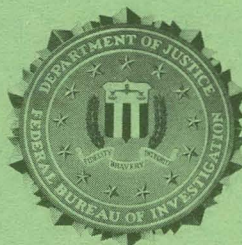


- *Restricted to the Use of Law Enforcement Officials*

# FBI

## *Law Enforcement*

# BULLETIN



1950

OCTOBER

Vol. 19 No. 10

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

J. Edgar Hoover, Director



# FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin

OCTOBER 1950

Vol. 19 No. 10

## CONTENTS



<i>Introduction</i> , by J. Edgar Hoover . . . . .	Page 1
<i>Feature Article:</i>	
Some Aspects of Arson Investigations, by Daniel A. Murphy, Supervisor of Detective Inspectors, Massachusetts State Police. . . . .	2
<i>Police Training:</i>	
Training in the Maine State Police, by Col. Francis J. McCabe, Chief, Maine State Police. . . . .	5
Boulder Police Conference and Training School . . . . .	9
<i>Identification:</i>	
Island Murderer Trapped by Fingerprints . . . . .	12
FBI Identification Division Services and Procedures . . . . .	17
Identity Sought . . . . .	8
Notice . . . . .	8
Questionable Pattern . . . . . (Back cover)	
Insert—Wanted Notices, Missing Persons, and Cancellations	
<i>Miscellaneous:</i>	
Law Enforcement Teams Up To Catch Killer . . . . .	19
Unknown Dead . . . . .	21
Identity of Murder Victim Sought . . . . .	22
Rapist Hunted . . . . .	22
Social Security Information . . . . .	23
<i>Crime Prevention:</i>	
Safety Patrol and Police Make Good Team . . . . .	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 a confidential nature and its circulation should be restricted 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.

October 1, 1950

TO ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS:

As Americans become increasingly aware of the present situation, they are making known their eagerness to help--to do something positive. This desire for action has been of utmost value to the national welfare. Its importance has been demonstrated throughout the history of our country.

Experience has also shown the danger presented by action which takes the form of vigilante activity. During recent months suggestions have been offered that private citizens be organized into groups for the purpose of investigating subversive activities in the United States. This idea, although prompted by the highest degree of patriotism, has serious disadvantages which become apparent when the matter is given careful study.


Information relating to subversion, when it passes through too many hands, is often distorted and inaccurate when it finally reaches the proper authorities. This requires additional time and effort in verification, and the delay may work to the advantage of the very forces which we are combatting.

It should also be kept in mind that activities inimical to our country are nation-wide in scope. The untrained eye, therefore, might reject a seemingly unimportant item which, when viewed by those having the benefit of wider information, would be recognized as having vital significance. Specific data concerning subversive activities should be reported directly and promptly to those authorized to obtain them, in order that maximum results may be achieved.

The FBI is charged by Presidential Directive with responsibility in matters relating to espionage, sabotage and subversive activities. Our accomplishments in this field rest to a large extent upon the splendid cooperation received from local law enforcement officers, and upon the alertness of a patriotic citizenry.

Private assistance is of greatest importance in maintaining the internal security of our Nation. Private action invites error and confusion.

Very truly yours,

  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director





## FEATURE ARTICLE

# Some Aspects of Arson Investigations

by DANIEL A. MURPHY, *Supervisor of Detective  
Inspectors, Massachusetts State Police*

### Introduction

Under common law the crime of arson was well defined by Blackstone as "the malicious and wilful burning of the house of another," but since that time an avalanche of statutes has overwhelmed this definition so that its former scope is interesting only in an historical sense. Where it was originally confined to dwellings and nearby buildings, it is now extended to all manner of structures, etc. Where it formerly protected only the habitation of man, it now covers personal property and even crops.

Once it was limited to burning the house of another and now one may be convicted if he burns his own property. Arson has always been regarded by the law as a heinous and most aggravated offense for not only does it endanger human life and the security of habitation, but it evidences a moral recklessness and depravity in the perpetrator. The offense is marked with the most deliberate and atrocious malice. It is not perpetrated in the heat of passion, but coolly and stealthily, without any view of pecuniary gain, and the consequences are such that no mind which is not utterly hardened and depraved can contemplate with complacency.

Blackstone describes arson as "an offense of very great malignity." He states it is much more destructive to the public than simple theft because: first, it is an offense against that right of habitation which is acquired by the law of nature as well as by the law of society; next, because of the terror and confusion that necessarily attend it; and, lastly, because in simple theft the thing stolen only changes its master but still remains in use for the benefit of the public; whereas by burning, the very substance is destroyed. It is also frequently more destructive than murder itself, of which it is often the cause: since murder, atrocious as it is, seldom extends beyond the felonious act designed; whereas fire too frequently involves in the common calamity persons unknown to the incendiary, and not intended to be hurt, and friends as well as

enemies. It was a capital offense until more lenient statutes were enacted in the nineteenth century.

Arson, burning to defraud the insurer, and related crimes are generally, if not invariably, committed under the cover of darkness, at times and in a manner calculated to divert suspicion, and where no living being other than the criminal himself or those who are acting in concert with him can be present as eye witnesses thereto. In such cases it is almost invariably true that the detection and conviction of the criminal must be based on circumstantial evidence, at least in part.

Arson investigation is recognized as an important part of the work of every police department. It often defies solution and is very intricate—the easiest crime to commit and hardest to detect. It is also recognized as a difficult and specialized subject, requiring first-hand knowledge of modern methods and procedures. Experience has shown that many arson cases are never properly detected, investigated, and prosecuted.

Recent years have shown a great increase in this type of crime, and even more ingenious methods developed by the criminal to escape capture. These factors place a greater responsibility on our police departments and on the local, State, and National organizations dealing with arson cases.

### Pyromania

The most difficult type of incendiary the police authorities have to contend with is the pyromaniac. He is a person whose obsession centers around fire. He is a firebug who starts fires without rhyme or reason and without any apparent motive. He is the most difficult to apprehend and convict. (A confession is invariably necessary.) Unfortunately, asylums do not hold all of these insane firebugs. They are found in practically every community and their contribution to the fire loss in the country is appalling.



Pyromania goes further and encompasses those individuals who for spite, revenge, and jealousy set fires. This type is the most vindictive with whom the police have to deal because he commits a most deliberate and dastardly act, not in the heat of passion or on the spur of the moment, but with care and deliberation.

Experience has shown that a large percentage of firebugs are youngsters of tender age. This class is usually more readily apprehended because they do not possess the cleverness and cunning which may be found in the firebug who is older. Pyromania is not confined to any class of individuals and may manifest itself in the most unexpected quarters.

### ***Professional Torches***

A professional torch is a firemaker who sets fires for hire. In the past this was a successful field for certain gangs which operated in various parts of the country. A concerted drive by law-enforcement agencies in the past few years has wiped out most of these arson rings. In addition to committing the crime of "burning to defraud," etc., they often turn to "blackmailing" the person who hired them.

### ***Insurance Fires***

The investigation of fire cases in which the motive is the burning of property, both real and personal, for the purpose of "intending to defraud" insurance companies confronts the police with many difficult problems. In many instances the persons involved in crimes of this kind enjoy excellent reputations and are citizens who are well respected in their communities. The planning of this type of crime usually takes weeks or months. It is done in the privacy of one's home or place of business where no suspicion is directed toward his or her movements until the fire has occurred. Alibis are prepared which are usually iron clad. You can readily appreciate that under such circumstances a police investigator must be thorough, persistent, and evaluate all evidence properly. He must take nothing for granted.

### ***Elements Necessary to Support a Burning***

1. That the building was burned (*corpus delicti*).
2. That it was burned by the wilful act of some

person and not the result of natural causes or accident.

The above can be proved by the fire department officials or the personal testimony of someone who saw the fire. There must be a burning, however slight. A mere charring will not suffice. Burning of contents only will not constitute the burning of a building. If this type of burning spreads to any part of the building, you can then support a complaint of "the burning of a building."

*Corpus delicti.*—The body or essence of the crime to show that one has been committed. An incendiary fire can be proved by elimination of all natural and accidental causes in the absence of circumstantial evidence, such as trailers, traps, flammables, etc. Most fires have a tendency to burn upward from the point of origin. We also have what is known as drop fires. Proof of motive is not necessary, but in practice it is well to show one.

### ***Important Evidence***

1. Time of alarm.
2. Identity of building—description and location.
3. Photographs of inside and outside of building should be used showing exact condition.
4. Ownership—Occupancy and control of the building should be shown. Prove ownership by registry of deeds record.

### ***Some Motives***

Pyromaniac (a person with an insane predisposition to incendiarism.) Sexual firebugs—burning to defraud insurance company—to conceal a crime—to aid the commission of a crime—for spite or revenge—to destroy evidence—to settle an estate—sale of land with buildings to be removed before a certain date—to secure a building wrecking contract—firemen and policemen with a desire to set fires for excitement and publicity—insurance adjusters—contractors who want job repairing building—business rivals—watchmen—to secure employment as a guard—to break jail—to break a lease—homicides, intent to burn the occupant.

### ***Intent***

Intent formed after an accidental fire was started is held to be competent.



## ***Burning to Defraud the Insurance Company***

1. Must be wilful and with intent.
2. Show motive for wanting insurance money.
3. Show the property is insured.
4. Secure the policies as evidence. If they are not available, serve notice on defendant to produce original copies.

5. Some reasons for burning to defraud: Newly placed insurance—increased insurance—insurance policies about to expire or notice of cancellation having been given—demand for payment of overdue premiums.

6. Some observations in cases of insurance fires: Look for goods moved out before the fire and also goods brought in after the fire. If contents are over-insured, have inventory made to show real value. To establish a lack of business, check bank accounts, deposits and ledgers. Also, question employees, clerks, etc.

### ***Motives***

Statement of the accused that he hoped the place would burn—poor business—notes due—mortgage interest unpaid and due—taxes overdue—rent overdue—mortgage foreclosing impending—notice of foreclosure unless requirements are met—attachments—hopelessly in debt—store overstocked—letters of refusal to fulfill orders because of credit reports or bills—employees' payroll due—seasonable business at end and seasonable goods unsold—failure to receive expected orders—cancellation of orders already received—desire to leave the locality and locate somewhere else—having outgrown present quarters and desire to move into other quarters or add to present quarters.

### ***Attempt to Burn (3 essential elements)***

1. Intent to eventually set fire.
2. Performance of some act toward the commission of the crime.
3. Failure to consummate the crime.

### ***Some Observations at Scene of Fire***

Possession of keys—security of premises—any indication of separate fires—any inflammable fluids or compounds used—any traps or trailers used—did flames appear to have been accelerated, etc.

A flash fire is one which spreads rapidly over an area, burning only the surface.

## ***Flammable Fluids Used for Fires***

Gasoline, kerosene, benzine, rubber cements, lacquer, metal polish, stove polish, fuel oil, varnoline, paint remover, alcohol, turpentine, benzol, naphtha, varnish, bronzing and gilding fluid, creosote, cleaning fluids, linseed oil.

## ***Flammable Compounds Used for Fires***

Flammable film, celluloid, powders, dynamite, phosphorus, detonators, thermite, blasting caps, blasting fuses.

### ***Other Causes***

Gas jets allowed open—some bombs cause fires—oil burners, oil pipe broken off, sprinklers shut off, overfusing of electric wires.

### ***Trailers***

May be made of paper, hay, straw, cloth, cotton, lace curtains, leaves, rugs, mattresses, decorations, fireworks material, strips or chips of cellulose, celluloid articles (anything which can convey fire from one point to another may be a trailer).

### ***Contraptions for Ignition***

Candles, alarm clocks, any electrical equipment, phosphorus, carbide, short circuits, fuses.

Evidence of oily nature should be preserved in airtight jars or containers.

## ***Investigation of Incendiary Fires***

In order to be productive of results, incendiary fires require great scrutiny and persistent inquiry. The success or failure of an investigation depends upon the thoroughness and attention to details given by the investigator. Arson investigation defies solution. It is very intricate. Search cannot overlook anything. Evaluate all evidence properly. Theory should not come until after. This is a criminal matter of the first order and police departments should recognize it. Every element of a criminal investigation is found in an arson investigation. It is difficult to prove these cases unless intelligent and persistent methods are employed.





# POLICE TRAINING

## ***Training in the Maine State Police***

*by Col. FRANCIS J. MCCABE, Chief, Maine  
State Police*

On March 18, 1950, His Excellency Frederick G. Payne, Governor of Maine, awarded 32 certificates of graduation to 25 State police troopers, 2 State police dispatchers, and 5 officers from local police departments, marking the completion of the eleventh and most successful State police training school. Not only was this simple ceremony a milestone in the history of our training school, which was first held in 1936, but it clearly illustrated the gradual ascendancy of the standards of both our own department and of the local agencies which avail themselves of this facility.

### ***Selection of Personnel***

Since the first six patrolmen known as State Highway Police were attached to the Highway Department in 1921, a continued effort has been made to select only the very highest type of personnel. When, in 1925, general criminal powers were added to the duties of these and additional officers, this need became even more apparent. Since no training school or department can be more outstanding than its personnel, we believe that the time and work expended in selecting officers are worth while. Our procedure in selecting 21 recruits from over 400 applicants closely followed that recommended by the IACP, with a few deviations of our own.

Each written application was reviewed to determine whether or not the man met the apparent basic requirements. Each candidate then submitted to a 2-hour written examination to determine his aptitude for the life and work of a trooper. Approximately 20 percent of those taking the examination qualified. The background of each was then carefully checked, references interviewed, and a search made of all available records. All candidates, not previously disqualified by basic requirements, written examination, or character check, were then interviewed, first by a panel of commissioned officers and later by the chief, each of whom rated the applicant by follow-

ing a standard system. All ratings were compiled and the outstanding men called for physical examination. After receipt of the physician's reports, the chief selected 21 recruits, who reported for duty, were sworn in and began their probationary period and 10-week training course the same day. The men selected were mentally and morally fit, averaged 6 feet in height, 185 pounds, and their average education included 2 years at college.

### ***Instructors***

The choice of instructors is more difficult than the selection of recruits, but fortunately, once you have located a qualified officer with a high quotient of leadership, a thorough knowledge of his subject, and that peculiar ability to impart his knowledge to others, he will be available for duty at succeeding schools. The training a man has received apparently affects his ability to instruct, for our director, Capt. Robert Marx, was graduated from the FBI National Academy; our assistant director is a Fellow of the Harvard Associates of Police Science; and the sergeant who headed the traffic courses is a graduate of the Northwestern University Traffic Institute. All other instructors of our department were graduated from our training school and have acquired advanced training, either through in-service training schools or by their own initiative.

### ***Course***

Because we could allot only a short 10 weeks for the entire course, the school hours were necessarily long. Reveille was at 6:30, followed by calisthenics and policing quarters, with breakfast at 7:30. The morning classes ran from 8:30 to noon with 10-minute "breaks" each hour. The same procedure was followed in the afternoon, beginning at 1:30 and ending at 5:30, with supper at 6 p. m. Evening classes or lectures began at 7 p. m.





*Practical arrest problem.*

and continued until either 9 or 10 with taps at 11 p. m. Leave was granted every other week, beginning at 5:30 Friday afternoon and ending at 8 p. m. Sunday. Time off for church and an evening off were granted on the Sunday the men remained at camp.

Long working days and the number of courses given demanded extreme care in the selection, arrangement, and presentation of subject matter. To be effective, the curriculum must not only be as inclusive as possible, but must be so arranged as to keep the pitch of interest high throughout the entire training period. The curriculum must also be flexible, providing opportunity to substitute periods, include special guests and lecturers, and to meet any other contingency which may develop. Something will.

Rank is awarded on four salient points, with one below-standard mark reason for dismissal; discipline, notebooks, daily work, and final examinations. This 10-week period proved that our system of selecting personnel was effective because every man beginning his training completed it with satisfactory rank. With this background, I am positive every man will develop into a good officer and that most of them will remain with us.

Each course is planned for presentation through the four mediums of teaching: (1) information, (2) illustration, (3) demonstration, and (4) practical application. At the very minimum it requires 4 hours of preparation for each hour of instruction, and the instructors reported they worked as hard as the recruits and learned as much.

Following the opening address, the students were launched into their first two courses: orientation, including discipline, and note-taking.

Nothing contributes so greatly to success, whether it be in the training school or in the field, as "esprit de corps." We awakened it with short histories of the origin, development, and growth of police and State police in general, followed by that of our own Maine State Police.

We limit our classes on one subject to 2 hours, following with one as entirely dissimilar as possible, for just one reason—to sustain interest. For the purposes of preparation and coordination of the instructors' efforts, however, we consider certain subjects as a group, and teach in such a manner as to show their interdependence and relationship. Thus, under the general subject of arrests and court work, we find the following specific courses: rights and personal liberties, powers and duties of State police, complaints and warrants, the officer in court, rules of evidence, the Uniform Act on Fresh Pursuit, and the Uniform Criminal Extradition Act.

### *Important Fields*

The most important field we cover, and that to which we devote the most hours, is motor vehicle. The first course is driver education and training, beginning with the study of written material prepared and distributed by the American Automobile Association, with examinations preceding and following such study. This is followed by psychophysical examinations, skill tests, and training. This course is at least partially responsible for our low-accident rate under hazardous driving conditions. We then follow with motor vehicle law, traffic control and safety, techniques



*Practical problem in enforcing highway traffic regulations.*



of patrol and accident investigation. The last course is featured with one simulated accident, one simulated hit-and-run accident, and attendance at a real accident which is investigated by a team of recruits under the direction and observation of an instructor and the trooper on whose patrol it occurred.

The criminal field covers the widest diversity of subjects, including much that is of value in motor vehicle cases as well as others. We begin this field with criminal law for the police officer, including the definitions and elements of the various crimes and the law decisions applicable. Then, but not in order, the following are taught: introduction to the laboratory; laboratory techniques, with visits from our technicians; police and the medical examiner; technique at the scene; general principles and techniques of investigation; interviewing witnesses; technique of criminal interrogation; admissions and confessions; motive; collection, preservation, and transportation of evidence; sex and crime; homicide investigation; description and portrait parle; and surveillance.



*Crime scene search.*

### **Miscellaneous Courses**

Then there are a number of important, but miscellaneous courses, including first aid, communications, self-defense, records and report writing, civil disturbances, and disasters. Two other miscellaneous subjects are as important as anything we cover, namely, public relations and public speaking. Not only do we give a course on public relations, but we carefully observe each recruit throughout the training period, forcibly bringing to each a full realization of the importance of this

specific part of his work. While public speaking may seem to be an unusual subject in this type of school, we find a few good speakers in every class, who later are detailed to speaking engagements. More important by far, however, is the noticeable improvement in the courtroom work and appearance of our men, since this subject was included in our curriculum. Better courtroom work has given a better presentation of facts, and a better average of convictions.

Throughout the training period special guest speakers lectured upon various related subjects, among them The Attorney General and the Police; Financial Responsibility; Public Utilities; Activities of Sea and Shore Fisheries Wardens; Arson; The State Liquor Commission, its Powers and Duties; and, finally, a prominent local physician lectured on Obstetrics for the Police Officer.

We devoted one whole day to lectures by two prominent pathologists associated with the Harvard School of Legal Medicine and Lt. Joseph Walker, police chemist for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. For this occasion we invited medical examiners and all interested law-enforcement officials to attend the lectures and mess call. Lasting acquaintances are made at meetings of this type and cooperation in the field has greatly improved with an understanding of and respect for the abilities and aims of the other.

Several exceptionally fine films portraying various phases of law enforcement were supplied by the Criminal Investigation Division, United States Army. After the basic instruction is given in lectures, visual aids are far more graphic and effective than any other method of instruction. I cannot recommend too highly the use of motion pictures, and am certain that as technical films related to our work become more plentiful, they will be more fully utilized than at present.

One of the most interesting and important periods of the whole 10 weeks was the 3 days a special agent from the Boston office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation spent with us. He covered much new material, emphasized many points previously taught, and graphically illustrated through rapid-fire lectures, slides, photographs, and motion pictures, many phases of investigation. On his last day, the agent set up the simulated scene with a problem of interviews, interrogation of suspects, the arrest, and trial. Upon completion, he analyzed the problem, illustrated the proper procedure, and pointed out the errors and omissions,



and other methods which could have been utilized. This problem, a previous homicide problem, the accident problems, a day of weighing trucks, a half-day spent checking vehicles, operators, and equipment, and a week end of actual patrol with selected troopers supplied the practical experience necessary to properly illustrate the instruction.

### Formula

I was recently asked for the formula for operating a training school. After giving the matter some thought, I concluded that the following five points will insure the success of any training program :

1. Choose your students carefully.
2. Choose your instructors more carefully.
3. Hire a good cook and supply him with everything he needs to provide an interesting and balanced diet.
4. Keep your trainees busy and interested.
5. Enlist the cooperation of allied departments and organizations, particularly the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

### Identity Sought

On July 6, 1950, authorities in the village of Oak Park, Ill., took into custody a young boy who was found to be mentally ill. The youth was entered in the Chicago State Hospital as a schizophrenia patient. According to the police, he may be an escapee from a mental institution.

Identity could not be established through fingerprints.

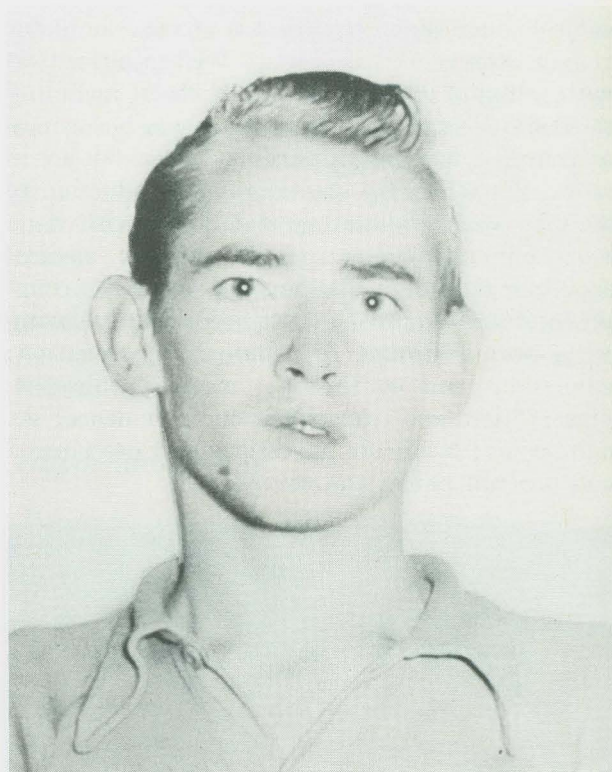
The boy is described as follows :

Name-----	Tom Formen, with aliases Tom Foreman, Don Strainge.
Age-----	16 or 17.
Weight-----	105.
Height-----	5 feet 3¼ inches.
Hair-----	Blond (sandy tint).
Complexion-----	Ruddy.
Ears-----	Protruding.
Scars and marks--	Abdominal scar.
Remarks-----	Mentally retarded.
Fingerprints-----	13 O 14 U OIO
	M 30 R OOI

The unknown youth gave his father's name as John Foreman of Detroit, Mich. Contact with the police department in that city, however, failed to result in the location of Mr. Foreman.

Any information which may be of assistance in establishing the identity of this young boy should be transmitted immediately to Mr. Thomas P.

Kearin, chief of police, Municipal Building, Euclid Avenue and Lake Street, Oak Park, Ill., or to the Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice, Washington 25, D. C.



*Tom Formen, alias Tom Foreman, Don Strainge.*

### NOTICE

The following policy regarding follow-up copies of fingerprint records is set out for your information and guidance with regard to service rendered by the FBI Identification Division.

Effective July 4, 1950, copies of fingerprint records are not being sent to arresting agencies and institutions which have submitted fingerprints on prior arrests and incarcerations. Only the current contributor will receive the usual acknowledgment.

This change is necessitated by the volume of current fingerprint cards needing acknowledgment which must be handled with a minimum of personnel.

Such change in policy, however, does not preclude any qualified contributor from obtaining a record at any time by specific request.





# POLICE TRAINING

## ***Boulder Police Conference and Training School***

### ***Introduction***

The key to solution of the "unsolved" crime may be lost, in a majority of such cases, at the outset. The evidence which might have solved many crimes often perishes in the initial stages of the official inquiry. Evidence inevitably is lost if improperly trained police personnel fail to organize, along simple but vitally basic lines, the preliminary stages of official action when a crime is discovered and the investigation is begun.

With such facts in mind Police Chief Myron M. Teegarden of Boulder, Colo., and Sheriff Arthur Everson of Boulder County, sponsored, in cooperation with the FBI, a school for police officers from Colorado and Wyoming.

On Monday morning, November 14, 1949, 75 representatives of police departments and sheriffs' offices throughout the States of Colorado and Wyoming enrolled for the conference. FBI instructors advised that training material presenting techniques in the scientific approach to a criminal investigation would be augmented by participation on the part of the officers in the solution of a case involving kidnaping and murder.

### ***Preserving Fingerprints***

Two-thirds of the officers acknowledged they personally were unversed in, or had imperfect knowledge concerning the procedure of detecting and preserving latent fingerprints. The rudiments and techniques were explained.

The instructor gave an example of the vital need to obtain such prints. A questioned automobile becomes an element in a homicide case. It is definitely established as being the death car, but investigation has shown that it is a stolen car and no clue is forthcoming as to the identity of the driver at the time of the crime. All obvious areas of the machine have been wiped clean of prints. The investigating officers, however, check the less obvious parts of the automobile. By applying

the beam of a flashlight at an angle across the rear-view mirror a tiny smudge, apparently the fragment of a print, is visible.

The mirror could either be removed and transmitted to the laboratory for examination, or the investigator could remove and preserve the latent print through the use of lifting tape. The officer dusts the print with powder to determine its possibilities for lifting. He strips the protective film from the adhesive side of a piece of lifting tape and applies the sticky portion to the latent impression, rubbing it firmly down before he removes the adhesive from the mirror as carefully as possible to avoid slippage. The result is a "negative" or the reverse impression of the print on the special adhesive. A plastic shield is then placed over the strip of adhesive and the evidence can be preserved. Later, it can be processed by a fingerprint expert.

Eventually, for example, the fingerprint is found to correspond with the print of a suspected man. Confronted with such evidence, the suspect frequently admits his presence in the questioned automobile, and in many cases a complete confession is forthcoming.

### ***Investigating Procedures***

Fingerprint work was but one of a number of once fabulous but now routine police procedures discussed at the school. Use of the laboratory, importance of the crime scene search, note taking and identification of evidence were stressed.

Two factors stand out most frequently in cases which fail of solution through lack of training in the investigative personnel involved:

1. Failure of the first officers on the scene to protect and preserve everything in the immediate area as nearly as possible in the exact position it occupied when the crime occurred or was discovered.
2. Disorganization of subsequent action, with no ordered delegation of authority and duty. (All too frequently, for example, half a dozen officers by turn pull out and examine the same dresser drawer.)





**FBI instructors conceal the "body" in preparing the field problem for the school.**

## ***Terrain Search***

One technique suggested for searches of this type in difficult terrain drew a great deal of interest. It was the simple one of deploying available personnel—either few or many—so that none is more than fingertip-to-fingertip distant from his neighbor. Each "end man" is armed with a ball of twine which he trails out behind him as a boundary marker. When the twine is expended, the place of ending is marked and another small area is searched in the same manner. This is repeated with no deviation from the pattern until the entire questioned area is searched.

Each technical discussion was followed by a practical field problem. Following the lecture on the importance of search, an actual search was conducted. An area of nearly 5,000 square feet was roped off and approximately 25 small items had been concealed or partially concealed in the space. Only one item, a .38 calibre cartridge case which had been covered by a dry leaf, was missed in a careful search of the area.

Techniques of handwriting and typewriting comparison and analysis, study of glass fracture, and analysis of hair and fiber evidence were fully covered. The lectures had a direct bearing on the solution of the practical field problem which was to follow.

## ***Practical Field Problem***

On Thursday morning a "chief" was selected by popular demand from the assembled officers. Sheriff Harry R. Scott of Ouray, Colo., was chosen.

Chief Scott selected an assistant chief and additional helpers to aid in the solution of the crime problem.

Promptly at 12 o'clock one Mr. Davis (enacted by Chief of Police Myron Teegarden of Boulder) appeared at headquarters with his daughter, Clara (a role played by a Boulder, Colo., housewife).

Davis reported to Chief of Police Scott that on the preceding evening his daughter and her fiancé had been held up and the latter apparently had been kidnaped. The incident occurred at a popular parking spot overlooking the city of Boulder.

Mr. Davis reported that the pair were discussing plans for their forthcoming marriage which had been set for November 25 at Boulder. The fiancé, Richard Roe, reportedly was the son of a well-to-do business man with an importing firm at San Francisco, Calif.

Interrogation by Chief of Police Scott led to the securing of information that the fiancé was a youth who had been rather wild but who in recent years had settled down. The plan of the couple to marry had the blessings of Miss Davis' father.

Interrogation elicited information that the young woman had driven home in a state near hysteria. Police were not notified at the outset. The family physician was called and the doctor advised that any immediate interrogation by police officers might endanger the girl's life. Inasmuch as she had not been physically harmed by the intruders, the doctor administered a sedative and left.

Miss Davis was able to give investigating officers few facts. A man with a gruff voice drove beside their parked car. Before the girl or her fiancé was aware of his presence the unknown yanked open the door of Roe's automobile and ordered Miss Davis to "put her head under the glove compartment." She obeyed inasmuch as the man held a pistol in his right hand.

Miss Davis stated that she then heard sounds of a heavy blow and sensed that her companion was being hauled from the automobile. Additional sounds indicated that Roe was dragged into the other machine and a moment later the mysterious automobile sped away toward the highway leading to Denver or Golden, Colo.

After obtaining the above information, Sheriff Scott, in his role of chief of police, issued orders to Sgt. W. N. Farmer who was acting the part of assistant chief of police, to go immediately to the



lover's lane area where the crime had occurred. He ordered Farmer to make an examination for footprints and blood specimens and to conduct a terrain search.

Sergeant Farmer and 10 officers from the training group were promptly dispatched to the scene of the crime where they applied the instructions given during the 3 previous days. They made plaster casts of heel prints, footprints and tire tread marks. They collected blood specimens. They made a thorough terrain search in the vicinity and gathered small bits of paper and cloth. Each piece was marked with the initials of the officer who found the evidence.



*An FBI instructor pours moulage into a heel track under the watching eyes of Chief of Police Myron Teegarden and Undersheriff Don Moore.*

At the completion of the search the officers re-assembled in the lecture hall and pieced together the evidence which had been discovered. At the following morning's assembly it was found that the chain of evidence led to a Boulder cottage camp.

Chief Scott designated several officers to conduct a search of the camp. Fragments of a telegram, a second sheet from a tablet on which a letter had been written, and items indicating that a murder had been committed were found. (Later, tracing of the telegram and other evidence indicated that the crime was the work of a "crooked gambler from San Francisco.")

Once the body (a department store dummy) was located, a second terrain search was conducted. Officers, using balls of twine to trace

their course, covered approximately 3 acres in a thorough search for the murder weapon. A hundred-square-foot area was roped off around the body and an extremely close search made. Several empty cartridge cases, apparently fired from the murder weapon, were found.

The case was continued to its climax when the police department, as a result of tracing the tiny trail of evidence, was able to identify and take the killer (a role assigned to an FBI agent) into custody.

The participants in the simulated case were meticulous in applying the techniques which they had been taught in connection with the proper approach to an actual field problem.

The success of the school was apparent as attested in the hearty enthusiasm displayed and the expressed opinion that such a school, held annually, would be of great benefit to all officers in the area.

## ***Crash Victim Identified***

The Department of Public Safety, Austin, Tex., submitted to the FBI the fingerprints of an unknown white man, who, on May 7, 1950, had been killed in a plane crash at Big Springs, Tex. Authorities indicated a number of papers bearing the name "Donald James Mann" had been found with the body.

An FBI file search revealed that the unknown was an individual of an entirely different name whose whereabouts was being sought by the FBI in connection with Interstate Transportation of Stolen Motor Vehicle charges.

The crash victim had been arrested on several prior occasions.

## **NOTICE**

From time to time the FBI receives inquiries and requests for assistance in making surveys of plants engaged in production of materials for use in connection with the national defense.

Although the FBI made plant surveys prior to, and during the early stages of World War II, it has no jurisdiction or authority to do so at the present time.

Communications regarding plant surveys should be directed to the Chairman, Munitions Board, Department of Defense, The Pentagon, Washington 25, D. C., which Department has responsibility in such matters.





# IDENTIFICATION

## ***Island Murderer Trapped by Fingerprints<sup>1</sup>***

### ***Introduction***

Ocean Island, one of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony Group, is situated in the Central Pacific just south of the Equator and approximately 2,000 miles northeast of Brisbane, Australia.

The island, which has an area of 21½ square miles, is a British possession and is noted for its valuable phosphate deposits. These deposits are controlled by the British Phosphate Commissioners who had in their employ a number of European engineers, technicians, and overseers, and a large number of laborers. The entire population consisted of 97 Europeans, approximately 800 Gilbert and Ellice Islanders, and 832 Chinese. Chinese laborers are recruited annually from Hong Kong for employment by the commissioners. A large number of Chinese, including one Tai Shek, arrived on the Island on 12 months' employment agreement, during the month of August 1948.

Some of the Chinese worked in the mining areas. Others, according to their training, were drafted to trade shops, such as electrical, carpenter, and blacksmith shops.

### ***Double Murder***

William Thomas Arthur Allen, a 49-year-old civil engineer in the employ of the British Phosphate Commissioners on Ocean Island, and his wife resided in a secluded spot on the northern side of the Island. On the morning of April 27, 1949, a native house girl, reporting for her daily duties at the Allen bungalow, found the bodies of William Allen and his wife, Isobel. Both had been stabbed to death.

The double murder was immediately reported to the government administrator of the island. He summoned the medical officer and executive members of the phosphate commission.

The body of the engineer lay on the floor near the head of his bed. That of his wife was found

approximately 40 feet away near a writing desk in the lounge. The bodies were clad in night attire. The deceased male had stab wounds in the left and right chest apart from five other wounds. The deceased female had one stab wound in the left chest, a large abdominal wound, a severed radial artery of the right wrist and four other wounds. Medical opinion was that death had occurred between 2 a. m. and 5 a. m. on April 27, 1949.

After a post-mortem examination both bodies were removed for burial. The dwelling was securely locked and placed under continuous guard. An organized search of the area resulted in the finding of a bloodstained knife in the undergrowth about 60 yards from the rear of the bungalow in the direction of the mining fields. No further investigations were carried out.

The only European police officer on the island had left on leave for New Zealand only 3 days prior to the tragedy and could not be recalled. Transport to and from the island is by ship only, at intervals, and consequently the murderer had no opportunity of escaping prior to the arrival of investigative officers. Such officers were dispatched to the island from Queensland after a request for assistance had been passed through proper authorities to the Prime Minister of Australia and had been referred to the Premier of Queensland. The Commissioner of Police at Brisbane directed that three experienced investigators be dispatched to Ocean Island. Three officers, one a fingerprint expert, departed from Brisbane by ship on April 30 and arrived at Ocean Island on May 8, 1949, 11 days after discovery of the double murder.

### ***The Initial Investigation***

The investigating officers ascertained no known motive for the crime; Mr. and Mrs. Allen were well-liked. The only exhibits preserved and turned over to the detectives were the bloodstained knife, finger and footprints of both deceased persons taken through use of an ordinary rubber

<sup>1</sup>From information supplied by Hon. J. Smith, Commissioner of Police, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.



stamp pad and sheets of writing tablet, and a bloodstained footprint which had been cut from the floor covering of the lounge of the home.

An examination of the house revealed the presence of blood on a window sill of the bedroom near the head of the bed. There was a large quantity of dried blood on the floor near the head of the bed where the body of the deceased male was found. There were blood drops on the floor covering around the bed, and bloodstained bare-feet marks, identified from the footprints produced, as those of Mrs. Allen. There were also four left bloodstained shoe prints of an unusual shape clearly imprinted on the floor covering of the bedroom. These impressions had been made by some form of footwear with a flat heel, similar to a sandshoe.

The bloodstained footprints showed that Mrs. Allen was moving around the bed in the same direction indicated by the shoe prints, suggesting that the wearer of the shoes was pursuing her around the bedroom. Footprints were plainly visible, indicating that Mrs. Allen stepped in a pool of blood near the spot where her husband was lying, and then continued on through the doorway and across the lounge, a distance of 40 feet, to the telephone near which her body was found. A trail of blood spots indicated that the victim was bleeding freely from the right wrist as she crossed the room to the telephone. The telephone receiver cord had been severed. The receiver was found on the floor near the body.

It appeared that Mr. and Mrs. Allen were awakened from their sleep and that as Mr. Allen got up to switch on the light he was attacked in the dark near the head of his bed, where he fell and died. It was obvious from the nature of his wounds that he had not moved from the spot.

It seemed likely that Mrs. Allen on hearing the scuffle, got from her bed and switched on the light. She was then set upon and sustained a deep slash to the right wrist before she fled to the telephone pursued by her assailant, who after severing the telephone cord, stabbed her to death.

The house was intact. There was nothing to suggest robbery as a motive for the killing.

Various angles of inquiry in relation to a possible motive for the crimes brought only negative results.

### ***The Suspect Weapon***

The bloodstained hand-made knife bore no fingerprints, but its construction supported to some

extent, in the early stages of investigation, the theory that the killer was a Chinese.

Ocean Island was Japanese-occupied during the last World War. On reoccupation any electrical equipment left on the island was removed to the Phosphate Commissioners' electrical shop.

It was established that the blade of the knife was made from a broken "slash knife," similar to those in use on the island for clearing undergrowth on new mining areas. The handle was made from two pieces of Japanese electrical switchboard. The knife handle was removed and the underneath portion checked for fingerprints. None were found on the bakelite material. Three rivets holding the handle in position were made from 1/4 inch copper wire. Quantities of this gage of wire were to be found around the electrical shop. Each rivet bore the marks of a vice grip imprinted in the soft metal when held for cutting. All vice grips in workshops on the island were checked. The only one corresponding with the grip marks on the copper rivets of the knife handle were located in the electrical shop.

There appeared to be no doubt that the knife was constructed in the electrical shop, but the identity of the maker could not be established.

There were three Chinese employed in the electrical shop, who occupied the same living quarters in the Chinese location as Tai Shek, and without doubt the knife was made by one of them.

It was established that there was human blood on the knife and that two small hairs adhering in blood, one on the blade near the handle and the other on the blade end of the handle, were small body hairs of the same color and size as those of the deceased male. According to the medical officer, the wounds inflicted on both victims were consistent with having been made by a knife of the length and width of blade of the suspect weapon. A hair similar to those on the knife was found adhering in blood to the severed edge of the telephone receiver cord.

### ***Narrowing List of Suspects***

Suspicion centered on 1 or more of the 14 occupants of Tai Shek's hut. The conduct records of each, together with the records of their individual employment since their arrival on the island, were checked. It was found that Tai Shek, 3 months prior to the date of the murders, had been employed temporarily as a houseboy by a neighbor of the deceased. In going to and from this



employment each day he would pass the home of the deceased couple and would have knowledge as to where the deceased resided. Other records revealed that he was a disrupter, and acted as spokesman in a couple of industrial disputes in a mining area where he was engaged and refused to work. The deceased, Mr. Allen, exercised control over all labor, and it was part of his duty to arbitrate all disputes among employees. And, in fact, on the two instances in which Tai Shek was involved, Allen was called to the mine to inquire into and settle the differences. It was ascertained that Shek expressed dissatisfaction with Allen's decisions. Shek was noted at this stage for further interrogation as a likely suspect.

### ***Other Angles***

Other avenues of investigation were being earnestly pursued as time permitted. A left-palm print was found on the window frame of the bedroom, a right-palm print on the window sill of the same window, and a thumbprint was found on the bedroom wall inside the room near the same window. Those prints could not be identified by comparison with the prints of all persons known to have visited the house within a reasonable period prior to and after the discovery of the tragedy. It was ascertained from the native house girl that she, in the pursuance of her domestic duties on the morning of April 26, 1949, had dusted the bedroom and had actually dusted down and wiped with a cloth the window sill on which the palm print was found, which was evidence that the palm print on the window sill was placed there some time during the night of the 26th or the morning of the 27th of April 1949. Having in mind that the house was securely locked after the removal of the bodies on the afternoon of the 27th of April 1949, the palm print on the window sill could have only been placed there after the dusting down on the 26th of April, and before the removal of the bodies on the 27th of April. After eliminating all those persons known to have visited the house during that period, it was decided to finger and palm print all persons above the age of 14 years on the island to establish identification of the prints. This duty was to be carried out as expeditiously as possible.

### ***Fingerprinting Procedure***

Notices printed in Chinese were circulated throughout the Chinese location, advising that the

detectives desired to obtain the finger prints of all Europeans, natives, and Chinese. The investigators visited the Chinese location at an appointed time and found numbers of Chinese waiting. From then on, no opportunity was lost in obtaining the impressions and palm prints of all Chinese on the island. Tai Shek surrendered himself to be printed with a number of other Chinese on May 19, 1949. He was closely scrutinized when he came forward to be printed, inasmuch as he was an occupant of Hut 39 in which the three Chinese electrical shop employees also lived. All details as to the size and make of his footwear were obtained. He showed no outward sign of nervousness at the time and was not interrogated because of the number of other persons waiting to be fingerprinted.

In all, the finger and palm prints of 97 Europeans, 832 Chinese, and 607 natives were taken. The size and make of footwear of all Chinese were checked during this process.

### ***Suspect's Prints Identified***

From the collection of finger and palm prints delivered to him, the fingerprint expert identified the left-palm print of Tai Shek with the palm print found on the window frame of the Allen home. He found Tai Shek's right-palm print to be identical with the palm print on the sill of the window in question and his right thumbprint was identical with the thumbprint found just inside the widow on the bedroom wall. The native girl viewed Shek and was positive that he had not visited the home during her period of duty on April 26, 1949, which pointed to the fact that Shek had visited there and had entered the bedroom on the night the murder was committed.

A facsimile of the left, bloodstained shoe mark found in the bedroom was made by utilizing X-ray film which had been treated to give it transparency. The film was superimposed over the bloodstained footprint and an exact tracing was made, using India ink. Photography at this stage was out of the question as film supplies had become exhausted and the officers had to resort to the use of X-ray film cut to size, for use in the fingerprint camera.

On interrogation, Tai Shek denied the commission of the crimes, denied that he knew where the deceased lived, denied that he had ever visited or entered the house, and, in fact, denied that the palm and thumbprints were his. He continued



to maintain this attitude, even throughout his trial.

### *Additional Evidence*

The shoes which Tai Shek was wearing when he was detained were sandshoes which he had purchased in Hong Kong. These were compared with bloodstained impressions in the bedroom. They had the same characteristics. The soles of the shoes were inked with fingerprint ink and excellent impressions were obtained when Shek walked on pieces of foolscap paper as directed.

The drawing of the bloodstained print on the transparent film, when superimposed over the ink impression of Shek's left sandshoe, corresponded in detail, shape, and size. This proved a valuable exhibit in conjunction with the fingerprint evidence available. In addition, tests applied by the medical officer revealed the presence of blood in Shek's left shoe and in both shoelaces.

The evidence amassed was sufficient to place Tai Shek on trial on a charge of murder.

The Crown case was constructed entirely on circumstantial evidence. The preliminary hearing took place at Ocean Island and the accused was committed for trial to the Supreme Court of Suva. The voyage to Suva from Ocean Island with the prisoner, Crown witnesses, and exhibits, occupied 8 days.

### *Evidence at Trial*

In the course of the 6-day trial the investigating officers tendered the floor covering from the bedroom bearing the bloodstained shoe print, the drawing made of the bloodstained mark, the ink impressions of Shek's left sandshoe, and the left sandshoe. The exhibits were carefully scrutinized, compared, and accepted. The method of producing this evidence, in the opinion of the investigators, was more conclusive than it would have been by the use of photographs. The judge and his aides were afforded the opportunity to superimpose one exhibit over the other to satisfy themselves that Shek's left shoe impression corresponded exactly with the left blood-stained shoe mark in the bedroom.

At the conclusion of the trial, Tai Shek was found guilty of murder and sentenced to death. He appealed against his conviction and sentence, and the Court of Criminal Appeal at Suva, in December last dismissed his appeal. He asked leave to appeal to the Privy Council of England.

This leave was refused. Stay of execution was granted when Tai Shek's counsel produced allegedly further evidence on the case. That evidence was considered by His Excellency, the Governor in Council, who, after consideration, ordered the sentence of death to stand. Information was received from the Office of the Commissioner of Police, Suva, Fiji, to the effect that Tai Shek was executed on May 31, 1950.

### *Summary*

In a brief recapitulation of the crime, it appeared that Shek visited the Allen home in the dead of night with the express intention of slaying both victims while they slept. It was customary on the island for doors and windows to be left open at night. The palm print on the window frame was placed in such a position that it indicated Shek had crept surreptitiously along the veranda to the bedroom window and placed his palm on the window frame to steady himself while peering in the window at the sleeping couple. The right palm on the window sill, only 2 feet from the floor, suggested that it was placed there as Shek was gaining entrance to the bedroom through the window, and the right thumbprint, which was on the bedroom wall just inside of the window, was apparently placed there as the intruder straightened up immediately he gained entrance to the room. The head of the bed was parallel to, and only 3 feet inside the window, and Shek, once inside of the room, would be within striking distance of his male victim as the latter got from his bed.

It could not be established whether any other Chinese were involved in the killings. The circumstances suggested that only one knife was used on both victims and that the knife was wielded by the same person. It would appear most unlikely, with the quick succession of events—the stabbing of the deceased male, the slashing of the deceased female in the bedroom, her flight to the telephone, the slashing of the telephone cord, and the final attack on the woman—that the knife would change hands.

The palm and fingerprint evidence was the strong point in the Crown case. There were 38 points of identity in the palm print on the window sill with Shek's right palm; 34 points of identity in the palm print on the window frame with Shek's left palm; and 15 points of identity in the thumbprint in the bedroom with Shek's right thumb. As a further means of convincing the court, not so



conversant with the acceptance of palm-print and fingerprint evidence, evidence was tendered of the mass palm and fingerprinting of all residents in the island over the age of 14 years, and that a comparison of all prints taken showed that there were no others, apart from those of Shek, bearing similarity to the exhibit prints.

The late arrival of the investigators—11 days after the discovery of the tragedy—was a decided disadvantage. The passage of time closed many avenues of investigation, and possible clues, no doubt available immediately following the crime, were lost to the detectives. Fortunately the decision to lock and guard the scene of the crime precluded any suggestion that the prints were placed in the house at some subsequent time when the accused visited the house as a spectator.

Adding to the difficulty was the fact that all interviews and interrogations of Chinese and natives were conducted through interpreters. The only Chinese interpreter was in sympathy with his countrymen and it was suspected that he was communicating the activities of the officers to the Chinese community. It was learned that the interpreter donated a substantial sum toward Shek's defense.

No motives for the crimes could be adduced by investigators but it was believed that the murders were an act of terrorism. It could not be visualized by the police that any difference of opinion arising from the industrial disputes, in which Shek was involved and in which Allen acted as arbiter, would provoke Shek to murder.

Investigations, traveling to the scene of crime, attending court, and returning to Australia, occupied a period of 132 days, during which time 14,000 miles were traveled by sea and by air. The result was a wealth of experience gained by the investigators and a satisfactory conclusion to the case.

## ***Victims Identified***

On July 13, 1950, an Air Force plane crashed near Lebanon, Ohio. All personnel assigned to the plane were killed.

The fingerprints of five bodies, together with the list of service personnel on the plane, were brought to the FBI Identification Division on July 17, 1950. The prints had been secured from hands and fingers, particles of which had been immersed in embalming fluid prior to the taking of finger-

prints. The deltas were wrinkled as a consequence, and the problem of securing clear prints was complicated by the fact that no spoon type equipment was available.

When comparisons were made in the Single Fingerprint Section of the FBI, the fingerprints of the five unknown victims were promptly identified.

## ***Would-be Suicide Identified***

The Police Department, Clinton, Okla., submitted to the FBI on June 8, 1950, the fingerprints of a man who had tried to commit suicide in that city. The unknown man had registered at a hotel under the name John Graham, Weatherford, Okla. Authorities found no luggage, packages, or material of any kind in the man's room. No identification of any kind was found.

The man refused to eat. He was examined by doctors and pronounced sane and in good health. Asked if he wanted to be sent to an institution, the unknown answered that he did not care where he went.

Meanwhile, the fingerprint card bearing the name "John Graham" was identified in the FBI files with the fingerprint record of a man who bore an entirely different name and whose police record dates back to January 16, 1918, when he had been arrested for forgery in Colorado Springs, Colo., for which he was sentenced to serve 3 to 5 years in the State penitentiary, Canon City, Colo. The record revealed that the man had utilized at least eight aliases; that his wife resided in Dallas, Tex.; and that he had been arrested on additional charges of forgery and gambling.

## ***Amnesia Victim Identified***

The fingerprints of a young woman who had been picked up as an amnesia victim by the police department, Galveston, Tex. on March 23, 1950, were submitted to the FBI.

A search of the Identification Division files reflected that the fingerprints of the victim were identical with those of a girl whose noncriminal record revealed her as an applicant for employment with the Auxiliary Aircraft Warning Service, connected with the United States Army Information Center. She had been fingerprinted on March 12, 1942, by the Regional Signal Office, United States Army, Albany, N. Y.



# IDENTIFICATION

## **Introduction**

Criminal identification is indispensable in combating lawbreakers. It is a potent factor in the apprehension of fugitives who might otherwise escape arrest. It supplies the prosecutor with information concerning the background of the accused. It gives the judiciary information concerning previous convictions with the resultant imposition of more equitable sentences.

The Identification Division of the FBI was established by Congress in 1924 to serve as the central repository for the arrest data submitted by law-enforcement agencies in the United States. The facilities of the Identification Division of the FBI are available to all duly constituted law enforcement agencies. In order for law enforcement to utilize these services to the fullest degree, an understanding of the operations of the division is necessary. It is with this thought in mind that

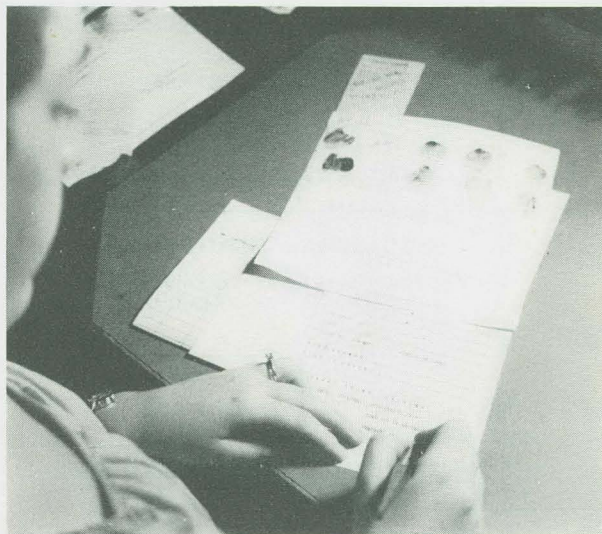


*Recording current fingerprint card after examination.*

## **FBI Identification Division Services and Procedures**

this and subsequent articles on the Identification Division are being published.

At the present time 12,168 agencies contribute fingerprints to the FBI. These fingerprints arrive in a stream of approximately 12,000 each work day. Because of the large volume, a production line method of handling, with minimum variation in procedure, is necessary.



*Recording of special handling, wire answer, fingerprint card.*

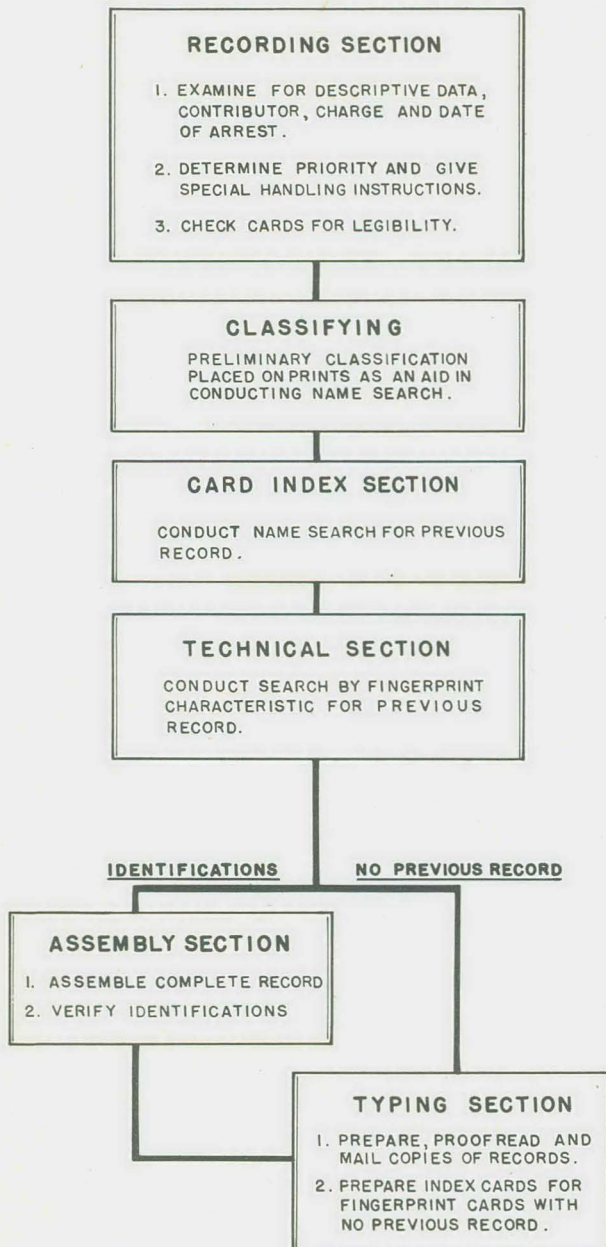
The accompanying chart diagrams the handling of a fingerprint card through the various processes in the Identification Division. The detailed functions of each section will be discussed in subsequent articles.

## **Recording Section**

The functions of the Recording Section of the Identification Division of the FBI consist of the examination and tabulation of fingerprint cards received; the return of illegible or incomplete cards; the check of finger impressions for legibility; and the responsibility for establishing the priority and searching procedure in individual cases.



## HANDLING OF INCOMING FINGERPRINT CARDS IN FBI IDENTIFICATION DIVISION



Mail forwarded in the standard fingerprint envelope furnished by the FBI is delivered direct to the Identification Division. Therefore, it is suggested that this envelope be used for both regular and special delivery mail.

All incoming fingerprint cards from the more than 12,000 regular contributors are first handled in the Recording Section.

Since each fingerprint card is handled as an individual case through the steps shown in the flow-of-work chart above, it is essential that the com

plete name and proper address of the law-enforcement agency be placed on each fingerprint card

### *Complete Information*

In addition, contributors are urged to furnish complete information concerning the subject's description; date and place of birth; charge and date of arrest; and FBI number when known. This information is essential in order to properly index these records for future reference.

Previous articles in the March and May 1950, issues of the Law Enforcement Bulletin have covered in detail the type of fingerprint card to use. Adherence to these suggestions is essential in order that proper handling can be afforded the fingerprint card.

After a fingerprint card has been checked for the information set out above, it is assigned a priority, stamped with the date of receipt and forwarded through the Division for search and answer.

When a law-enforcement agency requests a telegraphic reply or other special handling, such as additional copies of the record, notations to this effect should be placed directly on the reverse side of the fingerprint card.

### *Data From Foreign Countries*

Since 1932 the FBI has provided to its contributors a service in obtaining criminal data from foreign countries.

In requesting a search in foreign countries, the contributor should submit fingerprint cards in duplicate. A copy is transmitted to the foreign country and a second copy is retained in the files of the FBI. It is helpful to most foreign agencies to submit complete background data on the individual, including given names of parents, mother's maiden name, subject's last known place of residence in the foreign country, date and place of birth, date and place of baptism, and the names of relatives presently residing in the foreign country. At the present time, 81 countries and territories of the United States are cooperating with the FBI in the International Exchange Service.

The Recording Section also handles all requests for fingerprint cards, envelopes, and related identification material. To facilitate the ordering of supplies, a blank has been added as the front page of the insert which is regularly forwarded with the Law Enforcement Bulletin.



## MISCELLANEOUS

At approximately noon on June 18, 1949, the body of Walter Hempel, real-estate operator at Lake Tahoe, Nev., was found in his 1946 Packard four-door sedan, which was parked about 1 mile north of Crystal Bay, Lake Tahoe. The car was in Washoe County, Nev., and Deputy Sheriffs William J. Driscoll, George Cockreil, and A. T. MacCarter arrived at the scene about 1 p. m. after a fast drive from Reno, Nev.

A preliminary examination revealed that the body was on the floor board of the car in a sitting position with the back against the right front door. Blood was observed on the back of the seat and on the seat proper. The victim's head was on the right side of the front seat and blood was observed around the mouth and under the nose.



*Deputy Sheriff William J. Driscoll.*

## **Law Enforcement Teams Up To Catch Killer**

Before anything was touched, the scene was thoroughly photographed by Driscoll. Thereafter, the body was removed and the victim's clothing checked. Due to a large crowd of onlookers having gathered, further examination of the body was deferred and it was removed to a mortuary in Reno.

An exhaustive search of the crime scene was disappointing. The only tangible evidence found was an empty .22 caliber cartridge case which was found on the front floor board in a pool of blood. On the seat, also in a pool of blood, was a paper sack containing two breakfast rolls. Since no blood was on the sack itself, it was concluded that the sack had been placed there after the victim's body had been placed on the floor boards. No latent fingerprints were found on the car, and no footprints in the dirt in the area were located.

The car was removed to a safe place, and the officers returned to Reno where Driscoll made a further examination of the victim's body. It was observed that the victim's tie had been untied and re-tied in a common or granny knot with the knot over the left side of the jugular vein. About 11½ inches to the rear of the right eye a blood spot was located and a probe placed in this spot was inserted into the head for 4½ inches, indicating a probable bullet wound. No exit spot for a bullet could be located.

An autopsy was ordered and on June 19 was performed by Dr. Lawrence Parsons, autopsy surgeon for Washoe County. A .22-caliber bullet was found in the victim's head, and it was determined that this bullet had caused death. The tie knotted around the victim's neck did not cause strangulation, and it was theorized that it had been placed there to try and stop the bleeding. It was estimated that death had occurred about 9:30 p. m. on the preceding evening.

### ***The Investigation***

One of the first investigative steps in the west coast area is to issue an all-points bulletin which goes to all law-enforcement agencies in that area which have teletype equipment. The information





*Detective Sergeant James Franklin.*

is then relayed by radio to mobile units throughout the section. Full available details of this case were sent in an all-points bulletin and law-enforcement officers were alerted in an effort to identify the subject with some other crime, and in an effort to check all .22-caliber guns used in any crimes in the west coast States. As a result of this bulletin, numerous persons having .22-caliber guns were checked, but in all instances the suspects were eliminated.

Meanwhile, deputy sheriffs were conducting an intensive inquiry in the vicinity of Crystal Bay for persons who may have seen Hempel with some one on the previous evening. The investigation was complicated because the evening of June 17 happened to be the opening night for Cal-Neva Lodge and literally thousands of people had been in that vicinity that evening. However, several persons were located who had seen Hempel at dinner at the lodge and had observed that the person in charge of the dining room had seated another man at Hempel's table. This person was also observed leaving the dining room with Hempel and, in fact, Hempel had told a saleswoman

for him, that since he had not had much success selling lakeshore lots in the daytime, he was going to "show 'Mac' a couple of lots by moonlight." He did not, however, introduce "Mac" to this lady. A composite description of the suspect was obtained from the persons interviewed, which indicated that "Mac" was about 30, 5 feet 11 inches, 135 pounds, dark complexioned, and wore green glasses. A John Doe complaint was filed on June 20, 1949, charging first-degree murder.

### ***New Lead***

The preliminary investigation had almost reached a stalemate when on July 8, 1949, Detective Sergeant James Franklin of the Reno Police Department received confidential information which led to a 1949 four-door Mercury sedan bearing a Texas license and registered to M. J. Donnelly.

Police learned that Donnelly had stayed at a Reno hotel and had registered under the name of Savage. Other investigation identified Donnelly as the perpetrator of the crime.

### ***Parolee Apprehended***

With the above information, an immediate search for Donnelly, alias Savage, was instituted, and FBI assistance was requested under the unlawful flight to avoid prosecution statute. A complaint was filed at Reno, Nev., on July 18, 1949, charging Donnelly with a violation of this statute, and the Houston Division of the FBI was alerted. Two days later Donnelly was taken into custody by FBI agents when he reported to a parole officer in Houston, inasmuch as he was on parole from the Louisiana State Penitentiary.

Driscoll and Franklin departed immediately for Houston and Donnelly was removed to the Washoe County Jail. Donnelly would not give the officers much information but did make certain admissions which had a definite bearing upon subsequent developments. He admitted that he had been with Hempel at the Cal-Neva Lodge, but claimed that he had left Hempel in the parking lot of the Lodge. He also gave the officers his itinerary after leaving Reno, and said he had gone to Los Angeles, Calif.; Yuma, Ariz.; Houston, Tex.; Atlanta, Ga.; New York City, and back to Houston.

Driscoll immediately contacted officers in all cities Donnelly admitted visiting, requesting pawn shop checks, and checks of hotel registrations. These leads, even though they first appeared to be long shots, paid dividends. Sgt. George R. Stoner, Los Angeles Police Department robbery



detail, after 3 days of intensive investigation, had found several pawned .22 caliber Hi-Standard Military Model pistols (this was the type of gun authorities had been advised that Donnely, alias Savage, had in his possession). One of these had been pawned by one Gene Savage.

Driscoll made a flying trip to Los Angeles. He obtained the gun, a holster, and belt pawned with the gun, and the pawn ticket which had been signed by Gene Savage.

### Laboratory Identification

This evidence, together with the hotel registration card from the hotel in Reno and handwriting specimens of Donnely, was sent to the FBI Laboratory. The bullet removed from the victim's head was too mutilated for comparison, but the laboratory was able to make a positive identification of the empty cartridge case found in Hempel's car with one fired from the gun pawned in Los Angeles. This identification was effected through firing-pin markings.

The laboratory was also able to identify the handwriting on the pawn ticket and on the hotel registration card as being Donnely's handwriting.

The case went to trial in District Court, Reno, on October 25, 1949. A jury returned a verdict of guilty to first-degree murder but recommended life imprisonment. Under Nevada law, the death penalty is not possible when such a recommendation by the jury is made. Donnely was sentenced to life imprisonment on November 29, 1949.

### Unknown Dead

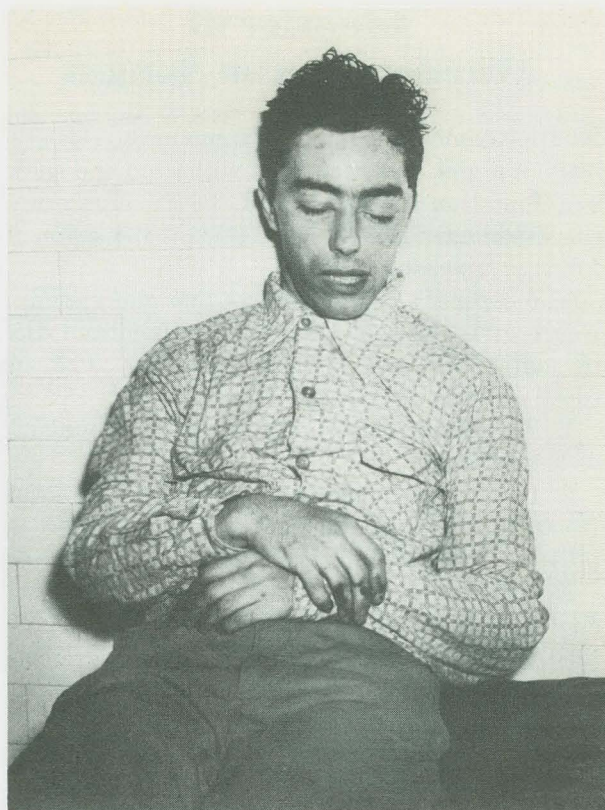
The body of an unidentified white man, a bullet hole through his head, was found in a patch of woods near the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad in New Rochelle, N. Y., on May 1, 1950.

A Fabrique D'Armes de Guerre automatic, caliber 7.65, serial 8707, with a clip of five bullets and one empty shell, was found near the body. Investigation led to the conclusion that the death was a suicide.

Identity of the dead man could not be established. The unknown is described as follows:

Age—21 to 25 years; race—white; height—5 feet two inches; weight—125 pounds; hair—black; nationality—apparently Spanish; teeth—two removal bridges upper and lower jaws; fingerprint classification—

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*Unknown dead.*

Clothes found on the body: reversible tan rain-coat; light gray Navy trousers; brown checkered sport shirt; brown belt; blue socks with red and white stripes; brown oxford shoes. The clothes were new and of the kind usually sold by Army and Navy stores. They had never been laundered or cleaned.

#### 2. Index finger



Enlargement of the Right Index Finger of the above Unknown Deceased White Male.

Any information which might serve to aid in the identification of this unknown deceased should be transmitted immediately to Walter Kirchoff, Chief of Police, New Rochelle, N. Y.



## **Identity of Murder Victim Sought**

At approximately 8 p. m. on January 30, 1950, the body of a girl, partly covered with sand and snow, was found on the beach of Lake Michigan near the Michigan State Park, north of Muskegon in Laketon Township.

The coroner's report reflects that the victim, a Negro girl, had been sexually assaulted and died by suffocation and internal bleeding. The autopsy set forth the causes of death:

1. Sexual assault with vaginal tear and evidence of hemorrhage.

2. Blood clot congestion in area back of head, fracture of five ribs on left side due to extreme pressure. Suffocation may also have been a factor.

It was estimated that in mild weather death may have occurred 3 weeks prior to January 30, 1950, and in the case of more severe weather death may have occurred at least 2 months prior to the time of discovery of the corpse.

The victim has not been identified. At the time the body was discovered, the following items were located: A brown moccasin sport oxford, size 6B; blue jeans, 28-inch waist; white athletic socks; "T" shirt with horizontal green and white stripes. The victim was wearing a cheap, silver colored ring with six stones in it on the ring finger of her left hand. The width of the ring was three-sixteenths of an inch.

Investigation revealed that the shoes found on the dead girl were made by the Endicott Shoe Co. at Endicott, N. Y., on March 25, 1949, and shipped in March of 1949 to the Kostel Shoe Co. of East Chicago, Ind. It is possible that the clothing was purchased in Gary, Ind., inasmuch as shoes bearing the same serial number and in the same sequence were located in one of the Kostel Shoe Co. branch stores in Gary, Ind.

The unknown murder victim is described as follows: Age—approximately 16 (not definitely established, appears to be older); height—5 feet 5 inches; weight—115 pounds; build—medium; race—Negro; complexion—light brown; hair—black, kinky; waist—25 inches; bust—34 inches; remarks—victim shows no evidence of ever having had an operation of any kind and apparently never bore children. No dental work of any kind was detected and the teeth appeared to be perfect.

The Muskegon County Sheriff's Office and the Michigan State Police have conducted investiga-

tions in the following cities to no avail as far as the identity of the unknown is concerned: Chicago, Ill.; East Chicago, Whiting, Hammond, Gary, and Indianapolis, Ind.; Owensboro, Ky.; Milwaukee, Wis.; South Haven, Grand Rapids, Saginaw, Flint, Detroit, and Bay City, Mich.

It is requested that the records of missing persons be checked to determine if anyone fitting the general description of this unknown victim has been reported missing.

Any information in connection with this unknown murder victim should be transmitted immediately to Axel Pedersen, Sheriff of Muskegon County, Muskegon, Mich.

## **Rapist Hunted**

On June 2, 1950, at approximately 2:30 p. m. an unknown individual approached three young girls, one 9 and two 10 years of age, who were playing in the school playground at Kansas, Ill. He inquired of the girls directions to a second school in Kansas, and enticed the girls to accompany him in his car for the purpose of locating the school. With all three girls in the car, he proceeded to an isolated wooded area some 3 miles north of Kansas. En route the girls protested, requesting that they be allowed to leave the car, and the unknown subject threatened them with a knife.

Upon arrival at the wooded area, the man directed the three girls to remove their clothing; however, two of the girls refused and the third complied. The unknown subject instructed the two girls who had refused to undress to stand in the front seat facing the windshield, and then attacked the other girl, 10 years of age, on the rear seat. The unknown subject then shoved the three girls from the car and drove away. The girls walked to a farmhouse approximately a mile away and summoned aid.

The attacked girl was badly bruised and torn. She required a doctor's care for a month.

No tireprints or footprints were located by the Sheriff due to rain immediately after the assault; however, his investigation reflected the following description concerning the automobile and the unknown subject.

### **Car**

Believed to be 1935-1939, tudor, Plymouth, grey in color and dirty. Single windows in front doors, glove compartment on right side dash, speedometer in front of steering wheel, and purple and white



shift knob. Five open holes in dash; formerly equipped with radio; no aerial at time of attack. Bright red, blue, and green seat covers, no taillight, and foggy rear window. On the ash tray on the right arm rest of rear seat was hanging key chain with "V" on it.

### **Unknown Subject**

Age—approximately 30 years; height—5 feet 11 inches; weight—165 pounds; hair—black, slicked down; complexion—dark or medium; nose—pointed; mouth—large, with ugly yellow teeth; appearance—tall and thin, but full faced; scars and marks—mole or wart on lobe left ear, and mashed thumb on left hand; remarks—wore grey or khaki cotton work shirt and an identification bracelet on the left wrist. A \$100 reward for the arrest and conviction of the above-described unknown subject has been authorized by the Edgar County Board, Paris, Ill.

Any information concerning similar *modus operandi* or a person answering the description of the unknown subject should be forwarded immediately to Sheriff Allen Crable, Edgar County, Paris, Ill.

## **Charred Paper Traps Bookmaker**

On October 26, 1949, officers of the Baltimore County Police Department searched a building suspected of being a "front" for a bookmaking establishment. While the officers were trying to gain entrance, one of the suspected "bookies" burned some papers in a furnace in the basement of the building. The charred fragments of the papers were removed from the furnace by the officers and submitted to the FBI Laboratory, with a request that they be examined to determine whether they contained any information relating to bookmaking.

The charred papers were treated with moisture to make them more pliable, mounted between sheets of glass, and infrared photographs were made. Several pieces were found to contain handwriting consisting of the names of some race horses, in addition to figures listing the odds for bets on those horses. The names developed were found to correspond to the names of race horses listed on a "scratch sheet" for October 26, 1949.

A laboratory examiner was called on to testify at the trial of this case, and all four defendants were found guilty. They received fines of \$2,000 each and jail sentences of 2 years, the maximum sentences provided by Maryland law.

## **New Field of Endeavor**

Twenty-two years of police work were admirable preparation for the job in which Walter Lamar Prater now serves the people of Tallahassee, Fla. As city recreational supervisor and city juvenile officer, the former chief of police, who resigned his position in 1949, is laboring in a field which is dear to his heart.

During his long years of faithful service as a law enforcement officer, Walter Prater developed an abiding interest in juvenile delinquency and related problems. His hobby of woodwork and handicraft led him into a field which virtually transformed him into a spare-time Santa Claus. Many of Tallahassee's needy children found their Christmas brightened by the small tables, chairs, doll beds, carts, etc., which came from Walter Prater's woodwork shop.

If past activity can be used as a standard, there can be little doubt that the former officer brings a progressive viewpoint to his work as recreational supervisor and juvenile officer. It was during his tenure as ranking officer of the local law enforcement agency that a police training school was set up, a new radio network for the police department was installed, and several prowler cars completely equipped with two-way radios were acquired.

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## **Social Security Information**

The Social Security Administration will make information in connection with deceased persons, such as next of kin, place of birth, etc., available to any Federal, State, or local law-enforcement agency. Such information is available only with respect to deceased persons and is given in order to assist in the location of next of kin, identification of the dead, and appropriate arrangements for disposal of the body.

Essential information in connection with deceased persons may be obtained by addressing an inquiry to the Social Security Administration, Baltimore, Md.



# CRIME PREVENTION

## Safety Patrol and Police Make Good Team

Chief of Police William J. Brunner, Guttenberg, N. J., began to work with children in 1932 when he was a sergeant in the police department. The results of his efforts are reflected in many ways throughout the city.

Guttenberg has a population of approximately 6,800 people. It covers about 16 acres in a very densely populated area across the Hudson River from New York City. It would not be surprising if the juvenile delinquency rate in Guttenberg were extremely high. The fact that it is extraordinarily low is by no means an accident.

A State law in New Jersey requires that each school have a safety patrol. So, back in 1932, Sergeant Brunner, in cooperation with the school principal, organized a Safety Patrol for Guttenberg. Baseball and basketball teams were organized among non-Safety Patrol members on the same occasion. The patrol group was financed initially through a card party. Money raised at the event enabled the patrol to carry on its activities until 1946 when a sport show and father-and-son night were held. Outstanding sports personalities, most notable of whom was James J. Braddock, former world's heavyweight champion and close personal friend of Chief Brunner, attended. Money raised at this event is presently financing the group.



*The 1948 Safety Patrol. Chief Brunner appears at the left.*

The Safety Patrol of which Chief Brunner is sponsor consists of boys and girls who are selected on the basis of their scholastic averages. Participation is voluntary. The girls serve close to the school, guarding steps. The boys serve at street intersections surrounding the school.

Chief Brunner has organized baseball and basketball teams among the Safety Patrol members. These groups play under his supervision in the afternoon and evening. In the summer, when the baseball activities are in progress, the Safety Patrol boys and girls are taken on an all-day outing, replete with ball playing and swimming. On one occasion the Safety Patrol girls were given a trip to Trenton, the State Capital, to Philadelphia, Pa., and to Asbury Park, N. J.



*The 1947 Stickball Champs.*

Chief Brunner also sponsors basketball and baseball teams for boys and girls who are not members of the Safety Patrol. These children are not limited to those attending the public school, nor to residents of Guttenberg, although participation of nonresidents is not encouraged. The afternoon league, the "Midgets," includes children up to 85 pounds. The non-Safety Patrol children are also organized into a night league which has



junior, intermediate, and senior sections.

Quite recently a basketball team from the Midget group played a demonstration game between halves of a college game in Madison Square Garden before 18,000 spectators. The Midgets, who were wearing brand new uniforms for the first time, found that their opponents from Lincoln Recreation in Harlem had on identical uniforms. A toss of the coin determined which of the two teams would change and the Midgets discarded their gleaming new regalia to play in borrowed uniforms.

The baseball and basketball teams organized among the Safety Patrol members remain together as clubs upon graduation from grade school and continue to engage in baseball and basketball under the sponsorship of Brunner long after they have left the Guttenberg grade school.

Twice weekly, during the summer months, Chief Brunner sponsors evening stick ball games in the school yard. These are followed by motion pictures. The stick ball is organized into midgets, juniors, intermediates, and seniors. Adults as well as children attend the events and it is not at all unusual to find men playing in the seniors who have children playing in the midgets.

In his work among the children, Chief Brunner has received excellent cooperation from both Robert Sabello, the director of recreation for Guttenberg, and Anna Klein, the grade school principal. The director of recreation, a former Safety Patrol member, assists in supervising the various teams which play in the evenings. The school principal advises of any misbehavior on the part of Safety Patrol members who are disciplined by temporary removal from participation in Safety Patrol activities.

Whenever possible Chief Brunner has various team members assemble in the police station to proceed to whatever event is in the offing. This is to make the police station a familiar place to the children and to promote friendship between them and the police officers. Some athletic equipment is maintained at the station. This can be utilized by the children whenever they wish merely by coming after it. The purpose of this also is to promote friendship between the children and officers. The chief has officers escort children to their homes if they return late in the evening from athletic events, not only because of the safety factor but because it also is an excellent method of building confidence and friendship.



*En route to Yankee Stadium for a baseball game. Chief Brunner escorts the 1948 Safety Patrol, Guttenberg, N. J.*

Chief Brunner is known by sight to all the children in Guttenberg. Even the smallest children wave to him and greet him on the street. When he was hospitalized in 1948, the chief received approximately 500 cards and letters from children and their parents. The walls of his office are covered with photographs of the various teams of boys and girls whom he has sponsored. Between 200 and 300 children are presently engaging in activities under Chief Brunner's sponsorship.

## ***Gulf Victim Identified***

The body of an unknown white man was recovered from the Gulf of Mexico on May 16, 1950. The department of public safety in Austin, Tex., submitted a partial set of the deceased's fingerprints to the FBI together with the information that a man, believed to be the unknown, was washed overboard from a ship in the Gulf of Mexico on or about May 13, 1950. It was believed that this person, possibly identical with the deceased, had at one time worked for a drydock company in Seattle, Wash., and had been fingerprinted there.

The partial set of fingerprints was searched through the files and identified with those of an individual who had been fingerprinted by the company in Seattle on May 21, 1942. The file also carried fingerprint cards reflecting arrests for disorderly conduct and assault in the third degree, together with fingerprint records submitted with applications for employment.





The delta for this loop is placed at "D" because of the rule that where there is a choice between a bifurcation and another type of delta, the bifurcation is selected. It is necessary to reference this loop to a tented arch for two reasons. First, the line between delta and core must always cross a white space between the delta and the first ridge count.

This pattern just meets that requirement and if it did not there would be no ridge count. Second, in another printing of this same finger a change in pressure might cause the appendage between the shoulders to strike at a right angle, spoiling the single recurve. This loop is given a ridge count of one and the pattern is referenced to a tented arch.