

EAT:CSH

January 26, 1935

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

10:40 A.M.

I called Mr. Connelley at Chicago in connection with the possibility that the Chicago-American has a tap on the Chicago Office telephone, and suggested that whenever anything of a confidential nature was to be furnished to Washington it would be well to go outside and call.

I suggested that it might be well to make some startling announcement over the telephone, such as stating that they have Karpis in custody, in order to see if the Chicago-American gets it; that, although the telephone company had informed that no taps were being maintained, information had also reached the Division to the effect that they have five or seven tapping telephones all the time. I requested advice as to the possibility of making it look, particularly in connection with the stenographers and clerks, as though Perkins was Karpis, advising that my only worry in this connection would be that if we did get Karpis we would not know how to say over the telephone that it was genuine. Mr. Connelley suggested that we could use the expression "Karpis case 7" meaning that the conversation was "phony". I advised that this would be fine, and suggested that we should talk about him over the telephone as though he were there, for the next day or so, and Connelley stated he would do this.

Connelley further advised that they also have Fish Johnson, Dillinger's contact, up there too.

I cautioned Connelley against letting the Agents on routine assignment, and the stenographers and clerical personnel, know just who they have in custody, advising that we would understand that when he says "Karpis case 7" it will be "phony".

Respectfully,

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E. A. TAMM.

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DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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