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W. JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Edwards.....
Mr. Clegg.....

U. S. Bureau of Investigation

Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

July 13, 1933.

CT:ACS

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR.

The Assistant Directors and Division Heads, in accordance with your instructions, considered the matter of the issuance of fire arms to employees of the Bureau as a part of their regular equipment.

It was felt by Messrs. Nathan, Egan, Edwards, Hughes, and Tolson that it would be desirable to issue a revolver to each Special Agent and Special Agent (A) of the service and that such action would protect the Bureau in any instance where an employee might be killed or injured without having proper protection afforded to him. It was felt that a revolver should be issued to an employee only after he has qualified in the use of such equipment and further that it should be indicated that the gun issued to the employee need not be maintained in his immediate personal possession as is the rule with respect to other equipment but that the Special Agent in Charge should be advised that the gun is to be supplied to the employee for his official use.

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Mr. Clegg felt that the present practice of having fire arms available in field offices for issuance to employees when required serves all useful purposes and that there is no necessity for furnishing a gun to each and every employee in the service. The other members of the group felt, however, that there may be situations when an employee would not be able to secure the issuance of a gun upon short notice and that it would be preferable to have a weapon available to him at all times.

A communication has been prepared for transmission to each Special Agent in Charge to the effect that all employees shall be qualified in the handling of fire arms not later than September 1, 1933, and that as an employee qualifies, he shall be supplied with a .38 Special Police Positive Revolver with holster as a part of his regular equipment. Arrangements are being made to purchase an additional supply of guns for this purpose.

Respectfully,

Clyde Tolson

Clyde Tolson.

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MEMORANDUM FOR MR. CLEGG.

There is attached hereto a copy of a letter which has been forwarded to each field office of the Bureau. It is desired that you make the necessary arrangements to qualify newly appointed Special Agents in the Training Schools in the use of the Special Police Positive Revolver. When an employee has so qualified, arrangements should be made through the Chief Clerk's office at the Bureau at the Seat of Government to issue a revolver and holster to the employee for official use when the same may be required.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Encl.



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