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United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

October 15, 1938

DIGESTED HISTORY OF THE FBI

September 24, 1789.

Office of Attorney General of the United States created by Act of Congress. First Attorney General, Edmund Randolph, appointed by President Washington.

1861.

United States Attorneys and Marshals placed under administrative control of Attorney General.

June 22, 1870.

Department of Justice created by Congress.

March 3, 1871.

\$50,000 appropriated by Congress for "Detection and Prosecution of Crimes" - first money appropriated in the United States for such purpose. Attorney General appointed an Agent whose compensation was paid from this appropriation; later called Special Agent, the first of many individuals bearing the title, who were later to function as investigators. This Special Agent conducted special investigations for the Attorney General.

1878.

Attorney General called attention of Congress to fact that he had no force whose duty consisted of making investigations involving the detection and prosecution of Federal crimes.

1879.

Title of Special Agent changed to General Agent. Appropriation Act for "Detection and Prosecution of Crimes" provided part of appropriation should be expended in investigation of official acts, records and accounts.

September 1, 1882.

General Agent allowed three subordinates called Examiners; investigated important cases for United States Attorneys in various sections of the country and supervised audit of accounts of United States Marshals and clerks.

1894.

Department of Justice contained one Special Agent; one Special Examiner; and seven Examiners. Special Examiner looked after care and treatment of prisoners and made "Special Investigations." Special Agent investigated violations of Indian Intercourse Act, while Examiners investigated Court officials and made other investigations requested by Department.

1902.

Additional Special Agent appointed with duties of investigative character.

62-24172-153

1906.

Annual Report of Attorney General made specific mention of Bertillon System of Identification in Leavenworth, Kansas and Atlanta, Georgia Penitentiaries, at which time there were 13,000 Bertillon records of prisoners in the former institution, in addition to 3,000 fingerprint records. The Attorney General recommended Congress authorize collection and classification by Department of Justice of criminal identification records and their exchange with state and institutional officials. Investigative personnel of the Department consisted of 2 Special Examiners, 11 Examiners, 1 Special Antitrust Agent, 1 Special Agent, and 1 Special Examiner.

Appropriation under the title "Miscellaneous Expenses, United States Courts, 1906" made provision for the furnishing and collection of evidence. Appropriation entitled "Prosecution of Crimes" included payment of 32 "Secret Service Operatives" who were "loaned" by Secret Service of the Treasury Department to the Department of Justice, being paid by latter Department.

1907.

Attorney General called attention of Congress to fact Department of Justice possessed no permanent "Detective Force" under its immediate control. Special Examiner Stanley W. Finch made Chief Examiner.

1908.

The real inception of the Bureau of Investigation.

Sundry Civil Service Bill, May 27, 1908, contained provision that Secret Service employees accepting assignments by any other than Treasury Department would be suspended two years except in counterfeiting investigations, effective July 1. Stopped Treasury Department's practice of loaning Special Investigators to Department of Justice.

July 26, 1908.

Attorney General Bonaparte issued order all investigative matters, Department of Justice, should be referred to Chief Examiner, who would designate appropriate Special Agents. He summarized their activities in daily reports for Attorney General. Personnel of Investigative force of Department of Justice included 10 to 20 National Bank Examiners from Treasury Department, 20 Agents borrowed from Secret Service, 50 Naturalization Investigators, 6 Peonage Investigators, 7 Land Fraud Investigators, and 12 Examiners.

In accordance with Attorney General Bonaparte's order, 9 Secret Service employees of the Treasury Department were appointed Special Agents of the Department of Justice, who, with 13 former Peonage Investigators and 12 Examiners, constituted the organization of the Bureau of Investigation of the Department of Justice, whose duty was to perform general investigative service under Chief Examiner. Criminal identification records in the Federal Penitentiaries in other parts of the country transferred to Washington, D. C., and consolidated.

1909.

Attorney General suggested to President Taft that all "detective duties" directly connected with actual or contemplated Federal civil or criminal proceedings should be entrusted to a force organized on the basis of Agents of the Bureau of Investigation. Reports submitted by Chief Examiner showed following classes of cases under investigative jurisdiction of Bureau: (1) Antitrust; (2) Breaking and entering railway cars in interstate shipment; (3) Holding up train; (4) National Bank Act; (5) Bankruptcy Frauds; (6) Bribery; (7) Charges against United States Officials; (8) Chinese Smuggling cases; (9) Copyrighting Laws; (10) Counterfeiting cases investigated incidentally in connection with other investigations; (11) Customs cases; (12) Forgery; (13) Internal Revenue cases; (14) Land Frauds; (15) Libel; (16) Lotteries; (17) Miscellaneous, such as investigation of a fire in a post office or claim for the support of prisoners in Alaska; (18) Murder and other crimes on government reservations in connection with government officials and informants; (19) Neutrality Laws; (20) Pardon of Prisoners; (21) Peonage; (22) Perjury; (23) Post Office fraud cases; (24) Crimes on high seas; (25) Service of subpoenas.

March 16, 1909.

Attorney General George W. Wickersham issued order establishing Bureau of Investigation of the Department of Justice, confirming Attorney General Bonaparte's previous action, creating Bureau of Investigation as an independent unit under general jurisdiction of Department of Justice. Special Agents worked under United States Attorneys in various districts, keeping separate files, however. Title "Chief Examiner" changed to "Chief of the Bureau of Investigation."

1910.

Bureau organization at Washington consisted of Chief, Stanley W. Finch; Chief Assistant, A. Bruce Bielaski; Clerk, John W. Gardner; Examiner, W. H. Ramsey; 3 clerks; 5 stenographers; 45 Special Agents; 10 accountants; and 6 examiners.

June 23, 1910.

White Slave Traffic Act passed, materially increasing work of Bureau, both in scope and importance.

1911.

Stanley W. Finch, "Chief of the Division of Investigation"; Alexander Bruce Bielaski, Assistant Chief; 4 Special Examiners; 1 expert Bank Accountant; 16 Special Bank Accountants; 3 Examiners; and 6 Clerks, in addition to Examiners, Bank Accountants and Special Agents in the field.

1912.

"White Slave Traffic Officers" organized under direction of Stanley W. Finch.

1913.

"Division of Investigation" consisted of A. Bruce Bielaski, Chief of the Bureau of Investigation, including Assistant Chief, Examiners, 9 Clerks, 18 Special Bank Accountants, in addition to Special Agents in the field.

Bureau of Investigation investigated misconduct of 2 United States Senators, one of whom was impeached.

1914.

Office of Special Commissioner for suppression of White Slave Traffic maintained at Baltimore closed, and merged with Bureau.

Beginning of World War materially increased work of Special Agents of Bureau of Investigation.

1916.

Among other cases investigated were gambling operations in District of Columbia; sinking of Steamship "Eastland" at Chicago. Practically all violations of Federal Statutes, referred to the Bureau for investigation during this period.

Bureau of Criminal Identification at Leavenworth, Kansas, reported criminal identification records exchanged with 47 penal institutions; 45 police departments; 39 sheriffs, expressing optimistic hope entire country would eventually be covered and benefitted.

January 31, 1917.

Receipt of German Submarine note, resulting in additional investigative work for Bureau as to German activities in this country.

June 15, 1917.

Espionage Act passed by Congress.

Selective Service Act passed shortly thereafter, both increasing enormously work of Bureau Agents.

1918.

Bureau Agents investigated and brought to justice large numbers of War profiteers and individuals obstructing the recruiting and enlisting activities, with many long sentences obtained. Bureau Agents investigated unlawful activities in military camps and battle fleets. Complaints of various violations of Federal laws averaged over 1,500 per day.

October 16, 1918.

Deportation Statute passed.

February 10, 1919.

A. Bruce Bielaski resigned as Chief of the Bureau of Investigation, and William E. Allen of Texas became Acting Chief.

June 30, 1919.

Attorney General directed Bureau should be placed under direction of an Assistant Attorney General.

William E. Flynn, formerly Chief of Secret Service, appointed Director of Bureau.

October 1, 1919.

Division of Bureau of Investigation created for purpose of coping with the marked growth of radicalism and the dissemination of anarchistic propoganda.

October 28, 1919.

National Motor Vehicle Theft Act passed, bringing within scope of Bureau's investigative jurisdiction large and constantly increasing class of cases.

October 22, 1919.

Amendment to Food Control Act passed. Bureau Agents active in detecting violations of Act.

August, 1919.

Formation of General Intelligence Division of the Bureau under direct administrative supervision of J. Edgar Hoover, since 1917 in charge of counter-radical activities as a Special Assistant to the Attorney General in the War Division of the Department.

May, 1919.

Card index system established by Mr. Hoover, containing 200,000 cards giving detailed data upon individual agitators and counter-radical activities.

November 7, 1919.

In conjunction with Immigration authorities, 300 radicals and anarchists arrested simultaneously.

Emma Goldman and Alexander Berkman arrested as a result of the Bureau's investigation, the cases being handled by Special Assistant to the Attorney General, J. Edgar Hoover.

January 2, 1920.

2,500 arrests of leaders of Communist Movement in United States simultaneously in 33 jurisdictions throughout the United States, in conjunction with the Bureau of Immigration authorities.

Ludwig Martins and Gregory Weinstein, active revolutionists both here and abroad, were deported, the case being handled under the immediate supervision and direction of J. Edgar Hoover.

April, 1920.

Successful investigation of fraudulent War contracts.

August 1, 1920.

Attorney General Palmer ordered William J. Neale, Special Assistant to the Attorney General, to perform duties of Chief of the Bureau of Investigation under title "Acting Chief."

August 21, 1920.

Divisional headquarters of Bureau as follows: New York, Baltimore, Atlanta, Cincinnati, Chicago, Kansas City, San Antonio, San Francisco, and Portland, Oregon.

July 30, 1921.

Successful investigation of theft of over a million dollars worth of supplies stolen from Old Hickory Powder Plant at Nashville, Tennessee.

During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1921, there were 85 cases of alleged violations of the Bankruptcy law; 437 War Risk Insurance cases referred to the Bureau; a number of aircraft frauds successfully investigated; and successful investigation of the Black Star Line of steamships; 27 cases involving passports; a thousand visa searches and 200 visa investigations. This year marked the initiation of efforts to establish a clearing house for criminal information data, finally resulting in the creation of the National Division of Identification and Information.

August 22, 1921.

William J. Burns appointed Director of the Bureau of Investigation.

November 19, 1921.

Rush L. Holland appointed Administrative Assistant Attorney General in charge of Bureau of Investigation.

1922.

Personnel under jurisdiction of Bureau consisted of 22 Antitrust Agents; 43 Bank Accountants; 99 Clerks; in addition to Special Agents in the field

March 21, 1922.

Initiation of issuance of identification orders for apprehension of fugitives.

1923.

Employees in Bureau of Investigation consisted of Director; 363 Special Agents; 16 Special employees; 49 Accountants; 104 Clerks, totaling 532 employees in the field, a grand total of 619. This was the last full year of administration of the Bureau by William J. Burns.

October 23, 1923.

Identification records, including fingerprints formerly maintained at Leavenworth Penitentiary transferred to the Department of Justice at Washington. In latter part of year, Bureau conducted many investigations relative to Communist activities and representatives of Soviet Government in this country, handled by Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Assistant Director of the Bureau, at the request of Secretary of State Hughes. Information resulting therefrom submitted to Subcommittee of Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, printed in Part 2 of Public Documents, resulting in Senate's refraining from taking favorable action upon pending resolution to recognize the Government of Soviet Russia.

January, 1924.

Personnel of Bureau consisted of 357 Special Agents, 22 of which were Antitrust Agents; 49 Accountants, and 144 Clerks, totaling with employees at Washington, 613.

In the Spring of 1924, the Attorney General, H. M. Daugherty, resigned, being succeeded by Harlan F. Stone.

May 10, 1924.

J. Edgar Hoover designated Acting Director of the Bureau by Attorney General Stone. At this time there were 441 Special Agents in the Bureau, including inspectors, Assistant Directors and Director. There were 195 stenographers and clerical employees, which with 21 informants made a total of 657 Bureau employees.

May 27, 1924.

Mr. Hoover issued a circular order instructing investigative activity of Bureau be confined to certain violations over which Department and Bureau had jurisdiction.

The policy of retrenchment set in.

Age limit for new employees of Bureau set at from 25 to 35 years for Special Agents, and 25 to 40 years for Special Accountants, with preference in appointment of Special Agents being given to qualified attorneys.

July 1, 1924.

Standardized form of investigative report sent to field offices and put into general use. Criminal identification data and records of the former Bureau of Identification of the Department located at Leavenworth Penitentiary, together with records of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, consolidated into Division of Identification under jurisdiction of Bureau at Washington, by Act of Congress. Division called "National Division of Identification and Information" began its career in Washington with 810,188 fingerprint records and 25 employees.

July 24, 1924.

Annual Report for fiscal year 1924 showed 61 reductions in personnel during last few months of that fiscal year. Regular inspection of field offices begun. Five field offices discontinued. All field offices reorganized. Policy of promotion in Bureau based solely upon efficiency.

Gaston B. Means, former Special Agent of the Bureau under the previous Director, as a result of investigation by the Bureau, sentenced to two years in Atlanta Penitentiary and fined \$10,000. National Bank Act cases investigated showed increase of 100% over previous year.

Dr. Fredrick Cook convicted of using mails to defraud in connection with oil promotion schemes and a large auto theft ring in Arkansas, involving 47 individuals covering theft of 100 cars transported interstate, investigation resulting in 40 convictions.

December 19, 1924.

Attorney General Harlan F. Stone appointed J. Edgar Hoover, present Director of the Bureau of Investigation, Director.

January 12, 1925.

Director of the Bureau made solely responsible to the Attorney General.

February 9, 1925.

Fifty per cent of Bureau's personnel have legal training; also, investigation of mental, moral and physical qualifications of applicants instituted.

July 1, 1925.

Number of field offices reduced to 36.

Interesting cases investigated during year included pleas of guilty of 59 defendants, including city policemen and prohibition agents in the city of Cincinnati.

Exposé of conditions existing in Atlanta Penitentiary made.

Successful investigation of the wrecking of the airship "Shenandoah".

Investigation and conviction of former Director Charles R. Forbes, United States Veterans Bureau.

Second conviction of Gaston B. Means on charge of conspiracy to bribe former Attorney General Daugherty and other Government officials.

Investigation and successful prosecution of large White Slave Traffic rings in Detroit.

October, 1926.

Fugitive Division of Bureau created. Interesting cases for the year included the apprehension of Connie C. Slaughter; that of Gerald Chapman and



George "Dutch" Anderson; the investigation and conviction of John W. Worthington, known as "The Wolf of Wall Street," and apprehension and conviction of Martin J. Durkin, murderer of Special Agent Edward C. Shanahan of the Bureau.

The following figures, as of June 30, 1926, represent the growth of the National Division of Identification and Information: Prints received, 138,003; identifications made, 39,634; percent of identifications made, 29; number of contributors, 1,147; total number of prints on file, 1,052,852. Personnel of Division increased during the year total of 52.

During the calendar year 1926 the number of Special Agents in the field was reduced 16.

September 15, 1927.

Issued to all Special Agents, Supervisors and officials of the Bureau, a Manual of Rules and Regulations.

1927.

Division of Identification and Information commenced giving 48-hour service on all prints received.

June 1, 1927.

Number of current prints in this Division totaled 1,203,864.

June 30, 1927.

Bankruptcy cases investigated increased 100% over previous year. Important cases investigated resulting in convictions are the Banker's Trust Company at Atlanta; T. W. Miller, former Alien Property Custodian, in New York City; Thomas A. Chandler, while important apprehensions caused by Division of Identification during this year were those of Roy and Ray DeAutremont, notorious fugitives from justice since October, 1923. The famous Osage Indian Murder case was investigated, resulting in conviction of W. K. "Bill" Hale, and the Fort Sill, Oklahoma, arson on Government property case, resulting in total sentences of 226 years.

November, 1928.

School for newly appointed Special Agents and Accountants organized and located in Washington. Territory of respective field offices reallocated.

The following interesting cases were successfully investigated; Case of Jerry Tarbot, claiming to be a World War veteran; Southern Minnesota Joint Stock Land Bank; City Joint Stock Land Bank of Kansas City, Missouri; breaking up of organized gang of box car thieves, State of Oklahoma.

For the fiscal year of 1928, the figures for the National Division of Identification and Information were as follows: Prints received, 220,996; identifications made, 68,793; total number of prints in possession, 1,440,099; total number of contributors, 1,676.

May 10, 1929.

All Special Agents in Charge required to visit all United States Attorneys in their respective jurisdictions at least once a month.

Interesting cases for the year: breaking up of a nation-wide bankruptcy ring, consisting of between 15 and 20 Syrian merchants; Exchange National Bank of Spokane, Washington; Chicago Association of Candy Jobbers, investigation resulting in 16 defendants being found guilty.

Figures for the National Division of Identification and Information as at the end of the fiscal year 1929, were as follows: Prints received, 304,384; identifications made, 86,965; total fingerprints in possession of Bureau, 1,745,151; total number of contributors, 2,208. Percentage of identifications accomplished during the fiscal year 1929 was 33%. Personnel of this division totaled 80 as against 55 on May 1, 1928.

Number of field offices reduced to 30.

Bureau of Investigation published booklet for distribution among law enforcement officials, showing the function and investigative jurisdiction of the Bureau.

June, 1930.

Manual of Rules and Regulations reprinted and revised.

June 11, 1930.

Congress authorized National Division of Identification and Information of the Bureau to collect and compile uniform crime statistics for entire United States. First monthly bulletin published in August, 1930. Based on data voluntarily sent by various Police Departments, peace officers, State Bureaus and law enforcement officials for August, published September, 1930. During the fiscal year 1930, number of contributors to National Division of Identification increased by over 50%.

December 10, 1930.

Perfection and distribution to law enforcement officials of revised and completed form of fingerprint classification known as the "Renoe" extension. During the year 32.45% identifications made of all prints received; 1253 fugitives located, and identities established through the work of this Division. By means of single latent fingerprint this Division established identity of Notorious Jake Fieagle, thereby saving the lives of four innocent suspects and resulting in death sentences for three guilty murderers and the death of Jake Fieagle himself while resisting arrest.

Statistics for the National Division of Identification and Information as of June 30, 1930, were as follows: Fingerprints received, 409,248; identifications made, 114,874; total number of fingerprints on hand, 2,099,271; total number of contributors, 3,074.

The case of F. H. Smith Company of Washington, D. C. was investigated during this year, involving millions of dollars, and resulted in the conviction of officials of the organization and disbarment proceedings against a prominent Washington, D. C. attorney.

Important antitrust investigation resulted in 43 members of the Film Boards of Trade being restrained by an injunction from enforcing uniform lease contracts entered into by them.

December 31, 1930.

25 field offices in the Bureau in various portions of the United States.

April 9, 1931.

Establishment of Bureau office at Honolulu, Territory of Hawaii.

June 30, 1931.

Statistics for the National Division of Identification and Information as of June 30, 1931, were as follows: Fingerprints received, 480,524; identifications made, 161,325; total number of fingerprints in possession of Bureau, 2,536,308; total number of contributors, 3,913.

March 1, 1932.

International exchange of fingerprint data initiated with every important nation.

June 22, 1932.

Federal Kidnaping Statute passed.

July 1, 1932.

Total number of field offices, 22.

All employees of the Bureau offered a correspondence course in Accounting.

Statistics for the Identification Division of the Bureau as of July 1, 1932, were as follows: Fingerprints received, 573,732; identifications made, 208,715; total number of fingerprints in possession of Bureau, 3,078,572; total number of contributors, 4,712.

Title of Bureau changed to "United States Bureau of Investigation".

July 8, 1932.

Federal Extortion Statute passed.

September 1, 1932.

First issue of monthly bulletin entitled "Fugitives Wanted by Police."

Establishment of Criminological Laboratory.

September 19, 1932.

First practical fingerprint course given to field employees.

Fall 1932.

The Technical Laboratory began active examinations in criminal cases.

January 30, 1933.

Course of training for Special Agents increased from four to six weeks.

February 15, 1933.

Installation of Single Fingerprint File in the Identification Unit.

June 10, 1933.

By executive order June 10, 1933, effective August 10, 1933, the Division of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice, was created, absorbing the old United States Bureau of Investigation and the Prohibition Bureau. John Edgar Hoover named Director of the new Division and the Alcoholic Beverage Unit formed as a separate unit in charge of Assistant Director John S. Hurley.

By executive order of June 10, 1933, effective September 11, 1933, the Division of Investigation took over the investigation of all War Risk Insurance cases against the Government. More than 9,600 of such cases were transferred to the Division September 11, 1933.

July 1, 1933.

Statistics for the Identification Unit of the Division as of July 1, 1933, were as follows: Fingerprints received, 574,258; identifications made, 244,693; total number of fingerprints in possession of Division, 3,790,594; total number of index cards in Division, 4,901,443; total number of contributors, 5,941.

October 1, 1933.

Establishment of collection of firearms and other interesting exhibits used by criminals in cases investigated by the Division of Investigation.

November 10, 1933.

Civil Identification Section of the Identification Division established.

Several thousand gold hoarding cases involving interviews with approximately 10,000 individuals were conducted by the Division during the last half of the calendar year 1933.

A wave of kidnaping swept the country during the year. The Division of Investigation solved every kidnaping case referred to it during this year. Some of the outstanding cases were the Cannon, Ottley, Urschel, Boettcher, Luer, McElroy and Hart cases. A large number of extortion cases were also successfully investigated during this year.

January and February, 1934.

The Division continued its work in solution of kidnaping and extortion cases.

February 20, 1934.

Total number of field offices, 24.

Total number of foreign countries with which fingerprints are exchanged, 55.

May and June, 1934.

A series of Federal crime bills was passed by Congress and approved by the President. Their enforcement devolved considerable additional work upon the Division. This legislation included the Federal reward bill; National Stolen Property Act; crimes in connection with Federal penal and correctional institutions; robbery of National banks and member banks of the Federal Reserve System; Extortion; the Federal anti-racketeering statute; power of arrest for Special Agents of the Division, and the right of these Special Agents to carry firearms; fleeing from one state to another to avoid prosecution or giving testimony in certain cases; killing or assaulting Federal officers; amendment to the Federal Kidnaping Act of June 22, 1932.

July 1, 1934.

Training period for new Special Agents increased from six to eight weeks. This training consists of studies in regulations, procedure, law, accounting, methodology, ethics, organization and administration, fingerprint science, scientific crime detection and the use of fire arms.

Statistics of the Identification Unit of the Division as of July 1, 1934, were as follows: fingerprints received 621,560; identifications made 258,046; total number of fingerprints in possession of Division 4,372,619; total number of index cards 5,501,034; total number of contributors, 6,774.

The officials of identification bureaus of 80 of the principal nations, territories and possessions were cooperating in the international exchange of fingerprint data with the Division.

During the fiscal year 1934 convictions secured in cases wherein employees of the Division performed investigative work numbered 3,531. The sentences imposed totaled 11 life sentences; 11,586 years, 6 months and 7 days in actual, suspended and probationary sentences; fines totaled \$772,939.73. The total value of recoveries effected in cases wherein employees of the Division performed investigative work amounted to \$1,116,619.28. In addition to these recoveries, the sum of \$261,672.26 was saved the Government in Court of Claims cases in which investigations were conducted by the Division.

The Division investigated 1,659 War Risk Insurance cases during the fiscal year 1934, which resulted in total savings to the United States of \$17,890,768.13.

Convictions were secured in 93.81 per cent of all cases investigated by the employees of the Division which were brought to trial.

In addition to 4,356 fugitives from justice who were located through the efforts of the Identification Unit during the year, Special Agents in the field located 928 Federal fugitives from justice.

The Identification Unit at this time began its 36 hour service on all prints received.

October 25, 1934.

The new United States Department of Justice Building was dedicated.

November 19, 1934.

Training period for new Special Agents increased to twelve weeks.

January 21, 1935.

The re-training of experienced Special Agents over a four weeks period was begun. This training was designed to keep the old Agents abreast of new scientific investigative methods and technique; to increase their expertness in the use of firearms and to afford an opportunity of studying enforcement methods in connection with recent Federal legislation.

May 24, 1935.

The five millionth fingerprint card was received at the Identification Division.

June 14, 1935.

Communications Section of the FBI established. Includes four teletypewriters from which messages may be received and transmitted to the 37 field offices simultaneously or to a single office. Such an arrangement makes possible a contact with all 37 field offices within twelve minutes.

July 1, 1935.

The name of the Division of Investigation was changed to the Federal Bureau of Investigation by Congressional enactment.

Identification Division statistics for the fiscal year 1935 were as follows: fingerprints received 755,912; identifications made 304,033; total number of fingerprints in possession of the Bureau 5,078,566; total number of index cards 6,216,697; total number of contributors 8,479; total number of fingerprint cards in the Civil Identification Section 19,082. Contributing members of the international exchange numbered 68.

During the fiscal year 1935, 3,717 convictions were secured in cases investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The sentences imposed totaled 8 life sentences; 10,757 years, 8 months and 4 days in actual, suspended and probationary sentences. Fines imposed amounted to \$333,974.68. The total savings in recoveries effected was \$38,481,686.17 and the entire cost of operating the Bureau was \$4,625,518. Convictions were secured in 94 per cent of all cases investigated by employees of the Bureau which were brought to trial.

Outstanding investigations successfully concluded during the year pertained to the John Dillinger gang, the Mais-Legenza Tri-State gang, the Kansas City Massacre, the Charles F. Urschel kidnaping, the George Weyerhaeuser kidnaping, the Charles A. Lindbergh, Junior, kidnaping, and the Edward G. Bremer kidnaping.

July 29, 1935.

The Police Training School opened at the Bureau for the study by law enforcement officers of scientific and practical law enforcement methods.

July 30, 1935.

A course in physical instruction was added to the Training School curriculum.

The Bureau field offices totaled 37.

August 23, 1935.

An Act of Congress was approved extending the provisions of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, thus materially increasing the work of the Bureau. On this same date the Banking Act of 1935 was approved, extending the penal provisions of the National Bank and Federal Reserve Acts to insured banks of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

September 23, 1935.

There was a total of 14,221 insured banks of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

January 6, 1936.

The second Police Training School of the FBI opened.

January 24, 1936.

An Act of Congress was approved by the President making it a Federal offense to knowingly receive, possess or dispose of money delivered as ransom or reward.

March 1, 1936.

For the first time in 21 months since the enactment of the Federal Bank Robbery Act, no robberies of national banks or member banks of the Federal Reserve System occurred in the United States during the month of February.

March 13, 1936.

Nationally infamous bank robber, Edward Wilhelm Bentz, robber of 50 to 100 banks in many states and over a long period of years, apprehended by Special Agents of the FBI at Brooklyn. Such robberies came under the jurisdiction of the FBI in May 18, 1934.

March 27, 1936.

100,000th personal identification fingerprint card received.

April 1, 1936.

FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin announced the inauguration of the National Stolen Property File which lists for law enforcement agencies stolen property which may be described by name, model, and serial number, and all stolen property involved in thefts amounting to an aggregate value of \$5000.00 or more.

April 6, 1936.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the FBI, announced the institution of a series of Identification Schools to be held in each of its field headquarters cities for the purpose of instructing state and local law enforcement officials in fingerprint classification problems and the maintenance of identification records.

May 1 to May 11, 1936.

Alvin Karpis, Harry Campbell, William Dainard, and Thomas H. Robinson, Jr., the four outstanding fugitives in three major kidnappings and objects of countrywide search for more than a year, were apprehended within this period. Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the FBI personally led the raids resulting in the capture of Karpis and Campbell.

May 15, 1936.

The Congressional enactment providing for increased appropriations for the operation of the FBI approved.

June 8, 1936.

National Bureau of Casualty and Surety Underwriters effected a 20 per cent reduction in bank robbery insurance rates in thirty-five states. One of the two attributed reasons -- decrease in bank robberies subsequent to FBI jurisdiction by Congressional enactment May 18, 1934.

June 23, 1936.

Act approving retirement benefits for Special Agents of the FBI signed by the President of the United States.

July 1, 1936.

Digested statement of activities - July 1, 1935 to July 1, 1936.

#### INVESTIGATIVE

There have been secured 3,905 convictions and sentences resulting as follows: 2 death, 9 life, 11,067 years, 2 months 7 days; fines totaled \$439,472.44; there were recovered 2,499 stolen motor vehicles, valued at \$1,026,724.36; savings, fines and recoveries since beginning of the fiscal year totaled \$35,148,287.83; fugitives located 1,089; convictions obtained 94.35 per cent of the cases investigated by the Bureau and brought to trial since July 1, 1935.



On this date there were 6,094,916 fingerprints on file in the Identification Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, 1,021,047 cards having been submitted during the last fiscal year. 9,904 contributors were submitting these and the Federal Bureau of Investigation was exchanging fingerprint identifying data with 73 foreign countries. Identifications were made in 52.7 per cent of the cards received and 5,731 fugitives from justice were located.

During the fiscal year 1936 a total of 3,495 examinations, consisting of 14,761 specimens of evidence, were made in the Technical Laboratory.

February 15, 1937.

The first Administrative School for experienced Special Agents was inaugurated.

April 3, 1937.

The fourth session of the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Police Academy was concluded making a total of 115 graduates. The total number of law enforcement officers in the 115 departments which have been represented in the school is 55,227. The total population residing in the territorial jurisdiction covered by these organizations and thereby receiving more efficient police protection is 73,662,352.

April 5, 1937.

Seven millionth fingerprint card received in the Identification Division as compared to the 810,188 cards on file July 1, 1924, when the Division was established.

May 3, 1937.

The Fifth Session of the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Police Academy began.

July 1, 1937.

During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1937, new Field Divisions were opened in Juneau, Alaska; Des Moines, Iowa; Hartford, Connecticut; Honolulu, Hawaii; Huntington, West Virginia; Knoxville, and Memphis, Tennessee; Peoria, Illinois; Richmond, Virginia; Seattle, Washington, and San Juan, Puerto Rico, making a total of 47 Field Divisions. The Jacksonville office was transferred to Miami and the Trenton office was transferred to Newark, New Jersey, during the year.

INVESTIGATIVE

During the fiscal year of 1936 a total of 4,624 convictions were secured in which sentences were imposed totaling 2 death, 12 life, 13,345 years, 7 months and 29 days in actual, suspended and probationary sentences. Convictions were secured in 94.67% of the cases investigated and brought to trial. A total of 1,303 Federal fugitives were located. Savings, fines and recoveries effected in cases investigated by the Bureau amounted to \$41,438,370.22 while the total cost of operations amounted to only \$5,815,598.

The total number of fingerprint cards on file on this date was 7,360,458. Of this number 1,382,666 were received during the 1937 fiscal

year. These prints were submitted by 10,465 contributors in the United States. Fingerprints were exchanged with 81 foreign countries and territorial possessions. Identifications were effected in 54.4% of the fingerprints received. There were 6,223 fugitives located during this time.

#### TECHNICAL LABORATORY

Of the 6,644 examinations conducted in the Technical Laboratory, assistance was rendered to other government agencies in 187 instances and to state, county or municipal law enforcement agencies in 897 instances, during the last fiscal year. Testimony was rendered in court by Bureau experts in 95 cases, of which 52 appearances were made in connection with other than Bureau cases. There were 4,871 examinations conducted in the Single Fingerprint Section from July 1, 1936 to June 30, 1937, inclusive.

The total personnel of the Bureau was 1,769. This number included the Director, 643 Special Agents, and 1,125 clerical employees.

#### July 16, 1937.

The age requirement for appointment to the position of Special Agent was changed from 25-35 years, to 23-35 years.

#### July 26, 1937.

Twentieth anniversary of Mr. Hoover's association with the Department of Justice.

#### September 29, 1937.

The Bureau was host to the 23rd Annual Convention of the International Association for Identification, for 4 days.

#### October 2, 1937.

Graduation of the Sixth Session of the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Police Academy. There are 187 graduates of the academy representing law enforcement organizations with a total personnel of 68,283 officers. The total number of citizens residing within the police jurisdiction of the organizations which have been represented in the academy and who in turn are receiving additional protection and more efficient law enforcement, is 77,352,089.

#### January 1, 1938.

Crime for the last year increased. Crime reports submitted to the FBI from law enforcement organizations throughout the country revealed that in 1937 there was an estimated total of 1,415,816 crimes committed as against only 1,333,526 such crimes in 1936.

#### January 10, 1938.

The Seventh Session of the FBI National Police Academy began. Thirty-six officers from an equal number of law enforcement organizations were in attendance.

April 4, 1938.

A representative of the FBI attended the Metropolitan Police College at Hendon, England, to familiarize himself with the methods and procedures employed by the English Police officers in solving crimes in order to return to the United States and afford to the Bureau any information he obtained.

May 1, 1938.

Because of the added investigative burdens placed on the Bureau by many cases with National ramifications, necessitating the expenditure of sums of money not possible of prediction, it was necessary to place on enforced leave half of the investigative personnel during May and June. However before the end of the period Congress voted deficiency appropriation to provide for the Bureau to carry on its work.

May 2, 1938.

The Eighth Session of the FBI National Police Academy began. Instruction was afforded to thirty-six representatives from an equal number of law enforcement organizations. A representative from New Scotland Yard, London, England, was present in this class. A previous class included a representative from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. With the completion of this session 259 graduates have received this course of instruction and returned to their communities to make their instruction available to 70,760 police officers affording protection and safety to 82,255,508 citizens in America.

July 1, 1938.

During the fiscal year of 1938, 5420 convictions were secured in Federal Court in cases in which Special Agents of the FBI performed investigative work. Convictions were secured in 95.93 cases which Bureau Agents investigated and brought to trial. Sentences imposed in Bureau cases totaled 3 deaths, 13 life, and 15,876 years, 2 months and 22 days. The total amount of fines, savings and recoveries in cases investigated by the Bureau during the past year was \$47,568,419.53 while the expense of operating the Bureau during the same period was \$6,222,976.00.

During the year, 3,253 stolen motor vehicles valued at \$1,484,437.88 were recovered in National Motor Vehicle Theft Act cases. Since the enactment of this law, in 1919, 48,009 stolen motor vehicles valued at \$28,685,901.42 have been recovered in cases in which the Bureau performed investigative work.

During the 1938 fiscal year, 1923 Federal fugitives from justice were located by Special Agents, in addition to 7,003 fugitives identified through the fingerprint collection.

One hundred twenty-four of the 127 kidnapings which have occurred since the passage of the Federal Kidnaping Law have been solved.

There were 1,572,090 sets of fingerprint records received, making a total of 8,927,728 sets of prints on file in the Identification Division. In the Technical Laboratory, 5,994 examinations were made of evidence submitted. The total number of examinations involved 66,575 separate specimens of all kinds.

July 13, 1938.

The First Retraining School for graduates of the FBI National Police Academy opened at Washington. Eighty-one of the 223 graduates returned to attend a ten-day course of retraining. Those successfully completing the retraining course were awarded certificates of completion on the occasion of the graduating exercises of the Eighth Session on the final day of the school.

July 16, 1938.

The nine millionth fingerprint card was received in the Identification Division. Isiah Grant was arrested by the Miami, Florida, Police Department and his prints, the nine millionth received, were searched in the files of the Identification Division. The record revealed he was wanted for murder by the County Detective Bureau at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

July 26, 1938.

The FBI observed its 30th Anniversary and many employees extended their felicitations to Mr. Hoover on his 21st Anniversary with the Department of Justice.

August 29, 1938.

The Ninth Session of the FBI National Police Academy began. Thirty-eight law enforcement officers from all over the country are included in this class.