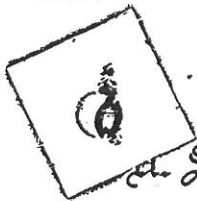


JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



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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in a rural area. At a long range it is to be noted that the full automatic is too inaccurate. Therefore, with the advice of the above mentioned Army experts we have concluded that Springfield Rifles of the type used in the U. S. Army, which shoot the same ammunition, would serve the exact purpose. In other words, the Springfield Bolt Action Rifle holds a magazine of five .30-'06 cartridges, is lighter, easier to handle, and more accurate. The cartridges for this gun come in clips of five and the weapon may be reloaded very quickly. Each field office should be supplied with fifty rounds of .30-'06 calibre cartridges.

Item #3
12 Gauge Automatic Shotgun, either Remington
or Winchester, Cylinder Bore, 20" Barrel,
to be fired with Buckshot Shell.

Army experts say that a gun of this type is most appropriate. The Browning Automatic Shotgun is the same as the Remington, but, of course, cannot be considered because it is manufactured in Belgium and could not be purchased by the United States Government. Major Gray of the Ordnance Department, U. S. Army, states that army tests have shown that a 20" barrel cylinder bore is the most appropriate type from which to fire buckshot cartridges. The powder charge is entirely consumed within 18" of barrel and the added 2" give the desired pattern. A longer barrel than 20" adds nothing to the range or penetration, but only makes a gun more bulky and harder to handle. A shorter barrel is not desirable because the full effect of the powder charge might be lost through non-consumption. Each field office should be supplied with fifty rounds of #1 buckshot shell for this weapon.

Item #4
Thompson Sub-Machine Gun

After appropriate test, and conference with the experts mentioned in the beginning of this memorandum, we have concluded that Model 28, AC Thompson Sub-Machine Gun, U. S. Navy model, equipped with horizontal foregrip and sling strap, complete with 5 type XX 20-cartridge capacity box magazines and 1 type L 50-cartridge drum, together with Cut's compensator, is most appropriate for our use. Each of these guns should be equipped with 1 gun carrier case with shoulder strap, and 1 50-round drum magazine case with shoulder strap. Each Thompson Sub-Machine Gun also should be equipped with one cleaning kit, complete.

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Memo. for Director

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6/28/33

*Write each office
6/29*

Each field office should be supplied with 500 rounds of .45 calibre automatic pistol cartridge for this weapon.

It is the recommendation of your Committee that one of the Automatic Shotguns and one of the Springfield Rifles be furnished to each of the Bureau offices, except Honolulu, T.H.


It is our recommendation that one of the Thompson Sub-Machine Guns be furnished to each of the Bureau offices, except Honolulu, and that if funds will permit two Thompson Sub-Machine Guns be furnished to the following offices:

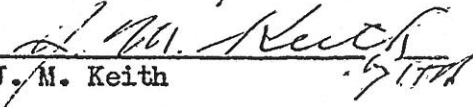
- Chicago
- Detroit
- Kansas City
- New York
- Oklahoma City
- St. Louis
- Washington.

Each of the field offices to which the above weapons are supplied can purchase on the local market the ammunition required, and should be instructed to purchase such ammunition in quantities of less than \$25, in order to obviate, as an emergency measure, the red tape involved in obtaining bids for larger quantities.

Respectfully,


C. A. Appel


T. F. Baughman


J. M. Keith

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