

WORK AND FUNCTIONS OF THE DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

Get new chart from Harbo and insert

(Entitled "Reporting Area and Population Represented 1930 - 1933 - Uniform
Crime Reports")

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

March 20, 1934.

Technical Laboratory

~~THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TECHNICAL LABORATORY
IN THE DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION~~

Handwritten: Hunt Page 13

In the latter part of the year 1932 the Division of Investigation, United States Department of Justice, established a Technical Laboratory to perform work of a scientific character, which might prove of assistance in its investigative cases. Previously, it had been customary in instances considered desirable for the Division to have technical experts outside its organization to make scientific analyses. The importance and growth of this phase of the Division's investigative activity and the desirability of having the work under its close supervision led to the conclusion that the establishment of a Technical Laboratory was essential.

The development of the Laboratory has been carefully planned by the Division with the assistance and advice of Dr. Wilmer Souder, a well-known and recognized authority in the field of scientific endeavor. Dr. Souder, who is at present acting in an advisory capacity in the further development of the Laboratory, has been engaged as a scientist by the Bureau of Standards for a period of eighteen years and has devoted the principal portion of his time to handwriting, typewriting and ballistics identification. His advice and experience have rendered invaluable service to the Division in the training of the laboratory personnel and in obtaining equipment which is considered the most desirable and essential for the performance of its work.

Some of the instruments used in the technical work include the comparison microscope, in which the images of two separate bullets are brought within a single eyepiece for comparison; the binocular microscope which uses low magnification for the examination of handwriting, typewriting and other specimens with which it is an advantage to utilize the stereoscopic principle; the research microscope which enables magnification up to 1400 times to be obtained; the ultra-violet lamp for the examination of the fluorescent and phosphorescent appearances of objects and substances through which they may be identified; special cameras for photographing specimens; chemical apparatus for the examination of blood stains, qualitative and quantitative analyses; delicate balances, and similar instruments.

At the present, examinations are made in the Laboratory of documents or letters to determine the identity of the typewriting or the handwriting appearing thereon, the existence of watermarks and any other information which may prove helpful in the investigation of the case. In addition, ballistics is considered an important phase of the scientific work and comparisons are made whenever the occasion demands of bullets and exploded shells. Moulage is another feature which the Laboratory is equipped to

undertake. This consists of the making of casts of parts of the human body and these casts are frequently of value in the trial of a case to show the exact location of the wound or for identification purposes. Micro-analyses of hairs and fibres are likewise considered as an essential and important part of the technical duties, and chemical analyses of stains including blood tests are performed from time to time.

At this time considerable Laboratory research is being conducted. Further there are being obtained complete collections of watermarks, tire tread patterns, bullets, cartridges and powders and typewriting specimens to assist in the performance of the Laboratory examinations as outlined above. These standard specimens will be located in the Laboratory and will be made available to all law enforcement officials desiring to utilize them.

CT:ACS

June 22, 1934.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LESTER.

① F. B. I.

Please bring up to date the attached memorandum dated February 1, 1934 entitled "The Division of Investigation", as of July 1, 1934.

It is suggested that this memorandum be brought up to date when statistical information covering the fiscal year 1934 has been compiled.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Enclosure.

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RECORDED

FILES SECTION
MAILED
★ JUN 22 1934 ★
F. B. I.
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
JUN 23 1934 P.M.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FILE

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

Room 420 5/7 1934.

To: _____ Director
_____ Mr. Nathan
_____ Mr. Tolson
_____ Mr. Edwards
_____ Mr. Clegg
_____ Mr. Egan
_____ Mr. Harbo
_____ Mr. Renneberger
_____ Miss Gandy
_____  *b6*
_____ *b7c*
_____ Chief, Unit
✓ _____ Files Section
_____ Supervisor, Steno. Pool.
_____ Supervisor
_____ Mr.

*Files copies
of new memo*

W. H. D. Lester.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

July 25, 1934.

0 F. B. I.

THE DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

The Division of Investigation has the responsibility of investigating offenses against the laws of the United States and collecting evidence in cases in which the United States is or may be a party, and possesses primary investigative jurisdiction of those offenses against the laws of the United States not specifically assigned by Congressional enactment to other Governmental agencies for investigation.

This Division does not investigate violations of the Narcotic Laws, Smuggling, Counterfeiting, Immigration Laws, and certain other miscellaneous statutes.

Among the most generally known violations investigated by the Division of Investigation are the following:

Bankruptcy Act; Antitrust Laws; National Bank and Federal Reserve Acts; Crimes on the High Seas and on Indian and Government Reservations; Frauds Against the Government; Impersonation; Peonage; Theft of Government Property; Bribery of Government Officers; Espionage; Escaped Federal Prisoners; Killing or Assaulting Federal Officers; Robbery of National Banks

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107 JUL 27 1964

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or Member Banks of the Federal Reserve System; Crimes in connection with Federal, Penal and Correctional Institutions; Neutrality Laws; Perjury; Pardon, Parole and Probation Matters; and certain violations involving interstate or foreign transportation, including the National Motor Vehicle Theft Act, known as the Dyer Act; White Slave Traffic Act, known as the Mann Act; Kidnaping; Extortion; The National Stolen Property Act; Flight to Avoid Prosecution or Testifying in Certain Cases; Federal Anti-Racketeering Statute; and Thefts from Interstate Shipments. In addition to the above criminal statutes the Division is called upon to investigate a large number of civil matters including the defense of War Risk Insurance Suits.

Organization

It requires a comprehensive organization to investigate such a large number of important Federal crimes throughout the United States, Hawaii, and Alaska. In order to perform its work most expeditiously and economically, the Division has offices in thirty cities located throughout the United States. Its investigative activities are not limited by State boundary lines. A Special Agent in Charge has charge of each of its respective

offices which covers a definite geographic area. As occasion requires, the number of employees assigned to each office varies with the amount of work to be performed. For instance, if the number of cases in the territory covered by the Jacksonville, Florida, Office is comparatively few, while the number of cases covered by the New York Office is unusually large, employees may be shifted from Jacksonville to the New York Office, or from Portland to Philadelphia, or from New Orleans to San Francisco, as the occasion demands.

That is, of course, a distinct advantage, and permits thorough and prompt attention to be given every case referred to the Division for investigative action to the end that all pertinent evidence and facts may be collected and presented to the appropriate United States Attorney in proper form for his opinion as to prosecution.

Personnel

The Division gives most careful consideration to the selection and appointment of all its employees. Only duly qualified graduates of recognized law schools, who are usually members of the bar, or expert Accountants with practical experience, are appointed as Special Agents. Applicants for appointment to investigative positions must be between 25 and 35 years of age. Upon

their appointment, Special Agents are given intensive training courses at Washington, where they are required to master all phases of their work, including practical instruction in the use of all types of firearms. Special Agents in Charge of the field offices of the Division are in turn selected from those employees who have proven themselves to be possessed of investigative, administrative, and executive ability of the highest order. All employees are required to render appropriate assistance to law enforcement officials at all times and to strictly observe the rights of all persons with whom they come in contact. The Division as a result of the high standard maintained by its employees, is enabled to attract to its ranks individuals of integrity and ability.

Accomplishments

Statistics at best are rather dry, but offer the most concise method of outlining the achievements of the Division. Convictions were secured in 93.81% of all cases investigated by the Division which were brought to trial during the fiscal year 1934.

During the same fiscal year 3,531 convictions - that is, an average of almost 10 convictions for each day in the year - were obtained in cases investigated by the Division.

The sentences imposed in these cases included 11 life sentences and totaled over 5,073 years, exclusive of probationary sentences, totaling 2,501 years, and suspended sentences of 1,012 years. The fines imposed during the same year totaled \$772,938.73.

The total value of recoveries effected in cases wherein employees of the Division performed investigative work amounted to \$1,116,619.28. In addition to these recoveries the sum of \$261,672.26 was saved the Government in Court of Claims cases in which investigations were conducted by the Division.

In 1,659 War Risk Insurance cases investigated by the Division during the fiscal year 1934, a total savings of \$17,890,768.13 to the United States was effected.

During the same fiscal year 928 Federal fugitives from justice were located - an average of between 2 and 3 Federal fugitives located per day. In addition, the Identification Unit of the Division assisted various law-enforcement officials throughout the United States in identifying 4,356 fugitives during the same year. Stolen motor vehicles numbering 2,302 and valued at \$910,024.23 were recovered in cases in which the Division performed investigative work for the fiscal year 1934. Since the enactment of the National Motor Vehicle Theft Act, or to give its commonly accepted name, the Dyer Act, in October, 1919, until June 30, 1934, 36,695 stolen motor vehicles valued at \$23,827,167.75 have been recovered in cases in which the Division performed investigative work.

Identification Unit

The Identification Unit of the Division of Investigation is maintained at Washington, D. C., and was established on July 1,

1924, to operate as a national clearing house of identification data. At the date of its inception, it began with approximately 800,000 fingerprint records which had comprised the collections of the bureau maintained at the United States Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, and of the National Bureau of Criminal Identification, Washington, D. C., which had been operated by the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

Since its establishment in 1924, the Identification Unit of the Division of Investigation has had a phenomenal growth. During the fiscal year of 1934 alone, it received 558,241 criminal fingerprint cards in addition to applicant and civil records.

On July 1, 1934, there were 4,372,619 fingerprint records on file, representing the largest and most complete collection of criminal fingerprint records of current value existing anywhere in the world. This Unit now receives criminal identification data from 6,774 contributors in the United States and foreign countries, and receives more than 2,200 fingerprint cards each day, replying to each of these cards within 36 hours.

The subjects of over 46% of all the prints received are identified as having prior criminal records. By means of posting notices of wanted persons in this Unit, the Division at present identifies an average of 363 fugitives each month, immediately

notifying the proper officials so that these fugitives may be taken into custody. This entire service is furnished free of cost and is maintained solely for the convenience and use of regularly constituted law-enforcement officials and agencies. These data are not made available for private purposes. At the present time the Identification Unit of the Division exchanges fingerprint records with 60 foreign countries to help cope with the operations of international confidence men, swindlers and gangsters.

"Fugitives Wanted by Police" Bulletins

As an aid to law enforcement agencies in their war upon crime and criminals, the Division publishes a "Fugitives Wanted by Police" Bulletin monthly, in which are listed the names, aliases, descriptions, and fingerprint classifications of wanted fugitives, together with the names and addresses of law-enforcement officials and agencies to be notified when the fugitives are located. These bulletins are distributed each month by the Division to the 6,774 law-enforcement officials and agencies who forward fingerprints for the Division's files.

Crime Statistics

By Act of Congress, approved June 11, 1930, the Division of Investigation was authorized to collect and compile criminal statistics. During the calendar year 1933, reports were received from 1658 police departments throughout the United States, repre-

senting a population area of 62,357,262 persons. A bulletin containing a digest of figures on crime statistics throughout the entire country is issued quarterly by the Division.

Single Fingerprint Files

As an adjunct to its main fingerprint files, wherein impressions are classified through the use of all fingers considered as a unit, the Division conducts a single fingerprint file wherein individual impressions of known gangsters, bank robbers, kidnapers and extortionists are classified and filed separately, to be susceptible of ready comparison with latent prints found at the scenes of crimes. In this manner the fingerprints of over 6,066 of such criminals have been so segregated in this special file. A detailed description of each of these criminals is also maintained, cross indexed on cards operated by a sorting machine system. Individual photographs further supplement this valuable adjunct to the Identification Unit.

Research Division

The Division also maintains at Washington a Technical Laboratory for the study of questioned documents involving analyses of handwriting, typewriting, erasures, paper texture, et cetera, as well as matters arising within the sciences of ballistics, microphotography, and forensic chemistry. To this laboratory is

forwarded evidence found during investigations, which requires examination by experts and through their reports many new leads are furnished the investigating agents in the field. When necessary the scientific findings of the experts are presented to the courts at which time detailed charts and enlarged photographs are prepared substantiating the conclusion reached.

Collections of standard specimens of typewriting from various models of machines; blue prints of the designs of tire treads; and sample bullets, shells and other ammunition of the different manufacturers, are filed in the laboratory for ready reference purposes, enabling quick identification of specimens submitted during the course of investigations.

JEL:HCB

July 13, 1934.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

In talking with Mr. Stanley today, I discussed the matter of effecting a change in the name of the Division of Investigation in order that it may not be confused with the Division of Investigations of the Department of Interior. I would like to have you take this matter up with the Executives' Conference and submit to me a suggestion of the name which we should use.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

FILES SECTION
MAILED
★ JUL 19 1934 ★
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Cowley.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Quinn.....
Mr. Lester.....
Chief Clerk.....
Mr. Tamm.....

RECORDED

62-24172-85
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 14 1934 P.M.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JEH:HCB

July 13, 1934.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

In regard to the attached memorandum of Mr. Glavin dated July 11, 1934, relative to the instances where mail addressed to this Division has been delivered to the Division of Investigations of the Department of Interior, I believe that the Executives' Conference should consider immediately the adoption of a uniform address for Washington headquarters that may avoid the addressing of the mail, or at least the sending of mail to the Division of Investigations of the Department of Interior. Please give this matter your immediate attention and let me have the suggestion of the Executives' Committee.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

Incl.

attached original

Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Cowley.....
Mr. Edwards.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Quinn.....
Mr. Lester.....
Chief Clerk.....
Mr. Tamm.....

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62-24172-86
 DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
 JUL 14 1934 P.M.
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
 FILE

FILES SECTION
 MAILED
 JUL 13 1934 ★
 P. M.
 DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION,
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Division of Investigation

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Division of Investigation

WEG:TAM

U. S. Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

July 11, 1934

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

It has come to the attention of the undersigned that in some instances mail addressed to the Director of the Division of Investigation, Department of Justice, has been delivered to the Division of Investigations, Department of the Interior. In one instance, this mail has been opened by mistake by Investigations, Interior, the letter in question being a suggestion letter forwarded to the Director by Special Agent H. H. McKee. If it is believed advisable, a memorandum will be directed to the Chief Clerk of the Department, requesting that appropriate instructions be issued to the Post Office Department, covering matters of this kind, wherein mail may be mis-directed. It is believed that it may be desirable to include the building address on incoming communications to the Division.

Respectfully,

W. K. Glavin
W. K. Glavin

*memo Mr Tolson
7-13-34
just*

*Div Bulletin
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✓*

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JUL 24 1934

62-24172-87
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 23 1934
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TOLSON

JON. EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Division of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Baughman	.....
Chief Clerk	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Cowley	.....
Mr. Edwards	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Keith	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....

July 18, 1934

CT:ACS

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR.

F.B.I.

Division of Investigation

In compliance with your memorandum dated July 13th, I have discussed at the Executives' Conference the possible re-designation of the Division in order to avoid confusion with the Division of Investigations of the Department of the Interior. A number of names for the Division were suggested, including

- Criminal Intelligence Division
- Criminal Investigation Division
- Crime Detection Bureau
- Secret Intelligence Bureau, and
- The Federal Investigative Agency

but the members of the Conference were unable to reach any definite conclusion to the effect that any one of these names should be adopted.

I will continue my efforts to determine upon a designation which might be adopted which would avoid the present confusion.

Respectfully,

↙
Clyde Tolson.

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DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

JUL 27 1934 P.M.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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TOLSON
TAMM
KEITH
CF88
EDWARDS
FILE

JUL 30 1934

J. EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

July 25, 1934.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON.

There are attached copies of the memorandum entitled, "The Division of Investigation", which I have rewritten and revised so as to include all data for the fiscal year 1934.

It will be noted at the bottom of page 5, that the amount of savings effected out of the Division's appropriation for the fiscal year 1934 together with the total of the Division's appropriation for this same fiscal year are both left blank, due to the fact that this information is not yet available in the Chief Clerk's Office.

In view of the fact that this particular release is the one most frequently used by the Division and the only one containing in succinct form all statistical data of the Division, it is suggested that the obtaining of these two figures be expedited so that they may be included in the attached memorandum.

It is suggested that 1500 copies of this memorandum be mimeographed as soon as the above requested figures are obtained and included therein.

It is requested that all copies of this memorandum be returned to this office as soon as possible so that arrangements may be made for having mimeographed copies prepared.

Respectfully,

W. H. D. Lester
W. H. D. Lester.

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JUL 27 1964

AUG 9 - 1934

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&
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200 min. copies

Rec. 8/7/34

AUG 8 1934

WHD

TOLSON

Incl. #3231446

Send Equip Sec. 5/26/34

in 1500 min. copies

to be made
WHD

OK 1/26

FBI

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MEMORANDUM

July 25, 1934

THE DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

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107 JUL 28 1964

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or Member Banks of the Federal Reserve System; Crimes in connection with Federal, Penal and Correctional Institutions; Neutrality Laws; Perjury; Pardon, Parole and Probation Matters; and certain violations involving interstate or foreign transportation, including the National Motor Vehicle Theft Act, known as the Dyer Act; White Slave Traffic Act, known as the Mann Act; Kidnaping; Extortion; The National Stolen Property Act; Flight to Avoid Prosecution or Testifying in Certain Cases; Federal Anti-Racketeering Statute; and Thefts from Interstate Shipments. In addition to the above criminal statutes the Division is called upon to investigate a large number of civil matters including the defense of War Risk Insurance Suits.

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~~A saving of \$ _____ of the Division's appropriation for the fiscal year 1934, which totaled \$ _____ was effected by economy measures.~~

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OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION



February 20, 1934.

*File
2/21/34*

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

In regard to the attached letter dated February 15, 1934 from Special Agent in Charge Conroy, commenting upon certain articles of Mr. Arthur Brisbane, I do not approve the suggestion that an effort be made to have Mr. Cullen straighten out Mr. Brisbane relative to the nomenclature of the investigative agencies. From Mr. Cullen's own articles, he, himself, does not seem to have a very clear idea as to the proper titles and designations.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover

Director.

Incl.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Division of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

December 1, 1934.

THE DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

The Division of Investigation has the responsibility of investigating offenses against the laws of the United States and collecting evidence in cases in which the United States is or may be a party, and possesses primary investigative jurisdiction of those offenses against the laws of the United States not specifically assigned by Congressional enactment to other Governmental agencies for investigation.

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F. B. I.

or Member Banks of the Federal Reserve System; Crimes in connection with Federal, Penal and Correctional Institutions; Neutrality Laws; Perjury; Pardon, Parole and Probation Matters; and certain violations involving interstate or foreign transportation, including the National Motor Vehicle Theft Act, known as the Dyer Act; White Slave Traffic Act, known as the Mann Act; Kidnaping; Extortion; The National Stolen Property Act; Flight to Avoid Prosecution or Testifying in Certain Cases; Federal Anti-Racketeering Statute; and Thefts from Interstate Shipments. In addition to the above criminal statutes the Division is called upon to investigate a large number of civil matters including the defense of War Risk Insurance Suits.

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It requires a comprehensive organization to investigate such a large number of important Federal crimes throughout the United States, Hawaii, and Alaska. In order to perform its work most expeditiously and economically, the Division has offices in thirty cities located throughout the United States. Its investigative activities are not limited by State boundary lines. A Special Agent in Charge has charge of each of its respective

offices which covers a definite geographic area. As occasion requires, the number of employees assigned to each office varies with the amount of work to be performed. For instance, if the number of cases in the territory covered by the Jacksonville, Florida, Office is comparatively few, while the number of cases covered by the New York Office is unusually large, employees may be shifted from Jacksonville to the New York Office, or from Portland to Philadelphia, or from New Orleans to San Francisco, as the occasion demands.

That is, of course, a distinct advantage, and permits thorough and prompt attention to be given every case referred to the Division for investigative action to the end that all pertinent evidence and facts may be collected and presented to the appropriate United States Attorney in proper form for his opinion as to prosecution.

Personnel

The Division gives most careful consideration to the selection and appointment of all its employees. Only duly qualified graduates of recognized law schools, who are usually members of the bar, or expert Accountants with practical experience or experienced investigators are appointed as Special Agents. Applicants for appointment to investigative positions must be between 25 and 35 years of age. Upon

their appointment, Special Agents are given intensive training courses at Washington, where they are required to master all phases of their work, including practical instruction in the use of all types of firearms. Special Agents in Charge of the field offices of the Division are in turn selected from those employees who have proven themselves to be possessed of investigative, administrative, and executive ability of the highest order. All employees are required to render appropriate assistance to law enforcement officials at all times and to strictly observe the rights of all persons with whom they come in contact. The Division as a result of the high standard maintained by its employees, is enabled to attract to its ranks individuals of integrity and ability.

Accomplishments

Statistics at best are rather dry, but offer the most concise method of outlining the achievements of the Division. Convictions were secured in 93.81% of all cases investigated by the Division which were brought to trial during the fiscal year 1934.

During the same fiscal year 3,531 convictions - that is, an average of almost 10 convictions for each day in the year - were obtained in cases investigated by the Division.

The sentences imposed in these cases included 11 life sentences and totaled over 5,073 years, exclusive of probationary sentences, totaling 2,501 years, and suspended sentences of 1,012 years. The fines imposed during the same year totaled \$772,938.73.

The total value of recoveries effected in cases wherein employees of the Division performed investigative work amounted to \$1,116,619.28. In addition to these recoveries the sum of \$261,672.26 was saved the Government in Court of Claims cases in which investigations were conducted by the Division.

In 1,659 War Risk Insurance cases investigated by the Division during the fiscal year 1934, a total savings of \$17,890,768.13 to the United States was effected.

During the same fiscal year 928 Federal fugitives from justice were located - an average of between 2 and 3 Federal fugitives located per day. In addition, the Identification Unit of the Division assisted various law-enforcement officials throughout the United States in identifying 4,356 fugitives during the same year. Stolen motor vehicles numbering 2,302 and valued at \$910,024.23 were recovered in cases in which the Division performed investigative work for the fiscal year 1934. Since the enactment of the National Motor Vehicle Theft Act, or to give its commonly accepted name, the Dyer Act, in October, 1919, until June 30, 1934, 36,695 stolen motor vehicles valued at \$23,827,167.75 have been recovered in cases in which the Division performed investigative work.

Identification Unit

The Identification Unit of the Division of Investigation is maintained at Washington, D. C., and was established on July 1,

1924, to operate as a national clearing house of identification data. At the date of its inception, it began with approximately 800,000 fingerprint records which had comprised the collections of the bureau maintained at the United States Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, and of the National Bureau of Criminal Identification, Washington, D. C., which had been operated by the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

Since its establishment in 1924, the Identification Unit of the Division of Investigation has had a phenomenal growth. During the fiscal year of 1934 alone, it received 558,241 criminal fingerprint cards in addition to applicant and civil records.

On December 1, 1934, there were 4,641,737 fingerprint records on file, representing the largest and most complete collection of criminal fingerprint records of current value existing anywhere in the world. This Unit now receives criminal identification data from 7,135 contributors in the United States and foreign countries, and receives more than 2,500 fingerprint cards each day, replying to each of these cards within 36 hours.

The subjects of over 47% of all the prints received are identified as having prior criminal records. By means of posting notices of wanted persons in this Unit, the Division at present identifies an average of 375 fugitives each month, immediately

notifying the proper officials so that these fugitives may be taken into custody. This entire service is furnished free of cost and is maintained solely for the convenience and use of regularly constituted law-enforcement officials and agencies. These data are not made available for private purposes. At the present time the Identification Unit of the Division exchanges fingerprint records with 63 foreign countries to help cope with the operations of international confidence men, swindlers and gangsters.

"Fugitives Wanted by Police" Bulletins

As an aid to law enforcement agencies in their war upon crime and criminals, the Division publishes a "Fugitives Wanted by Police" Bulletin monthly, in which are listed the names, aliases, descriptions, fingerprint classifications and a reproduction of one finger impression of wanted fugitives, together with the names and addresses of law-enforcement officials and agencies to be notified when the fugitives are located. These bulletins are distributed each month by the Division to the 7,135 law-enforcement officials and agencies who forward fingerprints for the Division's files.

Crime Statistics

By Act of Congress, approved June 11, 1930, the Division of Investigation was authorized to collect and compile criminal statistics. During the first ten months of 1934, reports were received from 1,756 police departments throughout the United States, representing a popu-

lation area of 62,552,170 persons. A bulletin containing a digest of figures on crime statistics throughout the entire country is issued quarterly by the Division.

Single Fingerprint Files

As an adjunct to its main fingerprint files, wherein impressions are classified through the use of all fingers considered as a unit, the Division conducts a single fingerprint file wherein individual impressions of known gangsters, bank robbers, kidnapers and extortionists are classified and filed separately, to be susceptible of ready comparison with latent prints found at the scenes of crimes. In this manner the fingerprints of over 6,066 of such criminals have been so segregated in this special file. A detailed description of each of these criminals is also maintained, cross indexed on cards operated by a sorting machine system. Individual photographs further supplement this valuable adjunct to the Identification Unit.

Research Division

The Division also maintains at Washington a Technical Laboratory for the study of questioned documents involving analyses of handwriting, typewriting, erasures, paper texture, et cetera, as well as matters arising within the sciences of ballistics, microphotography, and forensic chemistry. To this laboratory is

forwarded evidence found during investigations, which requires examination by experts and through their reports many new leads are furnished the investigating agents in the field. When necessary the scientific findings of the experts are presented to the courts at which time detailed charts and enlarged photographs are prepared substantiating the conclusion reached.

Collections of standard specimens of typewriting from various models of machines; blue prints of the designs of tire treads; and sample bullets, shells and other ammunition of the different manufacturers, are filed in the laboratory for ready reference purposes, enabling quick identification of specimens submitted during the course of investigations.

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

Room 5756. 12/13 1934.
Phones 329 & 26.

To: _____ Director
_____ Mr. Nathan
_____ Mr. Tolson
_____ Mr. Edwards
_____ Mr. Clegg
_____ Mr. Egan
_____ Mr. Quinn
_____ Mr. Harbo
_____ Mr. Renneberger
_____ Miss Gandy

_____  *b6
b7c*
_____ Chief, Unit _____
_____ Files Section
_____ Supervisor, Steno. Pool.
_____ Supervisor
 Mr. *Smyth*

Releases revised as
of Dec. 1, 1934.

for your files,

W. H. D. Lester.

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CT:LC

August 10, 1934

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Baughman.....
Chief Clerk
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Cowley
Mr. Edwards.....
Mr. Egan
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Keith
Mr. Lester
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Tamm.....
.....

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

I discussed with the Committee consisting of Messrs. Egan, Edwards, Tamm and Quinn, the suggestion that the designation of the Division be changed to "Federal Bureau of Investigation" in order to avoid confusion with the Division of Investigations of the Interior Department and to more clearly indicate by designation the functions of the organization. The Committee unanimously agreed that this was the best name which has been considered and that it should be adopted. I believe this change can be made without difficulty by a short Executive order.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

Respectfully,

62-24172-89
AUG 14 1934
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
DIRECTOR FILE

Clyde Tolson.

*the memo asking atty Gen.
7-10-34*

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

JEH:A

62-24172-89

August 10, 1934.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL.

For some time, as you know, I have been considerably concerned over the confusion in identity of the Division of Investigation of this Department with the Division of Investigations of the Department of Interior. In the public minds there exists considerable confusion concerning the difference in these two organizations. I felt that the action of the Department of Interior in selecting a name so similar to the name of this Division was unfortunate to the extreme. Since they adopted that name their representatives have made no effort to point out that they are representatives of the Division of Investigations of the Department of Interior, but they seem to stop after they have identified themselves as being Special Agents of the Division of Investigations and many complaints have been made here concerning actions and activities of representatives of that organization because in the minds of the public there seems to be but one Division of Investigation, which is the one attached to this Department.

I believe it would be next to useless to approach the Department of Interior with the proposition that they should change the name of their Division of Investigations. I believe that there is basis for the belief that they selected that name with the deliberate desire to capitalize upon the standing and prestige of our Division of Investigation.

Consequently, I am submitting for your consideration the desirability of changing the name of our Division of Investigation to "Federal Bureau of Investigation". This Division was known as the Bureau of Investigation from 1902 to 1933, when it was changed to the Division of Investigation on the consolidation of the Bureau of Prohibition and the Bureau of Investigation. I think that a name as I have suggested would be distinctive and would differentiate sufficiently between the two organizations which now bear almost similar names. Should the above suggestion be looked upon with favor, I believe that it could be accomplished by the issuance of a short Executive Order by the President.

Respectfully,

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director.



RECEIVED

FILES SECTION
MAILED
★ AUG 1934 ★

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Keith
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Tamm

105951

FD-403

August 17, 1934.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL.

With further reference to my memorandum to you of August 10, 1934, suggesting the advisability of changing the name of the Division of Investigation, I thought you would be interested in knowing that under date of April 9, 1934, a letter was received in the Department requesting that the Division of Investigation be authorized to make an investigation of certain charges involving one L. S. Karren, alleged to be guilty of irregularities in matters relating to the Home Owners' Loan Corporation, which letter was intended for the Division of Investigation of the Home Owners' Loan Corporation, with the result that it had to be forwarded to it for appropriate attention.

It merely goes to show that the large number of investigative agencies now using this name is leading to confusion and unnecessary correspondence with the result that I am thoroughly convinced that we should take immediate action in order to eliminate further confusion along this line.

Respectfully,

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

FILES SECTION
MAILED
★ AUG 17 1934 ★

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Mr. Gurnea	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Mohr	.....
Mr. Pennington	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Mr. Gurnea	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Mohr	.....
Mr. Pennington	.....

*3 copies
high
copy*

RECORDED

62-24172-90
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 18 1934 P.M.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

COPIES DESTROYED
10% JUL 27 1964

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

105953

August 15, 1934.

Mr. Tolson:

Mr. Hoover asks that you write a memorandum to Mr. Stanley about this, mentioning that it fortifies Mr. Hoover's belief that we should take steps to change the name of the Division to that suggested, and that the numbers of Divisions of Investigation in the Government are causing "confusion worse confounded" as far as the Division is concerned.

hwg

*Memorandum
8-17-34
JBY*

62-7172-40

VER 2172

JMK

105954

111-76-1

August 9, 1936.

The Home Owners Loan Corporation

Washington, D. C.

Attention: Division of Investigation

Sirs:

I am referring herewith for such action as you deem proper copies of a letter of the 21st ultimo from the United States Attorney at San Antonio, Texas, regarding certain complaints involving one L. S. Karren, alleged to be guilty of irregularities in matters pertaining to your corporation.

I enclose also a carbon copy of this Department's answer.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

Joseph E. Keenan
Assistant Attorney General

Inclosure #463861

62-24172-90

REC-272

JFK

111-76-1

105955

August 9, 1934.

William R. Smith, Jr.
United States Attorney
San Antonio, Texas

Sir:

The Department has received your letter of the 31st ultimo requesting that the Division of Investigation of this Department be authorized to make an investigation of certain charges involving one L. S. Karren, alleged to be guilty of irregularities in matters relating to the Home Owners Loan Corporation.

Such matters when received by your office should be referred in the first instance to the Division of Investigation of the Home Owners Loan Corporation, Washington, D. C. In the instant case, I am referring copies of your letter and this answer directly to that corporation here.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

Joseph B. Keenan
Assistant Attorney General.

62-24172-90