

Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation  
Box 239, Boston, Mass.

2

June 11, 1928.

Director,  
Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

Re: C. A. TOLSON - Special Agent.

Dear Sir:

The above named Special Agent reported for assignment in Boston on May 10, 1928 and the following report is submitted in accordance with Bureau regulations.

Agent Tolson has been in the service of this Bureau since April 2, 1928 and displays excellent qualifications for investigative work. He has initiative, is alert and cooperative, and, in my opinion, above the average considering his short period of training. With more experience and knowledge of Bureau procedure he should rate above an average agent in a comparatively short time.

Very truly yours,



L. C. DUKE  
Special Agent in Charge.

LCB:MEB

RECORDED

67-9524-12

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
JUN 12 1928 A. M.	
DEPT. OF JUSTICE	FILE

P.O. Box 833,  
423 Federal Building, Boston, Mass.

June 5, 1928.

Director,  
Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of May 5, 1928, concerning the qualifications of agents assigned to this office to investigate violations of the National Bankruptcy Act, and in accordance with your request therein I submit the following:

Agents available for general assignment whose work indicates that they are qualified to handle Bankruptcy cases in a satisfactory manner:

Daniel M. Searcy - on sick leave since May 14, 1928.  
M. E. Conroy,  
R. E. Callivan,  
William J. Keef.

Unsatisfactory:

X Carl C. Huey - rated below average agent.

Newly assigned agents who show promise and are at present handling Bankruptcy cases:

R. J. Caffrey,  
J. A. Nelson.

Agents on special assignment considered as satisfactory in handling Bankruptcy cases:

I. L. Shine.

Unsatisfactory:

G. H. Phinney - rated below average agent.

Agent C. H. Hoyt has performed no duty in this office since my assignment here and I have no personal knowledge of his ability in any line of investigative work.

Director.

- 2 -

June 5, 1936.

The six agents who are now available for general assignment of cases are all handling E. J. Conroy investigations.

As requested in your letter above referred to a further report will be submitted at the expiration of 30 days from this date.

Yours very truly,

LGB:AO

L. G. NEVE,  
Special Agent in Charge.

ORIGINAL IN FILE OF BOSTON OFFICE 67-107-125

Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation

Box 239, Boston, Mass.

May 10, 1928.



Director,  
Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

You are advised that Special Agent C. A. Tolson arrived in Boston at 7:00 A.M., May 10th and reported the same day for assignment. His address is 397 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, Mass., telephone Kenmore 6880.

Very truly yours,

*L. C. Dume*

L. C. DUME  
Special Agent in Charge.

LCB:LED

66-2396

RECORDED

66-2396-9	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
MAY 11 1928 A. M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
Div. Five	<i>UCS</i>

23

Department of Justice  
Bureau of Investigation

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

May 9th, 1928.



DIRECTOR,  
Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

66-2396-8

Dear Sir:-

Complying with your instructions of May 8th, 1928, please be advised that Special Agent C. A. Tolson will depart from Washington on the evening of May 9th, 1928, for the purpose of reporting to the Agent in Charge at Boston, Mass., for assignment.

Very truly yours,

S. M. KEITH,  
Special Agent in Charge.

JMK:ES

RECORDED

66-2396-8	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
MAY 10 1928 A. M.	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
FILE	TWO

*[Faint handwritten notes and scribbles]*

Department of Justice  
Bureau of Investigation

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

May 9, 1928.

DIRECTOR,  
Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Re: C. A. TOLSON, Special Agent -  
Personnel matter

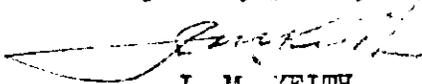
Agent Tolson reported to the Washington Field Office for assignment and was given the oath of office on April 2nd, 1928.

I have been most favorably impressed with him during his training period here. He very quickly grasped the fundamentals of investigative work and has, I believe, a very thorough understanding of all the Bureau's rules and regulations. I believe that the approach and bearing of Agent Tolson is far above the average and I predict that he will rapidly develop into one of the Bureau's most efficient agents.

The dictation of Agent Tolson was entirely satisfactory for one so new in the service. He was studious, gave careful thought and attention to his work, and in fact, within a few days after he had taken the oath of office was performing investigative work which would have been a credit to an agent of long standing in this Bureau.

Agent Tolson performed considerable travel while in this district and correctly submitted his first expense account under my guidance. He handled only the general run of work while here, and I believe that he has a basic understanding of all the investigative work performed by this Bureau, with the exception of Bankruptcy, Antitrust, and National Bank Act violations. I had no bankruptcy case which was suitable for assignment to him during the period of his service here.

Very truly yours,

  
J. M. KEITH,  
Special Agent in Charge.

JMK:ES

67-9524-4  
MAY 10 1928  
Div. Two

Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D. C.

2

April 11, 1928.

Director,  
Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice, Washington, D. C. Re: SPECIAL AGENT CLYDE A. TOLSON  
PERSONNEL MATTER

Dear Sir:

I attach hereto a letter addressed to you by Special Agent Tolson explaining the circumstances under which a certain newspaper article concerning him appeared in the Washington Evening Star under date of April 2, 1928. While this letter is self-explanatory I desire to inform you that Special Agent Tolson told me that in connection with his duties as Confidential Clerk to Secretary Davis he had occasion to meet the newspaper reporter named Clarke on each and every day and frequently gave to Clarke such Press releases as were desired by the Secretary.

Agent Tolson assured me that he specifically requested Clarke to not print anything concerning his resignation from the War Department to accept a Special Agency with this Bureau and obtained from Clarke a promise that his wishes in this regard would be respected. Agent Tolson further claims that in spite of this agreement which he had with Clarke the latter published the article in question without his knowledge or consent.

Very truly yours,

J. M. KEITH,  
Special Agent in Charge

JMK:APK

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BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
APR 11 1928 P.M.  
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Washington, D. C.,  
Hurley-Wright Bldg.,  
April 11, 1928.

Director,  
Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

With respect to the attached newspaper clipping from the Washington Evening Star of April 2, 1928, I wish to state that while employed in the War Department my official duties brought me into close personal contact with the writer of the article, Mr. Clarke, who maintains an office in the State, War and Navy Building. Mr. Clarke knew that I had made application for a position in the Department of Justice some time before I had any indication that my application would be given favorable consideration and he asked me for certain information to include in a newspaper article. When I received my letter of appointment containing the statement that the appointment was not to be given publicity, I asked Mr. Clarke not to publish anything concerning it. He promised me he would give the matter no publicity and I was very much surprised to read the newspaper item. It was written after I left the War Department and the information it contained was evident-

from the War Department files.

**QUITS WAR CLERKSHIP.**

Clyde Tolson of Iowa, who was confidential clerk to Secretaries Baker, Weeks and Davis, successively, at the War Department, today resigned that office to accept a position as special agent in the Department of Justice.

He is a native of Cedar Rapids and began his services at the War Department in July, 1918, as a clerk in the office of the chief of staff, under Lieut. Gen. Peyton C. March, in the World War.

He is a graduate of the law department of George Washington University and a member of the bar of the District of Columbia. In his new office he will remain in this city for the present.

Very truly yours,

*Clyde A. Tolson*  
Clyde A. Tolson,  
Special Agent.

67-9524-40  
APR 11 1928 P.M.  
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Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D. C.

April 2, 1928.



Director,  
Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir: RE: Clyde A. Tolson, Special Agent.

For the Bureau's records I respectfully advise that Special Agent Clyde A. Tolson who took the oath of office this morning writes shorthand and feels that he is competent to take dictation at the rate of sixty words per minute. Agent Tolson is also a typist, using the touch system.

Agent Tolson prefers assignment in the Middle West, preferably in Iowa or Missouri.

Very truly yours,

JOHN M. HIGHT,  
Special Agent in Charge.

JMH:JGD

67-9524-39	
APR 3 1928 P. M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
Div. Five	RES

11

Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D. C.

April 2, 1928.

Director,  
Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Mr. Clyde A. Tolson reported to me for duty at 9 A.M., on April 2nd, 1928, and was immediately given the oath of office, cards attached in duplicate. Mr. Tolson also executed the enclosed personal history sheet.

The resident address of Mr. Tolson in Washington is 1730 N Street, N. W.; Telephone Dicatur 994.

Very truly yours,



JOHN M. KEITH,  
Special Agent in Charge.

JMK:JGD

67-9524-38

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

APR 2 1928 P. M.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Div. Five

ccs

*Original with  
personal history  
sheet to app'l  
4/2/28  
JMK*

I, ..... *Clyde A. Johnson* ..... do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office of

..... *Special Agent, Bureau of Investigation, Dept. of Justice* .....

on which I am about to enter: So help me God.

(Sign here) *Clyde A. Johnson*

Subscribed and sworn to before me this ) Where born (State only) *Mo.*  
*June* ..... day ) Date of birth *5-22-1900*  
of *April* ..... A.D. 1928 ) Whence appointed:

State *Iowa* County *Linn*  
Congressional District *5th*

*[Signature]*  
.....  
Notary Public.

X-----X  
: :  
: SEAL :  
: :  
X-----X

Date of entry upon duty *April 2, 1928*

Residence *1733 N. Street NW*

61 50.  
**REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE**

**DR. E. B. CLEMENTS**

MEMBER FOR MISSOURI

**WILLIAM M. BUTLER**  
CHAIRMAN

**CHARLES D. HILLES**  
VICE-CHAIRMAN

**RALPH E. WILLIAMS**  
VICE-CHAIRMAN

**MRS. ALVIN T. HERT**  
VICE-CHAIRMAN

**ROY O. WEST**  
SECRETARY

**WILLIAM V. HODGES**  
TREASURER

MACON, MISSOURI

St. Louis, March 19, 1923.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
Department of Justice,  
Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

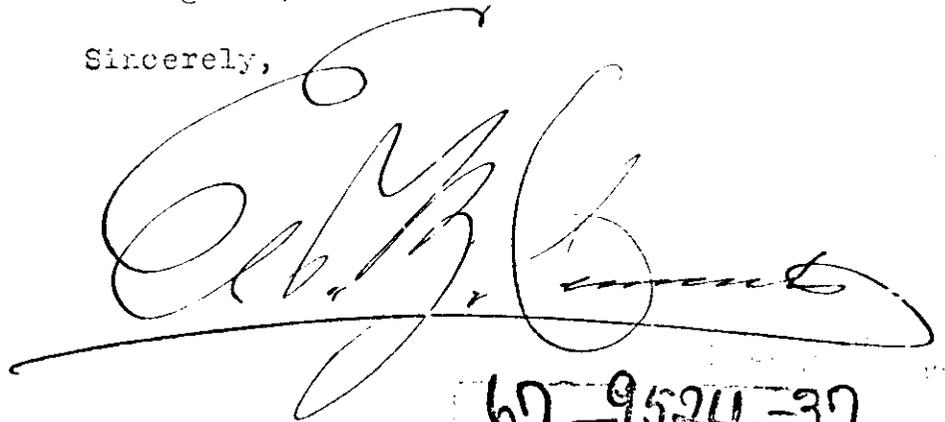
My dear Mr. Hoover:

Many thanks for your letter in regard to Mr. Tolson.  
Think he will make you a good man. How is my friend Hallett  
getting along? He impressed me as a very bright young fellow.

Hope to be in Washington in the near future and  
will give myself the pleasure of a call on you.

With personal regards,

Sincerely,



67-9524-37

MAR 21 1923 P. M.	
FILE	FILE

FILE

NEWTON D. BAKER  
JOSEPH C. HOSTETLER  
THOMAS L. SIDLO  
FRANK E. DEWENE  
M. DEWITT  
EARL DANFORTHSON  
JEREMIAH E. FERRY  
HOWARD E. BURNS  
WILLIAM H. BURNS  
CLAYTON A. QUNTRELL  
SIR J. H. AMMON  
LEONARD THOMPSON  
JOSEPH R. FAWCETT  
DONALD D. WICK

BAKER, HOSTETLER & SIDLO  
COUNSELLORS AT LAW  
UNION TRUST BUILDING  
CLEVELAND

March 15, 1908

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Department of Justice  
Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Hoover:-

I appreciate your letter of the 13th.  
Young Tolson will prove a loyal and, I hope,  
useful agent.

Cordially yours,

*Newton D. Baker*

NDB:C

Newton D. Baker

67-9524-36

SEARCHED
MAR 17
INDEXED
Div. Ohio

*File*  
*yes*

WAR DEPARTMENT  
WASHINGTON

5

March 16, 1928.

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover,  
Director, Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I hereby accept appointment as Special Agent in the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, at a salary of \$2700.00 per annum, Caf-3, in accordance with the terms of your letter of March fourteenth and the enclosed appointment signed by The Attorney General, same to become effective on April second, 1928. I will report to Special Agent in Charge J. M. Keith, Hurley-Wright Building, between now and April second for oath of office and assignment and will be available for duty on the morning of April second.

Respectfully yours,

*Clyde A. Tolson.*  
Clyde A. Tolson.

RECORDED

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NOTED  
E.P.B. - 3/17

67-9524-35  
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
MAR 17 1928  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Ely

EDWARD H. COLLADAY  
J. FRANK COLLADAY  
PENNY COLLADAY  
JULIEN COLLADAY  
HENRY COLLADAY  
WILLIAM COLLADAY  
CHARLES COLLADAY  
L. THOMAS COLLADAY

COLLADAY, CLIFFORD & PETTUS  
COUNSELLORS AT LAW  
UNION TRUST BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

TELEPHONE MAIN 71  
CABLE ADDRESS COLC

March 15, 1928.

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover  
Bureau of Investigation  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Thanks very much for your letter of the 15th instant advising that Mr. Clyde A. Tolson has been appointed as a Special Agent for the Bureau. I am very glad that his appointment has been found possible.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,



EBC:LT

RECORDED  
MAR 16 1928  
67-9524-34  
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
MAR 16 1928  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
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March 13, 1923.

March 13, 1923.

Mr. Dwight H. Davis,  
Secretary of War,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Davis:

It is with pleasure that I can  
advise you that Mr. Claude A. Tolson, in  
whose behalf you are interested, has been ap-  
pointed to the rank of Chief of the Bureau.

With expressions of my best  
regards, I am, Sir,

Sincerely yours,

Director.

RECORDED

67-9524-33

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
MAR 14 1923	RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
FBI	

*[Handwritten initials]*

FILES FILED  
 MAR 13 1923  
 F. M.  
 DEPT. OF JUSTICE

J.M:G:R

March 13, 1922.

Hon. E. F. Callahan,  
Union Trust Building,  
Washington, D. C.

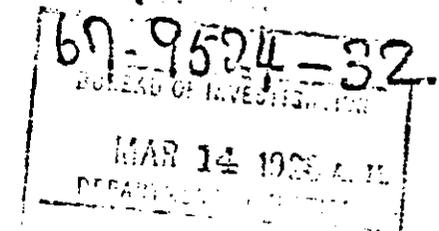
Dear Mr. Callahan:

It is with pleasure that I can  
advise you that Mr. Clark A. Wilson, in  
whom you have been interested, has been  
appointed as a Special Agent of this Bureau.

Very respectfully,  
Yours truly,

J. Edgar Hoover,

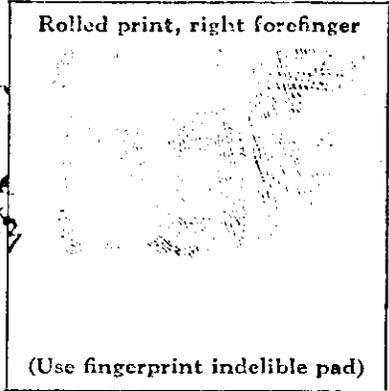
Director.



CERTIFICATE OF MEDICAL EXAMINATION UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDER JUNE 18, 1923

(APPLICANT MUST FILL IN DOTTED LINES BELOW TO HEAVY LINE)

Clyde A Tolson  
1733 N Street, N.W. Washington  
Male May 22, 1902



What examination did you take? Bureau of Investigation  
In what Department and Bureau are you to be employed? Dept of Justice  
In what City or Town are you to be employed?

(PHYSICIAN SHOULD FILL IN THE FOLLOWING)

20 1/4 inches \* 156 pounds  
(Height, without shoes) (Weight, in clothing) (Weight, without clothing)

Items checked (✓) were examined and found normal. Deviations from normal are noted. (See instructions on back of sheet.)

- 1. Eyes: For distance; with glasses if worn: Right 20 Left 20 Without glasses: Right 30 Left 30  
Evidence of disease or injury: Right Left  
2. Ears: Is conversational voice heard at 20 feet? Yes Left (Yes or no)  
Right Left  
3. Nose: ✓  
4. Mouth: ✓  
5. Throat: ✓  
6. Thyroid (especially in women): ✓  
7. Heart: ✓  
8. Lungs: Right Left  
9. Inguinal rings (men only): Right Left  
10. Varicose veins: (If "Yes," state location and degree)  
11. Flat foot: (If "Yes," state extent of impairment of function)  
12. Deformities, atrophies, and other abnormalities, diseases, or defects not included above:  
13. Scars of serious injury or disease:  
14. Urinalysis (see over):  
15. Has applicant ever received pension, compensation, or training because of disability received while in military or naval service? If "Yes," describe disability.

File  
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apt apt

16. Considering your findings in this examination, as well as the history and the duties of the position of Dept Justice what is the ability of the applicant to perform the duties? Spec. agt. quality

O. E. P. H. B. RECOMMENDATION NO. 834, P. O. DIST. 12th and D. Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C.  
Meh 5 28  
(Date of examination)

The examining physician must be in the Federal service  
Dr. [Signature]  
(Name of examining physician)  
2202 10th St  
(Title, and branch of medical service)

\*For males, to be taken only upon special written request of the official ordering examination.

This report is to be returned to the official of the U. S. Civil Service Commission requesting the examination.

The aim of the Executive order (June 18, 1923, and of this examination there is to obtain information as to the physical condition of appointees to the classified civil service with a view to promoting efficiency and minimizing accidents and claims under United States employees' compensation laws.

NOTES FOR EXAMINING PHYSICIAN

WEIGHT: Males, without clothing, and also in ordinary clothing without overcoat or hat (weigh twice); females, clothed but without wrap or hat.

HEIGHT: Without boots or shoes; observe that no appliances are used to increase.

The examination should include the following observations, as to—

- (1) EYES: Ptosis; discharge; corneal scars; pterygium. In recording vision consider 20 feet as normal and report all vision as a fraction with 20 feet as numerator and the smallest type read at 20 feet as denominator. If glasses are used, record for each eye the finding with and without glasses.
- (2) EARS: Evidence of middle ear or mastoid disease; condition of drums; discharge. In recording hearing, record 20 feet as normal distance for conversational voice and record deviation from normal as fraction with 20 as denominator and actual distance as numerator.
- (3) NOSE: Ability to blow through each nostril. If free, a speculum examination would not be indicated.
- (4) THROAT: Tonsils; hypertrophy.
- (5) MOUTH: Missing teeth; pyorrhea.
- (6) THYROID: Presence of tumor in neck and tremor; exophthalmos; nervous highstrung disposition; especially in women.
- (7) HEART: Murmurs. If valvular disease exists, state whether or not it is fully compensated.
- (8) LUNGS: It is necessary that the auscultatory cough be used. Tuberculosis, if present state whether active or arrested, and if arrested your opinion as to how long it has been quiescent. Sputum to be examined for tubercle bacilli in all suspected cases.
- (9) INGUINAL RINGS: Hernia; no hernia but impulse on coughing; no hernia or impulse but abnormally large rings. Any other hernia should be noted, and if present describe fully and state whether it is retained by well-fitting truss.
- (10 to 13) SCARS, deformities, atrophies, paralysis, or flat foot of such a nature as to incapacitate or become aggravated by work or be later alleged as caused by accident or occupation. By "flat foot," as used in this form, is meant a foot with impaired function, the term being equivalent to "fallen or misplaced arch," an abnormal condition. Impairment of function is the point to be noted. It is not intended that small, insignificant blemishes which might be referred to as marks of identification be recorded.
- (14) URINALYSIS to be made and blood pressure to be taken when especially indicated, particularly in persons over 40 when arteriosclerosis, nephritis, or diabetes is suspected.

Record, if taken: Urinalysis: Sp. gr. \_\_\_\_\_ Albumen \_\_\_\_\_ Sugar \_\_\_\_\_  
Blood pressure: Min. Hg. systolic \_\_\_\_\_ Mm. Hg. diastolic \_\_\_\_\_  
REMARKS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of examining physician.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Title, and branch of medical service.)

Examined for position in—

Department \_\_\_\_\_

Bureau \_\_\_\_\_

Title of position \_\_\_\_\_

Number of certificate upon which applicant's name appears \_\_\_\_\_

March 15, 1922.

Hon. Horton D. Fisher,  
Mayor, Westcott Bldg.,  
Union Trust Building,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Fisher:

It is with the surest I can  
assure you that Mr. Clyde A. Wilson, in  
view of your expressed interest, has  
been appointed as special agent of this  
Bureau.

With expressions of my best con-  
gratulations, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Director.

67-9524-31

MAR 24  
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MAR 15 1922  
DEPT. OF JUSTICE

March 13, 1923.

Mr. W. C. Cramer,  
Republican National Committeeman,  
St. Louis, Missouri.

Dear Mr. Cramer:

It is with pleasure that I can  
inform you that Mr. W. C. Cramer, in  
his capacity as National Committeeman, has been  
appointed to a special part of this  
work.

With appreciation of my best re-  
gards, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

Director.

67-9524-30  
MAY 11 1923  
RECEIVED

RECEIVED  
MAY 11 1923  
F. B. I.  
ST. LOUIS

ccs/0,0

March 14, 1922.

Mr. J. W. Keith,  
Hollywood, California,  
City.

Dear Sir:-

Mr. J. W. Keith of Hollywood, California, is a well known and prominent citizen of your city. He was born in the city of New York and has since that time resided in Hollywood, California. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the City of Hollywood and has served in that capacity since April 2, 1917. He is a well known and prominent citizen of your city and has since that time resided in Hollywood, California. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the City of Hollywood and has served in that capacity since April 2, 1917. He is a well known and prominent citizen of your city and has since that time resided in Hollywood, California. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the City of Hollywood and has served in that capacity since April 2, 1917.

It will be found that you have devoted particular attention to the work of the Bureau, giving his services and your personal attention. He is a well known and prominent citizen of your city and has since that time resided in Hollywood, California. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the City of Hollywood and has served in that capacity since April 2, 1917. He is a well known and prominent citizen of your city and has since that time resided in Hollywood, California. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the City of Hollywood and has served in that capacity since April 2, 1917.

You should notify him of the receipt of his entry on duty and forward his case to the office in duplicate, together with his personal history sheet, as far as possible.

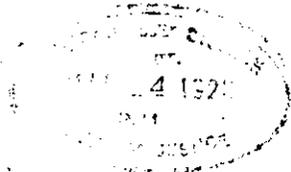
Very truly yours,

W. C. Clegg

Director.

67-9524-219

MAR 15



March 14, 1923.

Mr. Charles W. Nelson,  
1720 I Street, N.W.,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

I am enclosing herewith a letter signed by the Attorney General appointing you as a Special Agent in the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, salary at the rate of \$2700 per annum, plus \$1000 per annum for travel and subsistence in lieu of subsistence allowance and expenses of travel and subsistence on absent from official duty, and you are directed to report to the Bureau at Washington, D. C., and will be subject to such orders and regulations as may be deemed advisable.

Your appointment is subject to you for a probationary period of three months, which may be extended if your services are satisfactory. If you are not recommended for permanent employment, you will be discharged. You are authorized to proceed on orders to any part of the country where the duties of your service may require. You should notify this office as soon as this appointment is accepted by you. If it is not accepted in one week's time it will be cancelled.

Should you accept, you are directed to report to Special Agent in Charge J. W. Keith, Department Building, 13th and Pa. Avenue, N.W., for the office and assignment, not later than April 2, 1923.

You should so arrange your personal matters before taking oath of office that you will be able to accept assignment to any part of the country where your services may be needed.

Consider this letter strictly confidential, giving it no publicity.

Very truly yours,

67-9524-28

Encl. \$3000

Director.

MAR 15 1923

MAR 14 1923

RECEIVED

SECRET

March 1, 1928.

0  
Mr. Clyde A. Tolson,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

You are hereby appointed a Special Agent of the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, with salary at the rate of \$5700 per annum, in grade Caf 8. You will also be allowed your actual expenses of travel and operation and \$3.00 a day in lieu of subsistence when absent from official headquarters, which are fixed temporarily at Washington, D. C., and, following your general assignment, your headquarters will be fixed from time to time at such places as may be deemed advisable by the Director of the Bureau of Investigation under whose supervision and instruction you will be employed.

Your salary, expenses, and per diem will be paid from the appropriation for "Detection and Prosecution of Crime."

This appointment will take effect when you enter on duty.

This letter is not to be considered as operating credentials and is not to be so used. Operating credentials are issued separately.

You should execute the required oath of office and personal history sheet.

Respectfully,

(Signed) Jno. G. Sargent,

Attorney General.

Authority 12817  
Vice C. V. Hays.

RECORDED

67-9524-27

March 1, 1923.

Memorandum for the Appointment Clerk:

You will please prepare a letter appointing Clyde A. Tolson as a Special Agent in the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, cas-3, \$2700 per annum and \$3.00 per diem in lieu of subsistence and actual expenses of travel and operation when absent from official headquarters which are fixed temporarily at Washington, D. C., payable from the appropriation for "Detection and Prosecution of Crimes", I.L.M.D. Vice C. V. Hays. Effective with entry on duty.

Director.

Approved:

Assistant Attorney General.

RECORDED

67-9524-26

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED

From  
**OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**  
 To  
**OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK**

- Attorney General .....
- General Donovan .....
- General Luhring .....
- General Willebrandt .....
- General Marshall .....
- Mr. Chase .....
- Mr. Carusi .....
- Mr. Baldwin .....
- Mr. Harris .....
- Mr. Stewart .....
- Assistant Director .....
- Chief Inspector .....
- Chief, Division 3 .....
- Chief, Division 4 .....
- Chief, Division 5 .....
- Chief, Division 6 .....
- Chief, Division 7 .....
- Miss Gandy .....
- Personnel Filing Section .....
- .....

3-13-23

Division Five:

The attached appointment for Mr. Clyde A. Tolson may be sent out provided the report upon his physical examination has been received and found satisfactory. Mr. Tolson should be directed to report not later than April 13, 1923.

67-9524-25X

APR 24 1923  
 Director.

RECEIVED  
 APR 13 1923  
 P.M.  
 67-9524

(Date) March 5, 1928.

Director,  
Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

5

Dear Sir:

Having filed an application for a position as Special Agent in the Bureau of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice, I hereby certify that in the event of an appointment I will be governed by the following conditions:

1. Upon appointment and within ten days after receipt thereof, I shall be required to proceed at my own expense to Washington, D. C. where I will take the oath of office and enter on duty.
2. That said appointment will be for a probationary period of two months.
3. That my retention in the Bureau shall be dependent upon my services being satisfactory, and if at, or before, the expiration of the probationary period my services are deemed unsatisfactory, it is understood that my services may be discontinued and that I am not to receive transportation to my home, or to any other point, at Government expense.
4. That if appointed I may be sent to any part of the continental or territorial United States that the exigencies of the Bureau's work may require; that my headquarters will be fixed in some jurisdiction other than that in which I have heretofore resided; that my headquarters may be changed as the work of the Bureau may require and that no transfer will be made from one station to another for personal reasons.

67-9524-2

APR 1 1928

I further certify that nothing connected with this certification is to be construed by me as an assurance that an appointment will be tendered me; that I fully understand all of the foregoing and that the conditions specified herein are agreeable to me; that if appointed my acceptance will be with a full knowledge of the conditions above set forth.

Very truly yours,

Clyde A. Tolson

March 1, 1957.

Memorandum for Division Five:

Please approve the necessary  
papers recommending the appointment  
of Mr. C. A. Tolson, of  
Washington, D. C., as a Special  
Agent, SAC, WFO.

Director.

2

67-9584-24

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAR 1 1957	
FBI - WFO	

Washington, D. C.  
February 9, 1923.

Director,  
Bureau of Investigation  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

In line with telephone conversation had with Mr. Trainer's office on this day, I advise you that the status of the following applicant cases is as follows:

Samuel Kaplan: Investigation completed; report in hands of stenographer.

S. Ellis Hieslow: Investigation practically completed.

Clyde A. Tolson: Investigation completed; matter in hands of stenographer.

James M. Wilson: Investigation completed in this District; matter is left pending further investigation to be done by the Boston Office.

John H. Wilson: Investigation not yet completed.

Dorsey Lafayette Brown: Investigation practically completed.

George C. Compton: Investigation completed; matter ready for dictation.

Richard Mackey: Investigation completed; matter in hands of stenographer.

Very truly yours,

T. H. Tracy

Acting Agent in Charge.

*original filed in 67-5769-17*

Original in Kaplan filed 67-5769-17

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Department of Justice  
Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

February 27, 1928.

*File  
JEA*

67-9524-23

*Rec. Conf. 8/27/28  
2/1/29 J. E. N.*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

In accordance with your instructions, I have interviewed  
C. A. Tolson, applicant for the position of Special Agent.

This man is 27 years old, single, home at Cedar Rapids,  
Iowa, but has lived the last nine years in Washington, is an attorney,  
passed the Bar Examination in the District of Columbia, but will not  
be admitted until the second week in March. He is now employed in the  
War Department as a clerk to the Secretary of War, and receives a  
salary of \$2300 a year. He desires two weeks' notice before leaving  
his present employment.

March 1, 1928.

ccs/cjb

Mr. Clyde A. Tolson,  
1735 H Street, N.W.,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

With further reference to your application on file for a posit on as Special Agent in the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, it is requested that you submit a report of your present physical condition. To this end you should consult the U. S. Public Health Service, Post Office Department Building, 14th and Pa. Avenue N.W., submitting the enclosed letter for their attention.

In connection with the above it is also desired that you read the attached form letter clearly and carefully and, if the conditions set forth therein are thoroughly understood by you, you are requested to affix your signature thereto and forward the same to this office, together with a report of your physical examination, not later than March 6, 1928.

Very truly yours, 67-9524-22

Encl. 00592

Director.

RECEIVED DIVISION  
MAR 2 1928  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

MAR 2 1928  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

March 1, 1933.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice Building,  
Washington, D. C.

Re: Bureau of this letter, Mr. C. A. Tolson,  
Director of the Department of Justice,  
Department of Justice Building, Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C. It is respectfully requested, in  
order that arrangements may be made, that he be  
able to attend in person to determine his  
eligibility for the position in question.

Very truly yours,

Director.

67-9524-22

MAR 2 1933

1933

om

**Assistant Attorney General Marshall**  
**To**  
**Official Indicated Below by Check Mark**

	Memorandum
The Attorney General .....	
The Solicitor General.....	
Assistant to the Attorney General Donovan.....	2
Assistant Attorney General Willebrandt .....	
Assistant Attorney General Galloway.....	15 <i>blt</i>
Assistant Attorney General Parmenter.....	
Assistant Attorney General Lubring .....	
Assistant Attorney General Lawrence .....	
Assistant Attorney General Farum.....	
Mr. Chase .....	
Mr. Hoover, Dir. Bureau of Investigation.....	✓
Mr. Conner, Superintendent of Prisons.....	
Mr. Gardner, General Agent.....	
Mr. Finch, Pardon Attorney .....	
Mr. Baldwin, Chief Clerk.....	
Mr. Sornborger, Appointment Clerk .....	
Mr. Robb, Mails and Files .....	
Mr. Caldwell .....	
Mr. Stewart .....	
Miss Anderson .....	
.....	
.....	

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
MEMORANDUM

Tolson

Atty. Gen.

Sec. of War

77-100

From  
**The Attorney General**  
 to  
 Official indicated below by check mark

	MEMORANDUM	
Solicitor General Mitchell .....		
Assistant to the Atty. Gen., Donovan .....	2-7-28.	
Assistant Attorney General Willibrandt .....		
Assistant Attorney General Parmenter .....	<i>✓</i> City of War Dennis gave me this memo today. I got finished this even working in War Dept while attending law school. Day is full of work.	
Assistant Attorney General Marshall .....		
Assistant Attorney General Farnum .....		
Assistant Attorney General Galloway .....		
Assistant Attorney General Luhnig .....		
Assistant Attorney General Lawrence .....		
Mr. Hackworth, Solicitor, Dept. of State .....		
Mr. Mawhinney, Solicitor of the Treasury .....		
Mr. Donnelly, Solicitor, Post Office Dept. ....		
Mr. Patterson, Solicitor, Interior Dept. ....		
Mr. Williams, Solicitor, Dept. of Agriculture ..		
Mr. Morgan, Solicitor, Dept. of Commerce .....		
Mr. Risley, Solicitor, Dept. of Labor .....		
Mr. Charest, General Counsel, Bureau Internal Revenue .....		
Mr. Hoover, Dir. Bureau of Investigation .....		
Mr. Conner, Superintendent of Prisons .....		
Mr. Baldwin, Chief Clerk .....	Clerk Anderson took it about 25. Consider best of the Secretary's view.	
Mr. Finch, Pardon Attorney .....		
Mr. Sornborger, Appointment Clerk .....		
Mr. Fobb, Mail and Files .....		
Mr. Dodge .....		
Miss Fitzgerald .....		
Mr. Gardner .....		
Mr. Horan .....		
Mr. Chase .....		67-9524-21
Mr. Carusi .....		
Miss Watkins .....		
Miss Brown .....		

February 24, 1923.

THE DIRECTOR, FBI, WASHINGTON.

I wish that you would arrange to interview Mr. Charles E. Thomas, of Washington, D. C., who is an ex-convict now residing on a Federal Farm in this District.

There is nothing as to your views of Mr. Thomas's rehabilitation other than you have indicated here.

Very truly yours,

Director.

679524-20

SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
INDEXED  
FILED

2/27/23  
L. H. [unclear]

JSE:KCC

February 24, 1928

Mr. Clyde L. Nelson,  
1744 N Street N. W.,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Please call Monday, February 27, 1928, at  
Room 238, Department of Justice Building, Vermont Ave-  
nue and M Street, for an interview in connection with  
your application for position with this Bureau.

Very truly yours,

J. B. LADD,  
INSPECTOR.

67-9584-10

FEB 24 1928	
	FILE

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Department of Justice  
Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

February 23, 1928.

*referred to Mr. Egan  
2/24/28 J. E. H.*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

IN RE: CLYDE A. TOLSON  
Applicant for Appointment  
as Special Agent

*File*

67-9524-18

FEB 24 1928

DD	FILE
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This applicant is 27 years of age, is a native of Missouri, and a resident of Iowa. He has an LL.B. degree from George Washington University, and is at present registered for an LL.M. degree. He gives among his references Honorable Dwight F. Davis, Honorable Newton D. Baker, Dr. Edw. B. Clements, Honorable Hanford MacHider, Honorable Edward F. Colladay and Mr. John W. Martyn. Applicant has passed the D. C. Bar. His experience is given as follows:

Applicant states he was appointed stenographer in the War Department on July 12, 1918; during latter part of 1918 was Chief Clerk, Committee on Education and Special Training, Office Chief of Staff; from 1919 to November 1920, Correspondence Clerk, The Adjutant General's Office, and since November 1920 has been Confidential Clerk to Secretaries of War Newton D. Baker, John W. Weeks, and Dwight F. Davis.

A letter from Secretary of War Davis states that applicant has been employed in the War Department for several years; that his work in that Department has been satisfactory; and that he is of good reputation.

Honorable Newton D. Baker, Cleveland, Ohio, states that applicant came to the War Department while he was Secretary of War; that he was a capable and efficient stenographer, and of good reputation and habits. He states he has not seen applicant for nearly ten years.

Dr. Ed. B. Clements, Republican National Committeeman, St. Louis, Missouri, states that he first met applicant about three years ago, and since then has met applicant every time he has visited Washington; and that he is an honest and intelligent young man.

Major General John Hall, Judge Advocate General, United States Army, Washington, D. C., has known applicant since 1920, and states that he has had every opportunity to observe applicant's work; that applicant's position

requires him to meet all of the people that come into the office of the Secretary of War; that he is diplomatic in handling callers; and that he is courteous and trustworthy.

Walter S. Dickey, Owner and Publisher, Kansas City Journal and Kansas City Post, Kansas City, Missouri, states he met applicant while calling on the Secretary of War during the past seven or eight years; that applicant's duties were to receive visitors calling upon the Secretary of War; that at times it was necessary for him to wait his turn before calling upon the Secretary of War and during these periods became well acquainted with applicant; that he appeared to be very efficient, conscientious, capable, and studious; that his knowledge of applicant is extremely limited, but his impression of him very favorable.

Thomas Pernis, Letter Carrier, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, has known applicant about seven or eight years, and states that he is bright and ambitious, and not at all dissipated.

John W. Martyn, Executive Assistant to the Secretary of War, War Department, Washington, D. C., has known applicant for several years and states that he places the highest trust in him; that he would consider applicant's leaving the War Department a considerable loss, owing to his efficiency; that he can be depended upon; and that his associates and habits have been good.

Hon. Edw. F. Colladay, Republican National Committeeman, Washington, D. C., states that his knowledge of applicant is restricted to his acquaintance with him in the office of the Secretary of War; that he was first attracted to him because of his courtesy; and that he meets people well.

S. H. Kent, Chief Clerk, Executive Division, Adjutant General's Office, Division of Office Personnel, Washington, D. C., gave applicant's record while there, which showed that he was appointed July 12, 1918 as a Chief Clerk, with a salary of \$1100 per annum; that he became a typist in April, 1919, in the Adjutant General's Office, where he received a high efficiency rating. He was transferred to the office of the Secretary of War in 1920 because of his exceptional diction and diplomatic type of correspondence.

Applicant is at present studying for his LL. M. degree at George Washington University.

W. C. Henning, President, Cedar Rapids Business College, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, states that applicant graduated from his school in June, 1918, and was one of his best students.

Miss Kattie L. Cook, Teacher, Cedar Rapids Business College, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, spoke favorably of applicant, as did Miss Lena A. Voght, of Cedar Rapids.

Acting Agent in Charge Tracy states that applicant informed him that he desires to enter the service of the Bureau in order that he may obtain experience and make connections so that he may commence the practice

of law in his home town, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Applicant stated that he expected to remain in the Bureau, if appointed, about a year and a half or two years, but after that he could not say. Applicant impressed Mr. Tracy as being a substantial sort of man, courteous, of pleasing manners, and excellent personality and appearance. Mr. Tracy also states that his dictation is excellent. Further, that applicant appeared to be of the "social" type (whatever that may mean) and might become displeased with any of the rugged work of the Bureau. He thought applicant would make an excellent agent.

It is, of course, not altogether pleasing for applicants to expect to use the Bureau as a stepping stone to something else, either better, or worse. However, we have many agents on the staff of the Bureau at the present time who did not intend to remain very long when they entered the service. Applicant's experience in the office of the Secretary of War would appear to be an asset to him in the work of the Bureau, as would the acquaintances he made while employed in that office.

I recommend favorable consideration.

Very truly yours,

**SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION**

February 18, 1928

Applicant: Clyde A. Tolson

Position: Special Agent

Date: Jan. 25, 1928

Address: 1733 N St. N. W., Wash. D. C.

Legal residence: 524 South 12th St. East, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Age: 27

Education: Graduated from grammar school and high school at Laredo, Missouri; from Business College, Cedar Rapids, Iowa in 1916; from George Washington University, Wash. D. C. in 1925, receiving an A.B. degree; from George Washington University Law School in Oct. 1927, receiving an LL.B. degree, and at present registered for LL.H. de

Degrees: A.B.  
LL.B.

References and Personal History: gree at George Washington.

- Hon. Dwight F. Davis, Secy. of War, War Dept. Wash. D. C. (Letter)
- Hon. Newton D. Baker, former Secy. of War, Union Commerce Nat'l Bank Bldg., Cleveland, Ohio.
- Dr. Ed. B. Clements, Republican Nat'l Committeeman, The American Hotel, St. Louis, Mo.
- Major General John A. Hull, Judge Advocate General, U. S. Army.
- Mr. Walter S. Dickey, Owner & Publisher, Kansas City Times, Kansas City, Mo.
- Hon. Hanford MacNider, former Assistant Secy. of War, Mason City, Iowa.
- Mr. John W. Martyn, Executive asst. to the Secretary of War, War Dept.
- Hon. Edw. F. Colladay, Republican National Committeeman, Union Trust Building Wash. D. C.

Applicant states he was appointed stenographer in the War Dept. July 12, 1918; during latter part of 1918 was Chief Clerk, Committee on Education and Special Training, Office Chief of Staff; from 1919 to November 1920, Correspondence Clerk, The Adjutant General's Office, and since November 1920 has been Confidential Clerk to Secretaries of War Newton D. Baker, John W. Weeks, and Dwight F. Davis.

Applicant states he recently passed the D. C. Bar.

Inv. Ord.	At	Set for	Traced	Report Rec'd
1/26/28	: Washington : Omaha : Kansas City : St. Louis : Columbus			Feb. 13, 17, 17, 4: Jan. 30: Feb. 6; 1928
Completed	:			
2/17/28	:			
Action	:			

RECORDED  
FEB 24 1928

67-9524-17

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FEB 24 1928 P. M.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Div. One	FILE
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XEROX  
FEB 22 1970

*ltd*

Letter from Hon. Dwight F. Davis,  
Secretary of War,  
Wash. D. C.

Stated that applicant has been employed in the War Dept. for several years and during that time he attended George Washington University, receiving an A.B. and LL.B. degree; that his work in the War Department has always been entirely satisfactory and he is of good character; that, naturally, applicant is anxious to secure a position which will give him experience along legal lines, and that he would personally appreciate anything that may be done to assist applicant in getting located.

Hon. Newton D. Baker, 1924  
Union Trust Bldg.,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Stated that he did not know anything of applicant's antecedents, home, etc., but that applicant came to the War Dept. while he was Secretary of War; that applicant studied law, was a capable and efficient stenographer, and a man of irreproachable character and habits; that he is under the impression that applicant is now confidential secretary to Secretary of War Davis; that he has not seen applicant for nearly ten years, and that, at the request by letter of applicant, he wrote to the Attorney General endorsing applicant. This letter, which is on file in applicant's personnel file, states in addition to his above statements, that he is pleased to say that during the time he had applicant under immediate observation, he was a boy of fine presence, serious attention to his duties, and excellent intelligence that his entire observation was favorable, and that he is glad to recommend applicant to the Department.

Dr. Ed. B. Clements, Republican  
National Committeeman, St. Louis,  
Mo.

Stated that he first met applicant about 3 years ago and since then has met him every time he, Dr. Clements, has visited Washington, which was about 2 or 3 times each year; that applicant is a very nice, bright, dependable young man, and that he would gladly recommend him for the position he is seeking.

Major General John Hull, Judge  
Advocate General, U. S. Army,  
Wash. D. C.

Stated that he has known applicant since 1920 and due to the direct contact maintained with office in which applicant was employed the General has had every opportunity to observe applicant's work, mannerisms, capabilities, and methods in handling office work; that applicant's position requires him to meet all of the people that come into the office of the Secretary of War, meeting them exceptionally well and is very diplomatic in handling callers that come in the office; that applicant is very courteous, absolutely trustworthy and is an exceptionally bright, clean cut young man.

Mr. Walter S. Dickey, Owner &  
Publisher, Kansas City Journal  
and Kansas City Post, Kansas  
City, Mo.

Stated that for the past 7 or 8 years he had occasion to make frequent visits to Washington and on numerous occasions he had called upon the Secretary of War and for this reason has been acquainted with applicant for about 7 years, whose

duties were to receive visitors calling upon the Secretary of War that at various times it was necessary for him to wait his turn before calling upon the Secretary of War and during these periods he had become very well acquainted with applicant; that he appeared to be very efficient; conscientious; capable; studious, and handled his work very well; that he had the appearance of being a clean cut, energetic young man, and would doubtless prove satisfactory for the position sought; that he had no knowledge whatever of applicant's family, home life, financial responsibility or special qualifications for the position sought; that he unhesitatingly recommends applicant for the position sought; that his knowledge of applicant was extremely limited, but his impressions of applicant were very favorable.

Mr. Thomas Pernis, Letter Carrier, Cedar Rapids, Ia.

Stated that he had known applicant about 7 or 8 years; that he was a very bright and ambitious young man; that he knows applicant is not at all dissipated and would take pleasure in endorsing him for any position.

Mr. John W. Martyn, Executive Assistant to the Secy. of War, War Dept. Wash. DC

Stated that he has known applicant for several years, regarding him very highly; that he places the highest degree of trust in applicant and does not hesitate to recommend applicant; that were applicant to leave his Department he would consider it a loss to both himself and the Department due to the fact that applicant has been highly efficient in the expedition of his work; that he can be absolutely depended upon to carry out instructions given and upon many occasions has left his work in applicant's sole charge; that applicant made his own way through school; that his habits and associates have always been of the best; that applicant could have derived a great number of benefits through the position he holds if he were inclined to accept bribes and was of a mercenary temperament; that he has been tried in that respect in a discreet manner and was found to be above reproach.

Hon. Edw. F. Colladay, Republican National Committeeman, Union Trust Building, Wash. D. C.

Stated that his knowledge of applicant was restricted to his acquaintance with applicant in the office of the Secretary of War; that he was first attracted to applicant by the courteous treatment accorded him upon his visits to applicant's office; that applicant has an exceptional faculty of meeting people well; that he is very likeable and efficient and upon the occasions applicant was required to handle matters for him in the War Department Office, applicant did so with an exacting precision; that he has become interested in applicant due to the fact that he encouraged applicant to pursue the study of law and applicant has come to him upon several occasions since beginning the study of law requesting cases that he (Mr. Colladay) has had before the Supreme Court; that this action on the part of the law student is excep-

tional in that the amount of work required to trace an outside case requires a great deal of work, tedious checking of cases which make the personal investigation almost prohibitive in conjunction with the amount of work a law student carries at school; that his knowledge of applicant is limited to his connection with the War Department Office, knowing nothing of applicant's family history, financial responsibilities or personal habits; that he was particularly impressed with the manner in which applicant conducted himself and his general appearance in the War Department Office, and that he personally did not hesitate to recommend applicant for any position of trust.

Mr. S. H. Kent, Chief-Clerk  
Executive Div. Adjutant  
General's Office, Division  
of Office Personnel,  
Wash. D. C.

Produced records that showed that applicant was appointed as Chief Clerk, salary of \$1100 per annum, July 12, 1918 to Jan. 11, 1919; that he received an increase of \$220 per annum extending over the period from Jan. 12, 1919 to April 8, 1919, at which time he was transferred to the Adjutant General's Office, as a typist where he remained from April 9, 1919 to Nov. 9, 1920, his efficiency rating for the period ending Dec. 1919 was a little better than 97; that he rated 291 of 3099 so classified; for the period ending June 1920 his efficiency rating was a little better than 98 and rated 177 of 2779 so classified; that he was transferred to the Office of Secretary of War on November 10, 1920, because of the exceptional diction and diplomatic type of correspondence used by applicant, which had come to the attention of the War Department and his transfer was requested. Mr. Kent stated that Mr. B. J. Wrightsman, under whose direct supervision applicant was employed, reported applicant to be exceptionally efficient, capable and industrious in the handling of his office work.

Miss Hazel Arrington,  
Clerk, Registrar's Office,  
George Washington University,  
Wash. D. C.

Produced records that showed that applicant entered in February 1920, and graduated in October 1925 with BA degree, and that applicant's scholastic standing is above the average.

Miss A. K. Bischoff, Asst.  
Recorder, Registrar's Office,  
George Washington University,  
Wash. D. C.

Showed records that revealed that applicant enrolled in the Law School on October 22, 1924 and graduated June 24, 1927 with an LL.B. degree, and that under date of October 1, 1927, applicant enrolled for an LL.M. degree which course of study he is at present pursuing.

Miss E. Peterson, Civil  
Service Commission, Wash.  
D. C.

Produced records which showed that applicant was originally appointed on July 12, 1918 to the War Staff as stenographer and typist at \$1100 per year, and that on January 6, 1923, his status was changed to that of clerk to the Secretary of War at \$2000 per year, his present salary being \$2300.

Mr. W. C. Henning, Pres.  
Cedar Rapids Business College,  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Stated that applicant graduated from his school in June 1918 and was one of the best students in school; thoroughly trustworthy and reliable in every way.

Miss Hattie L. Cook, Teacher,  
Cedar Rapids Business College,  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Stated that she has never taught a nicer or more apt student than applicant was, and she knows he will make a success in any undertaking.

Miss Lena A. Voght, Iowa Rail-  
way and Ligh Company,  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Stated that she taught applicant while he attended the Busine College, and that he was O. K. in every way.

Personal Interview:  
T. H. Tracy, Acting SAC

Agent states, that applicant told him that he does not desire a position as a matter of remuneration as he can hold his present position as long as he cares to; that he desires a position as Special Agent for the reason that he wants to obtain experience and make connections so that he may commence the practice of law in his home town, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. After being questioned as to how long he would remain with the Bureau, assuming he obtained the position, he answered about a year and a half or two years, but after that he could not say. Applicant impresses Agent as being a substantial sort of man, very courteous, his manner is pleasing, and his personal appearance excellent, his bearing upright. Agent states that the fact applicant has considerable tact can safely be inferred from the position he has occupied for the past 3 years; that there is no question in his mind but what applicant possesses many qualifications far above the average applicant; that in dictation he has confidence, poise, and his diction is excellent; that applicant seems to be of a social type and although physically fitted for it, might be displeased with rugged work. This was brought out by the manner of his questions concerning the apprehension of fugitives and undercover duties; that he is convinced that applicant would make an excellent Agent and be a credit to the Bureau, but his frankness in stating that he only intends to remain with the Bureau for a period of 2 years would seem to militate against him and render employment speculative.

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT WASH. FIELD, D. C.

5

REPORT MADE AT: Washington, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE: 2-17-28	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 2-17-28	REPORT MADE BY: C. L. White AKK
TITLE: CLYDE A. TOLSON			CHARACTER OF CASE: APPLICANT FOR POSITION AS SPECIAL AGENT

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

File #67-987

All leads in this and other districts having been followed to a logical conclusion this case will be considered CLOSED.

REFERENCES: File.

DETAILS: - At Washington, D. C. -

All leads in this and other districts having been followed to a logical conclusion this case will be considered

CLOSED.

DETAILS:



DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>W. H. [Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	67-9524-13	RECORDED AND INDEXED:
WASHINGTON REFERENCE:	COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: Bureau-3 Columbus-1 File-2 Omaha-1 Kansas City-1 St. Louis-1	CHECKED OFF:
		JACKETED:
	BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
	ROUTED TO: FILE	

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

WASHINGTON, D. C.

REPORT MADE AT: Washington, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE: 2-7-28	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 2-5/7-28	REPORT MADE BY: C. D. White	APX
TITLE: CLYDE A. TOLSON			CHARACTER OF CASE: APPLICANT FOR POSITION AS SPECIAL AGENT	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

File #67-987

References given by applicant interviewed by Agent. References' knowledge of applicant limited to business connections and none of the references know anything of applicant's family history or home life. All references regard applicant very highly and state he is an exceptionally clean cut, studious, trustworthy, and dependable man. P.O.O.



REFERENCE: Letter of the Director under date of January 26, 1928.

DETAILS: - At Washington, D. C. -

Major General John Hull, Judge Advocate General, United States Army, states he has known applicant since 1920 and due to the direct contact maintained with office in which applicant was employed the General has had every opportunity to observe applicant's work, mannerisms, capabilities and methods in handling office work. He further states that applicant's position requires him to meet all of the people that come into the office of the Secretary of War and that applicant meets people exceptionally well and is very diplomatic in handling callers that come in that office. The General states that applicant is very courteous, absolutely trustworthy and is an exceptionally bright, clean cut young man.

Mr. John W. Martyn, Executive Assistant to the Secretary of War, War Department, interviewed by Agent and states he has known applicant for several years and regards him very highly and bears out his respect for the applicant by the fact that he has promoted applicant to the position of First Assistant, which position applicant now holds. Mr. Martyn states that he places

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	67-9524-15	RECORDED AND INDEXED:
WASHINGTON REFERENCE:	COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: Bureau-5 File-2 Columbus-1	BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	CHECKED OFF:
		ROUTED TO: FILE	JACKETED:

the highest degree of trust in the applicant and does not hesitate to recommend applicant and stated that were the applicant to leave his Department he would consider it a loss to both himself and the Department due to the fact that applicant has been highly efficient in the expedition of his work, can be absolutely depended upon to carry out instructions given and upon many occasions has left his work in applicant's sole charge. Agent interrogated Mr. Martyn relative to whether or not applicant drank and stated that applicant was not a drinking man. Upon further questioning, however, Mr. Martyn informed Agent that due to the fact applicant was so well liked in the Department he was taken on a trip with the Department heads through the Panama Canal and up the western coast. He stated that due to the fact that the executives making the trip had things very much their own way there was considerable drinking while enroute. Mr. Martyn stated that he saw applicant take a few drinks during this trip but was very gratified to see how applicant carried himself and refrained from any excessive drinking and only did so upon occasions when, due to the nature of the trip, it would have been a social error on applicant's part to have refused. Mr. Martyn feels that what little drinking applicant did on this trip was done in that respect and further states that never since applicant's return from the trip has he ever seen or heard of applicant taking a drink. Mr. Martyn states that it is his understanding that applicant is making his own way through school; that he has shown no particular interest in women; that his habits and associates have always been of the best. Agent questioned Mr. Martyn as to whether or not applicant would accept a bribe in any form or nature. Agent was informed that if applicant were so inclined and was of a mercenary temperament he could have derived a great number of benefits through the position he holds; that applicant has been tried in that respect in a discreet manner and applicant was found to be above reproach. Mr. Martyn informed Agent that applicant took the Civil Service examination at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, in the year 1918, and that applicant was appointed to the War Department from Cedar Rapids, Iowa, July 1918. He states that applicant's father, James W. Tolson, is employed by the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway Company, official capacity unknown to Mr. Martyn. Mr. Martyn's knowledge of applicant's family history is confined to the above statement.

✓ Honorable Edward F. Colladay, Republican National Committeeman, Union Trust Building, informed Agent his knowledge of applicant was restricted to his acquaintance with applicant in the office of the Secretary to the War Department; that he was first attracted to applicant by the courteous treatment accorded him upon his visits to applicant's office. Mr. Colladay states that applicant has an exceptional faculty of meeting people well; that he is very likeable and efficient and upon the occasions applicant was required to handle matters for Mr. Colladay in the War Department Office applicant did so with an exacting precision. Mr. Colladay states further that he has become interested in applicant due to the fact that he encouraged applicant to pursue the study of law and applicant has come to him upon several occasions since beginning the study of law requesting cases that Mr. Colladay has had before the Supreme Court. Mr. Colladay states that this action on the part of the law student is exceptional in that the amount of work required to trace an outside case requires a great deal of work, tedious checking of cases which makes the personal investigation

almost prohibitive in conjunction with the fact that the law student carries at school. Mr. Colladay's knowledge of applicant is limited to his connection with the War Department Office. He stated that he knows nothing of applicant's family history, financial responsibilities or personal habits. In response to query by Agent, Mr. Colladay stated he did not know of applicant's own personal knowledge but would be very much surprised to learn of any applicant's work. He said he was particularly impressed with the manner in which applicant conducted himself and his general appearance in the War Department Office, and personally did not hesitate to recommend applicant for any position of trust.

Mr. S. H. Hunt, Chief Clerk, Executive Division of the Adjutant General's Office, Division of Office Personnel, produced records for Agent's perusal which reflect applicant to have been employed as Chief Clerk, salary of \$1,100.00 per annum, July 12, 1917, to January 11, 1918. He received an increase in salary of \$200.00 per annum effective over the period from January 12, 1919 to April 8, 1919, at which time applicant was transferred to the Adjutant General's Office, War Department, where he remained from April 9, 1919, to November 9, 1920. Applicant's efficiency rating for the period ending December 1919 was a little better than average. Applicant rated 231 of 3000 so classified. From the period ending in Jan. 1920 applicant's efficiency rating was a little better than average and rated 277 of 3000 so classified. Applicant's transfer to Office of Administrative War was effected November 10, 1920. Mr. Hunt informed Agent that applicant's duties were to handle correspondence with reference to prisoners of war, foreign military and foreign officials of their respective countries and it was at this time, due to the exceptional diction and diplomatic type of correspondence done by applicant, that applicant came to the attention of the War Department and his transfer to that Department was then requested. Mr. Hunt informed Agent that Mr. J. S. Wrightman, under whose direct supervision applicant was employed, reported applicant to be exceptionally efficient, capable and interested in the handling of his office work.

Hazel Arrington, Clerk, Registrar's Office, George Washington University, produced records of applicant's attendance in the above school which reflect applicant entered February 1920, graduated October 1925 with B.A. degree; that applicant's scholastic standing is above the average.

Miss A. E. Bischoff, Assistant Recorder, Registrar's Office, George Washington University Law School was interviewed by Agent. Records from this office reveal applicant's enrollment to have been made October 22, 1924, and his graduation on June 24, 1927, with LL.B. degree. The records further reveal that under date of October 1, 1927, applicant enrolled for an LL.M. degree which course of study applicant is at present pursuing.

Mr. Charles W. Prottger, Service Manager, Retail Credit Men's Association of Washington, when interviewed, produced records which reflect two accounts in applicant's name, one in the amount of \$20.00, Men's Furnishings, which is reported as paid promptly and the other - Necht Company, in the amount

of \$207.00 to be paid at the rate of \$69.00 a month, first three months having been paid promptly, the last payment was a little slow.

Captain Emerson, Chief of Detective, Metropolitan Police Department, informed Agent they have no record of any violation of any nature under name of applicant.

Search of the records in the Clerk's Office of the Supreme Court requested by Agent, same reflect that applicant passed the bar examination but has not as yet been admitted to the Bar, District of Columbia. Clerk could not give Agent any definite information as to when applicants would be admitted to the bar but said it would be sometime in the near future at the sitting of the next general term of court.

Miss E. Peterson, Civil Service Commission, produced service history record which reflects applicant's date of original appointment to be July 17, 1918, War Staff, District of Columbia, in the capacity of stenographer and typist at a salary of \$1,200.00 a year. January 6, 1923, his status was changed to that of clerk to the Secretary of War at a salary of \$2,000.00 per annum, his present salary being \$2,500.00.

WILKINS - COURT OFFICE.

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Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation

WASHINGTON, D. C.

February 9, 1928.

Dear Mr. Tracy:

In compliance with your request that I advise you of the reasons why I have made application for a position as a Special Agent in the Bureau of Investigation I would state that the chief purpose in my wishing to make a change of positions is that, having completed my work in college and having successfully passed the Bar Examination, I desire to secure a place where I might gain some experience along legal lines. Inasmuch as I have been in the Departmental service during the past ten years and since I have no connection with any legal firm with which I might secure immediate employment, I felt that a position similar to that of a Special Agent would give me the necessary experience to enable me to enter the legal profession at some later time.

Very truly yours,

Clyde A. Tolson,

Applicant.

Time: 5 Minutes.  
File: 67-987

Rec'd &  
67-9524-14

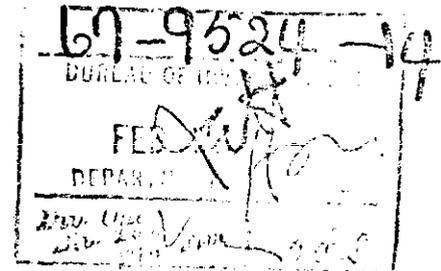
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**Department of Justice**  
**Bureau of Investigation**

WASHINGTON, D. C.

February 11, 1928.

Director,  
Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.



Dear Sir:

After having had a personal interview with Clyde A. Tolson, 1733 N Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., applicant for the position of Special Agent, I advise you that he informed me he was born in Laredo, Missouri, on May 22, 1900, and that he attended grammar and high school there, graduating from the latter in 1915. His family moved to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, in 1917, and applicant attended business college there for the scholastic year 1917 - 1918. Applicant then left home and came to Washington where he has since remained. His father is James W. Tolson, Special Agent for the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad at Cedar Rapids, Iowa. His mother is living. The only other member of the family is his brother, H. A. Tolson, 1332 Farragut Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., who is Award Clerk, Panama Canal Zone Division of the War Department, Washington, D. C. There are no other relatives in the Government service.

Applicant states on July 12, 1918, he obtained the position of stenographer at the office of the Chief of Staff, War Department, at a salary of \$1100 and that one year later he was transferred to the Adjutant General's Office as Correspondence Clerk, Prisoners Section, at a salary of \$1440. In November, 1920, he was transferred to the office of the Secretary of War as Confidential Clerk at a salary of \$1600. He has held this position through the regimes of Secretaries Baker, Weeks, and the present Secretary, Davis. His present salary is \$2300.

Applicant states that in February, 1920, he enrolled at George Washington University night school and in June, 1925, received his A.B. degree and that in October, 1927, he received his LL.B. degree from the same institution. Up to a week or so ago he was enrolled at the same university as a candidate for an LL.M. degree, but discontinued his studies in this respect inasmuch as he just received word of passing the District of Columbia Bar Examinations.

*Handwritten initials and scribbles in the bottom left corner.*



Director - 2.

It was brought out in the course of the investigation that in 1923, under Secretary of War Weeks, applicant took part in the junket trip through the Canal Zone to the West Coast and that he indulged in intoxicants on this trip. The matter was fully gone into with applicant and he stated that it is true that he had indulged in liquors on board ship on this trip at the Canal Zone when champagne toasts were had between the President of Panama and the Secretary of War Weeks, and toasts were given by one country to another, but that he considered this in line with social duty, and could not very well escape this so called responsibility. Applicant stated that he had no desire to conceal the fact that he had taken liquor on this and possibly a few other occasions; that what little drinking he had done was brought about by the exigencies of the immediate social situation as he is not a drinking man and does not care for liquor.

Applicant also stated that he has been living at the above address since 1920. This is the Sigma Nu Fraternity House, attached to the George Washington University. He states that he has been President of this Fraternity for three times and that this occasioned his long residence there.

Applicant states he does not desire a position as a matter of remuneration as he can hold his present position as long as he cares to; that he desires a position as Special Agent for the reason that he wants to obtain experience and make connections so that he may commence the practice of law in his home town, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. I questioned him further along this line and asked him, assuming he obtained the position, found the necessary experience in it and made his so called connections, how long he would remain with the Bureau; to which he answered a year and a half or two years, but after that he could not say. He is a single man, of course, and stated that he has no objections to travel and that he desires to be in the middle west where he can make his connections.

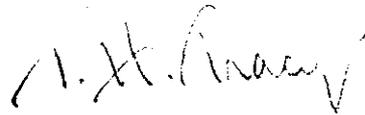
This applicant impresses me as being a substantial sort of man. He is very courteous, his manner is pleasing, and his personal appearance excellent, his bearing upright. That he has considerable tact can safely be inferred from the position he occupied for the past eight years. There is no question in my mind but what he possesses many qualifications far above the average applicant. He is a stenographer and also claims ability to read Spanish. In dictation he has confidence, poise and his diction is excellent. I understand the manner in which he handled correspondence at the War Department attracted attention and earned him the position of Confidential Clerk to the Secretary. He stated that eight years in his present position is a long time and desired to break away in order that he

Director - 3.

might start on his career. Applicant seems to me to be of a social type and although physically fitted for it, might be displeased with rugged work. This was brought out by the manner of his questions concerning the apprehension of fugitives and undercover duties. I am convinced that this applicant would make an excellent Agent and be a credit to the Bureau, but his frankness in stating that he only intends to remain with the Bureau for a period of two years would seem to militate against him and render employment speculative.

Attached hereto you will find specimen of dictation by the applicant.

Very truly yours,



T. H. Tracy,  
Acting Agent in Charge.

TNT:JSR

30:K10

67-9524-13

February 9, 1928

Mrs. Claude A. Tolson,  
1773 N Street N. W.,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter of February 6, 1928 and note that you have recently passed the District of Columbia bar examination. You are advised that a notation to that effect has been made on your application.

Very truly yours,

Director.

WAR DEPARTMENT  
WASHINGTON

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February 6, 1928.

The Director,  
Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

In connection with the application for an appointment as  
Special Agent in the Bureau of Investigation, which I filed  
recently, it is requested that a notation be made thereon that  
I recently passed the District of Columbia bar examination.

Respectfully,

*Clyde A. Tolson*

Clyde A. Tolson,  
Clerk to the Secretary  
of War.

ct

*Ans. 2-9-28*

67-9524-13	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
FEB 8 1928 A.M.	
DEPT. OF JUSTICE	
<i>Dir. File</i> ✓	<i>WEST</i>

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THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT Washington, D. C.

REPORT MADE AT: Columbus, O.	DATE WHEN MADE: 2/3/28	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 2/1/28	REPORT MADE BY: E. H. Kennedy, Jr.
TITLE: Clyde A. Tolson		CHARACTER OF CASE: Applicant for Position as Special Agent	

Columbus File #87-32

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Hon. Newton D. Baker states that applicant was a stenographer in the War Department while he, Mr. Baker, was Secretary, and that he is a man of most excellent character and habits.

RUC

DETAILS:

Refer to the letter of the Director dated the 26th ultimo in this case.

At Cleveland, O.: Agent interviewed Hon. Newton D. Baker, 1924 Union Trust Bldg., who stated that he did not know anything of applicant's antecedents, home, etc., but that applicant came to the War Department while he, Mr. Baker, was Secretary of War; that applicant studied law, was a capable and efficient stenographer, and a man of irreproachable character and habits.

Mr. Baker stated that he is under the impression that applicant is now confidential secretary, or assistant confidential secretary to Secretary of War Davis, and he suggests that Mr. Davis be interviewed, as he, Mr. Baker, has not seen applicant for nearly ten years.

Mr. Baker also informed Agent that last week, at the request (by letter) of applicant, he, Mr. Baker, wrote to the Attorney General endorsing applicant.

RUC--No further action here

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	RECORDED AND INDEXED:
WASHINGTON REFERENCE: #1	COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: Bureau 3 Washington D.O.1 Columbus 2
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
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THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT Washington, D. C.

5

REPORT MADE AT: Omaha, Nebraska.	DATE WHEN MADE: 2-2-28	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 2-1-28	REPORT MADE BY: L. H. KEMP
TITLE: CLYDE A. TOLSON			CHARACTER OF CASE: APPLICANT FOR POSITION AS SPECIAL AGENT.

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

(Omaha File #67-149- )

Investigation discloses Applicant to be a man of good character, thoroughly reliable and graduate of Iowa Business College. No reason could be found why Applicant should not be appointed to above position. R.U.C.

REFERENCE: Director's letter dated 1-26-28, requesting investigation to determine Applicant's fitness for position as Special Agent.

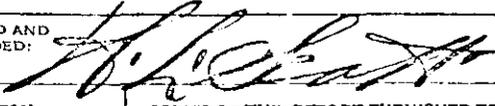
DETAILS: - At Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

✓ Applicant only gave one reference in this district, that being Honorable Hanford MacNider, former Assistant Secretary of War, Mason City, Iowa. Agent ascertained that Mr. MacNider is now in Honolulu and will not return to the States for several months.

Investigation made in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, which is the home town of Applicant's parents, discloses his father JAMES TOLSON is a trusted employee of the Chicago-Milwaukee Railway Company, occupying the position of Special Agent. It appears that the family came from Missouri to Cedar Rapids seven or eight years ago and very few people of the town could be found who knew this Applicant, as he left the City after completing a Business Course and went to Washington, D. C. to work, where he studied law and qualified to practice; but every person who did know Applicant spoke of him in the very highest terms.

✓ Thomas Pernis, one of the most highly regarded letter carriers in the Government Service lives only two doors from Applicant's parents. Mr. Pernis stated that he had known this young man about seven or eight years; that he was a very bright and ambitious young man; that he was talking with him the past summer when he was on a visit to his parents' home and learned that he had graduated in law, and at that time held some position in the War Department. Mr. Pernis states he knows Applicant is not at all dissipated and would take pleasure in endorsing him for any position.

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: 	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	67-9524-11	RECORDED AND INDEXED:
WASHINGTON REFERENCE: Division #3.	COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: Bureau-3; Washington Field-2; Omaha-2.	BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	CHECKED OFF:
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✓ Mr. W. C. Hennings, President of Cedar Rapids Business College, stated that Applicant graduated from his school in June, 1918 and was one of the best students in school; thoroughly trustworthy and reliable in every way; that he entered school as soon as his family came from Missouri and after completing his course went to Washington, D. C. to work and there studied law.

✓ Miss Hattie L. Cook, one of the teachers stated that she never taught a nicer or more apt student than the Applicant was, and she knows he will make a success in any undertaking.

✓ Miss Laura A. Voght, of the Iowa Railway and Light Company, stated that she taught in the Business College the Applicant attended that school and was one of his teachers; that he was C. in every way.

W. C. Bonech, Chief of Police, stated that while he did not know this Applicant personally that he is very well acquainted with his father, who is a high class man and is Special Agent for the Chicago and Milwaukee Railway Company. The Chief stated he knows this Applicant has never been in any kind of trouble.

There being no further investigation required in this District, this case is

REFERRED BACK TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN - NO FURTHER ACTION HERE.

5

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

REPORT MADE AT: St. Louis, Mo.	DATE WHEN MADE: 2-1 -28	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 1-30-28	REPORT MADE BY: D. W. LAHER
TITLE: CLYDE A. FOLSON, 1733 H Street, N.W., Washington, D. C.			CHARACTER OF CASE: APPLICANT - Special Agent

67-70

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:** Dr. Ed. B. Clements, reference given by APPLICANT, considers him a very nice, bright, dependable young man and gladly recommends him for the position as Special Agent, Department of Justice.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN. NO FURTHER ACTION HERE.

DETAILS:

Reference is made to letter from the Director dated Washington, D. C., January 26, 1928.

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

This Agent interviewed Dr. Ed. B. Clements, Republican National Committeeman, reference given by APPLICANT, and he advised that APPLICANT is about 25 years of age, employed as a clerk in the War Department, also acts as secretary to Dwight P. Davis, Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.; that he first met APPLICANT about three years ago and since then has met him every time he, Dr. Clements, has visited Washington, which was about two or three times each year.

He stated that APPLICANT is a very nice, bright, dependable young man and that he would gladly recommend him for the position he is seeking - Special Agent, Department of Justice.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN. NO FURTHER ACTION HERE.

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	67-9524-10	RECORDED AND INDEXED:
WASHINGTON REFERENCE:	COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: 2 Bureau 2 St. Louis 2 Washington Field	BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	CHECKED OFF:
	DWM:ONG <i>[Signature]</i>	ROUTED TO: <i>[Signature]</i>	JACKETED:
		FILE -008	

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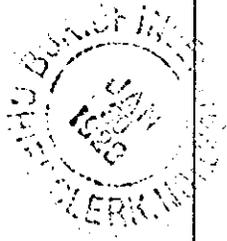
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT - Washington, D. C.

REPORT MADE AT: Kansas City, Missouri.	DATE WHEN MADE: 1-28-28	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 1-28-28	REPORT MADE BY: Louis D. Wine M.B.
TITLE: CLYDE A. TOLSON		CHARACTER OF CASE: APPLICANT FOR POSITION SPECIAL AGENT.	

K.C. File 67-155-

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Walter S. Dickey, owner and publisher of Kansas City Journal and Post (not Times) interviewed. Mr. Dickey has known Applicant for about seven years while Applicant was employed as Clerk to Secretary of War, Washington, D. C. Applicant clean cut, intelligent, and studious. Mr. Dickey's knowledge of Applicant limited to numerous conversations with Applicant while calling on the Secretary of War. Mr. Dickey knows nothing of Applicant's family history, environment, financial responsibility, or fitness for position sought. However, Applicant made very favorable impression upon Mr. Dickey, who is of the opinion Applicant would prove entirely satisfactory.



R.U.C.

REFERENCE:

Bureau letter dated January 26, 1928, requesting Mr. Walter S. Dickey, owner and Publisher of the Kansas City Times, Kansas City, Missouri, be interviewed as to his knowledge of Applicant's character, reputation, ability, and qualifications for the position of Special Agent.

DETAILS:

DETAILS:

- At Kansas City, Missouri. -

Agent located and interviewed Mr. Walter S. Dickey, who proved to be the owner and publisher of the Kansas City Journal and the Kansas City Post (not the Kansas City Times).

Mr. Dickey stated that for the past seven or eight years he had occasion to make frequent visits to Washington and on numerous occasions had called

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>J.R. Bringer - Acting</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	67-7524-9	RECORDED AND INDEXED: JAN 30 1928
WASHINGTON REFERENCE:	COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: 2-Bureau 2-Washington Field 2-Bureau	BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE JAN 30 1928	CHECKED OFF:
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upon the Secretary of War; that about seven years ago he became first acquainted with Applicant who was employed as a Clerk in the office of the Secretary of War at the War Department, Washington, D.C., and whose duties were to receive visitors calling upon the Secretary of War. Mr. Dickey stated that at various times it was necessary for him to wait his turn before calling upon the Secretary of War and during these periods he had become very well acquainted with Applicant. He stated that Applicant had told him he was studying law; that Applicant appeared to be very efficient; conscientious; capable, and studious, and handled his work very well. Mr. Dickey stated that Applicant had the appearance of being a clean cut, energetic young man, and would doubtless prove satisfactory for the position sought. Mr. Dickey further explained to Agent that he had no knowledge whatever of Applicant's family, his home life, financial responsibility, or special qualifications for the position sought, and that Applicant to his knowledge had never been employed in this district nor had he been employed by Mr. Dickey.

✓ Mr. Dickey stated he was a very close friend of Mr. Weeks, the former Secretary of War, and was very well acquainted with the present Attorney General, whom he entertained in Kansas City at Mr. Dickey's home some months ago.

✓ It was learned by Agent that Mr. Dickey has been one of the leading citizens of Kansas City, Missouri, for forty years; that he is the head of a number of prominent enterprises, including the W.S. Dickey Clay Manufacturing Company of this city. He unhesitatingly recommends Applicant for the position sought. He assured Agent that his knowledge of Applicant was extremely limited, but his impressions of Applicant were very favorable. He was unable to furnish any further information of value pertaining to this Applicant.

There is no indication that Subject was ever employed in this district at any time.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN. NO FURTHER ACTION HERE.

WFF:KCC  
67-9524-8

February 1, 1928

Mr. Norton D. Baker,  
Esq., Hentzler & Sigle,  
Counsellors at Law,  
Union Trust Building,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter of January 27, 1928 addressed to the Honorable Attorney General, regarding Mr. Elmer S. Tolson, who has applied for position as Special Agent in this Bureau. I am very glad to have your recommendation of Mr. Tolson.

I have placed your letter in Mr. Tolson's file for future consideration, should there be a possibility in the near future of a position; one with his training and experience. Just at the present time, however, there are no vacancies in this service.

Very truly yours,

Director.

113

NEWTON D. BAKER  
JOSEPH C. HOSTETLER  
THOMAS L. SIDLO  
FRANK E. STEVENS  
M. DE VAUGHN  
PAUL PATTERSON  
BENJAMIN E. PERRY  
HOWARD F. BURNS  
WILLIAM H. BEMIN  
MOTON B. MCCANNON  
LOCKWOOD THOMPSON  
JOSEPH R. FARWELL  
DONALD D. WICK

BAKER, HOSTETLER & SIDLO  
COUNSELLORS AT LAW  
UNION TRUST BUILDING  
CLEVELAND

January 27, 1928

The Honorable the Attorney General  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Attorney General:-

I am told by Clyde A. Tolson that he is an applicant for a position as special agent in the Department of Justice.

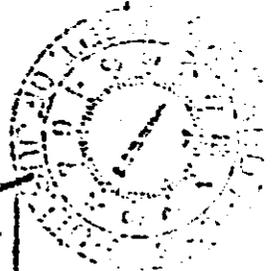
Mr. Tolson came into the War Department as a stenographer, I think, in 1920. He has been, as I understand it, the confidential stenographer of the Secretary of War ever since that time. The Secretary of War would undoubtedly be able to give you more recent information about him, but I am happy to say that during the time I had him under immediate observation, he was a boy of fine presence, serious attention to his duties, and excellent intelligence. My entire observation was favorable and I am glad to commend him to such consideration as your Department finds it possible to give.

Cordially yours,

*Newton D. Baker*  
Newton D. Baker

MDB:C

67-9524-8  
FEB 5 1928  
JAN 30 1928 A.M.  
DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
DIV. ONE



*Ans 2-1-28*

WPT:SPB

January 26, 1928

Mr. L. C. Schiller,  
P. O. Box 415,  
Columbus, Ohio.

Dear Sir:

Please institute an investigation in order to determine the following named applicant's character, reputation, ability and qualifications for the position sought.

Applicant: W. A. Tolson Position: Special Agent

Address: 1200 N. Street N. W., Wash. D. C.

References and Personal History:

Hon. Newton D. Baker, former Secretary of War, United Commerce  
National Bank Building, Cleveland, Ohio.

I desire that you cause a very complete and thorough investigation to be made of this applicant, not confining yourself solely to the references given as experience shows they are as a rule favorable. You should report anything that your investigation may disclose further than the above references.

Washington

The office of origin on this investigation will be and copy of your report should be forwarded thereto.

Your report should be forwarded to this office at the earliest practicable time.

Very truly yours,

Director.



67-9524-1  
JAN 26 1928  
RECEIVED  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WFF:3743

Mr. E. J. Connelley,  
P. O. Box 1157,  
St. Louis, Mo.

January 26, 1928

Dear Sir:

Please institute an investigation in order to determine the following named applicant's character, reputation, ability and qualifications for the position sought.

Applicant: William L. Tolson Position: Special Agent

Address: 1700 H Street, N.W., Washington, D. C.

References and Personal History:

Mr. M. B. Glavin, Republican National Committeeman, The American Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri.

I desire that you cause a very complete and thorough investigation to be made of this applicant, not confining yourself solely to the references given as experience shows they are as a rule favorable. You should report anything that your investigation may disclose further than the above references.

The office of origin on this investigation will be Washington  
and copy of your report should be forwarded thereto.

Your report should be forwarded to this office at the earliest practicable time.

Very truly yours,

Director.



67-9524-1

JAN 26 1928 A.M.

RECORDED

INDEXED

44:373

January 26, 1923

Mr. J. B. Hughes,  
426 Lathrop Building,  
Kansas City, Missouri.

Dear Sir:

Please institute an investigation in order to determine the following named applicant's character, reputation, ability and qualifications for the position sought, W. Nelson Special Agent

Applicant: 1111 St. N. E., Wash. D. C. Position:

Address:

References and Personal History:

Mr. Walter S. Hickey, Owner & Publisher, Kansas City Times,  
Kansas City, Missouri.

I desire that you cause a very complete and thorough investigation to be made of this applicant, not confining yourself solely to the references given as experience shows they are as a rule favorable. You should report anything that your investigation may disclose further than the above references.

Washington

The office of origin on this investigation will be and copy of your report should be forwarded thereto.

Your report should be forwarded to this office at the earliest practicable time.

Very truly yours,

67-9524-5

Director.

JAN 26 1923 A  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



From  
**OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**  
 To  
**OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK**

- Attorney General .....
- General Donovan .....
- General Lohring .....
- General Willebrandt .....
- General Marshall .....
- Mr. Chase .....
- Mr. Carusi .....
- Mr. Baldwin .....
- Mr. Harris .....
- Mr. Stewart .....
- Assistant Director .....
- Chief Inspector .....
- Chief, Division 3 .....
- Chief, Division 4 .....
- Chief, Division 5 .....
- Chief, Division 6 .....
- Chief, Division 7 .....
- Miss Gandy .....
- Personnel Filing Section .....
- .....

*[Handwritten initials/signature]*

*Acknowledge & order an investigation.*

*11/25/28*

*The Secretary of War, Mr. Davis need not be interviewed as she is writing a letter relative to the applicant.*

WFT:SPB

January 26, 1926

Mr. J. Keith,  
Hurley- right Building,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Please institute an investigation in order to determine the following named applicant's character, reputation, ability and qualifications for the position sought.

Applicant: Clyde A. Tolson Position: Special Agent

Address: 1703 N. Street N. W., Wash. D. C.

References and Personal History:

Major General John A. Hall, Judge Advocate General, U. S. Army, Wash. DC  
Mr. John T. Harten, Executive Asst. to Secretary of War, War Department.  
Hon. Wm. A. Callahan, Republican National Committeeman, Union Trust Bldg.  
Wash. D. C.

Applicant states he received an A.B. degree from George Washington University, Wash. D. C., in 1925 and an M.A. degree from there in October 1927, and at present registered for an LL.M. degree at George Washington.

Applicant states he was appointed stenographer in War Dept., July 12, 1918; during latter part of 1918 was Chief Clerk, Committee on Education & Special Training, Office Chief of Staff; from Nov. to Nov. 1920, Correspondence Clerk, The Adjutant General's Office, and since Nov. 1920 and at present confidential clerk to Secretaries of War, Newton D. Baker, John W. Weeks, and Dwight P. Davis.

Applicant is 27 years of age.

Office of Origin: Washington

Auxiliary Investigations Ordered: Omaha, Kansas City, St. Louis, Columbus

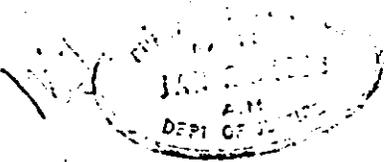
I desire that you cause a very complete and thorough investigation to be made in the community in which applicant has been a resident and has probably had business and social dealings not confining yourself solely to the references given as experience shows that they are as a rule favorable, thus you will be expected to check carefully the applicant's past life, standing and reputation in all previous business associations as listed above or such as your investigation may disclose.

You should arrange to have a talk with applicant, letting me have an expression of your opinion on his general bearing, but no encouragement as to possible appointment should be offered him.

Your report should be forwarded to this office at the earliest practicable time.

Very truly yours,

Director.



67-9524-3

SEARCHED	SERIALIZED
INDEXED	FILED
JAN 26 1926	
FBI - WASH. D. C.	

67-9524-2

January 28, 1933

Mr. Clyde A. Tolson,  
1735 N Street N. W.,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Receipt of your application for appointment to the position of Special Agent or Special Accountant in the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, is hereby acknowledged and same has been placed on file for future reference, there being no vacancies at the present time in the position sought.

Very truly yours,

Director.

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INVESTIGATION	
JAN 28 1933	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	FILE

J. H. C.

February 2, 1920.

Hon. Dwight A. Davis,  
Secretary of War,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Davis:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 21st ultimo, ordering Mr. Clyde A. Wilson, your private clerk, who has applied for a position as Special Agent in this Bureau.

A special investigation has been ordered of Mr. Wilson's application, and as soon as it is completed, providing the result thereof is favorable, his name will be placed upon the eligible list for consideration when a vacancy occurs. I can assure you that this case will receive my personal attention.

With expressions of my best regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director.

5 9/10/20

15

WAR DEPARTMENT  
WASHINGTON

January 25, 1928.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Mr. Clyde A. Tolson, a clerk in my private office, has made application for a position as Special Agent in the Bureau of Investigation of the Department of Justice. Mr. Tolson has been employed in the War Department for several years and during that time he has been attending evening classes at George Washington University and has received an A. B. degree and an L.L. B. degree. His work in the War Department has always been entirely satisfactory and he is of good character. Naturally he is anxious to secure a position which will give him experience along legal lines and I will personally appreciate anything you may be able to do to assist him in getting located.

Sincerely yours,

*Dwight D. Davis*  
Secretary of War.

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover,  
Director, Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

tt

*Ans. 2-2-28.  
JED*

67-9524-1  
67-9519-7  
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
JAN 26 1928  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
Div. One  
Div. Two  
Div. Three