

GT:ACL

January 12, 1935.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. CLEGG
TAMM

RECORDED

66-4151-35

I am attaching hereto a memorandum addressed to me under date of December 10, 1934 by Special Agent E. K. Thompson, Supervisor at the Seat of Government, with which Mr. Thompson attached a detailed memorandum dealing with the subject of raids.

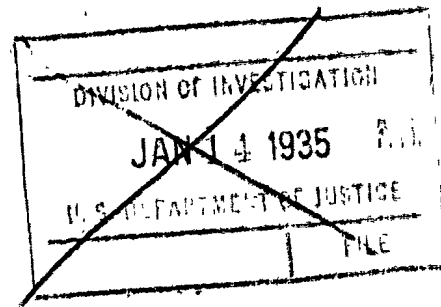
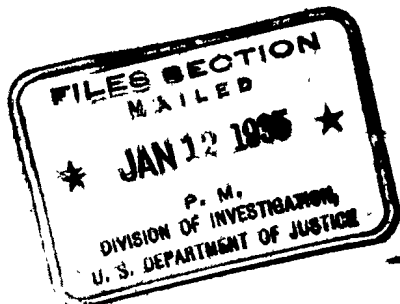
It is my desire that you give this memorandum careful consideration in revising the section of the Manual of Instructions dealing with this subject.

I feel that this is one of the most important problems now pending before the Division and I want very careful attention given to the revision of this section.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

Enclosure 808499



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JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Division of Investigation

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

EAT:TAM

December 17, 1934

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

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

I am transmitting herewith a memorandum addressed to you under date of December 10, 1934, by Supervisor E. K. Thompson. This memorandum deals with raids and contains some meritorious ideas and suggestions not presently incorporated in the Division's manual. I questioned Mr. Thompson as to the source of his knowledge on this subject and it appears that the majority of his information came to him through his study of military tactics as a Reserve Army Officer. Some of the ideas and information contained in Mr. Thompson's memorandum are not suited to the Division's needs. I will, however, have a review of this memorandum made, in order that all data contained therein which is pertinent to the Division's activities may be incorporated in a revised section of the Manual.

Respectfully,

E. A. Tamm

*Give this careful study
I commend Mr. Thompson.
It shows interest.*

J. E. H.

JAN 17 1935

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Memo. Division of Investigation
1/10/35
Shawhan
Tamm
Clegg
5/12/35*

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DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

JAN 16 1935

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

NATHAN
TOLSON
CLEGG
LESTER
QUINN
TAMM

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

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

EKT:RD

December 10, 1934

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR.

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

The increasing participation of Division Agents in raids has prompted me to submit for your consideration the attached memorandum dealing with the subject.

The principles set out therein are simple and are based upon the legal fiction of what an ordinary prudent person would do under the same and similar circumstances, and a few accepted principles of military science and tactics.

In the event this memorandum meets with your approval, I shall be glad to incorporate any suggestions you may have, and thereby put same into permanent form.

Respectfully,

E. K. Thompson

E. K. Thompson.

Rev 6-1-35

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JAN 17 1935

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DIRECTOR
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R A I D S

NATURE: A raid is an offensive type of operation characterized by the suddenness of its delivery. Generally speaking there are two kinds of raids, an unsupported or silent raid and a supported raid. An unsupported raid is one in which entrance is effected without any preliminary firing. A supported raid is one in which the objective to be raided is subjected to gas or fire before the actual entry is made.

A raid should only be conducted when it is known that the persons wanted are actually in the place to be raided or where there is strong reason to believe that they are in the place.

PURPOSE: In the usual case, the primary purpose of a raid is to bring about the apprehension of an individual or a group of individuals; however, a raid may be conducted for the purpose of gaining information by searching premises or locating persons wanted for questioning.

Raid Tactics

Rules governing the plan: No two raids, if planned to best advantage, will be exactly the same. However, all well-planned operations of this sort will be characterized by the elements of speed, surprise and simplicity. Speed is self-explanatory, and after all is a concomitant to surprise. Surprise as related to raids applies not only in time but also in disposition of raiding agents, locality to be raided, probable numerical strength of persons raided and method of operation of raiding party. Simplicity of plan contributes largely to the prime element of surprise as involved schemes of maneuver are almost always discovered before their completion.

In order to insure the greatest factor of safety to the raiding party, all raids should be conducted on the assumption that the individuals sought are on the alert and possess the same type of weapons as the raiding party and every advantage therefore should be taken of all available cover in the locality such as trees, walls, shrubbery, ditches, etc.

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Objective to be raided: In most cases the point to be raided will be an apartment house, hotel, private home in the city or an isolated house in the suburbs or country.

Selection of raiding agents: If possible, the raiding party should be composed of agents from the same Division field office as their familiarity with one another will insure instant recognition, and thereby remove the possibility of shooting one another in a situation demanding immediate action. Only agents who are agile, good marksmen and familiar with the type of weapons employed in the raid should be used. However, the above is controlled by the element of time, availability of agents, and mission to be accomplished.

Support or covering agents: Regardless of the size or location of the objective to be raided, some agents must be utilized to surround the premises. Their mission is threefold: To prevent the escape of the persons sought, to cover the advance of the raiding agents, and to neutralize any hostile fire that might be brought on the raiders from within the premises raided. Rapid and well aimed fire from the covering agents will divert attention from the raiding agents and cause the persons sought to scatter their fire which is always ineffective.

Hour of raid: The time of staging a raid will depend upon the habits of the occupants of the place to be raided and the element of time. Raids, however, should be launched at dawn, twilight or under similar conditions of visibility in order to evade observation by the persons sought, yet insure enough light for the purposes of the raid and to prevent the escape of the persons sought. In some cases, especially a night raid, it might be advisable to use parachute flares or searchlights as an aid to visibility prior to the raid for the purpose of a final check upon the presence or absence of persons or automobiles outside of the objective to be raided and upon the general situation in the area. The use of artificial light should only be used in situations where there are sufficient agents available to completely surround the place as the persons sought will most likely attempt an escape under cover of darkness. In any event, the raid should be launched at an unexpected and unusual hour, preferable shortly before dawn.

Raid Commander

To insure control of the situation at all times and to avoid confusion resulting from dual orders, one agent should be designated as the raid commander who will issue all necessary orders and be responsible for the general conduct of the raid.

Raid orders

If time permits every agent who is to participate in the raid should be shown a map or drawing of the place to be raided and the surrounding area with particular attention to known avenues of escape. All information in the possession of the Raid Commander such as names, descriptions and photographs of the persons sought, probable number in the gang, make and type of automobiles in gangs' possession should be given to all agents. Agents in raiding and covering party should be designated so that there will be no confusion when the scene of operation is reached. Each agent, especially those in the covering party, should be shown on the map or drawing the position he is to occupy and the general plan of the raid should be explained with particular emphasis on the point at which the entrance to the premises will be made. Agents should also be told what car they are to go in, the route to be traveled (in approaching the theatre of operation), the assembly point, equipment to be carried, identification brassards to be worn and password.

Equipment

The weapons and equipment to be used will depend on the nature of the raid and the locality in which it is to be made. For raids in a city high-powered weapons such as the automatic and .30 caliber rifle should not be employed. These weapons should be carried when the place to be raided is isolated or in the country where the locality is not thickly settled. The gas gun, gas masks, bullet-proof vests, shields and searchlight should be included in the equipment used in every raid.

Identification marks to distinguish agents from the persons sought should be used such as the wearing of white brassards or handkerchiefs around the arm or leg which will be visible from both front and rear. Passwords can also be employed and words that will be easily and quickly remembered should be used such as "Division", or the name of a Division office, such as "Chicago", "St. Paul", etc. A different password should be used for each raid and the position of the identifying brassard varied. All agents shall prominently display on the lapel of their coat the Division badge. All automobiles used in the raid should be filled with gas and oil and be in good running condition, and a sufficient amount of ammunition for all types of weapons should be carried.

Assembly Point

This should be a previously designated point located near the objective to be raided at which all agents will assemble for final instruction and to determine if all are present. If local law enforcement officers

are to accompany agents on the raid they should be met at this point. An assembly point should always be used when the objective to be raided is at some distance from the Division office from which the raid is being conducted.

The distance between the assembly point and the objective will depend on the nature of the terrain, availability of cover to screen the meeting and the proposed time of the raid. If local law enforcement officers are not to accompany agents on a raid, they should be advised of the presence of agents in the locality in order to avoid agents being mistaken for suspicious persons and thereby fired upon.

Conduct of Raids

As no two raids are alike, it is impossible to make a fixed rule relative to the manner in which a raid is to be conducted but the general principle should be to successfully conduct the operation with the least possible danger to the raiding agents and innocent persons.

There is set forth below, in detail, the procedure to be taken in cases involving a raid on various types of buildings, which are not to be binding, but are merely for the purpose of illustration and as a guide.

For the purpose of clearly understanding the following examples, the terms raiding party and covering party are defined.

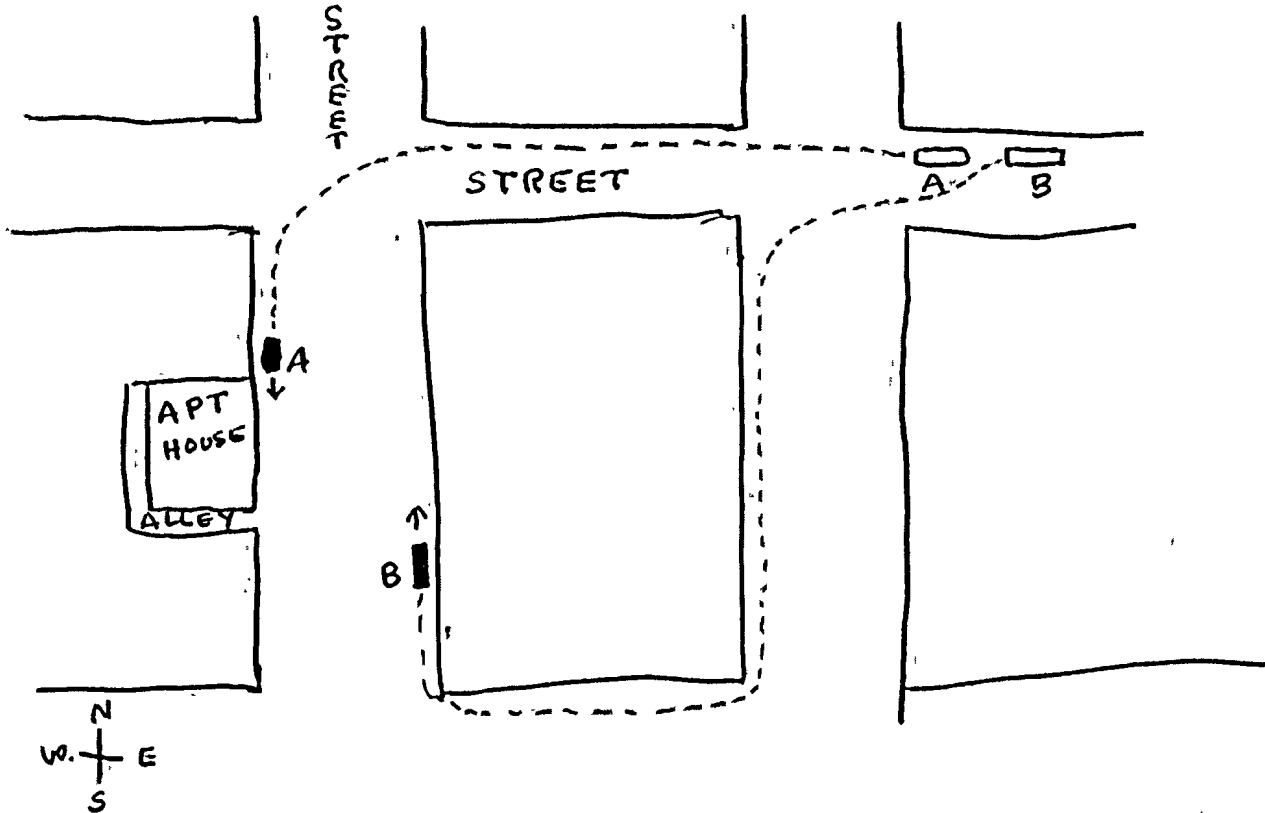
Raiding party - the agents who make the actual entry into the premises raided.

Covering party - the agents who do not enter the building but who cover the advance of the raiders and prevent the escape of the individuals wanted by covering all possible avenues of escape.

Throughout these illustrations, raiders will be designated as "A" and covering agents as "B", "C", and "D". Initial position of cars in white, final position in black:

Example #1

Apartment House or Hotel



In initial stage of raid, cars A and B approach the scene together as shown in Figure #1. At the corner car A continues in a westerly direction while car B makes a turn toward the south. Both cars follow the course as shown by dotted lines until they reach their final positions. Cars A and B are to regulate their speed so as to arrive in position at approximately the same time, whereupon agents are to leave the cars simultaneously and carry out their orders.

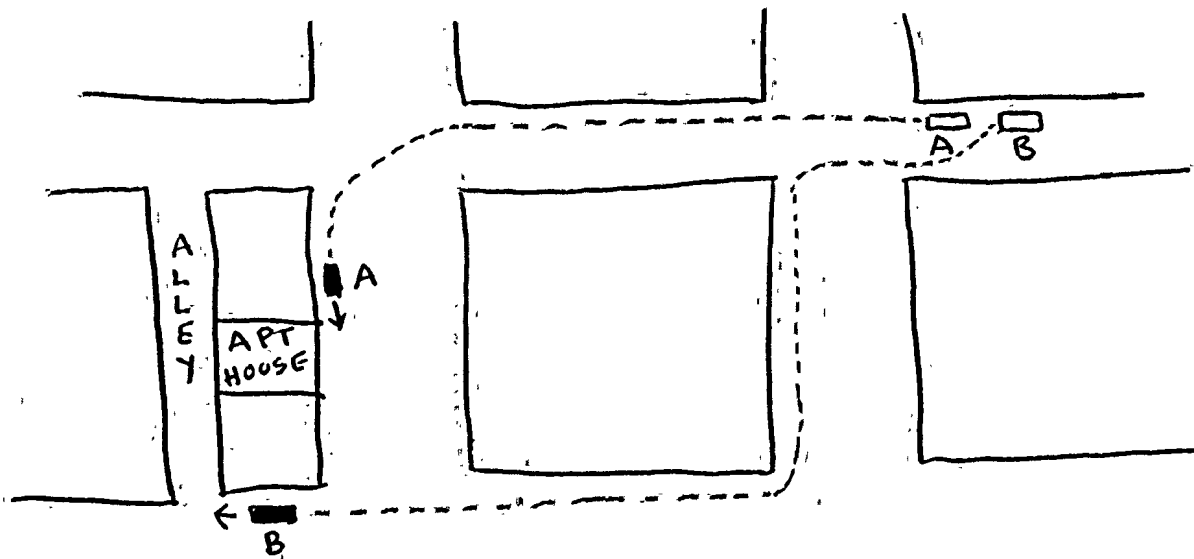
Agents from car A enter the building and proceed at once, via elevator or stairs to the floor above that on which the apartment or room to be raided is located. This is done for two reasons: first, to avoid the possibility of being shot singly as they come out of the elevator, and secondly, being closely grouped in the elevator will prevent the use of all available weapons.

Agents from car B will take up previously designated positions in the alley behind the building in order to cover fire escapes, freight and tradesmen entrances. At least one agent from car B should enter the lobby of the building in order to cover the elevators and stairway and to apprehend any member of gang who might enter unaware that a raid is in progress.

One agent each should remain in cars A and B with motors idling and lights out so that the street can be blocked if necessary by each car making a left turn. The agent in car B can cover the entrance to the alley and generally observe the front of the building. Agent in car A can observe any suspicious cars that might be cruising in that area.

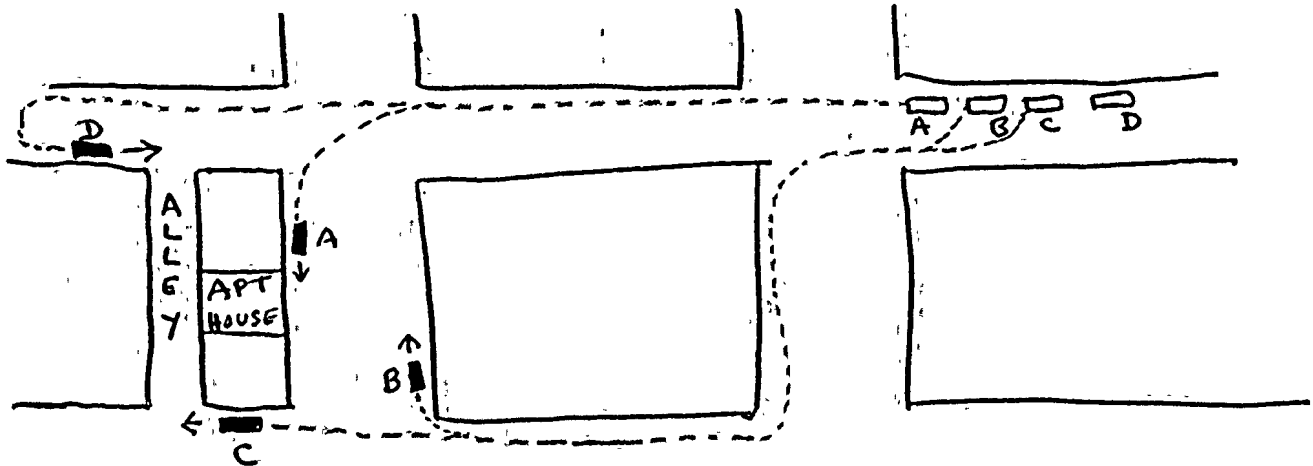
If alley behind building is parallel to the street, cars should take position as shown in Figure #2.

Figure #2



If four cars are used they should be placed as shown in Figure #3. In this situation each car is headed in a different direction and can not only effectively block an escape but can take up the pursuit in any direction.

Figure #3



In situations as shown in Figures #2 and #3, if an attempt to escape is made via the alley, extreme caution must be used due to the presence of agents in the alley and at both ends.

Personnel - depends on mission to be accomplished, but under normal conditions there should be at least eight (8).

Equipment - Raiding party should carry pistols, machine guns, gas grenades and gas gun, gas masks, bullet-proof vests, shields and blackjacks. Covering party in alley - pistols, machine guns, shotguns. Agents in automobiles should carry pistols, but if a machine gun is available, it should be carried by agent in car B as his position covers the entire front of building (figure #1.) If situation exists as shown in Figure #2 or #3, shotguns should not be used in covering the alley due to its large area of dispersion and the possibility of injuring other covering agents in the alley.

Agents in lobby of building should only carry pistols (concealed) and should not display their badges or wear the identifying brassard.

If the raid is conducted quietly and swiftly and has not been detected by the persons sought before the door of the room to be raided is reached, the following action is recommended:

Agents should not remain in one group as this presents an excellent target for hostile fire; neither should anyone stand in front of the door of the room to be raided, but should take position on one or both sides of the door. Some agents should remain at the stairs and elevator to prevent aid being given by other gang members who reside on other floors of the building and to guard against a rear attack being made against the agents at the door of the room raided by the occupants leaving through another door or connecting room. The actual entry will depend upon the type of place to be entered as well as the character of the occupants. In some cases agents may safely go to the door and demand admittance, in other cases entry can be gained by the use of subterfuge or pretext. It may be possible to telephone the occupants advising that the place is surrounded and demanding surrender. As the door will most probably be locked, entrance can be gained by shooting the lock off, kicking the door open, and discharging gas grenades or short range gas projectile into the room. In some cases it might be possible to fire the long range projectile through the wooden door if it is not too thick.

A person cornered and taken by surprise will most likely expend the entire drum on a machine gun in one burst and the entrance should be made immediately thereafter and before another drum can be inserted.

If a gang has taken refuge in an apartment or hotel, it will be generally found that the members do not live in the same room or even on the same floor. This is done in order to avoid the entire gang being caught in one raid; therefore, after the completion of the first raid vigorous steps should be taken at once to locate the rooms where the remainder of the gang might be.

The situation now presents two problems. First, will the remainder of the gang take advantage of the confusion and excitement and attempt to escape quietly, or, second, will they wait until things quiet down before quitting their rooms? This situation is an excellent example for the necessity of the covering agents to remain at their stations until ordered by the Raid Commander to leave for if the covering agents remain in position, the escape of the remainder of the gang will be prevented no matter what alternative they choose.

To locate the rooms occupied by the remainder of the gang, the following steps are suggested. Consult manager and desk clerks as to their knowledge concerning their tenants. This will immediately eliminate the greater number of the tenants. Consult registration book for names and aliases of gang. Ascertain what guests checked in the same day as the persons in the room raided. Interview telephone operators as to any calls made to

or from the room raided to other rooms in the same building. Contact bell boys as to any heavy suitcases or grips handled by them and chambermaids should be questioned as to occupants of rooms on their respective floor and if admittance to any room has been refused them. Photographs of members of gang should be exhibited to all persons interviewed.

Raid on private home in city

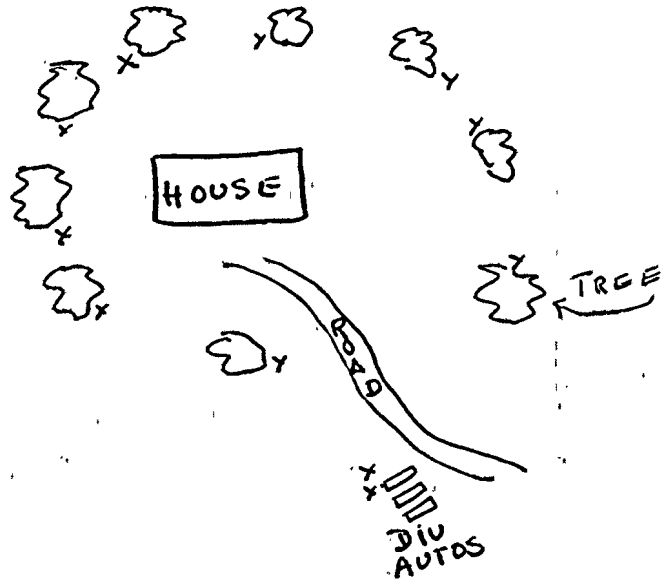
In this type of operation due to the smallness of the building as compared to an apartment or hotel and the probability that the exact location within of the persons sought will not be known, the raid should be conducted on the assumption that the persons sought are on every floor of the dwelling and proper precautions should be taken accordingly, for as soon as entrance is effected, the entire household will be on the alert. The raid should be conducted generally along the lines set out above with reference to a raid on an apartment house.

Raid on isolated building in suburbs or in the country.

For obvious reasons, a raid of this type will require the services of a large number of agents. Due to the isolated position of the objective with escape possible from any side, it is imperative that the house be surrounded. This can be done by placing the covering agents in such positions so that their combined field of observation and fire will cover the entire area surrounding the building to be raided. If sufficient number of agents are available, a second line of covering agents can be established in case the persons sought should break through the first line of covering agents. The covering agents should take advantage of all available cover and assume a prone position, if possible, as it will insure greater accuracy of fire and at the same time minimize the danger of being hit by the cross fire of other covering agents.

Due to the agents unfamiliarity with the terrain in the locality to be raided some local person, preferably a law enforcement officer, should be taken on the raid as a guide.

The agent who has the gas gun and parachute flares should at all times remain with the Raid Commander so he can control and direct its use.



In a raid of this type it might be advisable to precede the raid proper by throwing gas into the entire house followed by burst of shots fired into the air in order to make the persons sought disclose their location by firing from some part of the house; whereupon the fire of agents can be concentrated on that point or points and the fire not scattered thereby endangering innocent occupants.

It can be safely assumed that the persons sought will attempt to make their escape and this almost invariably will be made in a direction from which no firing is coming; therefore, strict orders should be given to the covering agents not to fire unless the persons sought come out into the open or fire is being delivered from some part of the house within their view. For example if covering agents at the back of the building hold their fire the escape, if attempted, will be made in that direction as the persons sought will believe that side of the house is not covered and the result will be an ideal situation for an ambush..

Figure #4 shows the disposition of the covering agents indicated by X marks, and the location of the Division cars, which should always be parked off the road and locked if there is any equipment therein. At least two agents should remain near the cars to protect them and to detain any persons approaching the scene of operations, especially members of the gang who are unaware that a raid is in progress.

Equipment: Raiding party: pistols, machine guns, gas grenades, steel vests and shields.

- 11 -

Covering agents: pistols, shotguns, .30 caliber and automatic rifles, machine guns, searchlights.

Agents at automobiles: pistols, shotguns.

CONCLUSION

Immediately upon the completion of a raid, the premises should be thoroughly searched for evidence of every character and latent prints developed. The covering agents should be relieved and accompany the apprehended individuals to the place where they will be detained.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

CT:RCL

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

January 10, 1935.

Suggestion #73,
E. K. Thompson,
Special Agent,
Washington, D. C.

mc

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR.

Mr. Thompson submitted a memorandum dealing with raids. This particular section of the Manual of Instructions is being revised by Mr. Clegg and Mr. Tamm and there is attached hereto a memorandum to them instructing that Mr. Thompson's comments receive careful attention.

Done

Respectfully,

[Signature]

Clyde Tolson.

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