

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



U. S. Bureau of Investigation

Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

June 28, 1933

JMK:KP

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Your Committee comprised of Messrs. Appel, Baughman, and Keith, has tested Colt "Monitor" Automatic Machine Rifle and Thompson Sub-Machine Gun, and has conferred with ballistic experts of the Ordnance Department of the Army and with such experts of the local police department. With the advice of Major T. J. Hayes, Executive Officer, Ordnance Department, U. S. Army, and Majors Wilhelm and Gray of the Ballistics Division, Ordnance Department, U. S. Army, and Lieutenants L. H. Callahan and A. C. Poulsen, gunnery experts, Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D.C. We have reached the conclusion that the following equipment is the best which can be obtained for all purposes and should be supplied in appropriate quantities to all field offices, with the exception of Honolulu, T. H.

Item #1

38 Special Police Positive Revolver

The 38 Special Police Positive Revolver already supplied to each field office of the Bureau is the best pistol which can be procured. According to Majors Wilhelm and Gray of the Ordnance Department, U. S. Army, this gun, loaded with the "Keith" bullet, has a flatter trajectory, more penetration, and shock power than the .45 calibre automatic, which is the only comparable weapon. Since each office already is equipped with such pistols no action need be taken in this connection, except to supply each office with ammunition loaded with the "Keith" bullet. It is noted that the Keith bullet is a recent invention, the projectile having a specially formed flat nose which gives it greater shocking power than the .45 automatic. It already had a flatter trajectory and penetration.

Item #2

Army Springfield Rifle, Calibre .30-'06

The Committee after having tested the Colt "Monitor" Automatic Machine Rifle, which handles the .30-'06 rifle cartridge, has concluded that such guns are not appropriate for our use; they have too great a range, approximately 3 1/2 miles, for urban use. When fully loaded this gun weighs 18 1/2 lbs. and with the compensator is 42 1/2" long. This makes it too bulky and too heavy for quick use in emergency or for use in an automobile. The only practicable purpose for a gun firing such high power ammunition would be the stopping of an automobile at long range.

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