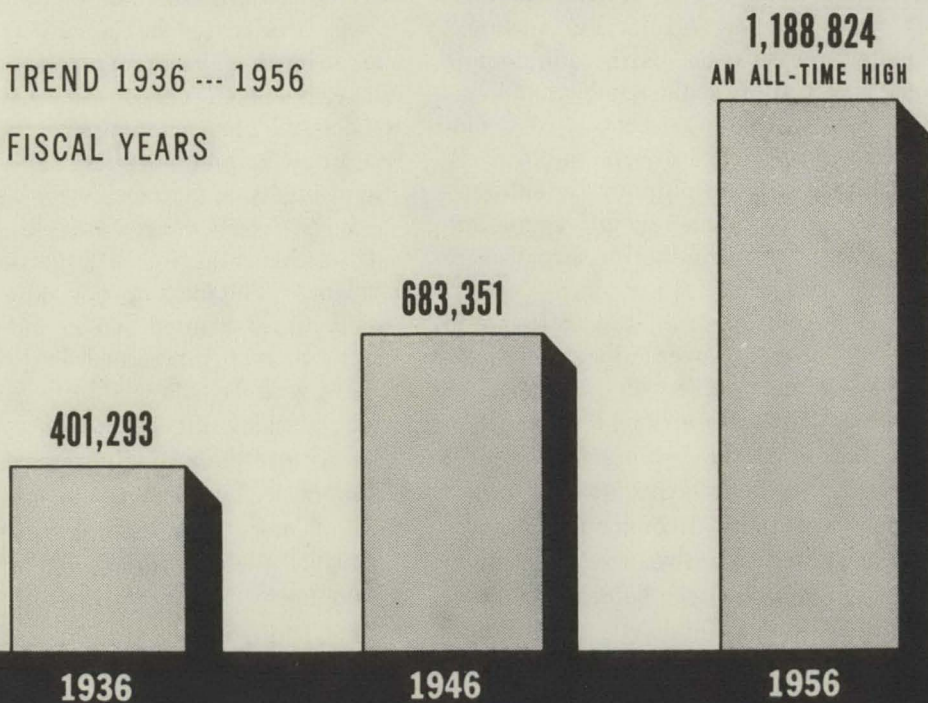
The FBI also maintains a Single Fingerprint File, which includes single prints of widely known kidnapers, extortionists, bank robbers, hijackers, gangsters and notorious criminals. As of June 30, 1956, there were 6,676 criminals included in this file. The value of this file lies in the fact that many times single prints are found at the scene of a crime, making searching most difficult in the regular files of the FBI Identification Division which are under the "10-finger classification." During the 1956 fiscal year, latent examinations were conducted in 6,865 cases, resulting in both the identification and elimination of suspects.

## **POLICE RECORD IDENTIFICATIONS**

ON FINGERPRINTS RECEIVED FROM POLICE DEPARTMENTS



TREND 1936 --- 1956  
FISCAL YEARS





In connection with the Single Fingerprint File the FBI also keeps a General Appearance File of confidence game operators. Searches in this file, which contains descriptive data and photographs of more than 2,500 known confidence game operators, will be made for local police agencies upon request.

### ***Value of Local Records***

Another important factor in fugitive investigations is accurate and serviceable records. An agency which fails to maintain records in usable form hinders its own operations and decreases the possible assistance it can afford to requests for assistance from other police organizations. One type of records file which proves valuable in fugitive cases is a file of the "wanted notices" which the FBI publishes each month in the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin. These "notices" are chiefly for fugitives being sought by local authorities across the country, and this publication enlists the assistance of the nation's combined law enforcement strength.

In order to assist police agencies in setting up and maintaining such "wanted notice" files, there appears in another section of this Bulletin issue an article concerning a system of filing the Bulletin Insert notices. This article is based on the suggestions received from police agencies and from the experience of the FBI in handling these items.

### ***Modus Operandi Files***

Another records file which aids in fugitive investigations is the "modus operandi" file. Most criminals follow some pattern in their operations. Sometimes this occurs because previous plans have been successful. Frequently, the criminal falls into habits and is not conscious of the similarities in his operations. Law enforcement can capitalize on this fact by recording certain "trade-marks" which distinguish the "work" of individual criminals. The "modus operandi" file sets out the methods by which certain criminals operate.

Often one seemingly minor detail will serve to connect a crime with a specific person. For example, a gunman murdered a man and brutally beat a woman accompanying the victim. Before leaving the scene, he tied the woman's hands with

a piece of cotton cord, tying a bowknot. Later the bodies of a man and wife were found at their home, brutally murdered. Around the woman's neck was a cotton cord, tied in a bowknot.

Local officers apprehended a suspect who confessed the first murder. The bowknot "trade-mark" linked him with the second murder, that of the couple. This deduction was supported by further investigation and scientific examination of evidence, including handwriting, guns and cotton cord. The "bowknot" murderer was subsequently executed. Chances are strong that had this criminal continued his spree of murders he would have continued to leave his calling card or trademark—the neatly tied bowknot.

From time to time in fraudulent check cases the FBI Laboratory determines that the checks and the M. O. are very similar to those in other investigations. Such observation resulted in the arrest of the two "Saturday afternoon burglars."

In their scheme the burglary was always perpetrated on a Saturday afternoon in a business office which had been closed for the week end. One of the pair handled the actual burglary, always wearing a neat business suit and carrying a brief case. In the brief case was a produce-crate opener about 7 inches long, which was used to jimmy the office door or to open the transom. When he left the building a few minutes later, the thief's appearance was the same as when he had entered but the brief case would then contain printed company check forms, personal identification cards, any other small items which would help negotiate checks, and any cash, bonds, or stamps which had been readily accessible. The stolen items were turned over to the other member of the pair who excelled in impersonation and check passing. The burglar and the check passer then split the returns. FBI Laboratory examination of many checks, coupled with a study of the modus operandi used in the burglaries, opened an avenue of investigation which led to prison sentences for both of these skilled criminal craftsmen.

Fugitives in flight often lapse into old habits or by other means betray their identity. Modus operandi files help law enforcement take advantage of this criminal habit. For example, one bank robber and his female companion traveled throughout the country by auto, plane, and train. Their trail was picked up from time to time when agents recognized the fugitives' peculiarities or

*(Continued on page 24)*





# Countywide Police Radio Net Links Ohio Communities

by CHIEF ROBERT BUCKLIN, JR., *University Heights, Ohio*

An extremely important factor in law enforcement today is radio communications. University Heights, Ohio, is part of an integrated radio system established over 10 years ago. To understand the system it is necessary to know a little of the geographical position of this community, a suburb of Cleveland, Ohio, on the shores of Lake Erie.

Located on the east side of Cleveland, University Heights is one of 58 political subdivisions in Cuyahoga County, with Cleveland as the hub. Each of these municipalities operates its own police department and, in most instances, fire department as well.

Picture, if you will, all of the police and fire departments, including the Cleveland Police Department, operating two-way radios and the interference and confusion which would result if no efficient, integrated system were in effect. Such an efficient system does exist, however, as will readily be seen.



*Chief Robert Bucklin, Jr.*

Six police radio frequencies have been assigned to Cuyahoga County, in addition to those frequencies assigned to the Cleveland Police Department and the point-to-point frequencies operated by a few of the suburbs. The larger municipalities have base stations with the smaller adjacent communities receiving radio service from them. On the east side of Cleveland, seven base stations operating on the same frequency control most of the eastern and part of the southern end of the county. University Heights is a base station.

## Area Covered

Police of 13 communities with a total population of 65,000 and an area of 75 square miles contract for radio service from University Heights. All of them, while not faced with big-city crime problems, are confronted by big-city traffic problems. Some have only one or two police officers on duty while others have more. Whenever an emergency arises, officers from adjoining communities come in to assist. The integrated system gives the community with only one officer on duty a police potential of approximately 100 uniformed men in case of an emergency.

The radio dispatcher at University Heights sits before one of the most modern, custom-built radio consoles to be found anywhere. He handles the telephone and controls electric doors to the jail section, "all-car" radio system (described below), monitoring system in the jail, paging system throughout the building which enables him to contact police personnel, and also controls banks of recall buttons and electric switches. All can be reached by swiveling in his chair.

The dispatcher not only receives complaints and requests for police service from University Heights residents, but he also broadcasts messages for the 13 communities.

As complaints and requests are received at the local police desk, those of an urgent nature are



relayed by telephone to the radio dispatcher at University Heights who broadcasts them to the respective patrol cars. In some instances emergency calls are received by the base station direct from residents in those communities which do not maintain police desks after certain hours and require police services. No responsibility is assumed by the base station, however, if the patrol car in a particular community fails to answer a call. During the past 10 years since the service was initiated, no incident has occurred where a resident in any of the 13 communities called for police service and did not receive it.

### ***Recall System***

A few years ago a recall system was installed to increase the efficiency of the one-man cars operated by some of the departments. It was difficult at times to contact a patrol car because the officer was away from his car, "shaking doors" of business establishments, investigating traffic accidents, traffic violations, etc. With the recall system the dispatcher controls a bank of buttons, each button representing a patrol car or detective cruiser. Some departments have more than one car on one button. If a car does not answer the dispatcher when called, he presses the button assigned to that car. This activates and broadcasts a series of tones. The car alerted will respond by blowing the horn, by activating the red light on the roof of the patrol car, or any other device which is connected with the recall system. The officer, seeing or hearing the signal, will return to his car and call the station for the message. The system greatly increases the efficiency of the one-man car and makes the officer more flexible in his operations. At the present time 33 cars are equipped with this system.

On the wall in front of the dispatcher is a large map showing the communities served by the base station. Each community has several red and green lights representing fire and police cars. Some of the departments operate ambulances, or stretcher cars, and above the lights representing these cars are placed red crosses. This enables the dispatcher to tell at a glance the number of ambulances available for an emergency. This map is controlled by individual switches, and when cars are out of service the lights are turned off. The radio log will indicate, however, where these cars can be contacted if needed.

Several years ago, the author and Chief James Seidehamel of the Hunting Valley Police Department were looking for a system whereby the Cleveland Police Department could contact the suburbs around the county by radio and notify them of holdups, stolen cars, and other messages of importance. At the same time neither the suburbs nor the Cleveland police wanted to listen to each other's "yak-yak."

### ***All-Car System***

Thomas Story, superintendent of communications for the Cleveland Police Department, came up with the answer in the "all-car" system which was installed throughout the county. The cost is prorated among all municipalities and the system is maintained by the Cleveland Police Department. Briefly, it operates in the following manner.

A Cleveland Police Department receiver is installed in a base station on each of the six frequencies in the county. The Cleveland police radio room has six receivers tuned to each of the six frequencies. All of the receivers are mute until such time as they are activated by tones. In front of the Cleveland police dispatcher is a master control button box for activating the receivers throughout the county. The receivers can be activated separately or all at once. Lights on the control box indicate when base stations are on the air.



***University Heights Police Department radio desk.***



When the Cleveland police dispatcher has an "all-car" message, he presses the master button which activates the six receivers in the county and at the same time activates the transmitters on the six frequencies, so that he talks not only to his own cars but to all the cars in the county. This system enables the Cleveland dispatcher to alert more than 700 square miles at one broadcast, a "natural" for civil defense.

This system works in reverse also, enabling all of the base stations throughout the county to initiate "all-car" broadcasts when needed.

"All-car" broadcasts can also be initiated from patrol cars. A car in hot pursuit can talk to other patrol cars even though the other cars are on a different frequency. This works in the following manner: the car in hot pursuit is heading towards Cleveland and is in need of assistance. The officer notifies his base station and gives the required information. Immediately, the base station will activate the Cleveland police dispatcher and notify him briefly that a certain car is calling for assistance. A switch is thrown in Cleveland and also one in the base station. After the switches are thrown, the officer in the chasing patrol car, when he turns on his transmitter, will automatically turn on the Cleveland police transmitter and talk to one or all of the Cleveland patrol cars. When the Cleveland dispatcher or a Cleveland patrol car officer turns on his transmitter, he automatically turns on the suburb's transmitter, thus enabling the two or more cars to talk to each other even though they are on different frequencies. Many important arrests have been made and many stolen cars recovered by the use of this system. Roadblocks can be set up in seconds to cover every main highway leading into or out of the county.

### **Local Control**

The base stations throughout the county where the "all-car" systems are installed maintain control of their transmitters. Any time Cleveland is making an "all-car" broadcast and the transmitter is needed for an emergency, the dispatcher can veto the Cleveland broadcast. When the Cleveland broadcast is vetoed, however, the message is automatically recorded and can be played back by the dispatcher.

The radio dispatcher at University Heights also has contact with the State Police and with neighboring counties over the sheriff's network.

This is the first system of its kind installed anywhere in the country, and University Heights is proud to have had a small part in its development.

### **CHECK SUSPECT CLEARED**

The chief of police in an Illinois city recently sent the FBI Laboratory a fraudulent check to be examined. The chief advised that a man had been indicted for passing this check, but had never been tried. Actually the man was serving time in a state penitentiary on a separate charge. The chief of police advised that another inmate of the same penitentiary had given a statement that he had passed the check. To resolve the question the chief sent the questioned check, together with known handwriting specimens of the two suspects, to the FBI Laboratory for a positive comparison.

The Laboratory found that a third man, George Lester Belew, formerly included on the list of Ten Most Wanted Fugitives until his apprehension on January 24, 1955, had passed the check.

This is the second time a similar incident occurred regarding checks passed by Belew. A Minnesota man was tried and found guilty in December of 1952 of passing a bad check and received a sentence of 0 to 10 years. The check was subsequently sent to the FBI Laboratory where it was immediately identified with handwriting of Belew. Minnesota state authorities were advised and the man who was serving time was granted a full pardon.

### **FUGITIVE CAPTURED**

One day early in February of this year an FBI agent and the identification officer of an Alabama police department were engaged in a general discussion concerning the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin. While browsing through old issues, the officer noticed that Lemuel Trotter, the fugitive pictured in the October 1956 issue, strongly resembled a man who had been arrested earlier that week by his department on a local charge. The prisoner's fingerprints were taken. They matched those on the Identification Order. The prisoner, who had given his name as Reco Glover, was questioned. This time, after having been fingerprinted, he gave his true name—Lemuel Trotter. Trotter was subsequently returned to Cincinnati, Ohio, to await trial for the murder of a Cincinnati police officer.



# CRIME PREVENTION

## Crime Prevention Requires Program of Education

by HON. ALAN R. FRASER, *Associate Justice of the Texas Court of Civil Appeals, Eighth Supreme Judicial District, El Paso, Tex.*

At the outset, let it be clearly understood that the program described in this article does not attempt to deal with problem children or young people, or the rehabilitation of young people, except as occasion or conditions present individual cases. In general, this writer would be the first to admit that the treatment of a so-called "problem child" requires careful and expert attention by people who know their business, and such treatment usually requires months and years, inasmuch as a wrong set of values or a confused way of thinking must be removed and a healthy and adjusted point of view transplanted.

This program is concerned with, and has as its ideal, *keeping normal children normal*.

Perhaps a little groundwork or background will be of some assistance to the reader in determining the origin and reasons for this program. The idea began when the writer was district attorney of a district that included six large counties in West Texas. The population of this area was a fair cross-section from the laborer to the ranch owner and the oilman. It seemed to me that a district attorney owed it to his people to know as much about the prevention of crime as he was expected to know about its prosecution. There was no trail to follow, as this area is one of small towns, with no large libraries and no developed agencies for the betterment of young people, such as child welfare, etc. So the idea had to be pioneered carefully and with constant attention to the ultimate objective.

Now it seemed to me that if history taught us anything, it was that the great and permanent changes that had come about in the world resulted, not from wars or the emergence of great military leaders, but rather from the accumulation of information which caused groups of people to finally rebel against conditions, or take positive action of some sort. So if we are to take history's lesson, we must immediately admit that to accomplish anything of a lasting nature, the best chance of

success lies in presenting and disseminating information. This really can be called, and should be called, teaching. And so education is both the torch and the mailed fist which led and hammered the way through to the great and indelible improvements of the world. By education, of course, we do not mean simply "book learning," but rather the distribution of useful information. How then can we educate against crime or juvenile delinquency?

Well, it seems fairly obvious that the educational world itself has provided that example, in that disease prevention, accident prevention, and fire prevention have long been taught. Why, then, cannot we offer the teaching of crime prevention?

Now as to the method of teaching crime prevention—I believe we can get a very useful parallel from the science of medicine. Medical science now undertakes to maintain conditions which encourage good health, and, in addition, undertakes to inoculate an individual *when he is well*, so as to make it unlikely that he will ever have any of the serious and decimating diseases which used to ravage great parts of the world. Medical science no longer waits until the individual is ill.

Now, if medicine can take this course in connection with the *body* of the human being, why cannot we follow the example and do the same thing



*Hon. Alan R. Fraser.*



for the *mind*, especially the minds of young people while they are still well and healthy. But, you ask, what sort of a medicine, antitoxin or vaccine could be produced to accomplish this purpose? I don't know. I can only present here the method that I have tried, with the firm conviction that it has been highly successful.

We have worked out a program to be presented with and through the consent and cooperation of school authorities. This program, so far, has been restricted to the high school age, but actually there is no reason at all why it cannot be modified and presented with real success to students in the seventh and eighth grades. They are very receptive at that age and not yet bothered with the problems of sophistication.

### ***Clear With Authorities***

After having cleared with the school authorities, and usually with the PTA, I take up the proposed program with the student council, so that when I enter the school I do so as the guest of the students and at their invitation. As the program develops, I select a committee of half a dozen boys and girls to be the sponsors and steering committee. They, at the same time, can keep me advised as to how the program is doing and what the student reaction is. Now this hour program should be delivered at least once a month either to the entire student body, if small enough, or by classes, and the results should not be analyzed from the standpoint of one program, but from the cumulative effect of several or many sessions.

### ***General Discussion***

The first 7 or 8 minutes are devoted to a presentation of part of the crime problem. Now let me make it clear that this program is not presented with the idea that any student in the school might be a potential wrong-doer. Such would likely cause resentment and resistance or scorn. The announced purpose is to bring information of a useful nature to people who are tomorrow's jurors, tomorrow's neighbors, and tomorrow's parents, as well as tomorrow's mayors, judges, etc. Of course it is hoped that the overall effect will serve a deterrent purpose with any young people who may be unsteady or confused, but I never say that to the student bodies.

The reason for the 7 or 8 minutes of discussion of the crime problem is the same reason that the

young people are taught other facts about their State and country. Here they have been taught how many bales of cotton the State of Texas produces, as well as how many barrels of oil, etc. They also find out how much paper pulp may be imported from Canada, or how many barrels of apples come in from Oregon. It is my hope that they will be better informed people if they know how many criminals are presently confined in the State penitentiary, how much it costs to keep them there, how many crimes are committed every day and every hour in the State and in the United States; and how many criminals we have in the U. S. A. More important, we want them to know how many of the people in the penitentiaries and reformatories are "repeaters," and how much of the crime is committed by young people. We always emphasize how much more education we could offer every American boy and girl if we could just cut the crime bill in half. Much of this information is derived from the release of information by the FBI, and the rest, of course, from State sources. It is easily and immediately available.

Then, I often give the students a little theoretical crime, or minute mystery, to unravel. This is good audience participation and is entertaining. It is my hope that after several months of working out crimes, many of the students will have subconsciously got on our side of the fence and be thinking sympathetically in terms of law enforcement and apprehending criminals, because they have had some small part in it.

### ***Case Examples***

The next part of the program covers the story of some habitual criminal. Again, this is a type of teaching. The teachers have been teaching, and quite rightly, what made Washington and others the good and great men they were. We try to show why habitual criminals turn from once likable and lovable children into "human rats," who reward their parents and loved ones by bringing shame, humiliation and disgrace to the family name. So if it is wise to teach what made Washington a good man, is it not well for your youngster also to know what made this man or that woman turn from a nice child into a vicious fool, a fool stupid and conceited enough to think he could beat all of the scientific and well-trained law enforcement agents, who are trained to stop such misguided persons, and protect the people who



are trying to make an honest living? I believe that any person who has become an habitual, dangerous criminal is no longer entitled to any personal privacy, and his life story should be available if it can be used as an example. Each year we try to group these case histories into personal character classifications.

We spend much time on the early growth of the individual, showing how many times he had been forgiven, paroled, and given every chance to get right and how people had tried to help. Then we bring out the actual kind of life he leads as a criminal, stressing the tension, hysteria, inability to trust anyone, and the general unhappy stupidity of his way of life. For example, this year your children would hear story after story of the bull-headed youngster whose undisciplined, strong-headed obstinacy ruined not only his own life, but the lives of those close to him, followed by the inevitable tragic result. Next year your children would hear story after story of the boy or girl who, while otherwise quite stable, had the fixed idea that money was the most important thing in the world, and the inevitable sorry result of such an idea. The following year, your children might hear story after story about a boy or girl who, in spite of all that parents could do or say, persisted in keeping known bad company, and the inevitable result of such behavior.

These stories are not told to be sensational, but rather to emphasize what has made nice people go wrong, and to bring out the unhappy or hysterical and badgered lives that the criminals themselves must lead. At this point it is always good to illustrate how "smart" the criminal really is. For example, I tell the young people, "You probably think your father's work is dull. He perhaps is a jeweler, and you think it is very uninteresting to buy rings for \$200 and sell them at \$350, and that that is not a very entertaining way to make a living. But take the case of John Doe, the criminal. He steals a \$300 ring at great trouble and risk to himself, and sells it to a 'fence' for probably \$75 or \$100, if he is lucky, and yet he thinks he is really smart. How stupid can you get?"

### *Crime Clinic*

The last part of the program consists of what we call a "crime clinic." At this time the students are not only permitted, but encouraged, to ask any question they wish—and they do. They ask

many questions. They want to know if dancing leads to crime; why we send people to jail for stealing food; why a policeman hides behind a billboard to catch a speeder; is the third degree still being used; why did one fellow get 3 years for stealing a motorcycle, and another only 2 years in a murder case, etc. This is, perhaps, the most valuable part of the program, because these questions are the mental heartbeat of your children. We carry the program fast, and whenever possible with a little humor so as to keep the atmosphere completely relaxed and still serious. When we hear all these questions, then we know, to a great degree, what is really troubling our young people. One question which is constantly asked is, "Why is it so difficult for young people and their parents to talk frankly with each other?" Then, too, the answer to a question has a much more lasting effect on a young person than if that information came to him as part of a speech.

It is our hope that this program, presented month after month, will build up in young people a realization that crime is the most stupid form of human activity. We hope that, in addition to realizing that criminals are stupid and conceited, these young people will develop a respect and affection for those who are hired and trained to protect them. Each year I always take one selected member from the FBI and one from the local police force to talk to the young people and answer their questions frankly. I have never seen it fail that the young people and these men become immediate friends, and the youngsters no longer look upon them as cloak and dagger individuals, lurking behind a bush.

On several occasions I have even taken selected ex-convicts before my student bodies and have permitted selected student groups to talk with a carefully screened prisoner. It always has a tremendous impact, and, I believe, lasting results. Local officials, working with and through the school authorities, can provide conducted tours through the local jails. We find that the young people always look back as they leave the jail or the penitentiary, and then, with a deep breath, look ahead to the freedom that is theirs if they will just keep it.

### *Personal Conferences*

There are, of course, almost innumerable personal conferences with students who feel they have no one else to whom they can talk. This I believe



is a profound obligation of law enforcement people. You may be the only person some youngster believes in. This is, of course, incidental to the program, but a very human part of it. I know of nothing more instructive than the years of conferences I have had with literally hundreds of young people, some in trouble and some not; and the prime reaction I get is that they are all trying—trying hard—and need but just a very little help from us.

There is one other observation with respect to this program. I have had the pleasure of presenting it here in El Paso to a number of high schools, and I have found that the response and results have been equally as enthusiastic in the city areas as in the rural areas. I have been asked what the one thing is that most young people earnestly desire and look for in the formation of their ideals. After discussing this matter with many, many young people, I can truthfully say that what young people want and desire above all things is some adult in whom they can have faith. This is even more important, I think, than sympathy, for to have faith in and respect for an adult is vitally important to every young person, and especially if the adult is in public life. They have seen and read and heard far too much of corruption and dishonesty in high places. It hurts them. They don't like it. They would far rather love and believe in their government, from the city to the national level. One of the greatest mistakes, I think sometimes, is to assume that coddling or exaggerated sympathy is the answer to confused young people. They have their place, of course, but there is no substitute for respect and discipline, for it is out of such that the strong men and women emerge; and so the proper combination would seem to be sympathy and love to inspire, and faith in and respect for the subject of such love, to hold the entire fabric together. Incidentally, I never refer to students as "teen-agers," but address them always as "Ladies and gentlemen of ----- school" and refer to them as young adults. They respond to this type of treatment instantly. They are a wonderful audience, keen and sharp and full of fun; but through it all runs this thread of wanting—wanting to believe in things and people.

### ***Character Building***

Of course this program is only a part of the necessary effort. Constant pressure must, through pub-

lic speaking and other means, be kept on the public—the parents, that is—that theirs is the immediate responsibility, and theirs the greatest opportunity. This can and should be done through all kinds of service groups, PTA organizations, etc. But it must be well done, just as the program for the young people must be handled with complete truthfulness and, at the same time, presented attractively enough to compete with the many other means of entertainment available to young people. The great group of parents and other people must be reminded that while it is possible to control a battleship or airplane by remote control, that is not the way to rear a child. While science can develop synthetic products, there is no substitute for character. The facts all show with shocking clarity that the great majority of our criminals, young and old, have come from broken or maladjusted homes, and that the failure or absence of home training is our greatest contributor to crime and juvenile delinquency. The parents need to be reminded that no matter how conscientious or warm-hearted she may be, no baby-sitter can put a mother's arms around a child, and that no other man, no matter how sympathetic and understanding and helpful, can be referred to as "my dad" by a youngster. These are the fundamentals; these are the things that strengthen and build; and these are the things which the little hands cling to in confusion and desperation. These are the things which save when nothing else will. I cannot be too emphatic about the necessity of bringing home the absolute, imperative need of every child for someone, preferably in the home, to cling to, to be loved by, and in whom he can believe and have faith. Just yesterday I heard a conversation in which a man was describing a couple as being very fine people. He said, "Just any Sunday you can see them bringing their children to Sunday school, and then calling for them and taking them home." The other fellow said, "Yes, I have seen that, too. I teach the Sunday school class, and I would give a whole lot if some Sunday those people would come on in *with* their children."

In conclusion, it might be said that we have done many strange things in individual cases, such as organizing a dramatics group to get one girl interested and give her an outlet for her desire to be in the public eye and to be important. We have organized a so-called musical fraternity

*(Continued on page 22)*





## ***Airplanes Increase Police Coverage in Nevada***

*by SHERIFF JESS C. HARRIS, Elko County Sheriff's  
Office, Elko, Nev.*

Elko County, because of its vast area, presents a real transportation problem to law enforcement. Covering over 17,000 square miles in area, the county is larger than many entire States. The population, however, is only about 12,000 with about one-half of this number living in Elko, the county seat. The remainder of the population is scattered throughout the county in small towns, communities, and rural areas.

Distances from Elko to some of these areas are in excess of 150 miles via county roads and highways. Some of these roads are closed to automobile traffic during the winter months and automobile traffic is impossible or impractical until the late spring or early summer. It is in these remote areas and during this period of the year that the airplane has been a valuable asset to this department in law enforcement work and in the other duties we are called upon to perform in connection with the general welfare of citizens in Elko County and the surrounding area.

The Elko County sheriff's office has access to several airplanes for use in its operations. At the present time, we use a Cessna 180 and a Cessna 172 for most of our investigative work. We have at our disposal an ambulance-type aircraft, which is individually owned. We use this plane to transport patients and subjects to distant hospitals when they are in need of medical attention which they cannot obtain in Elko.

The airplanes used by the department are rented from a local airplane service on a flat-rent basis. The county pays for use of the airplanes on a pro-rata basis, thus paying for only the actual flying time aircraft are used on official business.

Airplanes have proved valuable in locating persons who have become lost in the mountainous area of Elko County and its surrounding territory. On several occasions hunters and other lost persons were located in a short period of time and instructions relayed to ground parties via radio. This saved considerable time and in some instances possibly saved lives.

We have found airplanes of great assistance in the location of stolen automobiles and other stolen property which otherwise might never have been recovered. Since a large part of the county is traversed only by infrequently traveled county roads, automobiles and other stolen property can easily be hidden in these remote areas and often can be seen only from the air.

### ***Cooperation***

On numerous occasions this department has received requests from other law enforcement agencies to assist in the location of persons who are believed to be in some of the remote areas of our county. We comply with these requests to the best of our ability, depending on the situation and the conditions. By using airplanes, we are able



***Sheriff Jess C. Harris.***



to go directly to the area in search of these people, locate them and obtain the information desired or requested and contact the interested law enforcement agency in a short time.

In cooperation with the Elko County District Attorney's office, we have used airplanes to travel to other parts of the State and to neighboring States to conduct investigations with other officers and to obtain information concerning crimes committed in our jurisdiction.

Communications are relayed from the airplane to the local office of the Civil Aeronautics Authority via radio and then telephonically transmitted to the Elko County and Elko Police Department radio operators who then relay the information to the mobile units. At the present time we are considering equipping the airplanes with mobile radio units on the same frequency as the automobile units and the Elko County Police radio operator for direct communications.

The use of airplanes in our investigations and work has proved very beneficial. The expense of operating the airplanes is small considering the time saved and the results obtained.

## **Gun Backfires**

Early one evening in April 1956, a taxi driver picked up a fare in Cincinnati, Ohio. When they reached the destination the fare had designated, the customer pulled a revolver from under his jacket, pointed it at the driver, saying, "This is it." At that moment, an automobile went by. The fare became frightened and ran from the scene. The driver pursued him. The would-be robber returned, asked the driver to forget the whole thing, gave him his revolver, and fled.

The cab driver was the third citizen to be accosted in this neighborhood within a month. First, a woman motorist had been robbed of \$23 by a gun-wielding young man. Next, a man had stopped to offer a ride to a hitchhiker, who, instead of accepting the ride, had robbed him.

The gunman's efforts to bribe the cab driver into silence proved to be his downfall. The gun he thrust into the hands of the cab driver ultimately led to the robber's identity.

The revolver was found to be of English make. Many of these guns were shipped to this country after World War II. The records of numerous firearms dealers in the United States and Canada were checked by the Cincinnati Police Department

in efforts to locate the name of the purchaser. As a matter of police cooperation, the local police agency then requested the assistance of the FBI. This bureau subsequently learned that the revolver in question was part of a large English shipment received by a certain firearms company in California.

The police department contacted this company, which responded with the name and address of the purchaser of this particular weapon, as reflected in their records. He was a resident of Cincinnati, where the crimes had occurred. This man was arrested and admitted the three armed robberies. He later pleaded guilty and was sentenced to incarceration for an indefinite period.

## **Innocence Established**

Early in 1956, a fuel company in a southern city was burglarized and 40 of the firm's numbered checks were stolen. Shortly thereafter, a man was arrested and charged with this burglary and with passing two of the firm's forged checks. The suspect denied both charges. However, two merchants who had cashed the checks said that this man had presented the checks to them for cashing.

The local police sent photographic copies of the two checks in question to the FBI Laboratory, together with samples of the suspect's handwriting, requesting that the laboratory conduct a handwriting comparison. Handwriting experts determined that the checks had not been endorsed by the accused man. A search of the name of the endorser through the Identification Division revealed a criminal record for a person having the same name as the name signed on the questioned checks. By comparing this newly discovered suspect's signature which appeared on the fingerprint cards with the endorsements on the checks, FBI handwriting experts determined that the writing had been prepared by the same man. This information was sent to the submitting police agency. The charges against the initial suspect were dropped. The person whom the examination had revealed as the endorser of the questioned checks was then in prison on another charge. When interviewed, he admitted endorsing and cashing the checks.

Thus, scientific crime detection not only pointed out a guilty person but also supported the innocence of a suspect.



# ***Filing System for Bulletin Insert Wanted Notices***

One of the many services furnished by the Identification Division of the FBI to all law enforcement agencies is the posting of wanted notices in the fingerprint files, indicating that the apprehension of a particular individual is desired by a local law enforcement department. During the calendar year of 1956, there were 14,619 such fugitives identified for the general benefit of the law-enforcement profession.

In connection with this service, where fingerprints are available, the FBI will also publish a wanted notice in the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin, in the following types of cases:

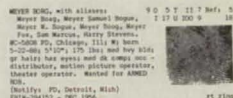
1. All felonious homicides (murder in all degrees; manslaughter).
2. Rape.
3. Robbery of all types.
4. Burglary and various statutory crimes such as breaking and entering, house breaking and safe breaking.
5. Grand larceny, including special types such as auto theft and cattle theft, but not including larcenies after trust or by trick, embezzlement, etc.
6. Sodomy.
7. Arson.
8. Mayhem.
9. Aggravated assault, of all types, such as assault with a deadly weapon.
10. Blackmail and extortion.
11. Kidnaping.
12. Assaults to commit and attempts to commit any of the above offenses.
13. Escapes from incarceration for any of the above offenses.

It should be noted that notices are not published regarding misdemeanors; parole or probation violations (except certain types under the jurisdiction of the FBI); cases in which subject is wanted only on suspicion of, or in connection with, offenses otherwise publishable; forgery; counterfeiting; receiving stolen tools; prostitution or pandering; drug, liquor, gambling and motor vehicle law violations; larceny by trick, etc., as noted in 5, above.

If a police agency desires the apprehension of a fugitive charged with any of the violations in the list above and his fingerprints are available, the FBI will, upon request and submission of the prints, publish a wanted notice on the desired fugitive setting out a single fingerprint, the fingerprint classification, the name, aliases, physical description, offense for which wanted, the fugitive's FBI number, and the name of the police agency seeking his apprehension.

A large number of these notices appear in each monthly issue of the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin Insert. Accordingly, it can be readily seen that an identification officer, whose space is very limited, has a problem in maintaining these notices in a readily accessible file within the limitations of his available space.

This article presents a simple, effective, and inexpensive method of filing such notices. With this system, a police agency which arrests a fugitive who has been listed previously in the Law Enforcement Bulletin Insert will be able to identify such a wanted person promptly.



THE REVERSE SIDE MAY  
BE USED IN THE  
SAME MANNER



*Suggested file card for wanted notices.*



Through the use of this method a law enforcement agency can make these notices a part of its regular fingerprint file at no expense. This is made possible by the fact that the wanted notices bear not only a single fingerprint of the fugitive but also his complete fingerprint classification. Each wanted notice should be clipped from the Bulletin Insert, mounted at the upper right-hand corner of a card as shown in the illustration and secured with paste or transparent tape. In order to derive the maximum benefit from each of these cards it is suggested that, as each of the mounted notices is cancelled, the remaining corners of the card be utilized in like manner. After the four corners of the card have been used, the card can then be reversed and the same procedure followed.

With regard to the cancellation of these notices, one method suggested by an identification officer makes use of a rubber stamp bearing the word "cancelled." As a cancellation notice appears in the Bulletin Insert, that particular notice is stamped catercornered across its face as reflected in the illustration.

After the wanted notice is set in place, the card is filed in the particular classification where it belongs in the fingerprint files. When a subject is arrested and fingerprinted, his impressions can be searched rapidly through the prints on file and the wanted notices bearing the fingerprint classification of fugitives. If the classification of a set of prints of a suspect matches the classification on a wanted notice or even a near comparison is made, it can then be further verified by comparing the single fingerprint contained on the wanted notice with the corresponding fingerprint of the prisoner.

Through this procedure the fugitive status of many prisoners in local jails has been disclosed in a very short period of time after their arrests.

The FBI desires to mention particularly that this method should not interfere in any way with the established procedure of forwarding to the FBI Headquarters in Washington, D. C., one copy of the fingerprints or record of additional arrest (Form 1-1) if the FBI number is known, of every person arrested. This procedure is necessary in order that a positive verification of the local identification may be made, and to assure that the individual's entire arrest record, based on fingerprints taken at the time of each arrest, will be complete in FBI files for the benefit of all law enforcement officials.

In 1956 police officials in London, England, sent to the FBI the fingerprints of a man who had attempted to land in England after having traveled from New York City as a stowaway. Records in the Identification Division showed that this man had been fingerprinted on criminal charges in several States in this country and in several European countries. This case illustrates one phase of the international exchange of fingerprints.

## Unidentified Deceased

The New York City Police Department has been endeavoring to identify an unknown white male who was removed from the Independent Subway station at 161st Street and River Avenue, Bronx, N. Y., dead on arrival, on September 28, 1956. The death of this individual was reported as a suicide after the person lay down on a running rail as a train was entering the station.

The deceased is described as follows: 55 to 60 years of age, 5 feet 10 inches, 160 pounds, blue eyes, gray hair, with no teeth present. He wore a blue suit, white shirt (collar attached), black low shoes, blue socks, brown belt, white undershirt, and blue shorts. He had part of a frame of horn rim glasses in his pocket, and his clothing was in fair condition.

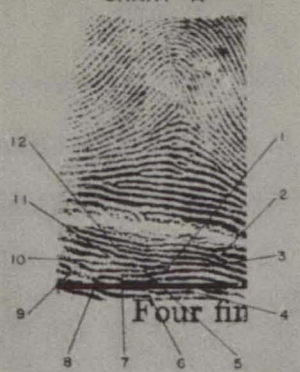
A photograph of the deceased accompanies this article.

It is requested that any information concerning the identity of this unknown deceased be referred to Chief Inspector Thomas A. Nielson, Missing Persons Bureau, Police Department, New York, N. Y.





CHART A

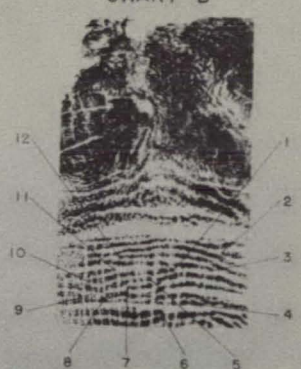


CHARTED ENLARGEMENT OF THE LEFT RING FINGERPRINT SHOWING HOW IDENTIFICATION WAS EFFECTED BY USE OF CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SECOND JOINT (NOTE APPEARANCE OF FIRST JOINT BEFORE MUTILATION)



PHOTOGRAPH SHOWING RESULT OF GRAFTING THE FINGERS OF THE RIGHT HAND TO THE LEFT SIDE OF THE CHEST FOR THE PURPOSE OF MUTILATING HIS FINGERTIPS

CHART B



CHARTED ENLARGEMENT OF THE LEFT RING FINGERPRINT SHOWING HOW IDENTIFICATION WAS EFFECTED BY USE OF CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SECOND JOINT (NOTE APPEARANCE OF FIRST JOINT AFTER MUTILATION)

## Fingerprint Mutilation

Many law enforcement officers have heard the story of Roscoe Pitts, who underwent the agony of an extremely painful operation in an attempt to obliterate his fingerprints. To remove the fingerprints from his left hand, five strips of skin, each about 2 inches long, were cut away from the right side of his chest, with each strip left attached at one end. Then, after most of the skin on the end joint of each finger and thumb of the left hand had been removed, these digits were bound to the freshly cut slits on the right side of his chest. After about 3 weeks, the remaining uncut edge of each strip of skin was cut loose from the fingers and thumb. This left the ends of these digits covered with skin from his chest and free from papillary ridges essential to fingerprint recording. A similar operation was performed on his right hand.

Pitts' efforts were in vain, however, as the next time his fingerprints were submitted to the Identification Division, they were identified by ridges on the second joints.

This incident occurred several years ago, but mutilations of a lesser degree are still encountered from time to time. For example, earlier this year the fingerprints of a burglar who had been arrested in Montana were sent in to the Identification Division of the FBI. Six of the fingers were mutilated so badly that extensive referencing was necessary to search the prints. When they were identified with a record on file, it was found that

a notation on a previous arrest card for this person stated that the fingerprints appeared to have been mutilated purposely. It was further stated that the fingertips of another man arrested with him also were damaged in the same way. These men, like Pitts, found that there was no point in trying to change or obliterate their fingerprint patterns in order to escape being identified.

An article entitled "Classification of the Scarred Fingerprint" appears on pages 12 through 14 of the April 1955 issue of the *FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin*. Additional data concerning problems involved in taking scarred fingerprints as well as the classifying, searching, and referencing of such prints appears in the FBI booklet entitled "The Science of Fingerprints," which is available to duly authorized law enforcement agents at 60 cents per copy from the Superintendent of Documents, United States Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

## IDENTIFYING THE DECEASED

When faced with the problem of identifying a deceased, the officer will often find that advanced decomposition makes fingerprinting of the body extremely difficult. He may decide that the job is beyond his scope and prefer to submit the hands to the FBI Identification Division for processing. In such cases, it must be remembered that many localities have laws governing the cutting of the dead, and all local statutes must be complied with.





## OTHER TOPICS

The Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, in conjunction with Headquarters, Marine Corps, is the focal point for formulating policy and disseminating guidance to all Navy and Marine activities in matters concerning the search, recovery, identification, preparation, casketing, shipment and final interment of the remains of deceased members of the Navy and Marine Corps. The assistance of local law enforcement authorities in connection with the Navy's Decedent Affairs Program is appreciated.

When a member of the service dies in a duty status, a series of carefully designed and closely controlled procedures is set in motion. These procedures are directed toward two specific objectives: to assure full, final tribute to the deceased member of the service; and to reduce, as much as possible, the anxiety and problems of the bereaved family. These objectives are equally applicable when death does not occur under direct jurisdiction of a naval activity.

When a member of the family is not in attendance at the time of death, the next of kin is immediately informed by telegram. The Navy expresses sympathy, gives notification that the remains will be prepared and casketed and requests the designation of the national cemetery or funeral establishment to which the remains should be consigned. Whenever possible, a naval officer makes a personal visit to the home to offer aid and counsel on matters related to the death. If desired by the next of kin, an escort is provided to accompany the remains to the place of final interment.

When the death of a serviceman in a duty status occurs outside the jurisdiction of military authorities, local civil authorities are often involved. Frequently, in such cases, those authorities inform the family members, who in turn make all arrangements for preparation, casketing, shipment and interment of the remains. If the naval authorities are not also informed immediately, the family may be deprived of the important assistance and services which the Navy wishes to make available to them. It is for this reason that the Navy

## ***Police Aid Asked in Navy Decedent Affairs Program***

*by Rear Admiral B. W. Hogan, Medical Corps,  
Surgeon General, U. S. Navy*

urgently solicits the cooperation of all State, county and municipal law enforcement agencies.

### ***Report***

Deaths of Navy or Marine Corps personnel on active duty, therefore, should be immediately reported to the District Medical Officer of the pertinent naval district, or the commanding officer of the nearest military activity, regardless of service. Naval authorities will accept responsibility for the charges for such communications. In addition to the information concerning the death, this notification should include the name, rank, serial number and duty station, if known, of the deceased. This will permit the Navy to provide all possible assistance to the family.

### ***Drowning Victim Identified***

On July 4, 1956, a badly decomposed body was washed ashore at Superior, Wis. The body was so badly decomposed that it was impossible to identify the person through physical features. The local chief of police forwarded the dead man's fingers to the FBI Identification Division. A few days previously a seaman had either jumped or fallen overboard from a Great Lakes steamer near that point, and all efforts to recover the body had failed.

Fingerprint experts assigned to the FBI's Latent Fingerprint Section, experienced in the processing of decomposed fingers, immediately began the appropriate treatment to restore the fingers so that prints could be taken. Within a few hours, the FBI was able to notify the chief of police that the deceased man had been identified. He was the seaman who had been seen either jumping or falling overboard a few days earlier. His identity had been established by matching his fingerprints with those on the card submitted when he had applied for a seaman's document from the seaman's section of the U. S. Coast Guard less than 3 months before his death.



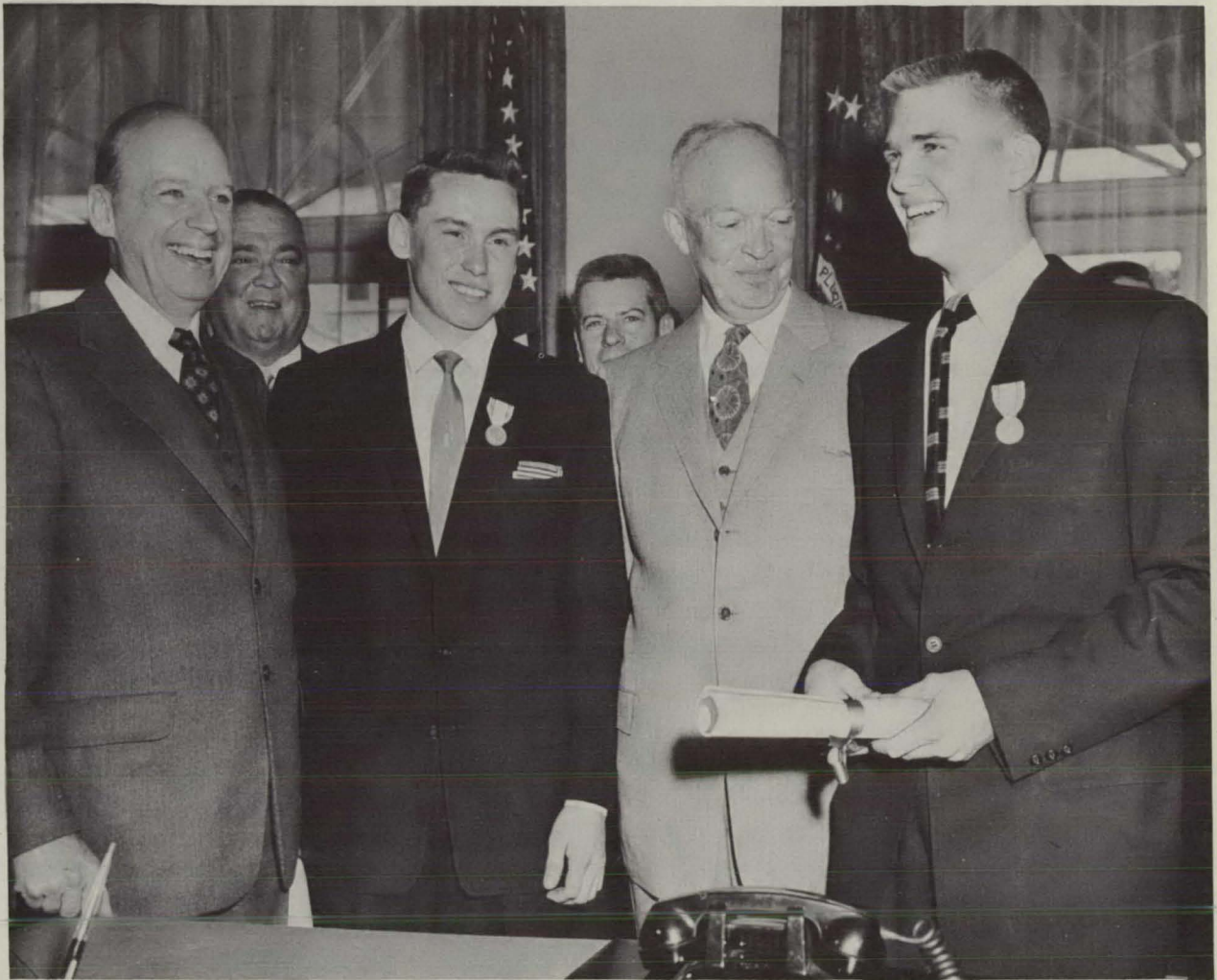
## Young American Medals Presented

On March 25, 1957, President Dwight D. Eisenhower at a White House ceremony presented a Young American Medal for Bravery to Edmund Zernach of Lawrenceburg, Ind., and a Young American Medal for Service to William Albert Steiger of Oshkosh, Wis.

These annual medals, first awarded in 1952, were presented for acts of bravery or unusual service performed in the calendar year 1955. The selections were made under an act of the 81st Congress which authorized the Department of Justice of the United States to recognize and to award to outstanding, courageous young Americans a medal for heroism known as the Young American Medal

for Bravery, and a medal for service and character known as the Young American Medal for Service. The rules and regulations governing these awards were printed in the January 1957 issue of the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin.

In May 1955, young Zernach, then 18, saved the life of a 14-year-old boy who was lying precariously at the edge of a 100-foot cliff. Ignoring his personal danger, Zernach descended, ledge by ledge, as far as possible and then leaped approximately 20 feet to reach the level upon which the boy was lying. He purposely leaped in such a way as to avoid starting a dirt slide, which would have been disastrous to both boys. A small tree kept Zernach from falling to the floor of the canyon. He slowly worked his way to within about 3 feet of the victim, held a short stick out



*A photograph taken at the White House on March 25, 1957, on the occasion of the presentation of the Young American Medals. Left to right: Attorney General Herbert Brownell, Jr., FBI, Director J. Edgar Hoover, Edmund Zernach, G. Frederick Mullen of the Department of Justice, President Eisenhower, and William Albert Steiger.*



to the now hysterical boy, while talking to him to calm his fears. After the younger boy had grasped the stick, Zernach pulled the victim toward him until he could grasp him by the wrist. He then worked the boy over to a safer place where they waited until others in their picnicking group lowered a cord to them.

William Albert Steiger, the recipient of the service award, was recognized for his outstanding work in school and community affairs. In addition to performing excellent work in his own city, young Steiger was selected by the Governor of Wisconsin to serve on the Youth Advisory Board to the Governor's Commission on Human Rights and was State Volunteer Chairman for the March of Dimes.

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## CRIME PREVENTION

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to get a couple of boys interested in music and divert them from seeking thrills elsewhere. There are many, many ways, but it takes a long time, and it is not always successful. How much better if we can *keep the normal child normal*. This article has been written in the hope that it may be of some use to other people who believe that the molding of the right attitude in the young adult group is the best crime prevention outside the home.

### Pointers

I am listing a few pointers which you may want to keep in mind.

1. Above all, in dealing with young people, individually or as audiences, be truthful and authentic. Don't pose; they will see through you quicker than any adult audience.

2. Always be prepared to prove anything you have said. One such instance may establish confidence in you on the part of the whole school. They will challenge you, but once you have produced the evidence, they will believe in you forever.

3. Select your steering committee carefully and use these students constantly to help you plan your approach to their particular school. Take your steering committee downtown to lunch every month or so. You will never have more enjoyable friends.

4. Do not talk down or up to your students. They will sense patronizing attitudes instantly and resent them; and if you give the impression of patting their little heads, they won't like it. Keep your place with friendliness and dignity, and they will do the same, and you will begin the formation of life-long friendships.

5. Above all, to be at all successful, this program must be kept completely free of political and social influence.

6. Lastly, if you don't genuinely like young people, don't attempt this program.

## New Design in Mobile Crime Unit

Sheriff Joe W. Rice, Riverside County, Calif., sheriff's office, has advised that a newly designed mobile laboratory has proved valuable in the work of his department.

For the past 5 years the Identification Bureau of Riverside County has used the station-wagon type of identification unit. After experimenting during the past 2 years, Capt. Ben Clark of the Identification Bureau recently presented an entirely new type of identification unit which has been acquired and placed in operation in this department. This unit is self-contained and will fit all available models of pickup trucks.

The whole body is metal, including bows and skin. All bows, reinforcements, and seams are welded. Both sides are open, making it easily accessible to all shelf space. For shorter people, a step is carried to reach the top shelf. The unit is open through the center, affording storage space which is also light-tight and can serve as an emergency darkroom. The shelf areas are the same on both sides, each side having 1 very large compartment, 2 medium and 2 small compartments. In all of the compartments there will be insert boxes made of 1/4-inch plywood with shelves and drawers as needed. However, at any later date when a piece of equipment is added or changes in size are made, the box that is presently in the compartment can be slipped out and a new one inserted. There are also four work shelves which pull out for ready use. On the underside of each side door and in the middle aisle there is a light connected in the cab of the truck. On the rear of the unit there are two 4-inch flasher lights for protection on the side of the road. There is a platform on



top of the unit from which pictures can be taken or lights mounted to illuminate a crime scene. This body unit, designed by Captain Clark, was built by a local sheet metal shop.

The truck is a standard six-cylinder pickup and is equipped the same as any police unit. On the top of the cab there are round flasher lights for protection on the highway.

Some of the items contained in the identification unit are: cameras—4 x 5 graphic, 2¼ x 3¼ fingerprint, and 35-mm.; tripods for cameras; complete fingerprint development kit; powders and chemicals; morgue fingerprint kit; complete casting equipment; gas mask; chemical testing equipment; tools; first-aid equipment; rope to secure crime scene; photoflash and miscellaneous camera accessories. Ample film, flash bulbs, evidence bags and tags, report forms, portable spotlight, vacuum cleaner with a filter to gather evidence, a single objective microscope for field examinations, 1,500-watt generator, five 300-watt floods, ample spools of electric cable, and tripods for the floods to light an area are also included in the unit.

Sheriff Rice stated that this particular type of mobile unit has been very satisfactory in the fairly mild climate in the area covered by his department, but noted that its practicality would, of course, vary in other kinds of climate and in areas having excessive amounts of rainfall. According to Sheriff Rice, his office will be glad to furnish any additional data concerning this mobile laboratory.



*Capt. Ben Clark, left, and Sheriff Joe W. Rice check mobile unit.*

## MODUS OPERANDI—AUTO THEFT

An auto thief found the following modus operandi very profitable—for a while. He made a practice of answering a newspaper ad in which an automobile owner stated his desire to sell his equity in a late-model car. Usually the subject would pose as an insurance adjustor. He would make a down payment or purchase this equity and advise the seller that he would pay the lien holder the remainder of the money due on the car or that he would assume the payments the seller had been making. He then would advise the seller, who was in fact his victim, that he would make the pay-off or begin the payments in 30 or 60 days. Then, with the automobile in his possession, the car thief would transport this automobile to a state wherein a title was not required for registration and would register the automobile, using a fictitious name. He would then go to a state wherein a title was requested for registration and would present the registration he had just obtained. After receiving a title for the fraudulently obtained automobile, the subject would then sell this vehicle to a dealer. He handled at least ten cars in this manner before he was apprehended by a local officer in Arizona, who recognized him from an Identification Order.

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## SUBMITTING PHOTOGRAPHS

Promptness in submitting fingerprints of arrested persons to the FBI Identification Division for processing is vitally important in police identification work. A photograph of the subject should be pasted to the fingerprint card, provided the photograph is readily available. If a photograph has been taken but has not been developed, a notation should be made in the space reserved for the photograph to the effect that a photograph is available in the files of the local agency. Thus subsequent needs for photographs of the individual may be filled directly from the agency which arrested, fingerprinted, and photographed the subject.

Ideally, every fingerprint submission would include a photograph of the subject. The submission of the fingerprints, however, should not be delayed in order to include the photograph. Every photograph submitted to the FBI or maintained in local police files should be adequately and accurately identified as to subject's name, date photograph taken, and other pertinent data.

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# WANTED BY THE FBI

SEBASTIANO BELLANCA, with aliases: Sebastiana Ballanca, Sebastiano Ballanca, Di Bastiano Bellanca, Sebastian Bellanca, Sebastiana Bellanca, Sebastina Bellanca, Sebastine Bellanca, Sebastino Bellanca, Sevastine Bellanca, "Benny" Bellanca, "Benny The Sicilian," "The Bald Head," and others.

## Bail Jumper

On November 24, 1954, an indictment was returned charging Sebastiano Bellanca with violating the Bail Jumper Statute after he failed to appear for trial on narcotics charges in the U. S. District Court, Southern District of New York. This fugitive previously has been convicted of violating Federal narcotics laws.

## Remarks

Bellanca has previously been employed as a house painter, restaurant operator, toy stuffer, restaurant worker, waiter and laborer. He is known to wear glasses at times. He is the subject of FBI Identification Order No. 2938.

## Caution

Bellanca may be armed and should be considered dangerous.

## Description

Sebastiano Bellanca is described as follows:

Age	53, born January 6, 1904, Cattolica, Sicily.
Height	5 feet, 4 inches.
Weight	165 to 185 pounds.
Build	Stocky.
Hair	Brown, graying, almost completely bald.
Eyes	Dark gray.
Complexion	Medium.
Race	White.
Nationality	American, naturalized.
Scars and marks	Scar on right cheek, large circular boil scar outer side middle left forearm, faint line scar outer side middle left finger.
FBI Number	797,788
Fingerprint classification	21 M 17 W IOI 11 L 1 U IOI



Sebastiano Bellanca.

## Notify FBI

Any person having information which may assist in locating Sebastiano Bellanca is requested to notify immediately the Director of the FBI, U. S. Department of Justice, Washington 25, D. C., or the special agent in charge of the nearest FBI field office.

## FUGITIVE CASES

(Continued from page 7)

the robber's holdup modus operandi. Occasionally, a bandit had thanked his victims, one of the robber's habits. On other occasions, a woman had become abusively profane in an argument with a hotel or night club employee as the robber's companion was wont to do.

Previously, the general nature of fugitive investigations and the value of citizen assistance and publicity in these cases have been pointed out. This article deals with the importance of scientific methods, of the modern identification system of fingerprinting, and accurate police records in fugitive cases. This article is not intended to be all inclusive but to encourage law enforcement officers to utilize all possible techniques and methods of crime detection in pursuit of the fleeing felon. As in all types of police work, the worth of the modern advancements in crime detection work depends in great measure upon mutual assistance and intelligent cooperation among law enforcement agencies.

(EDITOR'S NOTE.—This is the third article in a series concerning fugitive investigations and measures law enforcement agencies and other interested organizations can take in handling this problem.)



## The Directory Swindle

The well-dressed man who, accompanied by his wife, appeared at the office of a newspaper in Georgia made an excellent impression. Neat in appearance, personable in manner, he presented his ideas persuasively. He explained that he and an associate were partners in a firm engaged in the publication of classified business directories in conjunction with local newspapers in several States and had just completed the publication of directories through newspapers in two other Georgia towns.

These directories, the contact man declared, were complete. They included, among other things, a numerical list of telephone numbers, a street guide, postal information, mileage guides, information concerning professional men, church data, educational and school information, voting information, an outline of the government of the city, county, and state, along with historical data and other material of interest to the public. They were financed by advertising and published at no expense whatsoever to the local newspaper. All the paper had to do was to lend its good name. When the directory was completed, the paper could distribute it to homes, farms, and businesses, and reap the resultant good will. If the newspaper thought the idea worthwhile, the organization would lease appropriate space, set up a staff, call on business houses, and handle the entire promotion.

After receiving favorable reports concerning the organization, officials of the newspaper discussed the matter in detail, considered carefully, and entered into a formal contract with the directory company.

Under this agreement the directory company was permitted to solicit advertising for the directory in the name of the newspaper and also to collect money from persons desiring classified ads to be published in the directory. A portion of this money would be used to pay for one month's subscription to the paper and also to pay for an ad in a special issue. After the printing of this issue, the directory company would borrow the set type and use it to print the actual directory.

Immediately following the signing of the agreement, the two officials of the company moved into town and set up their offices in grand style. Various articles, such as a large organizational map replete with numerous colored pins, circles, and stars, lent an air of authenticity to the story that

this was a nationwide organization with field men and field offices all over the country.

Numerous employees were used—in administrative capacities, as the telephone solicitors, and for personal contacts with potential ad purchasers. Many of these were attractive girls, one of whom was even sent out to talk to civic groups in other Georgia towns to interest them in similar publishing ventures.

The canvass was thorough. Telephone contacts were followed by personal interviews. All pertinent information was developed, and, of greater importance, thousands of dollars was collected in the form of cash and checks. During the 5-month period in which they were working in this area, it was estimated that between \$80,000 and \$100,000 was collected in the one city alone. In addition, the company was using this city as a temporary headquarters to work other cities in Georgia and other states as well.

The activities of this pair first came to the attention of the FBI when a Georgia bank reported that through a check-kiting scheme one of the partners had succeeded in passing a \$14,500 worthless check. Investigation revealed that the two men heading the directory firm had caused many worthless checks to be transported interstate.

In the meantime, the offices of the directory company quietly closed and the partners and their families disappeared, together with the money which had been collected. The staff members of the concern were amazed to learn that they had been working for a couple of swindlers; the advertisers were disillusioned.

The two confidence men were eventually located, convicted, and sentenced for violating the Federal statutes prohibiting the interstate transportation of fraudulent checks and mail fraud.

### AUTO VICTIM IDENTIFIED

In a recent case in which an unidentified victim of an automobile accident was identified through fingerprint records, it was found that many States were involved. The inquiry came from a New Jersey police department. The victim was identified as a native of Ohio who had been fingerprinted in Florida, Virginia, and Pennsylvania. The latest address listed for this person was furnished to the interested police department in New Jersey, which enabled that department to locate the deceased individual's parents, who lived in Pennsylvania.

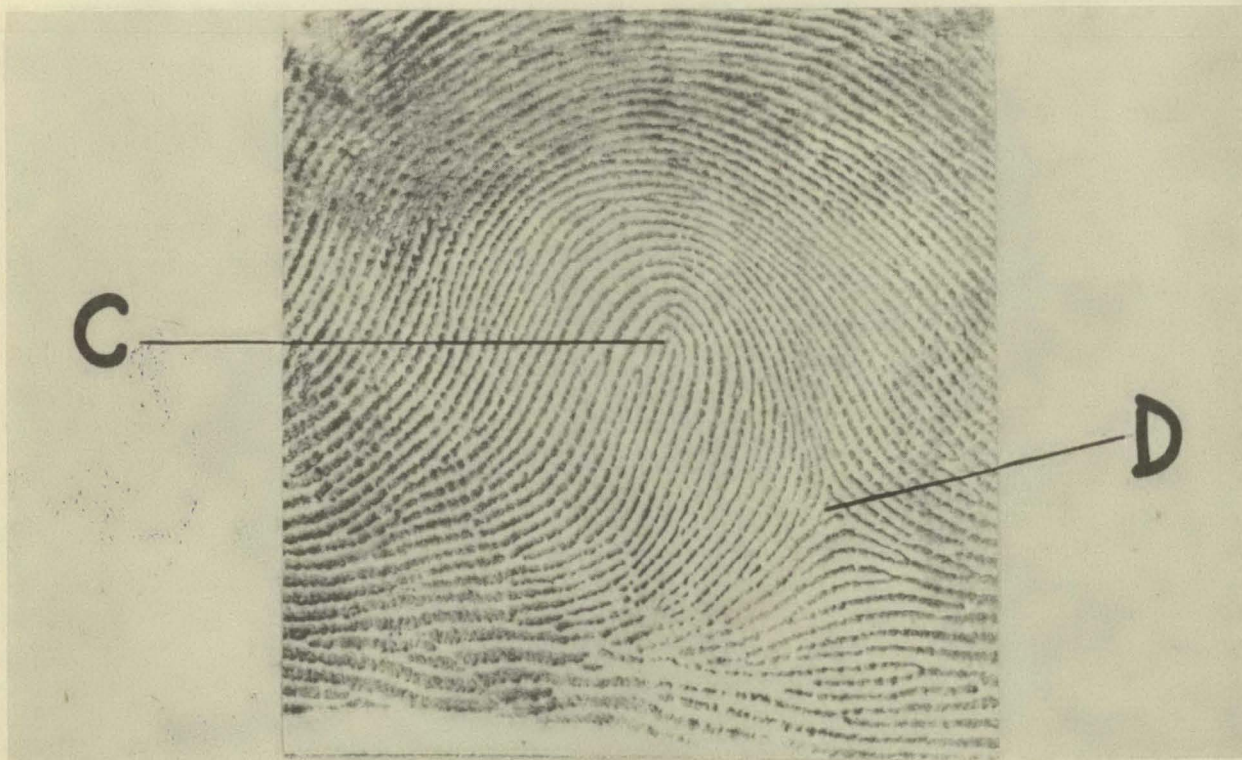


OFFICIAL BUSINESS

RETURN AFTER 5 DAYS

Colonel Harold G. Maison  
Superintendent  
Oregon State Police  
Salem, Oregon

## *Interesting Pattern*



The interesting pattern shown here serves to illustrate the location of the core. There are two ridges rising as high as or higher than the shoulders of the innermost sufficient recurve. Accordingly, the core, point C, is located on the top of the ridge farthest from the delta, point D. The pattern is classified as a loop with 15 ridge counts.