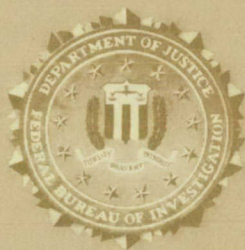


# FBI

*Law Enforcement*

# BULLETIN



1958

MAY

Vol. 27 No. 5

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

MAY 1958

Vol. 27, No. 5



## CONTENTS

	Page
<i>Statement of Director J. Edgar Hoover</i> . . . . .	1
<b>Feature Article:</b>	
Chiefs of Police Group Effective in Massachusetts, by Henry Bosworth, "Boston Traveler" Staff Reporter, Boston, Mass. . . . .	3
<b>Communications and Records:</b>	
Human Factors in Police Radio Console Design, by Lt. John R. Saul, Police Reserve Unit, Arlington, Tex., Police Department . . . . .	7
<b>Scientific Aids:</b>	
FBI Laboratory Examination of Fraudulent Checks . . . . .	11
Handwriting Identifies Check Passer . . . . .	20
<b>Firearms Training:</b>	
Tasks of Field and Lab in Firearms Identification . . . . .	13
<b>Identification:</b>	
Questionable Pattern . . . . .	Back cover
Suicide Identified . . . . .	23
<b>Other Topics:</b>	
Development of a Police Department in a Small Town, by Chief William E. Scott, Avon, Conn., Police Department . . . . .	21
Wanted by the FBI . . . . .	24

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.

May 1, 1958

TO ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS:

As a law enforcement officer and as an American citizen, I feel dutybound to speak out against a dangerous trend which is manifesting itself in the field of film and television entertainment. In the face of the Nation's terrifying juvenile crime wave, we are threatened with a flood of movies and television presentations which flaunt indecency and applaud lawlessness. Not since the days when thousands filed past the bier of the infamous John Dillinger and made his home a virtual shrine have we witnessed such a brazen affront to our national conscience.

As an illustration, two brothers, aged 10 and 12, who a few weeks ago terrorized a town in Oklahoma in a shooting spree that left one man dead and two others wounded, told the police they got the idea from watching television and movie crime stories.

There are, of course, many responsible leaders in the motion picture and television industries who dedicate their efforts to producing wholesome entertainment and to upholding the worthwhile principles of established production codes of ethics. Again and again, they serve the best interests of law enforcement and the public welfare by genuine portrayals of criminals in their true light--wretched, unglamorous leeches who bring nothing but degradation to themselves and human suffering to their fellow men.

Regrettably, however, there are some unscrupulous individuals who value money above morals, and whose actions should be exposed in the searching klieg light of public opinion. In their lust for bigger and bigger profits, they glorify violence, glamorize corruption, and picture criminals as heroes for youth to idolize.

One movie code official recently declared that the number of murders in a film is not particularly important--only the reason why the criminal committed a murder is of concern. He said he would not permit a wanton killing to be depicted but indicated that the killer first had to be "wronged." What kind of double moral standard is this? This same official, in describing a film, said there were only twelve murders--not an excessive number according to his interpretation of the production code. What kind of rationalization is this?

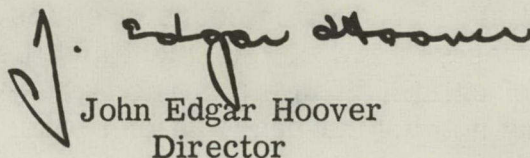
I deplore censorship--and certainly law enforcement officials have no right to dictate what should or should not be shown on the rectangular screens. They do have, however, the obligation to insist on the observance of the moral law which binds men in all matters. They also have the right to speak out when law enforcement is held up to ridicule and the criminal is elevated to heroic proportions.

No standard of decency or code of operations can justify portraying vile gangsters as modern-day Robin Hoods. Film trash mills, which persist in exalting violence and immorality, spew out celluloid poison which is destroying the impressionable minds of youth. In commenting on a current blood-drenched screenplay, one reviewer wrote, "If you enjoy turning over rocks to see what crawls out, you'll have a gay time...."

Parental supervision over the entertainment fare of children, discretion on the part of movie and television viewers, fulfillment of community responsibility by film exhibitors and television station executives, and citizen protests to producers of offensive shows can solve this problem.

Unless the leaders in the television and motion picture industries take the initiative to correct this ominous trend of crime glorification, they may be assured it can be accomplished by the strong pressure of public opinion. Time after time, the voice of the citizen has brought action, and it can be done again.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. Edgar Hoover". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke.

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

## FEATURE ARTICLE

# Chiefs of Police Group Effective in Massachusetts

by HENRY BOSWORTH, "Boston Traveler" Staff  
Reporter, Boston, Mass.

(This article is based on information furnished to the author by Chief of Police Daniel A. Short, Hull, Mass., and Chief of Police Hector J. Pelletier, Cohasset, Mass., president and secretary-treasurer of the association, respectively.)

The police chief jumped into a hotrod at a race-track in his Massachusetts hometown one night last summer. Away he went in a cloud of dust in the special attraction stock-car race.

The crowd roared with approval as he whipped around the oval course at breakneck speed like a crazy young daredevil. "Hey, chief, where's the fire?" someone yelled down from the stands.

The chief didn't mind the good-natured ribbing. He was enjoying the chance to perform in front of the home folks. More important, however, he was chasing a murderer. For risking his neck, he not only won the race, but a \$350 prize for the Jimmy Fund—the Children's Cancer Research Foundation in Boston.

His hard-earned \$350 brought to approximately a half-million dollars the amount raised by the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association to help track down this Public Enemy No. 1. That's one side of an unusual police organization—the gentle side.

However, these men who have cried at the sight of little children wracked with cancer have a tough side, too.

Politicians who once made political capital at the expense of police departments now find their verbal sickles dulled. Would-be headline hunters think twice before making speeches and unfounded charges. Police chiefs, thanks to the association, have the facts to make them retract irresponsible words. If there is any housecleaning needed, the chiefs usually take care of that chore themselves, before politicians can find the broom.

But the welcome mat is always out to any person or group with a reasonable complaint. Such persons have a standing invitation to come before the association. If there is something wrong, the chiefs will see that it is corrected.

These two extremes—the gentle and the tough sides—are the book ends for this organization. In between, there is much more.

A recent issue of the association's monthly newsletter provides the clue to what makes this group tick. As usual, the issue was sprinkled with official information, personal chitchat, and coming events' announcements. Blazoned across the top was the association's slogan: "In Unity There Is Strength." At the bottom of the two-page publication appeared this little eye catcher: "P. S. Don't itch for something you're not willing to scratch for."

It was Chief Hector J. Pelletier's little pearl of wisdom for that particular month. But if ever a nail was hit squarely on the head, Chief Pelletier, who serves as editor of the newsletter, hit this one flush—with a typewriter.

For the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association has been itching for a lot of things since it was incorporated in May 1949. And its approximately 300 active members have been willing to scratch—



Shown above are, left to right: Chief Hector J. Pelletier, Secretary-Treasurer, Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association, Cohasset, Mass.; Leo Laughlin, Special Agent in Charge, Boston FBI Office; and Chief Daniel A. Short, President of the association, Hull, Mass.

and scratch hard—for them. So much so that in the last 9 years this group has become one of the most successful, effective, and respected organizations in the Bay State.

Let us take a quick look at several of the association's accomplishments in the past few years.

It has created a local police training school at the Massachusetts State Police Training Academy. New city and town officers are trained here by the FBI, state police, judges, lawyers, representatives of the Pure Food and Drug Bureau and the Registry of Motor Vehicles, and other law enforcement experts. It's almost a "West Point" for police. Over 630 officers representing 102 agencies have graduated from the 13 sessions held up to 1958.

The association drafted a firearms law which was passed by the State Legislature during 1957. It permits out-of-state law enforcement officers to carry guns in Massachusetts, making their own state permits valid in the Bay State, providing the officer is on official police business.

This group instituted legislation giving police chiefs of towns the right to operate their own departments without political interference.

The association successfully fought attempts to abolish capital punishment in Massachusetts—an annual battle in the Bay State.

And, of course, the association raised approximately a half-million dollars for the Jimmy Fund. Take the last item for a moment. It has nothing to do with catching bank robbers, solving axe murders or cracking down on heavy-footed motorists. It gives an idea, though, of the caliber of the men who make up this organization. Their badges don't hide their hearts.

Besides stock-car racing, the chiefs have other means of helping all the little Jimmies afflicted with cancer. In many towns throughout the State, motorists contribute to the Jimmy Fund via parking meters. With approval of selectmen, parking meter receipts for a certain day are turned over to the chiefs.

The chiefs also make collections at summer stock and drive-in theaters. In each city and town, the police chief is cochairman of the Jimmy Fund drive.

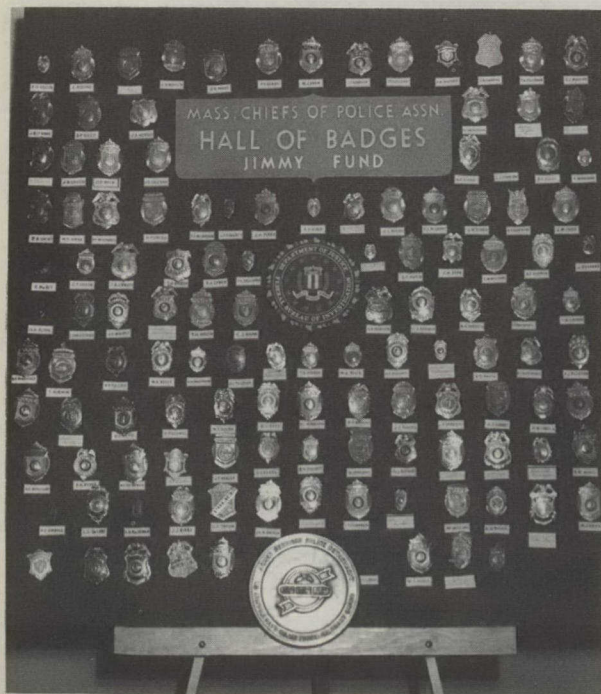
Chief Pelletier is now a member of the board of trustees of the fund, representing the Police Chiefs Association. He works closely with the Boston Red Sox's Ted Williams, general chairman; the Boston Red Sox baseball club; and the Variety Club of New England. During 1957, through the efforts of all the volunteer workers (no one gets paid), a record-breaking \$580,085 was raised. A total of 2,207 children have been cared for at the Children's Cancer Research Foundation since 1947. There were 352 young victims undergoing treatment there at the latest count.

Four additional floors are now under construction at the Jimmy Fund Building, and these floors will house more and much-needed research laboratories. On one of the floors will be the "Hall of Badges." Badges of every Massachusetts police chief, and those of other law enforcement agencies—including the FBI seal itself—will be encased there.

"This display is set up so that youngsters who are patients there can look up and know the police chief of his town is rooting for him," says Chief Pelletier.

### **Membership**

What is the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association? It was founded on November 5, 1887, by a Boston police official. His identity seems to have been lost somewhere down the long corridor of time. Originally, it was an association of and for police chiefs and the membership was small.



*Badge display for the "Jimmy Fund" Hall of Badges.*

Since its incorporation in 1949, new, vigorous, and mixed blood has been gushing through its veins. It now has a total membership of 735. Of these, 260 are active members—police chiefs of Massachusetts cities and towns and heads of other law enforcement agencies.

All of these men have mutual problems and objectives and one interest in common: law enforcement. As members of the association, they have the opportunity to discuss and solve their problems. One man's problem is everyone else's problem.

The association's legislative committee drafted the new firearms law. Massachusetts is proud of this progressive step, and the chiefs hope other States will follow suit.

Some 50 Massachusetts towns have already adopted the law which was initiated by the association to keep political hands out of police departments. Under this law passed in 1948, chiefs can assign their men and run their own departments without interference. Most of the other towns are expected to adopt it.

Besides the 260 active members, the association has 65 inactive members—retired chiefs. There are also 199 honorary members and 211 associate members. You don't have to be a "Very Important Person" to become an associate patron member. Any person, regardless of occupation or profession, may be voted into honorary membership for doing something worthwhile to help police in his hometown.

Active membership dues are \$5 a year. Associate members pay \$10. The association operates on an annual budget of between \$5,000 and \$6,000. Most of it comes from dues. Money is spent wisely and the association has never been "in the red" since its incorporation.

The association has one simple success formula: the 260 active members—with very few exceptions—are *active* members.

"Everybody works," says president Daniel A. Short of Hull. "The work is distributed. Each man has an important role. Each committee works hard. There are no loose ends left."

The association is comprised of chiefs of departments of all sizes. If a chief has 1 man or 300 men under him, he is still an important cog in the association.

And what each chief has to say is important. Everyone listens. There's none of this "small town vs. big city" feuding. In this association there is no such thing as a small town or a big city. Every-

one is equal. The size of the community or department also has no bearing on the election of association officers. Hull, the town of present president Daniel A. Short, has a population of about 8,000.

Secretary-treasurer Pelletier is chief of the neighboring South Shore town of Cohasset, population 5,000. He is a past president and has been secretary-treasurer since 1947.

The association has 11 active committees, with chairmen and members from both large and small communities. Each committee has a specific job—and does it. The committees are: executive, legislative, civil service, membership, program, ways and means, traffic and safety, public relations and training of police officers, radio teletypewriter board, and memorial. Matters are not referred to these committees and then forgotten. They report back—usually at the next meeting—and the full membership acts on their recommendations. It's a "share-the-load" association with everyone carrying a share.

Chief Pelletier has put more time and effort into the association than any other member. The newsletter he authors and edits is an example of his activity.

No mimeographed, blurred sheet, it is printed at a newspaper plant on top-grade paper. It isn't a lot of dry, uninteresting facts and figures. This two-page publication is full of newsy information, quotes, chitchat about members and former members. It plays a major role in getting members to the monthly meetings, at which the average turnout is 230 members—a good percentage.

## Meetings

What else brings members to the meetings?

One thing that helps is the meeting place itself, which is usually the best restaurant in town. Each chief gets the chance to play host in his community. He picks the restaurant. The selected meeting place may specialize in lobster, steak, or fried chicken, but the food is the best. So each chief knows he's in for a good meal, for which he pays out of his own funds.

Then the guest speaker is another drawing point. The program committee picks a man who is an expert on a timely subject. He may be the governor, attorney general, judge, lawyer, or newspaperman.

Besides this, there's the sociability aspect. The members are on a first-name relationship. In fact, if a member is heard calling another member

“chief” instead of by his first name, he pays a small fine.

Massachusetts may be only “half-pint” in size compared with “10-gallon” Texas, but it’s still a long way from one end of the State to the other. So the meetings offer the members from one section a chance to get together and discuss problems or interests with members from another section of the State.

In addition, the meetings give chiefs the chance to further train the officers under them. Each can bring a deputy chief or captain to the meeting as his guest. The guests get to know the other chiefs and learn from the speakers who are experts on various law enforcement matters.

The meetings start and end on time. There are no long delays, and business comes before pleasure. The group gathers at 10:30 a. m. for coffee and doughnuts. The business meeting is called to order at 11:15 sharp.

The meeting usually takes an hour, sometimes a little longer. Committee reports are heard and necessary action taken. New business and old business are met and disposed of with all the expediency of a bank’s board of directors. A social “shooting-the-breeze” session follows until 1 p. m. when dinner is served. After dinner the guest speaker is introduced. By 3 p. m. the members are on their way home, looking ahead to next month’s meeting.

Besides all these attractions, for a good turnout the association starts each year off with a new project to sustain membership interest. This year’s project is to establish a law library at the local police training school at the Massachusetts State Police Training Academy. Each chief is expected to contribute an old or new law book. Every police officer in the state will be welcome to use the library.

All this and one other thing have made the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association a successful and closely knit group. The other item is a set of 10 unique rules. For members who might hesitate about attending meetings, the rules are called “Ten Ways of Killing an Association—This Means You.” They are:

1. Don’t come to the meetings.
2. If you do, come late.
3. If the weather is inclement, forget about it.
4. If you attend, find fault with the work of the officers.
5. Never accept an office, because it is easier to criticize.

6. Get angry if you are not appointed on a committee. If you are, do not attend the meetings.

7. If the chairman asks your opinion regarding some problem, tell him you have nothing to say. After adjournment tell everyone what should have been done.

8. Do nothing more than absolutely necessary. When other members roll up their sleeves and willingly use their ability to help matters along, howl that the organization is run by a clique.

9. Forget to pay dues, or hold back as long as possible.

10. Do not bother about new members. “Let George do it.”

Those are probably the only “laws” in existence which police chiefs want broken. In fact, it would be a crime to obey them. It would be murder—of an association.



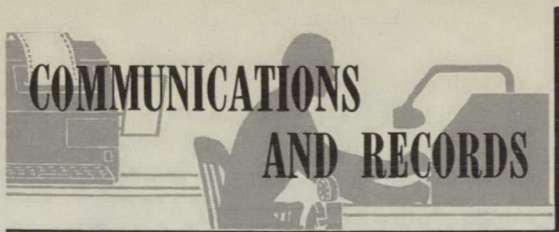
### SAFE BURGLAR FOILED

In July 1957, the night watchman of a country club near Louisville, Ky., was slugged and tied up by an assailant who then broke open a cigarette machine and juke boxes in an effort to obtain the money contained therein. The intruder unsuccessfully attempted to open the safe with the use of a drill. Subsequent investigation revealed that the night watchman had “staged” the burglary and the man who had “broken into” the country club was actually an accomplice.

The Louisville Police Department submitted to the FBI Laboratory a pair of shoes belonging to the suspected accomplice. The safe which the burglar had attempted to open contained five layers of paint, and the Louisville authorities desired to know if the shoes contained any safe insulation, steel shavings or paint specimens.

From laboratory analysis, it was determined that several 5-layer paint chips found in the debris taken from the shoes of the suspect were similar in color, texture, type, layer structure and composition to paint chips removed from the safe for comparison. An FBI Laboratory examiner testified at the trial as to his findings regarding the paint chips. Another Laboratory examiner testified that safe insulation found in the shoes of the suspect came from the safe of the country club or from another safe containing the same kind of insulation. Based primarily on this testimony, the suspect was found guilty and sentenced to a term of 5 years.





# ***Human Factors in Police Radio Console Design***

*by Lt. JOHN R. SAUL, Police Reserve Unit,  
Arlington, Tex., Police Department*

In recent years, police communication facilities have become tremendously more complex, adding to the already overcrowded conditions which most departments are experiencing. With a greater number of stations on the air, increased coordination required between adjacent communities, and more mobile units necessary to patrol our ever-expanding suburbs, a dispatcher's workload can become very great indeed. This is particularly true in the smaller department where he also must act as the desk officer, jailer, records and identification clerk, and "information please" for the public.

In many instances, the equipment with which he must work has been added here and there over the years in a more or less haphazard way wherever a few inches of space were available. Inevitably, the day comes when it is decided to modernize the facility by incorporating the various items of equipment into an integrated panel or series of adjacent panels making up the console. Because the requirements of each individual department vary so greatly, commercial "off-the-shelf" equipment generally will not suffice and the purchase of a custom-made cabinet is beyond the budget.

The design and construction of a console to meet the particular needs and fit the available space then fall upon the chief of police and/or his men. This article presents some of the detailed considerations involved in console design to obtain more efficient operation.

The design of an integrated panel can be greatly enhanced if attention is given to some of the "human factors" involved. By attention to human factors, we mean that the panel design takes into consideration such human characteristics as perception, action and reaction, fatigue, error, etc. In short, a well-designed console is a pleasure to work with day in and day out. Much thought has been given to this field of human engineering in connection with installations of other types, in order to determine the best locations for

various items of equipment. As a result, the largest number of persons out of any given group can operate the equipment as easily as possible and with the least amount of fatigue or error. There is no reason why the same principles cannot be applied to police communication control centers.

## ***Operator Convenience***

Accompanying this article is a composite drawing illustrating several points involved in the application of human engineering to console and desk design (fig. 1). The operator's chair rests on a false flooring which is approximately 14 inches above the main floor. In this position, he is always on eye level or slightly above a person standing opposite him. This is intended to apply pri-



***Lt. John R. Saul***

marily where the operator has duties other than dispatching and which require him to deal with the public. This location not only prevents people from literally "looking down" on the police officer, but it makes the transaction of business much easier. In these instances, the console would not be between the two people, as appears in the sketch, but would be placed on each side or at 45° or 90° to the business transaction area.

The desk top then, which is at a comfortable elbow height of 30 inches above the false flooring, serves as a working area for the operator and is also at a good height from the main floor for transacting business. In the area of the console, the desk top should extend 16 inches from the console base toward the operator to provide the maximum working area without limiting his reach.

Average chair seat height is 17 inches, and it is important, if an armchair is used, to be sure that the arms will fit under a desk drawer or other obstruction if the chair should be raised to maximum height. There should, of course, be a railing or some other restriction surrounding the false flooring on all sides. Entrance can be provided either through an inward-opening gate or through an opening which is smaller than the chair width so that there is no possibility of the chair rolling off and causing injury to the operator.

The console itself measures 14 inches deep at the base and 10 inches deep at the top. These dimensions may be varied somewhat to fit a particular requirement. Those given, however, will provide ample room for placement of almost any type of control component within the console and will set the slope of the front panel at about 15°. This gives the operator a good view of all controls with-

out making the console installation too difficult to service.

A second console may be mounted above the first as shown in figure 1. It should not contain any primary operating controls, however, but can be the location for such items as a clock, CONELRAD receiver, emergency power control or similar switches, burglar alarms, transmitter meters, or other items which need only to be observed or occasionally operated. Because of its location, this panel does not have a sloping front. Its height should also be limited to about 15 inches to prevent unnecessary strain on the operator.

The maximum length for a straight-panel console should be 44 inches, based on a convenient arm reach of 28 inches for the average man. This enables an operator to reach the corners of the console without undue stretching. At first glance, 44 inches may seem far longer than is needed, but future expansion must be considered. The allowance for expansion can be made through the use of blank panels which can be removed when the time comes to add more items. This is more convenient than working on a panel which is already tied down to the console.

### Remote Equipment

When determining the approximate size of the console which will be required, remember that in almost all cases only the primary operating components need to be brought out to the panel and the rest of the equipment can be at a more remote point. For example, in a monitor receiver, only the volume control, squelch control, and speaker are necessary in the console. The receiver itself can be tucked away into a cabinet or other storage space nearby with cabling brought to the console. This not only lessens the amount of equipment required in the console itself, but it will make any maintenance required on the set a lot easier. Similarly with transmitters, intercoms, and other items, only the necessary parts need to be placed in the console and the remainder can be separated so that they are out of the way and yet easy to maintain. If all the equipment is located in the console, it can be very difficult for an operator to do his work while a technician is repairing some part of the equipment.

Figures 2 and 3 show one method of arranging the necessary parts conveniently, while the rest of the equipment is located out of the way but where it is easy to reach. The console panel presents a

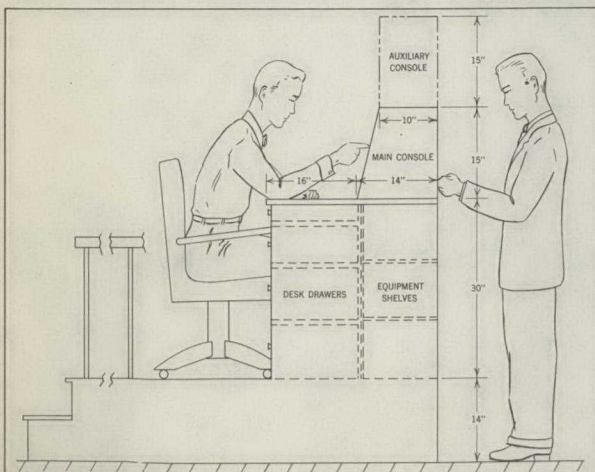


Figure 1.

clean and neat appearance in the control room, while the room on the opposite side of the wall provides the accessibility for maintenance as well as a small work area for doing the actual repair of equipment.

If this arrangement or some modification of it cannot be used, access to the components should be provided through the use of hinged or quickly removable panels. In the setup shown in figure 1, for example, the front (sloping) panel can be hinged at the bottom and the back sides can be held in place by a minimum number of screws. Transmitters, receivers, intercoms, etc., can be located on shelves built into the desk below the console. In some cases shelving can be very conveniently built into the doors themselves so that the piece of equipment swings out into the open. The space beneath the false flooring can likewise be used for equipment or for the storage of records or other items which are not used daily. Adequate ventilation of the equipment must be provided in all instances.

As mentioned earlier, the controls most often used should be directly in front of the operator. In addition to this, the components and controls should be placed together so they form natural groups. As an example, if a department monitors the radio frequencies of several other departments or agencies, but communicates directly by radio with only one or two of them, the speakers for these receivers should be grouped together and also placed near the department's own receiver speaker. The other speakers can then be grouped together on, say, the operator's left side of the panel.

Grouping of the controls also means placing the speaker and its squelch and volume controls close together. When the speaker is at some remote point, and especially when a number of them are in that same general location, they must not only be turned up louder, but it is more difficult for the operator to adjust his controls or recognize the station than when the controls and speaker are in the natural position of being close together.

This also applies to the microphone (transmitter control) switch and the "transmitter-on" light which should be in proximity. Transceivers generally have some arrangement for switching the high voltage in the equipment when changing from receive to transmit in order to mute the receiver when transmitting, and at the same time a low voltage (6.3v) is switched over to light an indicator lamp which shows that the transmitter is on. If a "transmitter-on" light is on the basic equip-

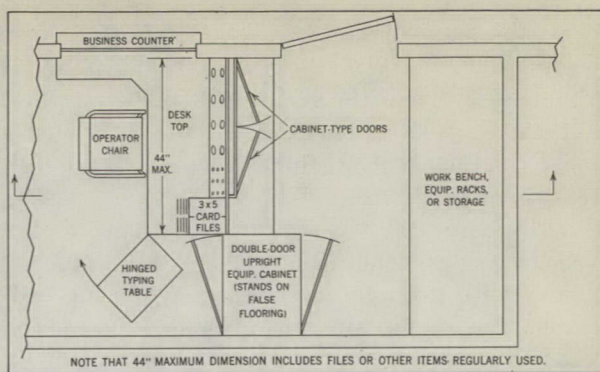


Figure 2.

ment, wiring can be brought from it to the console. If it is not, the job of installing one is not too difficult. The "switched" voltage for this light can also be put to good use in other parts of the console such as (through relays) muting other receiver speakers while the transmitter is on. If the console is in an open area, a relay can also be used to light an "on-the-air" sign to notify other persons in the area that the microphone is open so they will subdue their voices.

### Panel Design

In connection with the mechanical portion of panel design, the following checklist will be helpful in developing the layouts:

1. Wherever possible, arrange the face of the console in a symmetrical manner.
2. Do not present the operator with more information or controls than he needs. Be careful of "overimproving" the console to such an extent that it detracts from the usefulness. Give the operator all he needs, but do not burden him with unnecessary extras.

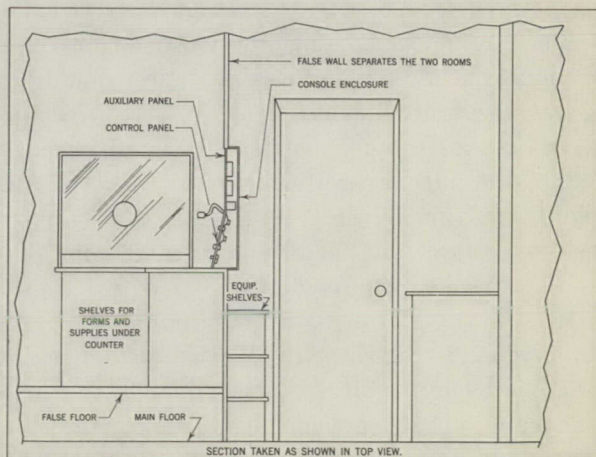


Figure 3.

3. The panel should be as clean and free from distraction as possible. For example, paint all visible screwheads the same color as the panel.

4. Avoid glossy surfaces or highly polished metals on the panel or control knobs to reduce light reflections.

5. Be sure that the type of dials and displays (clock or equipment meters) chosen will be plainly visible with good contrast between the numerals, nameplates, and the background. Dull black knobs with white numerals or lettering, for example, are the best type.

6. Aluminum alloy about  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch thick makes a strong but easy to fabricate material for the panel faces. A dulled finish may be obtained through sandblasting or the use of wrinkle finish paints.

7. All controls should turn in a clockwise direction for increase or for normal sequencing in the case of a selector switch. Insofar as possible, all dials should be the same, or of the same general type and style if the sizes are different.

8. Round knobs should be used for controls requiring smooth, continuous movement (volume, squelch) and bar-type, pointers or push buttons for position switching (intercom station selector). The round knobs having a fluted skirt with numerals engraved on the skirt are better than those having a pointer which require numerals on the panel itself.

9. Volume controls and the like should have knobs approximately 1 inch in diameter for finger gripping. Toggle switches should be of the longer "bat-handle" type rather than the smaller "ball-handle" type. Push-button switches should have a concave or depressed surface on the button and the finger should feel a definite "click" when the switch is operated.

One method of labeling the various controls is through the use of laminated plastic nameplates. These are available in a wide variety of colors with the most common being a layer of black on either side and a layer of white in between. Nameplates like this are neat, easy to read, not too expensive, and can be readily changed if some part of the console is modified at a later date.

The style of lettering used in engraving these nameplates is the standard block type. The size of the lettering required is determined by the viewing distance. Recommended height for dial and nameplate characters at a viewing distance of 2 feet is  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch. At 6 feet it would be  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch, and

at 20 feet it would be  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches. Leave a border between the lettering and the edge of the nameplate about equal to the lettering height plus the amount necessary on each end for the mounting screws. Nameplates on the panel should be uniform in size, at least according to group (receiver identification, in-service status board for mobile units, etc.).

An important point in designing and constructing equipment of this type is to provide adequate safety measures for both personnel and equipment. Eliminate sharp corners or projections on the inside as well as the outside of the equipment cabinets. Points of line voltage (110 v.) or other high voltages should be separated, well shielded, and clearly marked. Provide adequate fuses and spares in a location which is readily accessible to the operator.

Design equipment shelves with sufficient area around the equipment for handling and for heat dissipation of the tubes. Consider the bulk and weight of the items involved when determining handling space and eliminate the necessity for removing one item of equipment in order to maintain or repair another item. Locate those pieces of equipment which require more frequent maintenance or which are more important in the operations (such as the department's own transmitter and receiver) in the most accessible areas.

Clearly identify all controls, wiring, terminals, and other such items inside the console so they can be located quickly and without error. Be sure to provide complete wiring diagrams of all cabling and connections and keep these drawings up to date and in a safe place with the equipment. Too often the original designer or technician is no longer with the department or is not available when an emergency arises and repair time is thus unnecessarily increased.

As mentioned in the beginning, the individuality of each department's requirements and available space dictates a great part of the design. Consideration of the above factors, however, will improve the operation of any console.



## ALTERED WRITING

In the examination of obliterated and altered writings, it is possible for the FBI Laboratory to restore the writing through the use of ultraviolet and infrared photography and chemical treatment.



# SCIENTIFIC AIDS

The National Fraudulent Check File was established in the FBI Laboratory in 1936 for the purpose of bringing together in a central file examples of bogus checks being cashed in all parts of the country. Since that time, thousands of fraudulent checks sent to the FBI Laboratory by law enforcement agencies all over the country have been identified by means of searches in the National Fraudulent Check File.

In 1956 the FBI Laboratory received for examination more than 30,000 fraudulent checks having a total value of over \$5,000,000. Undoubtedly these checks represented only a small portion of the volume of bad checks by which the American public was victimized that year.

The facilities of the FBI Laboratory are available to all law enforcement agencies in the United States in connection with their efforts to identify and locate fraudulent check passers. The check reprinted here illustrates some of the types of examinations the FBI Laboratory may be requested to perform. Of course, many checks do not have all of the features that are shown here.

## *Perforated Edges*

The investigating officer should not overlook the possibility that a Laboratory examination may prove that a check was torn from a particular stub found in the possession of a suspect. Microscopic examination of the perforated edges (1) of the check and stub would show whether they were joined together originally.

## *Typewriting*

The FBI Laboratory has a Typewriter Standards File containing impressions of the styles of type used by the various American typewriter manufacturers and many foreign makers. As an investigative aid, the make and model of typewriter used on fraudulent checks may be established by comparison with the standards in the file. Of course, the FBI Laboratory may make positive

# ***FBI Laboratory Examination of Fraudulent Checks***

identifications by comparison of typewriting (2) on checks with impressions from typewriters found in the possession of suspects.

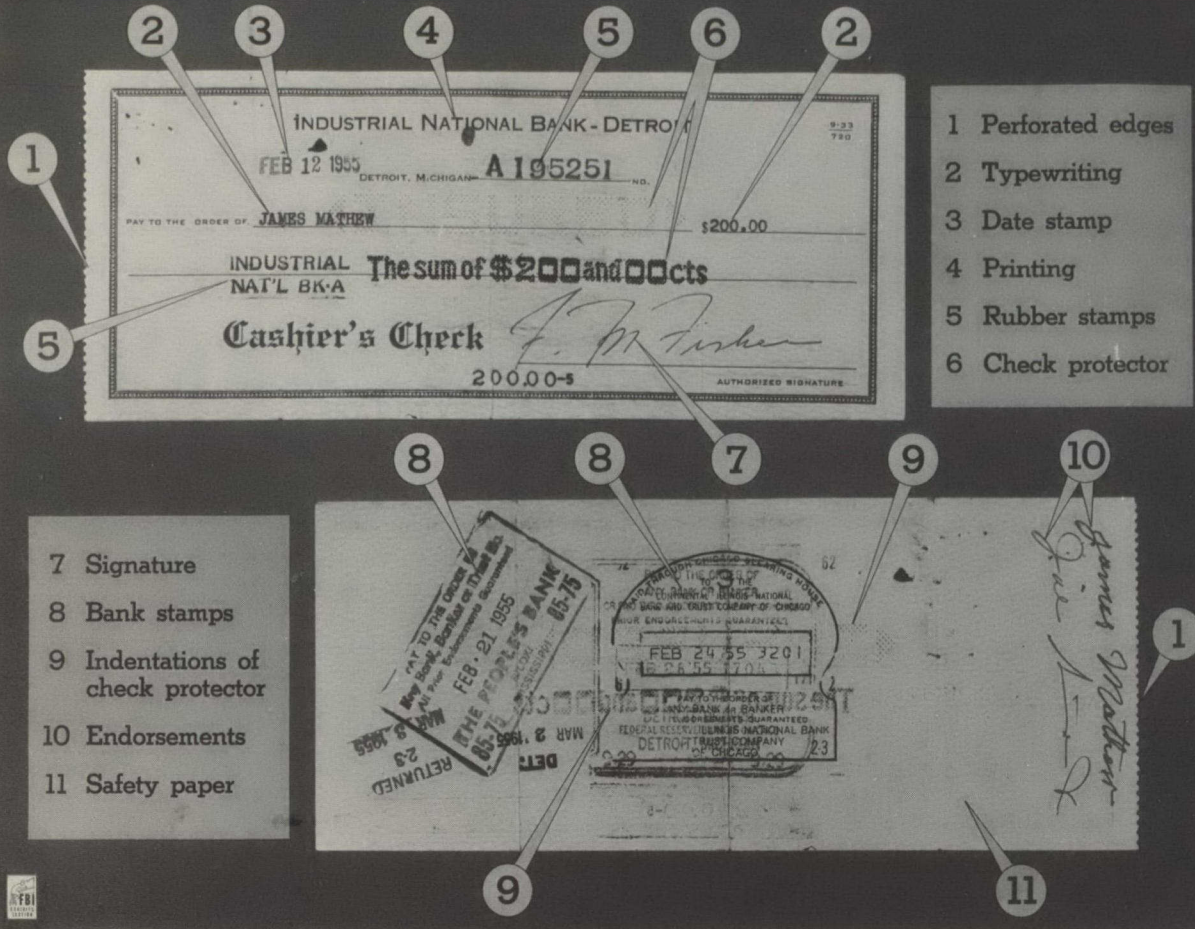
## *Stamps and Printing*

It is possible for the Laboratory to identify date stamp (3) and rubber stamp impressions (5) on fraudulent checks with impressions from date and rubber stamps found in the possession of a suspect. Likewise, the printing on fictitious checks (4) can be identified with printing on blank checks found in a suspect's possession. It may be possible to trace the source of the checks by examination of the printing thereon.

## *Check Protector Marks*

Many professional passers of bogus checks have found that a check prepared with the aid of a checkwriter and drawn on the account of a business firm, even though fictitious, will cause less suspicion and be accepted more readily than a handwritten check because of its authentic appearance. Possibly a check prepared on a checkwriter gives the passer an additional feeling of security, inasmuch as his actual handwriting can be limited to the signature and endorsement if he uses a typewriter for the name of the payee and the numerical amount. A checkwriter does reduce the amount of handwriting appearing on a check, but its use gives the investigator and laboratory examiner another tool to use in identifying the source of the check. The FBI Laboratory maintains a Checkwriter Standards File which contains impressions from the various makes and models of checkwriters produced by American manufacturers. Reference to this file will tell the investigator what kind of checkwriter was used. When the right checkwriter has been found in the possession of a suspect, the Laboratory can identify it as having made checkwriter impressions (6) and indentations (9) on the fictitious check.

# EXAMINATION OF CHECKS



- 1 Perforated edges
- 2 Typewriting
- 3 Date stamp
- 4 Printing
- 5 Rubber stamps
- 6 Check protector

- 7 Signature
- 8 Bank stamps
- 9 Indentations of check protector
- 10 Endorsements
- 11 Safety paper

## Signatures and Endorsements

Signatures (7) and endorsements (10) can be searched in appropriate sections of the National Fraudulent Check File in an effort to identify the writers and passers of fraudulent checks. Upon request, the FBI Laboratory will compare signatures and endorsements on fraudulent checks with signatures of persons with the same names whose fingerprint cards are on file in the Identification Division of the FBI.

## Bank Stamps

Bank and clearinghouse stamps (8) on the reverse side of a fraudulent check are of value to the investigator in tracing the source of the check. Laboratory comparison of these impressions with impressions from genuine stamps will determine whether they are authentic.

## Safety Paper

Many checks are printed on some kind of safety paper (11) containing a background pattern in the paper itself which is designed to make alterations more apparent. The FBI Laboratory maintains a Safety Paper Standards File containing specimens of safety papers produced by the leading American manufacturers. It is possible to trace the source of the paper used for a fraudulent check by reference to this file.

When checks are submitted to the FBI Laboratory for examination, the following information, whenever known by the investigating agency, will be of assistance to the examiners in furnishing a complete report in connection with the check.

1. Names of the subject or suspect and of the victim.
2. Description of the person passing the check, true name and previous criminal record, if any.

(Continued on inside back cover)



# FIREARMS TRAINING

## **Tasks of Field and Lab in Firearms Identification**

This article has been prepared for the benefit of law enforcement officers and prosecuting officials who have recently become engaged in investigating and prosecuting individuals in connection with crimes involving firearms. Experienced investigators may also find this article of value in calling to mind the procedures and special problems involved in the investigation of such crimes.

### **Scope of Field**

The facilities of the FBI Laboratory are available to local and State law enforcement agencies, as well as Federal agencies, for the examination of evidence recovered in criminal cases. One unit of the Physics and Chemistry Section of the FBI Laboratory which receives many such requests is the Firearms Identification Unit. This unit can be of great assistance to law enforcement investigators in answering such questions as: Who was the manufacturer of a bullet recovered at a crime scene or from a victim's body? What is the bullet's type, particular caliber designation, and what make of gun was it fired from? What type of weapon was a cartridge case or a shotgun shell fired in? How far and in what direction are cartridge cases ejected from a particular autoloading pistol, repeating rifle, or repeating shotgun? Was a bullet, a cartridge case, or a shotgun shell fired in a suspect's weapon? What is the trigger pull of a weapon? Can a gun be fired accidentally by jarring or dropping, or is it in good operating condition? Has it been fired since last cleaned? Are powder residues present on a victim's clothing, and, if so, from what distance was the shot fired which deposited the powder residues? From what make of gun was a fragment of gunstock broken?

The answers to these and other questions make easier the job of law enforcement in proving the guilt of a suspect and also are of invaluable assistance in the equally important duty of law enforcement in establishing the innocence of a suspect.

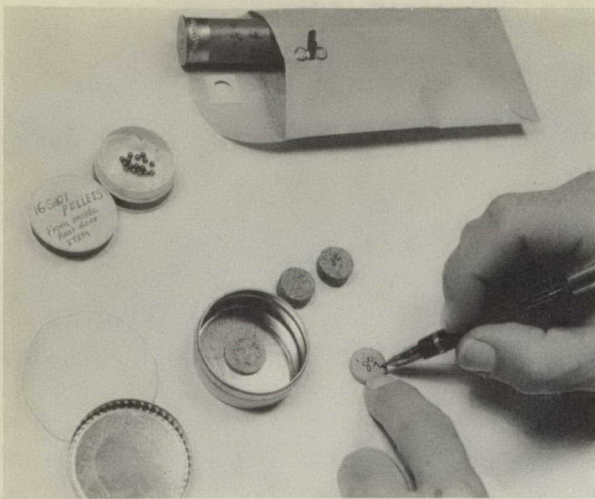
### **Handling Evidence**

How can the field investigator assist the Laboratory examiner? Careful observance of the principles of proper collection, preservation and, if necessary, transmittal of evidence specimens should be followed by the field investigator. Gathering physical evidence is one of the investigator's most important duties. Experience has shown that elimination of many individuals as suspects, as well as proof of another individual's guilt, cannot in many cases be accomplished without benefit of scientific examination of evidence. The photographs which appear on the following two pages illustrate some of the ways in which evidence can be collected and preserved.

### **Laboratory Assistance**

Determining the manufacturer and type of a bullet recovered at a crime scene, determining the caliber designation of bullet or cartridge case, and ascertaining the make of weapon in which a bullet or cartridge case was fired can save an investigator much time and can direct his efforts toward specific objectives. For example, if an investigator knows that a bullet recovered at a crime scene or from the body of a victim was fired from a barrel rifled with seven lands and grooves, right twist, he can eliminate by field examination all weapons not having these rifling characteristics. The accompanying diagram clearly shows the differences between several types of rifling which are easily detected in the field.

Whenever there is a doubt, such as when a badly worn barrel is encountered, the weapon should be examined by a firearms identification expert. Barrels containing dirt or other material, of course, should never be cleaned in the field since the cleaning operation might scratch the bore. Similarly, when confronted with the question of whether a weapon has been fired since cleaning, care should be taken to be certain that nothing is permitted to enter the bore or touch the interior



←  
Shotgun wads and pellets often cannot be marked individually and should be placed in suitable containers which are marked and thereby become part of the evidence.

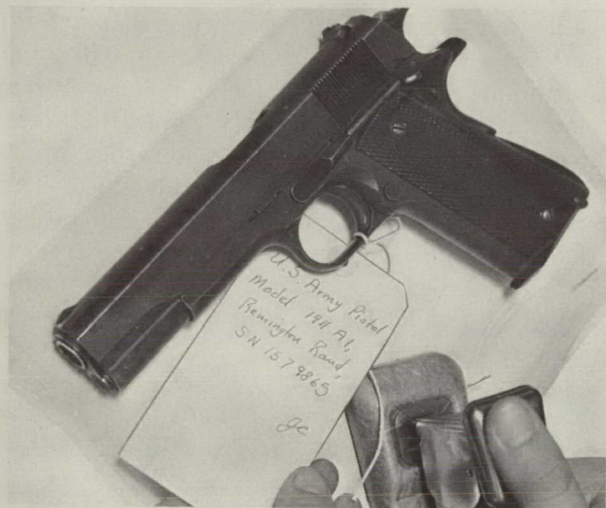
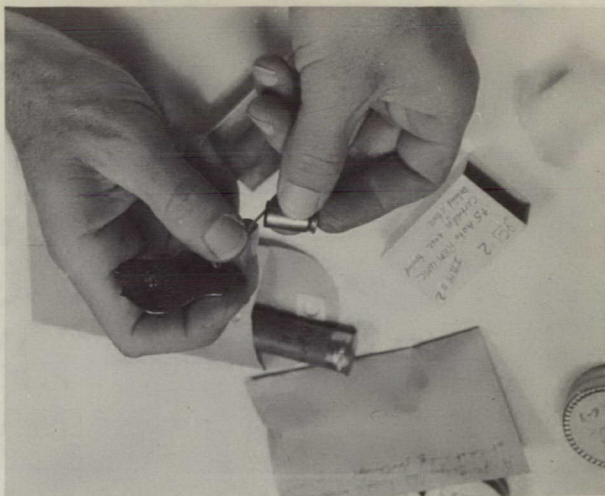
→  
To protect an area on a shirt or other article of clothing suspected of bearing powder particles, fasten a piece of cellophane or paper over the area. This prevents transfer of powder from one area to another. The garment should be air dried thoroughly if blood is present to avoid putrefaction. Each garment should be wrapped separately.



←  
The base of a bullet or an obviously mutilated area serves as a marking surface for the investigator's identification mark. Use of an "X" or other common, easily duplicated marks such as block letters (H, W, O, etc.) should be avoided. Individual packing in pillboxes prevents two specimens from rubbing against each other and obliterating microscopic marks. This is especially true of lead bullets which, of course, should never be carried loose in the pocket.



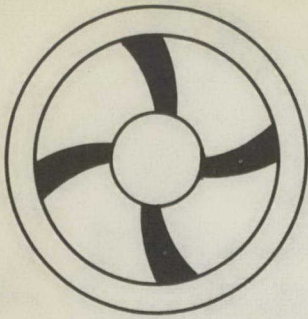
→ Marks placed on the paper portion of a shotgun shell or inside the open end of a cartridge case do *not* interfere with firearms identification examinations in the Laboratory.



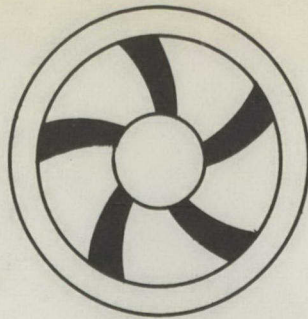
← A clear description of a gun should be recorded, including caliber, make, model, and serial number. The serial number listing should include all letters associated with the number. A protective wrapping will preserve fingerprints, blood, or other material adhering to a weapon and will prevent foreign material from being deposited on the gun or in its barrel or mechanism.

→ A cellophane envelope slipped over the hand or the technique of picking up the gun by its checkered stocks or knurled surfaces will preserve any latent fingerprints which may be on the weapon. Inserting a pencil or other object in the barrel is not an approved technique since it may remove powder residues or scratch the barrel, particularly if dirt or other debris has entered the bore, thereby changing the marks left by the barrel on test bullets fired through it.

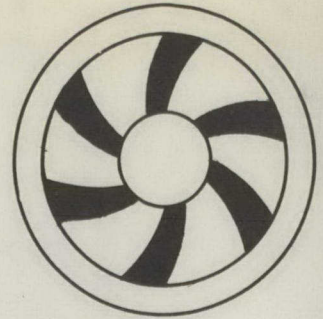




RIGHT TWIST  
FOUR GROOVES



RIGHT TWIST  
FIVE GROOVES



LEFT TWIST  
SIX GROOVES

From an examination of the bore of a firearm the number of lands and grooves in the barrel and the direction in which the rifling twists can readily be determined.

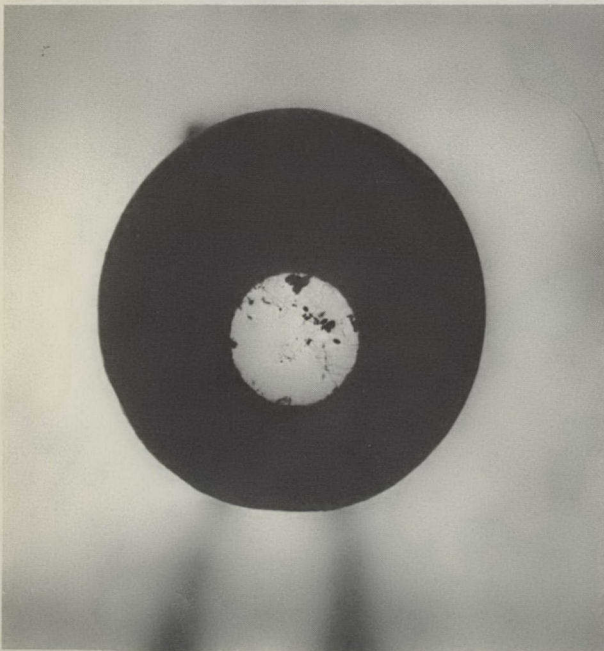
mechanism of the firearm. In these cases the barrel of the weapon may be capped but not plugged.

In the FBI Laboratory the Standard Ammunition File greatly assists in determining the manufacturer, type, and caliber designation of fired bullets.

This file holds manufacturers' samples of ammunition, both domestic and foreign. By comparing questioned specimens with standard specimens in this file, it is often possible to determine

the manufacturer, type, and caliber designation of badly mutilated bullets. Knowing that a fatal bullet is a 150 grain .30-30 Winchester expanding soft-point rifle bullet of Remington or Peters manufacture is of considerably more value to an investigator than merely knowing that a .30 caliber rifle was used in a homicide since there are more than eight popular rifles in the .30 caliber class, shooting a great variety of bullets.

The Reference Collection of Firearms maintained in the FBI Laboratory is used in many



Spider webs, dust, or dirt left in a barrel may show that the gun has not been fired recently.



Impressions in grease on the breechface may provide the headstamp marking of the last cartridge fired.



A portion of the Reference Collection of Firearms maintained in the FBI Laboratory for use in connection with current examinations.

ways. It is the "Reference Library" of the firearms identification examiners. The collection, shown in part above, makes possible the identification of parts of pistol grips, rifle or shotgun stocks, and other gun parts recovered at crime scenes. Another use for the collection is in the examination of extractor and ejector positions of firearms since by this means it is often possible to determine the make of a weapon in which a cartridge case was fired.

### *Identification of Weapon*

The identification of a firearm as having fired a particular bullet or cartridge case is based on the fact that the barrels of weapons are machined and microscopic imperfections in the tools, as well as other inherent mechanical features, cause minute scratches and imperfections in the barrel. In addition, subsequent use and wear contribute to the individuality of the weapon since abrasive particles forced against the barrel in firing, as well as rust and corrosion, add to the markings. A bullet fired through a barrel, therefore, will have impressed on its surface the individual characteristics of the barrel through which it was

fired, which characteristics are found in that barrel and no other.

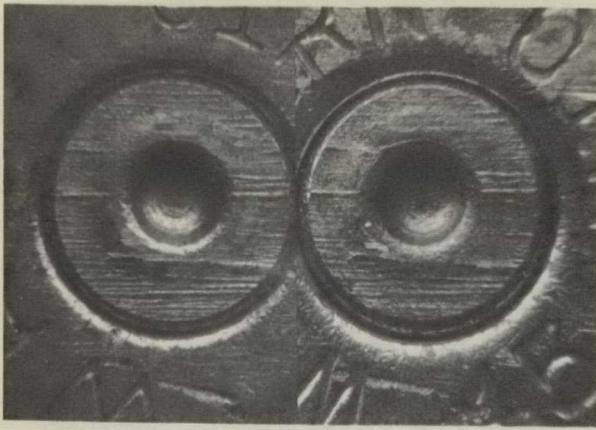
These same basic principles apply also to the mechanism of a gun. The firing pin, breechface, extractor and ejector all come in contact with the cartridge case and since these parts are distinctive they leave sets of markings that can be identified with the particular gun which marked the cartridge case.

Photographs of identifications of two bullets or two cartridge cases as having been fired in the same weapon may be used by the firearms expert to illustrate his testimony in court. Such photographs normally are taken with a camera attached to a comparison microscope as shown in the following series of illustrations on the next two pages which includes photographs of bullet and cartridge case identifications.

Other problems concerning firearms often confront the law enforcement officer. Restoration of an obliterated serial number to facilitate tracing ownership of a weapon comes within this category as does the technique of firing test patterns from a shotgun to determine the firing distance for a



The Standard Ammunition File in the FBI Laboratory permits comparisons of such characteristics as bullet composition, weight, diameter, base and nose shape, and cartridge case markings.

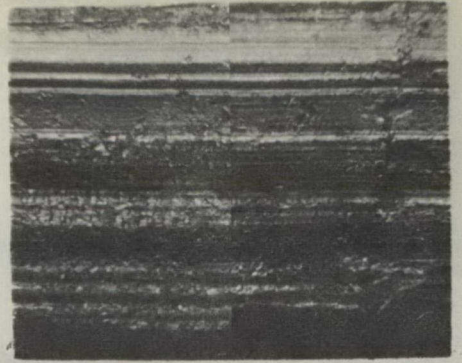


Irregularities on the surface of the breechface of a weapon made this identification possible.

particular spread of shot. Similarly, determining the size of the pattern formed by powder residues around a bullet hole in an article of clothing will establish the approximate muzzle distance at the time the shot was fired in those cases in which the muzzle was held within a few feet of the clothing. Such a determination may be of prime importance in investigations wherein the question of suicide or murder must be resolved.



An examiner using one type of comparison microscope available to the experts in the FBI Laboratory.

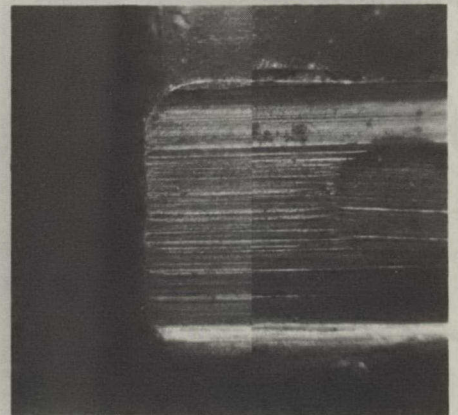


A comparison photograph showing the effects of a poor barrel condition.

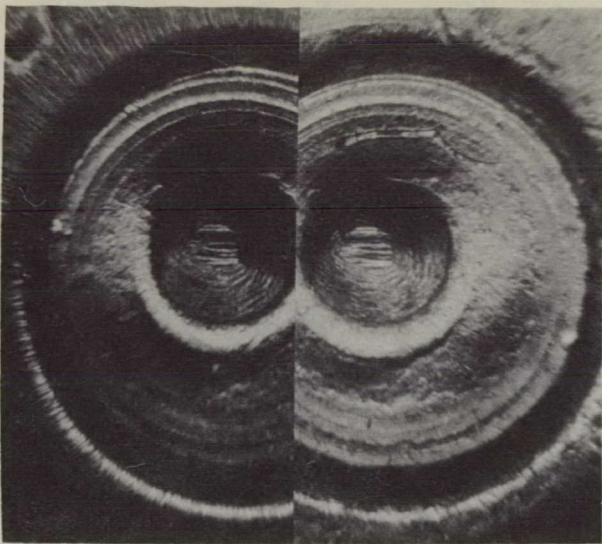
In instances where the possible accidental discharge of a weapon becomes an issue, a thorough Laboratory examination of the mechanical condition of the weapon, including tests for trigger pull, for hammer release mechanism condition, and to determine whether a gun can be fired by dropping or jarring may be necessary. In resolving these and other similar problems, such as determining penetrations and trajectories of projectiles, the investigating officer will find the services of a highly trained firearms expert of great assistance.

### *Expert Testimony*

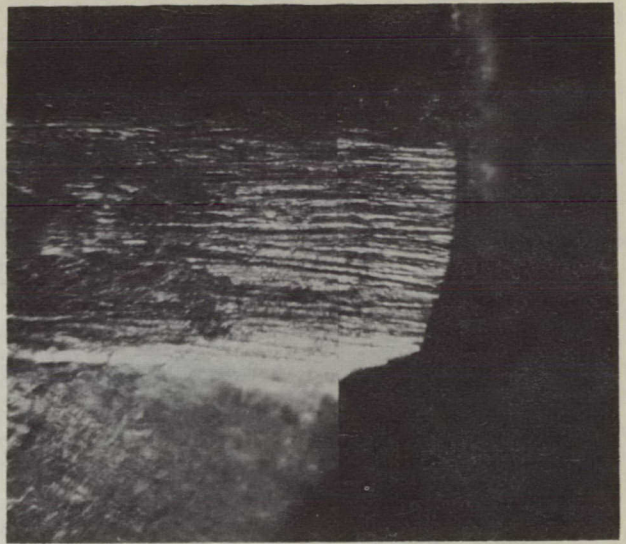
Just as Laboratory examinations are invaluable to investigators of crimes involving firearms, so



An identification of two metal-jacketed bullets fired from a rifle barrel.



Unusually distinctive marks are often present in firing pin impressions.



Firing pin identification based on the impressions of the firing pin in rim-fire cartridge cases.

is expert testimony frequently necessary in the prosecution of a criminal case. Frequently the identification of a suspect gun is the means by which the chain of circumstantial evidence may be definitely connected with the criminal. The Federal Bureau of Investigation, therefore, extends its facilities to prosecutors, and whenever possible the FBI Laboratory examiner will appear in court to testify regarding his examination. This assistance is rendered without costs or fees of any kind.

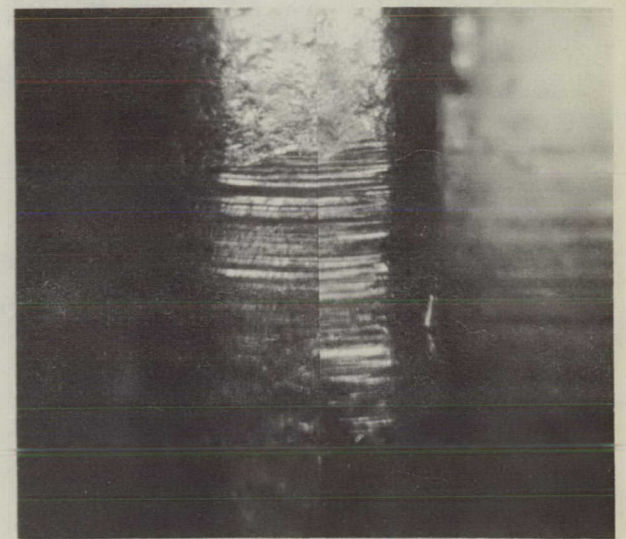
In requesting the assistance of the Laboratory examiner for testimony it is desirable that such

requests, giving the date and place of trial, be submitted as far in advance as possible in order to coordinate commitments. It is highly desirable that, where a trial may be expected to last several days, the presence of the examiner be requested for the particular day on which his testimony is anticipated in order to conserve the examiner's time.

In view of varying court procedures and the variety of cases in which such testimony is used, it is hardly possible, or desirable, to follow any set procedure in presenting testimony regarding such



Marks left by the same ejector are shown on these two cartridge cases.



Marks left by the same extractor are shown on the two cartridge cases.

## Handwriting Identifies Check Passer

In April 1957, a man entered a store in St. Joseph, Mo., purchased two pairs of khaki pants and two khaki shirts, and tendered a check in the amount of \$15.87 as payment. Although he was a stranger in town, the sales clerk did not hesitate to cash the check, since the customer presented for identification a Colorado driver's license. He also furnished his home address. This was jotted down on the check.

Later the same month, the stranger checked in at a hotel in St. Joseph. On checking out the same day, he gave a check for \$10 as payment for his bill. He told the desk clerk that he was a sheriff from Colorado and presented for identification a card from an automobile club. As on the previous occasion, he experienced no difficulty in passing the check.

The stranger departed from town after checking out of the hotel, and a few days later the two checks were returned marked "no account." The police assigned to the case contacted the sales clerk at the store and the desk clerk at the hotel, and both gave approximately the same description of the check passer—a man, about 50 years old, 5 feet 7 inches tall, 160 to 170 pounds, wearing khaki trousers and cowboy boots. The description, however, did not help too much, for the stranger had left for parts unknown.

The two fraudulent checks were turned over to the local office of the FBI and were subsequently forwarded to the FBI Laboratory for examination. A name search was conducted in the Identification Division for individuals using the name or alias appearing on the checks and having the description set forth in the letter of transmittal. As a result of this search, an identification record was located for a man having a similar name. Upon examination of the handwriting, it was determined that this man had prepared the signatures appearing on the two worthless checks.

A Laboratory report was forwarded to the local FBI office setting forth the handwriting identification, a complete description of the subject and the information that he had been arrested in a neighboring State in May 1957 on a bogus check charge. The information contained in the Laboratory report was turned over to the police investigators at St. Joseph, enabling them to close their case.



*Restored serial number on a rifle.*

examinations. It is necessary, of course, to qualify the expert witness in order that his testimony will be received by the court, and in general, the qualification questions pertain to the occupation, education, study in the particular field, and the experience in that type of work. The witness can then identify each item which has been examined by him and tell in detail what examinations were made and what conclusions were reached.

For purposes of economy and to avoid duplication of effort, it has been found necessary to establish a policy that the FBI cannot furnish testimony where other expert testimony on the same subject matter is to be used by the prosecution.

Skill and advanced knowledge in the field of firearms identification can be vital factors in effecting successful law enforcement. This technique in scientific crime detection is another potent weapon in the battle against crime.



### BOOK VALUE

A good police library is of inestimable value to individual officers and to the department as a whole.

## OTHER TOPICS

# ***Development of a Police Department in a Small Town***

*by* CHIEF WILLIAM E. SCOTT, Avon, Conn.,  
*Police Department*

Avon, Conn., a residential community covering 22.6 square miles, is situated 10 miles west of Hartford, Conn. "Main Street" of Avon is Route 44, a heavily traveled State highway which averaged 11,000 to 14,000 cars per day during the summer months. The population of Avon has increased from a little over 3,000 in 1950, to an estimated figure of just under 5,000 today.

Keeping pace with the growth and expansion of the town has been one of the principal concerns of the police department. Prior to 1950, law enforcement in Avon was maintained by the constable system. In January 1950, I accepted a probationary appointment as full-time constable in Avon for a period of 6 months. Operations were on an annual budget of \$5,000 for police protection and there was no organized police department or even a police cruiser. A one-room police office was established in the basement of the Avon Town Hall.

Initially, there were many problems to overcome. First, the confidence and cooperation of the people had to be obtained. The job of constable called for working nights only. No police protection was provided for during the daytime. Permission was sought and obtained to provide protection in the daytime as well as at night. Although the hours were long in the beginning, it paid off because the willingness to work for better law enforcement in Avon gained the confidence and public support of its citizens.

One of the most important needs in 1950 was to establish a system of records and files of people arrested and the dispositions of their cases. It is our belief that one of the most valuable tools in police work is a good and useful set of records. We strive to record as much of our work and activities in a permanent, written record as possible, consistent with good judgment and common sense. For example, we make it a practice to question hitchhikers and strangers passing through our town to determine who they are, and where they

are going. We file a report on each one, which includes a physical description and the time and date of the contact. On one occasion, this type of information proved useful in helping to locate the subject of a murder case in Hartford, Conn.

In 1952, the position of chief of police was established in Avon for the first time. Interested and cooperative townspeople got together and started a drive to secure funds to buy a radio-equipped police cruiser. An average of \$2 per taxpayer was sought and soon \$2,665 in amounts ranging from \$1 to \$200 was collected. Thus our first police cruiser was obtained through public subscription. Avon then voted to have an organized police department. Political control of Avon has changed hands three times since 1950, and in each instance the police department received splendid support and cooperation from the elected officials of the town.

As our department began to grow and develop, it became readily apparent that our program of public relations was proving its worth. We have



*Chief William E. Scott.*



*Town scene.*

long felt that if a police officer approaches his job with enthusiasm and a sincere desire to make his community a better place in which to live, then, in turn, his community will show enthusiasm toward its department. Rather than have citizens in a community regard the police department as a "necessary evil," it is far better to have them look upon the department with pride and assurance, and to regard the police officer as an impartial and just friend, who stands ready at all times to perform his duties in a capable, efficient manner.

Officers of our department, both regulars and supernumeraries, volunteer their services at dances, church fairs, and other public gatherings where police protection is required, at no expense to the town or the organizations involved.

During the spring, our officers canvass the community, making personal calls on homeowners. Our men make these calls in uniform and volunteer their time after regular working hours. The homeowner is given a printed card containing the regular and emergency telephone numbers of the police department and is advised that our department will gladly check his residence while he is away on vacation. We solicit notifications from our citizens before they leave on vacations in order that we may include their residences on our regular house checks.

### ***Safety Sunday***

In 1954, we decided to promote traffic safety in a different way. The problem, as always, was how to reach the people with our program. Past experience had shown that few citizens respond to a public meeting on safety. It was decided to

seek the assistance of the clergymen in Avon's three churches, and they were receptive to our idea. Plans were formulated for a "Safety Sunday." Our slogan was "Save a Life—Save a Soul." We felt that those attending church would be receptive to a traffic safety program and would be in the right frame of mind. Two police officers distributed printed pamphlets on safety at each of Avon's three churches. I spoke on safety at one of the churches during the service. In addition, the clergymen in all the churches devoted part of their sermons to the topic of safety.

The response from the community was highly favorable and so were the results. In the following year, traffic accidents decreased 23 percent in our town over the previous year.

In connection with safety, we speak once each year to the students in Avon's two grammar schools, the junior high school, and the high school. We have found that the youngsters are more receptive when we speak individually to each classroom in the school for 10 or 15 minutes, than when we address an assembly of the entire school.

### ***Junior Police Patrol***

One of the principal responsibilities of a police department is the welfare of the youngsters in a community. Contacts with police officers in his or her town can well mold the pattern of a youngster's future life with respect to being a decent, law-abiding citizen. In 1954, we organized a Junior Police Patrol of boys and girls from 7 years of age through high-school age. Meeting once a week in the Town Hall after school, these youngsters learn the "do's and don'ts" of good citizenship. They are taught to look upon a police officer as their friend and to respect the importance of truthfulness. We caution them not to accept rides from strangers and to promptly report to the police department the license numbers of suspicious cars. Lectures on firearms, fingerprinting, and other police matters help to impress upon them the futility of the individual who decides to follow a life of crime. With a membership of over 100, we grouped the boys and girls by neighborhoods and appointed captains and sergeants among the older youngsters. Local merchants purchased badges for the kids and they wore them proudly on meeting days and other special occasions. We think this plan has paid off in our town. Juvenile delinquency is at a minimum. But aside from this, we think that our police department has taken a posi-



tive step toward making these youngsters better citizens of tomorrow.

## **Growth**

In 1955, we expanded our department from 1 room to 4 rooms in the basement of the Town Hall. This development was due in large part to the assistance of our public-spirited citizens. Carpenters and painters donated their time in remodeling our original office and constructing the three additional rooms. Donations from townspeople paid for our office equipment. We now have a modern, well-lighted and well-equipped police department.

In 1956, every civic and service club in Avon joined together in presenting to the police department an emergency station wagon, equipped with a resuscitator and inhalator, and a two-way radio. Individual citizens and business firms in town donated additional equipment, including stretchers, ropes, bars, axes, and a complete line of first-aid equipment.

Our present force has grown in size to the chief and 2 regular police officers, 1 policewoman, and 10 supernumerary officers. There is a police officer on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Our budget has increased from \$5,000 in 1950 to \$21,000 in 1957. We always operate within our budget because we feel it is good government to do so. One of the principal reasons for our ability to operate our department so economically is the fact that the community stands behind the department 100 percent and is always ready to assist. Our men must be neat and clean in appearance and courteous at all times. We try never to forget for an instant that we are public servants and that it is a privilege to serve as a police officer.

Through the cooperation and assistance of the New Haven, Conn., office of the FBI, we have held three police schools during the past 3 years. Representatives from eight towns in our section of the State have attended these schools.

## **Future Plans**

At the present time, plans are being formulated to augment our force with the addition of 20 auxiliary police officers, who will be trained for specific duties in the event of disaster or emergency. It is our intention to train such men in our community who have already shown ability to think quickly and intelligently and to lead others.

All of our officers and supernumeraries are qualified in first aid, which we feel is very important. Our plans for the future include first-aid training for every service station operator in our community as well as schoolteachers, school bus drivers, town employees, representatives from several construction firms in town, and those townspeople who desire the training.

We in Avon recognize and appreciate that the growth and development of our department in the past 7 years could not have been possible without the tremendous public support given to it by our citizens. We know that we could not have gained this public support without effort on our part, and in that we derive satisfaction. We feel that in this business of police work, the time and energy a department expends are an investment in the town. It is an investment that is certain to pay dividends in the form of public support and cooperation. Our community takes pride in its police department and we take pride in our community. We think it is a good place to live and work and raise families for a better American way of life.

## **SUICIDE IDENTIFIED**

Although fingerprints are frequently utilized in the identification of criminals, oftentimes they perform a public service function.

In October of 1957, the Identification Division of the FBI received a set of fingerprints from the Baltimore, Md., Police Department and additional information contained thereon indicated that the fingerprints belonged to an apparent suicide. The victim's body had been found at a Baltimore hotel, and death had been caused by an apparently self-inflicted bullet. Tentative identification at the hotel indicated that the victim was an individual who resided in Philadelphia, Pa. The search by the Identification Division of the FBI culminated in the civil fingerprint file where the prints of the deceased were positively identified with a set of prints taken from the victim when he was 10½ years old for civil identification purposes in New York City. The search further revealed that the victim had been fingerprinted in 1954 and again in 1956 in connection with applications for Government employment. An additional fact the fingerprint search revealed was that only 4 months before his death, the person had been fingerprinted at New York City in connection with his induction into the armed forces. Thus, the fingerprints established the true identity of the deceased.

# WANTED BY THE FBI

WALTER ALEXANDER KULIS, with aliases;  
Walter A. Kulus, Walter A. Kulisa, "Barney"

## Unlawful Flight to Avoid Prosecution (Murder)

Walter Alexander Kulis, who is the subject of Identification Order No. 2928, is being sought by the FBI for interstate flight to avoid prosecution for the crime of murder.

On July 21, 1955, at Utica, N. Y., the body of Kulis' roommate was found in the apartment that he shared with the subject. Death was due to a wound caused by a .22 caliber bullet. A few days later, a .22 caliber pistol, traced to Kulis, was found behind some nearby shrubbery. Kulis subsequently disappeared.

## Process

A complaint was filed before a U. S. Commissioner at Utica, N. Y., on September 26, 1955, charging Kulis with unlawful flight from the State of New York to avoid prosecution for the crime of murder.



Walter Alexander Kulis

Kulis has reportedly associated with sexual degenerates in the past and he may frequent notorious bars and places of amusement. He is reportedly an ardent baseball fan, preferring professional baseball games. In the past, he has been a proficient pool player and has exhibited a liking for billiards. He is reportedly a neat dresser but is noted for flashy sport shirts and casual clothing rather than regular business attire.

## Caution

Kulis has been in possession of a revolver and he should be considered armed and dangerous.

## Description

Walter Alexander Kulis is described as follows:

Age.....	55, born December 10, 1902, Utica, N. Y.
Height.....	5 feet, 6 inches.
Weight.....	170 pounds.
Build.....	Medium.
Hair.....	Brown, thinning, receding at forehead.
Eyes.....	Brown.
Complexion.....	Ruddy.
Race.....	White.
Nationality.....	American.
Occupations.....	Roofer, tree trimmer, salesman, sheet metal worker, laborer.
Scars and marks.....	Middle and ring fingers of left hand partially amputated; ¼-inch scar on back of little finger of right hand; two ¼-inch scars on front of left leg above ankle.
Remarks.....	Wears glasses.
FBI Number.....	11,729 C
Fingerprint classification.....	20 O 16 R OOM 23 I 28 W OIM 15, 31, 32, AMP
Reference.....	28 28 28

## 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.



## ATOMIC ENERGY ACT

Violations of the Atomic Energy Act are investigated by the FBI.

## FRAUDULENT CHECKS

(Continued from page 12)

3. Modus operandi, including other checks passed.
4. Information concerning whether any part of the check was written by the victim or anyone else other than the suspect, whether any names on the check are attempted forgeries of genuine signatures, and whether the check form itself has been stolen or is fictitious.

Whenever possible, original checks should be submitted for examination. If the question of forgery is involved, it is necessary to have handwriting specimens of the person suspected of doing the forgery, and of the person whose writing has been forged. Known handwriting specimens should be obtained by dictating the questioned wording to the suspect. The writing should be done on blank check forms with the same kind of writing medium. For example, if the questioned check is written with pen and ink, the known handwriting specimens should be prepared with pen and ink. If the original is in pencil, the specimens should be written with pencil. With each specimen obtained in this manner, it becomes more difficult for the suspect to continue disguising his handwriting. As soon as each specimen is completed, it should be removed from the sight of the writer. The questioned check should never be shown to him.

Many check passers have spent years perfecting their techniques and have become experts in their field. To cope with these skilled criminals effectively, law enforcement has to use all the facilities at its command. Every day dozens of fraudulent checks flow into the FBI Laboratory to be checked against the files maintained there and to be subjected to scientific examinations. As a result, many professional check passers are caught, as well as many amateurs who might possibly be considering becoming professionals.



### DOUBLE TROUBLE

An individual who had been arrested for an interstate transportation of stolen motor vehicle violation was recently sentenced to 3 years' imprisonment but was free on bond pending an appeal of his conviction. At this time, he presented to his attorney a check in the amount of \$2,000 to cover fees and costs. However, the check proved to be forged, and the subject was rearrested for a violation of the Interstate Transportation of Stolen Property Statute in connection with the check.

## LABORATORY IDENTIFIES CHECK ARTIST

An ex-convict shared a hotel room with three men in Augusta, Ga. During this time he was employed as a cook, and his working hours were from 11 p. m. to 7 a. m.

One of his roommates worked during the day at a bomb plant. After work he usually returned to the hotel, changed clothes, left his identification badge in his room, and went out for the evening. Before coming to Augusta, he maintained a checking account in Rockville, Ind.

Subsequently, several checks bearing the roommate's name were returned to local merchants from the bank in Rockville. The roommate stated he had not missed his badge at any time, nor did he know he had any blank checks, and he said that he had withdrawn all funds prior to leaving Rockville.

Investigation revealed that in his absence, the ex-convict took the blank checks and the badge and returned the badge the same night. He dressed neatly, was a smooth talker and gave the impression of being well educated; therefore, he had little difficulty passing the checks. In cases where he obtained merchandise instead of cash, he pawned the articles. His previous record contained numerous arrests for passing worthless checks, swindling, drunkenness, assault and battery.

This check artist was apprehended by the Augusta Police Department subsequently and sentenced to 4 months on local bad check charges. He was later transferred to Atlanta, where he was sentenced to 6 months on another local charge of issuing fraudulent checks, some of which checks were signed with his true name.

Samples of his handwriting and several of the checks were compared in the FBI Laboratory.

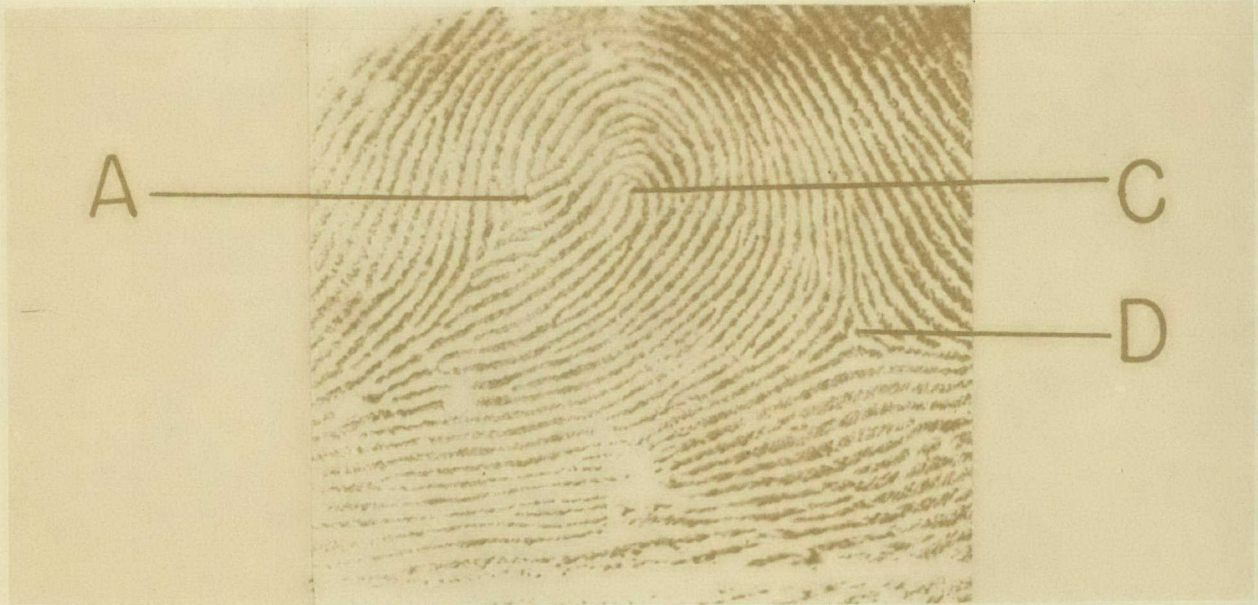
In prosecutive action resulting from Federal charges, an FBI document examiner testified in the United States District Court, Augusta, Ga., that the subject had prepared the handwriting on the check which was being used in the trial. Inasmuch as the clerk who accepted the check could not identify the subject, the examiner's testimony was largely responsible for the verdict. The defendant was found guilty and sentenced to 3 years.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

RETURN AFTER 5 DAYS

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## *Questionable Pattern*



The questionable pattern presented here is classified as a loop with 17 ridge counts. Due to the possibility of a recurve at point A, the pattern is referenced to a double-loop type whorl. The delta is found at D and the core at C.