

BAT-88

September 6, 1934.

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Mr. S. P. Cowley,  
Division of Investigations,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
1900 Bankers' Building,  
Chicago, Illinois.

RECORDED

62-29777-3770

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

SEP. 17 1934 P.M.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FILE

Dear Sir:

I desire that you continue in Chicago in your present capacity of supervision of all remaining angles of the Dillinger case. The Special Agents assigned to this case will work directly under your supervision since I consider this case a special assignment. I expect you to remain personally in control of and directing the activities of the Special Agents assigned to the Dillinger case and desire that thorough and vigorous attention be given to all leads looking to the apprehension of John Hamilton and Baby Face Nelson.

In addition to the supervision of the Dillinger case, I desire that you personally assume control and direction over all investigation of the Bremer kidnapping case and the Special Agents working upon that case. In connection with this case, every possible lead should be promptly followed out in order that subjects Karpis, Barker and other members of the Bremer kidnapping gang may be apprehended at the earliest possible date.

Effective immediately, I desire that you also assume personal supervision of all angles of the Kansas City Massacre case, giving this case close supervision and attention.

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

In the direction and supervision of the above entitled cases, you are now placed in charge of the investigations not only in the Chicago District but in the districts covered by all other field offices. You are authorized to proceed to St. Paul, Kansas City, Oklahoma City or any other point that you deem desirable in connection with the supervision of these cases. I believe in this regard that it would be advisable for you, as soon as the prosecution of Louis Piquett, Dr. Loeser, Dr. Cassidy, Arthur O'Leary and the other defendants presently in custody upon charges of harboring is completed, to personally visit the St. Paul, Kansas City and Oklahoma City

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Mr. S. P. Cowley

Offices for the purpose of ascertaining just what investigation is being conducted in those districts and of organizing the investigative activity in such a manner that a systematic handling of all leads will be developed.

You are authorized to call in to Chicago at any time that you deem desirable any Special Agent in Charge or Special Agent for a conference or special assignment upon these cases. In so far as it is possible to do so, I believe it would be well to advise us of your contemplated requests for any employees of the Division to proceed to Chicago in order that I may ascertain whether there is pending in another district any matter which would be jeopardized by having the Special Agent in Charge of that district proceed to Chicago.

In the event any question is raised as to your authority to direct the investigative activities in the above enumerated cases, you are authorized to state that these cases are being handled as special assignments and that you, as my personal representative and working directly from my office, are in charge of these cases.

I want you to know that I am personally interested in the early cleaning up of all angles of the Dillinger, Bremer and Kansas City Massacre cases and desire that every possible avenue of investigative activity be exhausted in a vigorous attempt to successfully terminate the investigation of these cases at the earliest possible date.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover

Director

e/c Chicago