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MAY 1966

FBI

LAW ENFORCEMENT BULLETIN

FBI NATIONAL CRIME INFORMATION CENTER

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
J. EDGAR HOOVER, DIRECTOR

MAY 1966

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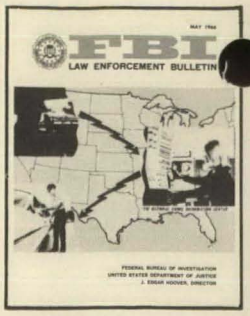

THE COVER—*The FBI is developing a nationwide computerized crime information system. See page 2.*

FBI

LAW ENFORCEMENT BULLETIN

CONTENTS

Message From Director J. Edgar Hoover 1

A National Crime Information Center 2

A Twentieth Century Approach to Judicial Administration, by Hon. Henry Ellenbogen, President Judge, Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pittsburgh, Pa. 7

Nationwide Crimescope 11

For the "Want" of a Horse—A Bank Robber Is Caught 12

War Declared on Pranksters 19

Admissibility of Standard Writings 20

Wanted by the FBI 24

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

THE FBI IS DEVELOPING a nationwide information system to serve law enforcement agencies throughout the country. It will be known as the National Crime Information Center and will be located at FBI Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

This new information center will complement computerized systems already in operation as well as those being planned by local and State enforcement agencies. Eventually, it will be the hub of a vast information network which will serve as a rapid means of processing, storing, retrieving, and instantly transmitting vital police information, national in scope, to any point in the country in a matter of seconds.

Advisory groups are currently making studies of processing needs so that uniform standards and coding definitions may be drawn up and approved. With assistance of representatives from other law enforcement agencies, electronics experts are working on procedures to effect a smooth, compatible interchange of information by all participants in the network. When specific rules are established, rigid adherence to and strict compliance with such regulations will be mandatory if the center is to provide optimum service.

The FBI center is expected to be in limited operation by January 1967. Initial services to be programed include data on stolen automobiles, other identifiable stolen property, and wanted persons. Other phases will be added as the center develops. The goal is an increasing reservoir of scientifically stored data on criminal activities, gathered by Federal and local departments, which will give the officer on the street or any agency in any part of the country up-to-the-minute information, upon request.

Certainly, the random-access computer is not the whole answer to the Nation's crime problem. Yet, all enforcement officials are enthusiastic about computerized information systems and their great potential for improving police operations, investigations, and analyses by making necessary information immediately available. Today, computer and communication technology has eliminated two major problems—burdensome volume and time lag—which make a manually operated national system impracticable.

Cooperation is the keynote of success in law enforcement. The development of local and State computerized systems is necessary for a successful national crime information center. The FBI welcomes this opportunity to extend our cooperative efforts through the establishment of this center. We are anxious to help bring the full impact of electronics into the fight against crime and violence. We believe the National Crime Information Center will materially increase the effectiveness of our profession and assist law enforcement in its primary objective—protecting human life and property.

J. Edgar Hoover

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER, *Director.*

MAY 1, 1966

A National Crime Information Center

View of computer system planned for FBI center.

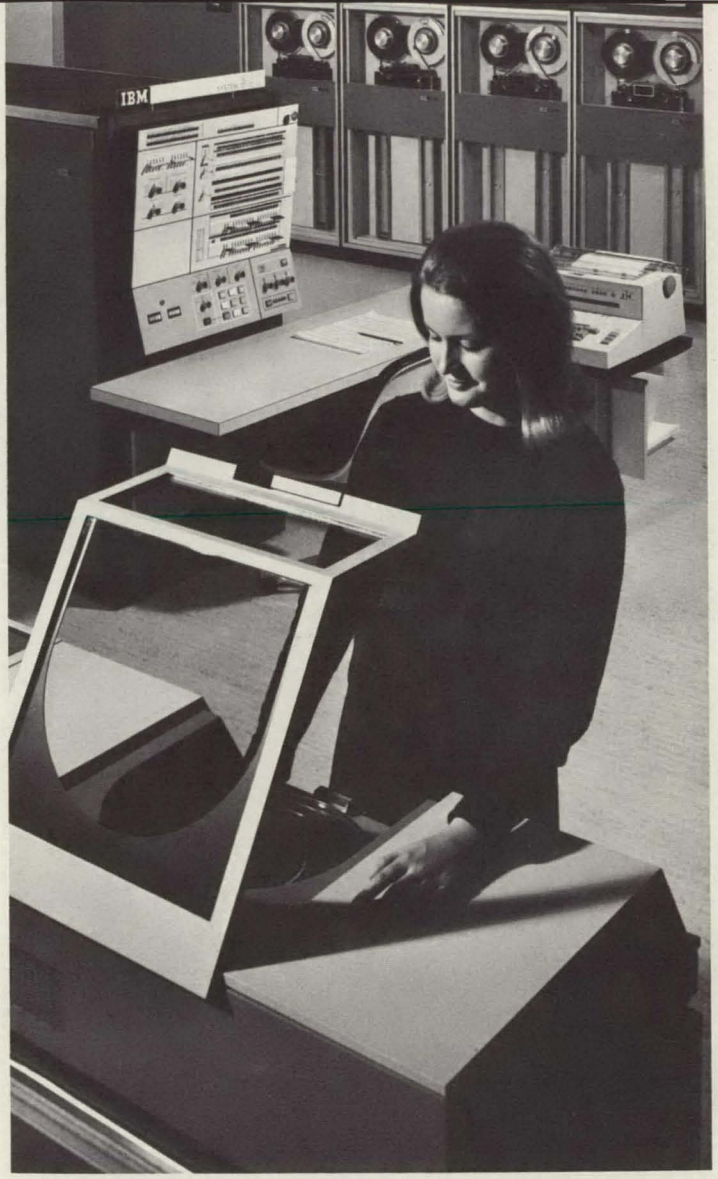
A NEW AND POWERFUL weapon was conceived for law and order when, in September 1965, the FBI embarked on the development of a national electronic information system to be known as the National Crime Information Center.

With rapid progress being made to place this vital network at law enforcement's disposal, the center is being set up by the FBI to complement the development of electronic information systems—metropolitan or statewide in nature—and to coordinate the setting of standards which will enable all systems to readily interchange information.

Ultimate Goal

The planners visualize an ultimate information network encompassing the entire United States which will make available to each law enforcement agency, in a matter of seconds, the facilities of an information file national in scope. No longer will the mobility of today's criminal element afford a sanctuary, even temporary, as information will be readily available to any participant in the system concerning any criminal or criminal act regardless of geographic boundaries.

The prospect of such a system excites the imagination of the law enforcement community as it would enable local officers, through coast-to-coast and border-to-border cooperation, to close ranks against the criminal element.

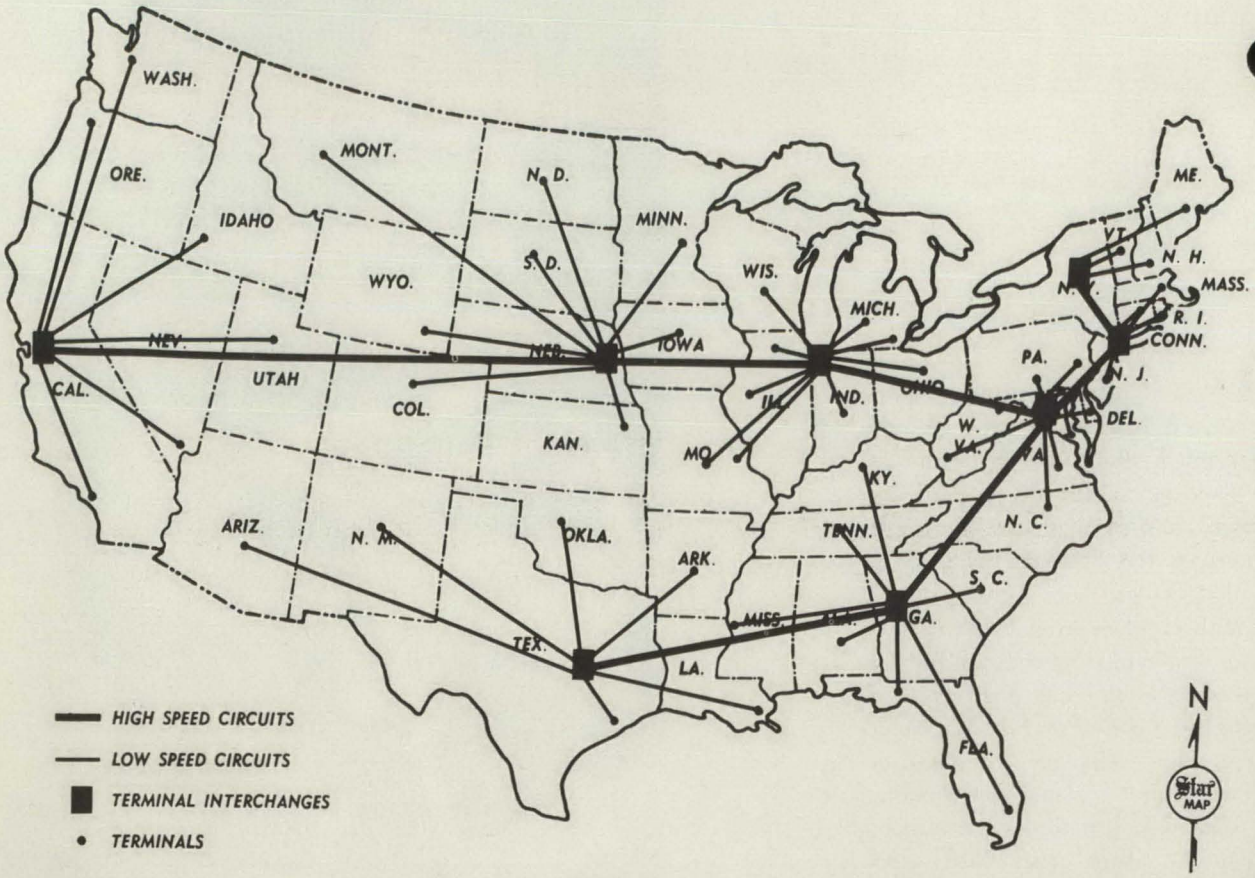


System will feature random-access storage.

Need for State-Local Systems

The logical development of electronic information systems proceeds from local metropolitan systems to statewide systems and then to a national system. In effect, each succeeding system would afford greater geographical coverage. The information stored at each level will depend on actual need, with local metropolitan systems naturally having a data base much broader than that of either the statewide or national system. By the same token, State systems will store information of statewide interest which will not be stored within a national system. It is most important to avoid any concept that a national system eliminates the need for systems of lesser geographical scope—metropolitan and statewide systems must develop to serve local needs which could not possibly be met by any national system. The ultimate nationwide network will not be achieved until such systems develop in each State and the larger metropolitan population centers.

As a major step to establishing a nationwide system, the FBI has contracted with the Institute for Telecommunications Sciences and Aeron-



Courtesy Washington Evening St

A preliminary concept of a completed nationwide network.

omy, Environmental Science Services Administration, Department of Commerce, to survey all existing telecommunications networks throughout the United States and to recommend a network that would best support a nationwide computerized system. This study will be completed by July 1, 1966. It will comprehensively cover the following points:

A study of National Crime Information Center computer characteristics.

A study of existing information systems.

A study of existing and planned telecommunications networks.

Determine data transmission requirements for the National Crime Information Center system.

Develop telecommunications options to fulfill National Crime Information Center requirements.

Initially the FBI's National Crime Information Center will include stolen automobiles unrecovered after a specified time, stolen property in certain categories, and some wanted persons. The information stored in the national system will largely be entered directly into it by participants and will be immediately available to local users throughout the United States on direct inquiry. This step-by-step approach was adopted as the most practical means of establishing the nucleus of a nationwide network and of putting such a network into operation. Other applications will be added as they become feasible.

Gains in Technology

Progressive law enforcement has always been quick to recognize the value of scientific and technological advances which could improve its operations. Many tools used in the never-ending war against criminals and rising crime rates have had their origin in the research laboratory. We have seen startling developments in scientific detection methods, as well as dramatic improvements in the communications field, increase our effectiveness over the years although these have not been universally applied because of economic reasons. It would be difficult, for instance, to visualize operating an efficient police agency today without the availability of a crime laboratory or the use of radio communications facilities.

One of the more recent technological developments and one which has had, and will have even greater, impact in the field of law enforcement, is the computer. This highly versatile electronic device is currently being used to assist in police management and to provide information for operational functions. A means of storing and rapidly retrieving needed information is most vital to the efficient and effective operation of any law enforcement agency. It is only second in importance to a staff of highly trained and conscientious personnel.

On the management side, the computer can compile reams of statistical information not only for standard budgetary applications but also for use in crime reports, the analysis of traffic accidents, and optimizing of manpower allocation and distribution. Further, management services possible include the compilation of necessary time records for tabulating payrolls, the recording of personnel files so that various surveys such as checks of particular talents may be rapidly conducted, and the storing of equipment inventory and maintenance control data.

On the operational side, today's computer is capable of furnishing needed information concerning crime and criminals in a matter of seconds so that the officer on the street has a veritable wealth of information at his command at all times. A few departments are effectively using files on warrants and stolen automobiles which are stored in computers for immediate retrieval.

FBI Experience

The FBI has long been in the computer field and currently uses the computer to process over 800 programed tasks. These tasks range in scope from the preparation of FBI payrolls to the analyzing of evidence in accounting cases, crime analysis, recidivism studies, and the breaking of codes. All work assigned to computers to date has necessarily been limited to that which could be processed sequentially due to constraints imposed by available equipment. However, with the developing of computers having random-access storage and the resultant adaptation to operational use through communications advances, it becomes apparent that the FBI can contribute a valuable and constructive service to all law enforcement.

Center's Heart

The highspeed computers which will make up the heart of the National Crime Information Center will be located in FBI Headquarters in Washington, D.C. The center is expected to be in limited operation with several of the existing local systems tied into it by January 1967. This proposed network is highly complex in nature, and it may be a number of years before computerized systems at local levels are fully developed. However, this will not prevent a centralized law enforcement center within a State from using a comparatively inexpensive remote terminal which will give it full use of the services provided by the national system. Security of the information in file in the computer against unauthorized removal or access will be assured by a number of means both in the equipment itself and in the "programs" by which the equipment operates.

Information Selected

The National Center will store information selected by elements of mobility or special significance, and through communications switching, it will eventually permit each State and/or metropolitan center to exchange with each other. Other Federal investigative agencies and FBI field offices will also be in direct communication with the national system.

Standards Necessary

The initial study in connection with the National Crime Information Center showed that the several systems already in limited operation were not altogether compatible and as a result could not effectively interchange information.

It became apparent in early planning stages that in order to have an efficient network which would ultimately give nationwide coverage, certain standards would have to be formulated. The assistance of the Committee on Uniform Crime Records, International Association of Chiefs of Police, was requested. On February 15, 1966, at a meeting in Washington, D.C., this committee resolved to establish a working advisory group to develop the necessary standards. The members of this advisory group were drawn from those departments having operating systems or those which are in the advanced stages of planning such systems.

The first meeting was held March 23 and March 24, 1966, in Washington, D.C., and represented were departments from the following cities: Boston, Mass.; Chicago, Ill.; Detroit, Mich.; Kansas City, Mo.; Los Angeles, Calif.; New Orleans, La.; New York City; Oakland, Calif.; Phoenix, Ariz.; St. Louis, Mo.; San Francisco, Calif.; and Washington, D.C. Also represented were the California Highway Patrol, the Michigan State Police, the Pennsylvania State Police, the New York State Police, the Los Angeles County, Calif., Sheriff's Department, the California Department of Justice, the New York State Identification and Intelligence System, and the FBI.

Representatives of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, which organization is at present engaged in a study to determine the value of electronic data processing as it applies to law enforcement in Canada, attended

Other views of computer equipment similar to that to be used in the FBI center which will serve as the hub of the nationwide crime information system.

this meeting in an observer capacity.

While it is not necessary that any two agencies use equipment of the same manufacturer, it is necessary that messages sent between local systems or between a local system and the national system use the same coded definitions and for practical reasons use uniform formats. It is anticipated this advisory group will complete its work and furnish initial recommendations to the committee by May of this year.

Communications Advances

Paralleling the development of the computer, new communication methods have been devised so that it is now possible for a person several thousand miles away from a computerized file to interrogate that file by any one of a number of typewriter or phonelike devices and receive a response in a matter of seconds. This brings the benefits of a computerized information system within the reach of numerous police departments which, for various economic and other reasons, do not have their own computer installations.

Of course, the most important practical benefit resulting from technological advances in computer and communications design is the improvement of law enforcement performance in the prevention and control of crime. Keep in mind that the degree of effectiveness with which courts and correctional services function in the administration of criminal justice is entirely dependent upon police success in the solution of crimes. Immediate access to crime incidence and police activity data will enhance police management decisions. More dramatically and at least of equal importance, police operations benefit from the availability of "instant information." The officer on the street and the investigator as well can now make inquiry of stored police information and get a "real time," i.e., up-to-the-minute, answer in a matter of seconds. Certainly, reasonable cause to detain or arrest will continue to demand rapid access to all available information.

Local Applications

As an example of current operating systems, the California Highway Patrol has experienced marked success in supplying law enforcement agencies throughout the State, and in some surrounding States, information as to whether a questioned vehicle has been reported stolen. Approximately 140 agencies are directly connected with the computer in Sacramento.

(*Continued on page 22*)

HON. HENRY ELLENBOGEN
President Judge,
Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

A Twentieth Century Approach to Judicial Administration

*Democracy in the United States of America has allowed free play to man's energy, his intellect, and his creative imagination. It has provided the climate for extending the frontiers of science into the far reaches of space. With it has come a new, advanced, sophisticated technology.

One of the products of this new age of science and technology is in the field of information collection and retrieval. Data-processing equipment and electronic computers are revolutionizing the procedures of industry, business, and trade and are being increasingly used by Government departments. Manual means of processing large masses of information are giving way to electronic data processing.

*This is an address delivered at the Institute on the Computer Impact on the Law sponsored by the American University, Washington, D.C., Dec. 3, 1965.

Courts Lag Behind

But in one of the three great divisions of Government—in the field of justice or, to be more specific, in the field of the administration of the courts—we lag far behind.

Many of our courts, particularly our metropolitan courts, are staggering under what Mr. Justice Clark has referred to as the "law explosion." The "law explosion," resulting from the millions of motor vehicles crowding our streets and highways, has overburdened our courts to a dangerous point. Virtually all large courts face long delays in the trial of lawsuits—particularly personal injury suits resulting from traffic accidents.

Today, in some courts in the United States, it takes 5 years for a case to be reached for trial. In others, delays of 2, 3, or 4 years are not uncommon. Congestion in the courts is the rule rather than the exception.

Judges, lawyers, and students of the law are not unmindful of this situation. Thousands of words have been written by learned men in attempts to find means of alleviating this congestion. They are concerned because they know that delay is like a cancerous growth which spreads and discredits the courts and the law. They know that delay can defeat justice. Indeed, there cannot be true justice where long delays persist.

There have been many attempts to reduce the backlogs in the courts. New judges have been added, and special programs of arbitration and conciliation and special masters have been tried. But little has been done until recently to modernize the courts in one critical area—that of judicial administration.

We are now beginning to bestir ourselves in this field. It is to report a

significant step in this area that I come before you today.

What is so important about judicial administration? Isn't the administration of the courts simply a matter of assigning judges and providing them with courtrooms? Unhappily, no. The problem is much more, far more, complex than that.

Accurate Information

Most judges will agree that the tremendous backlogs of our metropolitan courts must be dealt with. But we cannot effectively deal with the problem of congestion and delay until the facts, all the facts, are known.

What is needed are accurate and up-to-date statistics. They are essential to understanding our problem. We can no longer depend upon the hit-and-miss collection of statistics; the hit-and-miss manner of describing our problems.

Once we know the size, the scope, and the particulars of our backlogs, we can make intelligent decisions and take steps to correct the situation.

Our metropolitan courts face twin-related problems: They have large backlogs of untried cases, and they are burdened with century-old and unreliable methods of recordkeeping. These constitute a real hindrance to the improvement of judicial administration.

Providing the Facts

Science has now given us a new tool. It has given us electronic data processing—a means of accurately and quickly assembling the facts which we need to provide modern court administration.

A major breakthrough may be in the making. Indeed, I predict that within 10 to 15 years every metropolitan court in this Nation will be equipped with some form of electronic data processing and data retrieval equipment.

Furthermore, many of the medium-sized courts also will find that modern systems of storing tens of thousands of items of information about lawsuits can more efficiently be used in their courts than their present handwritten records.

In the recent past a number of larger courts of the country have installed electronic data processing—computers or punched-card manipulating machines—for statistical and accounting purposes.

Flow Controlled

The Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County has charted a new course. We have applied the application of modern methods of collecting, storing, and retrieving information to the administration of the civil side of the court and to the use of it as an aid in controlling the flow of litigation.

We began this pioneering effort in data processing in January 1964. Today other metropolitan courts are installing and expanding their use of data processing or are studying the application of the Pittsburgh concept to their own courts. The most recent development is in Chicago. Last year Illinois established a modern, integrated court system. Presented with this opportunity in Cook County, Chief Judge John S. Boyle and his staff decided to revise the court's recordkeeping systems.

Judge Boyle's staff is studying the details of our system of data processing. Members from the Cook County administrative staff recently visited the Pittsburgh court to observe our operation. No doubt the planned installation in the Chicago trial courts will benefit from our experience with electronic data processing in Pittsburgh.

Judges and professional administrative personnel have discovered that a basic impediment in curing the ills of the courts is the fact that they have had only meager and incomplete information on the operation of the courts and the makeup of the backlogs.

Certainly this was true in Pittsburgh. The court of common pleas is the highest trial court in Pennsylvania. It has general and unlimited jurisdiction. The Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas, seated in Pittsburgh, is the eighth largest trial court in the Nation.

When I became president judge of the court in March 1963, I found that we had little specific information about our backlog. Moreover, it was difficult and time consuming to find out even the basic facts.

Action Demanded

We finally determined that the backlog had climbed to a high of about 8,000 cases at issue. We became convinced that the old system of keeping statistics would not do. We needed accurate, reliable statistics which were quickly and readily available.

The thought occurred to us that electronic data processing could be adapted for use in our court.

Throughout the summer and fall of 1963, my staff and I worked closely with the International Business Machines Corp. in designing and installing a system utilizing punched-card equipment suitable for a large, metropolitan civil court. The collection of data on punched cards began in January 1964.

By June 1964 we had learned significant facts about ourselves. We had cataloged our backlog on specially designed punched cards. We had analyzed the pending cases by categories. We knew the number, the age, and the type of cases.

We confirmed what we had suspected earlier—the great extent of the concentration of cases among a few

specialist trial lawyers and trial law firms. This concentration constitutes one of the major obstacles to the preparation of a well-functioning trial list in a metropolitan court.

The facts assembled by our data processing division permitted us to see our backlog problem in its full complexity and to seek out procedures to deal with it.

Shortage of Trial Lawyers

For example, the data processing division supplied us with backlog lists for individual law firms. In many instances these lists showed that a number of law firms which specialized in the trial of cases did not have enough trial lawyers to handle their large accumulations of trespass cases. We demanded that they engage more trial counsel. We also demanded that these firms specify the individual trial lawyers who were to try the cases. Thus armed, we used our automatic sorting equipment to prepare lists for conciliation as well as for trial, eliminating many of the conflicts of trial lawyers that formerly plagued us.

Our data processing division also installed and keeps current a perpetual weekly inventory of pending cases at issue. This means we have accurate figures available every day, so that we know at any given time the size of our backlog and whether it is declining or growing.

Data processing prints our conciliation and trial lists. It also prints notices to lawyers who have cases on conciliation lists, advising them of the listing of their cases and to have their cases prepared. Even the envelope labels are addressed by our data processing division.

Other New Procedures

Data processing is not the only new procedure installed in our court. We devised a calendar control system and appointed a calendar control judge to supervise the daily trial calendar.

Repeated continuances of cases on the trial list are a major contributing factor in accumulating a backlog of old cases. We instituted a policy of not permitting postponements except in emergency situations. Furthermore, data processing keeps a record of postponements and notes them on the trial list.

We decided that every case must go through the conciliation process before it is placed on the daily trial list. Additionally, a jury cannot be selected until a second, last-ditch effort to conciliate the case has been made by the calendar control judges.

These and other procedures have greatly stimulated settlements.

Backlog Reduced

There has been progress. After 2½ years, the court of common pleas of Allegheny County has a backlog of 5,254 cases, a considerable improvement over the 8,000 untried cases we once faced.

At the same time, the waiting time for pending cases from the date of issue has been reduced from over 3 years to about 1½ years. In many instances cases are tried in less than a year.

Our experience shows that large trial courts require the assembling of many pieces of information about each case. For example, in Pittsburgh we code and record each attorney for the plaintiffs and defendants and for each additional defendant. We code and record the category, be it trespass, assumpsit, equity, or other type of action, the date it is placed at issue, the date it goes to conciliation, and the judge to whom the case is assigned. We record also the type, manner, and date of disposition and the verdict or settlement amounts.

It can be readily understood that once we have this information in our punched-card system, it is a relatively easy matter to correlate and analyze all or any part of this information, so that we can make intelligent decisions on what procedures to retain, revise, or discard.

In the past this information, if available at all, was obtained only when a law professor made a special study, an expensive and time-consuming process. Indeed, a Pittsburgh foundation, not too long ago, paid out $25,000 for a year-long study. This study provided only part of the necessary information, and that was outdated by the time it became available.

The adoption of automated data processing in the courts of this country is progressing. We are aware of this because judges and court personnel from Chicago, Boston, Milwaukee, Bergen County, N.J., and other jurisdictions have come to Pittsburgh to study our installation.

No Cure-All

I would be less than honest if I were to gild the lily and declare that electronic data processing clears up the backlog and solves all the problems of court administration.

Toynbee has commented that the "information explosion" which is now taking place in our age has resulted in what he calls "a gulf of ignorance." How right he is.

The information we are obtaining from data processing must be used effectively to bridge the "gulf of ignorance" about our courts. It must be analyzed, correlated, dissected, and interpreted.

As more information about the courts becomes available through the use of data processing, the need for uniform standards in the collection and comparison of statistics of our metropolitan courts becomes apparent. This is a field which has so far been almost completely neglected.

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The training of qualified personnel is another area which needs development. The fact that a man or woman has been graduated from a law school or from a school of administration does not necessarily qualify him as a court administrator.

Courses in statistics and business administration are certainly useful. But an intimate knowledge of the courts and court procedures is the basis upon which successful court administration must be built.

I am encouraged by the fact that the Institute of Judicial Administration at New York University even now is pondering the means of training court administrative personnel. A committee is at work designing a proposal. I hope it will include training in electronic data processing.

Pitt Computer

In passing, it should be noted that Pittsburgh is the scene of another experiment in data processing—researching the law. Professors at the University of Pittsburgh have installed a large computer. They have placed the Pennsylvania law and the reports of the Pennsylvania appellate courts on magnetic tape from which it can be recalled by use of key words.

I am strong in my conviction that modern technology must and will be employed in the courts.

I do not hold out hope that this modern technology is the panacea to our basic problems of delay and congestion in the courts. We have never claimed that data processing, per se, decided any cases. Only judges can do that. It is clear, however, that automated data processing has made it possible for us to readily assemble the facts and to spot the weaknesses so as to guide our administrative decisions.

In this light, therefore, I am convinced that judicial administration takes a big step forward when it adopts automated data processing.

Opposition to Change

This development will not come easily. Indeed, there is opposition to it throughout the strata of our legal society.

The law is like an old lady, conservative in her training and backward looking in her insistence in precedence and procedure. New ideas, even in the area of administration, are opposed by earnest lawyers and well-meaning judges who want to retain the traditional procedures and age-old administrative practices.

Roscoe Pound, the much honored critic of judicial administration, recognized this reluctance to change in his famous address in 1906. It is true today. The opposition to change persists.

But change there will be.

I believe that we stand on the threshold of a new era in court administration. As the substantive rules of law are continuously being modified to achieve better justice, man's mechanical genius will be put to work to expedite the administration of the rules of law.

Thus, substantive law and judicial administration, progressing together, will achieve the goal sought by all believers in democracy—the advancement of true justice.

A WOMAN'S WAY

A female apartment burglar committed her acts of burglary during the day, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 3 p.m., when most tenants were away at work.

She gained access to the apartments by cutting a plastic bleach bottle in half and using the moon-shaped portion of the bottle as a wedge between the door facing and lock to release the locking mechanism. She also carried a length of rope in her handbag to tie portable television sets and lower them from the window to an accomplice outside.

After her arrest, a hundred television sets and numerous credit cards from various stores in the area were recovered. She used the credit cards to buy articles which she would sell to contacts at reduced prices.

San Francisco Crimdel 9/30/65, Bufi # 63-4296-47

LABORATORY SERVICES

The FBI Laboratory set a new all-time high record by conducting approximately 303,000 scientific examinations of evidence during 1965. Requests for examinations from local law enforcement and other Federal agencies included those from authorities in all 50 States.

No charges are made for these services.

Press release 1-6-66 and Briggs White in Lab

Born Crimdel 8/11/65, Bufi #63-4296-232

STAGING CRIME

Police in the German Ruhr area are expanding their practical training program to meet the demands of increased criminal activities. They have taken over a former restaurant and converted it into a theater-type classroom. The stage is fitted with extensive scenery which can be used to set up duplicates of various scenes which play a role in police work. Among them are police interrogation rooms, a mock jail cell, a bank, a restaurant and bar, and a courtroom. Various police training problems are acted out here, with the student audience commenting on and asking questions on the procedures shown.

NATIONWIDE CRIMESCOPE

Denver crimdel 5/21/65, Bufi # 63-4296-13, Serial # 631

DANCING DICE

A quantity of gambling paraphernalia was seized by police in a raid on a gambler known for many years as an expert in the construction of magnetized dice tables and other gambling gadgets.

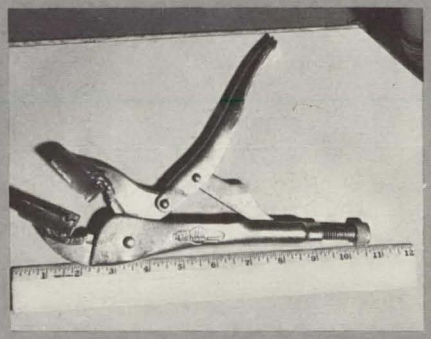
A large portable dice table was among the equipment seized by police. Attached to the underside of the playing surface of the table was a panel, resembling a support, but actually a concealed compartment containing a series of batteries and electronic equipment that could be activated by a miniature signaling device to control the magnetized dice.

A quantity of magnetized dice and a miniature signaling device, along with several marked playing cards, were also seized. Other items found included a quantity of metal washers similar to those being used in the area for slugging pay telephones.

Partially dismantled dice table showing electronic equipment.

IMPROVISED BURGLARY TOOLS

Bit used to drill out tumblers of lock.



Modified locking plier wrench.

Two unusual burglary tools have been brought to the attention of law enforcement officers recently. One is made from a locking plier wrench with half of a socket wrench welded to each side of the nose of the locking wrench. The tool is used for opening the trunk compartment of automobiles. To use the tool, the socket is fitted over the trunk lock and the lock turned either right or left, thus shearing off the pin lock of the trunk.

The other tool is a type of bit used either with an electric drill or a hand tool to drill out the tumblers in certain locks—usually the type of lock used on some alarm systems, vending machines, parking meters, etc.

Cleveland crimdel 11/26/65, Bufi # 63-4296-11

SOGGY SYSTEM

Safecrackers got away with $6,000 from a west coast city restaurant. Before attacking the safe with an acetylene torch, they executed a few preliminary maneuvers by first cutting a small, neat hole in the face of the safe and filling the safe with cold water. Then, confident the water would keep the currency from burning, they applied the full force of the torch to the safe's door and burned a hole about 6 inches in diameter.

After things had cooled, they reached in, took the soggy, steamy loot, and made good their escape.

San Francisco crimdel 11/4/65, Bufi #63-4296-47.

BURGLARS MONITORED

Two burglars—having adapted citizens' band walkie-talkies to communicate with each other—attempted to burglarize a discount store in a southern city. One acting as a lookout on the outside tried to keep the other inside the building informed of police movements.

The walkie-talkies were tuned to a frequency monitored by the police department, and the burglars' conversations were overheard by a desk sergeant who immediately sent patrolmen to the store for an easy arrest of the two men.

Jackson crimdel 11/15/65 Bufi #63-4296-54 and Cincinnati crimdel 11/17/65,

News of a bank robbery.

For the "Want" of a Horse— A Bank Robber Is Caught

First National Bank of Farmersville, Ohio.

IT WAS A BRIGHT, warm spring day in Farmersville, Ohio. The time was 2:55 p.m., Friday, May 22, 1964. In 5 minutes the First National Bank, located at the corner of Main and Center Streets, would close for the day. The four bank employees, two women and two men, were hurriedly tallying up the day's receipts, their concentration broken only by thoughts of the pleasant weekend ahead.

There was nothing to suggest by the arrival of two last-minute customers, two men dressed in coveralls, that the next 25 minutes would result in a horrifying experience for the bank employees.

As the two "customers" approached the teller's counter, one of the male employees glanced up with a welcoming smile which froze on his face. He was staring into the muzzle of a pistol held by the taller of the two men who snapped, "This is a holdup." With that, both bandits pulled silk stocking masks, which had been concealed under the bills of their caps, down over their faces.

"Get Down"

The second robber gruffly ordered all the employees to "get down on the floor, cover your head, and close your eyes." He then stepped briskly behind the counter and rifled the cash drawers of all the money, stuffing it into a brown paper shopping bag. In the meantime his taller companion, armed with the revolver, forced one of the male employees and the two women to lie on top of each other on the floor. He taped their mouths with adhesive and roughly handcuffed their ankles and wrists, one to another.

With the pistol barrel pressed threateningly against his temple, the second male teller was instructed by the taller bandit to get on his feet and enter the vault. As the teller responded, the bandit warned him, "If you try anything, I'll blow your brains out."

The teller protested that all of the vault cash was secured by an electric 15-minute-delay timelock. The bandit ordered him to switch on the timer after demanding and receiving assurance that no alarm would be sounded by doing so. Referring to the timer switch as a possible alarm, he again warned the teller, "Buddy, it better not be or I'll blow your brains out."

The teller was then forced to lie on the vault floor while the bandits waited for the timelock to open.

When the lock opened, the taller bandit shoved his pistol to the back of the teller's head, ordering him to rise slowly to his feet. He handed the teller a second brown paper shopping bag in which the teller, as instructed, placed all the coins and bills from the vault cash drawer. The teller was then taken outside the vault and forced to lie on top of his helpless fellow employees. His mouth was also taped and his wrists secured to the others with handcuffs.

The bandits dragged the tangled and manacled bundle of employees across the floor where they were anchored by still another set of handcuffs to the vault doors. In a surprising attempt at compassion, the taller robber consoled his victims by stating, "You folks will be uncomfortable for a while, but the FBI will find you soon enough."

Before leaving, the bandits were overheard to decide they would depart from the bank one at a time. A few seconds later a car was heard speeding off from the vicinity of the bank. Except for the plaintive, muffled cries of the painfully manacled tellers, all was silent inside the bank.

The Suspects

Several minutes later a passer-by heard the cries for help from the shackled employees. He rushed inside and, after noting the manacled

Curtis Alvin Angell.

Peter Leroy Tennant.

employees, ran to a nearby hardware store for help. The store owner and others freed the victims by cutting the handcuffs with bolt-cutters. Moments later, at 3:52 p.m., one of the victims was on the telephone relaying details of the robbery to FBI Agents in Cincinnati.

Subsequent audit of the bank disclosed that the bandits obtained $52,884.70 in the robbery, including 119 negotiable bank money orders, about 10 negotiable cashier's checks, and the wallets of both male employees. Among this loot was $400 in recorded currency or "bait" money.

Upon receipt of the preliminary

facts of the robbery from the teller, one of the Cincinnati FBI Agents noted the bandits' description, their clothing, and their modus operandi were similar to those of two unknown bandits who the Indianapolis FBI office reported had robbed the Danville State Bank at Clayton, Ind., of $29,000 on January 9, 1964. Artist's conception drawings of the Clayton bandits, prepared by the FBI Exhibits Section, were obtained from the Cincinnati office files to be used in the investigation at Farmersville.

Two Banks—Same Robbers

As the investigation proceeded late into Friday night, it became increasingly apparent that the Clayton bank bandits were, in all probability, the same persons responsible for the Farmersville bank robbery. Their descriptions were strikingly similar, their clothing almost identical, and the abusive, rough treatment of the bank employees was characteristic in both robberies. In addition, bank witnesses at Farmersville believed the artist's conception drawings of the Clayton bandits to be generally good likenesses of the bandits who had robbed them.

Early Saturday, May 23, the two cases were telephonically compared and discussed at length by FBI Agents on the scene at Farmersville with Indianapolis office FBI Agents familiar with the Clayton robbery. The Indianapolis Agents reported that recently developed information indicated that Curtis Alvin Angell and Peter Leroy Tennant were responsible for the Clayton robbery. In addition, both reportedly were planning another bank robbery in Ohio.

The Indianapolis FBI office advised that a Federal parole violator's warrant for Angell's arrest had been issued on March 24, 1964, following his release from prison after serving 5½ years of a 15-year sentence for bank robbery. Tennant had previously served 6 years at the Michigan State Penitentiary for armed robbery and was later returned there as a parole violator following his release. More recently Tennant served 3 years in the U.S. Penitentiary at Terre Haute, Ind., for forging U.S. postal money orders. Both he and Angell were fellow inmates at Terre Haute.

Photographs of both Angell and Tennant were obtained and later that same Saturday were displayed to the bank witnesses. Several of the witnesses expressed the belief that Angell and Tennant were the same bandits who terrorized and robbed their bank the preceding day.

Investigation thereafter centered on all acquaintances, relatives, and associates of Angell and Tennant in an effort to determine their whereabouts.

On Saturday evening, May 23, Cincinnati Agents developed information which indicated a person fitting the description of Angell was seen in Dayton, Ohio. Intensive investigation in the Dayton area by the Agents of the Cincinnati office narrowed the search to one specific motor inn.

The desk clerk at the inn advised that a man fitting the description of Angell checked into room 1029 at 5:27 p.m. that day under the name of Edward Michaels, a drug salesman from Indianapolis, Ind. Michaels was alone and carried a leather briefcase, which he requested to be checked in the motel safe. However, the briefcase was too large for the safe, and Michaels then carried it to his room. A photograph of Angell was identified by the desk clerk as the person representing himself as Edward Michaels.

Suspect Spotted

From the window of an adjoining 10th floor stairwell at the inn, FBI Agents discreetly observed a man resembling Angell sitting alone in the room watching television. A surveillance was maintained on this room while it was determined that the rooms on either side and across the hall from room 1029 were unoccupied. Plans were then made to effect Angell's capture.

Arrest of Angell

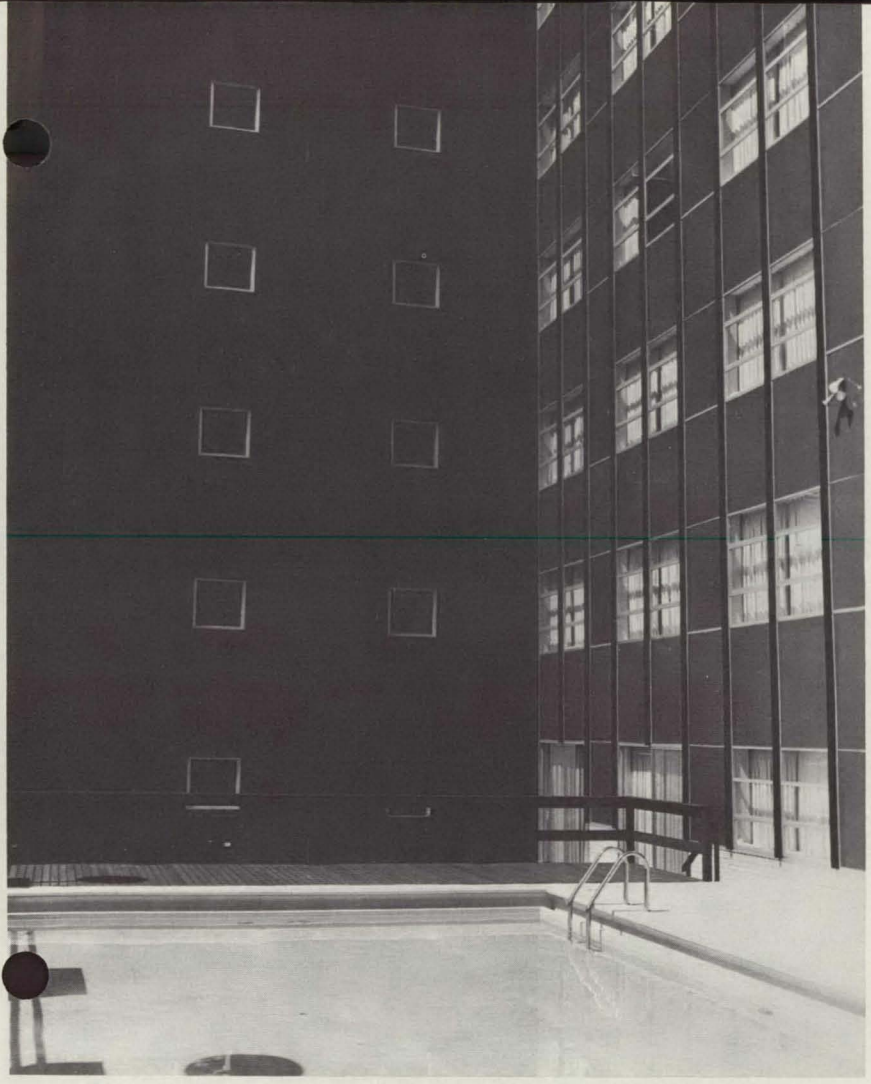
At 8:50 p.m., Saturday, May 23, 1964, an FBI Agent in an unoccupied adjoining room telephoned room 1029. The Agent identified himself and then ordered Angell, by name, to immediately surrender. When he refused, Agents outside the door moved in to arrest him. Angell fired one shot through the door before the Agents entered and also threw a briefcase from the window of his room. No one was injured by the shot. The briefcase fell several floors, splashing into a swimming pool below. Recovery of the briefcase disclosed that it contained $28,705 in currency and a loaded .32-caliber revolver. In addition, Angell had $339 in bills on his person.

Following his arrest, Angell denied any complicity in the robbery of the First National Bank at Farmersville the day before. On May 23, 1964, an authorized complaint was filed with the U.S. Commissioner, Dayton, Ohio, charging Angell with violation of the Federal Bank Robbery Statute and with assaulting Federal officers. Thereafter, he was lodged in the Montgomery County Jail, Dayton, in the custody of the U.S. Marshal.

Locating Tennant

Following Angell's arrest, a widespread, swift-moving investigation to locate Tennant was conducted jointly by the Cincinnati, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, and Indianapolis FBI offices.

Tennant and his wife, Nancy Jean Tennant, also known as "Ginger," were identified by Pittsburgh FBI



Swimming pool at hotel into which briefcase containing $28,000 and revolver was thrown by Angell from window with draperies open.

Agents as Mr. and Mrs. Richard Paul Bennett, who had resided in a rented home near Pittsburgh from February 1, 1964, to May 24, 1964, when they hurriedly and mysteriously abandoned their residence. The owner, while subsequently cleaning the house, found $7,534 concealed beneath a bedroom chest of drawers.

On information developed clearly indicating Tennant's complicity in the robbery and his obvious state of flight, an authorized complaint was filed at Dayton, on May 25, 1964, charging him with the robbery of the First National Bank at Farmersville, and a Federal warrant for his arrest was issued the same day.

Tennant's abandoned Cadillac convertible was found by FBI Agents on May 27, 1964, at Bedford, Ohio. Investigation there revealed that he and his wife continued their flight from this location on May 24, 1964, in a taxicab. Penetrating investigation by FBI Agents of the Cleveland office into all known and suspected contacts of the Tennants in their area developed further that on May 24, 1964, the Tennants purchased two riding horses for $425 at Walton Hills, Ohio. Several days later the Tennants had a third party transport and stable the horses on a farm at Solon, Ohio. Within a few days Tennant arranged, by a telephone call from an undisclosed location, to have the horses delivered from Solon to him in the vicinity of Parkersburg, W. Va., on June 8, 1964. He requested that the horses be delivered by van, which he instructed was to proceed along U.S. Route 21, where he would meet and flag down the truck at an undisclosed location along the more than 200-mile stretch between Cleveland and Parkersburg.

A Plan

Armed with this information on the intended delivery, FBI personnel of the Cincinnati and Cleveland offices and from the Pittsburgh, Pa., office covering West Virginia were mobilized in a plan to successfully effect Tennant's capture.

Meanwhile, continuing investigation by the Indianapolis FBI office into the robbery of the Danville State Bank at Clayton further developed the complicity of Angell and Tennant in this crime. On June 3, 1964, six of the seven witnesses to the Clayton robbery identified Angell as one of the bandits from a lineup held at Dayton. These same witnesses previously identified Tennant's photograph as the second bandit.

On June 4, 1964, in the Southern Judicial District of Indiana, the FBI filed a complaint charging both Angell and Tennant with the Clayton bank robbery. Arrest warrants for both were issued the same day.

In view of additional evidence indicating Nancy Tennant's knowledge of and possible complicity in the First National Bank robbery at Farmersville, she was charged with conspiracy by a complaint filed June 7, 1964, at Dayton. A warrant for her arrest was issued that same day.

The handling of the case at this point became an exercise in coordination, with the Indianapolis, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, and Cincinnati offices bearing the bulk of the burden and numerous other divisions incidentally involved.

Plans for the apprehension of the Tennants began to shape up.

Agents of the Cleveland office were busy all day Sunday, June 7, locating a horse trailer or van suitable for transporting the horses to the fugitives. Two vehicles first considered were rejected as inadequate or unsafe for such an undertaking. Finally, a proper horse van was located, and the owner agreed to rent the vehicle to the FBI.

Another Problem

Another problem arose which would have to be resolved before the horse caravan could depart early the next morning. Since the apprehension plans called for the Special Agent in Charge of the Cincinnati office to provide on-the-spot supervision of the arrests, he would be the driver and lone occupant in the cab of the truck with two Agents secreted in the back with the horses. The hitch was that the Cincinnati Agent in Charge had never driven a truck! It was, therefore, concluded that he would fly to Cleveland immediately on that day, Sunday, June 7, further coordinate the arrest plans with the Cleveland Agents, and take a "hurry-up speed course" in driving a horse van loaded with animals. This was done. He was introduced to such novelties as speed through revolutions per minute, amperage, shifting gas tanks, adjusting rear axle ratios, plus the techniques of taking curves and corners with livestock aboard.

It was not known at what point on the route Tennant would suddenly appear and claim his horses. The trip would be through three FBI divisions, namely Cleveland, Cincinnati, and Pittsburgh. Acquaintances of Tennant had warned the FBI that he had no regard for anyone but himself and that he was constantly armed. Tennant, of course, had a long record of lawlessness. It could be expected that he would be extremely alert and suspicious of any unexpected developments connected with the transfer of the horses. Accordingly, Agents assigned to the task had to be prepared for all eventualities.

Since it was not possible for the two Agents detailed to ride in the closed van with the horses to see the driver, they were provided walkie-talkie units tuned to the two-way radio installed in the cab. This communication system also provided contact with the two radio cars which would make up the caravan. One car with two Agents was to precede the horse van by several miles, attempt to spot Tennant, and radio the location and other particulars back to the truck and the other car. The first car would then double back and arrive on the scene simultaneously with the van to assist in the arrest.

At 5 a.m. on Monday, June 8, the operation commenced. Two professional horse handlers tried to jockey the two horses, Star and Blaze, into the van. Star, a former racehorse, had previous experience with a traveling van and behaved moderately well. Blaze, however, was a "horse of a different color." He not only did not like the idea of entering the covered vehicle, he fought furiously to stay out, rearing, bucking, and snorting. It took more than a half hour of strenuous tugging, pushing, pulling, and shoving to load the animal. This stubbornness was only a prologue, however.

Blaze

During the journey Blaze bent a 3-inch aluminum guardrail, and the Agents inside the van were forced to improvise a new halter with ropes and chains after he broke the one he was wearing. The smell and heat inside the van were almost unbearable, and conditions were not helped any by Blaze's repeated attempts to climb the walls of the truck and his kicking and nipping at the Agents. After about 75

Star.

miles of this wild, harrowing experience, the Agents radioed the van driver to stop and help bring the vicious animal under control. Whatever sense Blaze may have possessed, it obviously was not "good" horse-sense.

Fortunately, only the night before, the Agent-driver had also taken a c[illegible] course on the finer points of wielding a hypodermic needle filled with fluid tranquilizer for possible use under such adverse conditions. He confidently gave the wild-eyed Blaze a jab in the neck, which, although lacking in professional touch, brought about the desired results. The horse quieted down so that the trip could be resumed, and it was the consensus of all concerned that the spotting of Tennant would be a welcome relief.

The relief came, but only after another couple of hours of travel and 75 miles farther along route U.S. 21. The lead car of FBI Agents spotted Tennant sitting on the tailgate of a pick-up truck parked just off the southbound lane of the highway in front of a small general store. Standing nearby was Nancy Tennant holding a small dog. The Agents alerted the driver and the other Agents by radio. As the van came into view, Tennant

Blaze.

jumped from the pickup truck and flagged it to a stop near the store. By this time the lead car, which had doubled back, and the trail car simultaneously arrived in the area as Tennant walked toward the van to greet the driver. Taken completely by surprise, Tennant and his wife were arrested by FBI Agents without incident.

When arrested, the Tennants had $11,970 on their persons. However, neither made any admissions concerning the bank robberies at Farmersville or Clayton.

Transported to nearby Zanesville, Ohio, that same day, the Tennants were arraigned before the U.S. Commissioner on the bank robbery charges and, thereafter, were lodged in the Muskingum County Jail.

Methodical Investigation

While major investigative efforts were directed, following Angell's arrest, to the location of his accomplice, Peter Leroy Tennant, a methodical investigation by FBI Agents continued in Farmersville, Dayton, and surrounding Ohio communities.

During the course of this investigation, a landlord telephoned the FBI office at Dayton on June 3, 1964. He recalled that a few days prior to the date of the robbery, a man identifying himself as John Mason rented an apartment from him on Troy Street. Mason was accompanied by a second man, but neither of them had been seen by the landlord since the robbery. Since their rent was overdue, the landlord had entered the apartment and found a large quantity of clothing and luggage that had apparently been abandoned. Subsequently a photograph of Angell was identified by this landlord as the John Mason who rented the apartment. In addition, a key taken from Angell fitted the apartment door lock.

An authorized search of the apartment by FBI Agents on June 3, 1964, disclosed $870 in wrapped coin from the First National Bank, Farmersville; the paper bags used to carry off the loot in this robbery; charred

Scene where Tennants flagged the horse van and then were arrested by FBI Agents.

scraps of burned money wrappers; a note in Angell's handwriting listing by amount and denomination his share of the loot; and numerous items of clothing and personal effects which later were identified through investigation and FBI Laboratory examination to be those of Angell and Tennant. Conspicuously lying on top of a heater stove in the living room of the apartment was the May 23, 1964, issue of the Dayton "Journal Herald," headlining the robbery of the First National Bank at Farmersville the day before.

As additional evidence in the continuing investigation was developed against him, Angell remained adamant in refusing to discuss the bank robberies at Clayton and Farmersville. However, on June 12, 1964, and in subsequent interviews, Tennant made a full confession to FBI Agents, implicating Angell as his accomplice in both robberies. On June 16, 1964, Nancy Jean Tennant confessed to FBI Agents her knowledge of both the Clayton and Farmersville bank robberies and to even casing the Clayton bank at Angell's request. However, she denied any active participation in either robbery.

Prosecution

Peter Leroy Tennant, in an appearance in U.S. District Court, Dayton, Ohio, on June 23, 1964, pleaded guilty to charges that he robbed both the First National Bank at Farmersville and the Danville State Bank at Clayton. Subsequently, in this same court, on November 13, 1964, Tennant was sentenced to serve 18 years in the custody of the Attorney General for each robbery. The court further prescribed that these sentences were to be served concurrently and 6 years of each sentence would be suspended. Thereafter, Tennant was committed to the U.S. Penitentiary at Terre Haute, Ind.

On June 30, 1964, the U.S. Attorney at Indianapolis withheld charging Nancy Jean Tennant as an accessory in the Danville State Bank robbery at Clayton until charges against her, Peter Leroy Tennant, and Curtis Alvin Angell were disposed of in connection with the First National Bank robbery at Farmersville. The conspiracy charges against Nancy Jean Tennant were subsequently dismissed by court order on July 28, 1964, at Dayton, and no further charges were brought against her with regard to the Danville State Bank robbery.

On August 25, 1964, a Federal grand jury at Indianapolis indicted Curtis Alvin Angell for the robbery of the Danville State Bank on January 9, 1964. He was also indicted on July 27, 1964, by a Federal grand jury at Dayton for the robbery of the First National Bank, Farmersville, on May 22, 1964, as well as for his assault on Federal officers when arrested on May 23, 1964.

Following several appearances in the U.S. District Court, Dayton, in which he steadfastly maintained his innocence of all charges, Angell, on October 12, 1964, pleaded guilty to the First National Bank robbery. On November 6, 1964, Angell also entered a plea of guilty in U.S. District Court, Dayton, to the robbery of the Danville State Bank and on the same date was sentenced to serve 18 years in the custody of the Attorney General for each robbery, both sentences to be served concurrently. In addition, Angell was sentenced this same date to 3 years for assaulting Federal officers. This sentence was to run consecutively with those received in the bank robberies. Thereafter, Angell was committed to the U.S. Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kans.

And what of Star and Blaze, the two steeds that so ably assisted the FBI in bringing this $81,884.70 case to a successful conclusion? Tennant, who had bought the two horses with part of the bank loot, relinquished all rights to Star and Blaze and released them to an Ohio casualty company that had insured the victimized First National Bank of Farmersville. In October 1964 this Ohio insurance company sold the two sleuthing stallions to private purchasers for $100 each.

Although it has never been substantiated, a rumor persists to this day that as Star and Blaze were being led away after they had fulfilled their role in the apprehension of the Tennants, a noise was emitted by one, or both of them—a noise not unlike that of a good horselaugh!

CHILD MOLESTER POSTERS

Happy cries of carefree children will soon fill playgrounds and parks as schools close for the long summer recess. Summer is also the season of the child molester, that s m i l i n g stranger standing in the shadows tempting youngsters with promises of gifts or rides. This debased individual often changes a summer of joy and happiness to a haunting and terrifying memory for innocent children. Recognizing this peril, the FBI is once again making available to schools, law enforcement agencies, civic and service organizations, etc. the FBI Child Molester Poster. These posters, designed for coloring, may be obtained free of charge by writing to the Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, D.C., 20535.

War Declared on Pranksters

The Ohio State Highway Patrol, like many other police agencies, has been plagued with complaints of pranksters throwing objects from highway overheads at or into moving vehicles on highways below. The objects range from items such as shelled corn to pumpkins, baled hay, and even entire corn shocks.

Needless to say, this is an extremely dangerous practice and many times has resulted in severe vehicle damage and personal injury. These complaints are especially prevalent during the time of year immediately preceding and during the Halloween season.

Call for Help

In 1965 the Ohio State Highway Patrol declared war against such pranksters during the Halloween season. Realizing that, with the available manpower, it would be impossible for regular highway patrol personnel to man the more dangerous overheads, two other groups were called on for assistance. Help was first solicited from the Patrol's own Auxiliary State Highway Patrol, members of the American Legion, who have received special training and are organized in county groups under the supervision of patrol posts. Secondly, members of the civilian REACT (Radio Emergency Associated Citizen's Teams) were called on for assistance. The latter group is made up of radio buffs over the State, who have equipped their personal vehicles with two-way radios on authorized Citizens' Band. Many patrol posts in Ohio are equipped with base stations for receiving emergency calls from these teams.

On a selective basis, highway overheads where most complaints occur or where the complaint potential was high were manned by members of these two groups. The entire program was preceded by a statewide news release, outlining the Patrol's stand against these pranks. Coverage on this release by the news media was excellent and blanketed the State.

Side Results

Col. Robert M. Chiaramonte, superintendent of the Ohio State Highway Patrol, reports that largely due to this supplemental assistance, complaints during the Halloween season of 1965 were almost nonexistent.

There were also several beneficial side results from this coordinated effort. In one incident members of a REACT group guarding an overpass observed a fire start in a nearby house. They radioed for assistance from the fire department and on examining the house found it locked and the occupants not at home. They immediately gained entrance and removed a burning chair and rug from the structure, thus preventing more serious fire damage and saving the house from complete destruction.

In another case—quite an unusual one—a volunteer guard observed a young girl dressed in nightclothes walking along the highway. A check revealed that she was sleepwalking and was several miles from her home. She was returned to her home and reunited with her parents. She could not explain how she had arrived at the place where she was observed.

In a third incident, several young boys were observed igniting a stack of baled straw. The volunteer units not only summoned help to extinguish the fire, but were able to assist regular police officers in apprehending the young arsonists.

The Ohio State Highway Patrol considers the 1965 endeavor most successful, and the program will be continued and expanded during the Halloween period in 1966. The war on pranksters really paid off.

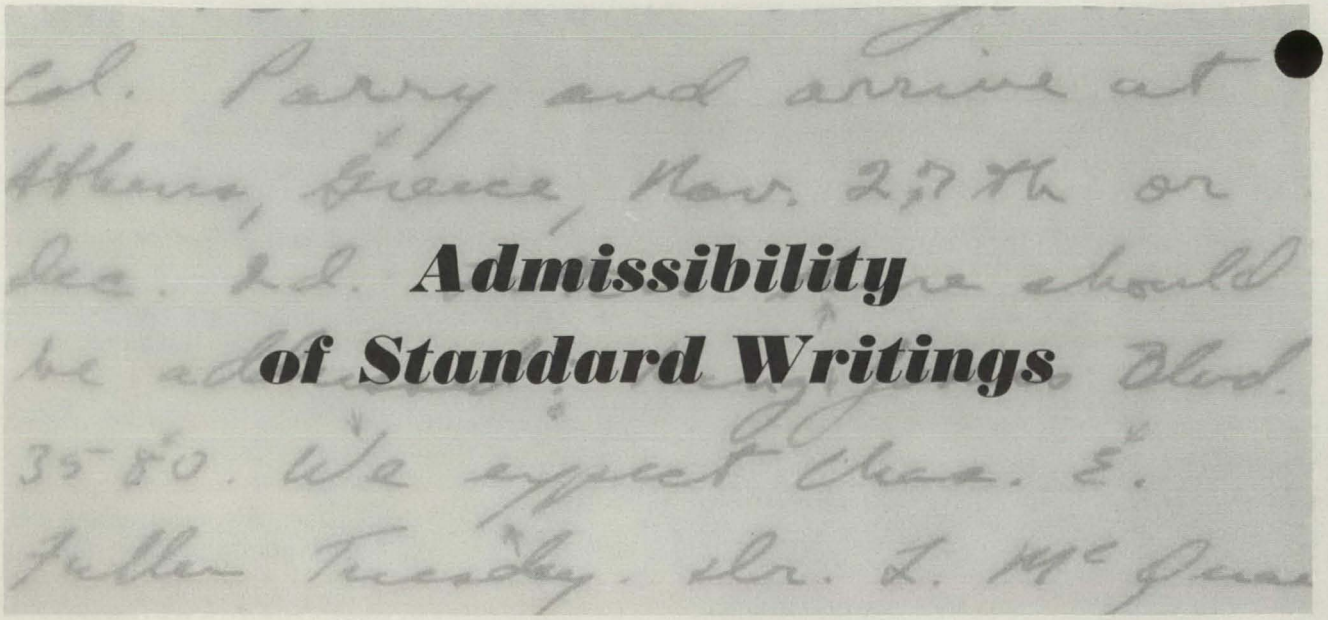
Col. Robert M. Chiaramonte.

Let. from Capt. E. E. Smith, Spec. Service Officer, State Highway Patrol, Columbus, Ohio 12/8/65.

EMBRACERY

In criminal law, embracery consists of the attempt to influence a jury corruptly to one side or the other, by promises, persuasions, entreaties, entertainments, and the like. The person guilty of it is called an "embraceor." Embracery being but an attempt corruptly to influence a juror, there is no such crime as attempt to commit embracery.

Black's Law Dictionary, p. 615.



Admissibility of Standard Writings

While the attorney handling the case is concerned primarily with the admissibility of standard writings, the standards which will be introduced also are a matter of vital concern to the document examiner. Obviously, if some of the standard writings on which the document examiner bases his conclusion cannot be introduced, then the document examiner may not be able to provide convincing testimony or his testimony may be weakened.

Under early common law only those writings already introduced into evidence could be used for comparison purposes. Known standards other than those already in evidence were not admitted because the courts were of the opinion that the introduction of collateral issues raised by standards not already in evidence would be confusing.

During the early part of the 20th century, courts in the United States through statutes or judicial decisions admitted other writings for the purpose of comparison, provided that the genuineness of the standard writing was found by the presiding judge to be clear and undisputed.

Recognizing a need for standardization, the U.S. Congress on February 26, 1913, in C. 79, Stat. 683, enacted the following provision relating to comparisons of handwriting: "In any proceeding before a court or judicial officer of the United States where the genuineness of the handwriting of any person may be involved, any admitted or proved handwriting of such person shall be competent evidence as a basis for comparison by witnesses, or by the jury, court, or officer conducting such proceeding, to prove or disprove such genuineness."

The following are classes of standard writings which are admissible for comparison purposes.

Standard Writings Witnessed

The courts accept as sufficient proof, under statutory and nonstatutory requirements of proofs of genuineness, that evidence in the form of uncontradicted testimony of a competent eyewitness to the execution of a writing is sufficient to permit the use of such writing as a standard to test other writing.[1]

Under the rule that the testimony of an eyewitness to the execution of a document is sufficient to prove genuineness as a standard of writing of the person who executed it, at least one court stated it was not necessary for the witness actually to have watched the pen of the writer as it passed over the paper, where it appeared that there was no other person present at the time but the writer and the witnesses, that the writing was done in the witnesses' presence and that the writer then gave them the paper.[2]

Important inclusions in this class of admissible standards are writings voluntarily prepared by a party in the presence of an investigator. These generally are known as requested writings.

Standard Writings Admitted

In jurisdictions in which establishment of standards for comparison of handwriting is a matter of statute and in jurisdictions where this is

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**This is a paper presented by Special Agent Clarence E. Bohn, B.S., LL.B., of the FBI Laboratory at the 17th Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, February 25, 1965, Chicago, Ill. Permission has been granted for reprinting from The Journal of Forensic Sciences, October 1965 issue, published by Callaghan & Co., 6141 North Cicero Avenue, Chicago, Ill., 60646.*

common-law issue, if the party against whom a handwriting standard is to be used admits the genuineness of the standard, the courts hold that further proof of genuineness is unnecessary.[3]

In some instances the question as to what constitutes an admission of genuineness has been presented. The courts have held an admission to include such situations as where a plaintiff's counsel has conceded that a power of attorney given by the plaintiff contained the plaintiff's signature.[4] In other instances where a witness stated that he believed that his name on a document was his own genuine handwriting, such was considered sufficient proof to allow its use as a standard for comparison with another writing. Silence has been considered an admission insofar as admissibility of standard writing is concerned. Where checks were introduced without objection by the party against whom they were to be used, that party's signature to those checks has been admitted as a standard for comparison with other writings allegedly executed by the same party.[5] Where a defendant in a criminal prosecution did not object to the admission of a hotel register bearing his signature or failed to allege at the trial that he had not signed it, it was held that he could not raise the question of the genuineness of the signature on appeal.[6]

Records Maintained

Generally, records maintained in the regular course of business are admissible, as an exception to the hearsay rule, as proof of their contents. However, their acceptance as such does not in itself establish the writing as a standard for comparison. Circumstantial evidence, particularly in civil cases, has been held to be sufficient proof to admit records of this nature as standards of writing for comparison.[7]

Signatures of government officials on documents treated as authentic and produced from official archives may be admitted in evidence as standards of comparison when there is an issue as to the forgery of the signatures of the same persons on other documents.[8]

Signatures on fingerprint cards maintained in the Federal Bureau of Investigation files frequently are used as standard writings in criminal cases. Generally, in a criminal case, only those signatures appearing on fingerprint cards taken in connection with the arrest for which the defendant is charged are admissible as known handwriting standards. In some instances the courts have permitted the introduction of signatures on fingerprint cards for prior arrests. However, in situations involving prior arrests, the courts usually require that the extraneous material on the fingerprint card be covered with tape or the signature be excised from the card. By so doing, material which might be prejudicial to the defendant has been removed. The genuineness of the signature is established by testimony of the official whose name appears as a witness on the card.

Ancient Writings

The courts have admitted writings on ancient documents (generally a document more than 30 years old) as standards for comparison. The statutory test is considered satisfied because of the age of the documents and their having been treated as authentic.[9]

Other Writings

Among writings admissible as standards are signatures on pleadings, motions, or other instruments, such as an appearance bond, which may, without further proof of genuineness, be used as a standard with which to compare questioned writing.[10]

Familiarity

There appears to be a conflict of authority as to whether testimony to the genuineness of a proposed standard of writing by witnesses who are familiar with a person's handwriting is sufficient to establish a particular writing as a genuine sample of that person's writing.

Opinion Evidence

The question sometimes arises as to whether a standard writing can be established by opinion evidence. The courts seem to be in general agreement that proof of the genuineness of a standard cannot be established by the opinions of experts testifying from a comparison of the writing sought to be used as a standard with another writing.[11]

Court Decides Genuineness

The sufficiency of the proof of the genuineness of a standard of writing is a matter to be decided by the court.[12] The court's ruling in this regard is conclusive, unless it is shown that the ruling was wholly without evidentiary foundation.[13]

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[1] *Bowers* v. *United States*, 244 F. 641 (C.C.A. 9th, 1917) (Cal.).

[2] *In re Roloson Estate*, 79 Pa. Super 124 (1922).

[3] *Short* v. *United States*, 221 F. 248 (C.C.A. 8th, 1915) (Minn.); *Fuston* v. *United States*, 22 F. 2d 66 (C.C.A. 9th, 1927) (Oreg.).

[4] *Moore* v. *United States*, 91 U.S. 270 (1896).

[5] *In re Goldberg*, 91 F. 2d 996 (C.C.A. 2d, 1937) (N.Y.).

[6] *State* v. *Van Tassel*, 103 Iowa 6, 72 N.W. 497 (1897).

[7] *Woitte* v. *United States*, 19 F. 2d 506 (1927); *Lieblang* v. *State*, 18 Ohio Cir. Ct. N.S. 179, 42 Ohio Cir. Ct. 673 (1907).

[8] *United States* v. *Ortiz*, 176 U.S. 422 (1900).

[9] *Gadberry* v. *Home Mutual Life Association* (Tex. Civ. App.), 57 S.W. 2d 370 (1933).

[10] *Reining* v. *United States*, 167 F. 2d 362 (C.A. 5th, 1948) (Fla.).

[11] *Plymouth Savings and Loan Association* v. *Kassing*, 72 Ind. App. 1, 125 N.E. 488 (1919); *Archer* v. *United States*, 9 Okla. 569, 60 P. 268 (1900).

[12] *United States* v. *Angelo*, 153 F. 2d 247 (C.A. 3d, 1946) (N.J.).

[13] *Nixon* v. *Shaver*, 115 W. Va. 469, 176 S.E. 849 (1934); *Poole* v. *Beller*, 104 W. Va. 547, 140 S.E. 534 (1927).

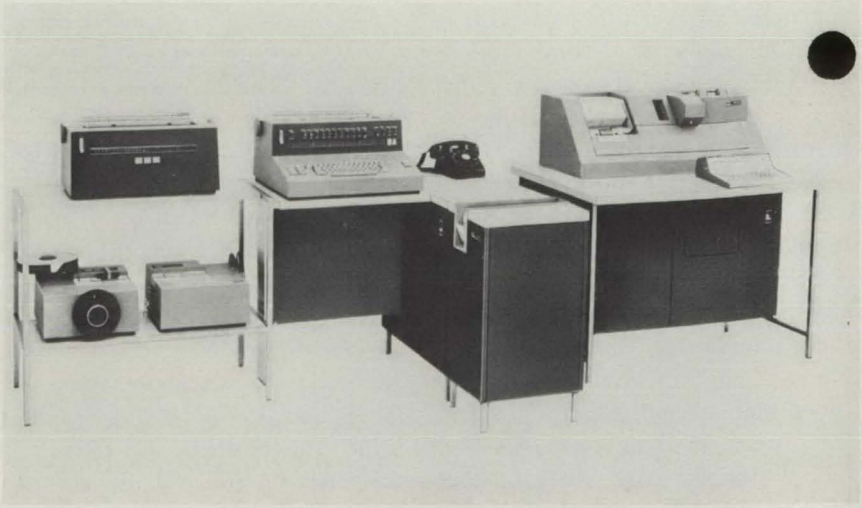
FBI CENTER

(*Continued from page 6*)

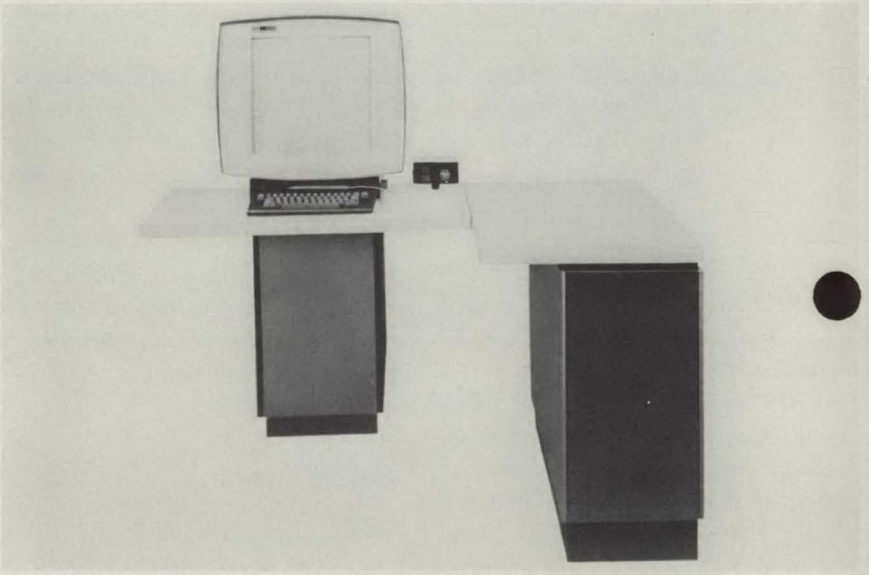
An officer of any of the agencies, even while on the street, may make inquiry of the system and have the information requested in less than a minute. Similarly, agencies in California may inquire concerning wanted persons whose records are stored by the Alameda County installation. These two systems have been joined so that a single inquiry from anywhere in the State can elicit information from both computers.

In St. Louis considerable work has been done in computerizing manpower allocation needs, as well as storing information concerning arrests and stolen autos. These systems represent the advent of a new "tool" in law enforcement records keeping.

A further application has been implemented by the New York City Police Department which is converting a sizable portion of its criminal fingerprint files to computer storage. This system, of course, requires manual classification for the storage of fingerprints and has a limited application with regard to larger files because of the conversion problem.



The teleprocessing equipment of various types which are used to make remote inquiry of the computer.



Cathode Tube Visual Set which, upon remote inquiry of the computer, shows the reply on a screen.

Interstate Cooperation

As an example of the service possible through a national system, a situation can be visualized in which a patrol car checking the parking lot of a shopping center in Washington, D.C., during the early morning hours spots a suspicious-looking automobile bearing Illinois license plates. The officer radios his dispatcher who, through the use of a remote terminal located in the dispatcher's office, queries directly the FBI's National Center. The immediate reply advises that the car in question has been reported stolen by the Chicago Police Department. This information relayed to the officer on patrol gives him information needed to immediately initiate appropriate action. Until now, many hours might have been consumed in establishing the stolen status of the vehicle or more than likely no inquiry would have been made.

In another example, an individual arrested in a bar in New Orleans, La., on a disorderly conduct charge is taken to headquarters for booking. A remote terminal is used to check the National Center, and it is learned the arrested person is wanted in California on a charge of murder. In the past, this individual would have been held a short time and released on payment of a small fine before his wanted status became known through the exchange of fingerprints with the FBI.

Cooperation Sought

Many local and State agencies were contacted prior to the decision to proceed with the FBI's National Crime Information Center. All local and

State officers consulted agreed that such a system would be a tremendous step toward more efficient law enforcement throughout the Nation. They concurred it was a step which should be immediately taken before the number of noncompatible systems developed became so great that no effective network could be established. The FBI has for years, since 1924, been successfully collecting and exchanging criminal identification and other crime records with local law enforcement agencies. Now the computer, as a new tool, promises to make this cooperative effort of law enforcement more efficient and effective.

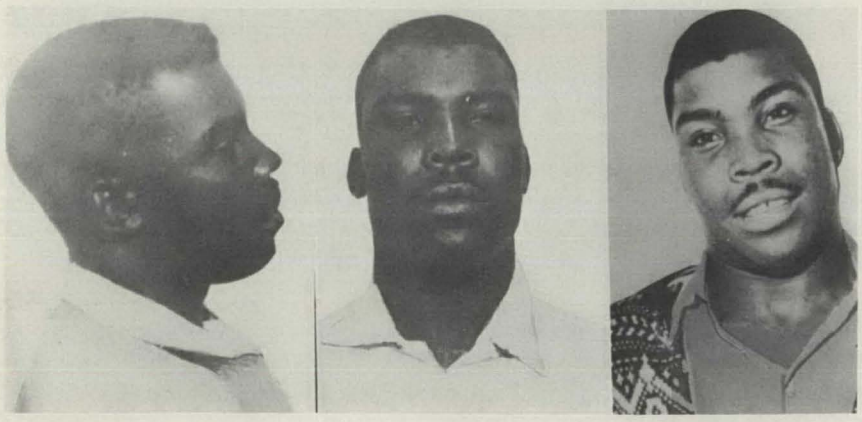
Another important area being studied by the FBI is the development of a scanning device which can be used to read and accurately classify inked finger impressions and translate such classifications for computer storage. In September 1965, proposals were solicited from more than 30 of the major companies active in this field looking toward the manufacture of a prototype. The development of such a device obviously is of prime importance to the national information network discussed, and the FBI is closely following all advances in this field. A rapid positive means of fingerprint classification and the translation of such classification into computer language will be an invaluable identification factor.

The national network described promises new horizons in effective law enforcement which could not be planned until now. It will provide the most vital information on a plane once thought impossible. This network, however, can only be as successful as the individual agencies throughout the country make it. Certain rules will have to be followed, standards adhered to, and conscientious consideration given to the principles involved. The National Crime Information Center, utilizing computerized files for information exchange, constitutes a new and powerful weapon against crime in our time, but does not alter the traditional concept of local and State autonomy in the control of crime.

Sheriff-Coroner Herbert H. Hughes of Imperial County, Calif., a graduate of the 59th Session of the FBI National Academy, is shown with FBI Assistant Director J. J. Casper (left) of the Training Division and FBI Inspector J. V. Cotter, supervisor of the National Academy program. Sheriff Hughes receives their congratulations upon his receipt of the gold medal awarded him by the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, Pa. Sheriff Hughes was awarded this honor for the institution of the Sheriff's Field Day Program to educate the school children in Imperial County in the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the sheriff's office.

2-25-66 R/S from Asst. Dir. Casper.

WANTED BY THE FBI



CHARLES LEE WASHINGTON, also known as: C. L. Glass, Charlie Lee Washington.

Interstate Flight—Murder

CHARLES LEE WASHINGTON is currently being sought by the FBI for unlawful interstate flight to avoid prosecution for the crime of murder.

The Crime

On July 26, 1963, Washington allegedly assaulted a middle-aged Spartanburg, S.C., man, savagely beating him on the head with a chair. He then left his victim lying unconscious. As a result of this vicious beating, the man died the following day.

A Federal warrant was issued on August 15, 1963, at Spartanburg, charging Washington with unlawful interstate flight to avoid prosecution for murder.

The Fugitive

Charles Lee Washington has been convicted of petty larceny on a Government reservation and grand larceny by swindling. He has been described as an avid gambler and a heavy drinker and as having a quick temper.

The quick-tempered Washington, who is being sought for a murder in which the victim was beaten to death, has been known to carry firearms in the past. He should be considered armed and dangerous.

Description

Age	30, born May 17, 1935, Swansea, S.C.
Height	6 feet.
Weight	225 to 235 pounds.
Build	Heavy.
Hair	Black.
Eyes	Brown.
Complexion	Dark.
Race	Negro.
Nationality	American.
Occupations	Bricklayer, construction worker, itinerant farm worker, laborer, shoeshiner.
Scars and marks	Cut scar left eyebrow; tattoo, heart on right forearm.
FBI No.	497,040 B.

Fingerprint classification:

3 1 aU IIO 15 Ref: T
1 aR III R

Notify the FBI

Any person having information which might assist in locating this fugitive is requested to immediately notify the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. 20535, or the Special Agent in Charge of the nearest FBI field office, the telephone number of which appears on the first page of most local telephone directories.

WINDOW SHOPPING

An ancient law concerning the selection of a juror was invoked recently in an English court of law during a county court session. This occurred when a defending lawyer objected to a particular jury member, and no reserve jurors were available for replacement.

Under the old act, jurors can be recruited on the street, provided they are over 21 and under 60 years of age and own a house with more than 15 windows.

The law regarding the windows was designed when there was a tax on them, and if a person, despite the tax, had 15 windows in his home, he was considered a man of substance, who in the eyes of the people writing the law at that time would qualify for jury duty.

Police officers were sent out of the courtroom to locate such an individual. After three attempts, a person meeting the requirements was recruited from the street and the trial commenced.

London crimdel 11/18/65
Buffile # 63-4296-241.

2084—1966=118+63=181!

A 63-year-old woman known as a notorious pickpocket to Paris police was again arrested and convicted. Police, however, do not expect to have any difficulty with her in the immediate future. She was banished from France until the year 2084.

Paris crimdel 1/24/66, Buffile # 63-4

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1966 O—211-663 4231

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Missile-Wound Checklist for Use in Homicide Examinations

Systematic procedure is often the key to success in any undertaking, whether it be the procedure meticulously followed in laying out the instruments in the operating room for major surgery, the countdown before a missile blastoff, or the checkoff list of an airplane pilot.

Personnel at the U.S. Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, Washington, D.C., have found such a procedure exceedingly worthwhile in connection with their responsibilities.

Lt. Col. Pierre A. Finck, Medical Corps, and members of the Institute have prepared a checkoff list to be used in the examination of a homicide or other violent death involving a missile wound and have found it to be a positive safeguard against the omission of vital steps. The list they prepared should be of interest to law enforcement officers.

Circumstances

Accident, homicide, suicide, natural death, or undetermined. Wounded in action (WIA), died of wound (DOW), or killed in action (KIA). Distance between weapon and victim. Time interval between injury and death.

Weapon

Type, caliber, model, brand name, and country of manufacture.

Ammunition

Type, caliber, brand name, and country of manufacture.

Missile

Description, weight in grams or grains, dimensions in millimeters, impact velocity in meters per second or feet per second, and impact kinetic energy in kilogram-meters or foot-pounds. Disposition of missile by surgeon or pathologist.

Clothing of Victim

Missile holes, powder burns, blood.

External Wounds

Type, location, and dimensions in millimeters.

Supporting Information

1. X-rays of body or tissue specimens.
2. Color and black-and-white photographs of external wounds before and after washing or shaving, missile path shown by probe, if possible, and missiles recovered in the body. A *metric-system ruler* should appear in the photograph.
3. Photographs of weapon and missiles found at the scene (metric-system ruler).
4. Formalin-fixed tissue of entrance and exit wounds for spectrographic and microscopic studies. Note: When the absence of powder burns or powder grains makes the identification of entrance and exit difficult, a spectrographic analysis of the clothing or wounds may permit such differentiation, based on the relative deposits of traces of metal along the path of the missile. The pathologist should coordinate his studies with those of the spectrograph analyst before jeopardizing the results by untoward washing or scraping of the tissue.
5. Reports of ordnance or police experts on firearms, ammunition, ballistic data, target tests, and laboratory tests on clothing (gunpowder, fibers, blood).

Only by thorough and paintstaking measures can an examination of this kind be successfully concluded.

R/S from R. D. Putnam, DSD.

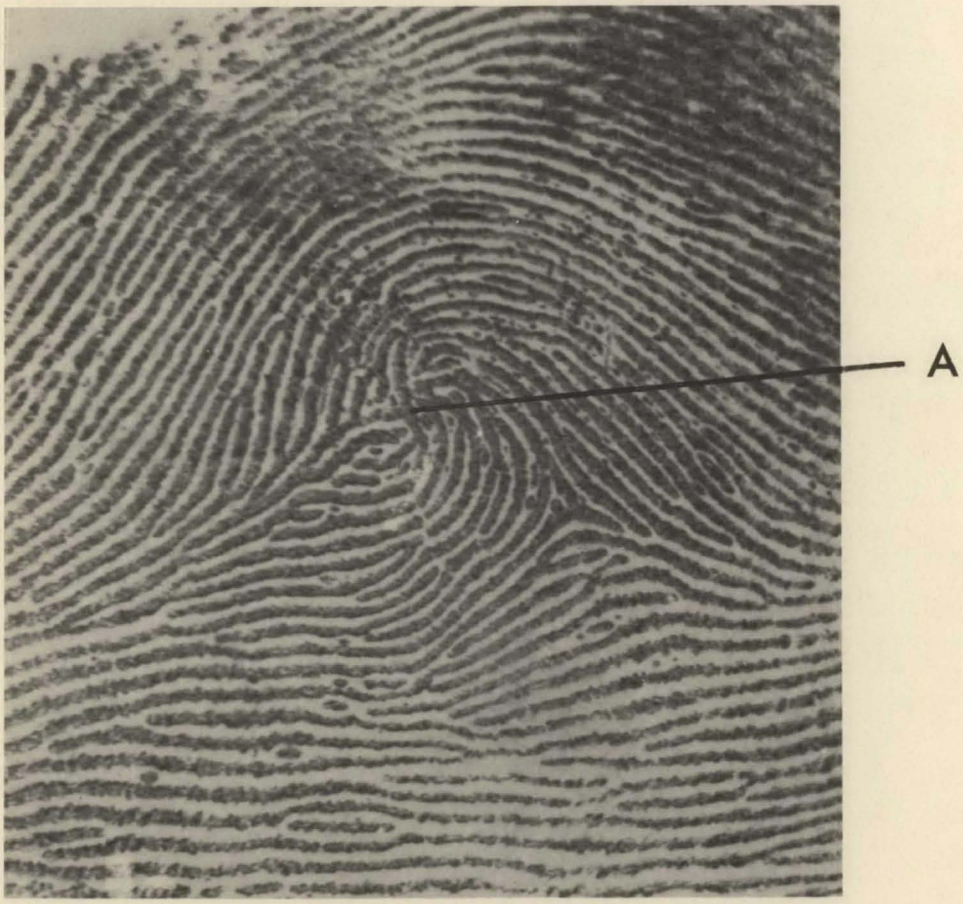
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

RETURN AFTER 5 DAYS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

QUESTIONABLE PATTERN



This unusual and questionable pattern is classified as a loop with nine counts. The appendage between the shoulders of the looping ridge at point A does not spoil the recurve, as it appears to flow smoothly from the shoulder. A difference in inking or pressure may create a right angle which would spoil the recurve and therefore the impression is referenced to a tented arch.