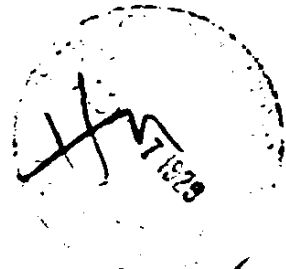


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October 31, 1929.



MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL,

J. E. Hoover

I beg to submit the following statement of the functions of the Director of the Bureau of Investigation:

The Director of the Bureau of Investigation has under his jurisdiction at the present time 643 employees, consisting of 306 Special Agents, 90 Special Accountants, 9 Executive Officials at Washington, 8 Special Employees, and 235 Technical and Clerical Employees throughout the country. Under the appropriation for "Detection and Prosecution of Crime," for the fiscal year 1931, as approved by the Bureau of the Budget, the Director of the Bureau of Investigation will have under his jurisdiction 742 employees, consisting of 321 Special Agents, 102 Special Accountants, 11 Executive Officials at Washington and 308 Technical and Clerical Employees throughout the country.

Appointees as Special Agents of the Bureau are required to possess degrees from some recognized law school or college. Appointees as Special Accountants of the Bureau must possess accepted academic training in accountancy, as well as practical accountancy experience.

The field forces of the Bureau of Investigation are stationed at 29 field offices situated in the principal cities of the United States. This includes six accounting bases, to which are attached the Bureau's Special Accountants.

Each field office is under the jurisdiction of a Special Agent in Charge who possesses direct and full control over the Special Agents and administrative control over the Special Accountants.

Under Bureau regulations, reports must be submitted at regular intervals upon all cases investigated by the Bureau's investigative staff. All of such reports which are of more than

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routine interest or importance, are brought to the personal attention of the Director of the Bureau for review, supervision and direction by him.

In addition to investigative reports upon individual cases, administrative reports are submitted monthly from each field office of the Bureau which must be personally reviewed by the Director in order that he may ascertain the condition of the work in the field, sufficiency of the individual field office forces and whether or not proper subordinate administration is being afforded the Bureau's work at said field offices.

The Bureau of Investigation, under the jurisdiction of the Director, is vested with authority to investigate all violations of Federal Laws or Statutes. As a matter of specific policy, these investigations cover the entire Federal Code, with the exception of certain violations which are specifically assigned by Congressional enactment or otherwise to other Federal investigative agencies, such as violations of the National Prohibition, Counterfeiting, Narcotic, Customs and Smuggling, Postal or Immigration Laws. In all of the latter classes of cases, however, the Bureau of Investigation is called upon by practically all the investigative branches of the Government Service to perform investigative work from time to time. This includes cases under the primary jurisdiction of the Post Office Department, the various investigative units of the Treasury Department, the Department of Agriculture, the Interior Department and others. Among the major classes of the many violations coming under the direct investigative jurisdiction of this Bureau are:

Antitrust Laws.
National Bank and Federal Reserve Acts.
National Bankruptcy Act.
Theft from Interstate Shipments.
National Motor Vehicle Theft Act.
White Slave Traffic Act.
Mail Frauds.
Impersonation of Government Officials.
Theft, Embezzlement, or Illegal Possession of Government property.
Frauds Against the Government.
Crimes on Government Reservations.
Crimes on the High Seas.
Federal Fugitives from Justice.

The National Division of Identification and Information, located at Washington, D. C., is also a part and under the immediate supervisory jurisdiction of the Director of the Bureau of Investigation. The function of this Division is the acquisition, collection, classification and preservation of criminal identification records, and at the present time the Division possesses approximately 1,700,000 fingerprint records, as well as over 2,500,000 alphabetical index cards. This Division is composed of 80 employees and exchanges criminal identification data with law enforcement officials and peace officers in all parts of the world, more particularly in the United States, Canada, Mexico, South America, England, France and Austria. It is believed that the records of the National Division of Identification and Information comprise the largest and most complete collection of criminal fingerprint data of current value existing anywhere in the world. Fingerprint records of criminals are contributed by more than 2,500 law enforcement officials and agencies throughout the United States and foreign countries and are received at the rate of over 1,000 each day. Actual identifications made on prints received average over 85 1/3% throughout the course of the year. Daily reports showing the work of the Division are submitted to the Director of the Bureau and are reviewed by him in detail in order to assure the proper current handling of the Division's work, the maintenance of required schedules and the proper distribution of the Division's personnel.

The Director of the Bureau of Investigation personally supervises all special investigations ordered by the Attorney General, including those relating to the work and administration of the offices of United States Attorneys, United States Marshals, United States Commissioners (upon request of Federal Judges) and other Federal officials, and in specific instances, upon appropriate authorization, investigates charges made against Government officials throughout the country.

The Director of the Bureau of Investigation also supervises, upon the request of Departmental officials having jurisdiction, specific and general investigations of Federal Penal Institutions.

The Director of the Bureau of Investigation also personally supervises all investigations conducted under appropriate authorization with a view to ascertaining the qualifications of individuals under consideration for appointment to Federal office, such as United States Judges, United States Attorneys and United States Marshals.

The Director of the Bureau of Investigation, upon specific request and upon the authorization of the Attorney General, assigns investigators to the Judiciary Committees of Congress and affords such Committees in these cases such administrative and investigative assistance as may be required by them.

The Director of the Bureau of Investigation also personally supervises and directs all investigations of a confidential character bearing upon matters of international import and interest upon the specific request of the State Department.

The Director of the Bureau of Investigation receives instructions and requests from the White House with regard to the initiation of certain investigations of a confidential, delicate and important character desired there, and personally directs and supervises all investigative steps and inquiries taken in connection therewith in all parts of the country.

The Director of the Bureau of Investigation is empowered by the Attorney General to decide upon all matters of policy relating in any manner to the investigative work of the Bureau and is held entirely responsible for the Bureau's administration.

He also supervises all personnel matters connected with the Bureau in any way, and reviews the evidence in all cases involving charges against the Bureau's personnel and renders a decision in accordance with the facts developed. He personally selects the Bureau's personnel and directs the investigations conducted with a view to ascertaining the fitness of all applicants, as well as devises the tests to be applied thereto.

The Director of the Bureau of Investigation maintains personal supervision and is in constant touch with the training school maintained at Washington, D. C., for all appointees to its service. The course of training consists of instructions with regard to the Manual of Rules and Regulations and the Manual of Instructions, respectively. Lectures are delivered to the appointees by Bureau experts under the jurisdiction of the Director in specialized subjects. The training school is also addressed in person by the Director.

The Agents of the Bureau of Investigation must necessarily be well grounded in the rules of legal evidence and must also possess through experience in performing investigative work the ability necessary to cooperate with and supplement the work

of United States Attorneys in all parts of the country. In major cases, however, and those involving matters of investigative policy, the Director of the Bureau must review and pass in person upon the facts involved and the policies to be pursued. In many instances, this requires a close study of the data submitted and careful analysis of the facts developed and a comprehensive knowledge of the decisions handed down which might cover or throw light upon more or less intricate problems and govern the policy to be adopted in cases of considerable delicacy and magnitude.

Indicative of the growth of the Bureau of Investigation and the results of the work performed by it, your attention is respectfully invited to the fact that the records show that during the fiscal year 1929, 5,930 convictions were secured in cases handled by the Bureau, and sentences imposed therein amounted to 2 life, 5,479 years, 4 months and 10 days, probationary sentences, 866 years, 2 months and 15 days. The fines imposed in cases handled by the Bureau amounted to \$829,663.33 and recoveries of property affected in investigations handled by the Bureau totalled \$5,661,870.00.

Each year has shown a material increase in the Bureau's work and the responsibilities of administration and direction have been multiplied proportionately. The Bureau of Investigation is a major unit of the Department of Justice and the Director of the Bureau functions under the immediate jurisdiction of the Attorney General and is responsible solely to him.

Respectfully,

Director.