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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, 1958

TO ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS:

The massive and unprecedented criminal attack launched on American communities last year is a nationwide problem endangering the welfare of every citizen in the land. As reflected in the recently released Uniform Crime Reports, estimated major crimes in 1957 rose to a new all-time record total of 2,796,400. Soaring 9 percent over the record set in 1956, this total is 23.9 percent over the average of the previous five years.

The startling and foreboding factor in this avalanche of crime is the continuing upsurge in youthful depredation. Last year, city police reported that persons under 18 years of age accounted for more than 47 percent of arrests for serious offenses. In arrest reports from cities across the country, almost 68 percent of the auto thieves, 55 percent of the burglars and 26 percent of the robbers were under 18 years of age.

Without the cooperation of an alerted and enlightened public, law enforcement cannot hope to halt the juvenile crime stampede. Far too often the misguided policy of protecting all youthful offenders under a cloak of secrecy affords these lawbreakers a license to commit additional crimes. Illogical taboos and ill-advised sentimentality in this serious matter can only encourage the young criminal and endanger the law-abiding citizen. It is my firm belief that when the real danger of this problem is brought out into the open, public apathy disappears and citizen indignation incites decisive action.

Over the years I have strongly emphasized the vital necessity for law enforcement and the public to know the identities of those persons, regardless of age, who threaten the welfare of our communities. Fear of social censure has long been one of the basic deterrents to wrongdoing. In this respect, the growing trend of public opinion in favor of unmasking the flagrant juvenile violator is indeed encouraging.

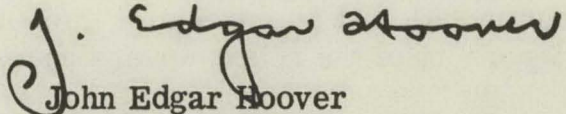
The public service performed by the Nation's press in arousing widespread awareness of this problem is particularly significant in this present trend. In some areas, legislators are taking the initiative in removing arbitrary restrictions which hinder local authorities in the handling of young terrorists. In addition, support for this realistic approach to the

youth crime problem is coming from businessmen, educators, civic organization leaders, representatives of the judiciary and serious-minded people in various walks of life.

Especially significant, surveys have shown young people themselves to be opposed to the policy of shielding vicious teen-age criminals. This is not surprising. They realize that reports of crimes by unnamed juveniles in any locality can only bring suspicion upon all the youngsters in the neighborhood.

Let there be no doubt that law enforcement heartily endorses reasonable consideration for children involved in minor transgressions and first offenses. However, juveniles who commit heinous crimes and who are guilty of repeated breaches of law neither deserve nor profit by the privilege of anonymity. For young criminals who set themselves above the law and disdain the rules of society, exposure to public scrutiny and scorn is a necessary step in any effort to bring them back into the bounds of acceptable conduct. Juvenile lawlessness is the real crime problem in America and only realistic measures will solve it.

Very truly yours,


John Edgar Hoover
Director



FEATURE ARTICLE

Statewide Agency in South Carolina Aids Enforcement

by **CHIEF J. P. STROM**, *Director, South Carolina
Law Enforcement Division*

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, known familiarly around the State as "SLED," has grown in little more than 20 years from a squad of liquor-law enforcers into the State's major clearinghouse for law-enforcement activity.

The State Law Enforcement Division was created by an act of the South Carolina General Assembly in 1935 for the purpose of enforcing the State liquor law and "to assist any law-enforcement officer in the detection of crime and the enforcement of any criminal laws of the State of South Carolina."

The original law-enforcement division was familiarly known as the State constabulary, and its chief activity remained for many years the enforcement of the State liquor laws. It was not until 1947 that the State Law Enforcement Division, as it exists today, was organized by a subsequent act of the State's general assembly which combined into SLED the State constabulary and the State Bureau of Identification, formerly attached to the State highway patrol.

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division's chief is a member of the Governor's staff and reports as such directly only to the Governor of the State for the activities of his division.

Gov. George Bell Timmerman, Jr., now in his fourth year as the State's chief executive, has given his full support and cooperation to efforts aimed at providing South Carolina with the best law enforcement possible.

The major purposes of the division are to lend assistance to all the local, State and Federal law enforcement agencies in the State; and to guarantee enforcement of local laws, should local agencies break down or find themselves inadequately staffed to handle local situations. SLED is especially designed to make available to the local and county law-enforcement agencies of the State technical aid and assistance which may not be available on a community level.

The division is staffed by a relatively small number of approximately 40 highly trained and

highly mobile technicians. Nearly every man is a skilled technician in some field as well as a highly trained, and in most cases widely experienced, law-enforcement officer.

The division offers to local law-enforcement agencies all facilities at its command when called upon for aid. These include fingerprint and personal identification files; chemical analysis files; ballistic comparisons; material comparisons; modus operandi files which list the methods of operations of large numbers of known criminals who have operated in the State; and a photographic file which includes photographs of a large number of criminals who are in prison or who have served prison terms for crimes in the State.

The facilities of the division make it possible to produce reproductions of photographs and other material almost instantaneously for distribution in cases of wanted criminals and escaped convicts. Sound recording equipment for the reproduction of statements is available along with



Chief J. P. Strom.

a polygraph. Also available are details of bloodhounds, pedigreed from the highest stock available in America and England, and various other facilities which aid in modern-day criminal investigation.

Three departments make up the division: The Scientific and Technical Bureau which includes the Identification Bureau; the Investigative Department; and the Alcohol and Liquor Law Enforcement Unit. Each department has lieutenants or an assistant chief who report directly to the division chief. Every man in the division is highly qualified and frequently functions as needed in capacities which might normally be assigned to a part of the division other than his own department.

Organization

The Scientific and Technical Bureau of the division is divided into the firearms identification, the polygraph and the chemical sections. The firearms identification section is headed by a technician well trained in this field. The polygraph section is operated by two technicians who have attended the Leonard Keeler Polygraph School in Chicago. The chemical section is headed by a technician who is a graduate chemist. In addition, these men are all well trained in fingerprints and photography and other phases of law enforcement.

The Alcohol and Liquor Law Enforcement Unit is headed by an assistant chief who reports directly to the division chief. This unit destroyed

1,333 whisky stills during 1957, augmenting the work of local sheriffs and police departments in this field.

The Investigative Department is organized under three lieutenants who report directly to the chief of the division. The department issues a weekly bulletin of criminal information, missing persons, etc. The bulletin contains descriptions, photographs, fingerprints and other data on fugitives and missing persons, MO data and descriptions of crimes and criminals.

The department has on its staff a trained pilot for use in connection with searches, for use by the liquor law-enforcement squad and for the assistance of local and other law-enforcement agencies. Another trained technician is a "frogman" especially trained in underwater recovery of weapons, safes, etc.

Resident Agents

The Investigative Department has resident agents who are assigned to and live in the five geographical sections of the State so that they are readily available on short notice when aid is requested by local authorities. There are resident agents in Darlington, Aiken, Greenwood, Greenville, Spartanburg, and in Union and Oconee Counties in addition to Columbia.

Every agent submits to headquarters a daily written report of his activities and expenses in addition to his routine daily radio and telephone contact with headquarters and other agents.

The division headquarters office maintains duty officers around the clock, and agents are on call 7 days a week. Technicians rotate on weekend duty so that our scientific and technical department renders prompt service on weekends.

Equipment

During the past 3 years, the division has grown from a small unit to a modernly equipped organization housed in its own quarters on the outskirts of the State capital.

Our chemical laboratory has grown from a few bottles of chemicals into a modern, well-equipped laboratory in a complete new building. Today, the laboratory handles, as routine, cases involving poisons, grouping of blood, determination of alcoholic content, determination of matter as being from the same source, and many other tests which aid in scientific crime detection.



Lt. M. N. Cate with firearms identification equipment and exhibits.

The headquarters maintains teletype communication with other law enforcement organizations as well as being associated in the State highway patrol radio network. It is noted that in his annual message to the legislature this year, Governor Timmerman recommended the establishment of a legislative committee to study ways of developing a more effective communications system among the various law-enforcement agencies of the State.

Our equipment today includes a polygraph, ballistics testing equipment, a modern pistol range, modern photographic laboratory and many other instruments and facilities.

In 1956 we built an additional building, especially designed for our use, which approximately doubled facilities at our headquarters and provided a modern interrogation room, a classroom, and a detention cell not previously available.

When the division was organized, we had a fingerprint file consisting of about 35,000 cards to which we have added FBI modification and extension. Our file has since grown until now it is in excess of 75,000 fingerprint cards.

We have also established a modern case file which is carefully cross-indexed.

Personnel

In selection of additions or replacements to our staff, we look for two basic types of individuals—either young college-trained men or experienced law-enforcement officers.

Our personnel turnover has been exceedingly small, in fact, virtually nonexistent. Our application file usually has from 200 to 300 applications from individuals interested in and actively seeking employment with the division. The applications are carefully screened, and when a staff addition is contemplated, we usually have a large number of qualified applicants from which to choose.

Applicants for employment with the division must be of exceptionally high moral character. Before any man is accepted for employment, a thorough character investigation is made to determine his reputation, moral character, employment record, educational qualifications, and other factors relating to his fitness to perform the duties demanded of our agents. Every applicant must be of temperate and industrious habits. Each candidate must be a citizen of the United States and of the State of South Carolina. The division prefers men who are natives of South Carolina and who are familiar with the State.

The salary scale for employees of the division compares favorably with that of other law-enforcement agencies in the State. Members of the division staff have a choice of two State retirement systems, in addition to being covered by Social Security. They may elect to participate in the State of South Carolina retirement system, which covers most State employees; or they may elect participation in the Police Insurance and Annuity Fund of South Carolina, an organization set up under State law which covers retirement of law enforcement officers in the State who elect to participate in the program.

Training

The chief purpose of our staff building and qualification program during the past years has been training. Our training program is arranged to give peak efficiency to our small and mobile staff, and to assure outstanding operation.

The fulfillment of our purpose as a State organization set up to render aid to local law-enforcement agencies is directly governed by the quality and caliber of our agents and the efficiency with which they operate. Only by providing prompt and efficient help have we been able to win the respect and confidence of the local law enforcement groups. Inservice training has made possible this upgrading of our agents and has brought about the growing capability of our division which has resulted in greatly increasing the number of calls we receive from local agencies.

To the training of our agents and the resulting higher caliber of our work, we attribute public



"SLED" facilities, with Administration Building at right.

acceptance of the division and the respect of the Governor and the members of the State legislature. Impressed with the improvement in the work of the division, these men who control the State's purse strings have made available to us larger budgets for equipment and facilities.

The benefits and accomplishments of our inservice training programs, conducted both in our own department and for local departments, have been evident in a review of closed cases. Inquiry into the techniques successfully used has on occasion revealed that a case was solved by some technique discussed or used in connection with inservice training periods.

Our inservice training program consists of two phases. On the one hand, an effort is made to send staff members away for outside training in law-enforcement schools. Six staff members have attended the FBI National Academy, several have attended the Southern Police Institute at Louisville, two have attended the Keeler Polygraph School in Chicago, and several have completed the Military Criminal Investigation School at Camp Gordon. At the same time, special schools are almost continuously underway at headquarters. Outside lecturers, FBI Agents, and members of our own staff conduct these schools for members of our department. Every department and staff member usually attends at least two of these special training schools each year, usually one in the spring and one in the fall.

Training for Local Departments

A major factor in the successful establishment of the division as a clearinghouse for law enforcement in South Carolina can be directly attributed to our training efforts on behalf of members of local law-enforcement agencies throughout the State.

One of my first official acts as chief of the division was to set up a program for inviting the heads of every local law-enforcement agency in the State to visit our State headquarters so that we could acquaint them with the scientific and technical equipment available and the aid we are in a position to render to them when requested. Officers from different sections of the State were invited to come to Columbia in small groups on alternating weeks so that the groups attending our program could have an opportunity to become acquainted with the division.

A school for newly elected sheriffs has been set up for sessions after election years so that the division can aid the sheriffs in becoming better acquainted with scientific and technical aspects of law enforcement.

In addition, the division is frequently called upon by local law-enforcement agencies to provide instructors for local inservice training programs. Our agents served as instructors in approximately 60 local law-enforcement training programs in the State last year.

We recently have conducted a series of 12 forest fire schools for members of the South Carolina Forestry Department. The schools for which we provided a major portion of the instructors were concerned with teaching members of the Forestry Department the techniques in tracing the sources of forest fires. Our own staff members are highly trained in preservation of crime scenes and evidence and frequently serve as instructors on these subjects. It is believed that a stricter enforcement of forest fire regulations and a resulting greater number of charges pressed for violations in this field are direct results of the training program.

We conduct periodical firearms training for our entire staff. Every member is qualified on the practical pistol course as well as being trained in the use of shotguns, gas grenades, and machine-guns. Our own pistol range is located adjacent to headquarters and we are in the process of building another new range on nearby State property.

Every agent in the division is trained in the use of a camera and other photographic equipment and has access to such equipment for use in his work.

Jurisdiction

As State agents, all of our agents are empowered to make arrests anywhere in the State as the occasion may arise. However, we have had no problems as to jurisdiction. Our policy has been to assist and not interfere with local law-enforcement agencies. We go into an area initially on our own only when local law enforcement on a county or city level may have broken down. On the other hand, we assist local and county law-enforcement agencies in their work regularly when our aid is needed. We average approximately 20 major services daily to local law-enforcement agencies which have requested our aid in one form or another.

(Continued on page 21)



Investigator Cars Increase Police Efficiency

by C. WARREN NORMAN, *Chief of Police,*
Springfield, Mo.

In the heart of the Missouri-Ozark Mountains lies the "Queen City," Springfield, Mo., which has an altitude of 1,350 feet above sea level and covers 35 square miles in area. Accepted as the county seat of Greene County, Mo., on July 18, 1835, Springfield has continually grown in population and industry. The city lies at the intersection of U. S. Highways 65 and 66 in the center of a retail trade area covering 136 towns. There are two railroads as well as a modern municipal airport.

In 1952 Springfield adopted the council-manager form of government and since that time has started a progressive program of local improvement which resulted in our city being awarded the title of "All-American City" for the year 1957.

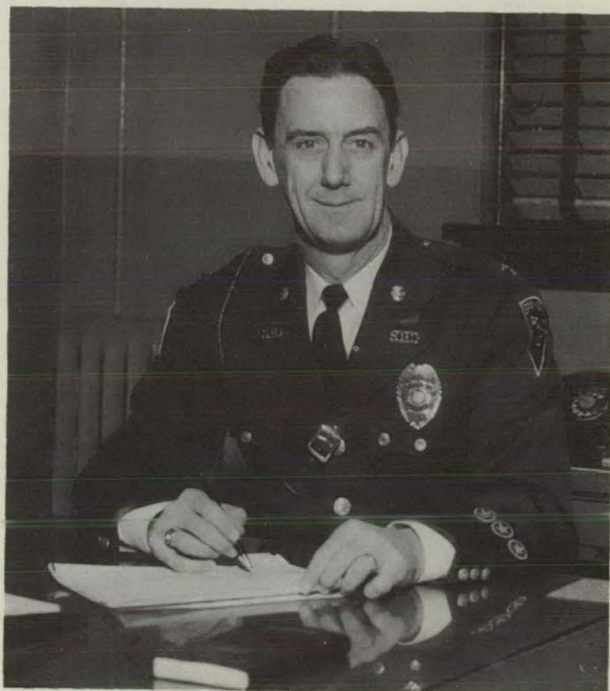
In 1941, when the population was approximately 69,000, we realized the necessity for highly trained personnel and modern equipment to specialize in the handling of major crimes and serious accidents. As one answer to this need, there was put into operation an emergency car which contained equipment required for the investigation of crimes of violence and the handling of emergencies. This initial investigator car was manned by one specially trained officer and proved its worth to the department. A second investigator car was added in 1957. Each car is now manned by two officers in order to fulfill the increased demand for such a service in a city which has now grown to a population of over 100,000.

To assist in carrying out its special functions, each car is equipped with the following items:

1. Speed Graphic camera with tripod.
2. Chemical case.
3. Fingerprint kit complete with camera and iodine fumer.
4. Plaster and moulage equipment.
5. Gas masks.
6. Gas gun, grenades and parachute flares.
7. Riot gun.
8. Thompson .45 caliber submachine gun.

9. .30-.30 rifle.
10. Rope (for rescue work and roping off crime scene).
11. Containers for preservation of evidence.
12. Wrecking bar, "jimmy" bar, hammer, shovel, chisel and hacksaw.
13. First-aid kit.
14. Splints, rubber sheets and blankets.
15. Electric flares and fuses.
16. Oxygen inhalator.
17. Steel tape.
18. Floodlamps.

These cars had to be specially rebuilt to hold this equipment. The rear seats were removed, and special racks were constructed to hold the various pieces of equipment in place safely and in a handy position. A special gun rack was built on the floor behind the front seat so that the guns are easy to obtain but are kept out of



Chief C. Warren Norman.

sight by means of a special cover. The equipment most often used and needed most quickly is placed in the most accessible locations.

The uniformed officers in the investigator cars have various primary functions, including: conducting searches for physical evidence at the crime scene; taking the necessary steps to preserve evidence when found; reproducing it by photographic and casting methods; labeling and preserving it in its proper sequence; and also to interpret its relation to the situation. The officers are also trained in the use of first-aid equipment, if such be needed.

Each investigator car is manned by a uniformed sergeant and a patrolman second-class who have received specialized training in photography, photographing and lifting fingerprints, the mixing and the application of plaster and moulage. Each man must also be experienced in the handling of all weapons carried in the car, including the gas gun. In addition, these officers must also possess a standard and advanced American Red Cross first-aid card.

Quarterly, each man is required to attend a 3-day training program which not only serves as a refresher course but also includes instruction in the latest methods of crime detection and prevention. Any problems or new developments which have occurred since the last training session are discussed with a view toward achieving maximum efficiency. All publications received by the police department having a bearing on investigative methods are studied for selection of those which can be utilized to improve the efficiency of the investigators in both speed and perfection.



Investigator car and equipment.

Operations

We have these special cars in operation 24 hours a day. Manned by regularly trained operators in contact with police headquarters continuously during their tour of duty, these cars answer all emergencies, including major accidents, all crimes of violence and all cases where speedy first-aid assistance is required. These cars are generally the first to arrive at the scene of any tragedy. On one call these special officers may assist in the saving of a life, while on another call, perhaps only a few moments later, they may be employed as "shock troops" in the pursuit and apprehension of a felon.

The city is divided into 9 patrol car districts and 2 investigator districts. The sergeant in each investigator district assists the officer in charge of supervising the patrol car drivers in his respective area. By this method, closer supervision and better coordination within the department are obtained. The training given the men in the investigator car units is also imparted to each individual patrol car driver by way of this frequent contact and his association with the investigator car sergeant.

In the event of a disaster the plan of our department calls for one investigator car to proceed at once to the disaster area and assist in sealing off the area, establishing and manning entrance and exit points, and policing of the area. The second car is charged with the responsibility of setting up a temporary first-aid point until the Civil Defense rescue teams have arrived and are in operation.

Numerous beneficial results have been obtained through the use of the investigator cars. For example, one officer used his first-aid training to save the life of an individual who had accidentally suffered a deep abdominal wound which resulted in the severing of an artery. The alert officer successfully stopped the flow of blood by reaching into the wound and holding the severed artery closed with his fingers until the victim reached a hospital and the care of a physician. For this act the officer was awarded an appropriate scroll by the American Red Cross in testimony of his invaluable services.

A basic factor in any successful investigation is the location and the preservation of evidence at the crime scene. Many investigations are hampered by the amount of time elapsing between the discovery of the crime and the arrival of the

investigating officers at the scene. With the quick action on the part of trained and experienced uniformed investigator car officers, the detectives or followup officers assigned to a particular case frequently have the advantage of material evidence that might have been lost in elapsed time after the crime.

A police department ordinarily consists of several different divisions, and these divisions can suffer from a lack of proper coordination. The investigator car units have proved valuable in bringing liaison between our uniform and detective divisions. At crime scenes, for example, the specially trained uniformed investigators are gathering and preserving physical evidence, while the trained detective investigators assigned to the case are spending their time investigating witnesses and suspects. This coordination makes for a more perfect case by shortening the investigating time and allowing each man to spend his full effort in the task for which he is best trained. Thus all evidence is properly reproduced, identified, and its bearing on the specific case is marked in its proper sequence.

With these investigator cars, the Springfield, Mo., Police Department has successfully avoided any possible gap between its two main divisions. We enjoy a well organized department, with all of the men coordinating efforts to successfully complete a job, fully realizing that only in this manner can they win their fight against crime.



General Appearance File

The General Appearance File on confidence game operators, which is maintained in the Latent Fingerprint Section of the Identification Division of the FBI in Washington, D. C., can be of assistance in identifying the swindlers who prey on unsuspecting citizens. It contains descriptive data and photographs of over 2,500 known confidence game operators. The assistance which this file is capable of rendering can be seen from the results of a swindle case which recently occurred in Orlando, Fla.

The con man in this case was posing as the business partner of a wealthy oilman, and he would tell his victims that he and his partner were in Florida for the purpose of buying oil leases for a quick resale to another oil company. Contacting real estate businesswomen, he would advise them

of his plans and would request to be shown houses which were selling for \$75,000 to \$100,000.

While the women were escorting him around the town, he made no secret of the fact that he and his partner were going to gross about a million dollars on the oil lease deals. Such remarks tended to draw the women real estate representatives in deeper with prospects of the large commission accruing from the sale of a house in the \$75,000 bracket. In reply to inquiries about his wealthy associate, the prospective buyer explained that the latter was an alcoholic who never left his hotel room. After looking at several homes, he would choose a house. He would then mention that the deal was to be strictly cash as soon as the oil leases were resold.

The swindler's next step was to explain that he was short of cash due to his lawyer's charge for legal fees and due to a delay in having his bank account changed over to a local bank. Suavely, he would arrange for loans of several hundred dollars and then disappear.

Based upon the complaints of these fleecings received by the Orlando Police Department, a description and modus operandi of the unknown swindler were submitted to the FBI Identification Division. Forty-nine photographs of known confidence men similar to the submitted description and information were selected from the General Appearance File and forwarded to the Orlando Police Department. Subsequently, two of the victims were able to identify one of these photographs as the man to whom they had lent money. On the basis of this identification, the local police located the subject when he was arrested for vagrancy and failure to register as a criminal with a prior record. He received a fine of \$120 or 60 days in jail on each of the above charges.

Searches of the General Appearance File will be made upon request; however, in furnishing data on a suspect, the submitting agency should make sure that complete descriptive data is sent in. Photographs and other material on individuals who may be identical with those being sought will be furnished to the interested departments.

To increase the usefulness of the General Appearance File, it would be helpful if law enforcement agencies upon arresting a known confidence man would furnish his photograph, complete description and modus operandi to the attention of the Latent Fingerprint Section of the FBI Identification Division.



Michigan State Police Organize Diving Squad

by JOSEPH A. CHILDS, *Commissioner,
Michigan State Police*

The Michigan State Police have added a new technique to their operations—skin diving, or to be more correct, Scuba diving, a term which persons who are not divers will probably never use.

Impressed by the results obtained in various instances in the past when the department has called upon civilian skin divers to aid in the recovery of evidence thrown into lakes and streams, a class of 16 troopers was organized last August to take a 5-day course of intensified training in this activity.

The value of this move was soon demonstrated on various assignments, so much so that plans were made for a second school for the purpose of training another 16 troopers. Once it was known that the diving squad had been formed, there were frequent calls for this service. The squad has had a large measure of success in its underwater ventures.



Commissioner Joseph A. Childs.

The 16 troopers comprise one 2-man team from each of the department's 8 districts. Their 45-hour training course, conducted at East Lansing headquarters, was designed to acquaint them thoroughly with all they should know about diving that could be gained by instruction, as well as some practical experience.

Instructors in the course included the State Police training school diving expert, Trooper William Carter; members of the Capitol City Skin Diving Club of Lansing; representatives of companies selling Scuba equipment; a doctor who discussed the physical aspects of the technique; and a University of Michigan professor who lectured on underwater geology. Lt. William J. Ward, commanding officer of the Michigan State Police training school, supervised the course.

The troopers were not chosen haphazardly. Because of the nature of the work, volunteers were called for and those who entered the school were carefully chosen from this group.

No special inducements were offered. No extra pay, no promises of promotions, no release from regular duties unless sent on a diving assignment, no special privileges or benefits were offered. When not on regular duty, the divers are permitted the use of their diving equipment at beaches to keep in practice.

The candidates were told that the squad was being organized for serious business and not underwater spear fishing or treasure hunting. They were informed that if any were dissatisfied with the conditions governing membership on the squad they should withdraw and it would be no mark against them. Not one withdrew. All were enthusiastic and actually saw an opportunity to perform another type of service for the public.

Training

The first step in the training program was a physical examination to assure that the selected members could withstand the demands that diving places upon the body. Then all candidates

jumped into the headquarters pool to show how good they were at swimming, inasmuch as ability as a strong swimmer is one of our requirements.

Following this step, there were explanations and demonstrations of the diving equipment before the men were finally allowed to start using the outfits in the pool.

Other training included survival swimming, the physics involved in diving, physical and medical aspects of diving, first aid and artificial respiration, underwater geology, boat safety, and maintenance of the equipment.

By the afternoon of the third day, the training was shifted to a nearby lake, on the fourth day to a river, and on the fifth day back to another lake, where problems were worked out in the recovery of the bodies of drowning victims and evidence.

Evenings were largely given over to the showing of movies on the use of the equipment, first aid and water safety and U. S. Navy diving, followed by discussion periods. Both at lunch time and at dinner an extra period was permitted for rest.

Although the divers were soon at work after their 5-day course, their training was not yet over. In December they were called together again at Higgins Lake in the northerly part of the State to practice diving under cold weather conditions. The conditions were not simulated. The temperature hovered around zero and it was necessary to break through a large area of ice that rimmed the shore.

The divers remained submerged for intervals as long as 30 minutes and although it was not the most comfortable experience in the world, the squad is now prepared to dive under any and all types of weather conditions.

Under our operational procedure, diving teams from other State police districts are sent to the district where there is an emergency to work with the local team so that several divers are available. The plan calls for the teams to dive in relays when the occasion calls for it. This is done to provide proper rest intervals without interrupting a search and, under adverse conditions, to preclude working one team longer than is safe for health. Lives of the divers are not to be unduly risked. They work in pairs roped together so that if one gets into trouble another is there to aid him and, in so doing, guide himself to his companion even though the water may be murky and muddy and visibility may be almost zero.

Six days after the school was completed, two of the divers were on their first assignment. The

automobile of two young men was found on the shores of Walled Lake in Oakland County. Wallets and clothing were in the car and it was presumed the two men had drowned. Efforts to recover the bodies had been made without result and the local police asked for the aid of the divers.

Six divers were dispatched, but the two who arrived first recovered the bodies in 15 feet of water, 100 yards from shore, on their first sweep. While this was an auspicious beginning for the new activity, it was recognized that it also was a lucky beginning in that most assignments would not be completed in such short order.

Four days later the divers again were sent on a similar assignment to Three Lakes, 6 miles north of Williamston in Ingham County, where two fishermen drowned while swimming to shore from an overturned boat. The operation did not go as fast this time, but it was successful. Starting their search in the evening and after working most of the night with underwater lights, the divers found the bodies the next morning 25 feet down in heavy weed beds which had concealed them. The white-soled shoes of one of the victims led to his discovery.

A short time later two of the divers recovered a wool sock containing billfolds and papers from 9 feet of water in the Kawkawlin River, 4 miles north of Bay City, where the evidence was believed to have been disposed of by three suspects arrested in connection with the holdup of a couple parked at the Bay City state park.

In another instance, the divers did a triple job. Called to Niles, Mich., by the sheriff to recover a stolen cash register from Dowagiac Creek, they found it in a matter of minutes. A detective who



State troopers in skin diving equipment.

had watched the recovery asked the men to go to Berrien County to search for the door of a safe which criminals had dropped into the St. Joseph River. They recovered the door and, while hunting for it, also brought up a safe which, when checked, was connected with a burglary.

Then a similar incident occurred at Lansing, where the divers went into the Grand River to locate a safe. They found it, plus another safe and, to cap the climax, a stolen cash register with a live fish in the drawer.

Colder weather seemed to increase the activity. November and December of 1957 and January of 1958 were extremely busy months. A few of the assignments can give an indication of the activity. At Escanaba a cash register was recovered from Little Bay De Noc where it had been thrown from a dock. In Lake County a stolen soft drink dispensing machine was found in a lake. A stolen car was removed from a quarry at Monroe. On two different assignments at the Huron River near Ann Arbor a cash register and a safe were recovered. On a third assignment at the Huron River the divers did not find the stolen sterling silver for which they were searching, but they did bring up a stolen toaster and iron.

One tragic occurrence last fall had a somewhat unusual outcome. A Lansing family of six took off from Marquette airport in their private plane, piloted by the father. No flight plan was filed and the plane became overdue.

For several days an intensive search by air was made of land and water routes over which the plane might have traveled, but there was no trace of the craft. Weather conditions the day of the flight were poor and it was finally surmised the plane might have gone down in Lake Superior not far from Marquette, but somewhat off course.

Children's clothing which had drifted to shore was a clue, and divers, both civilian and State Police, as well as other rescuers went to work.

After a long and hard search State Police divers found the demolished plane on the rocky bottom and all that was recoverable was brought up. Civilian divers recovered two children's bodies.

Eventually the diving had to be abandoned as it was theorized that the four remaining bodies had been carried out into water too deep to pattern for a search.

In the meantime, sympathizers were donating money to a fund which bereaved relatives could use to bury the dead. The relatives, however, split the money two ways among the rescuers and

half of it, \$152, was sent to the State Police pension fund in appreciation of the services of the department.

The services of the diving squad, as are other services of the State Police, are available to any police agency and there is no charge. Many of the assignments on which the squad has been sent have originated with sheriffs and local police.

The cost of equipping each diver is about \$200. In addition, an air compressor has been installed at headquarters and some portable storage tanks have been purchased. These tanks are sent to the scene of an emergency so that the divers will have refills of air for their diving tanks. In the absence of an emergency, empty diving tanks are sent to headquarters to receive fresh charges.

Underwater contour maps of the principal lakes of the State have been obtained so that the divers can orientate themselves when starting a search.

While we organized and trained the first squad as an experiment, the successful activity which soon followed quickly made it a permanent activity. In organizing the squad, we were not entirely without previous examples to encourage us.

In 1955 two murderers of a gas station attendant in Michigan were brought to justice when members of the Capitol City Skin Diving Club and the State Police cooperated in the recovery of a shotgun and rifle which had been hurled into a weed-bottomed lake. In the same year a university student was convicted of attempted rape when a knife he had used as a weapon was found in a river. Numerous safes and other objects also had been recovered by civilian divers.

These divers, however, were not always handy or could not always leave their jobs when wanted. In order to have our own facilities, and also to increase the use of diving as the most efficient means of operation, we formed our own squad.

We have great hopes for this diving squad. From what has already been accomplished, we expect it to perform a very valuable service in many cases of investigation when there has been an effort to get rid of evidence in a lake or stream, where a criminal believes it is beyond finding. Then, too, bodies of drowning victims are often more quickly recovered, and more humanely, and this is most important to the families of the victims. There also will be many other kinds of police operations in which the services of the divers will be uniquely valuable. We consider the organization of our squad as a progressive move.



SCIENTIFIC AIDS

This summer, as in past years, police are faced with a serious problem in the seasonal increase of crimes against the person. With the exception of negligent manslaughter, which usually reaches a peak in December, major offenses against the person show a decided upward trend during the warmer months. These crimes include murder, rape, and aggravated assault.

From the standpoint of the investigator, one of the most important considerations in combating crime is the handling of physical evidence—locating and recovering it, properly identifying it, and preparing it for transmission to the crime laboratory. The first phase, locating the evidence, is the purpose of the crime scene search, which in itself is a topic sufficiently broad and complex for separate discussion at another time. This article is more immediately concerned with the later phases, including the recognition of the evidentiary value of items located, their recovery, identification and preparation for shipment. It endeavors to present in a single article some observations for the assistance of the law-enforcement officer who in the course of his everyday work during the coming weeks will come face to face with the problem of crimes against the person.

In most crimes there will be some obvious bits of evidence which even the novice will recognize: Weapons, tools, disguises, footprints, and the like. Because the field of evidence is so broad, this discussion is being limited to types which, although easily overlooked, are commonly found in dealing with such crimes as murder, rape, and aggravated assault. These types of evidence include blood, hairs, fibers, bits of cloth, and even fragments of buttons and soil specimens. Such evidence presents a real challenge to the ingenuity and thoroughness of the investigator and gives him an opportunity to prove that nothing is too small to be considered for evidentiary purposes.

Because of their violent nature and the fact that they usually involve bodily contact, crimes against the person almost invariably result in the

Blood, Fiber and Hair Evidence in Crimes vs. Person

transfer from subject to victim, or vice versa, of such items as hair, fibers, blood, etc.

General Observations

In handling material of this type, the officer should be guided by some general considerations, like the following, which will apply to the field of physical evidence in general.

Upon locating the evidence, an effort should be made to photograph it in its original position, before it is moved or disturbed in any way. This will preserve a record of the evidence in its proper relationship to the crime scene as a whole and will aid in establishing the sequence of events. Such photographs may also facilitate any subsequent review of the original crime scene. They will be useful in preserving the "chain of evidence" if they are true representations. They should be properly marked as to date, place and by whom taken, case, and other identification. The photographs may also prove to be of assistance to the laboratory examiner who, at some remote point, never had an opportunity to view the evidence in its relation to the entire crime scene.

Before attempting to recover the evidence, the officer should be sure that he has the proper facilities for preserving it. He should be well prepared in advance with assorted pillboxes, cellophane envelopes and tape, plain white envelopes, paper bags and plates, ice cream cartons, cotton, twine, ruler, labels, and other items for collecting evidence. Telltale fiber specimens, for example, should not be carried loosely in a pocket on the way back to headquarters. By the time they are thoroughly mixed with lint and saturated with perspiration, it is too late to worry about a good packing job.

When evidence is recovered, it should immediately be identified in order to preserve the chain of custody. This is the only time to record proper identification—not after the evidence has been passed from hand to hand and become inextricably mixed with known samples and items from other

parts of the crime scene. It is further suggested that the number of persons handling the evidence be kept to a minimum.

Generally speaking, articles of clothing, weapons, tools, and other items which can be readily shipped by registered mail or express should be recovered intact. No effort should be made to remove from them the individual, minute bits of evidence such as hairs, fibers or bloodstains. The trained laboratory examiner is in a far better position to recover all of the evidence from such an object, and he frequently locates tiny but vital items completely overlooked in the field. His examination is materially aided when he receives the evidence in its original state or as nearly so as possible. The hammer used in a brutal bludgeoning may tell the examiner far more than a few scrapings of dried blood from the hammer. Never submit merely a piece of a garment as a known sample—submit the whole article of clothing.

There are times, however, when the evidence is found on an article which is too large to send to

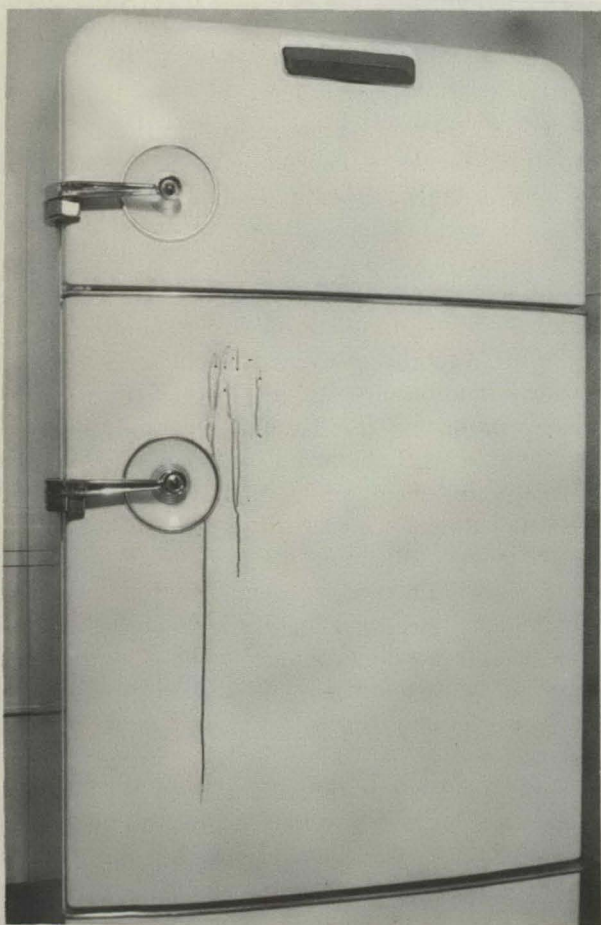
the laboratory. Bloodstains on a wall, fibers caught on a bank vault—these bits of evidence must usually be removed by the officer at the scene and handled individually.

Commonsense will largely dictate the manner in which various objects can be marked for identification. With whole blood, pertinent data can be placed on adhesive tape on the outside of the test tube container. The data should include the name of the person from whom taken, date, investigator's name, and doctor's name, as well as the name or other description of the case. For dried blood specimens, the investigator's name, the case, and date obtained can be noted on the outside of the pillbox used to contain the specimens. The outside of the container should also be used for identifying hair and fiber specimens. When an entire garment is involved, it is desirable to mark the article directly in a place which will not interfere with any subsequent examination. If the data is placed on a shipping tag affixed to the garment, there is always the possibility that the tag may become detached or that it may contain data which will render it inadmissible in court. These marking instructions also apply to tools or weapons or other large objects which contain blood, hair, or fiber evidence when it is contemplated that the entire object will be sent to the laboratory.

Once the evidence has been recovered, marked for identification purposes, and protected in a proper container, it still remains for the investigator to obtain "known" samples for laboratory comparison with his "questioned" specimens. This topic will be treated separately for the different kinds of evidence usually obtained in cases involving crimes against the person.

Blood

In dealing with blood as evidence, it has been the experience of the FBI Laboratory that the biggest problem is putrefaction. Properly preserved blood specimens can be analyzed to establish their origin; that is, whether human or animal. If a sample of human blood is large enough and has not been greatly contaminated, grouping tests can also be conducted to establish the International Blood Group of the person from whom the blood came. Putrefaction, however, makes a conclusive grouping analysis impossible. The most frequent cause of putrefaction is the fact that items containing bloodstains are packaged and sent to the laboratory before the stains are completely dry.



Care is needed in recovering evidence from large objects.

This is a mistake which can easily be corrected, since no special equipment or facilities are needed to complete drying of bloodstains. Drying can best be accomplished by exposure to normal room air. Sunlight and heat, on the other hand, can cause chemical changes which will interfere with any proposed analysis. If a fan or other source of forced air is used to speed inside drying, precautions must be taken so that other minute particles of evidence such as hairs will not be blown away. In drying stains on garments, bedclothes or similar items, the cloth should be opened up completely for maximum drying effect.

After drying, articles containing bloodstains should be wrapped separately and securely packaged in a strong container—either mailing tube or carton, depending on size. Identifying data should be placed on the outside of the package.

When the object containing the bloodstain is too large to ship to the laboratory, the stain can be scraped off carefully with a clean knife blade or similar instrument and placed in a container with a secure lid, such as a circular pillbox. Cellulose tape should be used to seal the container. Scraping should be attempted only after the stain is completely dry. If the stain appears on a piece of cloth which for some reason cannot be sent to the laboratory intact, a portion of the surrounding cloth should be cut out with the stain and submitted.

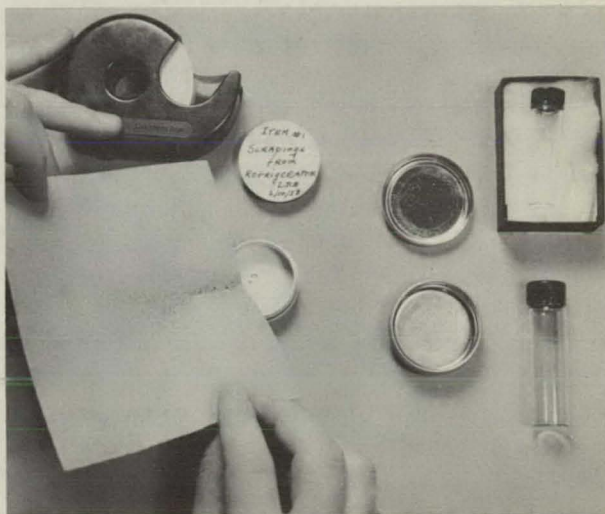
In cases where a blood comparison is requested, it is desirable, if possible, for the investigator to obtain liquid blood samples from both the suspect and victim. A statement should be obtained from

the suspect as to the origin of the stains on his clothes, car, knife, etc. Samples should be taken by a physician or a qualified technician, and each should consist of 5 cc. (about $\frac{1}{8}$ fluid ounce) placed in a sterile container. A test tube will usually be the best type of container available. It should be wrapped in cotton to prevent breakage, placed in a mailing tube, and transmitted by airmail, special delivery, unless the laboratory is close enough to permit delivery in person or by regular registered mail. No preservative or refrigerant is necessary.

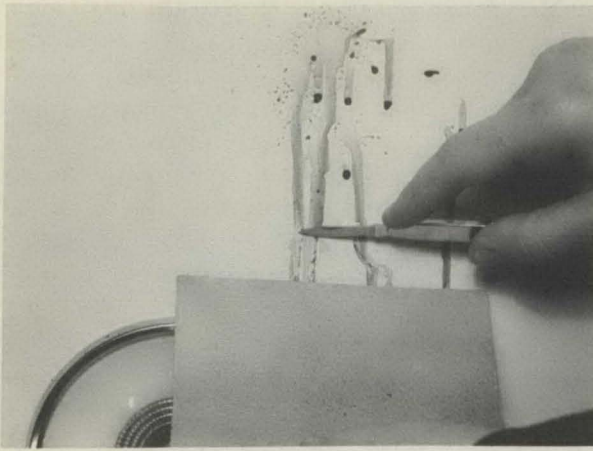
Blood evidence can sometimes present a very different picture of a crime than that which first meets the eye. When a special officer shot and killed a man in a western gambling place, he contended that the victim had attacked him with a knife and the shooting was in self-defense. He exhibited cut places on his shirt front and tie which he said were made by a Boy Scout knife wielded by the dead man. The Boy Scout knife was recovered, open, near the body. Police, however, had reason to suspect that the incident was a gang murder with the special officer in the role of hired killer. They sent his own pocketknife, his shirt and tie, and the Boy Scout knife to the FBI Laboratory, where examination substantiated the theory that the suspect had slashed his own shirt with his own knife and the Boy Scout knife had been planted. Blood stains were found on the handle and near the thumb catch of the suspect's knife. Except for one faint stain, no blood was found on the Boy Scout knife. Inasmuch as witnesses stated that the hands of both



Wrapping bloodstained garments separately.



Preservation and packaging of blood scrapings.



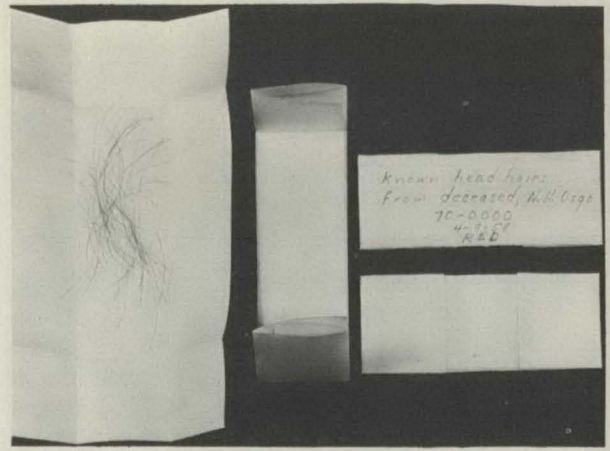
Recovery of dried blood evidence.

men had been covered with blood, it appeared doubtful that the Boy Scout knife was ever in the dead man's hand. Further contradicting the self-defense plea was the fact that the suspect's knife contained silk, rayon and wool fibers some of them very unusual, which had the same characteristics as the cut tie and shirt. The Boy Scout knife contained no such fibers. A verdict of first-degree murder was returned by the jury.

Hair

In any violent encounter between two individuals, such as a murder, rape, or vicious assault, there is a good possibility that hairs will become detached from the head or other areas of the body and transferred from one person to the other. Hairs often become attached to weapons which are used to strike blows, especially when blood is present. This type of evidence is extremely difficult to locate, however, because of its minuteness. Accordingly, in any crime against the person it is a good idea for the investigator to proceed on the assumption that hairs are present and make his search just as thorough as possible.

Hair evidence may be found almost any place at the scene of the crime, on the victim, or on the subject. Sometimes the transferred hairs are clinging lightly to the surface of a garment, and any such search must be approached with care so that the evidence will not be dislodged by rough handling. In other instances the hair may be more securely attached but not so readily visible. In one case hairs from a murder victim were found around the button of the subject's shirt. Any hard protuberance or accessory, such as belt buckle,



Packaging of known hair samples.

tie clasp, bracelet, etc., should be given careful attention in the search for hair evidence.

As in the case of blood evidence, the article bearing the hairs should be submitted intact to the laboratory whenever possible. The laboratory is better equipped than the investigating officer to separate the valuable evidentiary hairs from the foreign fibrous debris.

In only rare cases are there enough individual characteristics to make possible a positive identification of the hair with one specific person. It can usually be determined, however, whether the hair is of human or animal origin and, if human, the racial origin. In the FBI Laboratory, hairs from unknown sources are compared with known samples from particular sources. The primary purpose of these comparisons, in the greatest percentage of cases, is to aid in establishing whether or not bodily contact has occurred between subjects and victims. For this reason, it is imperative in recovering hair specimens that no further contact take place between items belonging to the subject and the victim. Hairs found at different places should not be intermixed.

Hair specimens are very resistant to decomposition and putrefaction, and these factors present no problem in preparing the samples for transmission to the laboratory. The most important consideration is insuring that none of the evidence becomes lost in transit. Hence, an envelope is not a satisfactory container for hairs, since the corners may have holes through which hairs can be lost. Hairs should not be fastened to paper or cardboard with cellophane or adhesive tape, because they may be damaged or important debris clinging to them may be dislodged.

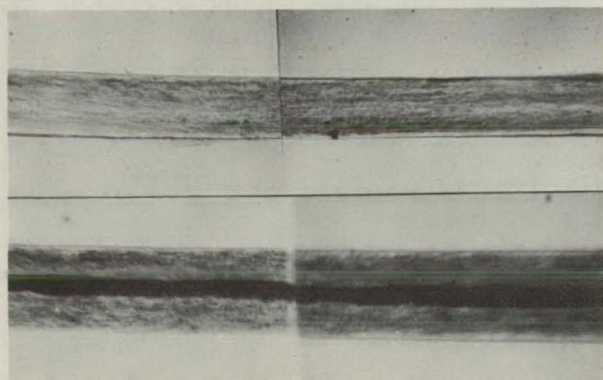
A powder paper (folded paper) makes a good container for hair specimens. The samples from different persons or the evidence from different locations should be kept separate. Rigid items containing hairs which are to be shipped intact to the laboratory should be wrapped separately. Before wrapping, however, the areas containing the hairs should be protected by taping cellophane or paper over them.

Cases calling for hair comparisons necessitate the obtaining of known samples from both suspect and victim. These samples should consist of at least a dozen hairs, preferably full length, from different areas of the head. Known samples from other parts of the body should also be obtained, but specimens from different parts of the body should be preserved in separate containers.

When a Pennsylvania man was brutally beaten and kicked to death, a suspect was arrested and appropriate pieces of evidence were sent to the FBI Laboratory for examination. A report was returned to the local officers reflecting that a single human hair removed from the toe cap of the suspect's shoe was similar in observable characteristics to specimens taken from the head of the dead man. The prisoner in this case was convicted of murder in the second degree.

Fibers

Fibers, fragments of yarn, and pieces of fabric make excellent evidence. Fibers of unknown source can be compared with known specimens. Bits of yarn or cloth can be examined as to composition, dye content, twist, ply count, weave, etc. A bit of torn cloth clutched by an assault victim



Variations in questioned hairs (left) match those of known specimens.

may prove to have all the characteristics of the material in a suspect's shirt. In many cases, enough characteristics are identifiable to make it possible to fit a piece of yarn or fragment of fabric into a particular location in a piece of cloth.

The same general observations apply to fibers as were mentioned in connection with hair evidence. The entire garment should be secured when possible; keep items belonging to the victim and suspect separate; do not use cellulose or adhesive tap to pick up the evidence or fasten it to paper for shipping; use secure containers.

The value of fibers as evidence was illustrated in the murder of a high school girl in her home in a midwestern city. She had been strangled by two neckties knotted tightly around her neck. At the trial, an FBI Laboratory expert testified that in the debris removed from the subject's trousers were found red and white rayon fibers which were similar in all observable characteristics to fibers composing one of the neckties. In addition, debris from the victim's pajamas contained brown woolen fibers similar in characteristics to the fibers making up the defendant's trousers. The subject was found guilty and sentenced to 149 years in the State penitentiary.

Other Evidence

Other types of evidence commonly found in dealing with crimes against the person include buttons and button fragments and soil specimens.

In the violent encounter of a personal crime, the victim frequently wrestles or clutches at his assailant in an effort to defend himself. A button torn from the subject's clothing in the struggle may be



Two layers of fabric (top) were fitted into garment after button band (bottom) had been unfolded.

kept and turned over to police by the victim or may later be recovered at the scene. It is, of course, possible to determine upon subsequent examination whether or not the button is similar to those remaining on the criminal's garment. Sometimes, as is often the case, bits of fabric or a few threads are still clinging to the recovered button, making a fiber or fabric examination feasible. In other cases a button may be broken into small pieces, a portion remaining on the garment and some fragments being recovered as evidence. In the past, it has been possible to fit such pieces together to show that they were originally one button.

In the scuffle of a violent attack, rape or similar crime, the subject will often flee the scene with soil samples clinging to his clothing, in trouser cuffs, or on the sides of his shoes. Since the characteristics of soil differ appreciably in different areas, the possibility of a useful soil examination should not be overlooked. The entire article containing questioned soil specimens should be submitted to the laboratory when possible.

In submitting soil evidence for laboratory comparison with known samples from the crime scene, it is important to obtain representative samples from the area in question. There will probably be variations even within that limited area. This means that the more samples made available for study, the more readily one can determine what variations are to be expected. Proper containers

for shipping soil samples include pillboxes and ice cream cartons. Each known sample should consist of approximately a double handful of soil.

Conclusion

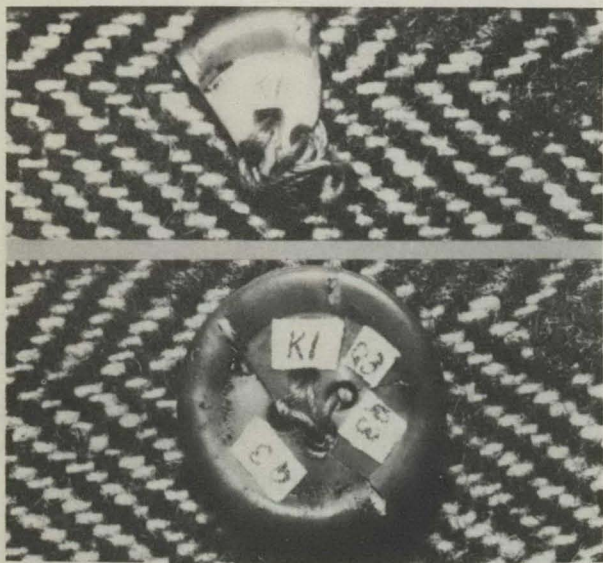
The types of evidence mentioned in this article are by no means all-inclusive of those which arise in connection with crimes against the person. They do offer, however, excellent possibilities for placing the suspect at the scene of his crime or establishing that he has had some contact with the victim. It should be remembered that these types of evidence, as with any evidence, are most effective when used in conjunction with each other.

A good illustration of this fact is the case involving the elderly spinster who was strangled in her Pullman berth on a train traveling through the Southwest. The car was placed on a siding and a complete examination of the berth conducted. Many loose hairs, textile fibers, and several bloodstains were found and carefully preserved. The remaining bedclothes were removed, identified, and wrapped as evidence, and all of the evidence was forwarded to the FBI Laboratory, along with clothing and hair specimens from a suspect. Examination in the Laboratory revealed that the suspect's clothing was stained with human blood, and textile fibers similar to the bedclothes were adhering to his garments. A microscopic examination showed that human body hairs similar in all examinable respects to the subject's hair were found on the sheets. The subject was found guilty and executed for his crime.

The good investigator will not be satisfied after a first brief search reveals a few bloodstains or hairs. He will continue his thorough, meticulous search until each tell-tale fiber, button fragment, or any other minute but vital bit of evidence has been obtained. He knows that the rapid advancement of science in the crime laboratory is a valuable ally in the never-ending war on crime.

WET OR DUSTY PRINTS

No attempt should be made to brush or apply powder to fingerprints in dust, obviously greasy prints, or bloody prints, as this will almost surely destroy them. Objects which have been wet or immersed in water may still bear identifiable latent impressions. Before any examination is attempted, however, the object must be dried.



Top: button fragment on suspect's coat. Bottom: pieces of button found at crime scene have been fitted into place.

OTHER TOPICS

In the professionalization of law enforcement, unity and understanding between police agencies and the public are essential. In the early months of 1940, Maj. Arthur E. Kimberling, then night chief of the Louisville Division of Police who later became chief and is now retired, formulated an idea to attain these objectives.

It was realized that solutions to knotty problems came more readily when these problems were attacked by a group rather than just a few people. The Louisville Division of Police was no different from other police departments in the matter of having knotty administrative problems. Following the usual procedure of consulting the one or two commanding officers most affected by the problem, an answer was generally found but sometimes it was long in coming or was not always the best one.

Major Kimberling rationalized that if more commanding officers were invited to assist in solving these difficulties, then the answers would not only come more quickly but the trial-and-error method would be greatly reduced. To bring these men together, there would necessarily have to be a meeting where the problems could be discussed. If it were to be a business meeting only, then the men would feel some obligation to attend and this might possibly cause them to feel some resentment. Why not hold a semisocial and semi-business meeting and establish a club for commanding officers?

During the first months of 1940, Major Kimberling polled the commanding officers concerning a club where the men could meet once each month, arrange for a meal, and hold discussions of mutual problems. More than 90 percent thought the plan was an excellent one. Thus the Commanding Officers' Club of the Louisville Division of Police was born.

On the evening of April 17, 1940, the first meeting of the Commanding Officers' Club was held in a local restaurant. Twenty-six officers met to dine, elect officers and discuss the possibilities of

Police Officers' Club Strengthens Public Relations

*by CAPT. GERALD C. KOPP, Louisville, Ky.,
Division of Police*

the new club. At that time, the only purpose of the club was to discuss the problems, needs and advancement of the Louisville Division of Police. Of the 26 charter members, 9 are still in the Louisville Division of Police, 8 are deceased, 3 have retired, and the other 6 now have positions in industry.

Public Relations

The Commanding Officers' Club was not originally planned as a medium of good public relations. With its development, however, the club has done more to create better understanding of law enforcement by business organizations than any other program that could have been undertaken.



Capt. Gerald C. Kopp.

This public relations aspect developed shortly after the organization of the club. From time to time, representatives of some businesses were invited to address the group. When many of these businessmen manifested interest in the club, it was decided to enroll the interested ones as honorary members.

In a city the size of Louisville, with a population of approximately one-half million, there are a number of law enforcement agencies represented, including a state police force, a county force and the usual Federal agencies such as the FBI, Secret Service, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Unit and Postal Inspectors group. To the heads of these agencies, the Commanding Officers' Club extends a standing invitation to meet with the club members whenever possible. Many of the local heads of Federal law enforcement agencies in the area have been and are honorary members.

The businessmen and other honorary members have no voice in the administration of the club and cannot put a motion on the floor or vote on a motion. Suggestions from the honorary members are, however, welcomed. The active members pay an annual dues of \$2. Honorary members pay no dues although they have made several requests to be allowed to do so.

Appreciation

Approximately 2 years after the club was founded, some of the honorary members wanted to express in some way their gratitude for the privilege of meeting and associating with the commanding officers. One business executive initiated the practice of having his company play host to the club at one of the dinner meetings. Now the club members are generally the invited guests of local business establishments from four to six times a year.

The honorary members have shown other expressions of appreciation. On two occasions when police officers had been shot and killed in the execution of their duties, the honorary membership has made up a purse to go as a reward to anyone, other than a police officer, who would cause the arrest of the killers.

In 1954 an active member of the Commanding Officers' Club was taken seriously ill with cancer. It was necessary to confine the officer to an out-of-state hospital and the cost of the treatment was beyond the officer's means. The club voted to give the ill officer \$150, which was almost the total amount of money in the treasury. Hearing of the

plight of the officer, several of the honorary members requested that their group be permitted to help in relieving the financial burden of the hospitalized officer. After some discussion, the club granted this permission. Before the next meeting, the honorary members had contributed a purse of \$594 to aid the officer.

A unique and outstanding expression of public support on the part of the honorary membership came in 1956. In March of 1956 a substantial increase in salary was granted to all the members of the Louisville Division of Police and the Louisville Division of Fire, except the chiefs of the police and fire departments. The two chiefs were already receiving the salary limit as stipulated by the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

The honorary members of the Commanding Officers' Club were aroused at the unfairness of this situation and decided to do something about it. They could not change the law. To get immediate action, these men together with other businessmen of Louisville made up a purse to purchase \$5,000 in U. S. Government bonds for each chief. The presentation was made by "The Citizens Committee" at the May 1956 meeting of the Commanding Officers' Club. Col. Carl E. Heustis, Chief of the Louisville Division of Police, and Col. John Krusenklous, Chief of the Louisville Division of Fire, were each presented with a gold plaque and \$5,000 in U. S. Government bonds for "the outstanding and unselfish service you have rendered your community."

The club is proud of the group of honorary members and is deeply appreciative of their many fine expressions of cooperation and support.

The active members, of course, have performed considerable work to promote better public relations and more efficient police service. In 1952 the Louisville Division of Police was allowed to have placed on the general election ballot a "yes" or "no" vote by the people for a 2-million-dollar bond issue to be used for a new police headquarters building. Many of the commanding officers served on a speakers' bureau and called on civic, industrial, and religious groups to tell of the urgent need for a new police building. The bond issue was voted by a much larger majority than needed. As a result, Louisville now has a modern police headquarters building which compares favorably with any in the United States.

Under the direction of Capt. Bert Hawkins, president of the Commanding Officers' Club for

1958, the club paid homage to our Police Pistol Team at one of the recent meetings. The members of the pistol team were honored as guests of the club and a display was made of the more than 1,000 trophies and medals won by the team.

In regard to public relations and the formation of genuine friendships, the active and honorary members of the Commanding Officers' Club have achieved real success. For personal observation of our program, we invite any law enforcement officer visiting in Louisville on the first Wednesday after the 15th of each month to visit the Commanding Officers' Club.

STATEWIDE AGENCY

(Continued from page 6)

SLED agents work with and for the local police agents. The direction of an investigation remains at all times in the hands and under the jurisdiction of the head of the local law-enforcement agency when we work with them. Our agents may make suggestions leading toward the solution of a case; however, it is the head of the local agency who must direct the carrying out of our suggestions in an investigation. Likewise the division staff refrains from accepting full credit for the successful solution of a crime in the jurisdiction of a local law-enforcement agency. It is the local sheriff or the local chief of police who is given credit for having directed the successful solution of a crime. Public acknowledgment of participation by SLED agents in the solution of a crime is made only by the heads of local law-enforcement agencies in their relations with the representatives of the press.

Results

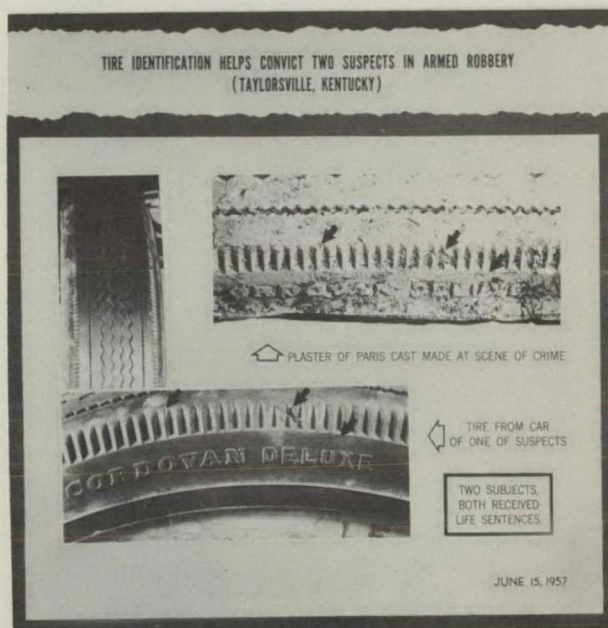
During the years the division has existed, it has grown in stature among law-enforcement officers of the State who turn to it more frequently for aid. At the same time, the number of services rendered to local law-enforcement agencies has tripled since our establishment, although our staff has not grown greatly in numbers over our original force. We have been able to accomplish this greatly increased workload largely through greater efficiency of our staff, better training and better equipment.

JUNE 1958

Tire Identification

On a cool September evening in 1956, in the State of Kentucky, an elderly man returned late to his home. He noticed nothing unusual and the automobile parked near his home did not arouse his suspicion. When the man entered his abode, two men who had been lurking in the darkness surprised, beat, robbed and left the man for dead.

During subsequent investigation, officers of the Kentucky State Police were able to find a tire impression in the earth near the scene of the crime. Further investigation developed a suspect. A plaster of paris cast of the tire impression and a tire from the suspect's automobile were submitted to the FBI Laboratory.



An FBI Laboratory expert testified at the trial that the plaster cast impression had been produced by the tire taken from the suspect's automobile. With this testimony playing a vital part in the trial, the owner of the automobile and his accomplice were sentenced to life terms in the Kentucky State Penitentiary.

EXPLOSIVES

In bombings and explosions, the byproducts of the explosives used form a residue. Thus dynamite residue can be microscopically identified as such.

Magnetic Metals Detector Used in Crime Detection

by LT. JOHN ASCHER, *Director, Crime Laboratory,
Chicago, Ill., Police Department*

Included in the many problems which confront law enforcement agencies is the frequent difficulty in the recovery of important evidence. On many occasions this evidence might be an object made of ferrous material, such as a gun, knife or some other iron or steel weapon.

Such a problem occurred in a case in September of 1953 when four young men were charged with the fatal shooting of a florist in the course of a robbery in a small town near Chicago. Shortly after their apprehension, they confessed that they had taken the fatal weapon, which was a .22 caliber rifle, and had dismantled it before throwing it into a large lagoon located in a nearby seminary site. The crime laboratory of the Chicago Police Department was requested to assist in the recovery of this weapon. Even with the use of powerful magnets, it was not possible to recover the evidence.



Lt. John Ascher.

Subsequently, the four men were tried for the crime. Two were discharged, one was given a term of 40 years, and one of the accused was sentenced to execution in the electric chair. Upon appeal to the supreme court, the findings in this conviction were reversed due, in part, to lack of physical and corroborating evidence. A new trial was ordered.

In October 1957, the services of our crime laboratory were requested by the State's attorney's office, Cook County, Ill., in searching again for the missing weapon. This gun was considered to be the only corroborating evidence available in the case. On October 22, 1957, the lagoon was searched by the use of powerful magnets with negative results. On October 24 and 26, the lagoon was again searched with a special new magnetic metals detector constructed by a firm in Chicago, Ill. This portable instrument, which weighs approximately 40 pounds and has a 3-foot probe, provides a means of locating ferro-magnetic parts at some distance from the vicinity of its probe. Depending upon the size and orientation of the object, the limit of detection is from 15 to 16 feet. A variation of this instrument can also be used under water. Then, too, depending on the size and orientation of the object, the limit of detection is from 15 to 16 feet. The instrument can be lowered into water as far as 56 feet.

Searching

With the use of this magnetic metals detector, the bed of the lagoon was searched and numerous indications of ferrous magnetic material were found, especially in the vicinity where the gun was purported to have been thrown. These "fixes" were marked by floats. However, our heavy magnets failed to recover any of this material, although probing indicated that there was some material 2 or 3 feet deep in the mud and muck which form the bed of this body of water. On the basis of these findings it was decided to drain the lagoon of its some 700,000 gallons of water, and on November 11, 1957, the barrel of the gun was recovered at a point previously indicated by the detector.

Although the lagoon had been almost completely drained of water it had still posed a problem inasmuch as we were then confronted with the lagoon which had an average depth of 4 feet of heavy muck. This muck was of such consist-

Roadblock Snares Bank Robber



Using underwater unit in aluminum boat.

ency as to prevent the use of our heavy magnets, and it was only after the lagoon had partially dried that it was possible at all to walk near the point where our magnets indicated ferrous magnetic material.

In this case, it should be noted that the lagoon on the seminary ground was relatively free of tin cans and other debris. It is felt that areas near large iron structures, such as bridges, and heavily traveled rivers in industrial locations, contaminated by such debris, would lessen the effectiveness of the detector instrument. The land unit, however, is very valuable in searching for ferrous material buried in leaves or earth and should be helpful in locating evidence in deep snow. In conducting our water search, we used a boat made of all aluminum construction and the men handling the probe and rowing the boat wore clothing which contained no ferrous material in order to obtain the most effective results from the detector instrument.

From our experience, it is believed that the water unit of this magnetic metals detector can afford valuable assistance in locating automobiles, safes and large metal objects even when such items may be sunk in waters which are contaminated with other iron or steel objects.

For the benefit of law enforcement agencies desiring additional information concerning this technique or the land and water units of this magnetic metals detector, the crime laboratory of the Chicago Police Department will be glad to furnish such data upon request to the interested law enforcement organization.

The roadblock technique and close cooperative action between local law enforcement and the FBI recently ended the dramatic career of an artistic California bank robber. In a 17-month period in 1956 and 1957 this bandit made almost monthly forays into the vicinities of Los Angeles and San Francisco, successfully robbed 14 banks, and amassed over \$28,000 in loot.

Scientifically selecting his targets, he would meticulously rehearse his operations and "case" the victim bank. In the actual robbery, the bandit used his previous theatrical training for easily removable disguises, including mustaches drawn with a grease pencil. In addition, he employed the change of clothing technique, in one case merely removing his coat and wearing only a vest which was later discarded conveniently. Subsequent to the crime, he made a practice of zig-zagging through adjacent buildings to a pre-arranged spot where he had parked his car.

In June of 1957 in response to a bank robbery alarm from a nearby town, the police department at Napa, Calif., set up a roadblock and systematically took down the names, addresses, and license numbers of all persons stopped at the blockade points. This list was furnished to the FBI. Among the license numbers was one for a car belonging to a man who assertedly was on his way from Oakland, Calif., to Napa, Calif. A check of motor-vehicle records reflected a description for this car owner which was similar to the description of the robber. Accordingly, an investigation of this individual among possible suspects was conducted and handwriting as well as handprinting specimens of this person were obtained. It was determined through handwriting and handprinting comparison examinations that the writing and printing on the specimens and on the bank robbery demand notes left by the bandit at many of the robberies were identical.

When interviewed, this suspect admitted the 14 bank robberies and even designated on a map the exact locations of the crimes. He stated that he had a degree in journalism and had plans for a career as a writer. Brought into Federal court at San Francisco, Calif., in August of 1957, he pleaded guilty to eight charges of bank robbery and was sentenced to 15 years on each charge, with the sentences to run concurrently.

WANTED BY THE FBI

CHESTER ROBIN THOMAS, with alias: "Chet"

Crime on Government Reservation (Murder)

In the early morning of June 6, 1955, a man was fatally shot by the discharge of both barrels of a double-barrel .12-gage shotgun in the Post Office Building at Macon, Ga. The murder weapon was left by the killer in the lobby of the post office. Possession of this weapon was traced to Chester Robin Thomas, who reportedly had borrowed the shotgun a few days prior to the killing. Subsequently, witnesses identified photographs of Chester Robin Thomas as the man who had fled from the crime scene immediately after the shooting.

Process

An authorized complaint was filed before the United States Commissioner at Macon, Ga., on June 6, 1955, and on August 3, 1955, a Federal grand jury returned an indictment charging Chester Robin Thomas with the crime of murder on a Government reservation.

The Criminal

While in the military service for approximately 15 years, Thomas was at times assigned to a military band and plays the cornet. For about a year be-



Chester Robin Thomas.

fore the shooting, Thomas reportedly exhibited mental and emotional instability.

Caution

Since Thomas is reported to be emotionally unstable and reportedly has been in possession of one or more revolvers and pistols, he should be considered armed and extremely dangerous. He may also be in possession of a shotgun.

Description

Chester Robin Thomas is described as follows:

Age-----	50, born June 6, 1907, Birmingham, Ala. (not verified).
Height-----	5 feet, 6 inches.
Weight-----	125 pounds.
Build-----	Slender.
Hair-----	Brown.
Eyes-----	Blue.
Complexion-----	Medium.
Race-----	White.
Nationality-----	American.
Occupations-----	Grocer, insurance salesman, musician.
Scars and marks-----	Pit scars on left cheek, left side of neck, left arm above elbow, back of left leg above knee, right shoulder blade and on right shin.
FBI Number-----	985,682 B.
Fingerprint classification-----	17 L 1 U IIO 12 S 1 U IOO

Notify FBI

Any person having information which may assist in locating this fugitive is requested to notify immediately 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.

CHECK PASSERS

Some check passers have injected a humorous trait to their fraudulent activities. One individual signed his checks "U. R. Stuk." and "N. O. Good." Another check passer would write his checks on such fictitious institutions as "The East Bank of The Mississippi." Recently, a bogus check artist operating in North Dakota passed a check on a day when the temperature was 20° below zero. This check was signed "Brr." A week later, in a neighboring State, three worthless checks were passed all of which were signed "T. Aken."

Murder Versus Suicide

In 1957 a Wyoming high school girl, following a quarrel with her boy friend, went to the latter's house to return his photograph. Later, the boy stated that after receiving the picture, he had taken a nap and awakened that evening. When he looked out his front window, the girl's car was parked in front of his house. Looking into the car, he saw the girl sitting erect behind the steering wheel, a caliber .22 revolver lying beside her on the front seat of her car. She was dead—an apparent suicide. The revolver, the lad stated, had been a gift to the girl from her father. The boy then reported the tragedy to the police.

The girl had been shot once, the bullet entering just below the right breast, traveling across the front of the body, lodging near the heart. Doctors theorized she did not die immediately. When found, she was sitting upright in the car, her head tilted slightly backward, her right hand high on the steering wheel and her left hand hanging limp at her left side.

The boy denied any knowledge of the shooting.

Lab exams

The clothing of the girl, the bullet from her body and the gun were sent to the FBI Laboratory for examination. An examination of her blouse, in the area about the bullet entrance hole, failed to reveal the presence of powder residues that would normally be present if she had shot herself. The bullet removed from her body was identified as having been fired from the gun found beside her body in the car. A photograph of the crime scene showed the victim wearing a jacket which was not submitted for examination along with the other clothing she had been wearing.

The Laboratory examiner, not wanting to overlook the possibility of powder residue being present on the outermost garment worn by the victim, requested that the jacket be submitted for examination. The jacket, when examined, had no bullet holes or powder residues.

The FBI Laboratory examiner, summoned to testify before a grand jury, testified that the absence of powder residue on the victim's garments suggested the fatal shot was fired from a distance of not less than 36 inches. At this distance it would have been impossible for the girl to have committed suicide.

On the basis of this testimony, the boy was indicted for first degree murder. He pleaded innocent to the charge.

Just before he was to be tried, he changed his plea to guilty of manslaughter. He stated that he had shot the victim with her own gun on the afternoon that she returned his picture. They had had a heated quarrel and in the heat of passion he had picked up her revolver and shot her, claiming his action was without malice or forethought.

He was sentenced to serve from 18 to 20 years in the penitentiary for manslaughter.

PLASTER CASTING

In preparing plaster casts the condition and the kind of material in which the impression to be cast is found will control the preliminary steps to be taken before the plaster is poured. If the impression is in soft earth, clay or similar substances, foreign objects must be carefully removed. Impressions in sand, dust, and snow will usually require special treatment. Under some circumstances, a retaining wall made of cardboard, or of strips of wood or metal, should be placed around the impression to contain the plaster in a small area.

REPRINTS AVAILABLE

From time to time the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin has carried articles dealing with the handling of physical evidence such as hairs, fibers, blood, and soil. Some of these items have been reprinted, and copies are available in limited quantities to personnel of duly established law enforcement agencies. Requests for copies should be written on the letterhead of the employing agency and addressed to the Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington 25, D. C.

These reprints, and the issues in which they originally appeared, are listed below:

Blood, Hair and Fiber Analysis (March, 1950).

Examination of Bloodstains by the FBI Laboratory (July, 1952).

Fiber and Fabric Analysis (December, 1953).

Don't Miss a Hair (August, 1952).

Petrographic Aspects of Scientific Crime Detection (March, 1951).

Suggestions for Handling of Physical Evidence (Special Reprint).

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

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

RETURN AFTER 5 DAYS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300
(GPO)

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

Questionable Pattern



The questionable pattern shown above is classified as an accidental whorl with an inner tracing and is referenced to a double loop type whorl. The deltas are located at D-1 and D-2.